



# The Role of Architectural Awards Criteria in Identity and Belonging Concepts Enhancement in Contemporary Architectural Design

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## الخلاصة

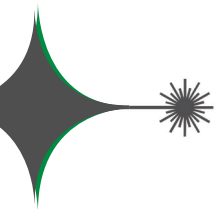
برز نشاط عدد من المنظمات العالمية والإقليمية في التأكيد على أهمية التراث المعماري وتوظيفه في التصميم المعماري، خاصةً بعد إنتشار مبادئ العمارة الحديثة والإسلوب العالمي في التصميم المعاصرة. مما أدى الى حصول وعي بأهمية العودة الى التاريخ والإهتمام بالعمارة التراثية في منتصف القرن العشرين، إذ عملت هذه المنظمات على تشجيع المعماريين للقيام بأعمال الحفاظ، والإحياء، وإعادة التأهيل للأبنية والمواقع التراثية، فضلاً عن توظيف الأبعاد الشكلية والفكرية من التراث في تصاميم جديدة منتمية للمكان والمجتمع. من أبرز هذه المنظمات منظمة المدن العربية، ومؤسسة الأغاخان التي عملت على نشر عدد من المؤلفات المهمة بالموضوع مع إقامة عدة مؤتمرات وندوات لإيجاد حلول للمشكلات المعاصرة، كما خصصت جوائز مادية لعدد من المشاريع المعمارية المتميزة في التصميم المعماري المعاصر، ولعدد من المعماريين كذلك.

ويمكن تحديد مشكلة البحث بالحاجة المعرفية الى إيضاح معايير التقييم وكيفية منح الجوائز من قبل المنظمات بما يساهم في تعزيز الهوية والانتماء، ويهدف البحث الى توفير المعرفة عن أبرز المشاريع الفائزة بالجوائز وبيان التطور الزمني لمعايير التقييم منذ تأسيس الجوائز وحتى وقت إعداد البحث، وتحليل أبرز المشاريع الفائزة بالجوائز لإيضاح أهم مافيها من خصائص تصميمية جعلتها منتمية للمكان ومعبرة عن الهوية.

يفترض البحث استفادة المعماريين من معايير الجوائز والتركيز على قيم الهوية والانتماء في التصميم المعمارية المعاصرة. إذ يتم تطبيق المعايير المستخلصة من الجوائز على المشاريع المحلية المعاصرة لبيان مدى تعبيرها عن الهوية والانتماء. ويستنتج البحث ان لبعض المشاريع الامكانية في تكوين هوية خاصة ومعروفة على المستوى المحلي والعالمي، فيما تستفيد المشاريع الاخرى مما موجود من خصائص محلية لتحقيق الانتماء.

## الكلمات المفتاحية

جائزة الأغاخان في العمارة، جائزة منظمة المدن العربية، العمارة الإقليمية، الحلول التصميمية المبتكرة، مبادئ الإستدامة.



## Abstract

Multiple of International and Regional organizations have been active in emphasizing the conservation and employment of architectural heritage in contemporary design, especially after the wide spread of modern architecture principles and international style design. These organizations have led to the interest in history and heritage since the mid of twentieth century. By encouraging architects to conserve, revive, and rehabilitate the traditional sites and buildings through number of symbioses and conferences. Besides encouraging the use of architectural heritage (its features and concepts) in new architectural design to show the identity of each place and society. The most famous organizations are Arab Towns Organization (ATO), and Aga Khan Organization which has published many books about this subject, besides establishing awards for unique projects and distinguished designers.

The research problem can be specified as the need to show the evaluation criteria of choosing awards' winners that are given by the mentioned organizations. And it aims to analyse the most significant winning projects in architectural design to explain criteria development of through time since award establishment till nowadays to determine the most appropriate methods of design, which provide identity, belonging, and contemporary concepts in the same time as the best methods for future architectural design.

The awards' criteria are applied to contemporary local projects to demonstrate their expression of identity and belonging concept. The research concludes that some projects have the potential to create a special identity that is known locally and globally, while other projects use local characteristics to achieve belonging.

## Key words

Aga Khan award for architecture, Arab Towns Organization Award, Regional Architecture, Innovative Architectural Design, Sustainability Principles.



## 1. Introduction

After the widespread of modern architectural design that relies on International style principles, especially in the beginnings of the twentieth century. Many international and regional organizations have encouraged architects to participate in the rehabilitation, conservation, and renovation of traditional buildings and sites. Besides Implementing heritage in contemporary architectural designs to emphasis the role identity and belonging concepts.

One of these organizations is Agha Khan development network that is established by Shah Karim al-Husseini, the Ismaili Imam since 1957. He has assigned a financial award of (1) million dollars that is given for creative architectural projects. This award is distributed among Architects, clients, engineers, and craftsmen, as a confirmation of their role in achieving creative projects.

Aga khan award for architecture has begun in 1977, and it has been held every (3) years since then. It is given for the projects that serve Islamic societies or depends on Islamic concepts for inspiration in their design concepts, the project should be constructed in a period of no more than (25) years.

After nominating a number of outstanding projects, the Aga Khan himself leads a steering committee with the help of judgment committee which is changed in every cycle of the award, they select the winning projects. Many of distinguished and famous architects

had participated in those committees such as: Hassan Fathi, Kenzo Tange, Mohammed Makiya, Rifat Chadirji, Charles Moore, James Stirling, Robert Venturi, Charles Correa, Abdul wahid alwakil, Rasim Badran, Zaha Hadid, and others [1,2].

This award has encouraged architects to write expandingly to spread the discussed concepts in the lectures and the seminars during selecting the award-winning projects. And Aga Khan foundation have published these works in several books and journals, as (Mimar) journal for example, which is published in Singapore since 1983, and its chief editor is Hassan Aldin Khan who is a member of judgment committee [3].

Another architectural award is given by Arab Towns Organization (ATO), since 1983, and it is held every 3 years too. This organization aims to preserve the identity of Arabic cities, and to achieve sustainable development in design and planning [4].

## 2. Research Methodology

This research depends on the descriptive analytical method, by the following steps:

- Reviewing the literatures that have studied and discussed architectural awards, and extracting indicators.
- Showing the selecting criteria of awards winning projects chronologically, besides analyzing the most prominent projects.
- Extracting the indicators that are related to identity and belonging concepts.
- Applying the indicators on local projects.



### 3. Literature Review

There are several studies that have discussed awards and competitions of architectural projects, this paper will show some of them in order to extract indicators that helps to achieve paper's aims.

#### 3.1. The study of (Kristian Kreiner, 2010):

The study defines architectural competitions as a social and institutional technique for researching and selecting great architectural designs, in an effective and fair way. Technology means it is a means of serving a particular goal, and this goal is to choose a winning project, and a winning architect. It also refers to the attempt to standardize competition selections in balancing three key themes: Creativity, Legitimacy (Justice), and Efficiency. The study indicates that the latter is linked to the achievement of sustainability, in order to develop the concepts and values associated with society throughout history and its impact on architectural competitions [5].

#### 3.2. The study of (Jonas E Andersson, 2013):

The book contains a number of studies that have shown global interest in architectural competitions and awards, as they are an important subject in architectural research. Many conferences and researches have been held on the subject, and studies have shown that architectural awards aim to find the best

design solution for architectural and urban problems, including the emphasis on identity and belonging [6].

#### 3.3. The study of (Kazemian R., Ronn M., 2009):

The research studies competitions in Finland and their criteria for evaluating award-winning projects, by dividing them to: the relationship of the building to the historical context and adjacent buildings, the comprehensiveness of the design solution, including social, economic and environmental sustainability, and the nature of the link between interior spaces, project function, technical solutions and project services, and the possibility of developing the project in the future while preserving the original design concept [7].

#### 3.3. The study of (Lakkala M., Pihlajaniemi M., 2018):

The study presents architectural competitions and awards as a guiding tool for access to knowledge, and focuses on the use of log (wood) as a local building material in design and architectural construction, both at the façade, and in traditional building techniques, as an important factor indicating Finland's identity, especially in award winner projects [8].

From previous literature, it is clear that the criteria of architectural awards have been linked to societies values, and the concept of identity and belonging has become an





important value required to win architectural awards. In addition to the standards of creativity and functional requirements, the standards of compatibility with context, the use of local materials, traditional techniques, and the maintenance of the original design

concept throughout project's development. There is also an interest in the concept of social, environmental and economic sustainability, which has emerged as an important criterion for evaluation. As it is shown in Table (1).

**Table (1): Awards' criteria that are derived from literatures [authors]**

Creativity	Design concept	
Efficiency	Function	
	Services	
Compatibility with context	Urban context	Building Materials
		Building Techniques
	Historical Context	
Sustainability	Environmental	
	Economical	
	Social	

#### 4. Architectural Awards

The research will specify the adopted criteria in selecting winner projects of architectural awards, after analyzing the design concepts of the winning projects. With a focus on the criteria that achieve identity and belonging in design.

##### 4.1. Aga Khan Award for Architecture

The award included fourteen cycles from 1978 to 2019, during which the 14th edition was held, many outstanding architectural projects have won, and the criteria for their selection varied according to the developments associated with the spirit of the age, as well as the trends of achieving identity and belonging in design [9].

##### 4.1.1. The Eighties of Twentieth Century

In the first cycles of the Aga Khan Award, which are held from 1978 to 1989, the Foundation held various seminars in eastern countries such as China, Senegal, Yemen, Malaysia, and others to increase knowledge of Islamic architecture culture, heritage and contemporary concepts, its association with identity and belonging concepts, to illustrate the relationship of technology to Islamic architecture, as well as to emphasize the role of architects in society, where the President's Award was given to Hassan Fathi and Rifat Chadrabi. The winning projects were divided into two groups, the first comprises architectural design projects, and the second involves conservation, restoration



and rehabilitation. The research will focus on architectural design projects because the projects of the second group include different methods in dealing with them, although the award is still awarded for conservation and restoration projects till nowadays [10].

One of the winning projects in the first cycle of the award (Pondok Pesantren Pabelan in Indonesia), it was chosen for its contribution to improve the conditions of rural residents with individual social initiatives, and (Mughal Sheraton Hotel in India) which

relies on vocabulary that are inspired by local vocabulary and local materials to meet contemporary functional needs. This trend is similar to (Halawa House in Egypt) and (the Agricultural Training Centre in Senegal), with the revival of traditional construction techniques. One of the unique projects is (water towers in Kuwait), which is formally inspired by the arab rose water sprinkler, with the exterior finishing by bright colored steel sheets which are inspired by traditional mosaics, as shown in Fig. (1-5) [11].



**Fig. (1): Pondok Pesantren Pabelan, Indonesia, 1965 [11].**



**Fig. (2): Mughal Sheraton Hotel, India, 1976 [11].**



**Fig. (3): Halawa House, Egypt, 1975 [11].**



**Fig. (4): water towers, Kuwait, 1976 [11].**



**Fig. (5): Agricultural Training Centre, Senegal, 1977 [11].**

In the second cycle, the project of (Hajj Terminal in Saudi Arabia) had won because it provided innovative technological solutions inspired by the forms of Arab tents in the desert, while the award was awarded to both of (Great Mosque of Niono in Mali) and (Ramses Wissa Wassef Arts Centre in Egypt) because of the revival of traditional techniques in construction and using local materials (bricks),

but (Residence Andalous) project has inspired its design from the traditional vocabulary such as the central courtyard, and water gardens which are presented in a contemporary style. There are some attempts to modernize within the context in both of (Sherefudin's White Mosque) at the architectural level, and in (Hafsia Quarter I) at the urban level, as shown in Fig. (6-11) [12].



**Fig. (6): Hajj Terminal, Saudi Arabia, 1981 [12].**



**Fig. (7): Great Mosque of Niono, Mali, 1973 [12].**

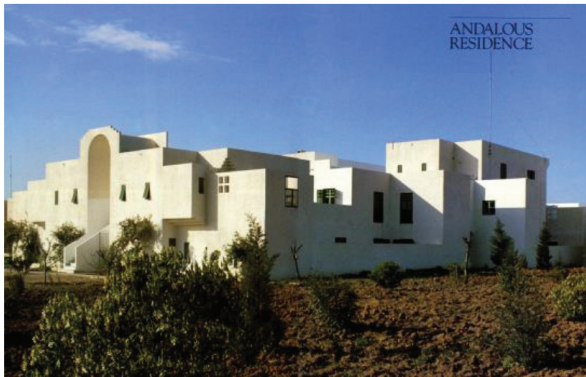




**Fig. (8): Sherefudin's White Mosque, Bosnia, 1980 [12].**



**Fig. (9): Ramses Wissa Wassef Arts Centre in Egypt, 1974 [12].**



**Fig. (10): Residence Andalous, Tunisia, 1981 [12].**

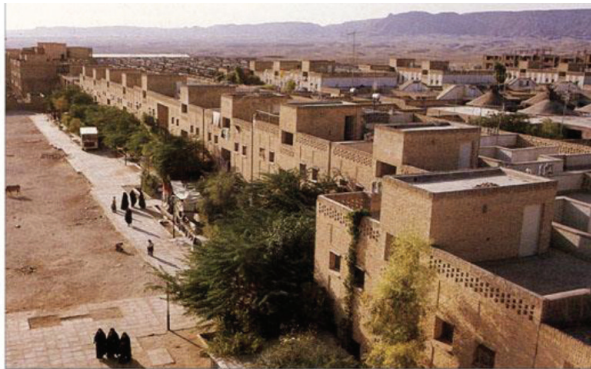


**Fig. (11): Hafsia Quarter I, Tunisia, 1977[12].**

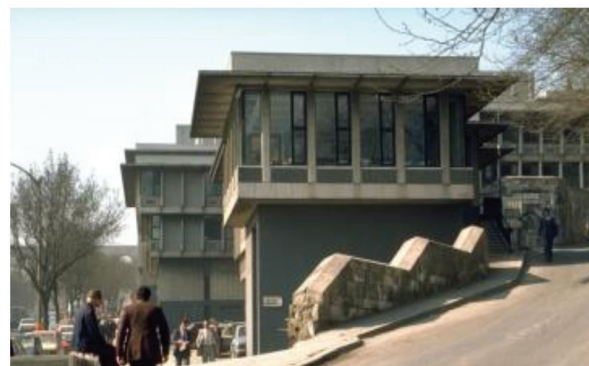


In the third cycle, the Aga Khan award has been directed towards social development projects such as (Shushtar New Town), which is designed with traditional architectural vocabulary to indicate spatial belonging such as gates and arcades. The award was also given

to (Saïd Naum Mosque) which presents the vocabulary of local architecture in a modern style, and to (Social Security Complex) project which combines contextualism with modernity in a regional trend, as shown in Fig. (12-14) [13].



**Fig. (12): Shushtar New Town, Iran, 1977 [13].**



**Fig. (13): Social Security Complex, Turkey, 1970 [13].**



**Fig. (14): Saïd Naum Mosque, Indonesia, 1977 [13].**



The award's interest in housing projects continued in the fourth cycle, as in (Grameen Bank Housing Programme), which achieved the concept of community participation and teamwork in the construction of unified houses that are financed by Grameen Bank. While the award showed the interest in creative works also, as in the blending

of traditional architecture vocabulary, and modern techniques in (Institute du Monde Arab), which presents the shape of (mashrabia) with glass sensitive to light panels, as an expression of communication between the past and the present on the one hand, and between Arabs and Europeans on the other, as shown in Fig. (15,16) [14].



**Fig. (15): Grameen Bank Housing Programme, Bangladesh, 1984 [14].**



**Fig. (16): Institut du Monde Arab, France, 1987 [14].**

#### 4.1.2. Nineties of Twentieth Century

In the 1990s, Aga Khan award has been directed towards a deeper understanding of Islamic architecture and the use of its concepts in design, with an interest in housing projects, social development and popular participation. The Steering Committee added a critical dimension to the award, to help in solving the problems of architecture and society

in the Muslim world, focusing on taking advantage of the past in contemporary and future dimensions, where creative concepts have been introduced in the presentation of traditions in a contemporary style [15,16].

The winning projects in award's fifth cycle at the urban level were (Cultural Park for Children) and (Kampung Kali Cho-de), that give outstanding examples of human respect and the provision of decent services





through popular participation, with the aim of social development, in a design style that is inspired from traditional vocabulary and local building materials. The award was also awarded to the (Demir Holiday Village), whose houses are built of stone in a developed

traditional forms, and for (Stone Building System), which used local stone (basalt) in a construction technique that combines traditional and modern style with the aim of reducing the cost to more than a half, as in Fig. (17-20) [17].



**Fig. (17): Cultural Park for Children, Egypt, 1990 [17].**



**Fig. (18): Kampung Kali Cho-de, Indonesia, 1985 [17].**



**Fig. (19): Demir Holiday Village, Turkey, 1987 [17].**



**Fig. (20): Stone Building System, Syria, 1990 [17].**



In the sixth cycle, the award was awarded to (Expansion project of Kaedi Regional Hospital), which combined the functional and social aspect with creative oval and curved forms that are built by local brick material. While (Mosque of the Grand National Assembly) project was awarded because of its creative symbolism in employing the cypress tree on the side of the site as a minaret, as well

as the design of the graded pyramidal dome. And Local African motifs have occupied a large part of the interior and exterior facades of the (French-Senegalese Association) project to give users special impressions without focusing on certain symbols, as shown in Fig. (21-23) [18].



**Fig. (21): Kaedi Regional Hospital, Mauritania, 1992 [18].**



**Fig. (22): French-Senegalese Association, Senegal, 1994 [18].**



**Fig. (23): Mosque of the Grand National Assembly, Turkey, 1989 [18].**



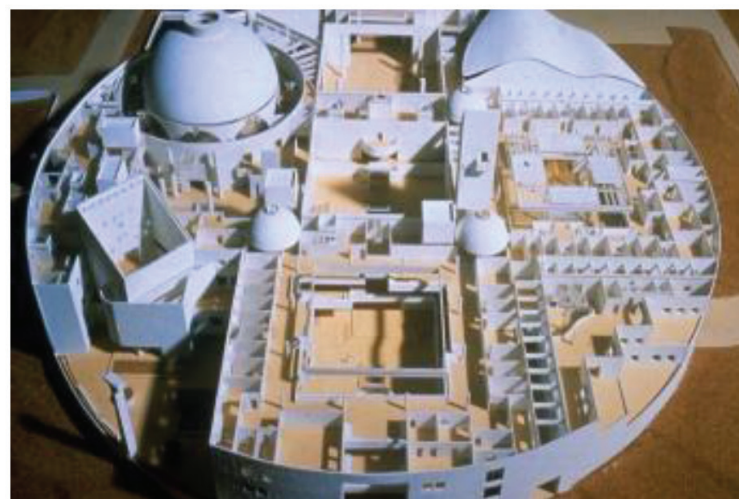


The award was also given in the seventh cycle to governmental and administrative buildings such as (Tuwaiq Palace), which includes elements of local architecture in a high-tech style, as the fort is expressed in the form of a twisted wall of stone surrounding an interior oasis, with a number of tents created with modern technology. While

(Vidhan Bhavan) project, which represents the Government Council of India, is designed in a simple circular form from the outside and includes details of traditional architecture such as gates, domes and central courtyards, as well as some decoration of local stone, as shown in Fig. (24,25) [19].



**Fig. (24): Tuwaiq Palace, Saudi Arabia, 1985 [19].**



**Fig. (25): Vidhan Bhavan, India, 1996 [19].**



#### 4.1.3. Twenty first Century

In the 21st century, the award focused on addressing the problems of environment, energy, social development and cultural identity in projects, besides adding the concept of architectural uniqueness and dialogue among civilizations [20, 21, 22, 23].

In the eighth cycle, (Aït Iktel) Village project has won on the social level because it achieves social communication among

the villagers, by constructing with local materials (stone) and introducing solar panels technology. The (SOS Children's Village) project has taken care of both the social and environmental aspects, where it works to integrate orphan children with the community through a design that includes green spaces that are integrated with the city, with other various treatments of shading and ventilation, as shown in Fig. (26,27) [24].



Fig. (26): Aït Iktel village, Morocco, 1995 [24].



Fig. (27): SOS Children's Village, Jordan, 1991 [24].





The focus on creative concepts was highlighted in the ninth cycle, and in the projects (Bibliotheca Alexandrina) and (Petronas Office Towers) in particular, where the jury has considered the first project as an important example on the architectural, symbolic and constructional level, as well

as being an enhancer of dialogue among civilizations. While the second project has expressed the Malaysian identity in a way that is inspired by Islamic culture and in a contemporary, high-tech style, as shown in Fig. (28, 29) [25].



**Fig. (28): Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt, 2002 [25].**



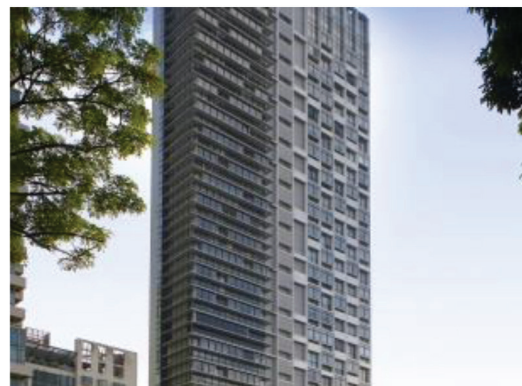
**Fig. (29): Petronas Office Towers, Malaysia, 1999 [25].**

In the 10th cycle, the award was given to (Samir Kassir Square), which represents the entrance to Beirut's central district, it is developed around the Fiscus trees because of their symbolism in bearing at the place and during events that took place at that site. As

well as (Moulmein Rise Residential Building) project because of the interest in contemporary technology, that has been combined with traditional techniques in special environmental treatments, as shown in Fig. (30,31) [26].



**Fig. (30): Samir Kassir Square, Lebanon, 2004 [26].**



**Fig. (31): Moulmein Rise Residential Building, Singapore, 2003 [26].**



One of the most distinctive projects in the eleventh cycle is (Ipekyol Textile Factory) which is awarded due to the use of local building materials and traditional vocabulary (central courtyard) as an environmental treatment with the aim of saving energy and achieving communication between employees and nature as well as between the employees



**Fig. (32): Ipekyol Textile Factory, Turkey, 2006 [27].**

themselves. The other project is (Bridge School) which links two parts of a village that is separated by a river with the use of a suspended structure which is distinct from the traditional context. This project helped to achieve social communication, as it has become a social centre after school time, as shown in Fig. (32,33) [27].



**Fig. (33): Bridge School, China, 2008 [27].**

In the 12th cycle, (Salam Cardiac Surgery Centre) was among the winning projects because it combines modern construction techniques (solar panels) with local building materials (bamboo branches) in roofing, as well as the it uses transport containers for the building of attached residential spaces and cafeteria for workers, as one of the recycling



**Fig. (34): Salam Cardiac Surgery Centre, Sudan, 2010 [28].**

methods. While (Hassan II Bridge) project, which links two historic cities with respect to the context and adjacent heights, also has won, as it confirms the vertical location of the historic Hassan Tower in the city sky line, besides as its role in social development in including markets and recreational spaces, as shown in Fig. (34,35) [28].



**Fig. (35): Hassan II Bridge, Morocco, 2010 [28].**





In the 13th cycle, (Friendship Centre) project focuses on the inspiration from one of the oldest historical sites in the region, and building a combination of local materials and contemporary techniques to achieve harmony with the environment. On the environmental side, (Issam Fares Institute) and (Tabiat Pedestrian Bridge) are similar, as the two projects reduce the ecological impact on the

site in harmony with the context of the first project, and with contemporary technology in the other. While (Superkilen) Park has won because of achieving social cohesion, and a sense of belonging in a multi-identity and multicultural city by putting symbols, monuments and vocabulary indicating each culture, as shown in Fig. (36-39) [29].



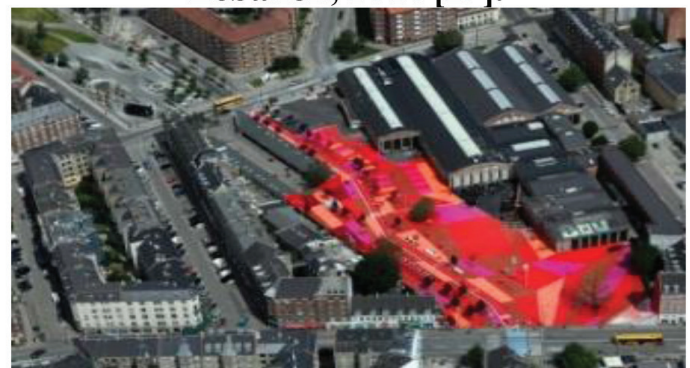
**Fig. (36): Friendship Centre, Bangladesh, 2011 [29].**



**Fig. (37): Issam Fares Institute, Lebanon, 2014 [29].**



**Fig. (38): Tabiat Pedestrian Bridge, Iran, 2014 [29].**



**Fig. (39): Superkilen park, Denmark, 2011 [29].**



At the 2019 course, the focus is on the principles of sustainability in design, including the winning projects (Arcadia Education Project) and the (Alioune Diop Research Unit), which focus on climatic aspects, the use of local materials and construction techniques that reduce negative environmental impacts, and reducing maintenance costs. So is (Wasit Wetland Centre) project, which aims to provide information on the specificity and uniqueness of its local environment on the Gulf Coast, as well as it is built in harmony with context, and

uses recycled materials (wood and plastic). One of the distinctive projects is (Palestinian Museum), as in addition to using local materials in its design, its harmony with the site in planning and its environmental treatments, it carries Gold LEED because it provides crops and water resources. The jury considered it a good expression of the Palestinian heritage, cultural dialogue, and belonging to its land with a symbolism of rejecting the colonialism, as shown in Fig. (40-43) [30].



**Fig. (40): Alioune Diop Research Unit, Senegal, 2017 [30].**



**Fig. (41): Arcadia Education Project, Bangladesh, 2016 [30].**



**Fig. (42): Wasit Wetland Centre, UAE, 2015 [30].**



**Fig. (43): Palestinian Museum, Palestine, 2016 [30].**





#### 4.2. Arab Towns Organization Award

The Arab Towns Organization award encouraged innovative and renewed design when it is inspired from the Islamic character in Arab cities, besides preserving the aesthetics of the environment, and increasing the use of computer systems. The award is divided into four categories, the first one is interested in Islamic heritage, which includes (architectural design project, architectural conservation project, and the architect). The second category is concerned in environmental health, as it includes (environmental awareness, environmental safety, and environmental advocate). The third category is for the greening and beautification of cities, that includes (urban greening, beautification of

cities, and urban beautification expert), the last category of using information technology includes (Application of computer, systems and software, and informatics expert). This award has not been documented as in the Aga khan Award cycles since its beginnings, but its last cycle was in 2017, and the winner project of Architectural Design Award is (Al hazim Commercial Complex) in Qatar, in Fig. (44), where the jury considered its design as a distinctive style that links the huge masses with human scale, as well as borrowing elements and vocabulary from classical architecture, and using modern building materials (marble), which makes it unique in the urban context of the city [31,32].

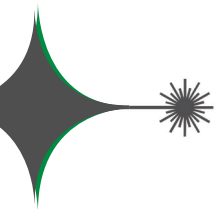


Fig. (44-a): Front Elevation



Fig. (44-b): Aerial View

Fig. (44): Al hazim Commercial Complex, Qatar, 2017 [32].



From the mentioned award-winning belonging concepts criteria and indicators are projects above, a number of Identity and derived as shown in Tables (2, 3, 4).

**Table (2): Identity and Belonging Indicators in 1980s Awards**

	Award's winner Project	Winning Reason	Concluded Criteria	Identity and Belonging Indicators
First Cycle (1978-1980)	Pondok Pesantren Pabelan, Indonesia, 1965	Improving the conditions of residents and individual initiatives	Social aspects	Community participation
	Mughal Sheraton Hotel, India, 1976	Meeting contemporary functional need with traditional vocabulary	Compatibility with context	Traditional vocabulary Traditional Techniques Local materials
	Halawa House, Egypt, 1975	Employing traditional vocabulary with contemporary materials and techniques	Innovative Design	Traditional vocabulary Traditional and modern Techniques Local materials
	water towers, Kuwait, 1976	Employing traditional elements and symbols (Arabic rose water spray, mosaics) with contemporary materials and techniques	Innovative Design	Traditional vocabulary Modern Techniques Innovative Structure
	Agricultural Training Centre, Senegal, 1977	Traditional technical revival (stone construction)	Compatibility with context	Traditional vocabulary Traditional Techniques
Second Cycle (1981-1983)	Hajj Terminal, Saudi Arabia, 1981	Innovative construction solutions inspired by the local environment (tents)	Innovative Design	Merging heritage with Contemporary Innovative Structure
	Great Mosque of Niono, Mali, 1973	Traditional technical revival (brick construction)	Compatibility with context	Traditional Techniques Local materials
	Sherefudin's White Mosque, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 1980	Openness to modernization in design within a traditional context	Innovative Design	Merging modern designs within traditional context
	Ramses Wissa Wassef Arts Centre in Egypt, 1974	The use of local building materials (bricks) in harmony and simplicity based on the effects of natural light	Compatibility with context	Traditional vocabulary Traditional Techniques Artistic Expression
	Residence Andalous, Tunisia, 1981	Employing traditional design principles and elements in a contemporary style	Compatibility with context	Traditional vocabulary Traditional Techniques Local materials
	Hafsia Quarter I, Tunisia, 1977	modernization in design within a traditional context	Innovative Design	Modernization within context
Third Cycle (1984-1986)	Shushtar New Town, Iran, 1977	Employing architectural vocabulary that helps to sense the place belonging (gates, paths)	Compatibility with context	Traditional vocabulary
	Social Security Complex, Turkey, 1970	Simple configurations that reconcile modernity with context (regional architecture)	Innovative Design	Modernization within context
	Saïd Naum Mosque, Indonesia, 1977	modernization in design within a traditional context (traditional vocabulary in modern style)	Innovative Design	Cultural and artistic values in modern style
Fourth Cycle (1987-1989)	Grameen Bank Housing Programme, Bangladesh, 1984	Construction of unified houses, with bank's contribution. It was implemented through teamwork.	Social aspects	Community participation Housing Project
	Institut du Monde Arabe, France, 1987	Expressed the cultural dialogue between French and Arabs, combining the elements of traditional Islamic architecture (mashrabiya and inner courtyard), with modern technology in Europe (light-sensitive glass panels)	Innovative Design	Traditional vocabulary Modern Techniques Dialogue between civilizations

**Table (3): Identity and Belonging Indicators in 1990s Awards**

	Award's winner Project	Winning Reason	Concluded Criteria	Identity and Belonging Indicators
Fifth Cycle (1990-1992)	Cultural Park for Children, Egypt, 1990	The project worked to revive a neglected area surrounded by archaeological areas with the contribution of community members, besides the employment of traditional elements	Social aspects	Community participation Traditional vocabulary
	Kampung Kali Cho-de, Indonesia, 1985	It is built by strong structures of local materials, with the help of the residents themselves	Social aspects	Community participation Local materials
	Demir Holiday Village, Turkey, 1987	Construction of stone houses in a developed traditional form	Compatibility with context	Local materials Traditional Techniques Artistic Expression
	Stone Building System, Syria, 1990	Using basalt stone from the rural construction site with modern technology and traditional forms (arches)	Innovative Design	Community participation Modern Techniques Local materials
Sixth Cycle (1993-1995)	Kaedi Regional Hospital, Mauritania, 1992	Using creative and distinctive forms (oval domes and curved shapes) that are built by the local material (bricks)	Innovative Design	Innovative Structure Local materials Merging heritage with Contemporary
	French-Senegalese Association, Senegal, 1994	The use of African motifs in a creative language that makes users give their own impressions	Innovative Design	Artistic and cultural Expression
	Mosque of the Grand National Assembly, Turkey, 1989	The use of different symbolism in the building of mosques where the minaret is a Cyprus tree on the side of the site, besides replacing the dome with a pyramid	Innovative Design	Using place's elements as Symbols
Seventh Cycle (1996-1998)	Tuwaiq Palace, Saudi Arabia, 1985	Employing elements of local architecture in a high-tech structure	Innovative Design	Traditional vocabulary Modern Techniques Local materials
	Vidhan Bhavan, India, 1996	Using details of traditional architecture and traditional art in a modern style	Innovative Design	Traditional vocabulary Modern Techniques Local materials Artistic Expression



**Table (4): Identity and Belonging Indicators in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Awards**

	Award's winner Project	Winning Reason	Concluded Criteria	Identity and Belonging Indicators
Eighth Cycle (1999-2001)	Aït Iktel village, Morocco, 1995	Social communication among the villagers	Social Aspects	Social development Local materials Traditional and modern Techniques
	SOS Children's Village, Jordan, 1991	Interest in the social and environmental aspects in urban planning	Social and Environmental aspects	Social development Local materials Traditional and modern Techniques
Ninth Cycle (2002-2004)	Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt, 2002	Promoting dialogue among civilizations and intellectual openness	Innovative Design	modern Techniques Dialogue between civilizations Modernization within context Unique Identity
	Petronas Office Towers, Malaysia, 1999	Expresses Malaysian Islamic identity in skyscraper design	Innovative Design	modern Techniques Traditional vocabulary
Tenth Cycle (2005-2007)	Samir Kassir Square, Lebanon, 2004	Developed around two trees in a place full of events	Innovative Design	Using place's elements as Symbols
	Moulmein Rise Residential Building, Singapore, 2003	Environmental design techniques that combine traditional and contemporary treatments	Innovative Design	Traditional and modern Techniques
Eleventh Cycle (2008-2010)	Ipekyol Textile Factory, Turkey, 2006	Using local materials for energy saving, and using traditional vocabulary (central courtyard) to communicate with nature	Innovative Design	Traditional vocabulary modern Techniques Energy saving
	Bridge School, China, 2008	Distinctive structure that links the two sides of a village	Innovative Design	Social development modern Techniques
Twelfth Cycle (2011-2013)	Salam Cardiac Surgery Centre, Sudan, 2010	Recycling local materials with the use of solar panels	Innovative Design	Local materials Recycling modern Techniques
	Hassan II Bridge, Morocco, 2010	Connects two historical cities with respect for their context	Compatibility with context	Enhancing Place's Identity Social development
Thirteenth Cycle (2014-2016)	Friendship Centre, Bangladesh, 2011	The design is inspired from historical architecture and local environmental treatments	Compatibility with context	Traditional vocabulary Local materials Traditional Techniques
	Issam Fares Institute, Lebanon, 2014	The building is floating above an outdoor courtyard to reduce the ecological foot and preserve the environment and visual axes.	Compatibility with context	Respecting Place's context Environmental treatments
	Tabiat Pedestrian Bridge, Iran, 2014	Space frame structure bridge that links two parks	Innovative Design	Social and urban development Respecting Place's context modern Techniques
	Superkilen park, Denmark, 2011	Public urban space helps in merging different cultures of society	Social Aspects	Social development Multiple identities
Fourteenth Cycle	Alioune Diop Research Unit, Senegal, 2017	Inspiration from traditional techniques to decrease maintenance and energy	Environmental Aspects	Traditional Techniques Traditional Vocabulary Energy saving





(2017-2019)	Arcadia Project, Bangladesh, 2016	Construction with local materials and techniques to decrease environmental effects	Environmental Aspects	Local materials Respecting Place's context Traditional Techniques
	Wasit Wetland Centre, UAE, 2015	Providing Information about its unique location on the gulf	Compatibility with context	Local materials Recycling Environmental treatments
	Palestinian Museum, Palestine, 2016	The emphasis on Palestinian heritage and the connection with land	Compatibility with context	Respecting Place's context Environmental treatments Cultural expression
Arab Towns Organization Award	Al hazim Commercial Complex, Qatar, 2017	A distinct, out-of-context style that combines local and international vocabulary	Innovative Design	Local and modern materials Traditional and international Vocabulary Dialogue between civilizations Modernization within context

After combining the criteria in Table (1), Table (5), that are going to be applied to the with the concluded indicators in Table (2,3,4), case studies, to verify the concepts of identity the research reaches to the final indicators in and belonging within their design.

**Table (5): Identity and Belonging Indicators that are concluded from awards and Literatures [authors]**

Criteria	Indicators	
Creativity	Innovative Design concept	Innovative Structure
		Modernization within context
		Using traditional vocabulary in contemporary style
		Using Artistic and cultural values in contemporary style
		Using local materials in contemporary style
		Combining traditional and modern techniques
		Using place's elements as Symbols
		Dialogue between civilizations
Efficiency	Function	
	Services	
Compatibility with context	Urban context	Local Building Materials
		Traditional Building Techniques
		Traditional Environmental treatments
Sustainability	Historical Context	Artistic and Cultural values
	Environmental	Environmental treatments
	Economical	Energy Saving
		Recycling
	Social	Housing Projects
		Community Participation
		Social development



## 6. Case study

### 6.1. Iraqi Central Bank

The project is designed by the Iraqi architect Zaha Hadid in 2011, and the building is under construction until the time of the research. The project is located in Baghdad, in the Al-Jadiriya, overlooking the Tigris River. The building is 172 meters high and it has a built area of 90,000 m<sup>2</sup>. It consists of a 7-storey high base with a high tower that marks a landmark in the skyline of Baghdad city, with a basement floor at a depth of 15 m.

The building's structure consists of high quality and durable iron and concrete to include a number of spaces such as: coin and alloy cabinets, administrative offices, a conference hall, and a memorial monument of Zaha Hadid.

The design concept is based on site's specificity as it overlooks the Tigris River, which was once a route of commerce, as the project expresses the historical traditions and its relationship to contemporary values, with a prominent axis towards the river, at planning level. Project's facades are characterized by fluidity and movement to express a simulation form of the reflected light on river's waves. This is expressed in the forms of curtain facades that reduce the open glass area, as a sustainable environmental treatment. These flow lines extend to the other parts of project's masses and landscape, as shown in Figure (45) [33-35].



Fig. (45-a): Side Elevation



Fig. (45-b): Aerial view

Fig. (45): Iraqi Central Bank Project, Baghdad [35]



## 6.2. Library Project in Samawah

The project is located in the centre of Samawah city, within a modern area, of medium-height context. It is designed by the Nudhun Albina'a Company and is still under construction. The design concept is based on the metaphor of Warka city, which was the main source of civilization and the learning of language, writing and numbers. The designer has borrowed symbols from cuneiform writing to express place's identity and its cultural impact which was emanating from the epic of Gilgamesh.

The concept is expressed in two, 4-storey height masses of concrete and glass,

combined with a traditional central courtyard. The masses' concrete to glass proportions are inspired from the structure of Gilgamesh ( $\frac{2}{3}$  human +  $\frac{1}{3}$  god).

The design concept also based on respecting the local environment, using appropriate climate treatments for facades, inspiring from the deep cultural identity through the formal metaphor of cuneiform letters, and using straight and sharp shapes to express the method of writing with these letters. As well as giving the library a social aspect to be a cultural centre by containing multiple functions, as shown in Fig. (46) [36].



Fig. (46-b): The project under construction

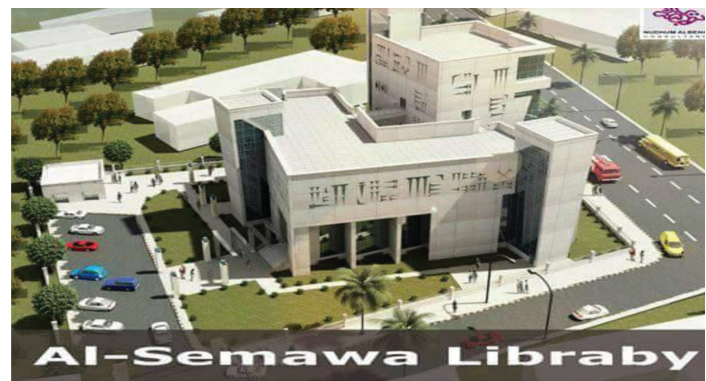
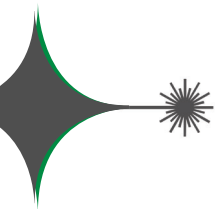


Fig. (46-a): Aerial View

Fig. (46): Library in Samawa City [36]



**Table (6): Applying Identity and Belonging Indicators on case study [authors]**

Criteria	Indicators		Case Study	
			Central Bank	Library Building
Creativity	Innovative Design concept	Innovative Structure	●	
		Modernization within context	●	●
		Using traditional vocabulary in contemporary style		●
		Using Artistic and cultural values in contemporary style		●
		Using local materials in contemporary style		
		Combining traditional and modern techniques		
		Using place's elements as Symbols	●	●
		Dialogue between civilizations		
Efficiency	Function		It is not assessed because the projects are under construction	
	Services			
Compatibility with context	Urban context	Local Building Materials		
		Traditional Building Techniques		
		Traditional Environmental treatments		
	Historical Context	Artistic and Cultural values		●
Sustainability	Environmental	Environmental treatments	●	●
	Economical	Energy Saving		
		Recycling		
	Social	Housing Projects		
		Community Participation		
		Social development		●





## 7. Results

•In the Library project, there are more indicators of identity and belonging than in the project of central bank, as shown in Table (6).

•The case studies shared some indicators such as: the modernization within context, Using place's elements as Symbols, and the environmental treatments.

•The Library project was in harmony with its historical context more than the bank, as well as with sustainability indicators. While the bank achieved innovative structure design.

•Neither the bank project nor the library had inspirations from other civilization, implemented traditional techniques, or used local materials.

## 8. Discussion

•The Central Bank project is characterized by an innovative construction structure more than the library project, due to the use of modern technologies, as well as its distinctive form within the context of city for its form, and height.

•Although both projects are interested in environmental treatments, but those treatments are not inspired from traditional architecture. Despite the resemblance of inspiration from place's elements in both cases, Tigris river in the bank project, and the cuneiform writing in the library project. But the main difference between those inspiration sources, is the cuneiform writing which is a cultural and historical symbol. This indicator has contributed to make the library project in harmony with its historical context, besides being associated with its urban place.

In addition, the central courtyard of the library project is considered as a traditional architectural vocabulary.

•Achieving the principles of sustainability in the Central Bank was limited to the environmental aspect, while the library project has achieved sustainability at the environmental and social aspects because it aims to develop community's culture.

## 9. Conclusions

•The Samawah Library project reflects the local identity and belonging to the context, while the Central Bank project is an expression of its unique identity, especially after its completion. It could become an internationally known landmark.

•Sustainability principles play an important role in the success of contemporary architectural designs.

•Awards criteria have developed from local to international aspects, besides the emphasis on innovative concepts rather than simple or direct metaphors, especially with the development of building materials and construction techniques.

## 10. Recommendations

•Architects should benefit from architectural awards criteria to give good and creative designs.

•It is possible to nominate local contemporary projects for awards such as Aga Khan or Arab Towns Organization award, because they can achieve more than a criterion to win.



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