

Sustainable Traditional Urban Design of the Old City of Ghadames

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Abstract : Ghadames is an oasis on the edge of the Sahara Desert in southwestern Libya at the border with Algeria and Tunisia. It is the oldest oasis in the world that provides a fascinating example of traditional urban in the desert environment. The urban of the small city is considered a genuine adaptation to the harsh desert climate. The historic city of Ghadames remained unaffected by the rapid after oil changes. That makes it a good field to study sustainable, vernacular, earth architecture and urban design. The aim of this paper is to investigate the urban structure, concept, and fabric of the old oasis. The research also surveys the environmental considerations in the city that shades the sustainable features in this traditional residential area. In addition, the paper addresses the modern applications in the new city of Ghadams and sides of success and failure compared to the traditional urban fabric.

Keywords : dessert climate design, Ghadames, sustainable urban design, traditional urban design

Conference Title : ICSHUD 2016 : International Conference on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development

Conference Location : Venice, Italy

Conference Dates : August 08-09, 2016