



World Heritage / Patrimoine Mondial

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Fatimid Cairo: A Spatial Configuration Approach

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■ Please provide a 500 words abstract outlining your thesis; you may wish to attach a table of contents or any other relevant material:

Conventionally, the analysis of historical sites depended heavily on researches that focused on the physical and social aspects of the sites. The main emphasis of such approaches was to analyze the architectural style and characters, social life and activities within the urban fabric, and to different extents, to examine other issues related to the environmental and physical conditions of buildings.

However, the conventional analysis techniques exhibited an apparent lack in the perception of the "spatial configuration–social behavior" relationship. Consequently, several researches emphasized a need to establish a scientific basis for a quantitative model that translates the way the social and spatial aspects simultaneously affect each other.

The research main aim is to build a model of investigation that analyzes historical sites from the spatial configuration aspect, in order to understand the routes and related social transformation through history. The research starts with introducing important tools used in spatial configuration; the "Space Syntax". As a theory and technique, the space syntax is used in analyzing the current conditions of Fatimid Cairo as a case study, field survey, and semi-structured interview. In the following parts of this research, the tool will be developed to establish a synthesis of historical transformation through history. Four different eras of old Cairo's history will be compared using five main experiments to analyze the route transformation through time. The model of investigation is used to analyze the current situation, different historical eras, and any futuristic scenarios for development.

■ Thematic Structure (max. 5)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Archaeological Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Routes and Itineraries, Linear Heritage (Routes, Canals, Railways, Rivers, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Built Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Natural Heritage and Environment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthen Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Geological Heritage
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Historic Centres and Cities, Historic Urban Landscapes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Forests
<input type="checkbox"/>	Military / Defence & Maritime Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deserts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial, Technological, Astronomical & Scientific Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vernacular Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marine and Coastal Heritage
<input type="checkbox"/>	Modern and Contemporary Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mountain Heritage
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Landscapes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rock-Art
<input type="checkbox"/>	Underwater Heritage / Archaeology	<input type="checkbox"/>	Research on Materials Conservation and Mechanics
<input type="checkbox"/>	Museums, Museology & Moveable Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Training, Youth and Volunteers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Documentary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Tourism & Ecotourism
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oral & Intangible Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Heritage Legislation (National and International), Conventions, Charters and Declarations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Languages and Toponymy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Climate Change Impacts on Heritage
<input type="checkbox"/>	Genealogy and Heraldry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Restoration
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:		