TRANSITIONAL REFUGEE COMMUNITY DESIGN STRATEGY FOR DRY/ARID REGIONS



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HANIFAH NAKALEMBE MASTER'S PROJECT SPRING 2010

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TRANSITIONAL REFUGEE COMMUNITY DESIGN STRATEGY FOR DRY/ARID REGIONS

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...the average duration of major refugee situations has increased from 9 years (1993) to 17 years (2003)



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PROJECT DEFINITION

"WHAT IS THE MASTER'S PROJECT?" TRANSITIONAL HOUSING AS DE

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING AS DEFINED BY THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES: SHELTER WHICH PROVIDES HABITABLE COVERING; A SECURE HEALTHY LIVING ENVIRONMENT WITH PRIVACY AND DIGNITY TO THOSE WITHIN IT OVER A PERIOD BETWEEN CONFLICT OR NATURAL DISASTER AND ACHIEVING A DURABLE (PERMANENT) SHELTER SOLUTION.

The proposed master's project is the exploration of how architectural planning and design can improve and increase efficiency in transitional housing during emergency relief and/or conflict related situations. The project proposal developed through design exploration of several prototypes that would not only be minimal but will also be culturally and climatically adaptive among other things. After a thorough selection process, concentration was given to arid/dry climate and the area selected for study was Darfur, Sudan.

According to UNHCR, "ONE IN SEVEN PEOPLE LIVES IN A SLUM OR REFUGEE CAMP". HUMAN DISPLACEMENT IS A RECURRING SITUATION WORLDWIDE AND IS AN ISSUE THAT HAS AFFECTED ALMOST EVERY CIVILIZATION. CAUSES ARE DUE TO NATURAL DISASTERS SUCH AS EARTH QUAKES, TORNADOS, OR HUMAN CONFLICTS SUCH AS WARS AND POLITICAL DISTRESS. SHELTER IS THE MOST BASIC AND CRUCIAL NECESSITY AFTER SUCH OCCURRENCES. NOT UNTIL AS RECENT AS 1999, THERE WERE NO EASILY IDENTIFIABLE DESIGN RESOURCES FOR SHELTERS OR TRANSITIONAL HOUSING AFTER SUCH CRISIS SITUATIONS.

The UNHCR also recorded that in 2004 the average duration of major refugee situations has increased from nine years in 1993 to seventeen years in 2003. One of the many challenges in the emergency relief housing industry is how to design a shelter that is not considered "too permanent". The issue with making shelters this way is that occupants have less incentive to return to their previous living conditions before the displacement. As a result, governments tend to lower housing as a priority, therefore resulting into temporary refugee camps becoming permanent camps. The primary aim of the prospective master's project design will be to develop prototypical autonomous structures that will serve as transitional housing but with an expiration date. In other words, the solution will be durable enough to withstand weather constraints but with a specific life span with the goal to make governments take initiative in resolving the housing situation.

Last but not least, the main goal with this type of project would be to promote architecture and other related design fields as a collaborative effort with the main outcome which entails public responsibilities. Emphasize the role of architecture in humanitarian relief and encouraged People Oriented Projects.

"WHY IS THE PROJECT BEING DEVELOPED?"

"WHAT IS THE PROJECT ABOUT?"



PROJECT DEFINITION

DEVELOPING A PROTOTYPICAL HOUSING UNIT THAT WOULD SERVE AS A TRANSITIONAL DWELLING FOR COMMUNITIES AFFECTED DURING CONFLICT OR NATURAL DISASTERS IN AREAS OF DRY/ARID CLIMATES.

DESIGNING DWELLINGS THAT NOT ONLY FUNCTION AS A SINGLE AUTONOMOUS UNIT BUT ALSO, ONCE ASSEMBLED AS A GROUP SETTING, OPERATE CORROBORATIVELY AS A UNIFIED SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY.

ESTABLISHING FLEXIBLE DESIGN STANDARDS THAT WILL BE ACCOMMODATING TO THE CULTURAL BACKGROUND OF THE DISPLACED POPULATION AT LARGE, DEPENDING ON THE SETTING. SPECIFIC CONCENTRATION ON THE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE OF CULTURE IN RELATION TO DISPLACEMENT.



DESIGN GOALS



AESTHETICS

DESIGN SHOULD BE VISUALLY APPROPRIATE AND ARCHITECTURAL IN ITS SIMPLICITY AND OVERALL FORM.

CULTURE

SENSITIVE AND ADAPTIVE TO THE CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS OF THE SPECIFIED DISPLACED POPULATION BY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT TRADITIONAL SPATIAL NEEDS AND FAMILY SIZE.

DURABILITY

THE ABILITY TO RESIST EVERYDAY AND/OR WEATHER RELATED WEAR AND TEAR FOR THE DESIGNATED PERIOD IT IS OCCUPIED.

TRANSITION

BETWEEN TEMPORARY SHELTERS (TENTS) TO A MORE HABITABLE SHELTER THAT WILL SUSTAIN THE OCCUPANT FOR LONGER THAN ONE YEAR. BUILDING IN PHASES WITH THE POTENTIALITY OF A PERMANENT COMMUNITY DEPENDING ON DURATION OF REFUGEE STATUS.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

AN EMPHASIS ON "PEOPLE- ORIENTED PLANNING" WITH A FOCUS ON OWNERSHIP AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY. DEVELOPMENT OF TRADES AND SKILLS.

MATERIALS

USE OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES LOCAL TO THE AREA TO REDUCE DEPENDENCY ON IMPORTED MATERIALS.

Methodology

USE OF LOCAL SKILLS AND TRADITIONAL CONSTRUCTION METHODS WITH LOW MAINTENANCE.

Environmentally Conscience

DESIGN SOLUTION THAT INTEGRATES PASSIVE SYSTEMS APPLICABLE TO THE REGIONAL CLIMATE AND ENCOURAGES REUSE AND RECYCLING OF MATERIALS.





GUIDING PRINCIPLES



STAKEHOLDERS

the UN High Commissioner for Refugees reported that there were 9,200,000 refugees were reported in 2004 alone...



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"2004 Global Refugee trends," UNHCR, June 2005

	Colombia	Haiti		Afghanistan Myar	nmar
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Colombia ———	internal conflict due to illegal production of Coca	Pacific Coast, incl. Cauca, Chocó and Nariño, Arauca, Antioquia, Guaviare and Sur de Bolivar.	1964 to present	3,000,000	Bogota
Наіті———	Earthquake Hurricanes	Port-au Prince Gonaïves	Jan. 2010 Aug - Sept 2008	TBD	Petionville, Pravaille
Myanmar — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	Cyclone Nargis	Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Bago Divisions; Mon and Kayin States	May. 2008	790,000	
Sudan	internal conflict	Darfur region,	Feb 2003 to present	500,000	Chad, Khartoum, El Fasher
Iraq	internal conflict floods	Baghdad	March 2003 to present	2,647,251	Al Waleed, Najaf, Samara

DISASTER RELIEF INFORMATION

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Согомвіа	Quibdo	tropical rainforest	high: 88 (jan) Iow: 72 (mar)	high: 8 (may) Iow: 3 (feb)	earthquakes, volcanoes floods		
Наіті———	Port-au-Prince	sub-tropical/ semi-arid	high: 95 (aug, jul) Iow: 72 (feb, dec)	high: 9.8 (may) Iow: I.8 (dec, jan)	earthquakes, floods, hurricanes	located lee-ward side of Hispaniola, low trade winds	mount Iowlar plain/v
Myanmar	Yangon	tropical	high: 97 (mar, apr) Iow: 64 (jan)	high: 22.9 (may) Iow: 0.12 (dec, jan)	earthquakes, cyclones, landslides, floods		
Sudan	Khartom	semi-arid	high: 108 (may) Iow: 59 (jan)	high: 2.8 (aug) Iow: 0 (nov-apr)	drought, sand storms		north/ centra south: White
Iraq	Baghdad	dry/ arid	high: (jul) Iow: 39 (jan)	high: I.3 (mar) Iow: 0 (jul-sep)	floods (north), dust and sand storms		alluvia along

GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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SRI LANKA



COUNTRY PROFILE: SRI LANKA

avg. temperature: high - 95° (jun) low -75 (nov)

avg. rainfall: high -14" (dec) low - 1.1" (jul)

terrain:

terraced highlands, paddy fields, scrubland, forest, wetlands, and lagoons

agricultural resources: tea, rice,

natural resources (national)

coconut, rubber, tea, steel, textiles, plywod, cement, graphite, limestone, graphite, mineral sands, gems, phosphates, clay, hydropower

industries (national)

rubber processing, tea, coconuts, and other agricultural commodities; telecommunications, insurance, and banking; clothing, cement, petroleum refining, textiles, tobacco

ethnic composition Muslim: 41% Tamil: 35% Sinhalese: 24%

situation

occasional cyclones and tornadoes -2004 tsunami displacement

pop. displaced 73,000 civilians

affected districts:

Kuchchaveli, Town and Gravets, Kinniya, Seruvila, Muttur, Echchilampatta

IDP camp areas: Trincomalee





Jaffna

Gulf

of Mannar





: largest city: Colombo focus area: Trincomalee : official language: Sinhala, Tamil population: 20,238,000 (2009 estimate) [·]density: 798.9/sq mi

HAITI



NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN



COUNTRY PROFILE: HAITI

avg. temperature: high - 95° (jul, aug) low -72 (feb, dec)

avg. rainfall:

high - 9.8" (may) low - 1.8" (dec, jan)

terrain:

mountains: thin loose soil low land: clay, loam soils plains/valleys: alluvial soils

agricultural resources:

coffee, mangoes, sugarcane, rice, corn, sorghum, wood, sisal

natural resources:

bauxite, copper calcium carbonarte, gold, marble

industries:

sugar refining , flour milling, textiles, cement, light assembly

religious composition Catholic: 80% Protestant: 16%

Haitian Vodou 5%

Situation:

2010 earthquake leaving almost half of the capital's population displaced
located in the middle of the hurricane belt and subject to

severe storms from July to October; occasional flooding and earthquakes, periodic droughts

IDP camp area:

Petionville: currently 50,000 refugees, eastern suburb of Port-au-Prince. Croix de Bouquette: 10,000 refugees, northern suburb of Port-au-Prince.





capital: Port-au Prince official language: Haitian Creole, French population: 9,035,536 (2009 estimate) density: 936.4/sq mi

COUNTRY PROFILE: DARFUR, SUDAN



KH Al Fāsher

CAPITAL: KHARTOUM OFFICIAL LANGUAGE: ARABIC POPULATION: 42,272,000 (2009 ESTIMATE) DENSITY: 43.7/SQ MI FOCUS AREA: DARFUR IDP POPULATION: 500,000 +



RESEARCH PROCESS





DESERTIFICATION MAP



HYDROGEOLOGICAL MAP



GEOMORPHOLOGY MAP



LAND USE MAP

RESEARCH PROCESS

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SITE ANALYSIS









avg. temperature: high - 101° (may) low - 59° (jan)

avg. rainfall: high - 4.8"

LOW - 0"

TERRAIN:

East: plains and low hills, sandy soils, North: Sahara Desert, dry arid plateaus West: basement rock with thin layer of sandy soil; Jabel Marra volcanic mountains; temperate, high rainfall, permanent water springs.

RESEARCH PROCESS



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GEOGRAPHY

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES:

SISAL, BAMBOO, LIVESTOCK, CASH CROPS,

NATURAL RESOURCES (WITHIN SUDAN):

PETROLEUM; SMALL RESERVES OF IRON ORE, COPPER, CHROMIUM ORE, ZINC, TUNGSTEN, MICA, SILVER, GOLD, HYDROPOWER

INDUSTRIES (WITHIN SUDAN):

OIL, COTTON GINNING, TEXTILES, CEMENT, EDIBLE OILS, SUGAR, SOAP DISTILLING, SHOES, PETROLEUM REFINING, PHARMACEUTICALS, ARMAMENTS, LIGHT TRUCK ASSEMBLY, RUBBER (TIRES)

RESEARCH PROCESS

TRADES AND ECONOMY

RELIGIOUS COMPOSITION: ISLAM: 80% ANIMIST: 15% CHRISTIANITY: 5%

CONFLICTS/NATURAL HAZARDS:

ON GOING CONFLICT BETWEEN THE JANJAWEED, SUDANESE GOVERNEMENT. TOO MANY PLAYERS TO DETERMINE MAIN SOURCE. DUST STORMS AND PERIODIC PERSISTENT DROUGHTS

MAIN IDP (INTERNALLY DISPLACED POPULATION) CAMP AREA: EL FASHIR, NYALA, EL GENEINA

RESEARCH PROCESS

POLITICS AND CONFLICT

INFRASTRUCTURE

RESEARCH PROCESS

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CONFLICT AREAS & EXISTING REFUGEE CAMPS

DOGON VILLAGE, MALI

STUDY OF DIFFERENT HOUSING STRATEGIES IN AREAS/ VILLAGES ALONG THE SAME LATITUDE AS DARFUR. FOCUS ON SPATIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND FAMILY AND COMMUNITY GROWTH AS TIME PROGRESSED.

PRECEDENT STUDIES

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DJENNE, MALI

DJENNÉ IS FAMOUS FOR ITS SUDANESE-STYLE ARCHITECTURE. NEARLY ALL OF THE BUILDINGS IN THE TOWN, INCLUDING THE GREAT MOSQUE, ARE MADE FROM SUN-BAKED MUD BRICKS WHICH ARE COATED WITH MUD PLASTER. USE OF THE CLASSIC ARAB COURTYARD HOUSE AS A COOLING STRATEGY AND DESIGNATION OF SPACES AROUND THE SHARED COURT. ROOMS MAIN ROOMS ARE FLEXIBLE AND HAVE ACTIVITIES THAT ARE RELOCATED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AS APPROPRIATE TO ACCOMMODATE THE CHANGES IN TEMPERATURE AND THE LOCATION OF THE SUN.

COURTYARD HOUSES

1. ENTRY 6. GUEST

7. TOILET

PRECEDENT STUDIES

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2. COURTYARD W/ FOUNTAIN 3. LIVING ROOM 4. KITCHEN 5. BATHROOM

SHATAYA VILLAGE IN SOUTH DARFUR

THE VILLAGE OF SHATAYA WAS UNFORTUNATELY DESTROYED BUT IT REFLECTED LAYOUT OF A TYPICAL VILLAGE IN DARFUR. THE RADIAL ARRANGEMENT OF HOUSING AROUND A CENTRAL COURT AREA USUALLY FOR LIVESTOCK STORAGE OF FARMING. STREETS WERE BASED ON A GRID LAYOUT WITH THE AXIS DIVINDING BETWEEN EACH COMPOUND CLUSTER.

VILLAGE COMPOSITION

PRECEDENT STUDIES

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70% to 80% of all IDPs (internally displaced persons) are women and children. more than half of

Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, Norwegian Refugee Council

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all IDPs live in Africa...

DESIGN PROCESS

CONCEPT ONE

DESIGN PROCESS

PLANNING STRATEGIES

SPATIAL FLEXIBILITY

PINWHEEL

CONFIGURATION 1280 FT²

CONCEPT TWO

FAMILY KINSHIP RELATIONSHIPS Typical Islamic Patrilinear Model

DARFUR POPULATION IS COMPOSED OF MORE THAN 75% MUSLIMS. IN ORDER TO RESPECT AND ADAPT DESIGN TO RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND, A STUDY OF SPATIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND FAMILY INTERACTION IN A TYPICAL ISLAMIC HOUSHOLD WAS CRUCIAL.

SPATIAL STUDIES

DESIGN PROCESS

MODULE

SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

TL Sq Ft	Notes					
100 50 50	all spaces are shared					
200						
150 100 100 50 400	spaces 2 & 3 are shared flexible spaces					
200 50 100 200	spaces 2,3,& 4 are sha flexible spaces					
75	attached/detached					
025						
cleanse	recuperate					
interact	nourish					
recuperate	recuperate					
GROUP/ COMMUNITY MODULE						

DESIGN PROCESS

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FINAL DESIGN

LOCATION: EL FASHER, NORTH DARFUR PROVINCE CLIENT: DISPLACED POPULATIONS IN DARFUR MATERIALS: WOVEN GRASS MATS (SHADING)

BAMBOO (FRAMES) RUBBER TIRES (BINDING) EARTH BRICKS (STRUCTURE) POPULATION: 30-50 PER COMMUNITY CLUSTER AREA (PER MODULE): 140 sq.ft AREA (EACH COMMUNITY CLUSTER) : APPROX. 13,000 sq.ft

1/16" = 1'-0"

PLAN

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CLUSTER LAYOUT

INTERACT

1/16" = 1'-0"

- 1. ENTRY
- 2. COURTYARD W/ FOUNTAIN
- 3. LIVING ROOM
- 4. KITCHEN
- 5. BATHROOM
- 6. GUEST
- 7. TOILET

DESIGN PARTI BASED ON THE COURTYARD HOUSE SYSTEM WITH A PUBLIC SPACE IN THE CENTER AND FAMILY MODULES OR "ROOMS" RADIATING AROUND THIS SPACE.

CLUSTER LAYOUT

CLUSTER LAYOUT

1/8" = 1'-0"

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SITE SECTIONS

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THERMAL INSULATION

SOLAR SHADING

VENTILATION

PASSIVE SYSTEMS

BAMBOO FRAMES

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BUILDING PHASES

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BUILDING PHASES

COMPLETED VILLAGE LAYOUT

BUILDING PHASES

AERIAL VIEW OF COMMUNITY COMPOUND

37

BUILDING PHASES

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MODULE COMPONENTS

MODULE COMPONENTS

4 WOVEN MATS + BRICK LAYING + EARTH BASE

WALL

5 WOVEN MATS + BRICK LAYING + EARTH BASE + 1ST STRUCTURAL

40

MODULE COMPONENTS

MODULE COMPONENTS

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COMPONENTS ASSEMBLY

INFIRMARY/ NURSE QUARTERS

WATER PUMP STATION

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RENDERINGS AND SITE VIEWS

INTERACT/ SHARED SPACE

TRANSITION AREA

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RENDERINGS AND SITE VIEWS

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MODEL VIEWS

TRANSITIONAL REFUGEE COMMUNITY

PHASE 5

RESOURCES

BOLD (BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES AND LIVELIHOODS IN DARFUR)

Location: Darfur Province, Sudan Date: 2004 - 05 Client: Displaced populations in Darfur Design Team: Scott Mulrooney, Isaac Boyd Cost per Unit: \$90 Materials: woven grass mats, bamboo, rubber tires, Occupancy: 4 - 5 people Area: 67 sq.ft/6.25 sq.m

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CASE STUDIES

SUPER ADOBE

Location: Baninajar Refugee Camp, Iran Date: 1995 Client: Iraqi refugees Design Firm: California Institute of Earth Art and Architecture (Cal-Earth) Cost per unit: \$625 Materials: lime stabalized earth, sand, barbed wire (stabalization) Area: 150 sq.ft/ 14.6 sq.m

CASE STUDIES

QUINTA MONROY HOUSING PROJECT

LOCATION: IQUIQUE, CHILE Date: 2002 - 05 CLIENT: 93 ILLEGAL SQUATTER HOUSEHOLDS DESIGN FIRM: ELEMENTAL HOUSING INITIATIVE COST PER UNIT: \$7,500 (INCLUDING LAND) AREA: 430 SQ.FT/ 36 SQ.M

A DIFFICULT EQUATION TO SOLVE

Low cost (US\$7.500) • **Densify (land and infrastructure savings)** Flexibility for growth • **Structural complexity** Protect the quality of urban space • "**Orderly" growth**

APPROXIMATIONS TO THE PARALELL HOUSING TYPOLOGY

abolish the single-family per lot system
 increase the density and efficient use of land
 maintaining the possibility for growth

BASIC RULE: The dividing walls should always coincide with habitable enclosures.

ELEMENTAL SCHEME OF THE PARALELL HOUSE

THE URBAN SCALE

h≤Z s>b house

50

CASE STUDIES

A BRIDGE TOO FAR

Location: Po River, Maosi, Gansu Province, China Date: 2004 - 05 Client: Villagers of Maosi Design Team: Chan Pui Ming, Mu Jun, volunteers from Maosi, students Cost: \$141,900 (including labor and materials) Materials: bamboo, steel, rubble Length: 328 ft/100 m

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CASE STUDIES

SAFE(R) HOUSE

LOCATION: SRI LANKA Date: 2005 CLIENT: DISPLACED RESIDENTS OF DODANDUWA, SRI LANKA DESIGN TEAM: HAVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN SENSEABLE CITY LABORATORY Cost: \$1,500 MATERIALS: CONCRETE BLOCK, BAMBOO, TIN ROOFING Length: 400 sq. ft/ 37 sq. m

/porosity in order to maximize the resistance to an incoming tsunami, four independent linear supports, perpendicular to the coast, are created. they replace the uniform skin of the existing design. also, a raised platform guarantees better water flow and health

/upgradability bamboo partitions are initially provided in between the core elements; with time they can be transformed and customized, engaging residents and promoting the reuse of elements from collapsed buildings

CASE STUDIES

SAVING THE BACON

Location: Germany Date: 2000 Design Team:FNP Architekten Materials:wood, existing concrete brick structure

S. S. S. Carlo

CASE STUDIES

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