

THE IMAGE OF THE HISTORICAL CITY IN THE COURSE OF ITS DEVELOPMENT- TYRE CASE STUDY

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Abstract

Built heritage constitutes the physical components of the city's identity and image; adding historical, symbolic or cultural values to old buildings justifies the need to protect them, and to find a way to integrate them with the expected development of the city. On the other hand, the modernity of the city reflects the contemporary character of the society by adopting the current architectural trends and the newest technologies in construction. This paper investigates the historical cities image throughout its continuous development, where the built heritage needs to be integrated within the new urban context established by the rational development of the city, through studying the case of Tyre city in South Lebanon. In this city, 1930s-1970s buildings achieved a sense of disjunctive break from the old city fabric (1766-1900s). In spite of the differences between these two fabrics, both represent a clear and strong identity for the two historical stages. This identity is confused in the later urban fabric of the city. As a result, the development of Tyre city should be balanced to improve 'the sense of place'.

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