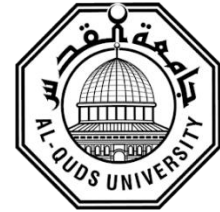




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ABSTRACT

Rehabilitation of Jerusalem International Airport as a Flight Training Center and Memorial Hub

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Background: The Jerusalem Airport, as the first in Palestine, symbolizes a sovereign element of the State. Its significance spans cultural, economic, and touristic aspects, as well as regional communication. However, faced with increasing settlement projects and threats, such as barriers and military bases, the project emphasizes the importance of preserving the airport. The proposal involves adapting its functions in line with rehabilitation principles, considering the specific needs of the site. Due to the ethnic manipulation measures carried out by the occupation and the resulting very high population density in the surrounding areas and urban sprawl that reached the outskirts of the airport.

Objectives: Recognizing the challenges, the project aims to rehabilitate the airport while transforming its functions. In response to high urban density and a lack of public spaces near the airport, a new role as an aviation training center is proposed. Simultaneously, a memorial hub incorporating existing settlement elements like the wall and Qalandia checkpoint will serve as a memorial, documenting Palestinian suffering.

Methods: Data Collection: Books, articles, journals: Ensure to cover a wide range of sources, including academic publications, and relevant literature on airport planning and cultural aspects.

Interviews and questionnaires: Engage with stakeholders, local residents.

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Aerial photos, maps: Utilize geospatial data to understand the physical layout of the site and its surroundings.

Literature Review: Previous studies about airports and Qalandiya: Analyze existing studies and projects related to airports and the specific context of Qalandiya to identify trends, challenges, and potential solutions.

Case Study: Similar case studies: Explore other airport projects in similar cultural, political, or geographical contexts to draw insights and learn from both successes and challenges.

Site Analysis: Cultural features: Assess the cultural significance of the site, considering heritage preservation and potential impacts on local communities.

Physical features: Evaluate the existing infrastructure, landscape, and surroundings to understand the environmental context.

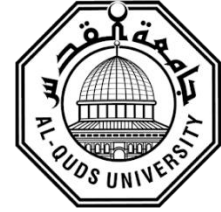
Political features: Examine the political landscape, including military and settlement sites, to identify potential constraints and opportunities.

Vision: Identify adjacent areas: Clearly define the boundaries and interrelations between the airport site and surrounding features like the quarry, checkpoints, and neighborhoods. Consider the socio-political implications.

Program: Preliminary program: Develop a basic outline of the functions and facilities the airport is intended to have. Consider passenger capacity, services, and infrastructure requirements.

Outputs: Project results, Present findings, vision, and program outputs. Highlight the implications for cultural heritage, environmental impact, and potential socio-economic benefits

Research questions: The central question guiding the project is how to transform adversity into strength and freedom.



Sub-questions explore incorporating the apartheid wall and Qalandiya checkpoint into the design as a memory of the place and examining how the training airport and memorial hub reflect Palestinian identity.

Results: Expected outcomes of the project include the establishment of an Aviation Training Center, the creation of a Memorial Hub bearing witness to the place's memory.

The preservation of the airport as a sovereign building reflecting national identity, and the provision of public spaces to enhance the urban environment and support social and economic activities. This approach aims to strike a balance between preserving identity, fostering economic, social and cultural development, and addressing the community's needs, as identified through site analysis.

Conclusions: The Jerusalem Airport project aims to assert Palestinian sovereignty, preserve cultural heritage, stimulate economic growth through an Aviation Training Center, and create a Memorial Hub. It addresses community needs while commemorating Palestinian identity and resilience.

Keywords: Jerusalem Airport, Qalandiya Checkpoint, Rehabilitation, Separation wall, Runway, Memorial hub, Museum, Kafr Aqab, Qalandiya.