

An Exploration of Incorporating Divine Orientation in Teaching Architectural Basic Design

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Abstract

Considering the necessity of reviving Islamic identity in architectural education, this research examines the author's educational experience in basic courses on "Architectural Basic Design", in which divine orientation has been used as an educational and conceptual approach in the design process. The main goal of the research is to explain how divine themes influence design exercises and promote students' spiritual thinking. The main issue is how, by applying divine principles, design education can be elevated beyond the level of technical skill and transformed into a context for cultivating cultural and faith identity. The research method is qualitative and based on practical and applied research; meaning that the author has provided the students with a meaningful experience by designing conceptual and analytical exercises, and their works have been analyzed qualitatively. Data were collected through observation, recording of artifacts, and analysis of symbolic content. The findings show that using divine concepts in the design of murals has increased the sense of meaning-seeking, attention to sacred beauty, and improved conceptual analysis skills among students. Also, focusing on Islamic values in the design process has strengthened an identity-oriented attitude and cultural responsibility in students. The results of this study emphasize that divine orientation can be an effective approach in teaching architectural design, leading to the integration of art, meaning, and faith, and providing a suitable model for designing basic course exercises in architectural education. Finally, it is suggested that an educational framework be designed in which divine concepts, Quranic verses, Divine Names, and sacred geometry are systematically included in the content of architecture courses in order to train architects committed to monotheistic values.

Keywords: Architectural education, divine direction, Asma' al-Husna, Islamic geometry, Islamic education, Architectural Basic Design Exercises.