A Comparative Study of Principles of Urban Sustainable Development with Islamic Urbanism

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Abstract

With the spread of Islam across the world and its impact on other cultures and civilization, new cities, settlements and bultenvironments been emerged across the Islamic World which are defined as "Islamic city and urbanism" today. The Islamic city is characterized with various features in terms of physical, social, managerial, political and cultural dimensions which are explored through different studies and researches. With the rise of modernism and its spread across the world, exogenous and Western-immitated developments, especially within developing Islamic countries popularized and resulted in nonstustainble environments in those regions. Introduction of sustainable development theory and idea of sustainble city at the of 20th century, howeber, led to deeper consideration of social, economical, environmental and physical features of cities and their specific architectural and urban specific aspects. The main question of this research is: What are the main philosophy and theoretical paradigm behind the sustainable urban development principles especially in social and physical dimensions? And to some extent these principles are compatible with Islamic urbanism? Can it be claimed that sustainable urban development is the same as Islamic city development? This research is of fundamental type and has used descriptive-analytical method and coparative study to define and compare the principles of Islamic city with the nature and principles of sustainable development especially in physical and social dimensions. The findings shows that despite the similarities in principles and valuses such as justice, social interaction, and respect to the nature etc, the ultimate intention of urban developments across these two approaches are different. Finaly some strategies and policies are provided for more sustainable devlopments in contemporary Islamic cities based on Islamic criteria and values.

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Islamic City, Sustainable Development, Social and Physical Sustainability, Sustainable Islamic City.

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