In The Search of: Sustainable Public Space under Composite Climate of India (Case Study - Color Planet, New Delhi - India)

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Mohd. Afzal Khan is a young architect by education and researcher by practice. He has been an enthusiast to uncover in architecture research work with a boundless passion to know more about the same. He has been fascinated by the historic nature of and is interested to discover the same. He strongly believes in sustainable design to provide a better future for the upcoming world for survival.

Abstract

Public space is important to build a social and interactive space in urban as well as rural areas to engage people in a social life apart from their daily busy routine. Open and unrestricted space, which is accessible to people are known as public space and anyone is entitled to be physically present in them. The research paper is based on a sustainable public space under the composite climate of India to understand the "participatory design process in architecture." The public space "Color Planet" is executed by using a practice-theoretical approach that contributes to solutions connected to the built environment, such as climate change, urbanization, and growing inequity between rich and poor. The public space is designed and executed by a team of undergraduate students of architecture led by Mohd Afzal Khan within their college proximity of Jamia Millia Islamia during the IV semester curriculum called "Public Interest Design" (PID).

Keywords

Climate, Design, Open learning, Sustainable, Vernacular

1. Introduction

Color Planet is one of the best open learning spaces for the students of Jamia Millia Islamia within their campus. It is a design-build undergraduate-level studio project for architecture students in the II year (March-April 2019). Under the "Public Interest Design" approach. Mohd Afzal Khan leads the team of nine members to execute this sustainable open learning space to cater to the architectural students as well as to the whole student community of Jamia Millia Islamia. Two other teams of three members each led by Priyanka Pahuja assigned to the same site to provide shading elements on the site and wall painting at one of the adjacent walls on site. It took around 45 days to execute work from its conceptual design to its execution. The participatory design process involved in the "Color Planet" design under the guidance of design studio professors and mentors of students.
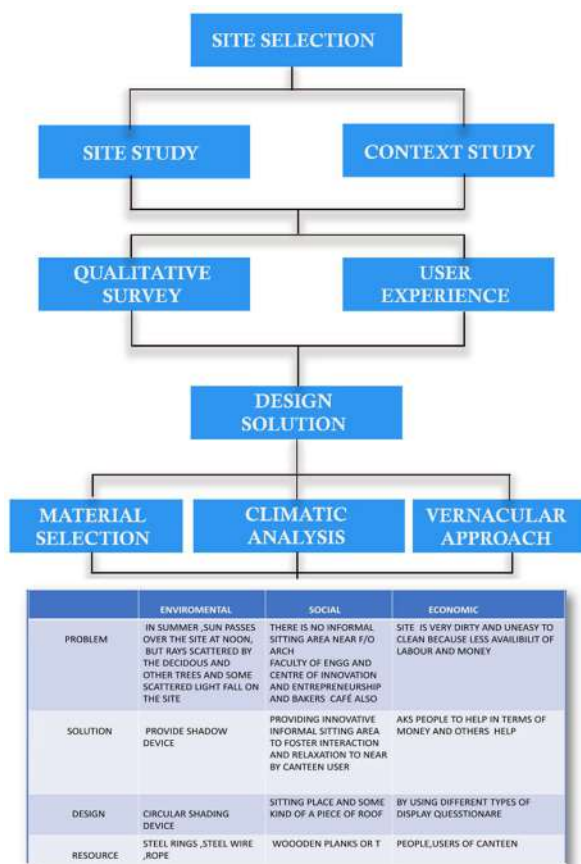
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STHALA/ ISSN 2582-9491

2. Design Methodology

The research paper is an appraisal as well as the search for a design approach and philosophy of 'Color Planet", a public space of Jamia Millia Islamia specially designed for the student community. The ethnographic method is used to execute this Public Space Design. A qualitative method for collecting data is being used to decode the space design for the best social and behavioral sciences. Data are collected through observations and interviews in the Jamia Millia Islamia campus with students, teachers, and various stakeholders, which are then used to design the site according to the public interest and according to their choices. The user experience also experiences around the site to increase the credibility of the project.
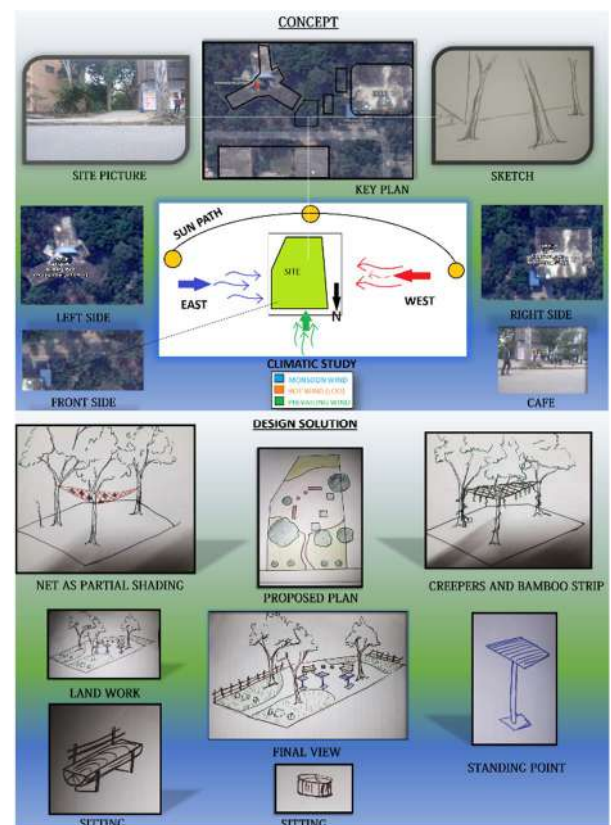
Figure 1 Design Process

Source- Author

2.1 Participatory Design Approach

The public space is executed by using a practice-theoretical approach that contributes to solutions to issues connected to the built environment, such as climate change, increasing urbanization, and growing inequity between rich and poor. The design process is under the guidance and supervision of the design Faculty of Architecture & Ekistics. Various interventions have been done from time to time as per need and requirement. Step by step the project is completed within 45 days from its site selection to execution.

Figure 2 Design Concept and Proposal
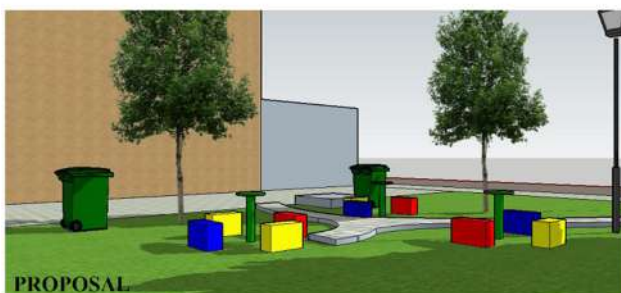

Source- Color Planet Team, JMI

The team used a vernacular architecture concept to design the public space to attain climatic responsive design. The research is based on the situational construction of public space on the university campus with a focus on its usability.

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3. Case Study

Figure 3 Design Proposal

Source- Color Planet Team. JMI

The primary color is used in the design to create the site more attractive and appealing. The placement of sitting is so strategic and users can sit under the tree located on the site for recreation activity and pleasantness.

3.1 Steps of Construction
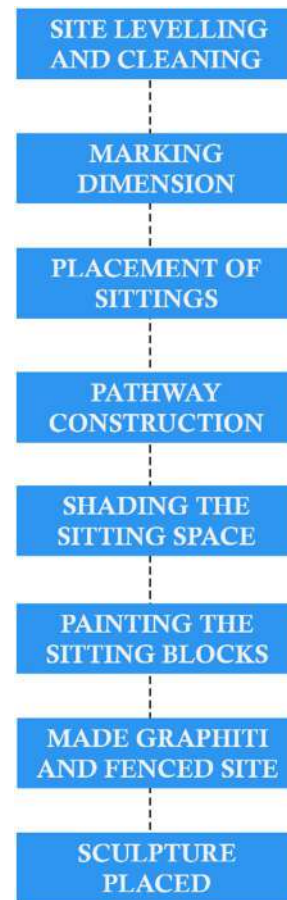

Figure 4 Color Planet Public Space

Source- Author

The Color Planet is a public space constructed on a negative site that was dead land before it was developed. The trapezium polygonal-shaped piece of land was converted into a

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pleasant sitting & recreational public place. The whole construction process is done by the involved students. As a human-centered and inclusive design method for society, the Color planet is a public-interest design that prioritizes the "triple bottom systems with a focus on ecological, economic, and social considerations as well as issues like economic growth and environmental preservation.

3.2 Inferences

The ethnographic method involved in the color planet public space emphasized creating an open learning space between the students & teachers in the exchange of ideas, group discussion, and clubbing of habits, similarities, and differences also along with a café that serves food and drinks just on some steps. The color planet zone provides a vital range of interaction between student to student, student to-teacher, and teacher to teacher as well. The desired public space is eco-friendly & has a barrier-free environment for learning within the campus which impacts positively on café for economic growth. The color planet is a combination of 3 basic intangible aspects of architecture which are social interactive space design, sustainable design, and profitable economic growth attitude to develop the community's desirability.

4. Conclusion

"Color Planet" is an important public space to build a social and interactive space in the university campus of JMI to engage students and teachers in a social life apart from their daily busy and hectic routine. The construction of "Color Planet" focused on the production of objects to a multidimensional process for achieving change and impact on student wellness along with the non-human

actors known as voices and nature which makes it sustainable public space of the composite climate of New Delhi.

Figure 5 Project at a Glance

Source- Color Planet Team, JMI

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5. Acknowledgement

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude, appreciation and obligation to almighty, who out of his infinite love, best owed and inspired the entire humanity towards knowledge, truth and internal joy and enabled us to complete this research work. I feel privilege to express my profound sense of gratitude, respect to the team of the project "Color Planet" for their support to share data and other required details of the project. Finally, I wish to thank my beloved family members.

6. References

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