



**ARAB ACADEMY FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY  
AND MARITIME TRANSPORT  
(AASTMT)**

**College of Engineering and Technology  
Architectural Engineering and Environmental Design Department**

**IMPACT OF URBAN SPRAWL ON HERITAGE  
SITES**

**Case Study: Turkish Town**

**by**

**MAI ABDEL HAKIM ABDEL GHAFAR ALI NEWISSAR  
EGYPT**

**A thesis is submitted to AASTM T in partial  
Fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of  
MASTER OF SCIENCE**

**in**

**ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN  
DEPARTMENT**

**Supervised by**

**Prof. Dr. Adel Samy El Menshawy  
Professor of Architecture &  
Urban Planning Department  
Arab Academy for Science,  
Technology & Maritime Transport**

**Dr. Sherine Shafik Ahmed Ali  
Assistant Professor in Architecture  
& Urban Design Department  
Arab Academy for Science,  
Technology & Maritime Transport**

2012

## Abstract

Historical sites are the economic, cultural and social drivers for a dynamic and sustainable environment. They constitute an integral part of nations' history, identity and regional diversity. Historical sites with their outstanding built cultural heritage strongly shape the urban landscapes and form the backbone for a balanced and polycentric settlement structure.

Historical sites face many challenges like accelerating globalization, structural, social and demographic changes as well as environmental problems and urban growth. As urban growth is a double face process, it is the concentration of population in urban area due to supplied services that are missing in rural at the same time it is a decline of socio-economic agglomerations. This increase of population happens due to concentration of economic activity that has found an important determinant, and in some cases the result, of urbanization. This results in introducing unbalanced trends which destroy human cohesion and build social exclusion in cities and regions. Due to urbanization, people ignore their identities and traditions seeking adequate services and better lifestyle, in which it lead to the vanish of the existing urban fabric and creates undefined urban pattern. The right balance between restoring and preserving unique cultural heritage has to be defined to enable future urban development.

The research aims to extract a set of urban guidelines to cope with the development process with respect to the identity and character of the place through a model framework using analytical method that gives a better understanding of historical centers in old cities. Then the investigation field of case study (Turkish town), through a questionnaire, will aim to understand the spatial morphology of the historical city. At last, it will achieve an integrated revitalization approach which includes preservation and development through the need to improve the living conditions of the inhabitants and economic viability at the same time.

**Key words:** Historical sites - heritage- culture- identity- urban design.