

Hidden potentials in Historic Cities: Soundscape in Historic Cairo as an Application

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Abstract:

Soundscape is one of the potentials that can define the uniqueness of Historic Cairo. The historic city's essence is highly attached to crowded places, metal workshops, Azan (calling for prayer of Muslims), children playing at open spaces, mulids, markets and other activities. Soundscape as a potential is not yet involved as a criterion of the conservation planning process. The research will study the prevailing contextual integrity of Historic Cairo where different aspects will be put in consideration in the study as the: economic, social, urban, cultural and legislative and others. Every activity that takes place in Historic Cairo is related to one or more of these contexts. Then the study shall discuss the identity of Historic Cairo through activities considered as sources of sounds, whether these activities do already exist or will be added later to the urban context. Soundscape sources could be related to a daily, weekly or monthly, or even annual activities. It is aimed to conclude a set of soundscape design approaches in the Historic Cairo to be able to conserve the essence of the place. These approaches should be later integrated to future planned projects, whether they aim to create a new touristic itinerary or support an economical or cultural activity or any other scope of work concerning conservation. Finally, the research shall propose a design based on soundscape sources and the concluded approaches.

Keywords:

*Soundscape
Conservation
Historic Cairo
Conserving The Essence Of
Historic Cities*

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1- Introduction

Soundscape is a field of research that has been approached through several multidisciplinary trends and perspectives as studying: theories of soundscape, landscape ecology (Cerwén , 2017), identity of cities, analysing soundscape sources in means of design elements (as the point, line, plane, volume), (Wang,2003), and discussing soundscape's influence to the urban, architectural and landscape fields.

Historic Cairo as a city of a complex nature of contextual integrity allows the opportunity to study soundscape in the area through several perspectives. Soundscape sources shall be realized as an essential component forming the cultural

essence of the place, through perceiving the daily economic and social activities as sources of sounds forming the final product of soundscape. This trend of researches should discuss the whole planning process starting the set policies, regulations and legislations, where they should not be just limited to address controlling sound levels to avoid sound pollution. Soundscape should instead be legally perceived from a wider vision, to guaranty achieving maximum benefits of the possible opportunities that might enrich the environment. Other contexts as the social, economic, cultural, environmental and others should also be studied in means of soundscape sources.

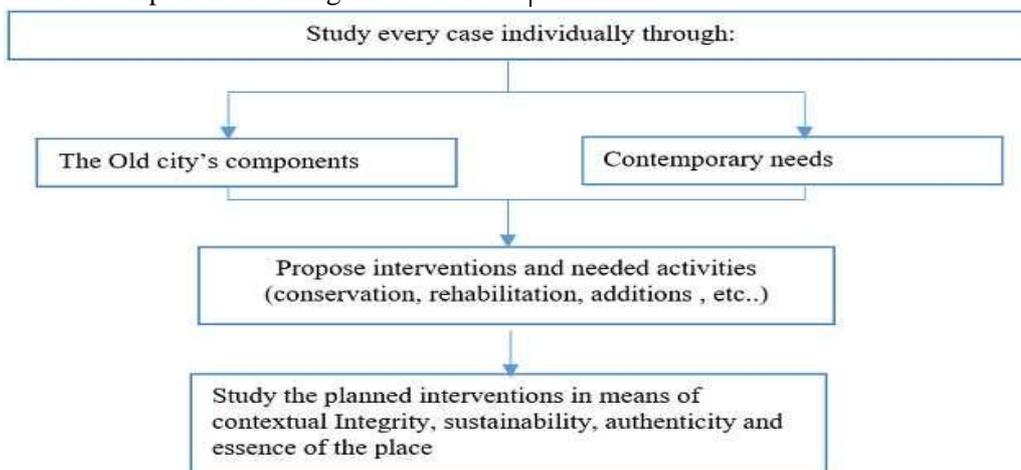


Figure 1 The Adopted methodology, Author 2018

A comprehensive set of design criteria of soundscape sources would be concluded and discussed through existing examples from the urban context of Historic Cairo. The research also shall discuss the effect of the produced sounds to users, visitors and residents where soundscape will be perceived as a complementary item of the multi-contextual pattern of the city, that plays an important role in setting the special character, identity and the spirit of the place. The multi-contextual pattern is the mutual relation formed between several contexts as the: social, economic, cultural, legislative and policies, environmental, technological and values resulting a prevailing life style of a certain community. This unique form of integrity of every city shall be conserved in means of keeping the physical needs and the spirit of the place to guaranty the sustainable continuity of the city.

The goal of this paper is to focus on the importance of soundscape as an essential aspect of the identity that should be put in consideration during the planning process of any historic city. The methodology adopts the analytical approach, where a sequence of analysis shall occur starting the analysis of the unique form of the contextual integrity of the place to build a base of information about the city, and that will be discussed through the projects' interventions impact to historic cities and their spirit that used to exist. A brief about the contextual integrity pattern of Historic Cairo (HC) shall be reviewed. The methodology depends on analyzing the sources of sounds related to the activities taking place in HC in which they share in identifying the identity of the city. The study aims to conclude design approaches that would achieve conserving the city's essence through

involving the soundscape in the planning process, where activities that will be decided to be rehabilitated, added or conserved will be perceived in respect of a comprehensive set aspects including the soundscape, See Figure 1.

2- The effect of projects interventions on the original essence of historic urban areas

Number of historic and old cities in Cairo have changed in a way that they lost their unique essences. In Cairo, number of neighbourhoods suffered such issue, as an example the removal of the tramway network in Heliopolis affected the original spirit of the city negatively. The tramway network's implementation history goes back to the very beginning of creating the city itself in the early years of the 20th century. It was the only public linking transportation existed at that time. Its removal could be essential from a point view heading to solve the growing population and the need of more lanes to be added to the streets. But from another point of view the intervention is not considered to be a sustainable solution as it could not be considered as a real approach of solving the main population problem, See Figure 2 & 3. And that resulted a removal of a significant landmark of the place. Also, the removal of "Adham's park" a children amusement park- carrying with it a lot of memories to the children used to live in the 80s and 90s of the past century in Heliopolis. Heliopolis also witnessed the removal of the Merry land park, where there was a historic building goes back to king Farouk I regime and a wide pool in front of it that was replaced by a food court which did not last for a long time too, (Hussein Dina & Attalah Lina, 2009).

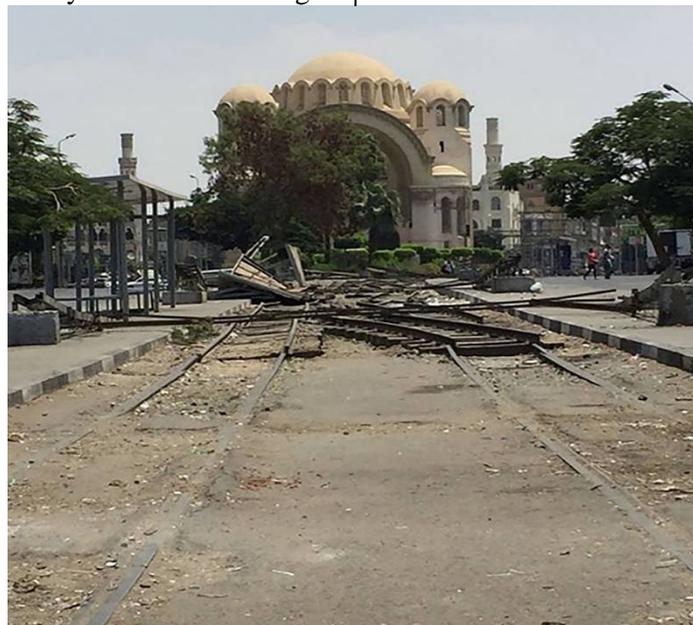


Figure 2 Heliopolis tram during its removal (Al-Semary Yara, 29th July 2018)

Downtown Cairo known as Khedivial Cairo also experienced changes as the royal and elite palaces lost their fore and back gardens, lots of green areas were removed which definitely affected the ecological, cultural and visual aspects of the city. Also, for the area of Giza Great pyramids, the site once included a branch of the River Nile accompanied with path full of trees heading towards the great pyramids of Egypt. All of that has totally transformed into an over populated slums, the street later became famous of hosting night clubs which once belonged to Mohammed's Ali street and the effluent was piled and though the greenery surrounding it vanished. All of the sites mentioned above and others, were harshly affected and their unique characters faded by time, and the prevailing soundscape sources transformed to be the traffic and crowds.

It is normal that cities would change, but the

change must consider the aspects of identity, essence and spirit. Down town Cairo, Heliopolis, Giza Pyramids site, Historic Cairo and others could have been easily regenerated to serve the present needs and contemporary technologies within conserving their essences and characters. It would have been better to mention Downtown Cairo as the city of palaces and gardens, and the pyramids area would have been much more adequate to be related to the great monuments and the Nile river branch used to exist, and Heliopolis would have much better if it stood still to be known as "The City of Fun" (FCC,2005) as it used to be rather than being gradually transferred to spots of traffic jam. Each removed or added activity, natural or built element has a role in forming the overall produced soundscape and though the essence of the place.



Figure 3 Heliopolis Tram (E3lam, 31st July, 2016)

3- Interventions affected the original essence of Historic Cairo

Historic Cairo became a focus of attention after it has been listed as a world heritage site in 1979. Changes occurred to the area since the early 80s of the 20th century, where number of development projects of different urban and architectural scopes were implemented in HC. A study revealed that although the projects achieved their direct goals, but there were unexpected problems resulted due to the missing of a comprehensive vision and plan that includes all of the meant by aspects(Moosa, 2017). Therefore, it is required to set an all-embracing development strategy that would include all of the forgotten aspects and also it should be flexible enough to considered more issues.

One of the famous changes that took place, was the removal of metal workshops in Al Gamaleya street, aiming to overcome environmental pollution produced by that workshops, but unfortunately that impacted the socio-economic

integrity and authenticity negatively, (Sedky,2009) as local products are no more produced as before and a huge invasion of the Chinese products took place instead, (Mossa,2017). Also, the continuity of implementing the planned ordinance lines that was set by an issued regulation in the mid-twentieth century(law no 577, 1954) caused major destructions to the historic urban , as it set new boundaries for the streets to allow traffic mobility within the historical context, that resulted the existence of two boarders in the streets, due to the lack of power submitted to the meant by authorities to immediately implement the plan, unlike what happened during Khedive's Ismail regime in the mid-nineteenth century, when it was planned to link the new planned extension of Cairo to the original historic city, at that time planned new streets were immediately widened and implemented by the authorized governmental entities, (Ministry of Antiquities, 2018).

The historic city has a great inner power to deal with changes and keep its character due to its

highly harmonized contextual-integrity within the composition of its elements'. The target is *to identify the character* of the city that should be conserved. It is a medieval city, full of number of outstanding buildings that were built along hundreds of years representing different eras of the Islamic regime. It can be divided into different zones, the residential areas, touristic areas, crafts and leading sectors areas. Each zone has its character according to the existing prevailing activities. Every activity has its unique effect on the prevailing soundscape rhythms.

Other non-physical factors affected the identity of the city, as number of residents internally immigrated due to the insufficiency of the initial materialistic needs and the invasion of the western international culture with its perfect vision of the contemporary luxury and high-tech life. Also, the loss of the massive productivity of number of authentic local crafts affected the stability of the cultural identity of the local community of HC.

The economic context has been affected by several reasons as the lack of developing the methods of crafts production and marketing, also -as mentioned above- the removal of the workshops affected the authenticity of the produced and crafts and instead Chinese products are being sold. The separation between the social, economic and communal potentials and touristic attractions as in Al- Fustat area resulted of locating security barriers caused an urban separation in the same area and though the contextual integrity was harshly affected in a negative way (Moosa, 2017). Also, the process of demolishing historic buildings and constructing slums instead, after the 2011 revolution, made it wide clear that it is essential to involve the community in strategic planning processes to enhance the values of belonging and awareness. Therefore, comprehensive and flexible legislations that depends on multi-disciplinary criteria which deal with the spatiality of every district within the HC is a must.

Maintaining such dis-integrities would require conserving, rehabilitating or adding certain activities. These activities could be conserved or rehabilitated to keep the old and authentic essence of the place, while other added activities are essential to keep the city's ability of being sustainable and able to accommodate with the new contemporary givens.

4- Design approaches of soundscape in Historic Cairo

The above discussion illustrated that any decision of intervention with the HC would definitely affect the contextual integrity of the city and so its authenticity, sustainability and essence of the

place. Following are the basic studies should be done in-order to choose the most appropriate approach to the context.

4.1 Basic points to study

- Decide the aim of the project (a comprehensive development strategy or a developing a certain activity or product, etc...).
- Decide the scope of work (architectural, street, district, etc...).
- Study the original contextual integrity of the place (economic, urban, social, physiological, legislative, etc,...).
- Study the urban potentials (character, styles, entrances, nodes, etc...).
- Study the impact of any previous planned or spontaneous interventions occurred , and the reaction of the community to such change.
- Study the potentials and problems of the place.
- Study the special character of the place.
- Propose actions and interventions.
- Define the aim behind every decision (economic, social, moral, etc..).
- Study interventions in means of contextual Integrity, sustainability, authenticity and essence of the place.
- Decide the methods of conservation (conservation, rehabilitation, addition, rebuild, etc..) applied to activities considered to be sources of sounds. The methods will be decided in-order to manage the balance between achieving integrity and conserving the essence of the place.
- Study the decided activities in respect of the essence of the place and the soundscape.
- Study the transition of different soundscape experiences as : between the indoors or outdoors, spaces of a partial isolation within the bent entrances of the houses of Islamic architecture , a trip inside the walls of Cairo, etc..
- Produce a final decision of the future design.

The relation between the activities and the soundscape will be discussed through the concluded approaches of designing soundscape in Historic Cairo:

- (1) Conserve existing activities relevant to the daily needs of the community.
- (2) Add new sources of sounds that enhances the spirit of the place.
- (3) Rehabilitate activities that used to exist.
- (4) Use and design the ability of soundscape to orient visitors from one zone to another

4.2 Conserve existing activities relevant to the

daily needs of the community

Conserving the identity and character of an already existing zone is considered to be an action of complexity, as the user's and residents' have already set a stable way of interaction with their surroundings. The set of sound sources are related to various activities serving different aspects as: the economical context, social activities, the cultural style of life of the residents as the way people gather or talk, sell and buy goods, accents spoken around the place, pronunciations, etc...

Historic Cairo could be defined in means of activities that take place daily. The most common activities are spending time at oriental coffee shops where old famous songs of famous Egyptian singers as OmKolthom and Abdel Wahab, are played. Other sources of sounds as: the existence of visitors of different ages for different purposes, workshops, workers activities, street vendors, male or female social gatherings even in small numbers and others. The ecological side plays an important role too, as the flow of the wind and shadows within the streets, alleys, indoor courtyards of the buildings, etc... All of that results a sum of a unique soundscape rhythm, accompanied by different languages and accents specially in touristic zones. Soundscape rhythms

vary according to the nature of every area. Leading sectors would definitely produce a richer experience of soundscape, as sum of activities are gathered in the same zone or street related to social, touristic, cultural, economic or other aspects.

At vacations it is common to find kids playing soccer in unused urban spaces as observed within the front yard of Al-Hakim mosque, and it is also common to find arts and architecture students in the place on a field trip in the mornings during the days of the educational calendar. Also, outdoor and indoor events as the musical festivals or concerts or symposiums take place or other activities, are occasionally organized in HC by the cultural development fund or other meant by governmental authorities.

Ramadan and summer nights also have a very special spirit where touristic sites in the historic city host numerous numbers of visitors having their Iftar or dinners within an extreme hustle, as almost every activity in the place is alive and strong. This combination of sounds forms the identity of the place at a certain time of the year, See Figure 4.



Figure 4 Al-Muizz Street in Ramdan nights, Adel Shaimaa (2017)

Conserving activities should be perceived through both the needs of the community culturally or socially etc.. And the way they are used to perform it. That would affect the design of spaces concerning such activities.

4.3 Add new sources of sounds that enhances the spirit of the place

The activities producing soundscape sources could be categorized according to the contexts related to, for instance, the Azan (call to prayers) goes to the religious, the metal workshops to the economic, the sound of kids playing in the front yards,

people's crowd voices, calls of the merchants are all included within the social context and so on. Other activities have been added recently as playing music concerts held in creative centres supported by the Cultural Development Fund Programs (<http://www.cdf.gov.eg/>, 2018), or launched in reused Mamluki's Buyout (houses) as Al-Ghuri complex, Al-Harawi House, Home of the Arab Oud House and others. Festivals, witness extreme rates of crowds at summer nights and Ramadan the month of fasting for Muslims (<http://www.cdf.gov.eg/>, 2018), See Figure 5&6.



Figure 5 Wekalet al Ghory ,

(<http://www.cdf.gov.eg/?q=node/25>,2019) (<http://www.tazpalace.gov.eg/?q=old-gallery/333>,2010)

The added activities could be divided into two main categories. The first category concerns the activities that reflect the contemporary life style. Some activities have been already naturally inserted and added representing new sources of sounds such as: cell phones ringtones, traffic, microphones, modern musical instruments while playing modern music, tv sounds and others. Other uses could be added in-order to accommodate the contemporary needs in which would affect definitely the essence of the place as: banks, touristic offices, tickets offices and machines, athletic playgrounds, computer labs, hologram performances, modern screens to watch events or games of a wide national concern activity as soccer championships, or others.

The second category supports an already existing trend of activities or values as, enhancing social gathering through designing unused areas into spaces that serves such purpose, but it may include new sources of sounds as: the sound of water, modern performance of music or dancing, exhibitions, modern children amusement games or others.

Adding new sources of sounds could be acceptable within the areas that lost their original spirit as El-Banhawy street northern Al-Muizz street, where the northern Cairo wall separates El- Banhawy street and the most attractive zone of the registered historic Cairo. The El- Banhawy street allows heavy vehicular mobility and the buildings located along the street's side are modern residential buildings in comparison to the prevailing context of HC, most of the buildings ground floors are used in economic activities as it is used to be found in any traditional residential urban context in Egypt.

The separation might be considered as a good idea if the street is redesigned in a way that serves the activities taking place in the historic city. The wide street could be redesigned as a pedestrian



Figure 6 Amir taz palace, CDF, (2010)

lane including number of seats, where famous food restaurant exists. There would be lanes for runners, riding bicycles, open festivals performances or others. Such activities did not exist before but would enhance the essence of the place with a contemporary spirit that won't affect the originality of the place.

Al- Fustat area has experienced a division resulted of locating security barriers in which separated the churches and synagogue area than the other residential areas including Amr Ibn Al-'As masjid and Al-Fustat market. The second area is hardly perceived as an area located in historic Cairo. It reflects the soul of the informal sector all around Egypt except for the located monuments. This area's integrity needs to be supported through economic, cultural and social activities. Activities could be added to unused urban spaces as Kasr al Sham E' Square where social gatherings and walkable areas should be designed as mentioned in the previous example.

4.4 Rehabilitate activities that used to exist.

Nowadays young generations are not quite keen to know and read about their history and past civilizations which existed at the same place they still live in. Rehabilitating historic activities might enhance the sense of belonging to their history. Keswat AL-Kaaba building is located in Al-Khoronfosh street in El-Gamaleya district. The building was constructed around the year 1818 and its use was to manufacture the Kaaba's garment every year. When Egypt stopped sending the garment to Mecca in 1962, the building stopped to function its original use and now it is used as a storage with a good construction condition and it is surrounded by commercial stores fulfilling daily needs. It is owned by Al-Awakaf, and not allowed for visitors, (Ministry of Antiquities,2018) See Figures 7&8.



Figure 7&8 Keswat AL-Kaabba building is located in khoronfosh street , (Ministry of Antiquities,2018)

There is an opportunity to rehabilitate the celebration of sending Al-Kaaba garment to Mecca that used to be fabricated in HC specially that the Keswat Al-Kaaba building still exists. It is applicable too to organize festivals concerned by activities used to exist as the closure and opening of the city gates, way of transportation (Hantoor), El-Menady (the person who used to announce any regulations or news to the public), and others. Old novels of famous writers as Naguib Mahfouz, could be a fine subject to be brought to life and get materialized through being acted in the streets located in the novels. Living such experience will be considered as an attraction within the customs, instruments, creating an environment which simulates the past.

Other activities could be rehabilitating too as Al-Aragoz or the puppet show, folkloric dances, local food,

(<http://www.cairo.gov.eg/CairoPortal/Culture,2019>) and others. Rehabilitating such activities are not only considered as amusement activities, but recalling and enhancing its performances would rehabilitate once more the shape and model of the Egyptian puppet rather than the imported dolls related to other cultures.

This way of recalling history could be considered as an amusement way that would attract young

generations and make them aware of the customs, traditions, ways of thinking and talking and other cultural aspects, that would help them in perceiving their reality in comparison to their history.

Such transformation in soundscape of some areas or streets occurred due to the addition of some activities would also be accompanied by other sub-sources, as the sound produced by the visitors while they are interacting with the surroundings, talking, eating, etc...

4.5 Use and design the ability of soundscape to orient visitors from one zone to another

The Author has experienced the ability of soundscape of guiding visitors through itineraries. As a personal experience in London, the sound of a musical performance coming out from the front yard of the Guard museum in London, lead the visitors of Saint James Park along the way to the museum to check the sound, See Figure 9. That way of inviting visitors and amuse them by intangible ways seemed to be successful. Soundscape carry that potential of enhancing people's perception before even they do reach and visualize the place of action. That was the inspirational act of proposing this design approach.

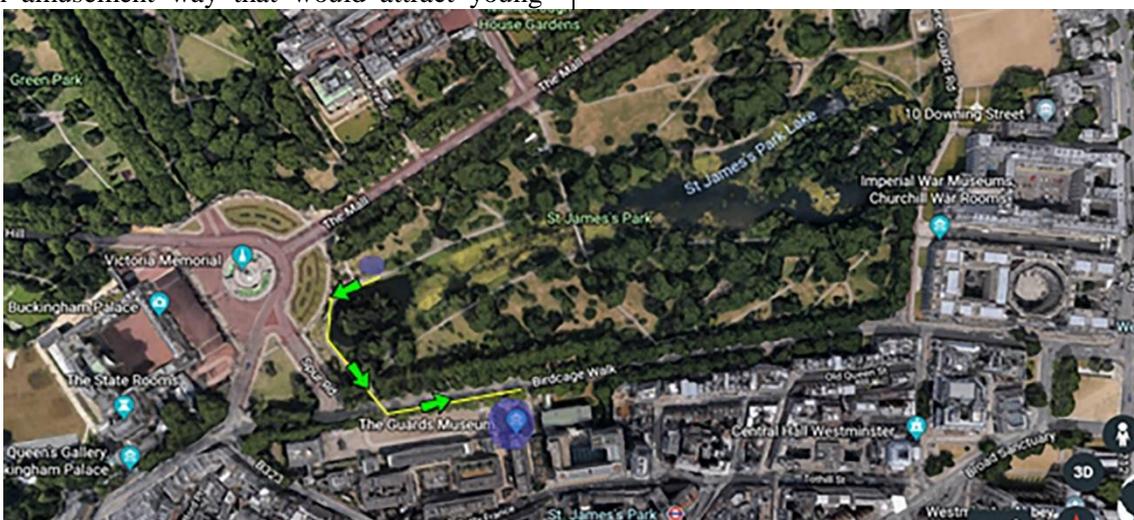


Figure 9 The experience of soundscape as an orientation tool to the visitors from the St. James Park to the Gaurds Museum in London Uk , (Google Earch edited by Author,2018)

This ability could be used in several ways in Historic Cairo as orienting visitors to explore new designed or already existing attractions, or design new itineraries is possible. HC has the ability of hosting a lot of activities as mentioned above, the old city has few known approaches and zones of attractions where new targets may face problems to be reached out. Such trend is expected to rise the number of visitors heading different attraction in HC. The target of orienting visitors to a specific attraction should be defined, following are the concluded cases:

- Activate an abandoned museum or attraction.
- Activating an economic activity or trade located in sub-streets or alleys through planting an attractive source of attraction within the unknown area.
- The sounds could be related to a performance itself that is aimed to be marketed.
- It could be used also as a trend itself of inviting visitors to a certain approach and be guided by the sounds they hear through a cultural or touristic itinerary. Multi-touristic programs could be based on such ideas where the same approach could lead to different itineraries every different day. That case could be applicable as some zones in HC have the ability to host several touristic itineraries as in AL -Gamaleya district.
- Attracting visitors in and out the walls of Cairo.
- Disperse crowds smoothly from a highly crowded zone to another.

5 Case of study

Al-Darb Al-Ahmar is a district located in the world heritage site listed historic Cairo in 1979. The area witnessed a development project, planned and implemented by the Agha Khan trust. The project aim was to implement a huge green spot within the massive built area in Cairo. While working on implementing Al-Azhar Park, the Ayyubid wall was discovered, then the project's scope of work expanded to include the excavation of the newly discovered historic wall. Later, it was decided to develop the area behind the wall in-order to achieve a multi-contextual development project.

Different developing programs were implemented by the Agha Khan in the area as: traditional crafts training, soft skills training, infrastructure

programs, roof top's greenery, developing traditional crafts production, rehabilitating significant architectural style buildings, literacy programs for adults, creating a permanent exhibition in Al-Azhar park to market the local products of Al-Darb Al-Ahmar community (Agha Khan Trust for Culture,2005). After the 2011 revolution, number of historic buildings were demolished and other new illegal buildings were built instead, due to the certain state of security chaos occurred at that time. Some owners intervened in the building's facades, the pavements got destructed at several spots, and the program experienced a closure of the majority of the development programs, except the crafts training program continued working through Mezala Foundation for Social Development (Moosa,2017).

Although the Al-Darb AL-Ahmar residents do enter the park paying less fees for the tickets, but it is obvious that there is a cultural separation between the two sides of the wall. It was observed that number of the park's visitors are not aware or have any knowledge about Al-Darb Al-Ahmar area or the development project, although it is applicable to manage tours from the park to Al-Darb Al- Ahmar and back. It was proposed by a previous research that the park would exceed the idea of just being a visual site by using it as a cultural and economic approach, through designing an itinerary starting from inside the park to the other side heading into the depth of HC (Moosa,2017). That would enhance both the cultural experience and marketing the previous implemented projects through selling their local products to the visitors rather than being marketed outside the area, where that affected the sustainability and continuity of the development project as the community didn't have the experience to be involved of how their productions could be marketed and sold.

This is a proposed itinerary at AL-Darb Al-Ahmar district, the visitors are meant to explore the essence and spirit of the Islamic city within the monuments, arts performances, cultural life, the traditions and of course the largest green plot in Cairo, all of that would be achieved through amusement walks, open air breaks in newly designed seating areas, attractions, and others, See Figure 10.

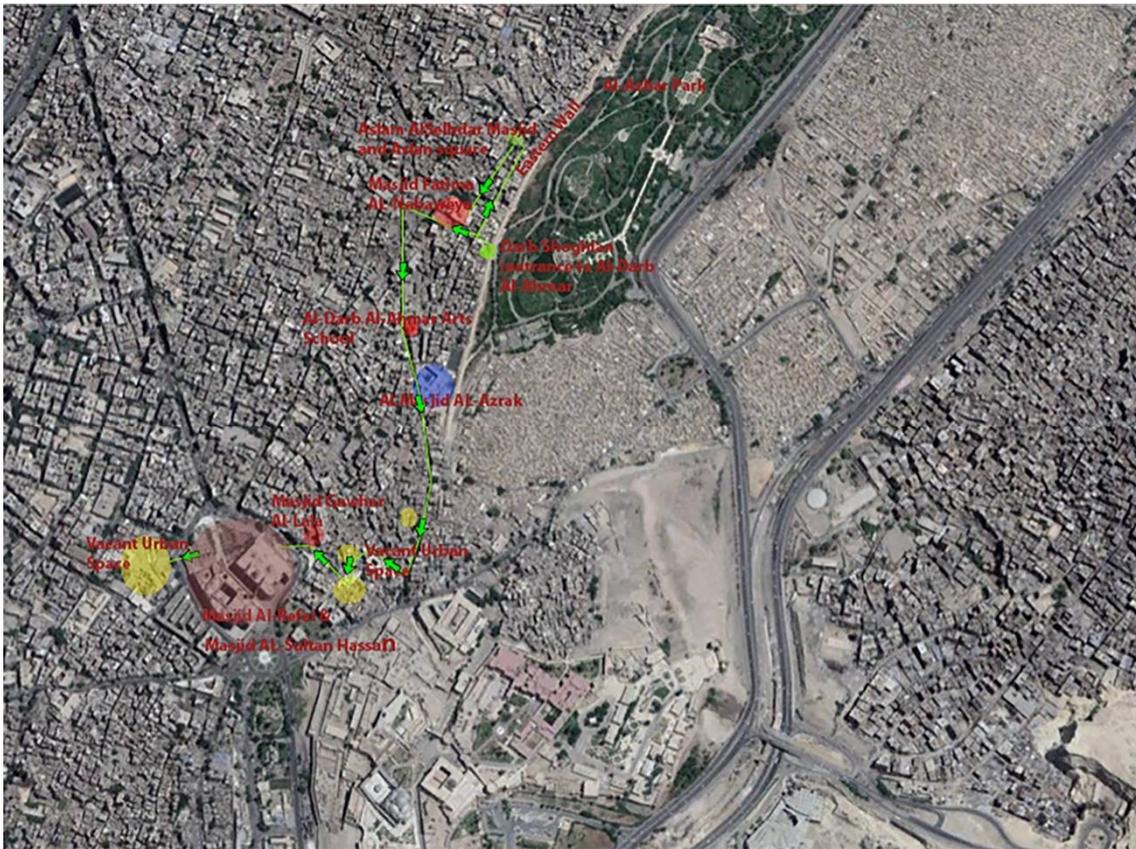


Figure 10 The proposed itinerary in Al-Darb Al-Ahmar district, (Google Earch edited by Author,2018)

The itinerary shall start from Al-Azahar park where the greenery and open spaces. Soundscape rhythm would vary in the park according to the events schedule set during the day. Then, the walk shall go through the historic Ayyubid wall (the eastern wall of Cairo) at that stage a unique experience of isolation and change in temperature inside the wall will take place leading the visitors to Darb Shoghlan school, a building that was restored and reused as a community centre. After that, there are two options either to be guided to Aslam Al-Selehdar Masjid and Aslan square by the sound of activities that are proposed be added to that unused space, or to Fatma Al-Nabaweya Masjid by the sound of the weekly Sufi’s event (hadra), or the annual mulid celebration of Fatima Al-Nabaweya, or the annual celebration of Prophet Muhammed (PBUH), or AL-Azan (the call for prayer) . The visitors shall be oriented to Al-Darb Al-Ahmar Arts School by the sound of the children arts performances. The next stop will be Masjid Ibrahim Agha known as the Blue Masjid.

And, finally, the sounds rising from the free urban spaces between Masjed Gawhar Al-Lala area and Al-Sultan Hassan and Al-Refai Masjids area will attract the visitors, where they will have some rest and experience the essence of local gatherings and children activities, exhibitions, and other social cultural activities. Al-Sultan Hassan and Al-Refai Masjids will be the stop for a site visit. At last, the urban space beside the iconic Masjids from the west will host the visitors, where the walk will be over and they may be amused by other planned festivals related to that zone too.

In summer times, the itinerary could be planned to end by the time the performances taking place within the Citadel festivals are being performed, where an addition experience would be added to the visitors. While, in the winter, the prayers’ times are not too far in time due to the short-day time. So, the trip would be planned to experience Three Azans of three Masjids as a source of sound attraction, the prayers could be (Al-Zohr, Al- Asser, and Al-Maghrib Prayers).

Table : The analysis of the designed itinerary according to the context, activity, sound sources and the design approach of every stop

Place /Stop	context	Activity (Sound sources)	Soundscape design approach
Al-Azahar park	Natural Cultural	Ecological (trees, wind, etc.) Cultural activities taking place	Added Sound Sources <i>previously</i>
The Ayyubid	Historic Urban	Vacant and an experience of	Conserving the

Wall (the eastern wall of Cairo)		isolation	Existing Sound Sources
Darb Shoughlan School Building	Cultural/Social	Community gatherings for workshops and other activities organized by Mezala trust	Added Sound Sources <i>previously</i>
Al Darb Al-Ahmar District starting Darb Shoughlan Street	Economic/Social	Shops and workshops to be added to the ground floors of the buildings when possible to enhance sustainability and integrity between the urban context , the social and the economic	Added Sound Sources
Aslam Al-Selehdar Masjid and Aslan Square (Urban Space)	Urban/Cultural/ Social/Economic/ Historic Architecture	Sound of Azan and experience the unique essence and environment Include new sources of sounds as: the sound of water, modern performance of music or dancing, exhibitions, modern children amusement games, rest rooms, restaurants, cafes or others. Also, local cultural activities as artistic performances could be rehabilitated and performed.	Added Sound Sources/ Conserving the Existing Sound Sources Rehabilitating Sound Sources that used to exit
Fatima Al-Nabaweya Masjid	Historic Architecture	Weekly event (hadra) , and the annual mulid celebration of Fatima Al-Nabaweya or the annual celebration of Prophet Muhammed (PBUH), or sound of Azan and experience the unique essence and environment	Conserving the Existing Sound Sources
Al-Darb Al-Ahmar Arts School	Cultural	Artistic performances of the children	Added Sound Sources <i>previously</i>
Ibrahim Agha Masjid (The Blue Masjid)	Historic Architecture	Sound of Azan and experience the unique essence and environment	Conserving the Existing Sound Sources
Three Un-used Urban Areas between Gawhar Al-Lala Masjid area and Al-Sultan Hassan and AL-Refaié Masjids area	Cultural/Social/Economic	Include new sources of sounds as: the sound of water, modern performance of music or dancing, exhibitions, modern children amusement games, rest rooms, restaurants, cafes or others. Also, local cultural activities as artistic performances could be rehabilitated and performed.	Added Sound Sources Rehabilitating Sound Sources that used to exit
Al-Sultan Hassan and AL-Refaié Masjids	Historic Architecture	Sound of Azan and experience the unique essence and environment	Conserving the Existing Sound Sources
Un-used Urban Area at the	Cultural/Social/Economic	Include new sources of sounds as: the sound of water, modern	Added Sound Sources

western side of the Al-Sultan Hassan and AL-Refaié Masjids		performance of music or dancing, exhibitions, modern children amusement games, rest rooms, restaurants, cafes or others. Also, local cultural activities as artistic performances could be rehabilitated and performed.	Rehabilitating Sound Sources that used to exist
Citadel Summer Festivals	Cultural	Un-visualized experience	Added Sound Sources <i>previously</i>
The whole itinerary depends on the approach relying on the ability of soundscape to orient the visitors to a certain urban spot or building.			

6 Conclusion

This research discussed one of the abandoned unused potentials in Historic Cairo, the Soundscape. The problem was approached by clarifying the necessity of conserving the spirit and essence of the place. The research's methodology adopted the analytical approach. The concept of contextual integrity was first discussed and defined as the sum of the interaction between the community and the surrounding contexts as: the economic, social, cultural, physiological, legislative, political, urban, architectural, environmental, technological, and others. Cities and zones vary in their way of interaction, therefore any interventions caused due to the implementation of planned projects, therefore any decision should be studied in means of a multi-contextual comprehensive criterion. Previous unstudied interventions in different historic contexts were presented as in Heliopolis, Down town Cairo and the area of Giza Pyramids. A brief about interventions took place in Historic Cairo was discussed and so their impact to the contextual integrity, authenticity and the essence of the place. The target of implementing and activity should not only fulfil a certain shortage but it should accommodate the way the community used to interact with such activity. As an example, an economic activity could be easily inserted within an unused urban or architectural space, but the issue is how would this activity serve the community, how the goods would be shown-off, the way the owners call for the products or inviting the customers inside the shop. Four design approaches of soundscape were concluded and explained within the existing conditions of Historic Cairo. The approaches are: conserving existing activities relevant to the daily need of the community, adding new sources of sounds that enhances the spirit of the place, rehabilitating activities that used to exist, use and design the ability of soundscape to orient visitors from one zone to another. Finally, an itinerary

within Al-Darb Al-Ahmar Area was proposed where the four approaches were applied.

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