

Enhancing Emergency Evacuation Routes through Integration of Safety and Adaptive Characteristics in the Architectural Design of Educational Buildings

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Abstract:

Education has been and remains one of the most important components of the progress of all nations. However, disasters and crises have a significant negative impact, especially on children and the extent to which appropriate educational buildings can be provided to ensure their safe evacuation during disasters. Schools must take responsibility for the ability to support demand in the face of natural disasters. The research encompasses an analysis of distinct challenges presented by natural disasters, incorporating insights derived from fire safety models that align with diverse safety protocols in disaster scenarios. Leveraging the guidelines outlined in the British Code for fire safety, this study aims to augment the suitability standards of building designs specified by the General Authority for Egyptian Educational Buildings. It allows proposed modifications to existing models to mitigate the impact of damage during disaster evacuations. Therefore, this research provides Improving safety features and resilience during disaster evacuation especially in the design of escape routes in school buildings and proposes implementable recommendations for adapting architectural designs, by shortening travel distances in corridors, providing safe fire escape stairs, and providing assembly areas to prevent crowding during evacuation from School buildings. These are factors that play a pivotal role in mitigating the risks posed by natural disasters in educational buildings, and the study supports the idea that effective evacuation strategies in schools depend on an accurate understanding of the challenges posed by different types of natural disasters, to ensure the safety of students during critical circumstances.

Keywords:

Disasters, School buildings, Safe design, Escape routes, Safe evacuation

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