Seminar
Readings on Urban Form

RE-READING OF SPATIAL CONFIGURATION OF CITIES;
THE CONTEXT OF URBAN TRANSFORMATION IN
ARABIAN GULF
Murat ÇETİN
PHD, Kadir Has University

Seminar will be in English.

30 Kasım 2012 Cuma
Saat: 14.00-15.30
Fener Salonu
The seminar organized by Kadir Has University,  
The Faculty of Arts & Design Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design

Lecturer: MURAT ÇETİN  
Place and Date: Friday, November 30th, 14.00-15.30 PM., Fener Hall

In his talk entitled ‘RE-READING OF SPATIAL CONFIGURATION OF CITIES’, Dr. Çetin will discuss the cultural dynamics behind the physical transformation of Arabian cities and its perception by different segments of the society. The details of the talk and the speaker can be found at the end of this invitation.

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TITLE: RE-READING OF SPATIAL CONFIGURATION OF CITIES; THE CONTEXT OF URBAN TRANSFORMATION IN ARABIAN GULF

AUTHOR: Murat ÇETİN (Dr., Kadir Has University, Istanbul)

SYNOPSIS: The talk is based on a study on Arabian cities and the differences of human perception of human space in relation to their speed. Along this path, the talk critically analyzes the differences between the urban perceptions of different segments of the society and relates these differences to the intrinsic duality observed in the context of Saudi Arabian culture and its daily practices. Therefore, the talk is organized along the axis of the notion of ‘emergent double-identity’ of historic cities and their rapid transformation through humorous impersonization of these cities. The relation between the content and its container within the urban realm is discussed according to its perception at different speeds and by different actors of the cities. Having based on a research project on the conservation and sustainability of the urban heritage of Islamic cities in the Gulf Region, the study and associated presentation offers a new (personal) way of re-reading and re-interpreting the city from the standpoint of citizens and showing its differences from those of the urban elite.

BIOGRAPHY: Murat ÇETiN has studied architecture both at Middle East Technical University where he received his B.Arch and M.Arch degrees as well as Sheffield University in U.K. where he conducted his PhD studies. He designed various projects some of which were awarded in various national architectural design competitions. Among these, one national mention award in an urban design project opened by Ankara Greater City Municipality and one national Special Award given to Tarsus Municipality by Historical Cities Union for his project for Makam Mosque can be highlighted. His research areas focus on urban form, urban space, urban morphology, urban transformation, urban design, and urban conservation. Dr. Çetin published his various internationally funded research projects in form of book chapters with international publishers such as IGI Global, Ashgate, WIT Press or Yapı Kredi Publications, also in form of journal articles in scientific journals such as Urban Morphology, and in form of conference papers. He also conducted various international workshops particularly with Miami University and Lodz University both in U.S.A and Turkey. Dr. Çetin prepared works for various exhibitions such as UIA International Congress, Mimar Sinan National Symposium on Interior Design and biennales such as 1st Architectural Biennale. He
worked at various prestigious national and international universities including King Fahd University in Saudi Arabia. Dr. Çetin also works as referee in various international journals such as Planning Perspectives, International Journal of Heritage Studies, Built and Human Environment Review and scientific councils such as TUBITAK-SOBE and QNRF. Dr. Çetin is currently an Assistant Professor of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design at Faculty of Arts & Design of Kadir Has University. In addition to his experience in architectural research and education, he was also involved in architectural and interior design practice in prestigious architectural offices of such as Güzer Architects, Dalokay Architects, Çinici Architects.