Journal of Critical Reviews

ISSN- 2394-5125 Vol 7, Issue 8, 2020

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Samar Haytham Al Asadi[1], Alham Moustafa[2], Abdel Moniem El Shorbagy[3]

[1,2,3]College of Architecture and Design, Effat University, Qasr Khuzam St., Kilo.2, Old Mecca Road. P.O.BOX 34689, Jeddah 21478, Saudi Arabia

E-mail: [1]salasadi@effatuniversity.edu.sa, [2]aamoustafa@effatuniversity.edu.sa,[3]aelshorbagy@effatuniversity.edu.sa

Received: 15.04.2020 ***Revised: 18.05.2020*** ***Accepted: 12.06.2020***

Abstract

This study has proposed the development of a new parliament house at in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia's current parliament house will be transformed into a public hall. Hence , there is a need for a new parliament house. In this work, two case studies were analysed in terms of parliament building design and facilities. Based on the analysed case studies, for the new proposed parliament house, the estimated built area is 30654 m². The new proposed parliament house is comprised of few zones, such as royal zone, committee zone, houses of representative, public zone, library and accommodation. In this work, the proposed site for development is located at King Fahad Road. The chosen site is within the new developing area of northern Riyadh. For the proposed new parliament house, the design is based on a floral silhouette. This design represents a contemporary green design flourished to locate the country's parliament house. This new parliament house is expected to be a main point of attraction at Riyadh and it will serve the local community of Saudi Arabia.

Keywords-- parliament, government, building, architecture, design, Saudi Arabia

© 2020 by Advance Scientific Research. This is an open-access article under the CC BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)
DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.31838/jcr.07.08.86

INTRODUCTION

A parliament is a people's meeting to discuss state issues. It derives from the French word *parlement*, which is to speak [1]. It is a legislative body consisting of houses and chambers, either bicameral or unicameral. A parliament is an important component of the country's own fairs, which communicates well between its members regarding the country's needs and issues [2]. It is also an inspiring icon that is carefully designed to show the glorious tradition, architecture, and regional aspect of its country [3].

The founder of the idea of prime ministerial government was the Kingdom of Great Britain and the parliamentary system in Sweden, where both coincided [4]. The role of government-controlled parliaments increased as Parliament's democratization evolved slowly and the authorization to vote widened [5]. Furthermore, a parliament is where decisions about society are taken.

In Saudi Arabia, a parliament which is Saudi Arabia's Consultative Assembly (called Majlis Ash-Shura), is a government building consisting of committees chosen by the King of Saudi Arabia to draft laws on the country, which is revised and decreed by the King [6]. It is therefore not an absolute legislature in this case. The committee consists of 150 members and 60 women [7]. To make a significant development in the techniques of the council, the Saudi government considered the modernization and upgrading of Majlis Ash-Shura. Likewise, the increasing demand for modern facilities, wireless communication and green design leads to the demand for an innovative landmark for a contemporary Islamic Saudi Parliament House. Therefore, this work proposes the development of a new parliament house in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

CASE STUDIES

This work has analysed two case studies related to the parliament architecture. The case studies selected are:

a. Malaysia Parliament
b. Scottish Parliament

Malaysia Parliament

Malaysia Parliament is located at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (Figure 1). It was designed by architect William Ivor Shipley. The building design envelope contains core heated and light absorbing glass. Carved concrete ornamental patterns "Kerawang" plays the role of that envelope that controls penetration of sun light, this system is fixed piece by piece giving a splendid bee-hive-shape to the facades. Water system is another special feature, so as the pool and fountain. One surprising characteristic is the plantation of the parliament is imported from Saudi Arabia. A Total Deer Park is located beside the complex, called "Taman Rusa". They are a rare species in Asia, and roam freely in the park. The building comprises of two components: the main building (three floors), and the tower (17 floors). The main building is comprised of the parliamentary hall and the tower is comprised of member of parliaments offices. The construction of a national culture was important for post-colonial countries like Malaysia. National buildings then were, as now, major visual signs towards which a national gaze or imagination gravitated.

Figure 1. Malaysia Parliament

Scottish Parliament

Scottish Parliament is located at Holyrood, Central Edinburgh, Scotland (Figure 2). The floor area of this building is 31000m^2. The design is focused on the landscape of Scotland by incorporating the building into the land "in the form of a gathering situation: an amphitheatre, coming out from Arthur's Seat." Furthermore, the building would represent a dialogue between the landscape and the act of people sitting. The central location of the Garden Lobby plays a significant role in binding the parliamentary complex's Important elements, such as connecting between the committee rooms, debating chamber and administrative offices that of the Tower Building with the member of Scottish Parliament (MSP) building and Queensberry House. The Garden Lobby it is used as an open social space for MSPs and parliamentary staff. In fact, it is further used as a place where official events and television interviews happen. Roof lights are distinctive characteristics resembling leaves or early christian shape, allowing natural light penetration. Likewise, The MSP building stands at the western side of the parliamentary complex where it joins Reid's close. It is also connected to the rest of the Tower buildings via the Garden Lobby at the center. The building houses MSP and two members of staff offices. Each office is divided into two parts, one for the MSP, with a floor space of 15 square meters, and another part for their staff, which has a floor space of 12 square meters.

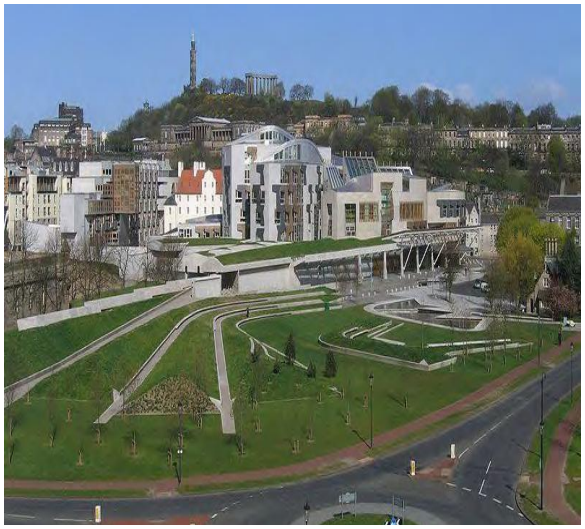

Figure 2. Scottish Parliament

PROGRAM ASSUMPTION AND SPACE DETAILS

For the proposed parliament house, the estimated built area is 30654 m^2. Table 1 demonstrates the zone division of the proposed parliament house. Based on Table 1, the zones of the proposed parliament house are royal zone, committee zone, houses of representative, public zone, library and accommodation.

Table 1. Space details

Main Zone	Area (m^2)
Royal zone	4204
Committee zone	13530
House of representative	9203
Public zone	1275
Library	342
Accommodation	2100
Total built area	30654

PROPOSED SITE AND ANALYSIS

Since it is a parliament- a governmental building- it is essential to be located in the capital of Saudi Arabia, Riyadh. The project introduces a new idea of the parliament being accessible for the public, while it discusses their welfare. Hence the site was selected along the most important axis called King Fahad Road (Figure 3), where landmarks such as Al Mamlaka Tower, Alfaisaliya Tower, Ministry of civil and suburban affairs, King Fahad Public library and many others are located there. The site stands proud and solely on the edge of King Fahad road where it is the main access to the site going from south to north west, Al Ghadeer street on the other parallel side, and Al Takhasusi street going from north east. The site is basically within the new developing area of northern Riyadh. In general conditions in Riyadh are dry and hot, but the city does receive about four inches (102mm) of rain a year, most of it falling between January and May. In summer hot winds can send temperatures soaring up to 50 degrees Celsius. In winter it can be surprisingly chilly, however, particularly at night when the thermometer can plunge below freezing. It is also known to have many dust storms. The dust is often so thick that visibility is less than 10 meters. The proposed zoning of the site is shown in Figure 4.

Figure 3. Proposed site

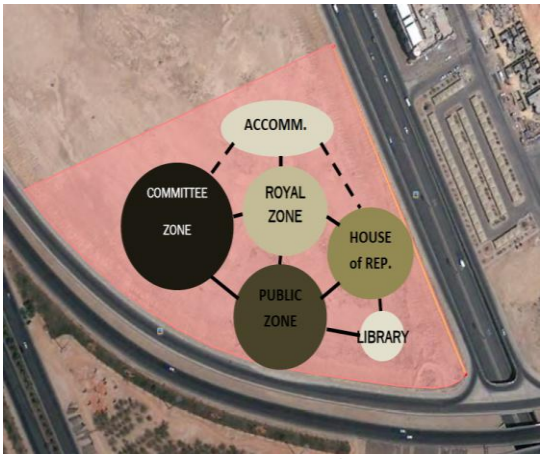

Figure 4. Zoning of site

PROJECT DESIGN

The proposed new parliament house in Riyadh is designed based ona floral silhouette, acontemporary green design flourished to house the country's parliament house. Figure 5 to Figure 8 shows the proposed design. The parliament house will have the following facilities such as royal hall for Kings speech, debating chamber, conference hall, members hall, main entrance, lobby entrance, great hall, secondary entrance, prayer room, main dining hall, royal resting room, committee wings, floor of chambers, dining halls, house of representative, journalist room, press gallery, public gallery, banquet room, canteen, kitchen,

storage room, public spaces, public seating, information desk, shop, lockers, library, media center and other buildings. Furthermore, the building is designed with green features such as solar energy usage, rainwater collection and filtration system, unique building design with good air ventilation, huge windows for natural lighting, wind catcher, parks with trees and flower plantation.

Figure 5. Overall view of the new parliament house.

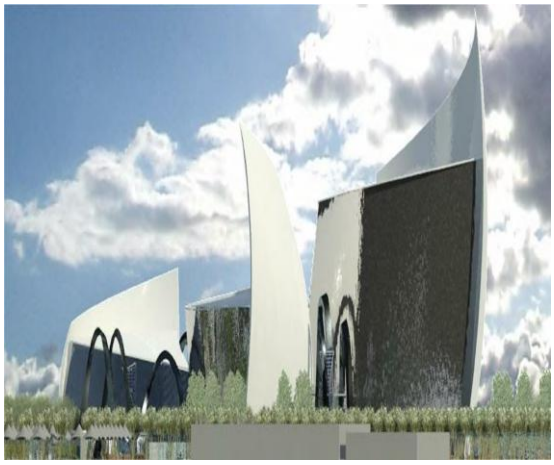

Figure 6. Side view new parliament house

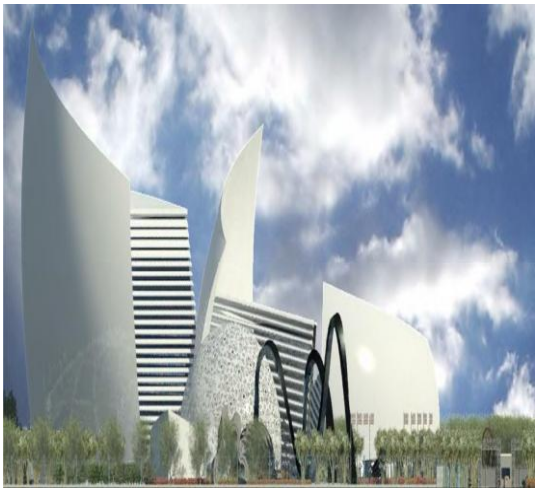

Figure 7. Side view new parliament house

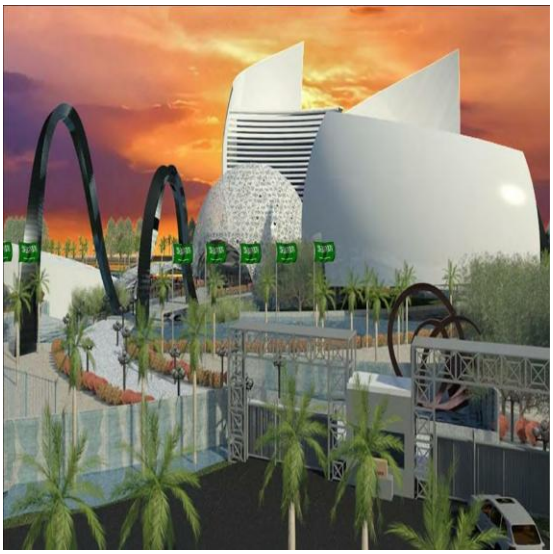

Figure 8. Main entrance

CONCLUSION

This work has proposed the development of a new parliament house in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. In this work, the estimated built area for the new parliament house is 30654 m^2. The main zones of this new parliament house are comprised of royal zone, committee zone, houses of representative, public zone, library and accommodation. This new parliament house is expected to be a new landmark at Riyadh. Furthermore, the proposed project is to be integrated with the community and made accessible to the public, which will increase interaction between the public and its leaders.

REFERENCES

1. Laurie N. The challenges of working in and preserving a heritage listed building: Parliament house. Queensland History Journal. 2018 Nov;23(11):798.
2. Hume D. Of the independency of parliament. Library of Alexandria; 2015.
3. Craig PP. Sovereignty of the United Kingdom parliament after Factortame. InConstitutional Law 2018 Jan 18 (pp. 359-394). Routledge.
4. Lynch P, Whitaker R, Cygan A. Brexit and the UK Parliament: challenges and opportunities. InBrexit and Democracy 2019 (pp. 51-79). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.
5. Larson A. House of the people? Afghanistan's parliament in 2015. Conflict, Security & Development. 2016 Nov 1;16(6):595-612.
6. Theros PN. Facing Reality in the Middle East: Understanding Why the Islamic State Is Winning and What to Do about It. Mediterranean Quarterly. 2015;26(4):69-88.
7. Hassan O. Undermining the transatlantic democracy agenda? The Arab Spring and Saudi Arabia's counteracting democracy strategy. Democratization. 2015 Apr 16;22(3):479-95.