

عمران القرن ٢١

21st Century Urbanism

Urban Planners are undergoing the most considerable change ever experienced in human history. Who will be the most successful in the information age? We believe he will be the Planner who has the best access to information resources and the smartest ability to process it. The rapid movement to information age will focus attention on creative thinking and unique personal skills as the most important elements for success. When planners better understand the recent rapid changes, they would see more opportunities for their ways to better positively influence the future of their urban planning issues. Most of the skills and attitudes needed for the agriculture/industrial age were: Regularity, Follow instructions; Recognize the authority of conventional systems, Work on monotonous tasks for a long period of time. Does this describe our current urban planning needs today? Does this describe the model of what we are doing in our profession in the information age? Does our paradigm of being successful planners require these qualities? Does any of the 20th century Principles, Concepts, Theories, will be applicable in the new age?

As a matter of fact, none of the above mentioned characteristics and principles will be needed any more. There for, this newly established web section is a modest contribution to build a successful road map and to open windows for the young planners and architects who seek the truth about what will really happen in the 21st century. Though it will be in Arabic language to help newly educating and researching urban planners in different Arab cultures, I hope it will introduce some benefits to everyone who can reach its ideas and philosophy. It will start with few articles I have written, and published at the Journal of Saudi Umran Society (www.umran.org.sa) as follows:

- **Language and Urbanism, the Evolution of Communication Means and its Impact on Urbanism.**
- **21st Century Urbanism: Cultural Transformations and the Writings of Pioneers.**
- **Between the Two Ages: A Strategic Vision for the Saudi New Towns in the 21st Century.**
- **A Final Harvest for the 20th Century Urban Planning legacy.**