

BACK TO NATURE RESORT

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Abstract

Sustainable design is a functional, esthetic and symbolic need that corresponds to location, topography, climate, culture and people. Without a doubt, sustainable design overlaps with the various engineering branches. It transcends the functional concept of the physical and robust content of the building and does not confine itself to the principle of self-sustaining construction, since it only works on renewable energies. In this work, the development of Back to Nature Resort at Al-Shafa, Saudi Arabia is presented. For this work, two case studies related to the design of village resort were analysed. Based on the analysed case studies, the estimated gross area for the resort is 60000 m². Moreover, the resort is comprised of several zone, such as residential, open spaces, activity and services. The resort will be constructed in Dakah Mountain is a mountain in Al-Shafa, Saudi Arabia. The design is based on the outlook of forest and garden. The whole village is made up of environmentally friendly materials and sustainable environmental techniques. The development of this resort is expected to cultivate a natural living environment for the local community.

Keywords-- nature, environment, village, green, Saudi Arabia

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INTRODUCTION

Over the last decades, the idea of sustainable development has arisen as a common prerequisite of collective policy at village and regional level, including the theoretical concepts and procedures relevant to land use and urban planning [1]. Today, the term "sustainable village" and "sustainable urban development" have been used to denote the intentions and manifestations of political utopia, land use practices and urban planning that are innovative [2].

The idea of sustainable villages is based on trying to take advantage of alternative energy that does not emit carbon dioxide in the atmosphere [3]. Sustainable villages are targeted communities that aim to become more socially, economically and environmentally sustainable. Some of the sustainable villages have grown up due to their proximity to other villages and to their active participation in the community [4].

Masdar Village is one of the first sustainable cities in the Middle East to adopt a green footprint for future cities, to accommodate rapid urbanization, to reduce energy and water consumption and to reduce pollution and waste [5].

Saudi Arabia is a country like any other, with villages and other places that look like villages [6]. The villages are no longer fit to live, because when the cities were established, many people went to live there, and most of the villages were left behind, becoming an old place that nobody takes care of [7]. Thus, the government of Saudi Arabia has intended to revive the villages in order to preserve the nature and the environment. Thus, in this work, the development of Back to Nature Resort at Al-Shafa, Saudi Arabia is presented.

CASE STUDIES

For this work. Two case studies related to nature resort have been analysed. The details of the case study is present as follow:

- a. Verneda Camping Mountain Resort
- b. Sharhabil bin Hassneh EcoPark (SHE Park)

Verneda Camping Mountain Resort

Verneda Camping Mountain Resort is located at Spain (Figure 1). It offers attractive wooden bungalows and apartments in the Vall de Aran, in the Catalan Pyrenees. Total area of Verneda Campsite Mountain Resort is 30 000 m². Verneda mountain camping resort has a variety of activities. Cycling, hiking, table tennis, children's playground, skiing and fishing. Also, pool for example, heated swimming pool, children's pool, swimming pool, swimming pool, outdoor pool, salt water pool and pool bar. These are all entertainment areas within the resort of Verneda. The sustainability features used in this resort are passive cooling, passive heating, day light usage and construction using sustainable materials.



Figure 1. Verneda Camping Mountain Resort

Sharhabil bin Hassneh EcoPark (SHE Park)

Sharhabil bin Hassneh EcoPark (SHE Park) is located in the north of Jordan. It has area of 27 km². It provides rural living while protecting and sustaining the ecology of the area. Since the EcoPark has been established, wildlife has grown and locals and tourists are therefore able to spend their time there enjoying the wonder of nature in the Jordan Valley. It is suitable for most age groups, family and friends. The main aim of creating this EcoPark is to preserve the Jordan River and spread environmental

awareness locally, regionally and nationally. The SHE Park includes accommodation, picnic, hiking, bird watching, photo-taking, zip-line, bike tours, nature meditation, adventure tourism. As well as workshops to teach about biodiversity, building mud and other related EcoPark skills. The sustainability features used in this park is ecological building, the use of renewable energy, solar water heating system, and local organic food farming.



Figure 2. Verneda Camping Mountain Resort

PROGRAM ASSUMPTION AND SPACE DETAILS

Table 1 shows the space details for the Back to Nature Resort. Based on Table 1, the estimated gross area for the resort is 60000 m². In addition, the resort is comprised of several zone, such as residential, open spaces, activity and services.

Table 1. Space details

Zone	Gross Area (m ²)
Residential	18000
Open spaces	15000
Activity	18000
Services	9000
Total	60000

PROPOSED SITE AND ANALYSIS

In this work, the selected site is Dakah Mountain is a mountain in Al-Shafa, Saudi Arabia (Figure 3). It is located at an altitude of 2585 meters above sea level. The regulation of the site is that there are resorts located in the mountains. And all the places in the vicinity of the site are resorts. The site can be accessed through Dakah Mountain Road. In addition, this site is surrounded by several facilities, such as chalet, Dakah mountain resort, rouse house resort, Dakah mountain park, bank and etc. Furthermore, the site is surrounded by nature and various species of trees. The site is exposed to good weather throughout the year. The proposed zoning of the site is shown in Figure 4.

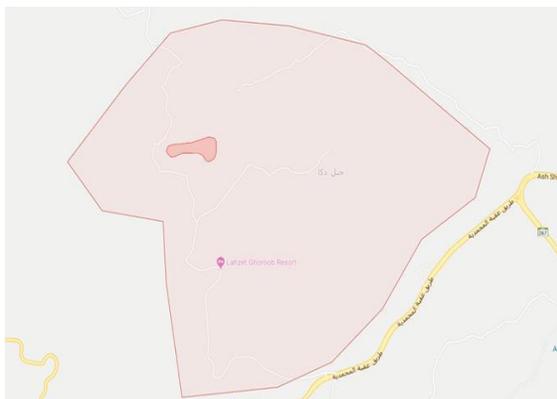


Figure 3. Site on Dakkah Mountain

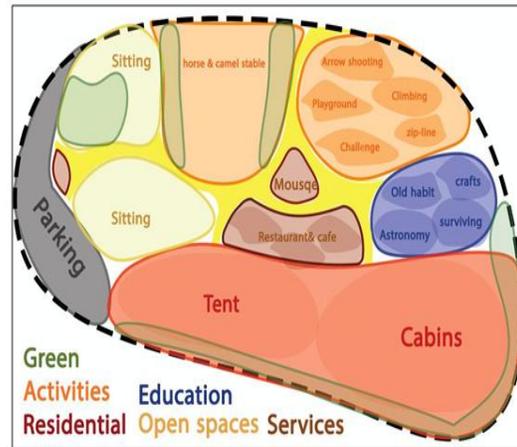


Figure 4. Zoning of site

PROJECT DESIGN

For the Back to Nature Resort, the idea is to create a living space with an old atmosphere, using organic food and sustainable things that can save the environment and reduce carbon dioxide. Back to nature can have a psychological impact on the community. It is inspired from the outlook of forest and garden. In terms of sustainability, the resort is incorporated with greywater system, usage of oil lanterns, vertical garden, and natural ventilation. Furthermore, the resort has a dedicated space for archery, campfire and horse stable. Figure 5 to Figure 10 shows the design of the resort.



Figure 5. Overview of the Back to Nature Resort



Figure 6. Entertainment area of the Back to Nature Resort



Figure 7. Green area of the Back to Nature Resort



Figure 8. Food cour of the Back to Nature Resort

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CONCLUSION

This work presented the development of Back to Nature Resort at Al-Shafa, Saudi Arabia. For the work, the estimated gross area for the resort is 60000 m². Furthermore, the resort is comprised of several zone, such as residential, open spaces, activity and services. The development of this resort is expected to be eco-friendly environment, that enhance Al-Shafa specifically in Dakkah mountain, and achieve sustainability in village infrastructure that provides a long-term living environment for the local community.

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