Abstract

The objective of this dissertation is to talk about the influences of cultural, traditional elements and techniques on the modern architectural language of Mirpur, Azad Kashmir. The study aims to understand how the architectural spaces in Mirpur and its suburbs are being designed, and what the influences are defining it the research includes the study of traditional and old construction techniques and methods and elements that have become the identity of Mirpur’s architecture. It will examine how modern architecture was influenced by the above, what are the major problems and the possibilities for retaining an architectural identity of the area. Hence, the primary focus lies in answering: what influenced the modern cityscape of Mirpur, Azad Kashmir after Mangla dam construction.

There is no documentation and research on the Old Mirpur city, it’s infrastructure and layout. The primary research will include the case study of the old Mirpur city ruins and will study the construction techniques and local materials. I will study existing literature, as this dissertation arrives at a conclusion by analyzing the Mirpur city on the macro scale, by interviewing local authorities, the business community, local architects and planners, as well as observations and understanding of the construction psyche.

This dissertation explains the aspects and reasons behind modern day construction in Mirpur, and how the identity of an individual is affecting the identity of the city as a whole.