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CONCLUSION

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The Support based housing approaches for urban poor could be mentioned as a successful way of addressing the issue of housing compared with the provider based housing approaches. In Sri Lanka among the programmes carried out in this field the MHP can be identified as a bottom up process that the individual dweller's involvement has been taken into serious consideration, which could be considered as support based housing approach.

Most of the settlement planning and dwelling design carried out under MHP have been done by active participation of the people with the exceptional cases such ^{as} 'Navagampura'.

When evaluating this support based concept it can be done in terms of people's extent of participation, according to Alexander, under two important factors.



[Fig. 30] Uniqueness can be seen among others.

1. Every person and family is unique and that uniqueness has to be expressed in their dwellings.

2. Every family and every person is a part of a society and requires bonds of association.

Considering the first factor, it can be observed that the owner is given the maximum freedom to work on his priorities and control over his dwelling. A lot of variations can be seen in their dwelling, not only in planning wise but also in terms of appearance of each dwelling unit. [Fig. 30]

This is the ultimate outcome of the differentiation of priorities and the degrees of exposure to the organised society.

Turan once stated

“Squatter plan is not a frozen irreversible design product with each stage of growth. Previous decisions are re-evaluated according to experimental value and changing needs and, if necessary, some major decisions may be changed, within the limits of the inhabitant’s financial capacity,

..... their technical skills and knowledge, the availability and quality of materials and their volition”

[Turan 1987:79]

However, observations shows, when the dweller moves up from the consolidatory stage to the status seekers stage, the lack of experience of the organised society and the limitation on the plot size, the lack of technical and architectural knowledge and the appropriateness of the space , within their homes is questionable. Here the professional involvement in much more sense the professional support is a vital aspect.

And another important observation was that the way some of them compelled to deviate from the common amenities and set up them within their premises, when the dwellers become status conscious. Simple example is the toilet which is built at the rear space instead of using the common public toilets which they were already given.

This proves that the inappropriateness of pre- conceived plan or standardised decision to fit with the changing nature of society.

Considering the second factor, in the modern society, community living is rather a complex phenomenon with domesticity, privacy and sub- culture integrity.

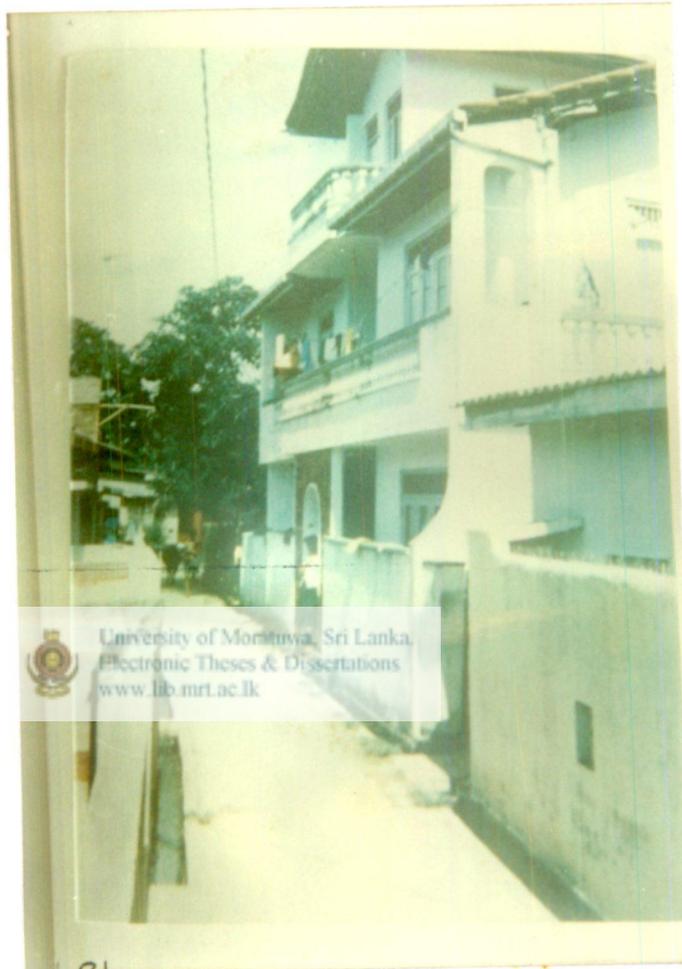
As John Lukas stated

“ Domesticity, privacy, comfort and the concept of home and the family are literally principles of achievement of the bourgeois age”

[Ribzinsky 1988 : 51]

Observations show that the most status seekers in the shanty community are more security conscious and they try to segregate from their pervious neighbouring community. When the treatening of eviction disappears, people are less involve in managing the social, physical and financial institution in the development and its overall planning, but are more involved in building their own houses. [Fig. 31]

Therefore the ‘ glamouring’ concept of cluster type solution to the community living is no longer acceptable to the modern independent urban neighbourhoods, simply because the various stages these communal come across. these open spaces



[Fig. 31] Gradually segregate from their previous neighboring community

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usually become no man's land. Very often these places become garbage collecting places or else they allow to illegal land subdivisions, by the dwellers. This central court yard concept would be valid to the earlier tank fed villages because of their unitary economic inter-dependency. Instead of imposing this kind of spaces communal places are naturally grown within the settlements, eg. places where a boutique is functioned, near the playground, blindly ended-up streets etc.. [Fig. 32]

Considering the architectural compositioning most of the community design projects are context-specific. Most of them are considered as low-rise densely -built settlements. Most of the houses are single storied. Two or three storied houses also can be found among them. When this is discussed further, it can be said that the clarifying of domains by introducing parapet boundary walls and the decorated gates , and houses elevated from the road will follow a certain norms or shared images, among the community though the details are different.

Most of them follow the same kind of approach in demarcating boundaries. this gives unity to the settlement in terms of architectural compositioning. At the beginning though

these things happens simply by coping their neighbours but with the time they happened consciously.

The important achievement of this support based housing process is to maximise the dweller's decision making power and according to them ,it encourage the dweller or the owner towards authentic self-conscious place making. this authenticity enhances the enthusiasm over the overall project with the reduction of the phenomenon of alienation.

This active participation of the people which allows through this support paradigm helps to minimise the marginality of the larger society and reduces the social and psychological depression among the shanty dweller.



[Fig.32] Places created naturally near the boutique corners, play grounds etc.,

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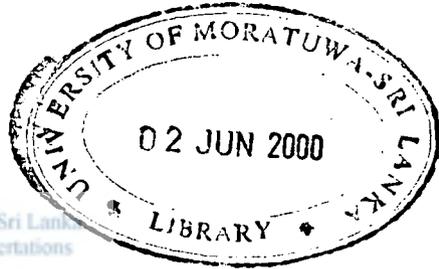
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