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SPATIAL PROGRESSION IN ARCHITECTURE: AN EXAMINATION OF THE CONCEPT OF MAIN STREAM ARCHITECTURE

Dissertation Submitted to the University of Moratuwa
As a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Science in Architecture



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R.H. Malawaraarachchi
Department of Architecture
University of Moratuwa
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ABSTRACT

Architecture must be meaningful as it has a positive impact on the existence of human beings and for the achievement of different purposes in a complementary manner. To achieve meaning, it must necessarily be **experienced**, rather than seen. This experiencing happens at a physical emotional and at an intellectual level, thus satisfying him in all aspects creating a 'whole' experience which contents the beholder. Most essentially, the total experience goes beyond the physical emotional level towards the intellectual level, depending on his readiness and temperament, the user grasp the inherent meanings enshrined in these experience and steps on to higher realm of contemplating. The experiencing of architecture is primarily a **spatial experience**. It is a comprehensive spatial organization; the progression of spaces forming rhythmic movement. The meaningful orchestration of **spatial progression** means the articulation of sequences of spaces with a sense of importance, placing the correct strength, in the right places, so that one moves from one space to another perceiving meaning inherent to each space. Spatial progression is ordering of spaces; the creation of which varies greatly with the spatial sensitivity of the creator/designer.

Main stream architecture therefore is the experiencing of such spatial progression, which is strengthened by the **sub principles** and the **episodes**, which will make the experience more appealing to the beholder. Main stream architecture that creates the total spatial experience is "**significant building**". Main stream architecture is the established "**significant theme**" of architecture at various periods of time evolving from the early barbaric splendor to spatial progression; which is established main stream idea today.



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