

The Great Mosque of Algiers: exploring its influence on religion, society and architecture, and the urban development implications

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Abstract: *This research delves into the multifaceted impact of the Great Mosque of Algiers on various spheres of Algerian society. Through a comprehensive examination of its religious, social, and architectural influences, this study aims to illuminate the dynamics at play in the urban context of Algiers, specifically focusing on the transformative effects brought about by the construction of this monumental structure. Employing a mixed-methods approach, including qualitative analysis and a survey conducted among residents, the study seeks to discern public perceptions and opinions regarding the mosque's significance and its implications for urban development. By unraveling the intricate interplay between religion, society, politics, architecture, and urbanism, this study contributes to understanding the broader implications of monumental projects with significant investments. and The role of politics and its influence on the urban landscape is evident through such investments, with a spotlight on other examples worldwide.*

Furthermore, the study aims to compare the importance of this project, located in the Bay of Algiers, with other projects that residents may prioritize. This comparative analysis sheds light on the community's diverse needs and aspirations, informing discussions on future urban developments in Algiers.

Keywords: *Great Mosque of Algiers, Algeria, Political symbolism, Social influence, Religious influence*

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1. Introduction:

The Djamaa El Djazaïr mosque is one of the emblematic projects on the Bay of Algiers and It is one of the most controversial projects that has sparked debate both in local and international press and within the Algerian community due to the massive investment estimated at \$1.4 billion. It is considered the third-largest mosque in the world with the tallest minaret. These specifications were a shock that became the subject of criticism and comparison with the political, economic, and social situation of the country at that time. This project is a sample of many projects around the world and throughout history that illustrate how politicians, through architecture, seek to affirm their power and ideologies and influence the shaping of identity at the expense of political, social, economic, and even urban fabric situations. These types of major projects with massive investments indicate that their primary goal is to perpetuate and extend their name and role in history.

The legitimacy of Djamaa El Djazaïr comes from its pretension to reflect a certain national identity in a globalized postmodern world, where more than ever image and communication are at the core of forming identities. It illustrates the unease that characterizes North African societies today as they search for a certain authenticity which was for a long time jeopardised by successive colonisations as well as by socio-economic and political imbalance.

Against this backdrop, this research aims to shed light on the multifaceted impact of the Djamaa El Djazaïr project on the urban fabric of Algiers and the broader social landscape of Algeria. By examining its implications, this study seeks to draw parallels with similar monumental projects worldwide, offering insights into the intricate dynamics of architecture, power, and identity in contemporary society and comparing the importance of this project, located in the Bay of Algiers, with other projects that residents may prioritize.

2. Introduction to the case study: The construction of a mosque in Algeria as a representation of post-colonial identity:

The construction of the mosque:

The Great Mosque of Algiers, Djamaa El Djazair, represents a significant architectural and cultural milestone. Standing in the bay of Algiers at an impressive height of 265 meters, its minaret not only claims the distinction of being the tallest in the Muslim world but also surpasses all counterparts globally, including the previously esteemed minaret of the Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca, which measured 210 meters. Accessible to the public, the minaret provides panoramic vistas of Algiers and its bay from its 43 levels, facilitated by panoramic elevators. Encompassing a sprawling expanse of nearly 30 hectares, the Great Mosque of Algiers assumes the mantle of the largest mosque in Africa and ranks third globally, following the venerable mosques of Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia. Its expansive precincts house diverse facilities, notably a capacious prayer hall capable

of accommodating approximately 35,000 adherents, alongside exhibition spaces, a museum showcasing the art and history of Islam spanning 15 centuries, a media library, amphitheatres, and a dedicated research center. With a collective capacity of 120,000 individuals, the mosque serves as a nexus for spiritual, cultural, and educational pursuits. The architectural ensemble comprises 12 principal edifices, each meticulously designed to fulfill distinct functions. Among these, the sprawling prayer hall spanning 22,000 square meters, a conference hall seating 1,500 attendees, administrative and technical structures, and an earthquake-resistant framework fortified with dampers and isolators stand as noteworthy examples. Particularly, the anchorage of one minaret upon a raft submerged 50 meters below the surface. Moreover, the Great Mosque of Algiers incorporates a university enclave, furnishing 300 educational accommodations alongside a scientific laboratory and a university library housing an extensive collection of 1 million volumes.



FIGURE 1 THE GREAT MOSQUE OF ALGIERS, THE THIRD LARGEST IN THE WORLD. PHOTO : FACEBOOK PAGE

The story of the site:

The Great Mosque of Algiers is centrally located within the Bay of Algiers, situated in the municipality of Mohammadia, approximately 10 meters from the capital's centre. Its adjacency to the Houari Boumediene International Airport, formerly referred to as La Vigrie during the colonial era, holds historical significance. La Vigrie was named after Charles Marcel La Vigrie, who founded the Association of Missionaries in Algeria. This association spearheaded proselytizing endeavours aimed at obliterating the indigenous identity and cultural heritage of the Algerian populace. Additionally, the mosque occupies a site that witnessed numerous massacres perpetrated against Algerians during the French colonial period, imbuing it with profound symbolism emblematic of Algerian resistance to colonial oppression and the successful preservation of cultural identity.

Moreover, the imposing presence of the Great Mosque of Algiers along the coastline serves as the primary landmark upon entering Algerian territory via sea or air routes. This architectural landmark serves as a tangible representation of national identity. Historically, the Algerian coastline was characterized by prominent landmarks such as the church of Santa Cruz on the western bank and Saint Augustine on the eastern side. Meanwhile, the central region was adorned by the Notre-Dame d'Afrique church. The juxtaposition of these historical landmarks with the contemporary significance of the Great Mosque underscores the evolution of Algeria's cultural landscape and the enduring resilience of its national identity in the face of historical challenges and transformations.

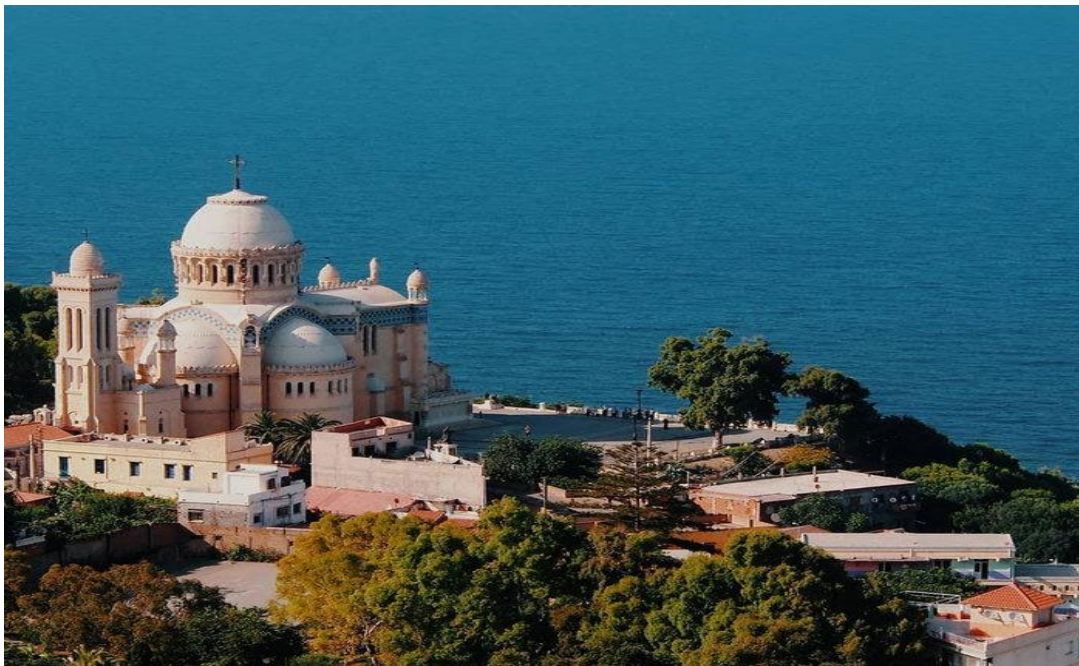


FIGURE 2 VIEW OF NOTRE DAME D'AFRIQUE EDITION 108: ALGIERS, ALGERIA THEDISCOVERER.COM



FIGURE 3 PHOTO OF SANTA CRUZ FORT OF ORAN, A COASTAL CITY

3. Exploiting history and its impact on the national psyche:

Through interviews conducted by the Minister of Religious Affairs and the head of the religious authority, we can see the President's view of this project to give legitimacy to it. We see here an exploitation of the people's sentiment towards the French colonial symbolism and the history of the site, meaning that the construction of the mosque came to prove Algeria's independence and its victory against colonialism and the failure of French Christianization campaigns. However, there is conflicting information in the statements of officials about whether the choice of the site initially and its symbolism was just a coincidence. Thus, we find that the priority was to embody this massive monument representing the power of the ruler and the state, rather than embodying the history of the struggle against colonialism and Christianization campaigns. The President of the Supreme Islamic Council, in an interview, stated, "The selection of the location was coincidental, not deliberate, but it proved to be serendipitous under divine guidance. This site, where Islam and religion in Algeria were challenged, was named after the monk who founded the White Fathers Association, which aimed to convert Algerians to Christianity."



FIGURE 4 MAISON-CARRÉE (ALGERIA), MOTHER HOUSE OF THE WHITE FATHERS, MISSIONARIES OF AFRICA, FOUNDED BY MGR LAVIGERIE. 1940. SOURCE : CPA



FIGURE 5 THE ARRIVAL OF CARDINAL LAVIGERIE IN ALGIERS: FACEBOOK PAGE

4. Comparison between the intended symbolism of the great mosque project and its actual impact on National Unity, Global Influence, and Socio-Economic Development:

The representation of the mosque in general for Algerians:

Mosques hold profound significance for Algerians, serving as spiritual sanctuaries where Muslims gather for daily prayers, Friday congregations, and communal events. Beyond their religious function, mosques serve as vibrant community hubs, fostering social cohesion through educational programs, cultural events, and charitable activities. They stand as enduring symbols of Algeria's Islamic heritage and identity, encapsulating centuries of architectural and cultural richness. Moreover, mosques frequently serve as centres for religious education, facilitating the study of the Quran and Islamic principles. Throughout history, they have also played pivotal roles in political and social discourse, reflecting and influencing public opinion on various issues, particularly as they played a significant role during the French colonial era in preserving the components of the people's identity.



FIGURE 6 MOSQUE DJAMAA EL DJEDID IN ALGIERS –CREDIT: MM SINDLINGER

The intended impact and symbolism:

The Political Perspective:

According to statements attributed to the Minister of Religious Affairs and Endowments in the Algerian press, the genesis of this monumental investment project stems from multifaceted considerations deeply rooted in national and international contexts. Primarily, the Great Mosque of Algiers is envisaged as a beacon of unity and religious cohesion for Algerians, serving as the focal point for national religious affairs. In a global landscape increasingly susceptible to external influences, the absence of a centralized religious authority akin to Tunisia's Zitouna or Egypt's Al-Azhar poses a significant concern for Algerians, leaving them vulnerable to ideological incursions. Hence, the establishment of this mosque as the preeminent religious institution is deemed imperative to safeguard the integrity of Algerian beliefs and counteract potential ideological threats.

Moreover, beyond its immediate national implications, the Grand Mosque is envisioned to assume a broader role as a cultural and religious reference point for the entire Islamic world. With its expansive facilities and resources, including the largest Islamic cultural centre, it is poised to become a nexus of intellectual and spiritual exchange, attracting scholars, theologians, and seekers of knowledge from across the globe. Consequently, its influence is anticipated to transcend national boundaries, extending to non-Muslim countries through the dissemination of Algerian cultural heritage and Islamic teachings.

In essence, the Great Mosque of Algiers represents not only a testament to Algerian religious and cultural heritage but also a strategic investment in national unity, global influence, and socio-economic development. Its realization underscores Algeria's commitment to preserving its identity, promoting Islamic values, and fostering inclusive growth and prosperity for its citizens and the wider Muslim community.

The real impact of Djamaa el Djazair:

Algerians Perspective:

The mosque awarded the prize for the best architectural design in the world for the year 2021, has sparked debate since the inception of its conception regarding its significance and urgency in light of economic and social circumstances, especially when compared to other health and educational projects. To gauge public opinion at the time of the project's commencement and following its official opening in February 2024 after 12 years of construction, a survey was conducted among Algerians, alongside an analysis of newspaper articles conveying the public's sentiment at the project's outset.

Survey results:

In response to a survey regarding the Great Mosque of Algiers, participants provided varied perspectives on their experiences. Those who had visited described the atmosphere as calming and majestic, with many finding the experience remarkable and emotionally impactful. The mosque's impressive architecture, blending traditional Islamic art with modern elements, was highlighted by several respondents, particularly noting the grandeur of its facade and towering minaret. Despite some mentioning difficulty accessing certain areas, overall, the mosque was viewed positively as a significant religious landmark for Muslims both within and outside of Algeria.

Participants in the survey offered diverse perspectives on the prudence of the significant financial investment in the Great Mosque project. Some respondents viewed the decision as wise, pointing to the country's economic prosperity at the time of construction and the potential for the mosque to serve

as a cultural and religious landmark, attracting tourism and symbolizing Algeria's Islamic heritage. Others disagreed, expressing concerns about the allocation of funds away from more pressing priorities such as healthcare and education infrastructure. They argued that the construction of hospitals or other essential facilities would have been a more prudent use of resources. Several participants suggested that the decision lacked thorough consideration and planning, emphasizing the need for the mosque to generate revenue through events and visitor accessibility to justify its immense cost. Some respondents highlighted the symbolic significance of the mosque as a representation of Algeria's Islamic identity, viewing it as a positive investment in preserving cultural heritage. However, others expressed scepticism about the decision, questioning its timing during a period of economic austerity and suggesting that alternative projects could have better served the community's needs. Overall, opinions varied widely, with some seeing the mosque as a valuable investment in cultural and religious heritage, while others questioned its priority amidst competing societal needs. The evaluation of the decision's prudence depended on factors such as economic context, long-term benefits, and the allocation of resources to essential sectors.

What do you think is the story behind the construction of Djamaâ El-Djazair

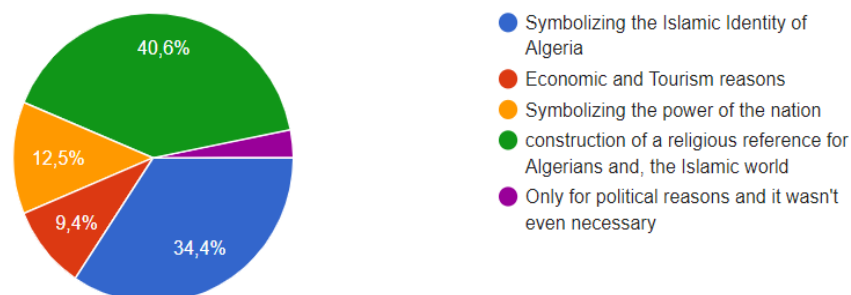


FIGURE 7 A RESULT FROM THE SURVEY ABOUT THE MOSQUE.

The majority of participants in the survey agreed that this grand mosque was intended to become a symbol of Algeria and its religious reference, even to the world. It was also seen as a confirmation of Algerian identity. However, some others viewed it merely as a symbol of power and assertion of existence.

interviewing the people in the mosque:

By visiting the mosque, I was able to listen to the opinions of the citizens and capture their reactions and initial impressions of the mosque. The first impression that was captured upon entering the mosque was the people's amazement at the enormity of the building, especially the minaret, which is considered the tallest in the world. They also expressed a spiritual feeling reminiscent of their visit to

the Grand Mosque in Saudi Arabia, and some likened it to the grandeur of Sheikh Zayed Mosque in the UAE, especially the large courtyard of the mosque.

On the other hand, I noticed the citizens' frustration that after 12 years of completion, most of the mosque's facilities are still closed to visitors except for the main courtyard and prayer halls. Even after the prayers have ended, it is not possible to stay in the mosque for a longer time, which is not usually the case in other mosques.



FIGURE 8 CORRIDORS OF THE MOSQUE BY HANA KEDDAR FIGURE 9 MOSQUE COURTYARD BY HANA KEDDAR

Global Media Portrays Algerian Public Opinion on the Project:

Many national and international newspapers have written about this project since its inception until the inauguration, ranging from criticism to pride. Some French and national newspapers, through interviews with citizens, have highlighted how Algerians predominantly perceive this mosque as a testament to the Bouteflika era. They emphasize that the "Great Mosque of Algiers is and will remain the symbol of an era of corruption, mismanagement, squandering, and in a word: economic crime. and that with such a budget, Algeria could have built four large hospitals to international standards.

On the other hand, some Arab newspapers and Algerian journalists have written about the importance and urgency of this project, portraying it as a symbol of strength and independence in the face of France. They argue that the mosque's visibility from the French coastline serves as a demonstration of Algeria's power and religious identity in a historically colonial location. and beyond its religious role, an architectural symbol of post-independence Algeria.

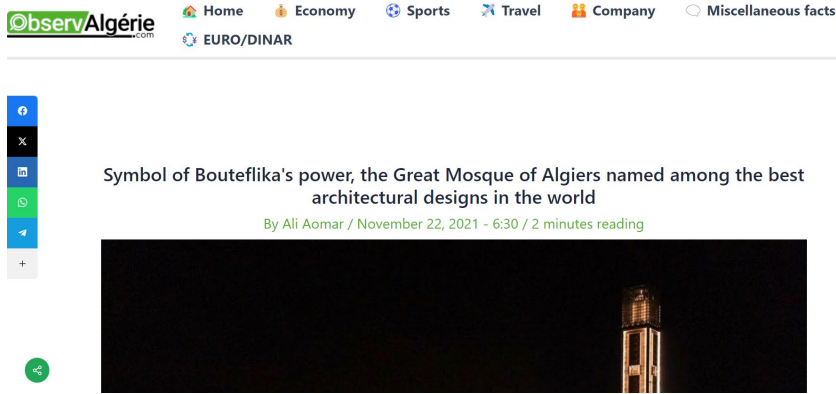


FIGURE 10 OBSERVEALGERIA.COM BY ALI AOMAR / NOVEMBER 22, 2021

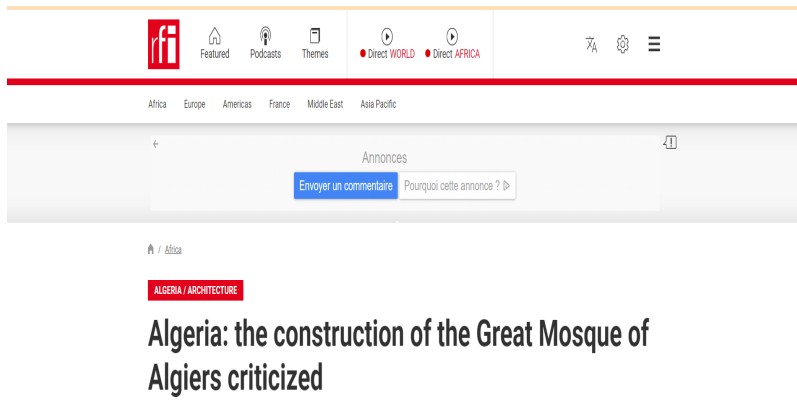


FIGURE 12 RFI.FR WEBSITE 16/04/2019



FIGURE 11 THE GREAT MOSQUE OF ALGIERS...THE FULL STORY, AL-HIWAR WEBSITE, NOVEMBER 20, 2016

The result of the investigation:

Through various perspectives explored in this investigation, it cannot be denied what this mosque represents in terms of history and importance for national identity, considering Algeria's colonial past, the period of extremism, and terrorism in the 1990s. The mosque's radiance extends even to the Islamic world, given its religious, educational, and cultural facilities, as well as its architectural beauty, which has enhanced the beauty of the Algiers Bay and given it a new identity representing post-independence Algeria. However, from another perspective, the timing of this project's implementation may have diminished its value, as after 12 years since its inception, it still remains under comparison with the country's health and education facilities. Despite the construction of 13 hospitals and 3 million social housing units during that period, the quality gap between the mosque and these facilities is significant. Moreover, the period of the president's illness, during which he sought treatment in Europe, while building a mosque worth a billion dollars, was seen as evidence that this mosque was intended to commemorate and perpetuate a 20-year reign.

5. The Role of Architecture in Politics:

The use of architectural symbolism by political leaders to solidify power and influence public perception.:

The utilization of architectural symbolism by political leaders is a powerful tool for consolidating power and shaping public perception throughout history. From monumental architecture like grand palaces and temples to iconography such as statues and murals depicting the leader's image and achievements, these structures serve as tangible representations of authority and ideology.

Additionally, leaders often associate themselves with sacred spaces, renovating religious structures to align with divine approval and garner religious support. Urban planning and city design play a crucial role, as planned cities and monumental boulevards can be used to celebrate the ruler's legacy and intimidate dissenters. Propaganda architecture, adorned with patriotic symbols and slogans, promotes specific political messages and evokes loyalty. Cultural institutions like museums and theatres allow leaders to shape cultural narratives and control historical memory, while fortifications project an image of strength and security. Ambitious revitalization projects rejuvenate neglected areas and commemorate historical events, fostering national pride and unity. Overall, architectural symbolism enables political leaders to control the built environment, projecting authority, manipulating symbolism, and crafting narratives that reinforce their legitimacy and authority.

The Great Mosque of Algeria can exemplify this use of architectural engineering in the Arab Maghreb



FIGURE 13 HESPRESS FRANÇAIS

for three rulers of neighbouring countries during the same era. The mosque, commonly referred to by most Algerians as the "Bouteflika Mosque," after the former president Abdelaziz Bouteflika, aimed to immortalize his reign and make this monument a witness to it. However, for many Algerians, this project has always been a symbol of squandering public funds. Many viewed the president as afflicted with megalomania, comparing it to Hassan II Mosque in

Morocco, which was the largest mosque in Africa before the Algerian Mosque, and in Tunisia, we find another example of such projects in the Arab Maghreb, the mosque of the former president Zine

ElAbidine Ben Ali, who built a luxurious mosque on the hills of Carthage and named it after himself.



FIGURE 14 EL ABIDINE MOSQUE CARTHAGE TUNIS STOCK PHOTOS AND IMAGES



FIGURE 15 II. HASSAN MOSQUE IN CASABLANCA STOCK PHOTOS BY NATALY-NETE

Case studies of other monumental projects worldwide that serve similar political agendas:

Çamlıca Mosque (A symbol of Erdogan's Turkey):



FIGURE 16 GRAND CAMLICA MOSQUE

The mosque is located in Istanbul and the largest mosque in Turkey. The mosque can hold 63,000 people and includes a museum, art gallery, library, conference hall, and underground parking lot for 3,500 vehicles.

the new Hagia Sophia is one of a number of megaprojects built by the Turkish government to show the strength of the economy and provide a legacy for the

governing AK Party. these architectural choices are part of the current so-called neo-Ottoman political turn of the regime in power since 2002 The Çamlica Mosque was inaugurated on May 2019 by Turkish President Erdoğan.

Lincoln Memorial, Washington D.C., USA:

The Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., bears a striking resemblance to the Greek coliseum, with intentional similarities drawn from the Parthenon in Athens, the cradle of democracy. Architect Henry Bacon was inspired by the Parthenon's design when creating the memorial, reflecting Lincoln's reverence for democracy and the nation's unity during the 1860s. Surrounded by 36 grand pillars, each representing a state during Lincoln's presidency, the memorial features a statue of Lincoln with one clenched fist symbolizing his determination to unify the nation and the other relaxed to signify his compassionate nature. Today, the Lincoln Memorial stands as a tribute to a president who abolished slavery ended a divisive war, and worked to unite a nation torn apart by conflict.



FIGURE 17 AERIAL VIEW OF LINCOLN MEMORIAL: CAROL M. HIGHSMITH

The Louvre, Paris:



FIGURE 18 PYRAMID, PARIS. PIXABA.COM

6. The urban development of the city:

The Grand Urban Projects Plan of Algiers:

In 1997, as Algeria began to emerge from the devastating security crisis, Algeria initiated the "Capital" strategy to revitalize Algiers, aiming to create thematic attractions around the Bay of Algiers by rejuvenating the city centre. The Grand Urban Projects Plan, part of this strategy, focused on enhancing the capital's image through the construction of high-level facilities within designated areas. However, the plan faced scrutiny in 2000 due to the dismissal of its leaders for selfish reasons. Despite this, national projects like the Algiers Capital City project, the Grand Mosque of Algiers, and the Conference Center were implemented.



FIGURE 19 THE GRAND URBAN PROJECTS PLAN NEAR EL HARRACH, THE NEW CENTER OF GRAVITY OF THE CITY

The Algiers City project: aims to transform the capital's economic landscape, marking the city's return



FIGURE 20 THE GRAND URBAN PROJECTS PLAN THE PROJECT, ALGERIA MEDINA SOURCE: [HTTP://MEGA-PROJET-ALGERIEN.SKYROCK.COM/](http://MEGA-PROJET-ALGERIEN.SKYROCK.COM/)

to prominence in the Mediterranean. Stretching along the coast and facing the Grand Mosque and exhibition center, it covers about 100 hectares, boasting a central location and stunning views of Algiers Bay. The illuminated city will feature hotels for businessmen, including a 5-star Hilton hotel and luxurious hotel apartments. Additionally, it will include three office towers, trade, sports, culture, and entertainment facilities, such as a hypermarket shopping centre, an "O Pirate" water park, and the "Marina Bay" marina.

7. The impact on the urban development of the city:

During Bouteflika's tenure, Algiers saw significant investment in housing programs, public infrastructure, and urban projects. The grand mosque, among the various ambitious undertakings, stands out. However, despite its grandeur, its location on a major highway renders it inaccessible to pedestrians and the surrounding neighbourhood. Unlike other monumental structures, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the opera, which have been integrated into the urban fabric, the mosque remains visually appreciated only by those driving past it. Its inability to engage with the surrounding cityscape undermines its potential to serve as a structuring element in urban development.

Consequently, its impact on the city's transformation into a vibrant metropolis remains limited, highlighting the disconnect between monumental architecture and functional urban development.



FIGURE 21 [HTTPS://WWW.ALGERIEPATRIOTIQUE.COM/2018/03/18/GRANDE-MOSQUEE-DALGER-PLANS-DAMENAGEMENT-EXTERIEURS-PREPARATION/](https://www.algeriepatriotique.com/2018/03/18/grande-mosquee-dalger-plans-damenagement-exterieurs-preparation/)

From the point of view of the Algerians according to Participants in the survey provided diverse perspectives on the transformative impact of the Great Mosque of Algiers on its surroundings and urban landscape. They noted that the mosque, once an empty site, has now become a prominent symbol, attracting a significant number of visitors and serving as a key urban attraction. Additionally, its construction has spurred development in the area, including the establishment of a hotel and improvements to road infrastructure, alongside ongoing urban projects like the bay development. The mosque's presence has also acted as a catalyst for urban planning, with the creation of bridges connecting it to the Bay Area and plans for a grand park nearby, stimulating further interest in urban development. Many participants appreciated the mosque's architectural beauty and its role in enhancing the city's aesthetic appeal, making it a sought-after tourist destination. Furthermore, its

construction is seen as a positive factor for economic and tourism growth, contributing to the development of cultural and archaeological monuments in the region. Overall, the Great Mosque of Algiers represents a beacon of identity and modernity for Algeria, reflecting a shift in architectural thinking and fostering optimism for future urban development projects in the city.



FIGURE 22 DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF OUED EL HARRACH, THE NEW GRAVITATIONAL CENTER OF THE CITY I SOURCE: DIAGNOSTIC AND OBJECTIFS FOR CONVERSION TO ALGERIA IN THE ECOSYSTEMS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET.

Exterior Landscaping of the Mosque:

The exterior landscaping of the mosque and the surrounding green space did not receive adequate attention commensurate with the magnitude and architectural quality of the project. A national competition was held to design its surroundings, but it was reconsidered due to budget constraints. The winning project was unable to be implemented.



FIGURE 23 [HTTPS://WWW.LESOIRDALGERIE.COM/ACTUALITES/UNE-ETUDE-AU-RABAIS-64143](https://www.lesoirDALGERIE.COM/ACTUALITES/UNE-ETUDE-AU-RABAIS-64143)

According to KAMEL LOUAFI, a LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, “The garden around the Great Mosque of Algiers will be a disaster.” according to him, “It is time to enrich Algiers with high-quality green gardens and parks in compliance with regulations and to cease the haphazard creation of sidewalks and green spaces that Algerians may find unusable. The garden surrounding the Great Mosque could become a significant urban space and mark the start of an intriguing transformation. With the requisite attention and investment, it is sad that we will continue to appear for decades to every foreign visitor the Hamma test garden as if it were our experience and was of French design.”



FIGURE 24 SITE PLAN OF THE MOSQUE [HTTPS://WWW.KSP-ENGEL.COM/](https://www.ksp-engel.com/)

8. conclusion:

Through this study and investigation, I have been able to access several perspectives regarding the truth behind the construction of the Great Mosque of Algiers, bridging between the history of the land, the identity assertion, and the rulers who seek to immortalize their reigns throughout history, and the needs of Algeria after the period of destruction, terrorism, and extremism it went through in the nineties, and not too long ago the vision of destruction and wars that befell Arab countries due to extremism and terrorism. Considering this structure as a necessity to preserve its security, and stability, and to maintain moderate Islam in Algeria and the world.

However, the debate always remains regarding the timing and urgency of the project, as well as the enormous investment that seems unjustified except as a means to immortalize a political regime that lasted for 20 years, making the mosque a symbol of Bouteflika. Today, this mosque has become an unavoidable part of the urban landscape of Algiers, which cannot be denied as an architectural addition to its beauty.

This architectural element should be exploited to be a new beginning for Algerian architectural identity post-independence, which has been lost for some time. This building should be an extension of urban planning of the same quality or even higher. Acceptance of this mosque has become inevitable, even though it will remain a memory of a corrupt era. But seeing the impact of this project on various aspects of citizens' lives and its expected role performance, and the positive change it could bring to the city of Algiers, this mosque might one day outgrow comparisons with various health, educational, and other facilities, to become a true starting point for post-independence Algeria after '62, as anticipated.

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