



**LIVING NEEDS AND HOME**  
**A STUDY OF THE MECHANICS OF TRANSFERING**  
**THE INNER BEING IN TO ARCHITECTURE**

A DESSERTATION PRESENTED TO THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE  
UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA  
AS A SUBJECT OF  
M. Sc. (ARCHITECTURE)

U S P VITHANAGE

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## DECLARATION

I declare that this dissertation represents my own work, except where due acknowledgement is made, and that it has not been previously included in a thesis, dissertation or report submitted to this University or to any other institution for a degree, diploma or other qualification

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A Dissertation Presented to the Department Of Architecture,



University Of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.  
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For the Final Examination in M.Sc. (Architecture) and RIBA Part II examination.

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## Introduction

### Observation and Criticality

“House form can express many things such as the availability of materials, climate, land values, rules and regulations etc. we have here a number of closely related aspects of the dwelling as symbol of the self, as physical encoding of many values of a society. If this is true house form could express the values of people. People must inevitably be considered as members of groups, with particular values beliefs and ways of understanding the world. These values ranging from personal identification to the cosmic symbolism of the house and it would reflect beliefs hierarchy, status and aspirations.”

Paul Oliver, *Dwellings*, (1987)

At the same time values could change according to the occupation, educational, political and social background of the society. For the healthy existence in a society it is necessary to fulfil certain natural needs, for example lower ‘physical’ needs to higher needs of a psychological nature. The lower physical needs refer to biological needs and the higher needs are related to man’s aspirations, aims and goals of life etc. The aspirations, aims and goals differ from society to society.

Dwelling is one goal of life which fulfills the needs of both the physical and the psychological nature. For any man dwelling is the central place of his existence which helps in achieving his higher goals. A person’s desire for acceptance or recognition among others is a fundamental psychological need in human beings which influence the behavior of people. The degree of acceptance of a person within a group can be referred as his ‘status’ within that group. The status of a person is a product of his socio cultural context.

It has given many evidence that our psychological development is punctuated not only by meaningful emotional relationship with people but also by close affective these with number of significant physical environment. Built environment can be influenced on our action and state of mind. Both social and biological factors create tension in every day life, so that, from the point of view of physical and mental health, people need various types of emotional release.





When a person obtains his psychological needs through the environment then he feels utmost superiority of his life. It is generally believed that house is the most appropriate setting for mental relax and self expression. It is believed that home is the place where self can fall back and on to in his/her desire. All the pessimistic feelings he gets out from the society should be wiped out at his home. The home should provide the means of self expression; the freedom to express himself and behave feely at home will generate self confidence, which will lead to personal development. Our exploration in and around home allows us to develop a sense of individuals. To fulfill this need of a person the architectural language that is used in home should harmonize with the rhythm of inhabitant's life. His psychological needs through the environment he feels utmost superiors of his life style.

But most of the clients claim their dissatisfaction to architect about alienated feeling about their home subsequently. It is normal for a person in an unfamiliar situation to be depressed and frustrated. But if he continuously exposed to this emotion, even strong personality will be dissolved leaving to a critical situation in the society.

A dignified person has very strong feelings about one's self; there is little necessity for having to hurt other. Because they feel essentially strong and affective, they are able to take life in stride. But when they lost this balance, it makes them feel negative view of self and will lose their strength in dealing with life. Stresses caused by the physical environment range from minor manifestation such as irritability, crime and violence.

### **Causes**

But his person house relationships have been relatively ignored in designing a home due to following reasons.

- The architect seems turn ware that there is something more to architecture than simply providing joy and entertainment to the user. The understanding that there should be improvement to the user's state of mind through architecture is sadly lacking.

- There are many other aspects that lead modern architects to loose the touch with people for whom the design are made. Their concern is manly to meet the demands set by the machines.
- Lack of knowledge in design mechanism that could capture the inner being and transfer it in to architectural expression.

### **Intension of study**

The aim of the study is focused to identify the user based design method that is capable to transfer the inner being of the person onto the architectural expression, with architectural approach to design. Their attitudes towards design and their insight will be mainly examined.

### **Scope and limitation**

As there was limited time period, this dissertation has not considered the examples of several architects and their philosophies. Neither has not considered different works of the same architect, as this dissertation needs an in depth analysis of the selected case studies.

The meaningful relationship between man's personality and desires will be reviewed in this atmosphere. But the main focus is here to examine the architect's approach to build up this relationship. Also it will limit to examine only the psychological and spiritual inspiration regarding inner being.

Understanding of design mechanism will mainly focus on architect rapprochement and his/her insight and their impact on final product.

## Methodology

By observing 'theoretical standpoint of the matter confirmed in earlier will be discussed, regarding with the matter of how space engaged in upward personality. Then it will establish the relationship between house and psychological, spiritual developing of sense of individuality.

Then it will be established the architecture will be a powerful tool in creating this matter. It is recover the parameter that could achieve through architectural and how it applied in practical way.

Finally it will discuss how this relationship built up in practically. Under this it will examine the theoretical view of design mechanism as well as how it could attain the target of dignified person in his home. It will make out the crucial steps and method that should need to contain in this mechanism. Also it convalesce architect approach to the design, derive to concept, compulsory skill on this matter, and their special effects on the finishing product.



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