

## THE INTERFACE BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

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**0 Abstract**

The interface, i.e. between the interior spaces of a building and its surrounding external world, is essential for the syntax methodology. In the traditional “courtyard house” of north Sudan, the interface between private and public domains is rather complicated and usually adheres to some form of segment/gender culture, which is usually achieved by allowing more than one access to the dwelling.

The hypothesis of this study is that, the interface between the premises and its surrounding is a universal phenomenon yet has local dimensions, which affect and determine the spatial configuration of the interior spaces. The aim of this paper is to find the correct synthetic interpretation for such local dimensions.

Moreover, space syntax methodology has been accused of reflecting Western views, and consequently new algorithms have been developed to overcome the bias. In this study, syntax analysis is applied to traditional Sudanese dwellings, as examples of non-western dwellings. These samples represent both nuclear and extended family’s dwellings.

*Keywords: Space Syntax, The Muslim courtyard house, Sudan, Public and Private Domain, Entrances.*

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