Recycled Products in the Realm of Furniture and Interior Design in Kuwait

Haya Ahmed Alqandi (Main Author)
Associate Professor of Interior Design Department, Faculty of Basic Education, The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Kuwait

Diana Mohamed Kamel Yousef (Co-Author)
Professor of Residential Interior Design, Faculty of Applied Arts, Helwan University, Egypt.

Abstract:
The success of furniture and interior design depends on important elements of shape, function and durability. With the emergence of environmental problems and the pressing need to adapt materials to climate change, a new field of design dealing with recyclable products has developed. This research deals with the level of success of recycled products in the realm of furniture and interior design in Kuwait. The study focuses on measuring the public’s awareness and practice of recycling in Kuwait, then moves on to analyze whether recycled designs have succeeded to find a place within the lifestyle of Kuwaiti society, taking into account both form and function necessities for achieving a good design. In this regard, the main research question is “To what extent have recycled products in the realm of furniture and interior design managed to succeed in Kuwait?” Findings regarding Kuwaiti society and recycling show several results: most members of the community stated that they had a high knowledge of environmental issues yet seldom actually practiced recycling; community members are against a stronger legal framework for environmental protection; higher education assists with knowledge of environmental issues but not necessarily better recycling practice. The findings from the experiences of recycled designs display that the consideration to the function aspect of the design was not strong. In this regard, the sector is developing with the aim of decoration only and not the essential target of a better environment. The research ends with recommendations to policy-makers and designers on developing recyclable designs that suit the society in Kuwait (in terms of form) and serve the function of ameliorating environmental threats.

Keywords:
Waste Separation,
Recycling,
Public’s Awareness,
Form,
Function.

Paper received 25th May 2018, Accepted 26th June 2018, Published 1st of July 2018

1.