INCREMENTAL HOUSING IN THE CITY OF ALEPPO - SYRIA

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Starting from the 70s, in the last century the city of Aleppo grew dramatically till the population reached 2.5 million. More than 40% of the population is living in informal settlements, about 1 million people.

Studies show that there are 22 informal settlements surrounding the city on the south, east and north.

The city grew dramatically because of migration from surrounding rural areas and other cities. The housing demand grew more than five times but land availability in the real estate market was limited.

Because city planning could not keep up with the rapid rise in population, the solutions came through the following two ways:
- Illegal vertical expansion of existing buildings in some areas within the city planning zones.
- The division of agricultural land surrounding the city with illegal construction.

As a result during the past thirty years, 22 ‘irregularities’ around the city appeared, often called the ‘Ring of Poverty.’

Studies show that “the informal settlements are currently growing at some 4.0% per year. That represents 48,000 people per year or 8,000 households per year - requiring some 150 new dwellings per week in informal settlements.”
I offer the example of the incremental housing construction is a pattern which is essentially a licensee to build the ground floor and the first in accordance with the urban of the city, and because of the increasing demand for houses on the one hand and the lack of plots of the organization due to a lack of urban planning of the city and not keep pace with rapid population growth on the other hand, people started building floor-by-floor vertically.

![Image of incremental housing construction]

This example is located in the zonal organization in the city. Vertical expansion was due to the lack of land for construction.

As for building materials has been built on the ground floor and the first stone as it is a systematic and licensed. The other floors were built with bricks and concrete in violation of the standards and specifications of building, as well as contrary to the rules of safety and security.

There are also other variants to this model.