Background of the project

Undesirable Outdoor classroom: facts
Manmade causes of outdoor schooling:
Poor construction
Inadequate funding
Lack of space
Illicit usage of school’s properties
Natural:
Land erosion
Flooding

Due to the mentioned facts, students and teachers are being compelled to run the class room activities without any proper shelter exposed to harsh conditions like sun, rain, storm, dust, humidity, glare and insects.

Built transient structure tries to search an answer to inhabit all important classrooms in such context ensuring continuous education for the children.

An initiative to build transient classrooms for Singra Ramkrishnapur Girls High School, Puthia, Rajshahi, Bangladesh.

(Transient)
The Brief of the project:

S.R. Girls' High School is situated at Singra village of Valukgazi union; 8 km north-west of Puthia upazila in Rajshahi district (divisional headquarters of Rajshahi division). It would sound unbelievable, but unfortunately school does not have any standard building to accommodate classrooms. They do have a building which accommodates only teachers' room and computer-lab. Grade 9 occupies a part of veranda. Grade 10 occupies a small shelter made of R.C.C post and C.I. sheet. Grade 6-8 are compelled to conduct their classes under open sky. Harsh weather (scorching heat of sun, glare, storms (north-westerly etc.), monsoon rain, insects, dust and so on) of Rajshahi makes their education-life next to impossible. Setting an unparalleled example, without any school infrastructure of any sort, they are enduring with their solid dedication towards learning and education.

The project that Ghorami.Jon have initiated intend to accommodate three classroom inhibiting 150 students. The nature of the structure would be temporary. We have designed a shelter (24ft * 75ft) made of bamboo structure and roof would be of plastic tarpaulin sheets (PVC). As the main intention of this shelter is to protect the students from rain and storm in this rainy season; so that students could seat for examinations without any problem which is due on 11 June, 2014. When the construction of the other structures of the school would be finished, we could dismantle this temporary shelter and use the materials for other issues or we could even sell those bamboos and plastics in the market and use the money for further developments.

Aspect 1: Foster the socially responsible role of built environment professionals by stimulating social modes of practice before speculative economic profitability;

This project was initiated from following a news published on daily newspaper. Ghorami.Jon a small architectural firm strongly believes in social responsibility over any other interests. So the architects took prompt decision to visit the school site to know about the whole situation. After prolific discussion with the school authority and managing committee; everyone agreed on creating a temporary shelter before monsoon had started to ensure due exam activity of the school. Ghorami.Jon also arranged donation for constructing the school. Certainly, Ghorami.Jon created a precedents through initiation and offering its services without any remuneration. Certainly it was a humble gesture to exercise a socially responsible role as an architect. Architects did not get any remuneration rather got an unparalleled opportunity to pay homage towards the society.

An initiative to build transient classrooms for Singra Ramkrishnapur Girls High School Puthia, Rajshahi, Bangladesh (Transient)
Aspect 2: Facilitate the use of appropriate technologies, materials and labor adequate to local values, to the cultural specificity and responsive to the natural environment;

Proposed design scheme has tried to exploit the local building technology that decorator people use to construct make-shift structures which accommodate temporary human congregation using locally available bamboo as the main material which is largely culturally and natural environment responsive. Plastic tarpaulin offers light roofing options protects from rain and sun. This open tent like structure ensures plenty of air to have a perfect comfort zone in hot-humid climate.
Active participation of teachers', local workers' and all

Aspect 3: Support participatory, democratic, multicultural and interdisciplinary processes and approaches in strengthening community solidarity as a factor of rural and urban social development;

Architecture itself is a complex process. It requires knowledge and expertise from many professionals from different fields. Equal and democratic participation of each person related to the project is vital. It allows to have full package of expertise to have an effective interdisciplinary process. Ghorami.Jon also believes in this approach and practice it.

In this particular small initiative, Ghorami.Jon being co coordinator ensured active participation of school teachers as client, local bamboo cultivators as main material supplier, decorator workers as main builders, donors as facilitators.

Such synchronized effort allowed to build a resilient, sustainable school transient structure within 2 days. Moreover promoting education is the ultimate investment in the development process. Such inclusive project approach would definitely inspire positive development in similar context.

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