

**EVALUATING ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FOR  
THE DISABLED STUDENTS IN LIBYAN HIGH  
SCHOOL**

**A THESIS SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE  
SCHOOL OF APPLIED SCIENCES  
OF  
NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY**

**By**

**MILAD E. MOHAMED EDLEIM**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for  
the Degree of Master of Science  
in  
Architecture**

**NICOSIA, 2019**

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**Milad E. Mohamed EDLEIM: EVALUATING ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FOR  
THE DISABLED STUDENTS IN LIBYAN HIGH SCHOOL**

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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to my supervisor Assist. Prof. Dr. Kozan Uzunoglu for his superb guidance and encouragement throughout the course of this thesis and also the staffs of Architects department, Near East University.

I also want to acknowledge the Educational Board system, Libya for their approval of the surver. I express my gratitude to all the staff of the schools where the survey was carried out.

I send my love to my wife and children in Libya for their strong support and patience towards the writing of this thesis.

Lastly I want to thank my friend Ibrahim Omoyayi for his translation of some terms and ideas to English during the course of this thesis.

## **ABSTRACT**

The thesis describes the situation of the disabled Libyan students in terms of architectural design plan and its implementation. Due to the ignored architectural design of school building with considerable consideration for the disabled students, the research based its focuses on high school buildings in Libya with hope of understanding the rooted problem of the ignored consideration of architecture design in the construction of school buildings in Libya. To comprehensively achieve this, survey was carried out by selecting ten random government owned schools in Libya for the purpose of research.

The cooperation of the respondent's result gave an insight to the basic architectural needs of the Libyan students through interviewing, and questionnaire analysis. Furthermore, the thesis explains architectural plans, ideas and examples of implementation of several architectural design for the disable students worldwide which could be an adoptable system for the Libyan high school architecture plan. The author hope the government of Libya, Education Board would adopt the standardize architecture plan for the betterment of the Libya schools.

**Keywords:** Libyan high schools; high school survey; design evaluation; disabled standards; evaluation of standards

## ÖZET

Tez, Libya'daki lise binalarını engelli öğrencilerin mekansal kullanımı açısından, mimari tasarım planlarını ve uygulamalarını standartlara uygunluğunu ele alarak incelemektedir. Çalışma'da, engelli öğrenciler için dikkate değer bir şekilde göz ardı edilen okul binalarının mimari tasarımlarındaki sorunları tesbit etme, anlama ve öneri geliştirme amacıyla Libya'daki lise binalarına odaklanmıştır. Literatür taramasıyla elde edilen kriterlerle format elde edilmiş ve Libya'da devlete ait on adet lise binası kapsamlı bir şekilde özürllüler açısından incelenmiştir.

Libyalı liselerde okuyan engelli öğrencilerin temel mimari ihtiyaçları, görüşme ve anket yoluyla tesbit edilmeye çalışılmıştır. Tez'de aynı zamanda, Libya'daki liselerde de uygulanabilecek, dünya'nın çeşitli yerlerinde özürllü kullanımına uygun olarak geliştirilen başarılı mimari çözümler ve fikirler örneklerle anlatılmıştır. Sonuç bölümünde ise, Libya devletinin eğitim yapılarının özürllü kullanımı açısından dünya standartlarına taşınabilmesi için analizler ve öneriler yapılmıştır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Libya'da lise yapıları; liselerde mimari analiz; tasarım değerlendirme; engelli standartları; standartların değerlendirilmesi

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

UNICEF :	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
NGO :	Non-Governmental Organization
CRPD :	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
ADHD :	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
WHO :	World Health Organization
EPSEN :	Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs
ADA :	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADAAG :	Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines
PWD :	Person with Disability
ANSI :	American National Standards Institute
SCI :	Spinal Cord Injury



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENTS</b> .....	i
<b>ABSTRACT</b> .....	ii
<b>ÖZET</b> .....	iii
<b>ABBREVIATIONS</b> .....	iv
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> .....	v
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b> .....	vii
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b> .....	viii
<b>CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION</b> .....	1
1.1 Thesis Problem .....	2
1.2 Aims and Objectives of the Study .....	2
1.3 Limitation of Research .....	3
1.4 Methodology of the Study .....	3
<b>CHAPTER 2: BACKGROUND</b> .....	5
2.1 Disability .....	5
2.2 Types of Disability .....	6
2.3 Policies on Disability .....	8
2.4 Equal Status Legislation for the Disabled .....	8
2.5 Libyan Education for Disabled .....	9
2.6 Accessibility Design in School Buildings .....	11
2.7 Maintaining Architectural Accessibility .....	13
2.8 Standard Dimensions of Spaces for Buildings .....	18
2.9 Importance of Accessibility in Building .....	26
2.10 Management Responsibilities of Architectural Design .....	27
2.11 Architectural Design Awareness .....	27
2.12 Other Relevant Studies .....	28

### **CHAPTER 3: ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FOR THE DISABLED**

<b>STUDENTS .....</b>	<b>33</b>
3.1 Architectural Design of Accessible Route .....	33
3.2 Architectural Design of School Entrance .....	37
3.3 Architectural Design of School Toilet .....	41
3.4 Other Architectural Design of School Building .....	45
3.4.1 Architectural design of classroom .....	46
3.4.2 Architectural design of parks and play ground.....	47
3.4.3 Signs and posters .....	48
3.4.4 Architectural design of drinking fountains .....	49

### **CHAPTER 4: EVALUATING ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FOR THE DISABLED STUDENTS IN LIBYAN HIGH SCHOOL.....**

4.1 Survey Methods.....	50
4.2 Survey Response .....	52
4.3 Analysis of Research .....	55

### **CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....**

<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>70</b>
-------------------------	-----------

<b>APENDICES .....</b>	<b>79</b>
------------------------	-----------

<b>APPENDIX 1 .....</b>	<b>80</b>
-------------------------	-----------

## LIST OF TABLE

<b>Table 2.1:</b> National disability survey 2006 vol 1. (national survey, 2006) .....	5
<b>Table 2.2:</b> Standard size area for classroom (NUT, 2016) .....	19
<b>Table 2.3:</b> Basic requirements of a wheelchair design .....	24
<b>Table 2.4:</b> Standard measurement of stairs .....	25
<b>Table 2.5:</b> Measurements of elevator.....	25
<b>Table 3.1:</b> Standard dimension requirement for disabled toilet, in in inches (US Access's Board, 2008) .....	43
<b>Table 4.1:</b> Analysis of the study .....	56
<b>Table 4.2:</b> Comparison of space dimensions of Libyan disabled students .....	66
<b>Table 4.3:</b> Recommended positions of elevators for future development .....	67

## LIST OF FIGURE

<b>Figure 1.1:</b> Evaluation form for the building programs of high schools in Libya .....	3
<b>Figure 1.2:</b> Thesis structure .....	4
<b>Figure 2.1:</b> Libyan students in classroom .....	9
<b>Figure 2.2:</b> Disabled students in Libya .....	10
<b>Figure 2.3:</b> School building Environment in Libya .....	11
<b>Figure 2.4:</b> Disabled student in the classroom .....	12
<b>Figure 2.5:</b> Architecture design for accessing surrounding building .....	13
<b>Figure 2.6:</b> Accessible school building ramp .....	14
<b>Figure 2.7:</b> Lifts and elevator options in high school building .....	15
<b>Figure 2.8:</b> Signs and posters in school building.....	16
<b>Figure 2.9:</b> Teachers and disabled students.....	17
<b>Figure 2.10:</b> Wheel chair entrance requirements .....	20
<b>Figure 2.11:</b> Accessibility of a wheel chair user .....	21
<b>Figure 2.12:</b> Standard toilet dimension .....	23
<b>Figure 2.13:</b> Minimum dimension for ramp construction .....	24
<b>Figure 2.14:</b> The architect and the accessible city .....	26
<b>Figure 3.1:</b> High school entrance for the disabled .....	35
<b>Figure 3.2:</b> Features of accessible route for class room .....	36
<b>Figure 3.3:</b> Wide entrance architectural design.....	37
<b>Figure 3.4:</b> Automated entrance system .....	38
<b>Figure 3.5:</b> Architectural dimension of school Entrance .....	39
<b>Figure 3.6:</b> School entrance corridor plan .....	40
<b>Figure 3.7:</b> Corridor of school building .....	41
<b>Figure 3.8:</b> Toilet facility for the disabled .....	42
<b>Figure 3.9:</b> Toilet architectural plan .....	44
<b>Figure 3.10:</b> Architectural dimensions .....	46
<b>Figure 3.11:</b> Classroom design for the disabled students .....	47

<b>Figure 3.12:</b> Outside school environmental plan .....	48
<b>Figure 3.13:</b> Signs and posters for the disabled .....	48
<b>Figure 3.14:</b> Drinking fountains .....	49
<b>Figure 4.1 :</b> Libya on map .....	50
<b>Figure 4.2 :</b> Distribution of the disabled Libyan high school students in percentages ...	53
<b>Figure 4.3:</b> The number of “special” teacher in the Libyan high schools .....	54

## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The thesis significantly explains the disabled architectural situation in Libya. Following the identification of the ignored architectural situation of the disabled in Libya, the research thesis promotes innovative practices using advance architectural design as a case study. Although the thesis focuses mainly on high school buildings, however the awareness and design for the disabled adopted in this thesis can be implemented for preschool, high school and university. In previous studies, it was emphasized by most of researcher that, the regulations for the disabled persons are quite not given some proper considerations from the environmental economic and social point of views such as health facilities, institutional learning, ministries and other sensitive buildings used for human wellbeing (Rivono, 2004; Gleeson B, 1997). The fundamental reason on this exclusion largely depends on the inadequately designed cities and proper application and implementations for laws and regulation imposed to the countries. This is indirectly tarnishing the socio-economic impacts and opportunities of disabled peoples (MCclain and Todd, 1993; Useh et al., 2001). In addition, according UN convention on human right with disability globally, it forecasted that almost about six hundred and fifty million peoples are leaving with one or more type of disabilities and as such they can be considered as world's largest minority. Among the disabled population it is estimated that, around eighty percent were from the developing countries (Imrie, R, 2009). This implies that, out of almost 6.3 million people in Libya the internal disabled people in occupied almost 8% of the total population (UNICEF, 2016; Cusick and Sahly, 2018). Since the disabled peoples are occupying the larger percentage internationally, therefore it is necessary to accommodate and create the accessibility regulation and laws in all the sectors we have. For example, in all the aspect of engineering and architecture related disciplines such construction and buildings there is no contradiction in explaining the meaning of word building, as such building refers to as any structure made by human being which is aim for supporting and sheltering the sustainability of the occupant or inhabitant. Building in it is general context was designed to serve and support the life both in term of social, economic and environment point of views. It also includes privacies, space analysis and accessibilities.

## **1.1 Thesis Problem**

In this thesis, the research problem is to find out if high schools in Libya are designed according to evaluation criteria of disabled standards.

Disabled are the most helpless and weak in the society when it comes to regulations and accessibility in the public buildings, therefore it should be made accessible for them, especially by considering the reason that, human being naturally needs shelter, comfort, safety and laws and orders (Jenks, M 2007). For physically disabled peoples, discrimination and accessibility to build environment becomes the major concern which hinder their movement and social lives, most importantly during the urban and architectural planning and design. For any building according to the standard should provide accessibility and provide all the regulations for disabled peoples accordingly. However, regardless of any financial capabilities and physically abilities, the public building should provide with all the shelters to all the users (Harnik, 2003). This is due to the fact that, the regulations in term of accessibilities provides maximum freedom and comfortable ease the general users. The group of peoples or individual may intent to carry out different assignment in the building both urban and rural areas. Nowadays, regulations set on pubic building are increased and promoted due the attentions drawn by many NGOs and research papers, but still long way to go and it generally attained below the international requirement (Useh et al., 2001).

## **1.2 Aims and Objectives of the Study**

The study aims to investigate the possibility of improving safe architectural design for the disabled in Libya. Although the research mainly focuses on the high school students in Libya, the discussion in the thesis can however be implemented for any schools in Libya and beyond.

The objectives of the study are;

- To review the previous literature on the human right regulations for disabled people
- To investigate how, and to what extent the disabilities regulations are in practice at school buildings in Libya.
- To point out the regulations and legal duties on government for accessibility of the disabled in school building environment.

- To illustrate architectural disabled standards suitable for the adoption of high school in Libya.

## 1.4 Limitation of Research

The research is limited with the analysis of space accessibility of disabled students in selected ten government high schools of Libya.

### 1.3 Methodology of the Research

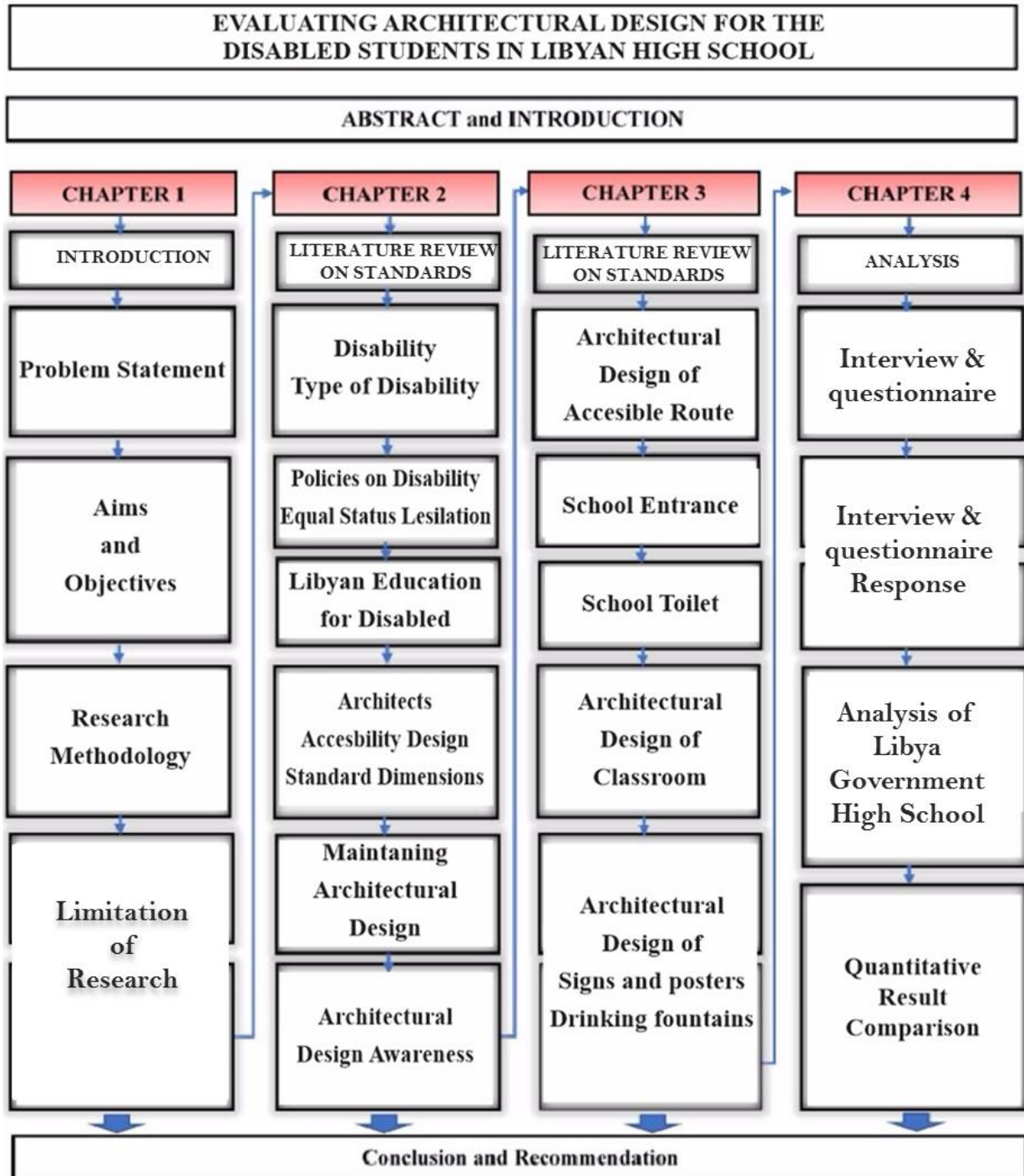
In order to reach the aims and objectives of the thesis, four steps has been followed. Firstly, comprehensive literature research had been done on the required space standards for the disabled students in high schools. Secondly, the interview with school staff and questionnaire with some students in the school had been carried out. Thirdly, physical space analysis of ten high government schools in Libya had been done by using an evaluation form which is developed to examine the building programs of high schools considering requirements for disabled students (see Figure 1.1.Evaluation form for the building programs of high schools in Libya considering disabled students). Fourthly, all the analytic findings of these schools are compared and discussed.

SCHOOL Name Address of School: Location (Longitude & Latitude)			
SATELLITE VIEW	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS
SPACE DIMENSIONS		Summary of findings	
	AVAILABILITY	DIMENSIONS	
Classroom			
Corridor			
Toilet			
Ramp			
Stairs			
Elevator			
Signage			
Door			
		BUILDING PROGRAM	TOTAL NO.
			AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )

**Figure 1.1:** Evaluation form for the building programs of high schools in Libya



The General structure of the thesis is expressed in Figure 1.2.



**Figure 1.2:** Thesis Structure

## CHAPTER 2

### BACKGROUND

#### 2.0 Introduction

In this chapter, an extensive review of existing literatures related to this research with the aim of presenting the work done as well as presenting the gaps available for further studies are presented. The 2006 census data reported that there are about 5% of children which are of school age (4 – 18) falling in the high school category is disabled in Libya

**Table 2.1:** National Survey of Disability, 2006 vol 1. (National survey, 2006)

Principal Disability	No's of Children
Moderate to profound sight difficulty (while wearing glasses)	2,700
Moderate to profound hearing difficulty	3,300
Mobility or dexterity difficulty	8,100
Diagnosed intellectual disability	21,400
Mental health disability	9,900

#### 2.1 Disability

Disability explain a deformity in the social sciences, presented and explained a picture of human body, with head and face removed, on a wheelchair, at the end of stairs, that not a minimum of 5 concepts of disability could be seen to reflect. Firstly, functional definition of disability as the common knowledge of disability, is defined as the person who uses wheelchair and cannot walk up the stairs. Secondly, from an environmental definition, disability is also conceived as the person using wheelchair cannot get up the stairs i.e. as a result of the relationship between the person with disability and the environment they are living in. Thirdly, disability can be defined as the social barrier that may obstruct disabled persons from taking part in social activities for instance; even without the wheelchair, the stairs will be a cause for the disability for these persons (Grönvik, 2007). Another definition which is stated to as the social model of disability which can be seen as the physically disabled persons who have a few definitions of

administrative disability or have the knowledge of mobility aid and gain access to it even if the person is on a wheelchair (Zola, 1993). Grönvik defined disability as whether the administrative system or people see the person as disabled or the person sees himself/herself as disabled. These five probable concepts are not the end of the complexity of what disability means (Grönvik, 2007). Various personality signs, e.g. nationality, gender, class, sexual orientation and race connected to disability means that irrespective how disability is defined, the understandings of disability will vary among people. Therefore, the laws and policies have to be subtle with regards to these familiarities as subjected by social, complex, environments and interconnecting particular variables. The difficulty in understanding disability forces to explain why the interest in disability in particular cases, mainly paying attention to the person's structure, social movements, organizational systems, built environment or their combination (Bruce, 2014).

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), appears to approve the last definition inside its international rights bodies and many national organizations all over the world as well as South Africa. The focus on only the individual as the functional definitions which change to the focus on the physically disabled persons and their surroundings as the environmental definitions, has been acknowledged (United Nations, 2006).

## **2.2 Types of Disability**

Disabled or deformities can be named as the inability of the individual to do his or her everyday exercises. Different kinds of disabilities incorporate different physical and psychological problems that can obstruct or decrease a person's capacity to do his everyday exercises. Disability can be separated into various classes as Nazarov and Lee (2012) say;.

### **Mobility and physical impairments**

Individuals with different physical disabilities are classified here:

- Lower arm/leg(s) disability
- Upper arm/leg(s) disability
- Disability in various organs of the body
- Manual dexterity

Movement disability can either be by birth or developed with issues relating to age. There could likewise be the impact of an ailment. Individuals with a partial bone damage also belong to the class of handicap.

**Spinal cord disability:** While total damage brings about a complete non-functional of the sensual organs. At times, spinal cord handicap can be a birth deformity. This sort of damage happens mostly because of extreme mischances. Spinal cord injury (SCI) can once in a while prompt long lasting inability. The damage can be either total or partial. In partial damage, the messages passed on by the spinal cord isn't totally lost.

**Head injuries - brain disability:** Brain injury lead to cerebrum damage. This damage can be slight, moderate or extreme. The two types of brain damage are further described. Traumatic injury of the brain results from behavior disorder and emotional de-function while, Acquired Brain Injury certainly occurs after birth. The reasons for such instances of damage are numerous and are primarily as a result of outer powers connected to the body parts .

**Vision disability;** There are a huge number of individuals that experience the minor to different disabilities. These injuries can likewise result into some major sicknesses like visual deficiency and visual injury. A portion of the normal vision weakness incorporates damages to the eye causing its dryness.

**Hearing disability;** The term “Deaf” is referred to people with hearing problems. It comprises of people that cannot hear totally or partly. Hearing problem can be by birth or caused biologically e.g. meningitis (which can destroy the hearing nerve). Partially deaf people can improve their use by the hearing of hearing aids.

**Learning inability;** These belong to the category of neurologically-rooted problems which directly or indirectly affects the learning ability of students. Such examples include; students with high level anxiety, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) students, student incapable of processing information, dyslexia students and many more.

## **2.3 Policies on Disability**

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), indiscrimination against all students must be made available, they should have equal chances, equal opportunity in learning, treatment and other school requirement. This protection also extends to the teachers with physically disabilities (United Nations convention, 2006). The building regulation that was published by the Environmental Department applies widely to all new buildings and building materials. Architects who design, construct building plans are responsible for the design of ease of accessibility in their architectural design. Additional inclusions to design most especially for the disabled is the usage of signs such as parking signs, bathroom signs, communication aids in buildings and furthermore is the development of car parking for the disabled.

## **2.4 Equal Status Legislation for the Disabled**

The Libyan law of equal status explains the employment rights of staff, which further extends in the next section to the equality right 1988-2002 of the admission of students which enforces the school board not to discriminate in the admission of students to the school. This particular act disallows the inconsiderate discrimination of disability all across area. The law directly applies to both the administration, the teachers, the engineers and further extends to the architects that would be responsible for the construction of the building. This law prohibits the following; By Libyan law, admission of the disabled should not be discriminated There should be easy access for all courses school buildings most put in consideration of the disabled. Sanctions or expulsion of students should never be based on the “disability” of the student.

The law further supports either “special” or private accommodation if required for the disabled. Meaning the Libyan high school must provide reasonable architectural design that suits and benefits the disabled by law. Otherwise there is a crucial penalty fine to this.

This law furthers extends to teachers of the Libyan high schools that are also disabled or teachers of the Libyan high school who understands the special needs to the disabled students (such as teachers who understands sign language, teachers who have studied and understand how to cope with the disabled students.



**Figure 2.1:** Libyan Students in Classroom (UNICEF, 2006)

## **2.5 Libyan Education for the Disabled**

The law that caters for the “special” needs of the disabled is known as EPSN (Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act). This law confirms a child with disabled needs should be in the same class room with the non-disabled child. It further extends to explain that unless this would hinder the disabled students education, or its not in the best interest of the effectiveness of the teaching, otherwise the design of the school building most especially the architectural design, choice of building material (such as acoustic or color contrasting materials) should be considered in the construction of high school buildings that would accommodate both the disabled and the non-disabled students in Libya.



**Figure 2.2:** Disabled students in Libya (UNICEF, 2006)

In accordance with the Law of Libya, the 2005 Disability Act enforces all external companies to ensure the construction of all buildings, such as school building must be accessible to the disabled. However, the Libyan law permits the construction of “special” high schools mainly for the disabled students of Libya. However, the construction of this type of building does not in any way interfere with the previous law that allow the study of all students irrespective of their physically needs to be able to study in the same class room or environment. The Law moreover enforces architectural design that fits students of all category. The basic requirements for the construction of Libyan school buildings in accordance to the law is summarized: The High schools’ buildings must comply with all required law that supports the construction of building system that suits all students of the Libyan high school in comply with the 2015 building regulations. There statutory requirement of all students of the school buildings must be ensured by engineers, architects and the management at large. All building routs, entrance, class rooms toilets must be accessible by all students most especially the disabled students. Teaching communication must be ensured for all students for examples hearing aids or optical aids may be



supplied for the disabled students according to the law to ensure all students possess equal chance in the Libyan high school. According to The National Disability Authority's statutory 'Code of Practice on Accessibility of Public Services and Information provided by Public Bodies' all private and public stakeholders must meet the stated standard of construction building in Libya. However, most high school in Libya does not meet the highly required standard of building construction of high school for the disabled students.



**Figure 2.3:** School building environment in Libya (UNICEF, 2006)

## **2.6 Accessibility Design in School Buildings**

Developers, architects, designers and head of high school must be accountable for the type of buildings construction they provide. They are held responsible to ensure that the built environment is accessible to everyone wherever it is practical to do so. This includes anyone who is disabled most importantly in the high school environment, or other impairment, whether permanent or temporary, these includes:



- The use of wheelchair, or any type of walking challenge.
- People with infant children with or without pushchairs
- High school students with sight or hearing difficulties.
- Elderly teachers in the high school environment.
- Or student who may have co-ordination or respiratory related problems.

Whereas previous versions of the regulations focused on the high school students needs for the complete building for the disabled students in Libya, the current edition promotes an attempt to include the needs all the students in total (i.e. disabled or not), this law states: There should be full access to and use of school buildings, library and other important stations in the school environment (see figure 2.5). The architectural design for the Libyan high schools must allow a gain in access to all school environment. Easy access to the extensions of such has accessible lift and ramp construction must be ensured by the architectural design to facilitate easy movement in and around the high school environment.

- Sanitary conveniences for all school environments must be ensured.
- Visitable dwellings for parent of the disabled must be put into consideration.
- For students on wheelchair user dwellings, all construction buildings must be constructed in accordance to the Libya Building Construction Law act 2015 as stated earlier.



**Figure 2.4:** Libyan Students outside school building (<https://www.google.com/search? -img.h5moWv4bKR4#imgsrc=-kq0ArGbTsOwEM:>)



**Figure 2.5:** Architecture design for accessing surrounding building (Michel Arch, 2018)

## **2.7 Maintaining Architectural Accessibility in School Buildings**

The various methods of maintaining the architectural designs for high school buildings in Libya can be explained as follows;

1. Ensure all disability parking spot are available and accessible for parent, students and visitors.
2. Make sure all signs and posters that symbolizes the “disabled” are placed where needed all around the building of the school.

3. The outside color and lightening condition should be moderate in advantage for the optically challenged high school students.
4. The main entrance should be design to all easy access for all students of the school (disabled and non), keep note that a minimum of one (1) entrance should be accessible should incase there is issue with the main entrance or it seems it is not accessible.

**Ramps and steps:** In any public service areas most especially a school building, there should slopes that are steeper than 1:20, also, steps and ramps should also be made readily available, architects must ensure the correct design of this (Tiana M, 2013)



**Figure 2.6:** Accessible School Building Ramp (<https://www.google.com/#imgrc=-kq0ArGbTsOwEM:>)

**Steps and lifts:** For school buildings, steps within a floor in a building should be avoided. Steps should only be designed where it is absolutely necessary, provide a ramp or platform lift as appropriate for the disabled students of the high school (Danso, 2011). If possible, the lift system should be designed for the high school, however the cost implication must be considered thereby

not making the school too expensive for the people. If provided, the maintenance of such structure such as lift must be highly ensured.



**Figure 2.7:** Lifts and Elevator options in high school building  
(<https://www.google.com/searchiewagrepr3>)

**Corridors and doors:** The surrounding corridor in the high school environment and doors must ensure the following;

1. There shouldn't be any obstruction in the school building corridors and routes for the physically sight impaired high school students in school

2. All doors should be open all times during school hour if possible, for easy access of the disabled students
3. Wide Doors may be provided for easier access.

**Posters and signs for the disabled students;** Public buildings most especially a school environment should possess signs to let the disabled students understand where they need to go and how they can easily access the surrounding (Ariffin, 2016). The architects designing should bear in mind the details of the required signs;

1. Architects should design the school building in the easiest way for the disabled.
2. Architects should keep in mind of the bold signs and posters that would allow parent, teacher, students and the public at large of the condition of the school environment as relating to the disabled students.
3. Appropriate diagram, picture to deceive intended warning or signs should be placed in areas for all to see.
4. Signs and posters should not be designed to pose an obstruction for the disabled



**Figure 2.8:** Signs and Posters in School building

(<https://www.slideshare.com/search64..h5moWv4bKR4#imgrc=-kq0ArGbTsOwEM:>)

High School Receptions Architectural Design; The architectural design for Libyan high school must be ensured to be designed in such a way that allows the invitation and encouragement of the disabled students (Ariffin, 2016).



**High school class room architectural Design;** The architectural design for the classroom must ensure to consider the benefits of the disabled students in the school (Ariffin, 2016). The following must be put into consideration during the architectural design (see Figure 2.9).

1. Visual Information must be readable by all students
2. Designs must ensure the perfect hearing off all high school students in the school.
3. All complicated language or jargon should be understood by the teacher.



**Figure 2.9:** Teachers encouraging disabled student (<https://www.slideshare.com/oq=libyan+kq0ArGbTsOwEM:>)

**Architectural design of toilets:** Most toilet rooms architecture designs already allow the disability option, however to improve on this, the architectural design may allow the following;

- Alarm system may be provided in the toilet of the school for emergency cases solely for the “special” students. When the alarm system is installed, ensure that there is a member of staff around to assist the disabled students in case of emergency.

- Ensure that the toilet is clean all the time for the benefits of all students irrespective of their challenges.
- Sanitary bins should be provided in accessible toilets and must be placed in places where they do not obstruct wheelchair users.

**Light condition:** The light in your public buildings should be distributed evenly. There should be no large variations in lighting levels and the light should not be too bright or too dark. Avoid glossy, shiny and polished surface finishes and keep reflections, shadows, and glare to a minimum (Ariffin, 2016).

1. Use differences in colour and colour intensity to create visual contrast. That will help students with vision impairments to:
2. Distinguish between walls and floors
3. Distinguish between door backgrounds and fittings
4. Avoid hazards
5. Find their way around the building.

## **2.8 Standard Dimensions of Spaces for School Buildings**

As regarding the construction and implementation of architecture design of building, there are standard dimensions, area size defined by board of practitioners in the implementation of the design. These includes; classroom, corridor, toilet, ramp, stairs, elevator, signage, entrance.

- **Standard classroom measurement**

According to the National Union of Teachers (NUT), the standard classrooms size is given in table 2.2 with regards to the different types of classroom a high school may encounter, there are different types of class rooms with different size area.

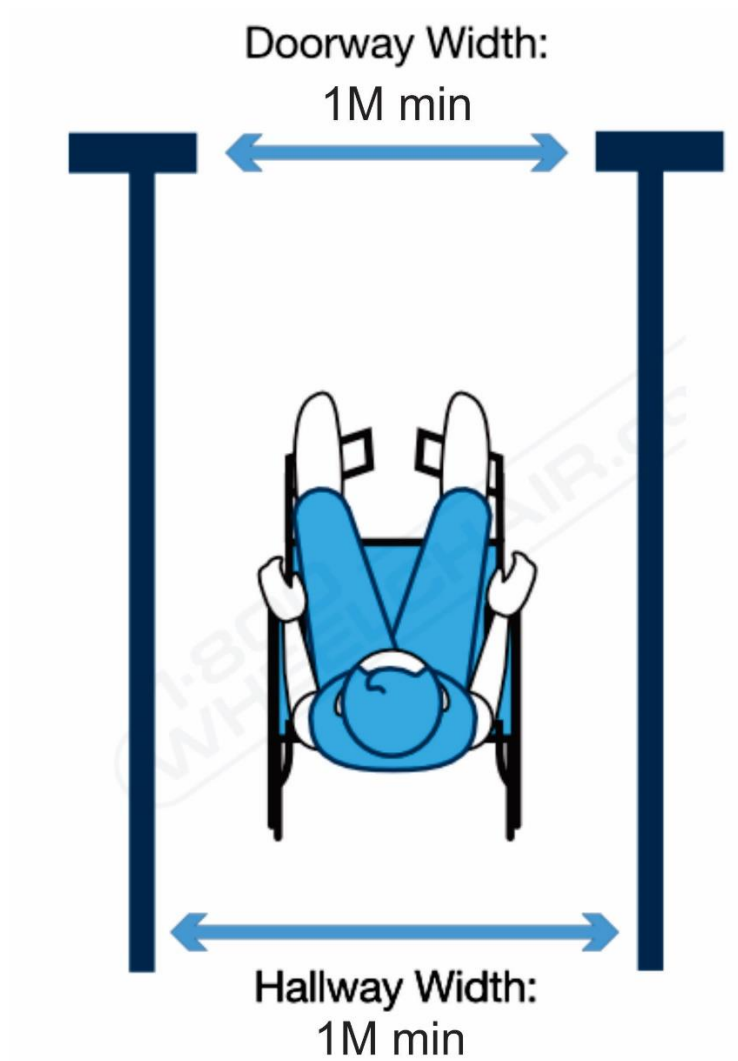
**Table 2.2:** Standard Size Area for Classroom (NUT, 2016)

Type of Classroom	Recommended Size Area (m <sup>2</sup> ) per No. of Students		
	For 20	For 25	For 30
Standard classroom	43	51	60
Science laboratory KS3/4		77	90
Sixth form science laboratory	90	105	
General art room KS3/4		77	90
Large art room (textiles or 3D)		90	105
Sixth form art room	77	90	
Textiles room	85		
Graphic products	85		
Electronics and control systems	90		
Resistant materials	112		
Resistant materials/engineering	116		
Food room	101		
Music classroom		57	67
Drama studio/music recital room		77	90

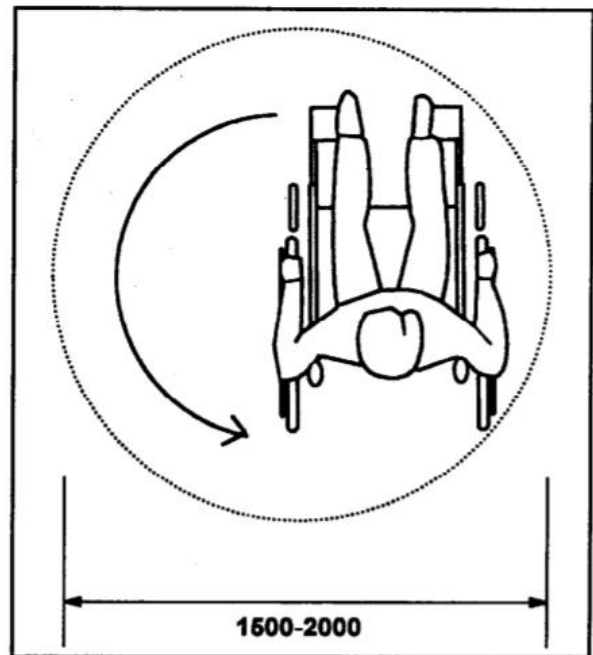
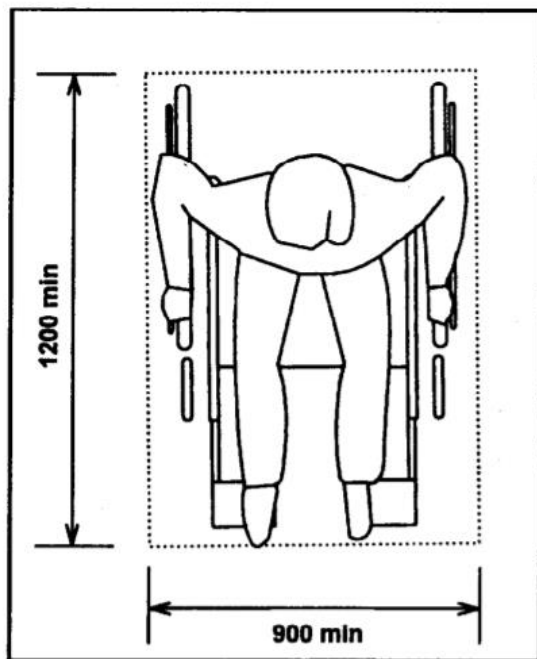
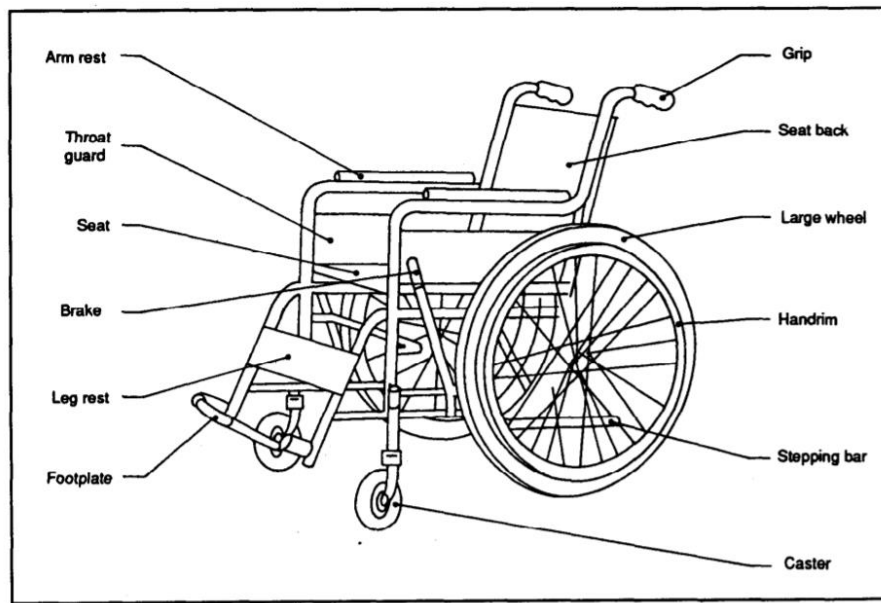
- **Standard corridor, hallway and door dimensions**

According to the architect's designers of the Life Times Homes in the UK, the movement of the disabled should be adequately enhanced and convenient to assists the disabled on the wheel chair, walking assistant or any type of mobility aid. For hallway widths, the minimum width of the walkway or corridor should be 90 cm. To allow free movement and mobility Figure 2.10 explains the required dimensions of the suitable door implementation for school as Figure 2.11 illustrates the accessibility of wheel chair.





**Figure 2.10:** Wheel chair entrance requirements (Accessed from [homedesignersuite.co](http://homedesignersuite.co))



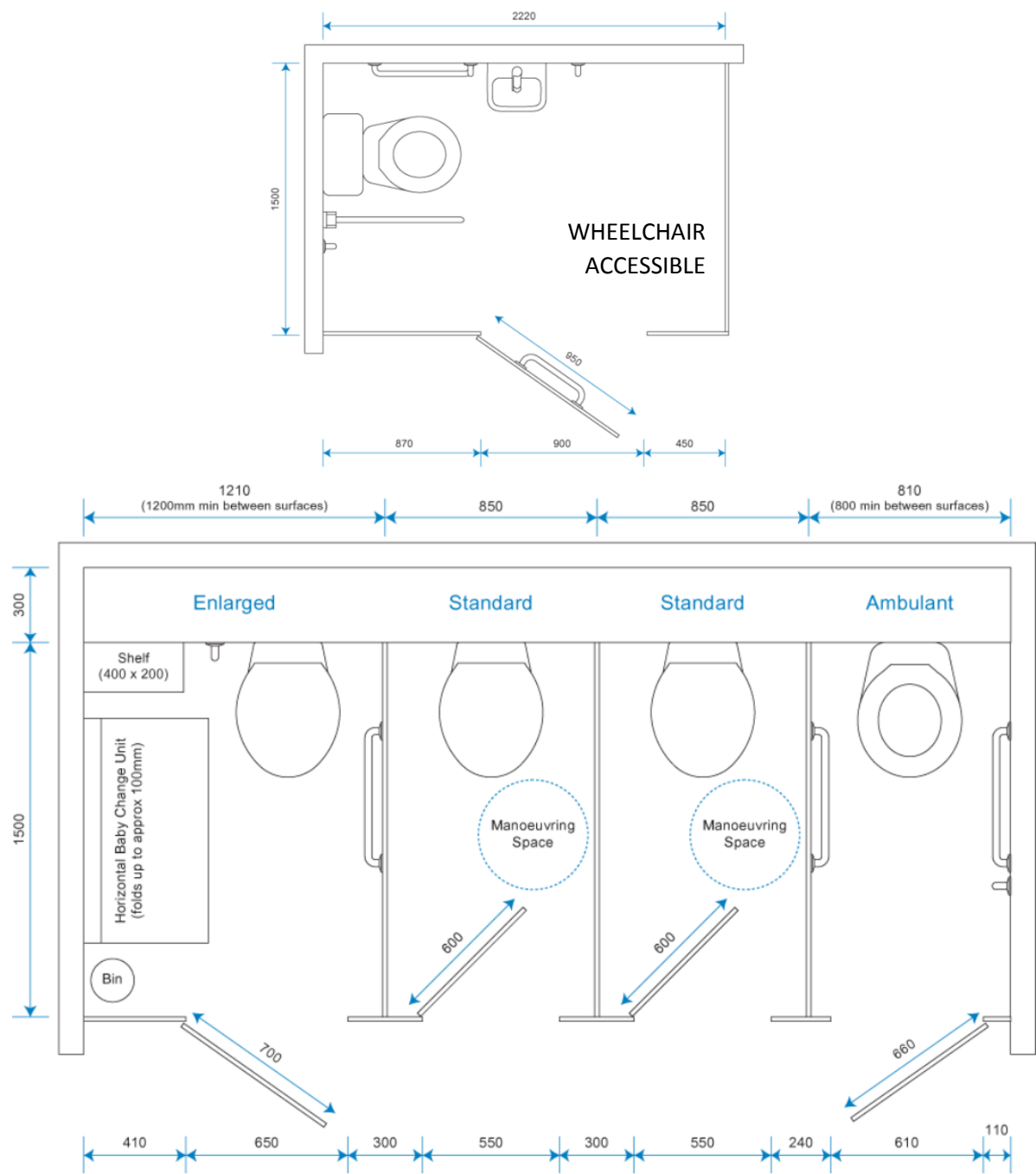
**Figure 2.11:** Standard wheel chair dimension with turning space (sizes in mm) (Verbeek P, 2010)

- **Standard toilet dimensions**

According to Wash room cubicle, 2010; The standard toilet sizes varies with the different size of the of the WC. Following the Building Regulations and Equality Law, there are four types of toilet's WC thus;

1. Enlarged WC: This ensures the provision of a larger WC in a set of more than one WCs. The chosen enlarges WC should be a min of 1200mm in width with the door opening outward.
2. Standard WC: All standard toilet must ensure a diameter of 450 mm at its minimum with emergency alarm and exist provisions.
3. Ambulant Disabled: If there would be only one WC present for public use, then it must be accessible for all students including the disabled students.
4. Wheel chair Accessible WC: Enhanced the accessibility of the disabled with length of the cubicle being 2220 mm as opposed the normal size of 2000 mm in its minimum.

Figure 2.12 shows the descriptive size and dimension requirement of the elaborated sizes and dimension.



**Figure 2.12:** Wheel chair accessible toilet dimensions (Wash Room Cubicle, 2010)

- **Standard measurements of a wheelchair ramp**

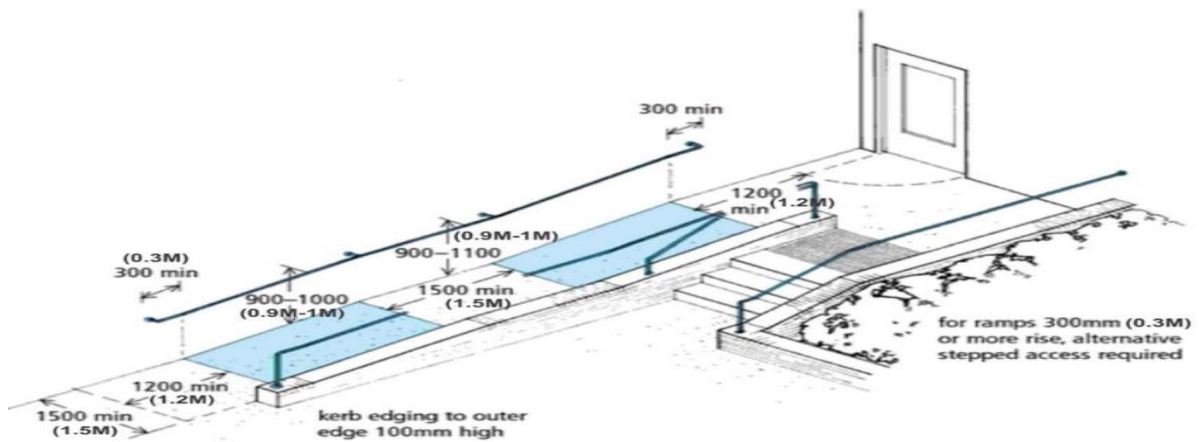
The table 2.3 shows the basic requirements of the design of a wheel chair ramp design with measurements in inches.

**Table 2.3:** Basic requirements of a wheelchair ramp design (ADA, 2010).

PROPERTY	REQUIRMENT in Meters
Maximum Slope for Hand Propelling	0.025M for rise in 0.3M length.
Slope for power chairs	0.038M rise for 0.3M length
Minimum width	0.91M
Inside rails	1.22M
Level of platform	0.13M x 0.13M
Hand rails	1:12
Stopping Distance	0.13M

- **Standard measurements of ramps**

The standard dimensions for Ramps is given considering the size and dimension of the wheel chair, Figure 2.13 shows the size and dimension of the wheel chair ramps according to mimarlarodasi.org.



**Figure 2.13:** Minimum dimension for ramp construction (ADA, 2015)

- **Measurements of stairs standard**

According to Martine Oullete (2015), the height of the steps has a direct relationship with the height of each of the stairs as seen in Table 2.4.

**Table 2.4:** Measurement of Stairs (Winance, M 2006)

DIMENSIONS		DEPT		
No. of Steps	Height	0 Landing	24 Landing	48 Landing
1	0.18M	0.3M	0.6M	1.2M
2	0.36M	0.6M	0.9M	1.5M
3	0.533M	0.9M	1.2M	1.8M
4	0.71M	1.2M	1.5M	2.1M
5	0.89M	1.5M	1.8M	2.4M
6	1.07M	1.8M	2.1M	2.7M

- **Standard measurements of elevator**

With regards to the disabled public, the American Disability Act (ADA) 2015 regulation, the table 2.5 summarizes the minimum dimensions both in millimeters and inches for the implementation of an elevator design.

**Table 2.5:** Standard size measurements of an elevator (ADA, 2015)

Door Location	Door Clear Width	Inside (Side to Side)	Inside (Back wall to Front)	Inside (Back to Inside)
Centered	1.065M	2.030M	1.295M	1.37M
Side	0.915M	1.725M	1.29M	1.37M
Any	0.915M	1.37M	2.03M	2.03M
Any	0.91M	1.52M	1.52M	1.52M

## 2.9 Importance of accessibility in building

Most of the researchers argue that disabled people are largely excluded from the spaces for work, recreation, consumption and circulation, forming the public places of cities (Rivono-Fisher, 2004). This allows a social-economic relationship between the disabled population and the others (Useh et al., 2001). In addition, the use of public hall for events, festival and others should enable the accessibility of all population. It is highly essential to address the issue of accessibility of all people (see Figure 2.14). School busses, railway stations should ensure the sign and posters to cater for the assistance of a person with child, a person with stick, a wheel chair user, an elderly person, or a mother with an infant (Harnik, 2003).



**Figure 2.14:** The Architect and the accessible city (Begon, 2015)

The prize-winning essay image in Figure 2.14 demonstrate simple the daily struggles of the disabled. It depicts what they go through day in day out trying to get around school buildings, offices, hotels etc. (Arch Daily).

## 2.10 Management Responsibilities of Architectural Design

There should be management policies and procedures which are very important in ensuring a universally accessible built environment most especially for the disabled.

Even the most accessible premises of the school building, can quickly become inaccessible if precautions are not maintained, for example, boxes are left in circulation routes, or fittings and fixtures could serve as obstruction for the disabled.

## 2.11 Architectural Design Awareness

Following the architectural plan of the design that favors the disabled high school students, there should be an awareness to this to inform the public about it. The details of how to raise awareness is further discussed:

**Provide information on accessibility:** Explaining the implemented architectural design on accessibility to staff, students, and their parents should allow the understanding of the needs of the disabled students. For example, parking spaces in school, signs a poster in school building would ensure a greater awareness for the architectural design.

**Give accessibility details on school website:** The school webpage should also carry information regarding the safety of the architectural design of the school environment for the students for easy information to the public

The fixation of accessible routes for the disabled is not enough, the continuous maintenance of the routes is also a major significance. Accessibility should be a key consideration when routine maintenance is being carried out, as it often presents an opportunity to improve the accessibility of a building. For example, when handrails are being painted, the students of the school who are disabled could understand this the colour selected should ensure good visual contrast between the handrail and the wall. For a good maintenance practice, the following should be ensured;

1. The cleaning of the path to the high school buildings.
2. All obstructions should be removed
3. All toilet and its surrounding must be clean for all usage
4. Clear and visible sign and posters must be placed in the school surrounding



## 2.12 Other Relevant Studies

Evcil, 2009 examined the obstacles encountered by wheelchair users when accessing to public structures. 26 public structures were studied in details and data were gathered from Useh, Moyo and Munyongo instruments and questionnaire from direct observations and measurements. The regulation of the instruments and the wheelchair accessibility were described using descriptive statistics. The results show that in most urbanized cities of developing countries, the wheelchair users encounter several problems to access the public environs. The public transport system was found to be the biggest structural obstacle with 25% lowest mean compliance. And entrance to buildings shows a mean compliance of 79%. Also, it was seen that when construction duration is studied there is an objective to progress the access way for the disabled (Evcil, 2009).

Useh et al., (2001) assessed 20 public places in the central business district of Harare, Zimbabwe were in order to detect the obstacles and difficulty face by wheelchair users in accessing into these buildings. The accessibility of the wheelchair to the surveyed structures was determined by descriptive statistic of simple percentages and means in regulation to the rules of the instrument. From the survey, the result shows that the elevators have the highest percentage of accessibility with 89%, parking lots with 18%, ramps with 39%, entrances with 71% and toilets accessibility is 51%. The lowest percentage of the surveyed result, that is parking lots and ramps can be due to lack of consultation of disabled persons and experts in physical ability management during the construction of the buildings. While the highest percentages of the result can be a coincident, because they may be part of the building design and construction not for the purpose of the disabled. In order to solve this accessibility problems, there should be a contact between the disabled and the several professionals related to the construction of these buildings such as the architects, physiotherapists, engineers, occupational therapists and politicians. It was concluded that this problem is a great challenge to the above-mentioned professionals and it was recommended that wheelchair access to buildings should be increased Useh et al., (2001)

In UAE, the accessibility of disabled persons into public building in Al Ain was assessed by (Rivano and Fisher, 2004). 17 buildings were selected and local telephone book was used to source the data. The survey covers 8 accessible areas which includes parking lots, ramps, entrances, toilets, phone booths, accessible routes and water fountains. 79 items were surveyed

based on ADAG (Americans with Disabilities Act Guidelines). All the surveyed buildings did not record 100% compliance. Only 73% and 13% was the maximum and minimum compliance score respectively. It would have been very difficult for a wheelchair user to if he had stopped by any of the public sites surveyed in the city of Al Ain. Results showed that, in UAE, the solutions to the problems encountered by wheelchair users have been achieved even with the absence of legislature. The study sets an example of how the modern environment grows in a non-regulated circumstance, requiring the lawmakers to protect and provide the wheelchair users access to these buildings (Rivano, 2004).

Thapar et al., (2004) carried out a comparative study on public structures access for disabled and non-disabled people. It is a study of cross-sectional pilot with survey design. A team of 4 representatives of different types of disabled persons, where 30 buildings in the Greater Boston were examined. The access was determined by the use of a task-oriented instrument to gather data, in terms of distance, percentage of activity carried out, barriers and time. Generally, activity performance was tough for the team. Nevertheless, 81% was recorded as the least task for wheelchair user compared to 100% control and the lame and blind persons records 97-98%. The time and distance to finish the activities varies a little in mean values. The lame persons, both wheelchair and non-wheelchair users, reported some encountered obstacles, the blind persons and again the wheelchair persons are the highest facilitators. The facilitators and least obstacle were recorded. The types of obstacle and facilitators differ for all the disabled person. Functional access cannot be predicted by the activity performance itself. For disabled persons, facilitators and obstacles are very hard to understand in matters concerning functional access. For developing an environmentally friendly analysis, it is important to understand the obstacles faced by different disabled persons (Thapar et al., 2004).

Yarfi et al., 2017 carried out a study on 84 public structures which includes; health facilities, sports and recreation, banks, ministries, departments and agencies, educational facilities and houses were studied in order to assess their accessibilities to wheelchair users in Kumasi metropolis according to Ghanaian Disability Law (Act 716, 2006). Entrances to washrooms, ATMs, toilets, routes, height of steps, ramp grades were analyses and calculated. 40.5% of the buildings, 52.3% of entrances and 87.4% of the routes give access to wheelchair users. And 25%

of the buildings with multi-storey, have elevators to access to the floors. The study showed that commercial buildings in Kumasi metropolis does not have access to wheelchair users. It was observed that there is a target to renovate or construct buildings with access to the disabled. However, there are no guiding principle on exactly how wheelchair users will find it easy to access these buildings (Varela et al, 2010).

Welage & Liu (2011) studied the accessibility of wheelchair in commercial buildings and the role of expert in this field was discussed. 12 studies with regards to accessibility of wheelchair in commercial buildings were chosen out of the 85 major recognized journals. The accessibility of wheelchair compliance rate in different places was summarized. Even with the application of current rules and regulations, out of the chosen literatures, none reported 100% accessibility of wheelchair. Among the services related to accessibility, entrances and parking lots has the highest and least compliance rate respectively. There is need for total assessment of new and old structures with regards to the accessibility of wheelchair. Experts in this field has a significant role in encouraging access to wheelchair users in commercial buildings likewise, helping them to fully take part in all activities in all areas.

In Ibadan, Nigeria, Hamzat & Dada (2005) examined the accessibility of wheelchair in some selected public places. 38 public buildings which include; hospitals, ministries and agencies, social and recreation centers, housing and education buildings were assessed. The ramps grade, routes width, height of step and width of doorway were measured and calculated. An abridged form of the ADAAG (Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines) was used in defining the accessibility of the above-mentioned buildings. Wheelchair accessibility recorded 45.1% for the entrances and 19.4% for the routes. Hospitals which has 66.7% has the highest accessibility, whereas, social and recreation centers are not accessible. The study showed that accessibility of wheelchair is very low in public places of Ibadan, Nigeria, which is a key parameter that can restrict the wheelchair users to take part in the community activities.

In Jackson's, (2018) paper, it was discussed that environmental experts must have a direct contact with disabled persons in order to increase the level of knowledge on accessibility for these people which will enhance quality at community to the extent that existing structures without accessibility is needed.

Plessis, (2015) carried out his thesis research on the examination on access to social security in the situation of access for disabled persons in South Africa, with possible collaborations and points of contact of having the knowledge of disability that highlight its social likelihood and jurisprudential arguments on essential equality. In line with the analysis of the arguments in the area of the study of disability as well as how these application in the scope of employment regulation. While social knowledge of disability only focusses on structural modifications that would give these disabled persons who have the ability and zeal to work the access to such work, it was brought to conclusion that, the positive responsibilities obligated on establishments in terms of rights and employment equity, regulations are restricted.

Sanford et al., (1997) carried out a study according to ADAAG in evaluating the usage of ramp by disabled persons. 371 persons of different ages with different disabilities crossed a 30ft ramp which varies in its slope from 1:8 – 1:2. The rate of stoppage, location of stops travel rate, energy lost and distance travelled were recorded. Results show that's among these persons, only the wheelchair users find it difficult to cross over the ramp. It was concluded that the amendments of the ramp requirements cannot be currently recommended.

Danso et al., (2011) carried out an exploratory research to determine the scope of access to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in monumental public structures in Ghana. A feasibility study was carried out on some chosen buildings according to specifications. Results show that AICC (Accra International Conference Center) and NT (National Theater) which are recently constructed structures does not meet the guidelines for international buildings instrument, nevertheless, not completely difficult to access for the disabled. Ramps, corridors, parking lots, staircases and main entrances are not easily accessible by the PWDs. Likewise, signs such as braille texts, directions sign, phone booth access, seats for wheelchair users and underfoot warnings were not found in these buildings. Authorized guidelines for the establishment of access for PWDs in Ghana must be applied by experts and Accra Metropolitan Authority. Therefore, urgent action must be taken in instituting the provision of access for PWDs in the capital city of Accra. It was concluded that the study will help in understanding the knowledge of access for disabled persons. 13 public structures were surveyed for wheelchair users' access in Utica, New York. The structures are both governmental and non-governmental buildings. The

scale used was according to the 1971 provision of ANSI (American National Standards Institute). The structures surveyed includes those constructed before and after the enforcing the Architectural Barriers Act 1968 subjected to different types of code of practice regarding accessibility. Results show a tendency of enhancing accessibility for both the governmental and non-governmental structures, with the most accessible structure constructed in 1980. There is no any facility that have 10% compliance according to the specifications (Martin, 1987).

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FOR THE DISABLED STUDENTS**

This section looks at different elements of different high school building environment, thereby, providing a means to improve the architectural design for the Libyan school's high school.

#### **3.1 Architectural Design of Accessible Route**

Accessible routes to school for the disabled high school students should be put into consideration. The implementation of architectural system must support the impaired students of the high school. Students who are visually impaired and cannot see the movement of cars very well should be remembered when implementing the motor roads into architectural design. People with other difficulties should also be put into consideration by architects. Architects should place somewhat of a "pick up" center in the school surrounding to easy accessibility of the disabled students to be picked up by their parents or guardian. This parking spaces should also ensure a roofing system at the school bus junctions that permits the disabled student's accessibility. The high school building entrance constructed by the Michael Mohan Architects (Figure 3.1) is highly wide and accessible allowing all routes to it. The outside building is constructed in a way which is widely spacious allowing free and accessible movement of the disabled. Wheelchair users can use the step entrance without any difficulties. Thereby allowing all students to be able move around the school without any problem.

#### **Implementation of architectural design of accessible route**

The Libyan construction company and their architects should take an example from Michael Mohan outside building construction the when designing for accessibility in schools. Also, there are further consideration which should be keep in mind, this includes:

- There should be the consideration of the high school students who are on crotches when designing the floors and the choice of materials
- Architects should bear in mind the wheelchair users, who would require extra space when passing through routes or turning

- The people with vision loss should be put in to consideration when constructing walls and when choosing colour paint of material.
- The architects and engineers should consider the students who suffer from autistic spectrum disorders thereby having difficulties in their sensory organ and nerves. Therefore should prefer a predictably, spacious, structured school environment.
- It should be noted that students who emotional, behavioral or social difficulties would require extra space for them to feel more comfortable around school environment.
- The high school design should also allow spacious outdoor environment for playground, social and other recreational school activities.

In the construction of playground or any external space of the school surrounding, it is strongly recommended that the space given must be wide enough bearing in mind the dimensions of the disabled students wheelchair dimension and other standard measurements. It is important to consider the students with wheelchairs, walking frames with hearing or vision loss during the architectural design of the outside playground environment. The choice of material for the construction should also be safe and readily friendly to the disabled. After the implementation of the architectural design, for a long-lasting structure, the management staff should allocate appropriate staff for the monitoring. The responsibility of such staff would include; Outside management staff such as the gate keeper or security must ensure that the designated accessible parking spots are identified and are tagged for easy recognition between others.

1. Monitors the outside to allow free and accessible routes making sure that there is no blockage of road in and around the school environment.
2. Locked or parked bicycle or motor bicycle do not obstruct the main route
3. All fallen leaves, dirt, around the school building routes must be disposed.
4. Ensuring that there is moderate light both in and out of the high school environment.
5. All external posters, signs and others that doesn't relate to the safety of the disabled students of the school must be properly maintained.



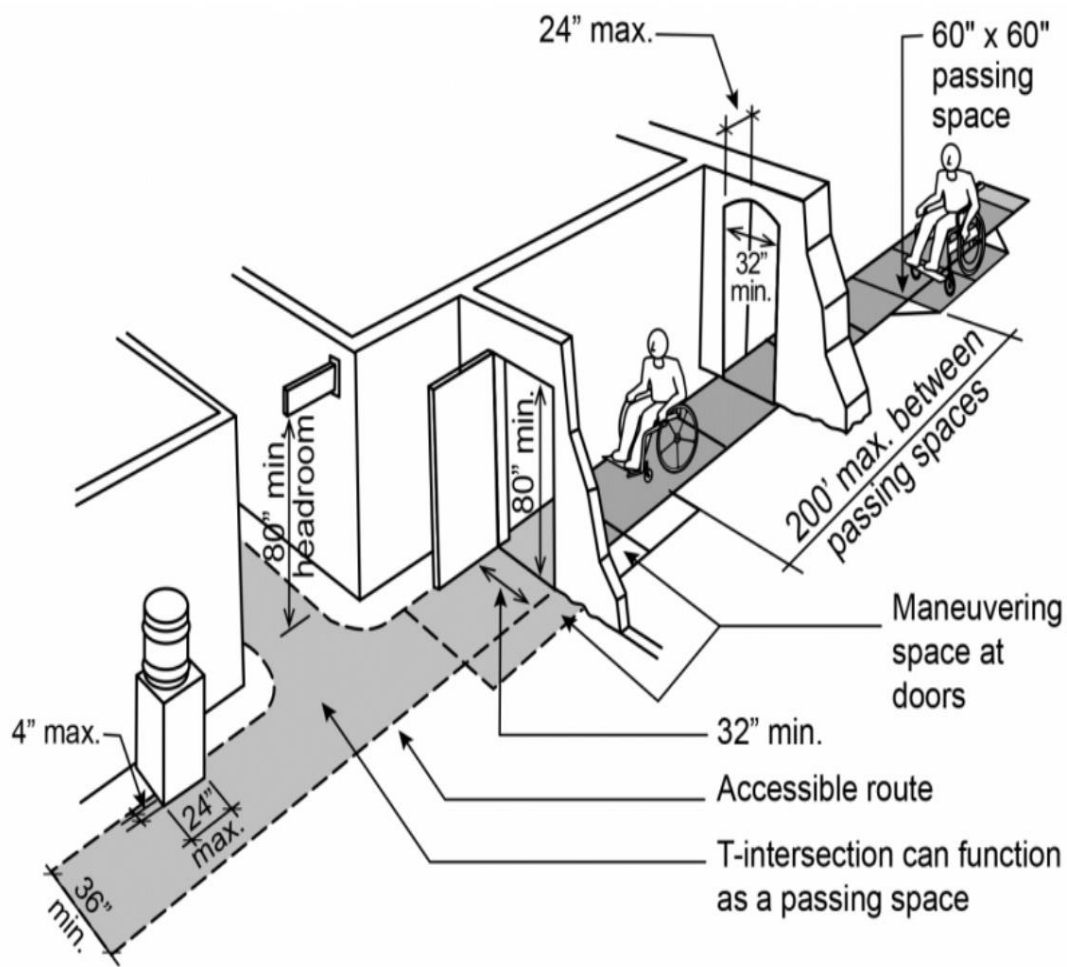
**Figure 3.1:** High school entrance for the disabled (Zumthor, P, 2010)

### **Architectural dimension and plan for accessible route**

In an attempt to improve the architectural plan for the disabled Libyan students, standard dimensions of design need to be put in to consideration. Accessible route consists of the implementation of ramps, railings and handrails, corridors and the likes with respect to the easy accessibility of the disabled students. The typical standard dimension of a wheelchair is shown in Figure 2.11 on page 22 with respective turning spaces. The size, weight, width, length and turning point should be considered for the implementation of architectural design for the disabled students in Libya. Furthermore, the government, civil engineers, and others in related field is advised to implement features of easily accessible route for the students of Libya. A larger percentage of the disabled Libyan students have disability in the leg, for this reason a detailed and focus illustration on wheel chair, crotches, with their standard dimension and access required spaces area is further explained. Libyan students with difficulties of walking, or finding route to the classroom should be considered in the architectural plan of school corridors, hallway and



other required infrastructure of the school buildings. For specific architectural design that requires height, weight, and width dimension such as the opening of doors, arms stretching to reach security alarm systems and other “special” required system as illustrated in the sketches. The use of Crotches by the Libyan students should also be put in to consideration during the construction of school building. Movement around school buildings, corridors, should allow the passage of all students bearing in mind of the sizes and dimension of the disabled students’ measurement.



**Figure 3.2:** Features of an accessible route for class room (sizes in inches) (Rivano D, 2004)

### **3.2 Architectural Design of School Entrance**

The school entrance is usually easily in front of the main school building. Its architectural design should allow it to be easily identifiable by its design structure, location and lighting. During the survey carried out in ten (10) schools' 30 percent of Libyan students complained about their school gate and how it doesn't assist their condition in anyway. Listed are other means of improving the condition of the entrance of school environment for the disable.

#### **Implementation of school entrance architectural design for the disabled**

Wide automated sliding doors are advice as most of the disabled high school students complained about the difficulties of opening and closing entrance door. This automatic door should however require little energy and should be cost effect. If possible, manual doors should be removed totally in the architectural design and construction as this door requires energy and forces to open. Revolving doors should totally be avoided as this type of doors is not suitable for the wheelchair user. There should be enough air circulation to reduce congestion for the students who are cluster phobic. There should be a good linkage from the main entrance to the classrooms, toilets, teacher's offices. An alarm or control system that is reachable by disabled students is also desired. Appropriate signs for directions desired in the architectural design.



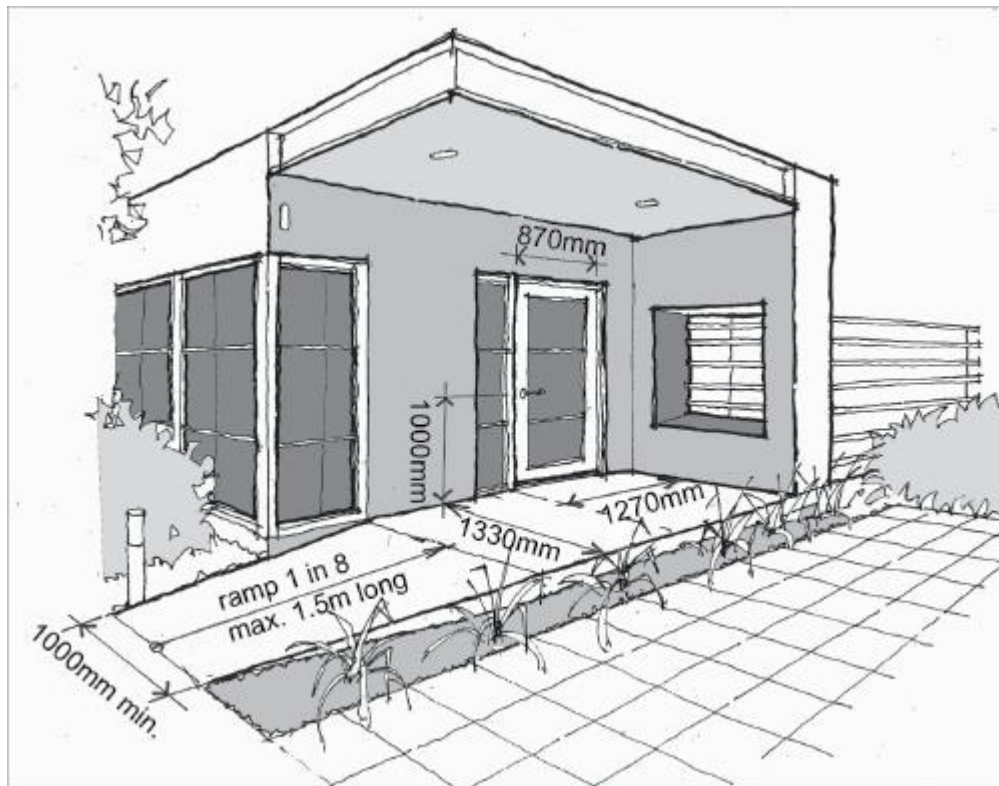
**Figure 3.3:** Wide entrance architectural design for high school (McClain, 2016)



**Figure 3.4:** Automated entrance system (Michael Mohan , 2018)

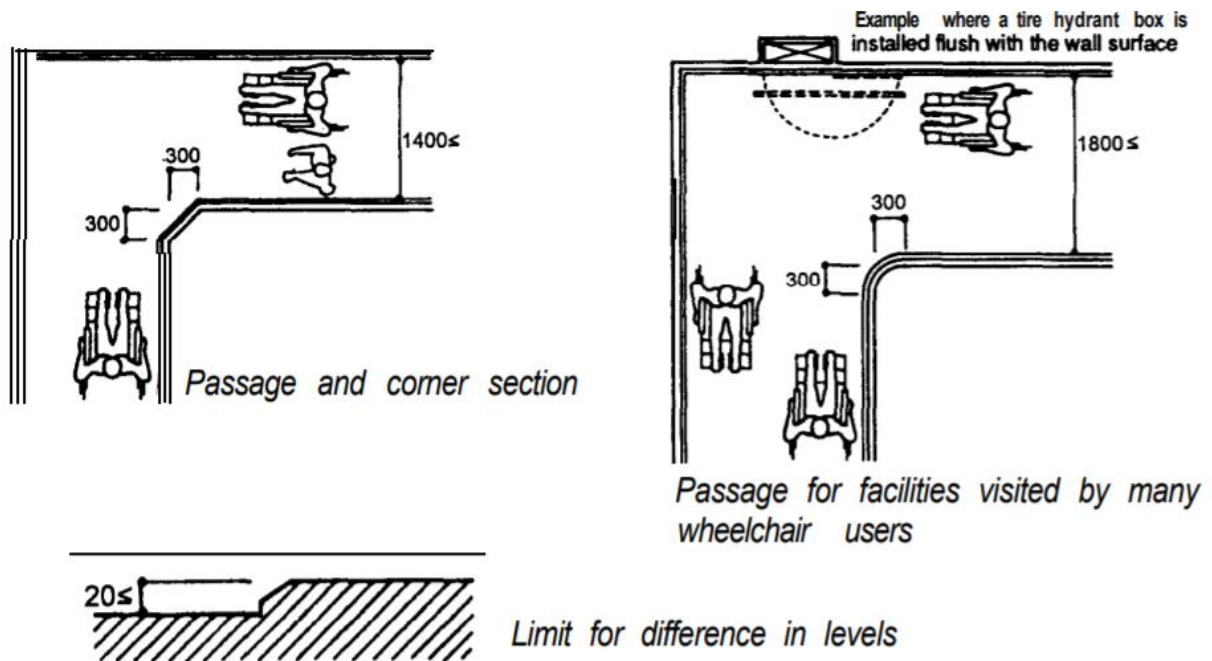
The use of an automated entrance system for the architectural design of Libyan students would allow easier accessibility for all students. However proper maintenance of this system must be ensured. This includes the following;

1. The Libyan school authority should ensure that there is a regular servicing of all automated system (elevators, lifts, slide doors, etc.).
2. The service maintenance system of all automated system must be inline with the manufacturers' recommendations.
3. When there is any problem the school technician should fix as soon as possible.
4. Libyan school building contractors or developers should.



**Figure 3.5:** Architectural dimension of school entrance (Noe, 2017)

For the construction of corridors that connects entrance with office spaces, classroom and the rest, architects should put in consideration of the handicap Libyan students in their construction. The implementation or design of sharp corners must not be too tight for the passage of students.



**Figure 3.6:** School entrance corridor plan (Noe, 2017)

Wide spacious corridors with bright colors should be used for accessibility of other type of disabled of Libyan students such as the optically impaired students. Strong colors help the students with autistic disorder, contrasting colors as shown in the figure below would allow easy identification of doors and routes for Libyan students with vision loss. The routes should also be wide enough to allow all students passage.



**Figure 3.7:** Corridor of school building (Michael Mohan, 2015)

### **3.3 Architectural Design for School Toilet**

As there are students with variety of disability as illustrated in the previous chapter, several consideration factors should be put in place for all types of disabilities in the architectural design of toilet for the disabled students. The minimum requirement standard for the architectural design of the disabled would require large space of cubicles with rails that are grabbable for easy access of the handicap. The standard public toilet for students should allow all access to door handles, cubicle handles, free movement in the toilet. Generally, accessible toilets for school building construction can be improved for Libyan students. A school in Ireland provides toilets within the classroom to allow easy access for students. Others schools in Europe has adopted the method of placing toilet facilities adjacent to the toilet room.



### **Toilet standard architectural design for the disabled**

Libya due to its culture may require privacy for the male and female students. Nevertheless, the implementation of toilet facilities for the disabled should allow easy access for all students. According to the US Access Board, there is a standard advisory dimension for students in inches shown in the following table.



**Figure 3.8:** Toilet facility for the disabled (Michael Mohan, 2015)

The standard toilet facility for the disabled students can be adopted for the school construction in Libya as shown above. Besides students, disabled teachers or elders can also have access to these facilities. Importantly is the maintenance of the toilet facility in which the school management board should ensure proper and regularly cleaning and maintenance of the toilet facility.

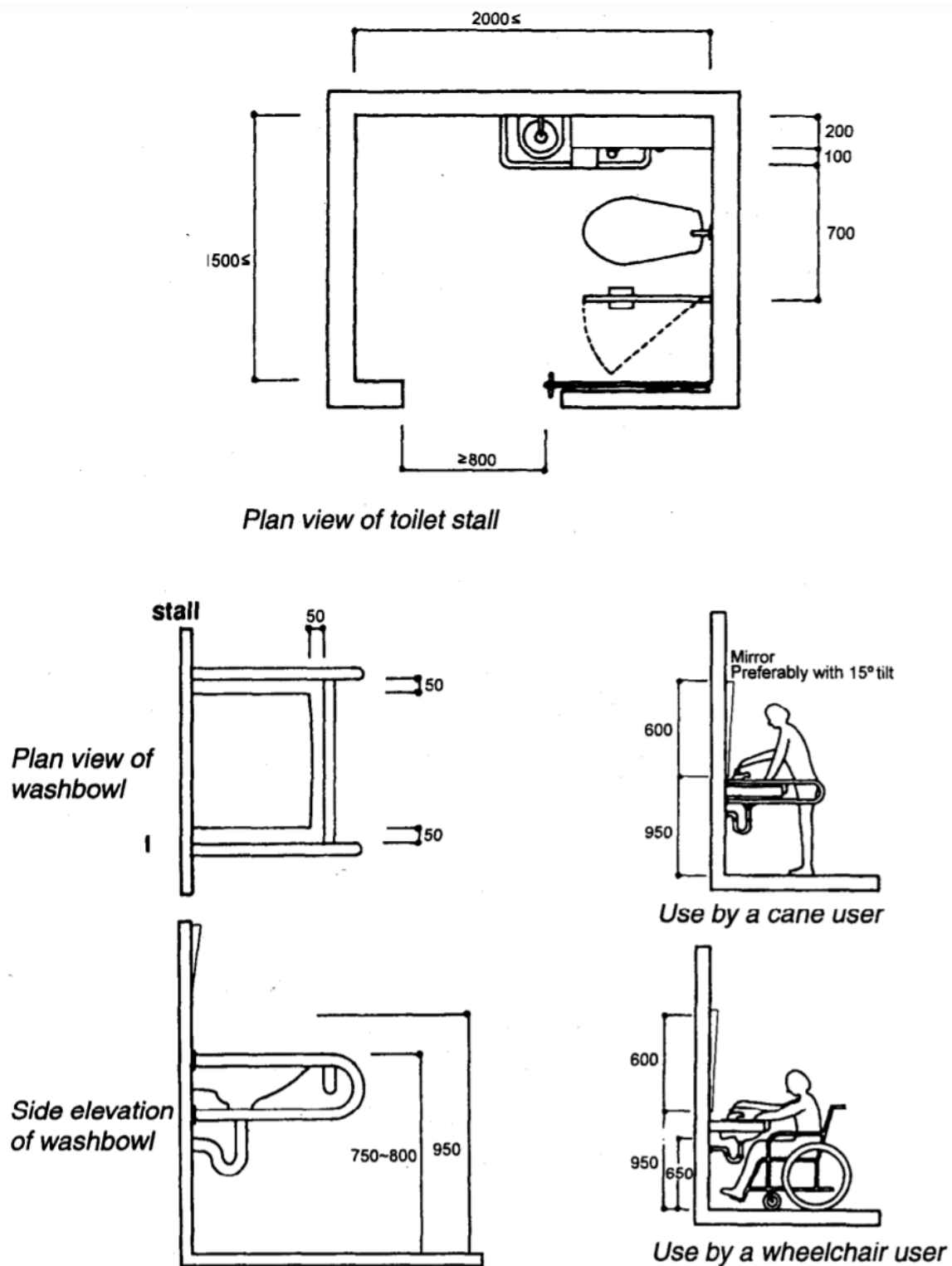
**Table 3.1:** Standard dimension requirement for disabled toilet, in in inches (US access's board, 2008)

<b>Ages</b>	<b>12-18 Years</b>
WC	0.5M
Toilet Seat	
Height	0.48M
Grab Bar	
Height	0.7M
Dispenser	
Height	0.5M

### **Toilet standard architectural plan for the disabled**

The architectural plan of the disabled students on the Libyan schools can be implemented or improve by adopting the US standard dimension. The following figures depicts a standard toilet architectural plan for disabled.





**Figure 3.9:** Toilet architectural plan (British Standards Institution, 2001)

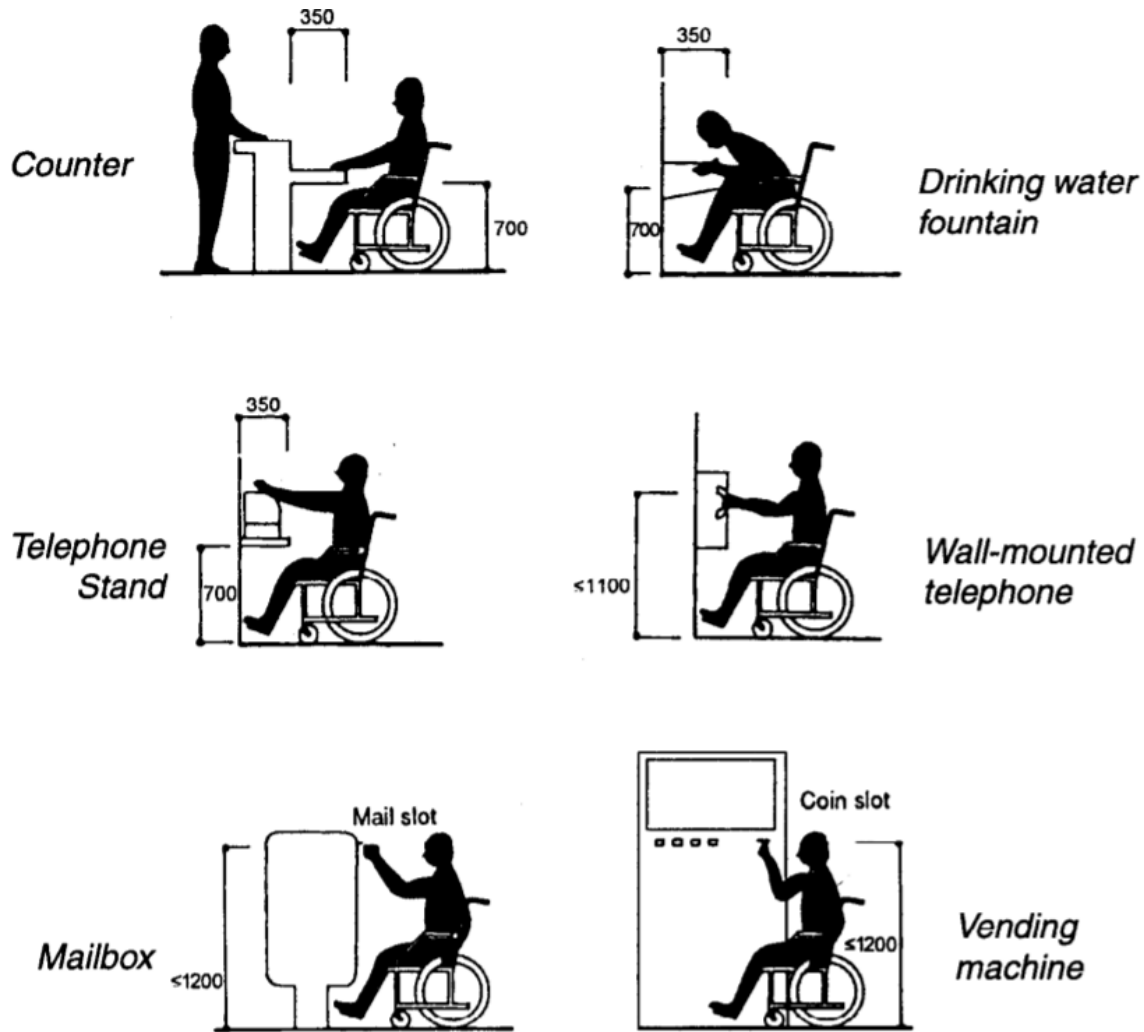
### **3.4 Other Architectural Design for the Disabled**

Other facility that should consider the disabled in the construction of school building for improving the standard of the Libyan schools would include the implementation of the following with respect to international guidelines and standard;

1. Counters
2. Drinking Fountains
3. Telephone booth access
4. Class Room Accessibility
5. Posters and signs
6. Mail Box
7. Cafeteria
8. Playground
9. School halls (Event and Sport hall)
10. Emergency Exit
11. Laboratories
12. Computer rooms
13. Hostel

The consideration of the blind students, the deaf, the amputee and other form of physically disability or disorder in general should be put in to consideration for the architectural design of all aspects of architectural space of a school building plan. The Libyan education law and enforcement is advised to pass law to all architectural board, civil engineers to ensure the basic requirement of a disabled included school.

The schematic diagram illustrates the significant of dimension of these other significant construction properties for the architectural design of a school building.



**Figure 3.10:** Architectural Dimension Plan (CPWD, 2008)

### 3.4.1 Architectural design of classroom

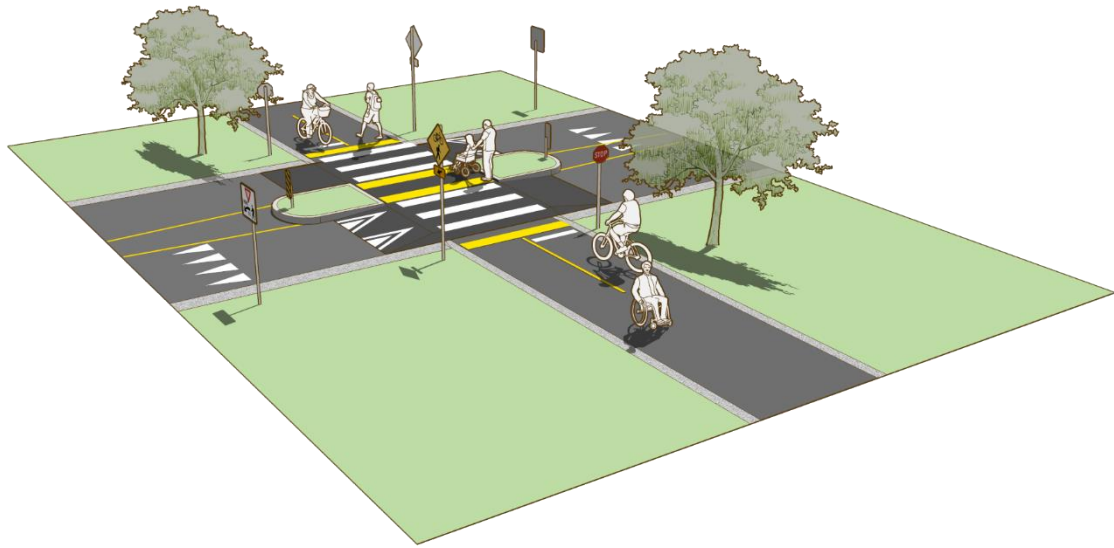
Architectural spaces, lightening condition, color paint selection should be selected in respect of the disabled students. Student would be hearing aids would require minimal noise environment to hear properly in the classroom. Mores, the student with impaired vision would require good lighting to prospect eyes from total blindness. Students who would require to see sign language or read lips during classes would also require perfect position usually in the front row of the class to allow easily accessible learning condition.



**Figure 3.11:** Classroom design for the disabled (Sheldon School, 2011)

### **3.4.2 Architectural design of parks and playground**

Outside school environment such as parks and event areas should involve architectural design that caters for the needs of all students



**Figure 3.12:** Outside school environmental plan (Groth C, 2014)

### 3.4.3 Signs and posters

Adequate signs and posters should be placed where necessary in and out of the school environment.

SIGNAGE	TYPE	SIGNAGE	TYPE	SIGNAGE	TYPE
	DISABLE		ROOM NO./ INFORMATION HOLDER ADA BRAILLE		RESERVED PARKING
	WOMEN REST ROOM		DISABLE DRIVER		PLEASE LEAVE 2MTS.
	FAMILY REST ROOM		IN CASE OF FIRE FOR ELEVATOR		MEN REST ROOM
	HOSPITAL WAITING WITH BRAILLE		DISABLE PARKING		NO SMOKING

**Figure 3.13:** Signs and posters for the disable (American National Standard Institute, 2009)

#### **3.4.4 Architectural design of drinking fountains**

Drinking of water is highly necessary for all students as its increases the concentration of the students in the classroom. The architectural design of drinking fountains should be inclined with the height of students. Also, the knee space, wheel chair space, crotches space should be put in to consideration with appropriate standard dimension for the implementation or improvement of the Libyan schools.



**Figure 3.14:** Drinking fountains (Imrie R, 2003)

## CHAPTER 4

### EVALUATION ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FOR THE DISABLED STUDENTS IN LIBYAN HIGH SCHOOLS

This chapter focus on the appropriateness of architectural designs of high schools in Libya for the disabled students Research and findings for 10 Libyan high schools are discussed in this chapter. Furthermore, questionnaire is done among the students of these schools and results are evaluated.

#### 4.1 Survey Methods

Survey was carried out in 10 high schools in Libya to understand the requirements of the disabled high school students in Libya. Libya is formally known as the State of Libya. It is a sovereign state located in Northern Africa at Maghreb local region. Its geographical location is such that towards its north we have the Mediterranean, its East is occupied by Egypt, Sudan facing the south east while Algeria and Tunisia are west to Libya. Tripolitania, Fezzan, and Cyrenaica are the major districts of Libya. Libya is known worldwide for its oil demonstrating the tenth biggest oil store all over the planet.



**Figure 4.1:** Libya on Map (<https://www.googlemap.com/search?dkdfaaag>)

Ten high schools were selected randomly in Downtown city in Libya for the study. The high schools are listed below;

- **SCHOOL 1: AL-HARATI HIGH SCHOOL;** Address of School: Tripoli Street, Al-Khums, Libya; Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E
- **SCHOOL 2: JABER BIN HAYYAN GIRLS SCHOOL;** Address of School: Twenty Street, Al-Khums, Libya; Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E
- **SCHOOL 3: SHUHADAA LIBYA SCHOOL;** Address of School: Lipda District, Al-Khums, Libya; Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.64°N, 14.28°E
- **SCHOOL 4: KHADIJA GRAND SCHOOL;** Address of School: Lipda District, Al-Khums, Libya; Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.64°N, 14.27°E
- **SCHOOL 5: AL-HAFIR HIGH SCHOOL;** Address of School: Al-Sahel District, Al-Khums, Libya. Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.62°N, 14.32°E
- **SCHOOL 6: AL-SHAIMAA SECONDARY SCHOOL;** Address of School: Tahrir Street, Zliten, Libya; Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.47°N, 14.57°E
- **SCHOOL 7: KORTOBA GIRLS SCHOOL;** Address of School: Zliten, Kadosh-Al-Shaib Road, Zliten, Libya; Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.44°N, 14.55°E
- **SCHOOL 8: FATIMA AL-ZAHRA SCHOOL;** Address of School: Al-Riyadiya Street, Al-Khums, Libya; Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E
- **SCHOOL 9: UMM-AL-QURA SCHOOL;** Address of School: Dhahirah Street, Zliten, Libya; Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.40°N, 14.62°E
- **SCHOOL 10: AL-NAJAH SCHOOL;** Address of School: Al-Riyadiya Street, Al-Khums, Libya; Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E



To begin the questionnaire, the interviewer asked major questions to begin the interview with the disabled high school students in the mentioned schools.

1. How many students are disabled in the school?
2. What are the types of deformities experienced in the school?
3. How many teachers in each of the high school understands the “special” needs of the disabled students?
4. What are the special needs of the disabled students?

Special Architectural design requirement to suit the high school building was also discussed. Following the interview is the introduction of the designed questionnaire for a more structured response. Where the questionnaire asked about several question such as the type of disability of the student, the type of assistance the school systems renders for the student during daily school activities and during the examination period. The details of questionnaire can be found in the appendix page. At the end of the discussion and interview in each school, the school administration was thanked and the data was recorded and later discussed.

#### **4.2 Survey Response of Questionnaire**

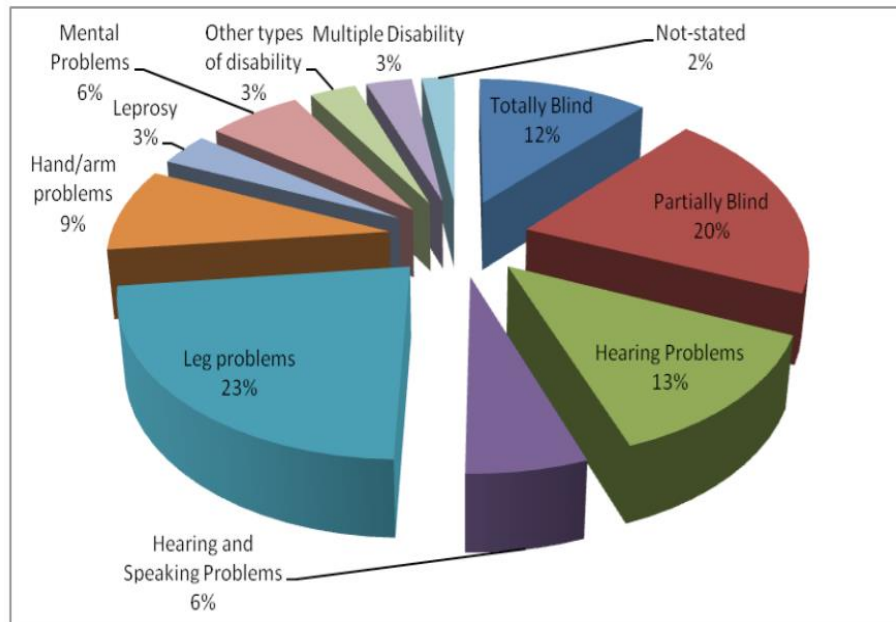
Following up on the questionnaire from the respondents in the visited schools in Libya, the following results was analyzed. Questionnaire can be seen on appendix 1.

Six questions have been asked to 35 students from different schools. The following questions are asked for them.

- What is your disability?
- Do you need special assistance for travelling to the campus? If yes, how is it arranged?
- Do you need special arrangements when attending lectures?
- Do you need assistance or special equipment in your studies and in completing course assignments?
- Do you envisage any activities in your study program that you cannot attend, such as field trips, laboratory work, e.t.c
- Do you need special arrangements for examination?

Responses are given below:

The pie chart represents the percentage of the different type of disability randomly collected and recorded from the high school in Libya.



**Figure 4.2:** Distribution of the disabled Libyan high school students in percentages.

A total number of 35 students participated in the questionnaire survey from all schools where the majority of the students marked physical disability as the form of disability. Students on wheel chair and other form of leg disabilities explained that the school prefects of the schools assist them in climbing the stairs in entering of the school.

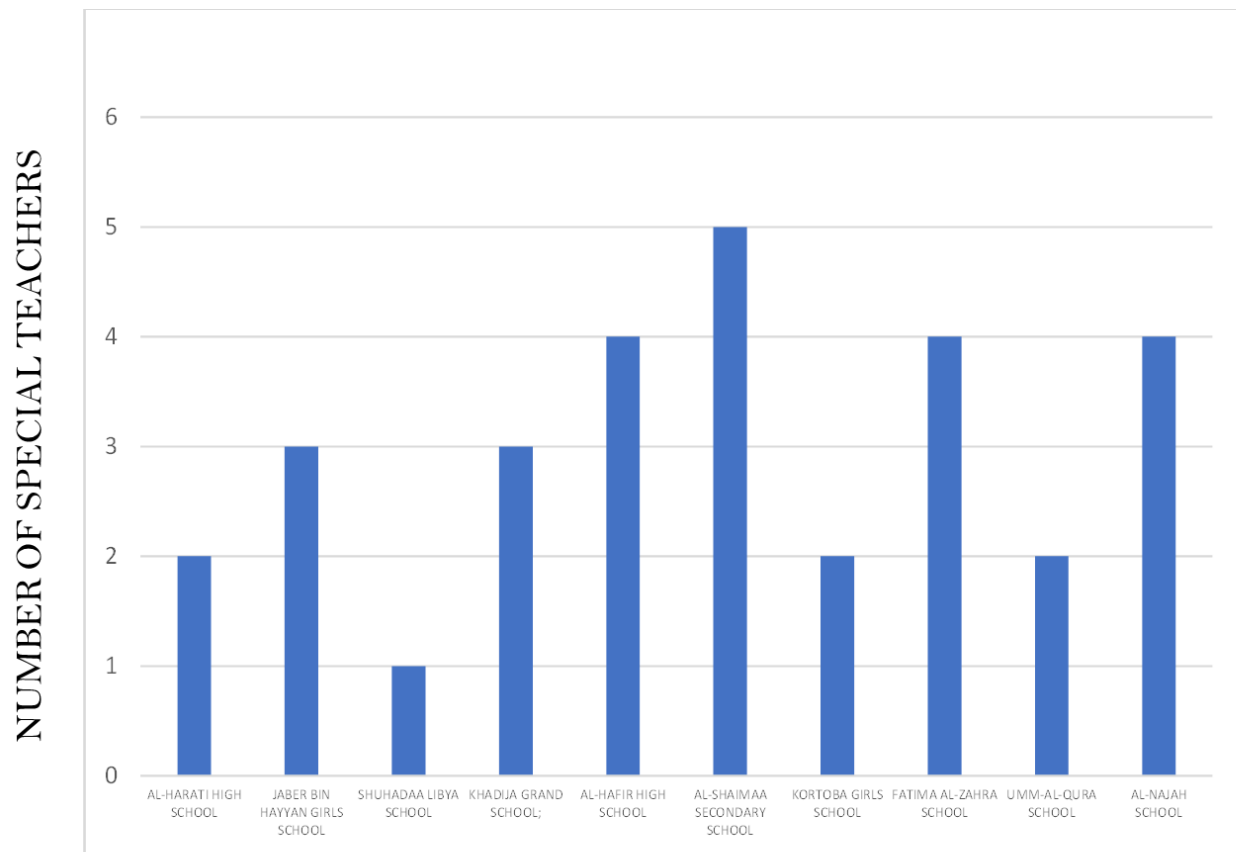
An average of 35 students explained that the Libyan school government does not provide any special assistance to the disabled students of the school asides for the provision of few numbers of “special teachers” who understands how to treat disabled students.

33 students out of 35 whom filled the questionnaire elaborated that they do not need any form of special assistance for other school activities such as field trips or laboratory.

Lastly, the condition for examination for all students is same for all students regardless of their form of disability as dictated by the Libyan government as filled by the correspondents.

Furthermore, the interview gave a broad and general understanding of the requirements of the disabled students, while the questionnaire allows for a more interactive person answer to question. The respondents participated very well in the survey giving the architects the ideal needs of the disabled. The attempt of improving and implementing these surveyed solutions are further discussed. However to make the survey more understandable, the respondents answers have been structured to charts.

Special teacher refers to the teachers who understood the needs of the disabled students. Some schools did not record any teacher who actually understands how to deal or teach the disabled students while some high school teachers show a high record of 5 teachers 3 of whom understood sign language and all of these teachers have an experience in catering for the disabled (see Figure 4.3). In the survey, the general overview of all needs of student structure-wise was discussed with parent, staffs and the Libyan high school students.





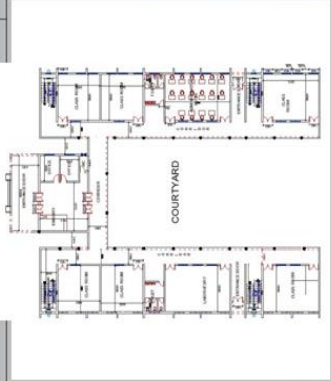


**Figure 4.3:** Number of “special” teachers in the Libyan high School

### 4.3 Analysis of Research

A total of ten high schools was randomly selected school in Libyan in an attempt to improve the accessibility architectural design. Several buildings were observed that needed implementation and improvement both for the disabled students and others. However, due to the ongoing situation in Libya, not all schools gave permission to obtain architecture plan and pictures, but most of the schools understood the research thesis aim and were willing to participate in the survey. Table 4.1 (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J) was designed to encompass a detailed information obtained from visited schools such as the site plan, google plan, size dimensions and area of the sections in the school.






The total comparison of space dimensions in terms of spatial use for the disabled students among ten schools are studied in Table 4.2. An attempt of improving spatial properties of the schools are reflected with SWOT analysis at the bottom of table. In Table 4.3 recommended positions of elevators for future development are also mentioned.

**Table 4.1A: Analysis of Al-Harati High School**

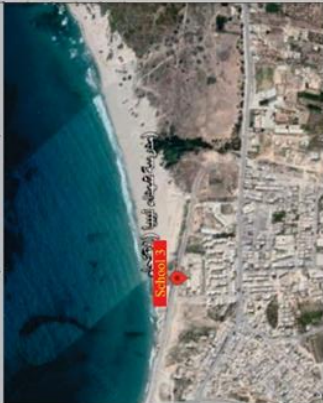



<b>SCHOOL 1: AL-HARATI HIGH SCHOOL</b> <b>Address of School: Tripoli Street, Al-Khums, Libya</b> <b>Location (Longitude &amp; Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E</b>			
SATELLITE VIEW (GOOGLE EARTH)	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS
 <p>Location (Longitude &amp; Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E</p>	 <p>Land Area=19.54m<sup>2</sup> Car Park=1450m<sup>2</sup> Sport Area=705m<sup>2</sup></p>	 <p>Number of floors= 3 Each floor Area=1.040 m<sup>2</sup></p>	  <p>Photo from Entrance</p> <p>Photo from Toilet</p>
<b>Summary of Findings</b> Wide area spacious classroom with enough wheelchair space but the toilet shows no consideration for the disabled students of the school in anyway.			
<b>SPACE DIMENSIONS</b>			
AVAILABILITY		DIMENSIONS	
Classroom	✓	6.5m x 6.5m	
Corridor	✓	2.1m x 80m	
Toilet	✓	0.9m x 1.8m	
Ramp	✗		
Stairs	✓	0.15m rise and 0.30m run	
Elevator	✗		
Signage	✗		
Door	✓	1.50m x 2.1m	
<b>BUILDING PROGRAM</b>		TOTAL NO.	AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )
1	ADMINISTRATION	1	10m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>
2	COMMON AREA	-	
	Entrance Hall	1	10.6m x 4.2m = 44.52m <sup>2</sup>
	W/C Lavatory	7	7 x 0.9 x 1.8m = 11.34m <sup>2</sup>
	Corridors	1	2.1m x 80m = 168.0m <sup>2</sup>
	Stairs	4	4 x 6.75m x 2.4m = 64.8m <sup>2</sup>
	Kitchen	1	3.6m x 3.0m = 10.8m <sup>2</sup>
	Mosque	-	
3	EDUCATION	-	
	Classrooms	6	6 x 6.5m x 6.5m = 253m <sup>2</sup>
	Laboratory	1	10.0m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>
	Office	2	2.8m x 3.6m = 10.08m <sup>2</sup>
		<b>TOTAL GROUND AREA : 1040m<sup>2</sup></b>	



**Table 4.1B:** Analysis of Jaber Bin Hayyan Girls School






<b>SCHOOL 2: JABER BIN HAYYAN GIRLS SCHOOL</b> <b>Address of School: Twenty Street, Al-Khums, Libya</b> <b>Location (Longitude &amp; Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E</b>			
SATELLITE VIEW (GOOGLE EARTH)	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS
			 
Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E	Land Area=15.855 m <sup>2</sup> Car Park=755 m <sup>2</sup> Sport Area=498 m <sup>2</sup>	Number of floors: 2 Each floor Area=1.274 m <sup>2</sup>	Photo from Entrance Stairs Photo from Classroom
SPACE DIMENSIONS			
AVAILABILITY		DIMENSIONS	
Classroom	✓	6.5m x 6.5m	
Corridor	✓	2.1m x 85m	
Toilet	✓	1m x 3.0m	
Ramp	✗		
Stairs	✓	0.15m rise and 0.30m run	
Elevator	✗		
Signage	✗		
Door	✓	1.5m x 2.1m	
Summary of Findings			
The main entrance of the school building is inaccessible to the disabled students of the school. The school principal however explained that the disabled students of the school are carried or assisted by staff in to the class room. The Entrance, toilet, hostel room, corridor shows no sign of consideration for the disabled students of the school.			
BUILDING PROGRAM	TOTAL NO.	AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )	
1 ADMINISTRATION	1	10m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>	
2 COMMON AREA	-		
Entrance Hall	1	10.6m x 4.1m = 43.4m <sup>2</sup>	
W.C Lavatory	7	7 x 1.2m x 2.1m = 17.2m <sup>2</sup>	
Corridors	1	2.1m x 85m = 153m <sup>2</sup>	
Stairs	4	4 x 2.4m x 6.0m = 57.6m <sup>2</sup>	
Kitchen	1	3.6m x 3.0m = 10.8m <sup>2</sup>	
Mosque	1	8.8m x 6.5m = 57.2m <sup>2</sup>	
3 EDUCATION	-		
Classrooms	8	8 x 6.5m x 6.5m = 338m <sup>2</sup>	
Laboratory	1	6m x 9.3m = 55.8m <sup>2</sup>	
Library	1	6.5m x 8.6m = 55.9m <sup>2</sup>	
		<b>TOTAL GROUND AREA : 1735.0m<sup>2</sup></b>	

**Table 4.1C: Analysis of Shuhadaa Libya School**

<b>SCHOOL 3: SHUHADAA LIBYA SCHOOL</b> <b>Address of School: Lipda District, Al-Kums, Libya</b> <b>Location (Longitude &amp; Latitude): 32.64°N, 14.28°E</b>			
SATELLITE VIEW (GOOGLE EARTH)	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS
			
Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.64°N, 14.28°E	Land Area=11,215 m <sup>2</sup> Car Park=938 m <sup>2</sup> Sport Area=946 m <sup>2</sup>	Number of floors=1 Each floor Area=1,361 m <sup>2</sup>	Photo from Entrance Stairs Photo from Classroom
SPACE DIMENSIONS			
AVAILABILITY		DIMENSIONS	
Classroom	✓	6.5m x 6.5m	
Corridor	✓	2.1m x 118m	
Toilet	✓	1m x 1.5m	
Ramp	✗		
Stairs	✓	0.15m rise and 0.30m run	
Elevator	✗		
Signage	✗		
Door	✓	1.2m x 2.1m	
Summary of Findings			
The main entrance of the school building is inaccessible to the disabled students of the school. The Entrance, toilet, hostel room, corridor shows no sign of consideration for the disabled students of the school.			
BUILDING PROGRAM		TOTAL NO.	AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )
1	ADMINISTRATION	1	10m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>
2	COMMON AREA	-	
	Entrance Hall	1	10.6m x 4.1m = 43.5m <sup>2</sup>
	W.C Lavatory	7	7 x 1.2m x 2.4m = 20.2m <sup>2</sup>
	Corridors	1	2.1m x 118m = 126.0m <sup>2</sup>
	Stairs	4	4 x 2.4m x 7.2m = 69.12m <sup>2</sup>
	Kitchen	1	3.0m x 3.6m = 10.8m <sup>2</sup>
	Mosque	-	
3	EDUCATION	-	
	Classrooms	6	6x 6.5m x 6.5m = 253.5m <sup>2</sup>
	Laboratory	1	10m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>
	Offices	2	2.8m x 3.6m = 10.08m <sup>2</sup>
		<b>TOTAL GROUND AREA :1234.4m<sup>2</sup></b>	







**Table 4.1D:** Analysis of Khadija Grand School





SCHOOL 4: KHADIJA GRAND SCHOOL Address of School: Lipda District, Al-Khums, Libya Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.64°N, 14.27°E				
SATELLITE VIEW (GOOGLE EARTH)	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS	
				
Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.64°N, 14.27°E	Land Area=11.124 m <sup>2</sup> Car Park=938 m <sup>2</sup> Sport Area=946 m <sup>2</sup>	Number of floors=1 Floor Area=961 m <sup>2</sup>	Photo from corridor	Photo from Toilet
SPACE DIMENSIONS				
AVAILABILITY		DIMENSIONS		
Classroom	✓	6.0m x 7.2m		
Corridor	✓	2.1m x 85.4m		
Toilet	✓	1.1m x 3m		
Ramp	✗			
Stairs	✓	0.15m rise and 0.30m run		
Elevator	✗			
Signage	✗			
Door	✓	1.20m x 2.1m		
Summary of Findings				
The main entrance of the school building is inaccessible to the disabled students of the school. Although the toilet and the bathroom shows little sign of accessibility for the disabled student as there are poles, hinges hung to the wall, however, these are not of standard dimensions. The Entrance, toilet, hostel room, corridor shows no sign of consideration for the disabled students of the school.				
BUILDING PROGRAM		TOTAL NO.	AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )	
1	ADMINISTRATION	2	2 x 6.8m x 6m = 81.6m <sup>2</sup>	
2	COMMON AREA	-		
	Entrance Hall	4	4 x 2.1m x 1.2m = 10.1m <sup>2</sup>	
	W.C Lavatory	4	4 x 1.1m x 3.0m = 13.3m <sup>2</sup>	
	Corridors	1	2.1m x 85.4m = 179.34m <sup>2</sup>	
	Stairs	2	2 x 2.4mx6.25m = 15.0m <sup>2</sup>	
	Kitchen	1	5.0m x 3.9m = 19.5m <sup>2</sup>	
	Mosque	1	8.4m x 4.8m = 40.32m <sup>2</sup>	
3	EDUCATION	-		
	Classrooms	7	7 x 6.0m x 7.2m = 302.4m <sup>2</sup>	
	Art Room	1	8.4m x 4.8m = 40.32m <sup>2</sup>	
	Library	1	6.8m x 6m = 40.8m <sup>2</sup>	
		TOTAL GROUND AREA :789.9m <sup>2</sup>		



**Table 4.1E: Analysis of Al-Hafir High School**






<b>SCHOOL 5: AL-HAFIR HIGH SCHOOL</b> <b>Address of School: Al-Sahel District, Al-Khums, Libya.</b> <b>Location (Longitude &amp; Latitude): 32.62°N, 14.32°E</b>			
SATELLITE VIEW (GOOGLE EARTH)	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS
			
Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.62°N, 14.32°E	Land Area= 6.204 m <sup>2</sup> Car Park= 926 m <sup>2</sup> Sport Area= 760m <sup>2</sup>	Number of floor= 3 Each floor Area= 451 m <sup>2</sup>	Photo from outside school
SPACE DIMENSIONS			
AVAILABILITY		DIMENSIONS	
Classroom	✓	6.5m x 5.4m	
Corridor	✓	2.4m x 46m	
Toilet	✓	0.9m x 1.5m	
Ramp	×		
Stairs	✓	0.15m rise and 0.30m run	
Elevator	×		
Signage	×		
Door	✓	1.2m x 2.1m	
TOTAL GROUND AREA : 504.97m <sup>2</sup>			
Summary of Findings			
There are no signs and posters to create awareness of the disabled student all through the school building. Although the toilet and the bathroom shows little sign of accessibility for the disabled student as there are poles, hinges hung to the wall, however, these are not of standard dimensions. The Entrance, toilet, hostel room, corridor shows no sign of consideration for the disabled students of the school.			
BUILDING PROGRAM		TOTAL NO.	AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )
1	ADMINISTRATION	1	3.0m x 4.2m = 12.6m <sup>2</sup>
2	COMMON AREA	-	
	Entrance Hall	1	3.3m x 3.3m = 10.89m <sup>2</sup>
	W.C Lavatory	5	5 x 0.9x 1.5m = 6.75 m <sup>2</sup>
	Corridors	1	2.4m x 46m = 110.4m <sup>2</sup>
	Stairs	2	2x 5.62m x 2.4m = 27m <sup>2</sup>
	Kitchen	1	3.00m x 3.3m = 9.9m <sup>2</sup>
	Mosque	-	
3	EDUCATION	-	
	Classrooms	6	6 x 6.5m x 5.4m = 210.6m <sup>2</sup>
	Offices	1	3m x 4.2m = 21.6m <sup>2</sup>
	Library	-	
TOTAL GROUND AREA : 504.97m <sup>2</sup>			

**Table 4.1F:** Analysis of Al-Shaimaa Secondary School





SCHOOL 6: AL-SHAIMAA SECONDARY SCHOOL Address of School: Tahrir Street, Zliten, Libya Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.47°N, 14.57°E			
SATELLITE VIEW (GOOGLE EARTH)	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS
			
Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.47°N, 14.57°E	Land Area=10.668 m <sup>2</sup> Car Bark=930 m <sup>2</sup> Sport Area=554 m <sup>2</sup>	Number of floor= 2 Each floor Area=1.137 m <sup>2</sup>	Photo from playground
SPACE DIMENSIONS			
AVAILABILITY		DIMENSIONS	
Classroom	✓	6.5m x 6.5m	
Corridor	✓	2.1m x 82m	
Toilet	✓	0.9m x 1.8m	
Ramp	✗		
Stairs	✓	0.15m rise and 0.30m run	
Elevator	✗		
Signage	✓	A3	
Door	✓	1.20m x 2.1m	
Summary of Findings			
There are no signs and posters to create awareness of the physically challenge all through the school building. Although the toilet and the bathroom demonstrated no sign of accessibility for the disabled student as there are poles, hinges hung to the wall. however, these are not of standard dimensions.			
BUILDING PROGRAM		TOTAL NO.	AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )
1	ADMINISTRATION	1	6.5m x 9m = 58.5m <sup>2</sup>
2	COMMON AREA	-	
	Entrance Hall	1	3.8m x 6.7m = 25.5m <sup>2</sup>
	W.C Lavatory	6	6 x 0.9m x 1.8m = 9.7m <sup>2</sup>
	Corridors	1	2.1m x 82m = 147.6m <sup>2</sup>
	Stairs	4	4 x 2.4m x 6.7m = 64.32m <sup>2</sup>
	Kitchen	1	2.4m x 6.7m = 16.08m <sup>2</sup>
	Mosque	1	4.8m x 3.4m = 16.56m <sup>2</sup>
3	EDUCATION	-	
	Classrooms	7	7 x 6.5m x 6.5m=295.75m <sup>2</sup>
	Laboratory	1	10m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>
	Library	1	8.6m x 6.5m = 55.9m <sup>2</sup>
		TOTAL GROUND AREA : 1127.0m <sup>2</sup>	



**Table 4.1G:** Analysis of Kortoba Girls School





<p><b>SCHOOL 7: KORTOBA GIRLS SCHOOL</b>  <b>Address of School: Zliten, Radosh-Al-Shaib Road, Zliten, Libya</b>  <b>Location (Longitude &amp; Latitude): 32.44°N, 14.55°E</b></p>				
SATELLITE VIEW (GOOGLE EARTH)	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS	
				
Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.44°N, 14.55°E	Land Area=10.029 m <sup>2</sup> Car Park=573 m <sup>2</sup> Sport Area=316 m <sup>2</sup>	Number of floor= 2 Each floor Area= 1.751 m <sup>2</sup>	Photo from Entrance Stairs	Photo from Toilet
SPACE DIMENSIONS				
AVAILABILITY		DIMENSIONS		
Classroom	✓	6.0m x 6.0m		
Corridor	✓	2.4m x 85m		
Toilet	✓	1m x 3.0m		
Ramp	✗			
Stairs	✓	0.15m rise and 0.30m run		
Elevator	✗			
Signage	✗			
Door	✓	1.2m x 2.1m		
Summary of Findings				
There are no signs and posters to create awareness of the disabled students all through the school building. The toilet and the bathroom demonstrated no sign of accessibility for the disabled student.				
BUILDING PROGRAM	TOTAL NO.	AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )		
1 ADMINISTRATION	1	6.9m x 10m = 69m <sup>2</sup>		
2 COMMON AREA	-			
Entrance Hall	2	2 x 1.6m x 5m = 16m <sup>2</sup>		
W.C Lavatory	8	8 x 1.0m x 3m = 24m <sup>2</sup>		
Corridors	1	2.4m x 85m = 153m <sup>2</sup>		
Stairs	2	2 x 2.4m x 6.2m = 14.4m <sup>2</sup>		
Kitchen	1	3.0m x 3.0m = 9.0m <sup>2</sup>		
Mosque	1	3.75m x 6.3m = 23.63m <sup>2</sup>		
3 EDUCATION	-			
Classrooms	8	8x 6.0m x 6.0m = 288m <sup>2</sup>		
Art Room	1	6m x 6.9m = 41.4m <sup>2</sup>		
Library	1	7.5m x 6.5m = 48.75m <sup>2</sup>		
<b>TOTAL GROUND AREA</b>		<b>906.8m<sup>2</sup></b>		

**Table 4.1H:** Analysis of Fatima Al-Zahra School



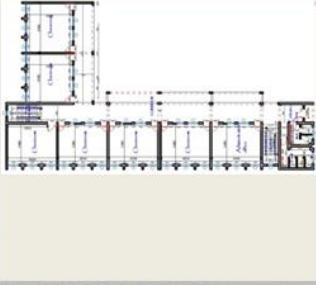

SCHOOL 8: FATIMA AL-ZAHRA SCHOOL Address of School: Al-Riyadiya Street, Al-Khums, Libya Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E				
SATELLITE VIEW (GOOGLE EARTH)	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS	
				
Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E	Land Area=12.836 m <sup>2</sup> Car Park=1.299 m <sup>2</sup> Sport Area=890 m <sup>2</sup>	Number of floor= 1 Floor Area= 832 m <sup>2</sup>	Photo from Classroom	
SPACE DIMENSIONS				
AVAILABILITY		DIMENSIONS		
Classroom	✓	6m x 6.5m		
Corridor	✓	2.4m x 50m		
Toilet	✓	1.2 x 1.5m		
Ramp	✗			
Stairs	✓	0.15m rise and 0.30m run		
Elevator	✗			
Signage	✗			
Door	✓	1.2m x 2.1m		
Summary of Findings				
There are no signs and posters to create awareness of the disabled all through the school building. The toilet and the bathroom demonstrated no sign of accessibility for the disabled student. The corridor are not of the standardize measurement for the disabled students				
BUILDING PROGRAM		TOTAL NO.	AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )	
1	ADMINISTRATION	1	6.5m x 5.4m = 35.1m <sup>2</sup>	
2	COMMON AREA	-		
	Entrance Hall	2	2 x 1.5m x 2.4m = 7.2m <sup>2</sup>	
	W.C Lavatory	5	5 x 1.2m x 1.5m = 9m <sup>2</sup>	
	Corridors	1	2.4m x 50m = 120m <sup>2</sup>	
	Stairs	2	2 x 7.2m x 2.4m = 34.56m <sup>2</sup>	
	Kitchen	1	4.2m x 3m = 12.6m <sup>2</sup>	
	Mosque	-		
3	EDUCATION	-		
	Classrooms	6	6 x 6m x 6.5m = 234m <sup>2</sup>	
	Offices	1	4.2m x 3m = 12.6m <sup>2</sup>	
	Library	1	3.6m x 6.6m = 23.8m <sup>2</sup>	
		TOTAL GROUND AREA:591.6m <sup>2</sup>		



**Table 4.II:** Analysis of Umm-Al-Qura School

<b>SCHOOL 9: UMM-AL-QURA SCHOOL</b> <b>Address of School: Dhahirah Street, Zliten, Libya</b> <b>Location (Longitude &amp; Latitude): 32.40°N, 14.62°E</b>			
SATELLITE VIEW (GOOGLE EARTH)	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS
			
Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.40°N, 14.62°E	Land Area=7.070 m <sup>2</sup> Car Park=226 m <sup>2</sup> Sport Area=1.112 m <sup>2</sup>	Number of floor = 3 Each floor Area = 947 m <sup>2</sup>	Photo from Playground
SPACE DIMENSIONS			
AVAILABILITY		DIMENSIONS	
Classroom	✓	6.0m x 6.0m	
Corridor	✓	1.8m x 115m	
Toilet	✓	1.1m x 3m	
Ramp	✗		
Stairs	✓	0.15m rise and 0.35m run	
Elevator	✗		
Signage	✗		
Door	✓	1.2m x 2.1m	
Summary of Findings			
There are no signs and posters to create awareness of the disabled all through the school building. The toilet and the bathroom demonstrated no sign of accessibility for the disabled student. Besides this, the entire school seems to be lacking cleanliness and maintenance			
BUILDING PROGRAM	TOTAL NO.	AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )	
1 ADMINISTRATION	1	4.6 x 6.3m = 29m <sup>2</sup>	
2 COMMON AREA	-		
Entrance Hall	2	2 x 6.4m x 3m = 38.4m <sup>2</sup>	
W.C Lavatory	4	4 x 1.1m x 3m = 13.2m <sup>2</sup>	
Corridors	1	1.8m x 115m = 149.4m <sup>2</sup>	
Stairs	3	3 x 2.4m x 6m = 43.2m <sup>2</sup>	
Kitchen	1	4.6m x 3m = 13.8m <sup>2</sup>	
Mosque	1	6.9m x 4.5m = 31m <sup>2</sup>	
3 EDUCATION	-		
Classrooms	9	9 x 6.0m x 6m = 324.2m <sup>2</sup>	
Art Room	1	6.0 x 6.0m = 36m <sup>2</sup>	
Library	1	6.0 x 12.3m = 73.8m <sup>2</sup>	
TOTAL GROUND AREA:		963.4m <sup>2</sup>	

**Table 4.1J: Analysis of Al-Najjah School**

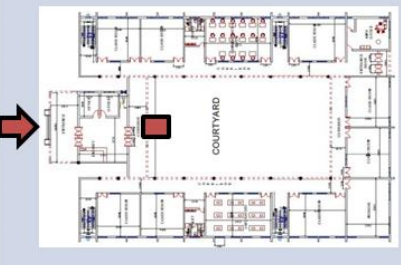


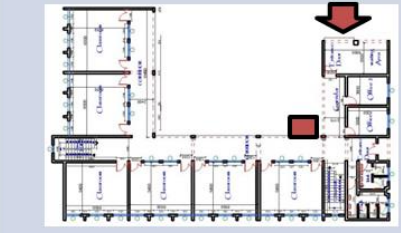


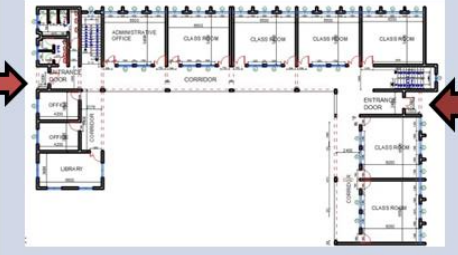
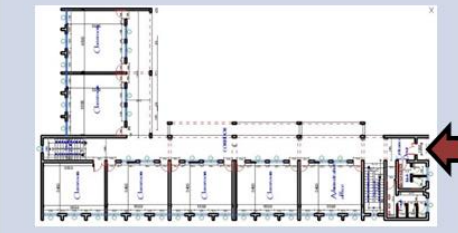
<b>SCHOOL 10: AL-NAJAH SCHOOL</b> <b>Address of School: Al-Riyadiya Street, Al-Khums, Libya</b> <b>Location (Longitude &amp; Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E</b>			
SATELLITE VIEW (GOOGLE EARTH)	SITE PLAN	PLAN	PHOTOS
			
Location (Longitude & Latitude): 32.65°N, 14.26°E	Land Area=12.446 m <sup>2</sup> Car Park=926 m <sup>2</sup> Sport Area=715 m <sup>2</sup>	Number of floor =1 Floor Area =614 m <sup>2</sup>	Photo from Entrance
SPACE DIMENSIONS			
AVAILABILITY		DIMENSIONS	
Classroom	✓	6.5m x 5.4m	
Corridor	✓	2.4m x 46m	
Toilet	✓	1.2m x 1.5m	
Ramp	✗		
Stairs	✓	0.15m rise and 0.30m run	
Elevator	✗		
Signage	✗		
Door	✓	0.9m x 2.1m	
Summary of Findings			
There are no signs and posters to create awareness of the physically challenged all through the school building. The toilet and the bathroom demonstrated no sign of accessibility for the physically challenged student. The school building lacks maintenance			
BUILDING PROGRAM		TOTAL NO.	AREA (M <sup>2</sup> )
1	ADMINISTRATION	1	5.4m x 6.5m = 35.1m <sup>2</sup>
2	COMMON AREA	-	
	Entrance Hall	1	3.0m x 4.4m = 13.2m <sup>2</sup>
	W.C Lavatory	5	5 x 1.2x 1.5m = 9m <sup>2</sup>
	Corridors	1	2.4m x 46m = 110.4m <sup>2</sup>
	Stairs	2	2 x 2.4m x 6.5m = 31.2m <sup>2</sup>
	Kitchen	1	4.3m x 3.0m = 12.9m <sup>2</sup>
	Mosque	1	4.2m x 6.5 = 27.3m <sup>2</sup>
3	EDUCATION	-	
	Classrooms	6	6x 6.5m x 5.4m = 210.6m <sup>2</sup>
	Art Room	-	
	Library	-	
		TOTAL GROUND AREA : 534.01m <sup>2</sup>	



**Table 4.2:** Comparison of space dimensions in terms of disabled students in Libyan high schools

SPACE DIMENSION COMPARISON										
Building Programme	School 1	School 2	School 3	School 4	School 5	School 6	School 7	School 8	School 9	School 10
Administration	10m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>	10m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 6.8m x 6m = 81.6m <sup>2</sup>	10m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>	3.0m x 4.2m = 12.6m <sup>2</sup>	6.5m x 10m = 65m <sup>2</sup>	6.9m x 10m = 69m <sup>2</sup>	6.5m x 5.4m = 35.1m <sup>2</sup>	4.6 x 6.3m = 29m <sup>2</sup>	5.4m x 6.5m = 35.1m <sup>2</sup>
Entrance Hall	10.6m x 4.2m = 44.52m <sup>2</sup>	10.6m x 4.1m = 43.4m <sup>2</sup>	4 x 2.1m x 1.2m = 10.1m <sup>2</sup>	10.6m x 4.1m = 43.5m <sup>2</sup>	3.3m x 6.6m = 21.2m <sup>2</sup>	3.8m x 6.7m = 25.5m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 1.6m x 5m = 16m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 1.5m x 2.4m = 7.2m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 6.4m x 3m = 38.4m <sup>2</sup>	2.4m x 4.4m = 10.6m <sup>2</sup>
WC	7 x 0.9 x 1.8m = 11.34m <sup>2</sup>	7 x 1.2m x 2.1m = 17.2m <sup>2</sup>	4 x 1.1m x 3.0m = 13.3m <sup>2</sup>	7 x 1.2m x 2.4m = 20.2m <sup>2</sup>	5 x 0.9 x 1.5m = 6.75 m <sup>2</sup>	6 x 0.9m x 1.8m = 9.7m <sup>2</sup>	8 x 1.0m x 3m = 24m <sup>2</sup>	5 x 1.2m x 1.5m = 9m <sup>2</sup>	4 x 1.1m x 3m = 13.2m <sup>2</sup>	5 x 1.2 x 1.5m = 9m <sup>2</sup>
Corridors	2.1m x 80m = 168.0m <sup>2</sup>	2.1m x 85m = 153m <sup>2</sup>	2.1m x 85.4m = 179.34m <sup>2</sup>	2.1m x 118m = 126.0m <sup>2</sup>	2.4m x 46m = 110.4m <sup>2</sup>	2.1m x 82m = 147.6m <sup>2</sup>	2.4m x 85m = 153m <sup>2</sup>	2.4m x 50m = 120m <sup>2</sup>	1.8m x 115m = 149.4m <sup>2</sup>	2.4m x 46m = 110.4m <sup>2</sup>
Stairs	4 x 6.75m x 2.4m = 64.8m <sup>2</sup>	4 x 2.4m x 6.0m = 57.6m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 2.4m x 6.25m = 15.0m <sup>2</sup>	3.0m x 3.6m = 10.8m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 5.62m x 2.4m = 27m <sup>2</sup>	4 x 2.4m x 6.7m = 64.32m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 2.4m x 6.2m = 14.4m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 1.7m x 2.4m = 34.56m <sup>2</sup>	3 x 2.4m x 6m = 43.2m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 2.4m x 6.5m = 31.2m <sup>2</sup>
Kitchen	3.6m x 3.0m = 10.8m <sup>2</sup>	3.6m x 3.0m = 10.8m <sup>2</sup>	5.0m x 3.0m = 15m <sup>2</sup>	3.0m x 3.6m = 10.8m <sup>2</sup>	3.00m x 3.3m = 9.9m <sup>2</sup>	2.4m x 6.7m = 16.08m <sup>2</sup>	3.0m x 3.0m = 9.0m <sup>2</sup>	4.2m x 3m = 12.6m <sup>2</sup>	4.6m x 3m = 13.8m <sup>2</sup>	5.0m x 3.0m = 15.0m <sup>2</sup>
Mosque	■	8.8m x 6.5m = 57.2m <sup>2</sup>	8.4m x 4.8m = 40.32m <sup>2</sup>	4 x 2.4m x 7.2m = 69.12m <sup>2</sup>	■	3.6m x 5.9m = 16.56m <sup>2</sup>	3.75m x 6.3m = 23.63m <sup>2</sup>	■	6.9m x 4.5m = 31m <sup>2</sup>	4.2m x 6.5 = 27.3m <sup>2</sup>
Classroom	6 x 6.5m x 6.5m = 253m <sup>2</sup>	8 x 6.5m x 6.5m = 338m <sup>2</sup>	7 x 6.0m x 7.2m = 302.4m <sup>2</sup>	6 x 6.5m x 6.5m = 253.5m <sup>2</sup>	6 x 6.5m x 5.4m = 210.6m <sup>2</sup>	8 x 6.5m x 6.5m = 338m <sup>2</sup>	8 x 6.0m x 6.0m = 288m <sup>2</sup>	6 x 6m x 6.5m = 234m <sup>2</sup>	11 x 6.0m x 6m = 396m <sup>2</sup>	6 x 6.5m x 5.4m = 210.6m <sup>2</sup>
Laboratory & Art Room	10.0m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>	6m x 9.3m = 55.8m <sup>2</sup>	8.4m x 4.8m = 40.32m <sup>2</sup>	10m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 3m x 3.6m = 21.6m <sup>2</sup>	10m x 6.5m = 65m <sup>2</sup>	6m x 6.9m = 41.4m <sup>2</sup>	6 x 4.2m x 3m = 75.6m <sup>2</sup>	6.0 x 6.0m = 36m <sup>2</sup>	■
Library	2 x 3.6m x 3m = 21.6m <sup>2</sup>	6.5m x 8.6m = 55.9m <sup>2</sup>	6.8m x 6m = 40.8m <sup>2</sup>	2 x 3.0m x 3.6m = 21.6m <sup>2</sup>	■	■	7.5m x 6.5m = 48.75m <sup>2</sup>	3.6m x 6.6m = 23.8m <sup>2</sup>	■	■
SWOT ANALYSIS OF LIBYAN HIGH SCHOOL										
<b>STRENGTH</b>	Large sport area with Laboratory and art Room	Enclose school Building thereby guaranteeing safety	Wide Administration Hall also used as an Event hall	Spacious Carpark separated from Football field	Classroom space dimension is large enough for standards	Wide entrance for students of standard dimensions	Larger school building space available for further development	Space area allocated for sport activities is large enough	There is a larger classroom space area	The staircase is small thereby limited in usage
<b>WEAKNESS</b>	No mosque, or event hall for the students of the school	The space allocated for the school is relatively small	The toilet space in the school building is limited	The size of the kitchen is very small when compared to standard	Total area is limited in space for further school development	Non automated Entrance	Kitchen Space provided is limited in space	The space of the school building is very small	The administrative building is small in terms of standard	Library and art room space is very small in space
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>	Laboratory is large for the installation of equipment	There is a wide space area provided for the classroom	Large mosque area used for Islamic Lectures and event	Standard Laboratory provision with larger space area	Nearby Land area is available to improve on the structure	Large space area for Ramps and Elevators	Space allocated for art room is of standard dimension	The corridor can be enhanced to standard dimensions	Wide spacious playground space also used as event hall	Wide central mosque used as venue for events and lectures
<b>THREATS</b>	The sport area is the same as the pitch and car park.	There is limited structural space for further school development	The provided entrance hall is small in space and sizes	The school requires staircase and ramp implementation	The school requires a larger building construction	Space allocated for art room is not of standard dimension	The parking space is small in size	Toilet space area is very small and it not of standard dimension	Library infrastructure is very small in space	The toilet is small in space, thereby not of standard.

**Table 4.3:** Recommended positions of elevators for future development

SCHOOL 1: AL-HARATI HIGH SCHOOL		SCHOOL 2: JABER BIN HAYYAN GIRLS SCHOOL		SCHOOL 3: SHUHADAA LIBYA SCHOOL		SCHOOL 4: KHADIJA GRAND SCHOOL		SCHOOL 5: AL-HAFIR HIGH SCHOOL	
SCHOOL 6: AL-SHAIMAA SECONDARY SCHOOL		SCHOOL 7: KORTOBA GIRLS SCHOOL		SCHOOL 8: FATIMA AL-ZAHRA SCHOOL		SCHOOL 9: UMM-AL-QURA SCHOOL		SCHOOL 10: AL-NAJAH SCHOOL	



## **CHAPTER 5**

### **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The thesis aimed to explain the different types of disable condition that exist in Libyan school in an attempt to improve the architectural condition of the school building construction. General introduction of the thesis with aims and objectives of the research survey was explained in the first chapter of the thesis. Literature review has been done in chapter two and three, basically reflecting worldwide architectural spatial standarts for disabled. After identifying the physically students' requirements in terms of architectural design, detailed descriptions of several illustrations of implemented architectural applications in school buildings are mentioned.

Chapter four of the thesis describes the method of survey which comprises interview and questionnaire carried out with the disabled students of randomly selected students in Libya high schools. The result of the needed architectural design was drawn out from the both the interview session and the questionnaire of the correspondents.

The interview revealed with some students (three to seven students) in every school and also with teachers and managers. According to the interview, most schools lack ramps and elevators, as well as toilets that are considered unsuitable for students with disabilities. In addition, students with disabilities need to be able to understand and help them to meet their special needs of eating, drinking and moving within the school

The survey of three high schools involved 35 students, where the majority of students identified physical disability as a form of disability. Students in a wheelchair and other forms of leg disabilities explained that some teachers and friends at school helped them climb the stairs when they entered school. On average, 35 students showed that the Libyan school government does not provide any special assistance to students with disabilities in school with regard to providing a few "special teachers" who understand how to deal with students with disabilities. 33 of the 35 students who completed the questionnaire in detail stated that they did not need any form of special assistance for other school activities such as field trips or laboratories. Finally, the requirement of examination for all students is the same for all students regardless of the form of disability dictated by the Libyan government and has been filled by reporters.

Through the evaluation of building programs of ten selected high schools in Libya the following results can be given in terms of SWOT analysis;

- Strengths: Most schools have a large sports area, and most classrooms are almost suitable for standard dimensions.
- Weakness: According to toilets and kitchens in most schools, there is a limited and non-standard area for students with disabilities. In all schools there are no elevators or ramps, causing problems for students with special needs, in addition to the toilets are not suitable for them.
- Opportunities: Most schools have a large fields giving them the opportunity to develop extensions so that they become more suitable for the disabled.
- Threats: Spatial requirements of disabled students are not considered seriously in most of the schools by designers. Lack of financial support also limits to develop architectural needs in schools.

The studied schools in this thesis, like most of the schools in the world have got L-shape, U-shape or closed courtyard type architectural plans. These types of plans give great opportunity for meeting the needs of disabled students in terms of constructing elevators for vertical circulation. For this purpose, several positions of elevators are recommended for future development. It must also be mentioned that governments of Libya must enforce the laws for architectural standards of disabled people, particularly in public buildings and spaces. These design standards already are not only for disabled but also for everyone (old people, people carrying suitcases etc.) and improve the quality of life in the country.

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## **APPENDICES**

## Appendix 1

### Questionnaire for the Disabled Libyan High School Students

1. What is your disability? (Please select the most suitable description)

- ☐ Autism
- ☐ Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
- ☐ Colour Blind
- ☐ Hearing Impaired
- ☐ Mental Illness
- ☐ Physical Disability
- ☐ Specific Learning Difficulties
- ☐ Speech Impaired
- ☐ Visceral Disability
- ☐ Visually Impaired
- ☐ Others, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Do you need special assistance for travelling to the campus? If yes, how is it arranged?

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3. Do you need special arrangements when attending lectures?

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4. Do you need assistance or special equipment in your studies and in completing course assignments?

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5. Do you envisage any activities in your study programme that you cannot attend, such as field trips, laboratory work, etc.?

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6. Do you need special arrangements for examinations? (Please tick the appropriate box(es) )

- ☐ Taking the examinations in a separate room
- ☐ Allowing extra examination time? Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Providing additional or special equipment, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Allowing rest breaks? (not to be counted in examination time) Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Others, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

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