

Current Trends of Interior Design Research in Korea

-Study for the interior design of Korea-

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Korean interior design history started about 30 years ago. Housing environment of human being highly industrialized and developed various style.

Now, how changed interior design concept in Korean society and how the education proceed and how to study. Let us study past, present and future of the Korean interior design.

I. Education environment and background.

Since 1876, traditional Korean architecture style effected by the western architecture style. Of course, before the 1876, Europe, India and middle east style gave us effect, however, westernized modern culture induced a round this time.

New era, new function of architecture and interior accessory launched. Initial stage, unselected induce was made and many imitation prevailed.

In 1950, rehabilitation and rebuilt to Korean peninsular and in 1960, interior function with the variety demand increased and expanded.

For example, interior design activity shows status of society and social group's expression. Though the development speed has difficiency, it has great influence from the human beings way of thinking and environment surrounded them.

Former interior decoration concept transferred to interior plan at this time. At that time, most of the designer educated in the field of architecture, fine art, sculpture and applied arts. Many of the carpenters acknowledged to the people their skill & sense and they continued the job. Limited finish material used by them and they got practical experience through that.

II. Education organization and KIID.

In 1970, demand of interior design increased with the works and as a result of that practical field developed than the academic.

At this time, Dept. of interior design were not opened in the university but great progress was made in volume and quality.

Further, Korean Society of interior Designer (KOSID) organized July 28, 1979 and in 1980, the activity was

open and positive. In 1980, cause of the 1988 Olympic game, interior design field developed greatly.

The first Korean interior design education was practiced in Hongik Art Highschool belonging to Hongik University, Afterwards, interior design was taught as a selective major course in the architect, art, and household related university departments. The distribution of interior design courses is 42 in the household departments and 23 in the art related departments.

As previously mentioned, an Interior design department was established in the design college of Sangmyung University in 1988 first in the University level. Then, the environment design department of Konkuk University was renamed to the interior design department.

1960's & 1970's, interior design handled Dept. of Decoration Art Applied Art and Industrial Design Dept. But interior design part education are not satisfied with it. So, interior design program opened in the graduate course for the link. However, it is not successful. After that short term course opened in the private institute and developed limited education system. Finally, only teaching interior design education institute established.

In 1990, Korean interior design tried to launch overseas project.

March 30 in 1991, The Korean Institute of Interior Designer(KIID), Aug in 1991, The Interior Construction Committee(ICC), Korean Society of Interior Design(KOSID).

Those 3 organization founded and various thesis expressed with the related seminar. So far, we had good activity compare to that other society and accommodation Engineer system established and moment for the enhancing the works quality.

III. Present education for interior design.

Each university's concept of Dept. will be different but the curriculum could be classified 3 parts.

1. Concept

We had concept education methods. As mentioned above, after 1950 Korean war, in spite of 60's baby boom and many education facilities destruction, and short of teachers, the number of students increased. In this diffi-

cult situation, Korean parents enthusiasm to education were great. Cause of this, we have to accommodate many of the students in a small class—room. Due to that, teachers could not be taught them more precisely and it brings memory teaching methods to the student.

Accordingly, fine arts and design education that takes the creative ability as its main purpose follow the same way.

Particularly, in the architecture, basic functions for housing, office space should be solved than the decoration or aesthetic design.

Unfortunately, those background are same in interior design education.

As a result of that simply technic program proceeded than creative or thinking education. This comes from the teachers absolute evaluation. Henceforth, few of frontiers were center and they apply new idea and education methods.

In the basic design class discussed their mind and emotional feeling and explain the idea and feeling. Also, future environment design class will be formed and working with dream.

For example, picture diary writing, changing the sound image to 2-Dimension, 3-D or special person's character indicated to the architecture or Lighting equipment making through the different religious image or 3 person make one group and one man handicapped and the other two become assistant etc.

Reading literature books and make design methods become old fashion. Those various program has important 2 factors.

One is character of materials on the completed item (metal, natural, artificial, paper etc).

Second is presentation say, theoretical and objective.

2. History of interior design.

In the long history of human being, it is the expression and natural environment and geographic aspect influenced greatly to the people. Rather than simplified history, we have to observe its social, economic, political and cultural design background.

Not only interior design but also fashion, architecture, artificial, (Craft) visual design, fine arts, seminar, sculpture and related parts contents should be weighted.

Periodical history or geographical history are important but we should not omit the nation's tradition too. Religion, custom, system must be research subject.

With the introduction of modeling, we have to study designer and their idea together by examples and lead them to seminar. And then link it to main studio.

Same time, we have close relation with other nations including student exchange program :

1) Designate a certain period to the student and study furniture, fashion, music literature, fine arts, etc by the student team and make chance to research or ex-

press regarding the subject.

2) Short term tour for the purpose of study would be good opportunity to learn history.

3) Develop project to apply a style to a certain area.

Ex: Peru and deconstructivism.

Through this kind of history research, you could get developing view point (visual mind).

3. Practice education

Not only concept history, but also practical plan ability will have important portion. Many people agree that many architecture academy should take it compulsory education for drafting, presentation, marketing, furniture design, CAD, Exhibition design etc.

Lighting design

It is new field and everybody think that it is necessary but hard to forecast regarding the results. It is easy to imagine but hard to make the atmosphere.

It needs many facilities and LAB. We need lamp industry information. Long story to short, it required much investment, however, finish material functions are great one.

First, the schools should be equipped with regular curriculum and faculty, while the industry should establish the system for regular designing and the related administration. Without these two preconditions, the cooperation might face challenges and result in contradictions.

Internship system is an important example of such cooperation.

Students are the most important and difficult factor in the training of the interface with the real society, because it is seen impossible to accommodate all the students for the industry regard less the social changes.

In Korea, KOSID has tried this during vacation.

Second, the industry in the practical world has a complaint that they have to teach the graduates back from the scratch once they recruit them. However, if the problem comes from the lack of skills, it doesn't bring any worries. Universities and junior colleges teach design subjects and education, and it's no place to bring about any draftsman. To complete an interior designer, it requires the joint efforts by both school education and the on-site training by the industry.

Third, it is also important to improve the systems of uniform curriculum of each school, very similar educational system, the same text for use and the faculty. Every school should develop its own and particular trend of education. For example, school A can have the trend of theory, school B can be practice-oriented, and school C can emphasize material. With such system, the academy and the industry can be more close in their cooperation, through strengthening the connection and sistership.

IV. Suggestion

Good space means pleasure space that human being and nature feels together. But after destroyed many of the natural scene and in the midst of it, modern civilization developed so much.

Now we should well take care of the earth and nature itself.

In the space, feel and enjoy pleasant interior space for the next generation. This is our duty and obstacle that we have to conquer. Rather than one or two person, we have to overcome nation, religion, and race. I would like propose the first milestone in IDEC.