# INCLUSIVE ARCHITECTURE STRATEGIES AND USER COMFORT IN THE DESIGN OF A COMMUNITY CENTRE, LAGOS MAINLAND

**ODEWUMI, ANUOLUWA NISSI**
**(16CA021162)**
**B.Sc, Architecture, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State**

**JULY, 2024**

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**BY**

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES, IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.Sc) IN ARCHITECTURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE, COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, COVENANT UNIVERSITY, OTA, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA**

**JULY, 2024**

# ACCEPTANCE

This is to attest that this dissertation is accepted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Master of Science (M.Sc) in the Department of Architecture, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria and has been accepted by the School of Postgraduate Studies, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun state.

**Miss Adefunke F. Oyinloye**
**(Secretary, School of Postgraduate Studies)** **Signature and Date**

**Prof. Akan B. Williams**
**(Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies)** **Signature and Date**

# DECLARATION

**I, ODEWUMI, ANUOLUWA NISSI (16CA021162)** declare that this dissertation is a representation of my work and is written and implemented by me under the supervision of Dr. Bukola A. Adewale of the Department of Architecture, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria. I attest that this dissertation has in no way been submitted either wholly or partially to any other university or institution of higher learning for the award of a master's degree. All information cited from published and unpublished literature has been duly referenced.

**ODEWUMI, ANUOLUWA NISSI**

**Signature and Date**

# CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this dissertation titled **"INCLUSIVE ARCHITECTURE STRATEGIES AND USER COMFORT IN THE DESIGN OF A COMMUNITY CENTRE IN LAGOS MAINLAND**" is an original research work carried out by **ODEWUMI, ANUOLUWA NISSI (16CA021162)** in the Department of Architecture, College of Science and Technology, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria under the supervision of Dr. Bukola A. Adewale. This dissertation has met the required standard for the award of Master of Science (M.Sc) in Architecture.

**Dr. Bukola A. Adewale**
**(Supervisor)** **Signature and Date**

**Prof. Adedapo A. Oluwatayo**
**(Head of Department)** **Signature and Date**

**Prof. Adetokunbo O. Ilesanmi**
**(External Examiner)** **Signature and Date**

**Prof. Akan B. Williams**
**(Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies)** **Signature and Date**

# DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to God, whose divine wisdom and guidance have sustained me throughout the research process. I am also grateful for the love and support of my family and Temi, who have been with me every step of the way.

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| **AIA** | American Institute of Architects |
| **ASHARE** | American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers |
| **CIM** | City Information Model |
| **DfA** | Design for All |
| **DfN** | Design for Need |
| **HND** | Higher National Diploma |
| **IAQ** | Indoor Air Quality |
| **ID** | Inclusive Design |
| **ICT** | Information and Communication Technology |
| **IEQ** | Indoor Environmental Quality |
| **ISO** | International Organisation for Standardization |
| **IVE** | Immersive Virtual Environment |
| **IVR** | Immersive Virtual Reality |
| **LCDAs** | Local Council Development Areas |
| **PwD** | Persons Living with Disabilities |
| **SDG** | Sustainable Development Goal |

# ABSTRACT

Community centres are vital community assets that foster interpersonal relationships, interdependence, and civic involvement. This study aimed to investigate the adoption of inclusive architecture strategies and their potential to enhance building user comfort with the purpose of applying lessons learnt in the design of a community centre in Lagos Mainland, Nigeria. The study's primary focus is inclusiveness, specifically addressing the needs of all individuals with and without disabilities, particularly those with mobility, sight, and hearing impairments. This research adopts a pragmatic philosophy, employing mixed methods and a qualitative approach to explore inclusive architecture strategies for user comfort in a Lagos Mainland community centre. Utilising a multi-stage sampling method, the study focused on 307 respondents from three community centres, utilising questionnaires, observation guides, and case studies to comprehensively gather data within the study area. The scope of this study encompasses considerations for diverse demographic needs, disabilities, and socio-economic statuses. By employing inclusive architecture strategies, this study's results revealed new opportunities for creating community facilities that are both inclusive and comfortable. The findings of this study benefit a wide range of stakeholders, including residents, architects, designers, developers, and the broader community within Lagos Mainland, Nigeria.

***Keywords: Comfort, Community Centre, Inclusive Architecture, Lagos Mainland.***