

Water Supply

Student`s Name

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Sanitation has long suffered from the lack of prioritization as it has remained the weak connection to water supply. However, ancient people valued the knowledge of an ecological balance of water supply and the management of urban living since it saved their lives. Modern sanitation success ends up with the global environmental sanitation crisis due to enormous population growth and high population densities in urban and peri-urban areas of all developing countries. Considering a considerable impact of hydro-technologies on the development of both ancient and modern urban living, people do not apprehend the deepness of issues which are going forward with urban sanitation.

Most of the ancient civilizations including Minoans and Etruscans lived in total harmony with surrounding environment and nature, and knowledge of those people was crucial for an ecological balance of water supply and the management of urban living. The ancient hydro-technologies, for instance, storage of rainfall runoff facilities and stormwater drainage systems should be weighed as potential models for sustainable water technologies of urban sanitation in today's world and the future, and not merely as historical artifacts (Angelakis, 2015). Covering all historical phases, the level of sanitation and water supply is not fundamentally bound with a historical period or location as much as with the human capability to take responsibility for the decent development of the living environment of its citizens (IWA). For instance, Ancient Greece and Rome civilizations used an underground channel where wastewater from no less than five light-wells was discharged to serve a toilet, and air-shafts at intervals helped to ventilate sewers (Angelakis, 2005). Almost all ancient civilizations examined the quality of the water by their senses such as temperature, taste, smell, and appearance; used municipal sewerage and drainage systems, and domestic sanitary structures based on

underground channels to save their lives (IWA). Unlike Greek and Rome civilizations, which were characterized by limited, and often inadequate natural water resources, Mesopotamia and Egypt were based on the exploitation of water of the large rivers (Angelakis, 2005).

Urban sanitation in today's world has economic, political, technological, environmental, or cultural effects. First, lack of sanitation holds back country's economic growth. For instance, more than the US \$550 million enhance the access to sanitation for poor people and create channels for Egypt citizens, and address Nile's pollution from not preserved sewage. In India, the main focus is to incentivize toilet and latrine construction through changing human behaviors as well as stimulating demand (The World Bank). Next, the absence of adequate sanitation and safe water, are damaging factors affecting health, social and economic development (Mara et al., 2010). Today, people face the global environmental sanitation crisis since 40% of the population around the world still lacks access to developed sanitation (Harvey, 2008).

Finally, outstanding lessons from the ancient period such as municipal sewerage and drainage systems, and domestic sanitary structures need be applied today to avert the crisis. The exploitation of the large rivers has always been vital for hydro-technologies development from the period of ancient up to the modern urban living. Improved environmental sanitation would affect a wide range of individual and country's development indicators positively.

References

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