



QATAR NATIONAL LIBRARY  
Scheme 2 "The Transfer of Knowledge"



The new intellectual icon of the State of Qatar will reflect the deep history and the rich culture as well as the love to learn of all those who have lived, or continue to live, in this part of the world.

The intention of the National Library is to house the national archives and function as the central library for the State of Qatar, but unlike other libraries, it will also act as a cultural attraction and learning destination for the entire world while reflecting the past, present and future of Qatar.

QNL will provide a place where every person living in the State of Qatar - nationals and expatriates, youths and elders, students and researchers - will be able to find their area of intellectual and social activity.

**Preliminary Program:**

**Library**

- Archives and Permanent Collection
- Research Facilities
- Public Reading Rooms
- Computer Stations for Information Access

**Destination Museum**

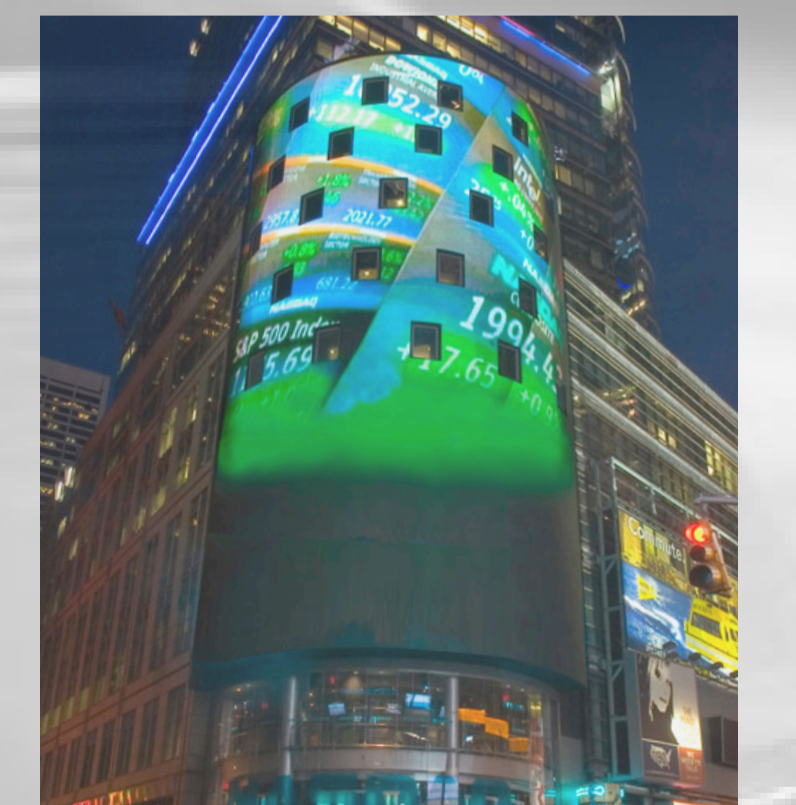
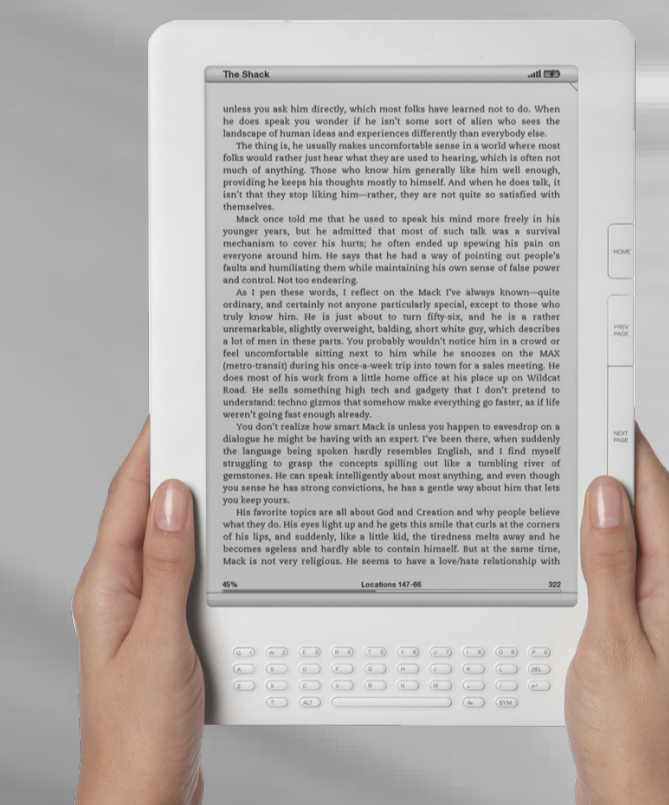
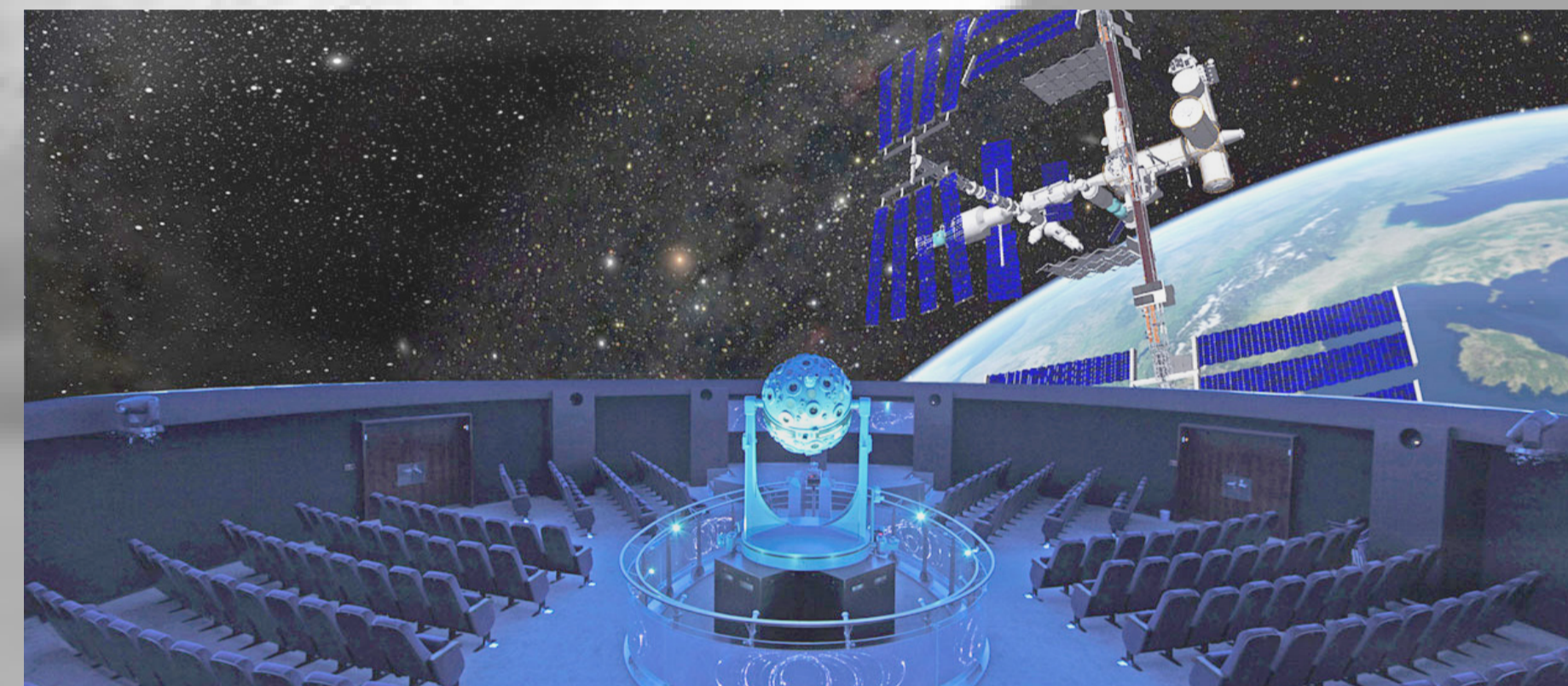
- Family Oriented Museum
- Children's Educational Area
- Storytelling Area
- Café and Gift Shop

**Event Spaces**

- Banquet Facilities - Indoor and Outdoor Event Spaces
- Lecture Hall and Theater
- 3D Theater

**Site Features**

- Parking under library
- Plaza
- Café terrace
- Public gardens
- Outdoor reading areas
- E-reader with dynamic user interface
- Mom's area next to the children's section
- Children's activities area
- Planetarium
- Computer lab
- Audio / Visual learning facility
- Outdoor theater for open shows and concerts



# QATAR NATIONAL LIBRARY

## Inspiration & Program

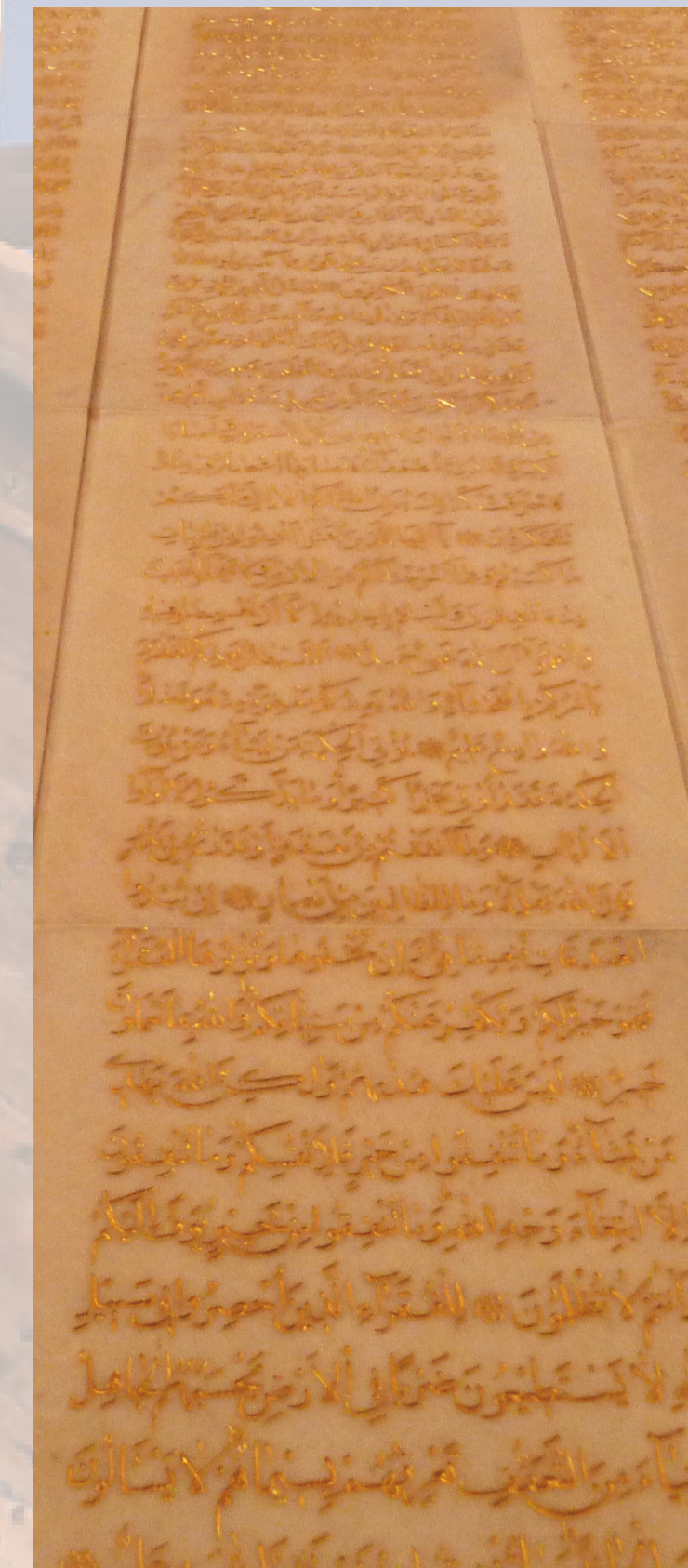


### Scheme 1 - "The Open Book"

Inspired by the simple form of an "Open Book," this scheme uses sloping stone "blocks" to create a sense of monumentality and permanence. When moving between the massive stone monoliths there is a sense that this building be here forever. While the roof line is inspired by an open book it can also be perceived as "rolling" desert dunes or the surface of the water. To compliment the monumentality of the stone walls there are two large interior atriums that become the focal point of the space. The combination of materials and simple forms result in a timeless design. As an added public amenity and sculptural feature, there is a covered reading stair that can allow people to sit and read a book while viewing the water front. The simple forms of this building are intended to be sympathetic to its "neighbors," such as the Museum of Islamic Art, while being another icon of the Corniche.

### Scheme 2 - "The Transfer of Knowledge"

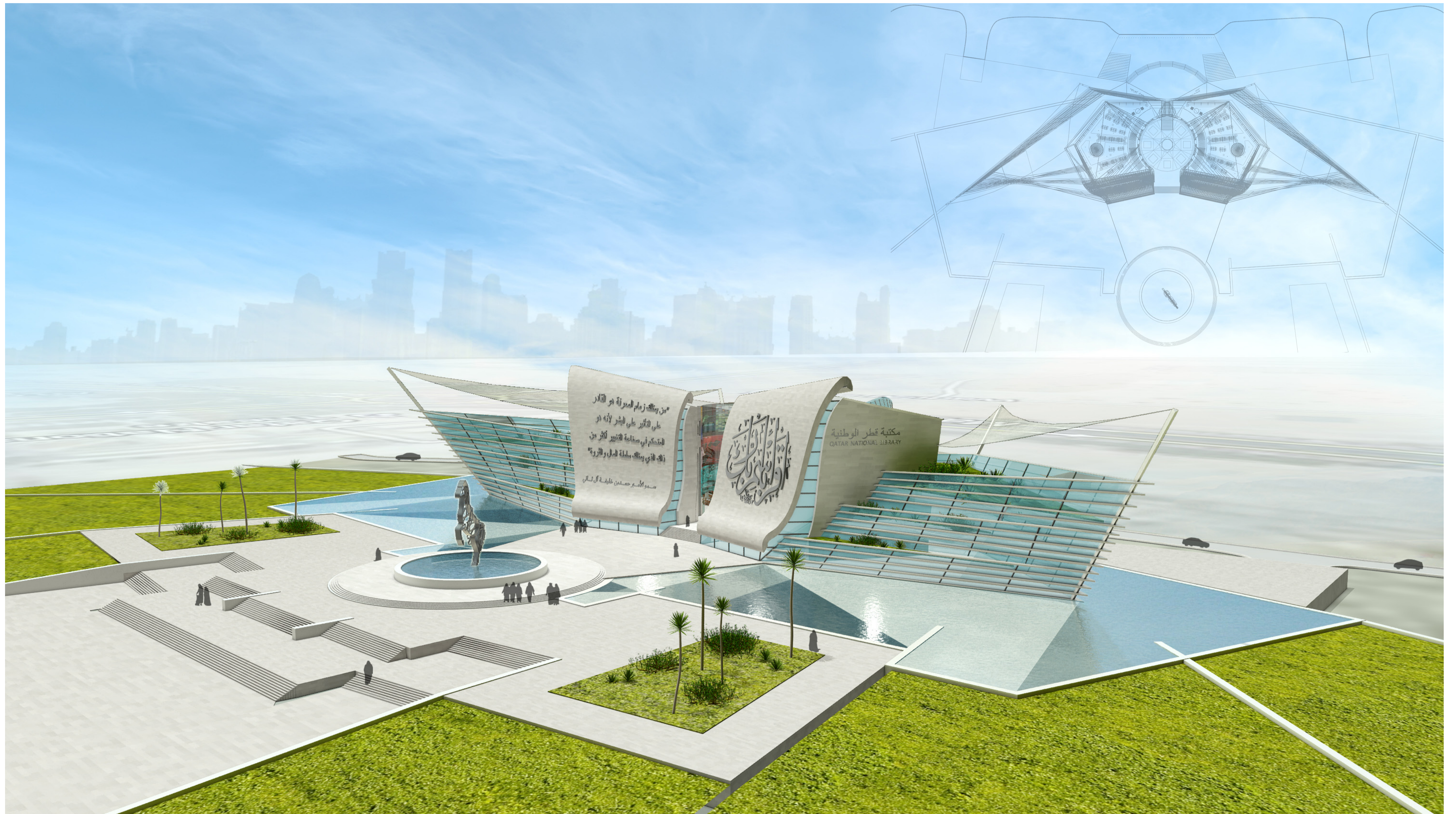
The design for this scheme was inspired by a narrative that describes how knowledge was written on scrolls and passed onto others by men on horseback and then sailing boats. Though built on this story of the past the library also looks to the future of Qatar. The winged gestures are inspired by traditional Qatari boats, while the form of the central element is suggestive of ancient scrolls. Both elements are focused on a sculpted steel horse that is over 10 meters tall and reflects back to Qatar's past and encourages people to inquire about the meaning of the horse. At the center of the library is a public courtyard that is encompassed with a gigantic "e-reader" that would continually tell stories. The intent is twofold. First, the "e-reader" celebrates the idea of free information for visitors to the library and for the people of Qatar. Secondly, from a far, there will be glimpses of multi-colored, dynamic, imagery that would be consistent with the skylines of Doha and would suggest a continued embracing of technology and the future.





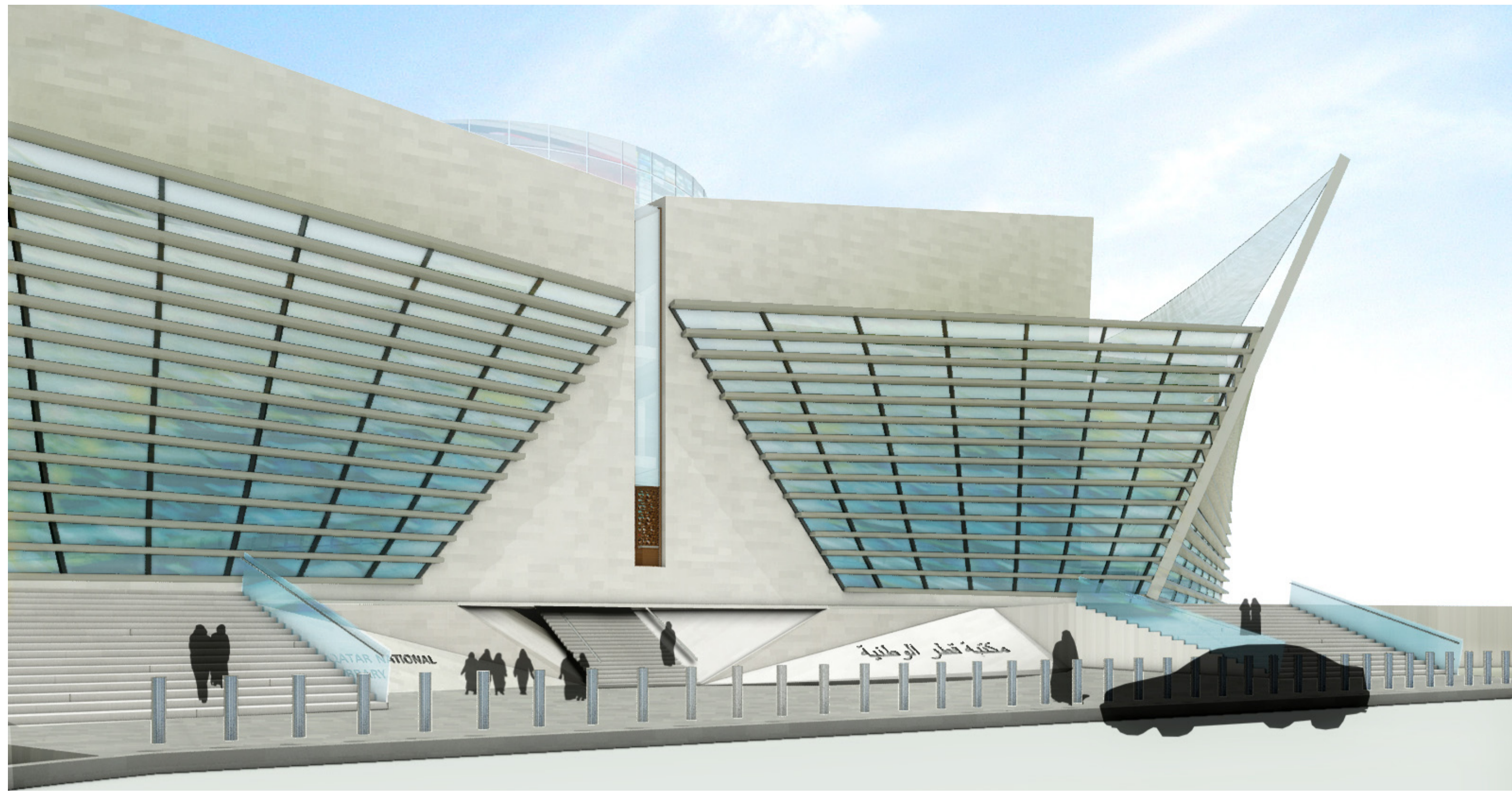
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Scheme 2



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