

LISTINGS, REPORTS, BOOKS and EVENTS

Ayyub Malik



AROUND THE WORLD

Afghanistan

Lost and vanishing heritage

Countless treasures across Afghanistan are being looted and sold off as smugglers are stripping the country of its cultural heritage and history.

http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=32866&SelectRegion=Central_Asia

Focus on looted antiquities

KABUL, 17 Mar 2003 (IRIN) - In 1995, a farmer in Tang-e Safedak, a remote area of central Afghanistan, came upon a subterranean chamber full of treasure trove. In the middle of the three-meter-square chamber was a stone box containing a book, about 20 gold coins, gold and glass ornaments and a diamond the size of a golf ball. The find was recorded in 1996 by Jonathan Lee, a British archaeologist. But that was the last sighting of anything but the inscription - the fate of the book, the diamond, the coins and ornaments may well be the same as that of countless other treasures in Afghanistan as looters and smugglers strip the country of its cultural heritage.

Afghan Culture and Information Minister Sayed Makhdum Rahin said every day hundreds of items of illegally excavated antiquities were being taken out of the country. Powerful elements were involved in the trade, and the government lacked the resources to guard the archaeological sites. What was desperately needed was for the international community to recognize the crisis and help stop this illegal trade which is valued by Interpol at \$32 billion a year. In areas such as Jam in the west, the situation was becoming critical. While much on sale in Kabul's Chicken Street is of little financial value, more precious items were being smuggled out through neighboring countries, many ending up in western markets.

According to Louise Haxthausen, a UNESCO programme specialist in Kabul, whole country had become one big excavation site with hundreds of areas being hit by organised networks, often supported by professional archaeologists who, through their previous experience, know exactly where to dig. Using inventories of foreign excavations carried out since the 1920s, they use local people to dig fast not only to loot but also destroy the site from an archaeological and scientific point of view. Many collectors overseas claim that they are helping save Afghanistan's treasures. The owners of the extensive Schoyen Collection of many precious Buddhist manuscripts, for instance, claim that these were saved from destruction by the Taliban and that Afghanistan will not be a safe place these manuscripts in the future.

In Kabul's shattered museum, the director, Omar Masudi, recently received 92 priceless figures from the second to fourth centuries confiscated from smugglers on their way to Pakistan. Work on restoring the museum which was hit by a rocket has just begun and six rooms are being repaired with Greek and British help, including the restoration of the seventh century inscription from the underground chamber in Tang-e Safedak. (*IRINnews.org*)

Source: UN Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 19 March 2003

Australia

Green cities

As a keynote speaker for the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects' conference in Sydney on Greening Cities, Emilio Ambasz recommended covering facades with bamboo to control heat load.

<http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2003/04/27/1051381850266.html>

Rus in Urbe

On a 2,000 sqm site in the centre of Adelaide, a model eco-village is taking shape complete with rooftop vegetable gardens and an on-site 'sewer mine'. The project will produce a 27-home settlement, transforming a 'semi-industrial site with virtually zero biological productivity' into a compact community of three and five-storey buildings. All construction is non-toxic, there's no heating or air-conditioning, solar energy will produce electricity and rainwater will be managed. "We're also sewer-mining, taking the effluence from the sewers and recycling and treating it on the site. All of this on a tiny, tiny, inner urban site, and this is just a small example of what I believe we need to be doing across our cities, across the planet..."

Transcript of radio programme featuring Dr Paul Downton, architect with Urban Ecology Australia: http://rsi.com.sg/en/programmes/eco_watch/2003/04/14_04_01.htm

Utzon Honoured

Congratulations from across the world have been pouring in for Jorn Utzon, the Danish architect who just celebrated his 85th birthday as this year's winner of the Pritzker Architecture Prize. Utzon, who now lives in Majorca, inspired a generation of architects with his iconic Sydney Opera House which, said the jury's citation, proved "that the marvelous and seemingly impossible in architecture can be achieved". The building's popularity has endured, while the wrangling and controversy surrounding its construction has faded. Utzon resigned from the job six years before construction - which began in 1959 - was completed in 1973. The final cost was 14 times the original estimate.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uslatest/story/0,1282,-2538865,00.html>

<http://www.pritzkerprize.com/> for full citation, biography and background.

<http://www.utzon.dk/> for Utzon's practice website, with plenty of pictures.

Towers of power

Australia is preparing for an aesthetic debate following the announcement that the world's tallest tower is planned in New South Wales. About a 1000 meter high, the proposed Solar Tower would be more than twice the height of Kuala Lumpur's Petronas Towers and is being championed as a model for sustainable energy. Hot air sucked through 32 turbines would create enough power to supply 200,000 homes annually. <http://www.enviromission.com.au/index1.htm>

Bangladesh

High-rise living

People in densely populated Bangladesh - population 130 million - are increasingly opting to buy apartments, changing their traditional attitudes mainly because of high land price. In Dhaka – population about 10 million - an acre (0.4 hectares) of land in up-market Dhanmondi area costs about 120 million taka - over two million dollars.

Canada

Conference - Landscapes On The Edge

The annual World Congress of the International Federation of Landscape Architects is to be held this year in Calgary. http://www.csla.ca/eng/engdocs/eng_cong2001frames.html

Cities of the Mind

Call for Papers. The Department of English, University of Toronto (Ontario, Canada) invites submissions for a two-day conference 23-24 Jan 2004

Contact: cities_of_the_mind@hotmail.com for submissions and inquiries.

<http://www.utoronto.ca/english/conference/cities-of-the-mind.html> for updates.

China

Beijing

More than a third of Beijing's famous Hutong Alley courtyard homes have been demolished since the mid-1980s to make way for wider roads and new apartment and business complexes. Opponents claim the city is losing its traditional architecture and distinctive character. <http://straitstimes.asia1.com.sg/asia/story/0,4386,181345,00.html>

Olympic Stadium

Thirteen short-listed designs, including eight from foreign companies, go on display for public consultation. <http://china.org.cn/english/2003/Mar/59041.htm>

Shanghai City

The Shifting Image of Shanghai City: Architecture and the Representation of Economy, Culture and Politics, lecture by Shih-yao Lai, at Bartlett School of Architecture, March 2003

The Economic Reform and Opening Up of China may be one of the biggest changes in the last two decades of the twentieth century, with a huge influence on the world's future economy and politics. Shanghai has been planned and built as the 'show window' of this momentous development. The research examines the urban meaning of the making of the new Shanghai, including the core projects in the new city - Pudong New Area and the Lujiazui Financial and Trade Zone - as well as the other renovated projects in the old city. With numerous representations of the new cityscape now being produced, the concept of 'image' can be an effective key to unfold their urban meaning. This study explores the city's new development as an historical project, in which the image of the new Shanghai City is highly connected to the making of a global city at the world level, as well as to the Reform policy at a national level, and the city's own identity at a local level.

Cuba

International Congress in Havana - CIER 2003

3rd International Conference for Renewable Energy, October 28-31, 2003

CIER 2003 is being organized in cooperation with national and international associations for energy – EUROSOLAR, World Energy Wind Association, and supported by CUBASOLAR. There will be a Commission related to Bio-climatic Architecture and Sustainable Built Environment

Contact: Dr. Conrado Moreno Figueredo, Chairman cier2003@ceter.cujae.edu.cu and [Dania Gonzalez Couret](mailto:Dania.Gonzalez.Couret@ceter.cujae.edu.cu) . URL: www.cujae.edu.cu/eventos/cier

Dubai

Tower power

The Gulf State of Dubai has unveiled plans for the world's tallest building, the latest scheme to aim for the title, containing homes, shops, offices and 'at least one hotel'.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/2797599.stm>

New Islands

RMJM, a British firm of architects, has been appointed as designer for two 'village centres' on artificial islands at a cost of £250m each: "a composition of Islamic geometry and organic structure, combined with the integration of water in the form of canals and a central basin". <http://www.gulf-news.com/Articles/news.asp?ArticleID=87067>

Egypt

Cairo

The International Society of City and Regional Planners is holding its Congress this year in Cairo on '*territorial phenomena and urban / regional planning practices in a globalising world*'. <http://www.isocarp.org>

UIA Architectural Education Commission

1st International Conference on Architectural Education For The New Millennium: Issues, Innovations, and Traditions

Today Architectural Education faces a crisis. The present directions are more towards quantity rather than the quality. Many Educational programmes view education as training students to design buildings, rather than educating them to engage in creative, critical problem solving in urban issues. With the accelerating pace of change in the world, and the revival of the systematic design approaches, buildings begin to decay within a very short time; practices of today may be obsolete in a few years. To prepare students for changes, we need to educate them to be intellectually aware, creative, and critical.

Contact: www.uiaeduv2003.org email: info@uiaeduv2003.org

Alexandria Library fire

Designed-in fireproofing features helped curb a blaze at the showpiece Alexandria Library opened last October. The \$225m library, financed largely with international aid, contains 240,000 volumes and was designed to reflect the spirit of the ancient *Bibliotheca Alexandria* which itself was destroyed by fire 1,600 years ago.

<http://www.middle-east-online.com/english/?id=4518>

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/2812765.stm

Great Britain

Great architects talking

BBC has assembled a sound archive of great architects talking about their work and philosophy with extracts of interviews with Le Corbusier, Lasdun, Mies van der Rohe, Richard Rogers, Albert Speer, James Stirling and Walter Gropius - talking about the origins and vision of the Bauhaus, "true functionalism, and the human being as the starting point for design" and "beauty as a basic requirement of life..."

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bbcfour/audiointerviews/professions/architects.shtml>

Sustainable Urban Drainage

Sustainable use of resources is essential and there is a need to strike a balance between the management of floods, surface water drainage and conservation of natural resources. One factor in achieving this is the widespread use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS).

SUDS are designed to manage surface water runoff in a more sustainable way than the traditional systems. They provide a natural approach to runoff management and, when incorporated into developments, help prevent floods or water pollution risk downstream. They can also provide direct improvements to amenity and bio-diversity. For an introduction to SUDS and updates on current good practice in their use visit <http://www.ciria.org.uk/suds>

New Gurdwara in London

Accompanied by an army band and showers of petals, the biggest Sikh gurdwara in Europe opened in London in March 2003. Funded entirely by private donations from the Sikh community, the £17.5m building - finished in granite, marble gilded dome and stained glass windows - can accommodate up to 3,000 people.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/arts/news/story/0,11711,926344,00.html>

India

Chennai

Campaign to save historic sites in Chennai has been launched, as controversy surrounds the Tamil Nadu government's plan to demolish buildings to make way for a new secretariat.

http://www.hindustantimes.com/news/181_233447,000600010002.htm

Araku Valley

A blueprint for the development of the Araku Valley area by architect Ujjain Ghosh has been approved. A new valley town will include "welcome arches, a park avenue, market place, temple square and a chain of food courts..." ummm!

<http://hinduonnet.com/stories/2003042803240500.htm>

Ahmedabad

The 14th century city wall is crumbling into a heap of bricks in Ahmedabad. The largest surviving stretch of wall has been badly affected by development: "Besides being plastered with advertisements and graffiti, the lower portion of the wall is used to dry cow dung..."

<http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=49093>

Images of the wall and its buildings: <http://www.eeseetravel.com/gujarat/ahmedabad1.htm>

Uppercut Fort in Junagadh

The 2,000 year-old fort is being renovated and the interior space remodeled to include a new 3,000-seat open-air theatre. <http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=51078>

Solar meals at Shored, Maharashtra

At Shri Saibaba Sansthan's *prasadalaya* in Shirdi, solar steam cooking is used to provide 7,000 meals to visiting devotees' everyday. The Brahma Kumari World Renewable Spiritual

Trust at Mount Abu was the first to use the solar cooking preparing 1,000 meals everyday. In 1999, the capacity was increased to 10,000 meals, making it the largest solar cooking system in the world.

The system works with 40 parabolic *Scheffler dishes* that concentrate solar rays on to 40 receivers. This heats and converts water in to steam which is sent through insulated pipes to the kitchen. The system is integrated with a gas-fired boiler so that cooking is not interrupted at night or during cloudy weather. The Sansthan at Shirdi has also set up solar hot water systems in its *dharmashalas* where Biogas plants produce gas to drive electricity generators for the Sansthan complex and for solar street lighting.

Contact: Gadhia Solar Energy Systems. Email: gadhia_solar@vsnl.com

Tel: +91 2632 36703

World Water Day

World Water Day came and went by on March 23, but the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation has finally recognised rainwater harvesting. From October, it will introduce new planning requirement from to make mandatory for developers of plots larger than 1,000 sq meters to include rainwater harvesting facilities in order to get a planning consent. Designed-in harvesting features will include swales - depressions in hard surfaces to capture runoffs and seasonal floodwater - angled planes and collection cisterns.

<http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=47582>

<http://www.cseindia.org/html/extra/paaniyatra.htm> for sixth pani yatra June 24-29.

http://www.cseindia.org/html/dte/dte20020515/dte_analysis.htm for Down To Earth (DTE) data and information about environmental degradation.

http://www.cseindia.org/html/dte/dte20020430/dte_analy.htm for target for renewable energy: 10,000 megawatt by 2012.

Water, water, water

It is estimated that over 1 billion people have no access to clean drinking water and nearly 3 billion no access to sanitation. A child dies every eight seconds from drinking contaminated water. In just over a decade, it is estimated that at least 40 percent of the world's population – about 3 billion people – will live in countries where it will be nearly impossible to get enough water to satisfy basic needs. The situation is exacerbated in the cities of the developing world as people move in to find a livelihood, putting tremendous pressure on the already limited urban water resources. (*Urban Links 40, 2003*)

Patiala

Restoration of the historic city of Patiala, celebrated for its Sikh palace architecture, could follow a template by planning pioneer Patrick Geddes.

http://www.indianexpress.com/full_story.php?content_id=18482

Iraq

Baghdad

A reminder of Baghdad's threatened architecture from architect Yanar Mohammed, who fled the city a decade ago: "All of a sudden you're 1,000 years back, then all at once you're back in the 21st century..." <http://tinyurl.com/8g7l>

For the May 2000 story celebrating the reopening of the Baghdad museum and its exhibits: <http://tinyurl.com/9h96>

Japan

Tokyo

Despite the effects of recession, a building boom is underway in Tokyo. An estimated 2.27m sqm of office space will be released into the city this year. The latest development showcase is Shiodome - 31 hectares of prime real estate near Shinbashi. A former freight depot, it is being developed as a commercial 'mini-city' for 60,000 people. <http://metropolis.japantoday.com/tokyo/recent/feature.asp>

Pakistan

Research and Publication Centre, National College of Arts, Lahore

Periodic lectures organized by the Research and Publication Centre.

Contact: Nadeem Omar Tel: +042 731 1018 Email: rpc@nca.edu.pk

Philippines

School repairs

A massive building maintenance programme of repairing nearly 10,000 schools using local volunteers led by parents and teachers is underway in the Philippines. National Schools Maintenance Week - the *Brigada Eskwela* - aims to organise 50 volunteers daily - two million working days - to paint external and internal walls and repair windows and doors, furniture, services, footpaths, school signs and play grounds. Local businesses are being encouraged to donate construction materials.

<http://www.mb.com.ph/news.php?art=33150&fname=MN03051833150f.txt>

South Africa

Housing

Social housing built with hemp-based cement would be six times cheaper than homes constructed from the traditional material.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/3024047.stm>

Taiwan

Community Architecture

A community architecture experiment in Taiwan is producing unique homes through developer/architect/user cooperation and briefing...

<http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/feat/archives/2003/03/09/197397>

World Trade Center, Taipei 101

Already 90 floors of this huge 200,000 sqm 101-storey building named '*Taipei 101*' are up in the Taiwanese capital. This latest contender for *world's tallest tower*, with an 'international shopping mall' at the base and a luxury hotel on floors 67-84, is due to open next year.

Visit: <http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/biz/archives/2003/05/19/2003051817>

Background: <http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/biz/archives/2003/05/07/205030>

Tanzania

International exhibitions

Dar Es Salaam is preparing for a series of international exhibitions this year: prefab housing will be on show at the Building & Mining East Africa '03 event, and the city is also hosting a major interiors exhibition. <http://www.expolink.ae/fullcalendar.htm>

Singapore

Pre-fab comes home

The prefabricated market is taking off, shortening residential building time from a year to seven months. And although the main demand is for use in mass housing projects, experts predict a continuing rise in one-off home designs. One private terraced scheme in Ang Mo Kio, due for completion in 2004, will have about 80 per cent of its materials pre-cast. <http://straitstimes.asia1.com.sg/life/story/0,4386,181247,00.html>

CONFERENCES + WORKSHOPS

Globalisation and Architecture: Opportunities within the Commonwealth

Commonwealth Association of Architects, Bloemfontein, South Africa, August

The Conference will discuss architectural responses to globalisation, conformity versus identity, the issues of super-modernism and regional and local culture. This year's Student Design Competition: *'an autonomous, minimal dwelling for a famous writer who wishes to escape the distractions of everyday life. Entrants should choose a site from within their own region...'*. www.comarchitect.org

Third China Urban Housing Conference

"Sustainable Environment: Quality Urban Living", July 3 to 5, 2003.

To examine quality urban living" from a variety of disciplines, including planning, design, construction, materials, management, and information technology.

http://innovations.arch.cuhk.edu.hk/chi2003/Call_for_Paper_E.htm

Prof. TSOU Jin-yeu, Center for Housing Innovations, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

The ARCASIA FORUM 12

Globalisation and Asian Architecture, 8 - 12 December 2003, Dhaka, Bangladesh

ARCASIA, the Architects Regional Council Asia, comprises the Presidents of National Institutes of Architects in the Asian region who are members of the organization. Currently 17 National Institutes of Architects constitute the Council. ARCASIA provides a platform for Asian architects to share and discuss experiences, ideas and concepts to advance the cause of architecture and built environment in the Asian region. ARCASIA FORUM takes place every two years and alternate to the Asian Congress of Architects (ACA).

Contact: E-mail: info@arcasia12.com Web: www.arcasia12.com

Telefax: + 880 2 8611454 Forum Secretariat

Landscape Ecology

World Congress of the International Association of Landscape Ecology, Crossing Frontiers: Landscape Ecology Down Under - Building Bridges between Cultures, Disciplines and Approaches, Darwin, Australia, 13-17 July 2002.

Symposium is to bring researchers, non-academic actors and stakeholders together and to discuss the specific problems, solutions and challenges for planning and management approaches in metropolitan delta areas. Landscape Dialogues identify existing interests and lifestyles and bring relevant stakeholders together to develop a strategy for a sustainable development of delta regions.

Contact: Email tress@tress.cc or visit <http://www.wur.nl/delta/darwin-symposium.html>

International Architecture Biennial Rotterdam Mobility: A Room with a View 7 May - 7 July 2003

Rotterdam will host the first International Architecture Biennial, between 7 May and 7 July 2003 in Rotterdam when many aspects of mobility will be re-considered in the MOb_LAB (Mobility Laboratory), by architects, artists, filmmakers and photographers from various disciplines and from all over the world.

Information and programme: <http://www.biennalerotterdam.nl/>

Seminar

Architecture: Overcoming Constraints

Call for Papers:

This seminar is concerned with ways how different societies are dealing with their constraints and aims to bring about a common forum where the exchange of views and experiences will help overcome the challenges of the contemporary world through Architecture. Based on the theme the seminar will focus on environment, technology and urban, housing and social issues. archseminar@arch.buet.ac.bd

EXHIBITIONS + LECTURES

Geoffrey Bawa

Geoffrey Bawa is an outstanding architect of our time - conversant with modern technology and international development and, at the same time, with a profound understanding of architectural and urban *genus loci* of his country. After showing at the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London, the exhibition of the work of the acclaimed Sri Lankan architect has opened in Singapore: "In some instances, it almost requires a double-take before the viewer realises that man-made objects have actually made it onto the tracing paper, such is the architect's overriding concern for his buildings to be an integral part of the environment".

Visit: <http://business-times.asia1.com.sg/home1> and run search for Bawa

Lecture: Cyborg urbanisation: exploring water and urban infrastructure

by Matthew Gandy, held at UCL, London

The flow of water through urban space is one of the most liberating socio-technical dynamics underpinning the modern city. From the intimate space of the bathroom to the hidden space of the sewer, from the civic display of the fountain to distant dams and reservoirs, water provides a link between the corporeal experience of space and the abstract dynamics of capitalist urbanization. Water has been incorporated into different conceptions of city form that reveal sharply contrasting perspectives on the relationship between the body and society,

the distinction between private and public realms, and the role and function of metropolitan governance. Yet our growing reliance on technological networks carries with it more subtle disciplinary codes for the choreography of everyday life and the dependence of the human body on urban infrastructure.

Matthew Gandy is Reader in Geography at University College London, currently writing a book on the cultural histories of urban infrastructure and the 'hidden city' which involves fieldwork in Los Angeles, Mumbai, Lagos and Berlin.

Material Intelligence, Entwistle, Cork Street, London. March - May 2003

Imagination, memory and emotion, traditionally the preserve of the fine arts are finding their way into architectural practice. No longer just a space for living or for work, architecture is now a cultural and speculative space that can engage on an equal footing with the philosophical, historical and formal issues once reserved for fine art. At the heart of this metamorphosis in architecture is our rapidly changing relationship to material culture. As our tools and environments become interactive, the division between function and representation is breaking down. A building can tell us as much about society's questions and aspirations as can a painting or a sculpture. Our built environment is no longer inert. Through technological and material innovation, architecture is becoming intelligent; buildings are learning to respond and adapt to their environments... darren@entwistle.net

BOOKS + ARTICLES

Picturing South Asian Culture in English: Textual and Visual Representations

By Tasleem Shakur and Karen D'Souza eds. Open House Press, Liverpool, 2003

Examines the changing representations of South Asian culture in films such as *Heat and Dust* and *East is East*, and exotic images of Merchant Ivory to the Bollywood influenced contemporary Diaspora films.

Movimentos Sociais, Disputas Políticas e Reforma Agrária de Mercado no Brasil.

Co-published with the Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro and is available only in Portuguese, this publication intends to situate the terms of the debate on basic social transformations in Brazil...

<http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BF3C2/setLanguageCookie?OpenAgent&langcode=en&url=/80256B3C005BE6B5/search/C6BA64BE283ABA06C1256CFA00413E92?OpenDocument>

Five Past Midnight In Bhopal

By Dominique Lapierre, Warner Books, 2002.

Dominique Lapiere returns to India with Spanish journalist Javier Moro to tell the unforgettable story of the world's worst industrial accident. At five past midnight on December 3, 1984, a toxic gas leak at the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal left up to 30,000 people dead and half a million injured. Intended to provide the pesticide needed to deliver the country from famine, the plant instead unleashed the worst industrial mishap in history. How did it happen? Who was affected? Who was responsible? <http://www.twbookmark.com>

Journal of Latin American Urban Studies

Journal of Latin American Urban Studies invites authors from all disciplines to submit manuscripts in English, Spanish or Portuguese.

Contact: Ken Mitchell, mitchell_k@spcvxa.spc.edu or Elaine Carey, careye@stjohns.edu

Building Healthy Cities:

Improving the health of urban migrants and the urban poor in Africa

The book is a follow up to the *Building Healthy Cities* conference held in Kampala, Uganda in July 2001. It compiles the research work of various professionals and academics regarding urban health delivery system in Africa.

Contact: Woodrow Wilson International Center. Web: www.wilsoncenter.org

Tel: +202 691 4000

Ecologically Based Municipal Land Use Planning

By William B Honachefsky

Discusses ecological resources and the impact of local land use on the quality of the environment and presents the case for the implementation of ecologically based planning. CRC Press at www.crcpress.com

Books from the City Press Karachi, Pakistan Email: cp@citypress.cc

City: A Quarterly on Urban Society, *Arif Hasan*

Collection of writings and images reflecting on the benefits and drawback of social change and urbanisation within the city.

Mingora: The Unplanned City, *Zeenat Hisam and Alain Viaro*

Documents the process of an action research project in Swat and explores the power dynamics of various stakeholders.

Shelter for the Shelter-less: The Story of Khuda ki Busti *Aquila Ismail Ed.*

Using various documents and evaluation reports, the book presents the story of the incremental development housing scheme established by the Hyderabad Development Authority in 1986.

Swat: An Afghan Society in Pakistan *Inam-ur-Rahim and Alain Viaro*

Chronicles the process of urbanisation and change in Swat Valley and the complex forces that are transforming the traditional tribal society.

Urban Housing Policies and Approaches in a Changing Asian Context

Arif Hasan

A research work based on interviews and interaction with professionals, activists and civil service to analyse current approaches to Asian formal sector housing policies.

Community Initiatives: Four Case Studies from Karachi *Arif Hasan Ed.*

Story of four low-income Karachi communities and how they struggled to improve their social and physical environment.

Katchi Abadis of Karachi: Documentation of Sewerage, Water Supply Lines, Clinics Schools and Thallas

Orangi Pilot Project – Research and Training Institute

Comprehensive publication documenting the independent development work undertaken by the communities themselves in one hundred low income settlements.

Transforming Urban Settlements:

The Orangi Pilot Project's Low-cost Sanitation Model *S. Akbar Zaidi*

The Orangi Pilot Project is recognised internationally for its low cost sanitation programme, which originated nearly 20 years ago. This book documents the extent of impact the programme has had on the urban settlements in Karachi and other cities.

Community Initiatives in Urban Infrastructure *A. P. Cotton and M. Sohail*

Investigates the extent and nature of low-income urban communities' involvement in the provision of local infrastructure.

Contact: All above books, City Press, Email: cp@citypress.cc Tel:+9221 565 0623

Unsustainable Environment & Cities of the Developing World

Tasleem Shakur, Nandini Dasgupta, David Treloar

Covers a broad range of issues - from solid waste management to the role of international aid agencies - and critically analyses the roles, performances and limitations of the countries in addressing the current discourse of a sustainable urban environment in developing countries.

Poverty in Asia: Media Challenge and Responses *Anjali Puri Ed.*

Compilation of papers presented in Bangkok in September 2000. Provides a broad picture of poverty and relates these to the role of the media. AMIC Singapore.

Contact: Email: amicline@singnet.com.sg Web: www.amic.org.sg Tel: +65 792 7570

Towards an Urban World: Urbanisation and Development Assistance

Goran Tannerfeldt, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

Analyses the effect of rapid urbanisation in developing countries with regard to the environment, local economy, formal and informal sectors and access to health and shelter. Assesses the challenge when urban population growth exceeds

Sustainable Livelihoods Approaches in Urban Areas: General Lessons with Illustrations from Indian Cases. *John Farrington, Tamsin Ramasut, Julian Walker*

Analyses the practicality of sustainable livelihoods in urban setting as compared to its application in the usual conventional rural context. 2002

Contact: for above books: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Stockholm. Web: www.sida.se Tel: +4608 698 5000

Democracy, Governance and Human Rights Programme Paper 10: Gender Justice, Development and Rights (13 Mar 2003).

A 'gender lens' analysis of political and policy processes ...

<http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BF3C2/setLanguageCookie?OpenAgent&langcode=en&url=/80256B3C005BE6B5/search/ABFFC626A16502B6C1256CFA00343F0B?OpenDocument>

House of straw

Experience of building a house with straw...

<http://www.motherearthnews.com/197/strawhouse.html>

http://www.motherearthnews.com/190/building190_debtfree.html

Corporate Social Responsibility Project News, 13 Mar 2003

Some 50 participants attended the conference "Promoting Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility..."

<http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BF3C2/setLanguageCookie?OpenAgent&langcode=en&url=/80256B3C005BE6B5/search/31F0DC7329D056F7C1256CE80053C59B?OpenDocument>

Living for the Sake of Living: Partnerships between the Poor and Local Government in Johannesburg, 17 Mar 2003

The report uses two case studies to critically review the complexities of creating partnerships between ...

<http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BF3C2/setLanguageCookie?OpenAgent&langcode=en&url=/80256B3C005BCCF9/search/8E1110959F3F633DC1256CEC0030B587?OpenDocument>

From Unsustainable to Inclusive Cities (6 Mar 2003).

This edited volume brings together a series of eight papers arising from UNRISD research activities ...

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Ecologically Based Municipal Land Use Planning, by William B Honachefsky, CRC Press 1999

“This book is a thorough and practical presentation of two fundamental planning principles: (1) incorporating the science of ecology into land planning fulfills its real purpose of protecting "the long-term interests and future well-being of the community"; and (2) zoning should be one tool used in implementing a sound municipal master plan and not the other way around. A must-read for land planners and citizen planning board members.” *Review, Environmental Building News*

Contact: whonachefsky@sprintmail.com

<http://research.amnh.org/biodiversity/symposia/archives/sprawl/archive/presenterbios/biohonachefsky.html>

Gender Justice, Development, and Rights, 2003

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Taking world cities literally: Marketing the city in a global space of flows

Marcus Doel, Phil Hubbard

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Obituary

Geoffrey Bawa, architect, born Colombo July 23, 1919, died May, 27, 2003

Like its larger neighbours in the sub-continent, Sri Lanka too has been long open to myriad of historic influences - including those from the passing traders from the Arab lands and the European colonisers - and in time, has absorbed and translated these into something intrinsic to its *genus loci*. Subtly integrating the traditional and modern, eastern and western, formal and picturesque, and with an emphasis on blending architecture, interiors and surrounding terrain and landscape, Bawa's work admirably connects to this tradition.



Geoffrey Bawa was born in 1919 of mixed parentage - his Muslim father was a successful lawyer in Colombo, capital of the then British colony of Ceylon. In 1938 he went to Britain to study English at Cambridge. Later he studied law in London and was called to the Bar in 1944. After travelling through the United States, Europe and the Far East, he returned home in 1948 and soon bought an abandoned rubber estate at Lunuganga to create an Italian renaissance garden. To improve his technical knowledge, in 1951 he became an apprentice in the office of the architect H. H. Reid. Eventually, in 1952 he returned to London to study at the Architectural Association School of Architecture where he qualified in 1957.

On his return to Ceylon, he took over Reid's practice, who had since died, and soon collected a group of talented young architects and artists working in his team. The 1962 courtyard house for Ena De Silva was to give a foretaste of his passion for combining elements of traditional Sinhalese domestic architecture with modern open planning, demonstrating how a house on a tight urban site can provide space for both indoor as well as outdoor living.

The 1969 Bentota Beach Hotel was one of Ceylon's first purpose-built resort hotels combining modern conveniences for the tourist to provide a rich and experiential sense of place. The main public rooms were arranged around a courtyard while the bedroom wings built over the rock to provide views towards the estuary and the sea

Bawa was invited by President Jayawardene in 1979 to design the country's new Parliament at Kotte, to be completed within three years from inception to completion. The swamp on the site was cleared to form an island and an enormous artificial lake. Located on the island, the asymmetrical building with its copper roofs and terraces appears to be gently rising out of the water. The modern framework and references to Sri Lankan and South Indian architecture and the blending of function and nature all help create a sense of harmony and accessible gentle monumentality. The building was completed in 1982.

Parliamentary Complex,
Colombo



During the 1980s, Bawa worked on the new Ruhuna University in Matara where a series of almost causally arranged pavilions and courtyards amply demonstrate Bawa's passion and superb skill to integrate architecture, interior and the landscape.

Towards the end of the 1980s Bawa withdrew from his practice, only to start a new phase of life working from his home in Colombo's Bagatelle Road. With a small group of young architects, here he designed a number of projects including the 1995 Kandalama Hotel on the rocky edge of an ancient water tank, and the recently completed Jayawardene House, a minimalist pavilion on a cliff overlooking the sea.

Two projects perhaps provide a deeper understanding of his work: his own retreat of Lunuganga in the wilderness on which he continued to work for almost 50 years, and his house in Colombo. Combining four small bungalows and adding courtyards, verandas and loggias and a white tower overlooking the surrounding rooftops and the distant ocean, the house is a peaceful haven in the bustling city.

Bawa's first international recognition came through the writings of J. M. Richards and Michael Brawne in the *Architectural Review* and later by the exhibition and a book of his work organised by his friends Jean Chamberlain and Christoph Bon in 1986. Bawa remained a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects and, while getting no recognition in Britain, received many international awards and honours. During his visit in 1998 to Sri Lanka's independence celebrations, Prince Charles visited Bawa at his retreat in Lunuganga. Shortly afterwards, Bawa suffered a stroke. But despite this, he continued with Channa Daswatte and a small group of architects to oversee a number of projects including the official residence for the President, a house in Bombay, and a hotel at Kalutara.

The range of Bawa's work - not just in his own country but also in India, Mauritius, Fiji and Singapore - stretches from residential, educational, social, religious and cultural to buildings for commerce and government. Always innovative, observing and exploring familiar prototypes and materials, Bawa's approach to architecture and his sensitivity to nature and environment leaves a rich legacy which will continue to inspire architects in Sri Lanka and elsewhere to design buildings which work with rather than against culture and climate.