

LISTINGS

News Reports, Books and Conferences

Ayyub Malik



AROUND THE WORLD

BOSNIA

Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina: The Old Bridge, or Stari Most, was built of 456 blocks of stone in 1566 by the Turkish architect, Mimar Hajrudin - a disciple of the greatest Ottoman architect, Mimar Sinan, builder of some of Istanbul's finest mosques and buildings. For centuries, Mostar's stone bridge was an icon of ethnic diversity and consensus. Then, when shelling destroyed it in 1993, the ancient span came to symbolize the senseless brutality of



Bosnia's war. Recently Britain's Prince Charles and other foreign dignitaries gather to reopen the bridge over the Neretva River, many Bosnians hope it also will help reunite the Muslims and Croats in this picturesque southern town.

Official reopening of the 16th Century bridge, destroyed a decade ago in the Bosnian war and now rebuilt.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/3919047.stm>



BANGLADESH

Heritage: Louis Kahn's parliament complex has been designated a national heritage building.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/2004/06/25/d406251902114.htm>

Slide show: <http://intro2arch.arch.hku.hk/arch/Kahn/kahn1.htm>



Kahn Movie: Interview with Nathaniel Kahn, as his Oscar-nominated documentary about his father Louis opens in the UK. 'As a child, my father's architecture seemed to me to be industrial in a way. It seemed harsh and kind of chilly...'

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/arts/features/story/0,11710,1268526,00.html>

Dhaka: Architects Kazi Ashraf and Saif ul Haque on how a new generation is challenging design precepts of the past in the Bangladeshi capital.

<http://www.worldviewcities.org/main.html>

Dhaka: The Architectural League of New York offers a critique of urban planning 'The Capital Development Authority has become a real estate developing agency instead of a city planning organisation'... 'architects in Bangladesh are very small in number compared to need...'

<http://www.thedailystar.net/2004/05/09/d40509150276.htm>

CHINA

National Stadium: Herzog and de Meuron's National Stadium has broken ground. 'Does China really need foreign architects to design Chinese buildings?'

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2004-06/29/content_343787.htm

Beijing: Repairs are underway on the Ming Tombs, the 13 imperial mausoleums built between 1368 and 1644, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2004-06/21/content_1537921.htm

Conservation: Delegates from 20 historic cities throughout the world converge on Nanjing this weekend to thrash out an agenda for preserving architectural heritage in the context of urban upheaval.

The host city for the World Historical and Cultural Cities Expo 2004 has already set the scene by listing buildings and sites of historical and architectural significance to be protected under a plan drafted by the Nanjing Urban Planning Institute. The preservation list has been approved in the light of 'the city's rampant urban construction', say authorities.

Among those threatened are Republican-era buildings of the 1920s and 30s, which 'document a transitional stage in which modern Chinese architects were seeking and achieving an independence from the overwhelming influence of architectural trends in the Western world...'

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/english/doc/2004-04/21/content_325165.htm
Expo 2004 website: <http://whcce.longhoo.net/gb/whcce/en/index.html>

CUBA

A green revolution: 'The government's initiative to electrify Cuba with solar, wind, microhydro, and biomass energy is...casting the country as a model for environmental innovation...'

http://www.enr.com/news/2004-06-11/s_23757.asp

INDIA

New Delhi: Edwin Lutyens' celebrated 'fusion of Western architecture with Indian craftsmanship and detail' is up for listing as a World Heritage site. Conservationists want to halt government-sanctioned development which is now encroaching on the site.



<http://www.newkerala.com/news-daily/news/features.php?action=fullnews&id=4021>
Images of New Delhi, other landmarks: <http://www.pgsindia.net/photos.htm>

Mumbai: Final approval for a major 'beautification' of Juhu beach designed by architect P K Das. <http://ww1.mid-day.com/news/city/2004/june/86673.htm>

Himalayas: A last glimpse at the landscape before the opening of the controversial Tehri Dam. The project, begun in 1978, will provide '270 m gallons of drinking water a day, irrigation for thousands of acres of farmland, and 2,000 megawatts of electricity' - but at what environmental cost?

<http://www.gristmagazine.com/maindish/oko060804.asp>

Ahmedabad: Khalsa Heritage Memorial Complex, Anandpur Sahib, Punjab, India Moshe Safdie & Associates.

The Khalsa Heritage Memorial is a new museum of the Sikh people located on a 75 acre site in the holy city of Anandpur, near Chandigarh. The museum celebrates 500 years of Sikh history and the 300th anniversary of the Khalsa, the scriptures written by the 10th and last Guru, Gobind Singh, founder of the modern Sikh faith.



<http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=84712>

Museum profile: <http://www.arcspace.com/architects/Safdie/Khalsa/>

Bombay Dreams: When India's financial capital Bombay renamed itself Mumbai and announced major city-wide redevelopments, it looked unstoppable. Now, eclipsed by the meteoric rise of Bangalore and Hyderabad as software powerhouses and hampered by ageing infrastructure, has growth stalled?

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south_asia/3665993.stm

Part of the problem, says city architect Arvind Adarkar, is that the urban development plan is 'caught in a time-warp'. The last one expired in 2001, but was extended for 10 years. Yet the number of vehicles doubled between 1991-2001. Buildings of historic interest are under threat, a spate of high-rise buildings has sprung up, and 'of the 2,300-odd plots reserved for recreation grounds, playgrounds and gardens in the last development plan, only a little over 500 have seen the light of day...' The local authority department responsible for implementing the development plan department has 'no trained planners, only engineers'.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/cms.dll/html/uncomp/articleshow?msid=657242>

Meanwhile, approval has been granted for the development of 5 million sq ft (464 sqm) of commercial and residential space in the city's central mill district.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/cms.dll/html/uncomp/articleshow?msid=655076>

Plans for an indoor cricket stadium and academy in the city.

<http://web.mid-day.com/news/city/2004/may/82449.htm>

Mumbai: The World Resources Institute and the Confederation of Indian Industry are to collaborate on sustainable enterprise projects.

http://www.enr.com/news/2004-07-08/s_25387.asp

Chandigarh, July 18: THE Chitkara Education Trust organised a symposium on 'Architecture and its Career Prospects' at Government College of Architecture, Chandigarh. Over 200 students and their parents attended the programme. 'One great thing about architecture is that it is only limited by your imagination...'

<http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=91956>

Goa: An architecture college is to switch teaching emphasis from 'technical discipline' to design...

http://www.navhindtimes.com/stories.php?part=news&Story_ID=04244

IRAN

The Old New Game: Australian architect Greg Howlett spends half his time in Dubai. Now new workload opportunities are opening elsewhere: 'I think Iran is the new game...we are getting in on the ground floor...'

<http://tinyurl.com/4amwc>

IRAQ

War in Iraq and its consequences for Cultural Heritage - Editorial by Mounir Bouchenaki, Assistant Director-General for Culture.

All wars, with their turmoil, maiming and killing, wantonly destroy the soul and disfigure the memory of what constitutes a people's very identity, in other words its culture. In Iraq, as a result of thirteen years of sanctions and the chaos that followed the recent armed conflict, eight thousand years of human history now hang in the balance. Arsonists have burnt libraries and archives, looters have plundered historic buildings and cultural institutions and items of unique value have disappeared from museums and archaeological sites.

Crisis in Iraq

First Cultural Forum for Iraq held 26-27 May 2004

- **Appeal** (in [English](#) and [Arabic](#))
- **Motion** (in [English](#) and [Arabic](#))
- **Final recommendations** (in [English](#))



MALAYSIA

Mosques: The history and development of mosque architecture in Malaysia.

http://www.dailystar.com.lb/article.asp?edition_id=10&categ_id=4&Article_id=4664

Capital Investment: Another wave of construction is planned for Malaysia's new \$5.3bn capital city Putrajaya - in an effort to boost tourism, and to persuade more people to move there from Kuala Lumpur.

Attractions opening over the next three years will include a massive shopping mall, an artificial beach, a water theme park and maritime museum. Already, nearly 40% of the showcase city has been set aside for 'parks, manicured hills and freshwater wetlands teeming with swans, flamingoes and nearly 60,000 trees and shrubs...'

<http://msnbc.msn.com/id/4846406/>

City website: <http://www.putrajaya.net.my/> and images: <http://tinyurl.com/2eyz4>

Putrajaya: The new city of romance? 'The Core Area of covers a total area of 1,069 hectares, is divided into five precincts, namely the Government Precinct, Commercial Precinct, Civic & Cultural Precinct, Mixed Development Precinct, and Sports & Recreational Precinct...'

<http://tinyurl.com/257px>

TANZANIA

Swahili Architecture: A regeneration project funded by the French government could put one of Africa's most important historical settlements back on the map.

Kilwa Kisiwani, a small island off the southern coast of Tanzania, contains 'the best examples of Swahili architecture on the coast of eastern Africa. Buildings are on a scale seen nowhere else', according to architect Pierre Blanchard, who is managing restoration of the Unesco Heritage Site.

Buildings include a 12th Century mosque, a 15th Century fort, and the 14th Century Husuni Kubwa - 'an oversized palace built by a megalomaniac sultan'. Now there is to be a push to increase cultural tourism on the island, accessible only by dhow from the mainland. At the moment, it attracts an average of one visitor a day.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/3649771.stm>

Images:<http://tinyurl.com/3cpx>

Background:http://www.atalii.com/Off_the_normal_path/kilwa.htm

Unesco citation: <http://whc.unesco.org/sites/144.htm>

Angela Nkya from Kilimanjaro has won the annual Berkeley Undergraduate Prize for Architectural Design Excellence for her study on homelessness.

<http://www.ippmedia.com/ipp/guardian/2004/05/24/11480.html>

TIBET

Buddhist Architecture: A blessing ceremony launches the construction of a sacred 'Stupa'. Five levels, a 50 sqm base, 50 m high, it will contain a meditation hall and shrine rooms and is based on the 15th Century Great Stupa of Gyantse in Tibet. <http://tinyurl.com/2l2tl>

Stupa images: <http://tinyurl.com/2wnzx>

TURKEY

Heritage: The 16th Century Selimiye Mosque - Sinan the Architect's masterpiece and a UN World Heritage site - is deteriorating rapidly.

<http://www.turkishnewslines.com/haber.php?id=20682>

Background and images:

<http://www.islamicarchitecture.org/ia/archi/selimiyesmosque.html>

QATAR

Tourism: A \$15 billion investment package - including prestigious resorts, luxury hotels, cultural projects, international sports facilities and a 'new international gateway' - has been announced for the Gulf state of Qatar.

'We expect tourism growth to more than double in the next six years, from the 400,000 visitors that presently visit Qatar every year, to more than one million tourists in 2010...' A cornerstone of the grand plan will be the creation of 'luxury lifestyle cities'.

<http://www.hospitalitynet.org/news/154000320/4019380.search?query=architect>

An 'Albertopolis' of museums is planned for Qatar's capital Doha - the Corniche setting, redesigned by Jean Nouvel, will house I M Pei's Museum of Islamic Art, Arata Isozaki's National History Museum, Santiago Calatrava's Museum of Photography, Catherine Findlay's renovated castle will become the Museum of Traditional Clothes...



The Museum of Islamic Art, Doha, designed by the Chinese American architect I.M. Pei.

<http://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/article.asp?idart=11643>

CONFERENCES

Call for Abstracts and Outlines

UIA 2005 Istanbul Congress - Istanbul, Turkey 3-7 July 2005

CITIES: Grand Bazaar of Architectures



The XXII World Congress of International Union of Architects (UIA) will take place in Istanbul, from 3rd to 7th July 2005. Organised every three years since 1948, UIA World Congresses are platforms where the global agendas of architecture are discussed. The UIA 2005 Istanbul Congress, hosted by the Chamber of Architects of Turkey, will convene under the theme *CITIES: Grand Bazaar of Architectures*.

The theme builds upon concepts that the *bazaar* metaphor suggests in cultural and economic terms: market, capital, investment, exchange... The challenge of the profession facing new tasks in city building and maintenance will be explored in relation to the prime responsibilities of architecture concerning urban culture and economy. The International Union of Architects and its national member organisations have constantly voiced their strong commitment to sustaining biological and cultural diversity in human settlements. Today, against the background of natural disasters, ecological threats and global violence, architects are compelled to take stronger positions in their discipline and profession, against irresponsible building practices that degrade their honorable profession.

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Information on congress themes: <http://www.uia2005istanbul.org/engine.php?ID=27>

Participation and submission: <http://www.uia2005istanbul.org/engine.php?ID=3>

Website for draft program and registration: <http://www.uia2005istanbul.org>

Sustainability: The 10th annual Holistic Options for Planet Earth Sustainability conference featured a 24-hour design session and an exploration of organic architecture.
<http://www.dailyemerald.com/vnews/display.v/ART/2004/04/20/4085891fa703c>

**World Urban Development Congress
5-9 September 2004 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

Metropolisation: Integration or Disintegration

INTA and The City of Kuala Lumpur would like to invite you to the INTA28. This important conference will feature distinguished speakers and professionals from over 50 countries. INTA has a recognised competence dedicated to servicing the city and all its inhabitants. It is a catalyst for exchange of experiences and practices in urban development focusing on the nature, methods and processes by which urban policy objectives are achieved. INTA is the world forum where these issues are debated between private and public urban actors at local, regional and national levels.

Web: <http://www.inta.org/inta28.htm>

**Conference of Chief Ministers on poverty alleviation and rural prosperity
New Delhi, June 29, 2004**

The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh has called for a uniform vision for rural development that can respond differentially and purposefully to situations in different States and different regions. Inaugurating the conference of Chief Ministers and State Ministers of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Rural Drinking Water Supply on Poverty Alleviation and Rural Prosperity through Panchayati Raj, the Prime Minister said that the strategy for rural development must be fashioned to unleash the productive potential of agriculture and its allied activities.

<http://www.webindia123.com/news/showdetails.asp?id=41832&cat=India>

Country versus Western: Does globalisation encourage an eclectic new world order of architecture? No, say some architects working in Asia, who - like the author here - argue that it simply enables the propagation of Western values.

'The incessant onslaught of showpiece models of architecture from alien cultures, incompatible with our lifestyles and irrelevant to our climate, are picked up by both lay clients and professionals and dictate our architecture with grave consequences...'

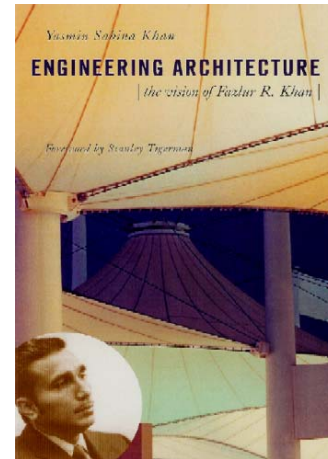
Regional design models replaced with 'international' ones, curtain walling making interior spaces 'uninhabitable', traditional layouts displaced by the drive to maximise floor areas, 'local eco-friendly building materials sacrificed for imported industrial materials'...
http://nation.ittefaq.com/artman/publish/article_9566.shtml

Engineering Architecture: the Thinking Vision of Fazlur R Khan

Yasmin Sabina Khan, WW Norton & Company ISBN 0-393-73107-3

Khan chronicles the pioneering work of this influential engineer whose designs include Chicago's 100-story John Hancock Center and 110-story Sears Tower, the tallest building in the U.S. since its completion in 1974.

Written by Fazlur Khan's daughter, herself a structural engineer, the text examines the building programs that guided Khan's design projects at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill and provides insight into the operations of a design practice. Within the engineering and architecture discourse runs the remarkable story of Khan's upbringing in Bengal, British India (now Bangladesh), his embrace of the



American legacy of skyscraper innovation, and his leadership in the design profession.

Projects covered include U.S. Air Force Academy, United Air Lines Executive Offices, Brunswick Building, Chestnut-DeWitt Apartments, John Hancock Center, The Chicago Picasso, One Shell Plaza, BHP House, First Wisconsin Center, CDC Building, One Shell Square, Sears Tower, Baxter International, Hajj Terminal, Jeddah airport, Onterie Center, and Chicago World Trade Center

Ayyub Malik