

ARCHITECTURE FOR A CHANGING WORLD

Recent social, political and environmental upheavals have had a two-fold effect on the built environment in Third World countries. They have destroyed the traditional cultural structure in rural areas, which has led to homelessness and the marginalisation of entire communities, and large-scale urbanization has become a powerful phenomenon of which the Islamic World is very much a part.

Such global changes have had a dramatic impact on the Jury for the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, whose selections for 1992 are presented here.

The projects selected this year, which address issues relevant to both the developing and developed world, are economically sustainable, humanistic solutions to difficult problems, and generate a new architectural language. They provide a valuable insight into an alternative design approach for both rural and urban environments.

Essays by Suha Özkan of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, Mohammed Arkoun, Professor of Islamic Thought at the Sorbonne, Paris, and Arif Hasan, Pakistani architect and planner, place the projects within the context of the major social transition now underway, and an article by the late Hassan Fathy on Contemporaneity in the City provides a historical perspective.

Each award-winning project is described in detail by Charles Moore and Selma al-Radi, and they are comparatively reviewed by James Steele.

A brief history of Samarkand, where the awards were presented, completes this volume.

James Steele has worked as an architect in Philadelphia and has taught architecture at the University of Pennsylvania, King Faisal University in Saudi Arabia, Texas Tech University in Lubbock and the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. His publications include an Architectural Monograph on Hassan Fathy published by Academy Editions, and *The Hassan Fathy Collection* published by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture.

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Edited by James Steele
THE AGA KHAN AWARD FOR ARCHITECTURE
AR ACADEMY EDITIONS

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This volume represents a close collaborative effort between the Aga Khan Award for Architecture and Academy Editions. I would particularly like to thank the Publisher, Andreas Papadakis, who has made this project a reality, and each of the individual members of the Award Steering Committee and Master Jury for their valuable advice, as well as Drs Yildirim Yavuz, Jamel Akbar, and Darab Diba of the Technical Review who provided essential information and help. I would like to extend gratitude to Nicholas Bulloch and Hasan-Uddin Khan and Van Nguyen-Lam of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. For their continual support during preparation and production, I am grateful to Dr Suha Özkan, Jack Kennedy, Farrokh Derakhshani, Nabil Cherouati and Richard McAllister of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture.

Like so many others in the field of architecture, I would like to make special acknowledgment of the efforts of His Highness The Aga Khan, whose interest, enthusiasm, and generosity have so profoundly benefited the practice and study of architecture today. *JS*

First published in Great Britain in 1992 by ACADEMY EDITIONS An imprint of the Academy Group Ltd., 42 Leinster Gardens London W2 3AN

ISBN: 1 85490 173 7

Distributed to the trade in the United States of America by ST. MARTIN'S PRESS, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010

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FRONT COVER: Cultural Park for Children, Cairo, Egypt.

CONTENTS

Quality in the Built Environment and the Third World Reality 8 Suha Özkan

Continuity, Relevance and Change
The Fifth Cycle of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture 14
James Steele

A Pluralist Alternative 36

Suha Özkan

Architectural Alternatives in Deteriorating Societies 40

Mohammed Arkoun

A Tribute to Hassan Fathy 50

James Steele

Contemporaneity in the City 53

Hassan Fathy

The Search for a Socially-Responsive Architecture 60

Arif Hasan

Jury Report 64

Project Descriptions
Charles Moore and Selma al-Radi

ENHANCING URBAN ENVIRONMENTS 66

Kairouan Conservation Programme, Kairouan, Tunisia 68
Palace Parks Programme, Istanbul, Turkey 90
Cultural Park for Children, Cairo, Egypt 104
East Wahdat Upgrading Programme, Amman, Jordan 124
Kampung Kali Cho-de, Yogyakarta, Indonesia 140

GENERATING NEW ARCHITECTURAL LANGUAGES 154

Stone Building System, Dar'a Province, Syria 156

Demir Holiday Village, Bodrum, Turkey 164

Panafrican Institute for Development, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso 180

Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Ahmedabad, India 188

The Significance of Samarkand 200