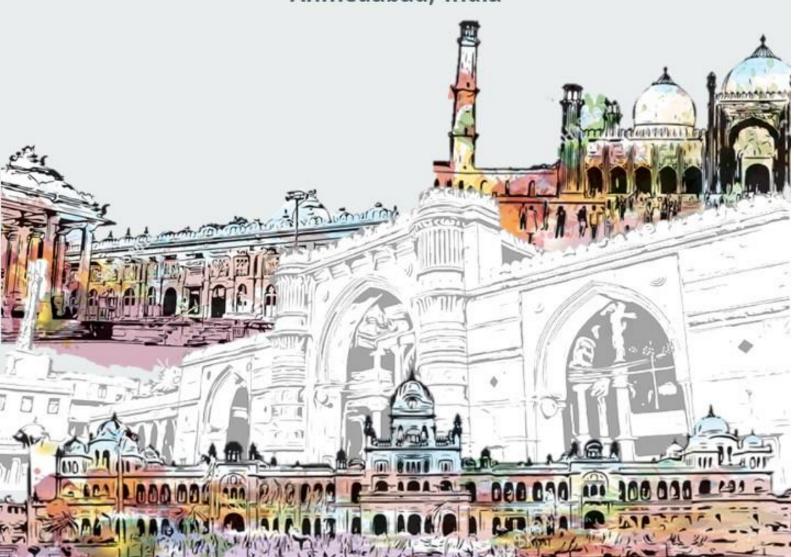# International Conference

Urban Transformation and Heritage Conservation

Tuesday February 27, 2024

9 AM to 6 PM IST

**C- Block Auditorium,
Institute of Architecture and Planning,
Nirma University,
Ahmedabad, India**

International Conference
Urban Transformation and Heritage Conservation

Conference Speakers

Prof. Miki Desai
Retired Head of Master's program in Sustainable Architecture, CEPT University

Prof. KT Ravindran
Member of Kerala Urban Policy Commission, Govt of Kerala

Prof. Utpal Sharma
Dean and Director, Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University

Prof. Karl Zankl
Technische Hochschule Würzburg-Schweinfurt

Ar. Ashish Trambadia
Director/CEO, Ahmedabad World Heritage City Trust

Prof. Daniele La Rosa
University of Catania, Catania, Italy

Prof. Gunther Benkert
Technische Hochschule Würzburg-Schweinfurt

Ar. Debashish Nayak
Honorary Director of Oriental Studies and Heritage Management Resource Center at Gujarat Vidyapith

Dr. Deepika Shetty
Manipal School of Architecture and Planning (MAHE)

Ar. Sumesh Modi
People for Heritage Concern and Modi Associates Research-Consevation-Artwork

Prof. Gitanjali Rao
School of Architecture at KLE Technological University, Hubli Karnataka, India

Ar. Abhijeet Lakhia
Adaptive Response Architects and Designers, Goa

Prof. Pratima Singh
Assistant Professor, Institute of Architecture & Planning, Nirma University

Organising Committee

Dr. Swati Kothary
Assistant Professor, Institute of Architecture & Planning, Nirma University

Ar. Jitendra Menghani
Assistant Professor, Institute of Architecture & Planning, Nirma University

Ms. Utsavi Shah
Research Assistant, Institute of Architecture & Planning, Nirma University

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About the Conference

A complex dynamic system exists between cities' historic cores and urban developments which are driven by various forces of urbanization. In this environment, the heritage core emerges as a powerful symbol of a city's historical, cultural, and architectural past, set against the dynamic backdrop of modern urban evolution. Cities like Paris, Rome, London, among others, show legacies dating back more than 2000 years, exemplifying this narrative, their enduring core city acting as centers that have propelled their urban growth. These ancient cores are the epicenters around which modern cities have evolved, reflecting a unique blend of historical preservation and adaptive urban development.

Furthermore, these heritage cores are inextricably intertwined with the city's peripheral development. They act as magnets, drawing tourists and locals alike, fueling economic growth and prosperity through their cultural significance and historical allure. Indian cities, such as Delhi, Varanasi, Jaipur and Ahmedabad, echo this narrative of core-driven urban development. Their ancient cores, deeply rooted in history, have been instrumental in shaping the cities' growth trajectories, attracting tourists, preserving cultural legacies, and contributing significantly to their economic vibrancy.

The major goal of this conference is to carefully investigate, decode, and comprehend the fundamental evolution of these legacy cores, as well as to discern how modern urban development is both shaped and restrained by these deeply embedded historical foundations. Attendees will engage in in-depth discussions and do scholarly research on the delicate balance between preserving the souls of historical cores and the urgent need for flexible urban development.

This conference intends to initiate insightful discussions, and actionable strategies, guiding the discourse toward a harmonious union of heritage conservation and urban transformation, thereby shaping a more culturally vibrant, historically enriched, and sustainable urban landscape for future generations.

Conference Themes

1. Pressures on the Core City

This sub-theme examines the multifaceted pressures and challenges faced by heritage core areas within cities. Discussions revolve around issues such as encroachment, gentrification, over-tourism, infrastructure demands, conservation vs. development conflicts, and socio-economic disparities affecting these heritage-rich areas. Case studies and research findings shall be presented to highlight the vulnerabilities and complexities involved in preserving and nurturing these historical cores amidst the rapid evolution of urban landscapes.

2. Urban Design Practices in the Core City

This sub-theme explores the pivotal role of thoughtful design strategies in navigating the intricate relationship between heritage conservation and contemporary urban development. In the context of heritage-rich urban cores, urban design practices play a crucial role in harmonizing the conservation of historical identity with the evolving needs of a modern urban landscape. This sub-topic aims to dissect and showcase innovative urban design methodologies that strike a delicate balance between honoring heritage and fostering sustainable urban transformation.

3. Governance and Management

Addressing the pivotal role of governance and management in urban planning and architectural conservation, this sub-theme emphasizes effective strategies and policies required for harmonizing heritage conservation with urban development. Topics shall include adaptive governance models, community engagement, stakeholder collaborations, zoning regulations, heritage legislation, and the role of public-private partnerships in preserving the heritage cores while ensuring sustainable urban growth. Best practices and successful governance models from different global contexts shall be shared to facilitate discussions and foster actionable insights.

Through these three interconnected sub-themes, the conference aims to provide a comprehensive platform for interdisciplinary dialogue and knowledge exchange that would help in balancing the conservation of heritage cores with the demands of modern urbanization, thereby charting a sustainable path for future city development.

Book Launch URGENT ICFU 2022

The International Conference on Future is Urban 2022 held in December 2022 in hybrid mode, brought together participants from 5 different countries. Over 105 papers were presented in 3 days, showcasing diverse insights and cutting-edge research. The conference proceedings were launched during the International conference on Urban Transformation and Heritage Conservation 2024. The proceedings feature 47 papers published by taylor and francis group , with 9 selected for a special edition book.

Memorandum of Understanding- University of Catania and Nirma University

Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with University of Catania, Italy.

The University of Catania is a university located in Catania, Sicily. Founded in 1434, it is the oldest university in Sicily, the 13th oldest in Italy, and the 29th oldest university in the world.

This partnership marks a new chapter in international collaboration, fostering academic exchange and shared expertise in the field of architecture and planning. Together, we're building bridges for global learning and innovation.

Technical Session 1

Session Chair: Prof. Deepika Shetty
Moderator: Ar. Jitendra Menghani

Speaker I: Prof. Miki Desai
Topic: 'Having Missed the Bus' and 'Being Selfish' in Urban Settlements: Paradigms of Conservation

Prof. Miki Desai talked about the tangible and intangible issues during architectural conservation, Religious Egotism being the major one. In order to protect the urban heritage, we should embrace the responsibility as Architects and conservationists work along with the people by involving them in the process. There is a need to generate a sense of belongingness amongst the users in order to preserve the heritage and cultural factors associated with it. India is the land of intangibles and is a people oriented society. Here Heritage is not just a building or an object, but also practices and processes. So one has to decipher what needs to be conserved, the object or the process?

He also gave many examples where conservation attempts couldn't justify the heritage and values. He also emphasizes how the old settlements are slowly becoming a ghost town with residents moving out and no one to take care of the properties. In his opinion, a more people oriented solution needs to be taken on hands where the users are involved in the process of conservation while their opinions are heard and even implemented. It will generate a sense of ownership and encourage people to take care of their heritage.

Speaker II: Prof. K.T. Ravindran
Topic: Transforming Inner Cities - Urban Design Strategies for Change

The discussion further continued with the lecture by Prof. KT Ravindran on the topic Transforming Inner cities - urban design strategies for change. The main theme of the lecture revolved around the conserving inner core of the traditional cities. The speaker discusses the nature of old and new cities. The cities such as Gandhinagar and Chandigarh are considered as the Schizoid cities because of their orderly roads, excellent services and grids laid out with green patches left for open activities. It is extremely important to conserve the old city because the old city and the new city are mutually dependent on each other for capital and trade. Hence, Urban Heritage Conservation Strategies come into play. The speaker briefs about all the strategies and further explains how streets and artisans play an integral part of the city. He explains the concept with the examples of his projects from Cochin and Benaras.

The speaker explains how the visual field also plays an important role in the case of heritage cities, for example in the case of Florence and Delhi. On the other hand, artisans are also one of the aspects determining the cultural heritage of the city. Often, they are not recognised by the by-laws. The speaker emphasises on the fact that the cultural fabric and the city together comprises an entity and each city needs to be dealt with differently, simply giving 100m of margin doesn't justify the purpose. The author also focuses on the point that orders need to be highly questioned. The strategies implemented right now are in contrast with the purpose and hence the old city should be protected without destroying its urban fabric. The lecture ends with a highly debated statement - No one has rights over the cities. We are not owners, but custodians.

Speaker III: Prof. Daniele La Rosa
Topic: Strategies & Opportunities for Nature-based Solutions Planning in Highly Dense Urban Contexts

The next topic of discussion was on the Nature based solution planning in Dense Urban context. On which, Professor Daniele La Rosa shared his insight upon some effective strategies and opportunities that can be implemented in our

cities in order to insert greens in the present fabric. He states that it provides sustainable, cost effective, flexible as well as variable solutions. Using technology and 3D modeling, data collection and mapping has become very efficient.

Taking the example of green inserts in the present urban fabric with the help of UMEP Model, helps one understand the climate and land cover. The results were phenomenal, with reduced thermal stress and a more comfortable living environment. The green inserts can be in different forms namely, new trees, bushes, open public spaces and areas with permeable soil for rain water to penetrate. The trees being used for such inserts must be fast growing, cheap, easy to manage and should provide a dense canopy. This solution can also be implemented in a Heritage precinct by adding natural elements to the surroundings.

Speaker IV: Ar. Ashish Trambadia
Topic: Ahmedabad WHC: Sustainable Growth and Layers of Heritage

The lecture by Ar. Ashish Trambadia was scheduled on the topic Heritage City of Ahmedabad - Sustainable Growth and layers of Heritage. The speaker explains that in order to see the city in totality, it is important to also consider intangible aspects like community, culture and lifestyle. If we trace back the architectural history of Gujarat we can observe the transition from Timber to Stone as a material which is prominent in Islamic architecture. One of the best examples of Timber construction is Pol, where each one has their own customisation of the space. Therefore, in the case of Ahmedabad UNESCO emphasises on the fact that we have an associational heritage where the focus is not just on the architectural part of the heritage but all the values and culture associated with it. The speaker continues the lecture with a question - Is the core still the heart of the city ? The speaker then continues the lecture with various initiatives by ASI and Heritage cell of the city and how various grades and plates define the heritage in its true identity.

Speaker V: Prof. Karl Zankl
Topic: Our Heritage: Where the Past Meets the Future

The lecture on Our heritage : where the past meets the future by Prof. Karl Zankl gives an insight on one of the lecture series in Europe where 37 countries with 13 million participants were involved. The aim of the series was to encourage intercultural communication and learning. The speaker compares the cities in India with those around the world. The cities in India like Ahmedabad, Varanasi, Ujjain, Delhi are constantly growing in similar fashion to cities like Acropolis, Athens and Rome. The speaker focuses on how the cities are growing but sometimes in rare cases they might also shrink. This may be due to economic recession or environmental factors. The speaker focuses on how he finds similarity in declining city cores even in cities of Europe. The speaker explains how the activities in city centers are declining. According to him, the balanced development is when the revitalisation and strengthening of historic cores takes place simultaneously.

Conclusion:

To conclude, the lectures by varied speakers raised many important concerns. The primary concern is who the major stakeholders are in the process. The discussion emphasised that the people or the prime users are of importance. It is essential that the people are convinced with the development or revitalisation of the area. To convince the people to love the heart of the city should be the first step in the process. On the other hand, it is also important to understand that the economic model is not explored practically. In many cases, the power of money is disrupting efforts.

The order imposed on the organic nature of the city is the real danger. There are various solutions which can be implemented which would ensure that the development taking place is not hampering the culture and organic nature of the historic cores. Some of the solutions include implementing Nature based solutions all over the world. Awareness should be created especially in Asian countries. Sometimes all we need to do is remove parked vehicles and traffic.

The place is big enough for every pedestrian to use the space as it is meant to be. So instead of enforcing many laws it is important that places are pedestrianized and let it be as it is. For these solutions or any other solutions to work, it is extremely important to understand that what we consider chaos is order at the highest level and that the imposition of the geometry is not viable for the people staying there. Emotional connected people should be respected above all.

Technical Session 2

Session Chair: Prof. K.T. Ravindran
Moderator: Dr. Tanushri Mokde

Speaker I: Prof. Deepika Shetty
Topic: Design to Narrate Stories, Celebrate Culture and Progress Towards a Sustainable Future

The lecture by Prof. Deepika Shetty on topic Design to Narrate Stories, Celebrate Culture and Progress Towards a Sustainable Future begins by narrative on the hydrogeological situation of Ujjain, the speaker painted a vivid picture of its rocky terrain, coupled with low percolation, juxtaposed against the lush alluvial soil surrounding the river. The natural elegance of Sapta Sagar, intricately woven into the fabric of the land, stood as a testament to the region's rich heritage. Amidst the challenges posed by urbanization, the talk emphasized the imperative for sustainable development, delineating four pillars: Kestka, Loka, Desa and Krama, and Kala each integral to fostering a harmonious future. Cultural circuits were meticulously mapped, serving as vital arteries connecting the community's cultural ethos with its astronomical heritage. Yet, amidst the growing urban landscape, concerns of a high urban heat island effect and water shortage loomed large, worsened by a scarcity of open spaces within the city. In an endeavor to preserve cultural sanctity, rules were enacted to regulate the revered Major procession routes, accommodating modern modes of transportation such as e-bikes and e-rickshaws, while preserving the essence of pilgrimage on foot.

She underscored the importance of retaining soft edges around riverfronts and ghats, cherishing historical landmarks like Jantar Mantar, and venerating sacred sites like Mahakaleshwar Temple. Through strategic alignment of cultural spaces and astronomical phenomena, Ujjain sought to forge a sustainable path forward, where cultural heritage and modernity intertwine seamlessly in the tapestry of progress**.**

Speaker II: Prof. Utpal Sharma
Topic: Learning from the Historic City of Jaipur

The lecture by Prof.Utpal Sharma is a learning from the historic city of Jaipur offers valuable insights, particularly its low-rise, high-density urban model suited for hot and dry climates. The city's grid pattern, known as Mandala, has endured over time. Its wide roads, designed with varying widths, effectively mitigate traffic congestion even today. Jaipur's inclusion in the Golden Triangle tourist corridor, along with Delhi and Agra, underscores its significance in tourism, driving economic growth. The proposed ring road aims to enhance connectivity, while public transport routes are crucial for sustainable urban development. Additionally, the development of Vidhyadhar Nagar, adjacent to Jaipur, complements the city's expansion efforts. The pedestrian bazaar, encircling the city with bus routes, fosters a vibrant urban experience and encourages local commerce.

Speaker III: Dr. Debashish Nayak
Topic: Getting the City Back to its People: Ahmedabad's Journey Towards Becoming India's First UNESCO World Heritage City

The lecture by Dr. Debashish Nayak is on the topic Getting the City Back to its People: Ahmedabad's Journey Towards Becoming India's First UNESCO World Heritage City. The talk is relating to the steps and measures taken by the people of ahmedabad to make it considered as UNESCO world heritage site. It begins with raising awareness among its residents to foster conservation efforts. This grassroots movement, rooted in community participation, underscores the importance of engaging people in conserving Ahmedabad's architectural and cultural treasures. By delving into

the intricacies of traditional pol houses, the city celebrates its unique architectural heritage and promotes sustainable urban living practices. Heritage walks serve as dynamic platforms for education and cultural exchange, allowing residents and visitors alike to immerse themselves in Ahmedabad's rich history. Additionally, the restoration of bird feeders, with the proactive involvement of political leaders, symbolizes a collaborative effort to create a more inclusive and environmentally conscious cityscape. These endeavors not only safeguard Ahmedabad's tangible and intangible heritage but also foster a deeper appreciation for its vibrant past and promising future.

Speaker IV: Ar. Abhijeet Lakhia
Topic: Conserving the Void Versus Form: The Ahmedabad Experience

The lecture by Ar. Abhijeet Lakhia on the topic Conserving the void versus Form: The Ahmedabad experience. In the talk the speaker talked about his own heritage home which is getting restored in Ahmedabad pol where he merged 3 other houses along with his. In the restoration of the pol house group, particular attention is paid to the interplay between void and form, a defining characteristic of Ahmedabad's architectural heritage. The restoration process extends to the preservation of water tanks and the identification of connected structures, emphasizing the city's intricate urban fabric. Material selection is guided by durability, with a focus on options such as glass blocks, timber, and masonry, capable of withstanding the test of time for up to 400 years. The strategic use of voids not only enhances the aesthetic appeal of the structures but also serves as a driving force in shaping their architectural form, creating dynamic and visually striking spaces that resonate with the city's rich cultural legacy.

Speaker V: Ar. Sumesh Modi
Topic: Conservation as Research Based Design

The lecture by Ar. Sumesh Modi on topic Conservation as Research based Design. In this topic the speaker talks about his own project out of which 2 are related to conservation and one is relating to expression of a city by arts. Conservation efforts in Champaner-Pavagadh are rooted in research-based design, emphasizing the importance of documenting the city's historical significance. Buried debris within the city, nestled under reserved forests, serves as a testament to its rich past and underscores its status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Meanwhile, Ahmedabad's underground metro rail station project integrates art interventions, enriching the urban experience for commuters and visitors alike. Similarly, the restoration of Surat Castle involves identifying key nodes for conversion into heritage precincts, transforming ruins into vibrant cultural hubs. He speaks about the amount of convincing it requires to get a project under restoration. Then he also talks about the rigorous testing that precedes restoration efforts, ensuring the preservation of the city's architectural legacy while fostering a deeper appreciation for its historical significance.

Speaker VI: Prof. Gitanjali Rao
Topic: Engaging with Sacred Cultural Landscapes

The lecture by Prof. Gitanjali Rao on the topic Engaging with Sacred Cultural Landscape. In this lecture the speaker talks about engaging with sacred cultural landscapes, like the Chandrabhaga River in Solapur, which extends beyond mere observation. It entails a comprehensive assessment of the natural values encompassing the river, including ecological diversity and ecosystem services. The tradition of pilgrimage walks to Pandharpur not only honors religious beliefs but also fosters a deeper connection to the land and its cultural heritage. By mapping events and footfall patterns of people along these routes, urban planners gain insights into how these sacred journeys shape the surrounding urban fabric, influencing aspects such as infrastructure development, land use patterns, and community

dynamics. This holistic approach to engagement ensures that the preservation and management of these sacred sites are rooted in a thorough understanding of their cultural, ecological, and social significance.

Speaker VII: Prof. Pratima Singh
Topic: Vulnerability Assessment in Ahmedabad Old City

The lecture by Prof. Pratima Singh on the topic Vulnerability Assessment in Ahmedabad Old City. In this talk the speaker said the intersection of vulnerability and resilience in cultural heritage is particularly evident in the case of the heritage area in Ahmedabad. Despite the thriving commerce in the vicinity, the heritage structures stand as a testament to the city's rich history and cultural significance. The presence of common open spaces within this area serves as vital hubs for social interaction, fostering community cohesion and cultural exchange. However, recent assessments indicate a concerning trend of increasing threats and vulnerabilities to the listed heritage buildings. Ranking exercises conducted in pol houses highlight the urgent need for proactive preservation efforts. The implications of these challenges extend to cultural heritage inventories, underscoring the importance of adaptive strategies to safeguard the integrity and authenticity of Ahmedabad's cultural legacy.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the narratives and statements provided offer a comprehensive understanding of the intricate relationship between cultural richness, sustainable development, and environmental resilience in cities like Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Solapur, and Ujjain. These cities exemplify the diversity of India's cultural heritage and the complex challenges facing urban centers in the 21st century. From the grid-patterned streets of Jaipur to the bustling heritage precincts of Ahmedabad, each city presents unique opportunities and constraints in balancing preservation with progress.
Key themes that emerge from these narratives include the importance of community engagement, the valorization of cultural assets, and the essential need of environmental care. Initiatives such as the restoration of heritage buildings, the mapping of pilgrimage routes, and the promotion of cultural circuits underscore the vital role of local communities in shaping the sustainable development of their cities. However, these efforts must contend with existing challenges such as water scarcity, urban heat island effects, and encroachment on heritage sites. To address these challenges, cities must adopt holistic and integrated approaches that prioritize inclusivity, innovation, and resilience. By harnessing the power of cultural heritage as a driver for economic growth and social cohesion, while simultaneously embracing principles of environmental sustainability, cities can chart a path towards a more vibrant and equitable future. Through collaborative partnerships between government, civil society, and the private sector, these cities can navigate the complexities of urbanization while preserving their unique identities and ensuring the well-being of future generations.
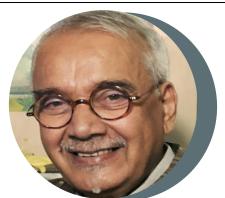
Profile of Conference Speakers

Prof. Miki Desai *Former Head of Master's program in Sustainable Architecture, CEPT University*	Prof. Miki Desai is the former head of the Master's Program in Sustainable Architecture at CEPT University, Ahmedabad where he taught from 1981 to 2014. He has had the EARTHWATCH grant, the Senior Fulbright Fellowship, the Graham Grant, and the Getty Collaborative Grant. He is the author/co-author of 6 books on Indian architecture. He has also held exhibitions of his research and documentation work nationally and internationally in Berkeley, USA, Colombo, Sri Lanka, Dhaka, Bangladesh and London, UK. He was a visiting scholar in the College of Environmental Design at the University of California at Berkeley in 2014. He has been a presenter and a keynote speaker at international conferences.
Prof. KT Ravindran *Member of Kerala Urban Policy Commission, Govt of Kerala*	Prof. KT Ravindran is an Urban Designer practicing from Delhi. He is currently a Member of the Kerala Urban Policy Commission, Government of Kerala. He is Member Governing Council INTACH. He is Trustee, The Madhavan Nayar Foundation, Kochi. He delivers public lectures in various fora on urbanization and is currently Professor Emeritus at Mohammed Sathak Academy of Architecture, Chennai and Visiting Professor at NITTE University, Mangalore. He was Member of the Advisory Board for the United Nations Capital Master Plan, New York. He taught Urban Design for three decades in SPA Delhi. He was Dean and Senior Academic Advisor, RICS School of Built Environment, former Chairman of the Delhi Urban Art Commission and was the Founding President of the Institute of Urban Designers India.
Ar. Ashish Trambadia *Director/CEO, Ahmedabad World Heritage City Trust*	Ar. Ashish Trambadia has been Working as Director/CEO of the Ahmedabad World Heritage City Trust, he is working in the management and upliftment of UNESCO recognized World Heritage Site of Ahmedabad. Graduating with a degree in Architecture from MANIT, Bhopal in 2002, he pursued a Master's in Architectural Conservation from SPA, New Delhi in 2003-2005. Since 2006, he has been undertaking diverse conservation projects with notable organizations. His expertise extends to collaborations with the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Self Employed Women Association, and numerous other entities.

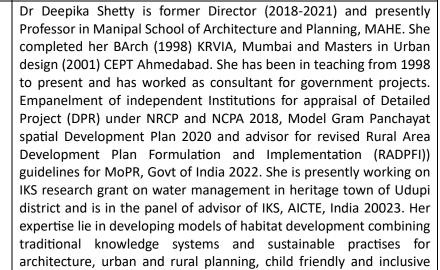|	
Prof. Utpal Sharma *Dean and Director, Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University*	Prof. Utpal Sharma, Dean and Director at the Institute of Architecture and Planning at Nirma University is spearheading the institution since its inception in 2014. He has over 30 years of experience both as an Academician and Professional in the field of Architecture and Planning. He studied Architecture from IIT Roorkee, Urban and Regional Planning from CEPT and further specialized in Minimum Cost Housing from McGill University, Canada. He has also received an Honorary Doctorate from Sorbon University, France in 2018. Prior to joining Nirma University in 2014, he was Dean at the Faculty of Planning in CEPT University. He served as an expert member to the Government of India on Affordable Housing Policy. He is an expert member on various government and non-government bodies in India. Prof. Sharma has worked extensively across India and Asia on various prestigious urban projects that involve preparation of Master Plans, Regional Plans, Zonal Plans, Housing Policy formulation and Urban Design guidelines. He has received many prestigious awards during this tenure.
Prof. Karl Zankl *Technische Hochschule Würzburg-Schweinfurt THWS*	Prof. Karl Zankl is a dedicated architect with a profound focus on heritage conservation, boasting over 30 years of experience in the field. Renowned for his collaboration with the National Heritage Conservation Board of Bavaria, his projects primarily involve the meticulous restoration and conservation of historical structures and buildings. In addition to his practical endeavors, Prof. Zankl is actively engaged in research, collaborating with the Fraunhofer Institute on a project centered around the "energy-efficient desalination of historical structures." His commitment extends to education, where he conducts courses on "energy-oriented optimization of historical buildings." Internationally recognized, Prof. Zankl shares his expertise through lectures on Heritage Conservation in diverse locations, including India, Thailand, Australia, and New Zealand. Currently, he is conducting heritage-conservation workshops in various global locales, including Northern Italy, As Salt (Jordan), and Ahmedabad (India).
Prof. Daniele La Rosa *University of Catania, Catania, Italy*	Dr. Daniele La Rosa is a urban and environment planner, and teaches spatial planning and urban design in Building Engineering MSc course at the University of Catania. His research interests are sustainablility, GIS for urban & landscape planning, environmental indicators, environmental strategic assessment, and land use science. He has published 80 articles on the topic 'Reducting Risk of Urban Pluvial Flooding throgh Spactial Equity Approach.'

Prof. Gunther Benkert *Technische Hochschule Würzburg-Schweinfurt THWS*	Prof. Gunther Benkert, an architect with a Diploma from the Technical University Munich and a background as a visiting student at ETH Zürich, has had a diverse career. After being a partner at Boesel Benkert Hohberg Architects, he established Benkert Schäfer Architects Munich in 2019. In addition to his professional roles, Gunther has been an influential figure in architectural education, serving as an assistant professor at HS Munich and TU Munich. He later became a Professor for Building Design and Building Technology at THWS in Würzburg. Gunther Benkert's career spans approximately 25 years, focusing on the interplay of light quality in space and energy efficiency in architecture. In response to the climate crisis, he advocates for a shift in the building sector toward carbon-neutral structures, shaping the discourse on sustainable architecture in Germany.
Ar. Debashish Nayak *Honorary Director of Oriental Studies and Heritage Management Resource Center at Gujarat Vidyapith*	Ar. Debashish Nayak, a seasoned architect with over three decades of experience in urban conservation, is the Founder and Former Director of the Centre for Heritage Management at Ahmedabad University. His influential advisory roles extend to heritage programs in cities like Ahmedabad, Jaipur, and Lucknow, and he has been a key advisor to UNESCO's Indian Heritage Cities Network. Acknowledged for his contributions, Debashish Nayak has received prestigious awards such as the Ashoka Fellowship, Salzburg Fellow, and the Friends of the United Nations Citizen's Award. In 2015, he was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Governor of West Bengal and 'The Spirit of Ahmedabad' award by the Chief Minister of Gujarat in 2016. Since 2019, Debashish Nayak has served as the Honorary Director of Oriental Studies & Heritage Management Resource Center at Gujarat Vidyapith. His work, including the documentation of Ahmedabad's journey to UNESCO World Heritage status, is widely recognized and published by institutions like the Panna Lalbhai Foundation in 2023.
Dr. Deepika Shetty *Manipal School of Architecture and Planning (MAHE)*	Dr Deepika Shetty is former Director (2018-2021) and presently Professor in Manipal School of Architecture and Planning, MAHE. She completed her BArch (1998) KRVIA, Mumbai and Masters in Urban design (2001) CEPT Ahmedabad. She has been in teaching from 1998 to present and has worked as consultant for government projects. Empanelment of independent Institutions for appraisal of Detailed Project (DPR) under NRCP and NCPA 2018, Model Gram Panchayat spatial Development Plan 2020 and advisor for revised Rural Area Development Plan Formulation and Implementation (RADPFI)) guidelines for MoPR, Govt of India 2022. She is presently working on IKS research grant on water management in heritage town of Udupi district and is in the panel of advisor of IKS, AICTE, India 20023. Her expertise lie in developing models of habitat development combining traditional knowledge systems and sustainable practises for architecture, urban and rural planning, child friendly and inclusive urban design, blue-green infrastructure for rural and urban area.

Ar. Sumesh Modi
People for Heritage Concern and Modi Associates
Research·Consevation·Artwork

Sumesh Modi holds a master's degree in architectural conservation at the School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi. He has nearly twenty four years of architectural and conservation practice experience. He is also associated with Raman Bhakta School of Architecture, Bardoli in the capacity of Director and Dean. His book "Impressions of a Forgotten City" was published by the Archeological Survey of India in 2004. His research work led to the inclusion of Champaner-Pavagadh to the UNESCO World Heritage Site List 2004—the first in Gujarat and twenty fifth in India. His architectural conservation project, "Restoration of Surat Castle" has been awarded the best project under the Smart City Mission by the Government of India. He has been a consultant for the four underground Heritage Metro Stations in Ahmedabad World Heritage City. He has undertaken research and conservation of the historical structures within the four walls of Vadodara. He has repaired ten step-wells for the Gujarat State Archaeology. He is currently working on research and conservation of the Nyay Mandir and surrounding precinct in Vadodara, Godhara Police Barracks, and Gaekwad Fort at Vyara. He has designed campuses at North east university Meghalaya, Nuzvid Andhra Pradesh, Ranchi, Sirpur, and Uka Tarsadia University Bardoli which is very special to his heart and his soul lives there.

Ar. Anuj Malhotra
General Manager, Planning & Urban Development, Srinagar Smart City Limited

Ar. Anuj Malhotra, a seasoned landscape architect over 23 years of experience in urban development is currently serving as the Head of Planning and Urban Development at the Srinagar Smart City Limited. He has actively contributed to the High-Powered Committee at the Ministry of Home Affairs as a Knowledge Partner and served as an Expert Member for the committee. Throughout his career, Anuj has served various organizations in the development sector, successfully leading multidisciplinary teams to execute urban design, urban development, and urban infrastructure projects. During his tenure at Srinagar Smart City, he has a played pivotal role in crafting a development strategy and initiating projects aimed at urban transformation. At SRFDCL, the focus was on rejuvenating the riverfront while optimizing real estate potential and enhancing public spaces. As an Advisor (Transport) to the J&K Government, Anuj made significant contributions, notably envisioning, planning, and creating the administrative and financial structure, as well as a phased urban plan for the new Water Transport System for Srinagar, in coordination with 12-line departments.

Prof. Gitanjali Rao *School of Architecture at KLE Technological University, Hubli Karnataka, India*	Prof. Gitanjali Rao is a Professor of School of Architecture at KLE Technological University Hubli, Karnataka India. She is also the Proprietor, Director ,ADEI (Art Architecture Design Environment Consultants) India. Her twenty-seven plus years of teaching, practice and research focuses on sustainable and resilient transformation of Historic urban landscapes and sacred cultural landscapes through documentation, Vision plans, propositions and capacity building training. Some of ADEI's key projects are: UNESCO Nomination Dossier and management framework for Badami , Aihole as an extension to World Heritage Site of Pattadakal, Karnataka, Cultural resource development and management plans for 15 Karnataka State declared historic towns, Heritage conservation and tourist infrastructure plans, cultural resource mapping, state of conservation assessment of two hundred plus traditional water systems(step wells, kunds in Karnataka, covering Deccan cities ,sacred pilgrimage sites. She is currently on the advisory panel to Government of Karnataka for integrated tourism development plan of Gadag district.
Ar. Abhijeet Lakhia *Adaptive Response Architects and Designers, Goa*	Ar. Abhijeet Lakhia, an accomplished architect started his experience in 1997 with Eisenman Architects in New York City, contributing to notable projects like The Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe in Berlin and The City of Culture of Galicia, Spain. In India he has worked with numerous NGOs on post disaster reconstruction work, with SEEDS after the 2001 Gujarat earthquake, rebuilding an entire village in north Gujarat and with LAMO after the 2010 flash floods in Ladakh, where they built a community center for musicians in Leh. He is currently an associate at Gran Kriegel Associates in New York City building public schools and doing restorations and remodeling work in conjunction with the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. In 2010, he founded ARAD in Goa; presently ARAD is actively involved in projects across India, including housing for pilgrims in South Gujarat, heritage conservation through adaptive reuse in Goa and in Ahmedabad's UNESCO World Heritage city.
Prof. Pratima Singh *Assistant Professor, Institute of Architecture and Planning Nirma University*	Prof. Pratima Singh is an urban planner with advanced qualifications in applications of geospatial technologies in land use planning and infrastructure assessment and management. Based in Ahmedabad, Pratima has over 28 years of experience in working with Academia, Government, NGOs, and Practice. She is an alumnus of CEPT University, Ahmedabad, India, Twente University and Erasmus University in The Netherlands. Pratima's main research focus is GIS-based assessment of historic cities in India and how to mainstream sustainability, disaster risk reduction and climate action approaches with the urban planning frameworks. Pratima has published in national and international journals and has been part of several research and consultancy projects.

Organising Committee

Dr. Swati Kothary *Assistant Professor, Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University*	Dr. Swati comes With over 20 years of experience, Swati has worked on many high valued social and technical projects with various Indian states, Central Government as well as International organisations like The World Bank. She is a Graduate in Construction Technology and an Environmental Planner with keen interest in areas focusing on Urban and Infrastructure Planning, Environmental Law and Urban Governance. Prior to joining academics in 2018, She has worked for regulatory authorities, international and national consulting firms and urban development institutes. During her tenure with the Central and State Pollution Control Board in Gujarat, she worked extensively on future Environmental Management of the state.
Prof. Jitendra Menghani *Assistant Professor, Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University*	Ar. Jitendra Menghani is an Architect Planner currently teaching at the Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University, Ahmedabad, as an Associate Professor Since 2017. He completed his undergraduate studies in architecture from CEPT, Ahmedabad, in 2000 and his Masters in Town and Regional Planning from SVNIT, Surat, in 2008. He worked on architectural and design projects in Baroda and Surat. Apart from studio and classroom-based teaching, he enjoys working with students on hands-on workshops and has conducted multiple national and international field trips to study architectural monuments and urban heritage. As coordinator of collaborations and MOUs, he plays a pivotal role in organising, managing, and initiating various activities and workshops with international partners of IAPNU, particularly from France, Germany, and Florida. His doctoral research focuses on the interrelationships of Neoliberal Urbanism, Socio-spatial segregation, and urban form in Indian cities.

Ms. Utsavi Shah
Research Assistant, Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University

Utsavi Shah, a recent graduate with a B Plan Degree in 2022, is presently employed as a Research Assistant at the Institute of Architecture and Planning, Nirma University, Ahmedabad. She is actively involved in the Erasmus+ URGENT Project, contributing to various tasks of the project including dissemination and administrative tasks. She has also been collaborating with different faculty members to co-author research papers and have also presented in two conferences during this time. Additionally, Utsavi contributed significantly in organizing and executing the International Conference on Future is Urban 2022.

Pictures

Breakfast and Lunch

Miscellaneous

Conference Schedule

Conference Schedule

0830 to 0950Hrs	Registration and Breakfast	Registration Desk, C-Block Courtyard
0950 to 1000Hrs	Welcome, Lighting of the Lamp and Saraswati Vandana	Invited Dignitaries and Students of IAPNU
1000 to 1005Hrs	Introduction to the Conference	Prof. Utpal Sharma
1005 to 1010Hrs	Inaugural Address	Dr. Anup Singh
1010 to 1020Hrs	Book Launch URGENT ICFU 2022- Conference Proceedings	Team URGENT ICFU 2022
1020 to 1330 Hrs	**Technical Session 1**	
	Session Chair: Prof. Deepika Shetty; Moderator: Ar. Jitendra Menghani	
	Presentation	Expert
1020 to 1105Hrs	'Having Missed the Bus' and 'Being selfish' in Urban Settlements: Paradigms of Conservation	Prof. Miki Desai
1105 to 1130Hrs	Transforming Inner Cities – Urban Design strategies for change.	Prof. K T Ravindran
1130 to 1140Hrs	Tea/ Coffee Break	C-Block Courtyard
1140 to 1200Hrs	Strategies and opportunities for Nature-Based Solutions planning in highly dense urban contexts	Prof. Daniele La Rosa
1200 to 1220Hrs	Ahmedabad WHC: Sustainable Growth and Layers of Heritage	Ar. Ashish Trambadia
1220 to 1240Hrs	Our Heritage: Where the past meets the Future	Prof. Karl Zankl
1240 to 1300Hrs	Learning from Historic City of Jaipur	Prof. Utpal Sharma
1300 to 1330Hrs	Q & A- Technical Session 1	Dr. Deepika Shetty Ar. Jitendra Menghani
1330 to 1430Hrs	**Executive Lunch**	
1430 to 1700Hrs	**Technical Session 2**	
	Session Chair: Prof. KT Ravindran; Moderator: Dr. Tanushree Mokde	
	Presentation	Expert
1430 to 1450Hrs	Design to Narrate stories, Celebrate Culture and Progress Towards a Sustainable Future	Prof. Deepika Shetty
1450 to 1510Hrs	Getting the City Back to its People : Ahmedabad's journey towards becoming India's First UNESCO World Heritage City	Ar. Debashish Nayak
1510 to 1530Hrs	Conserving the void versus form: the Ahmedabad experience	Ar. Abhijeet Lakhia
1530 to 1540Hrs	Tea/ Coffee Break	C-Block Courtyard
1540 to 1600Hrs	Conservation as Research Based Design	Ar. Sumesh Modi
1600 to 1620Hrs	Engaging with Sacred Cultural Landscapes	Prof. Gitanjali Rao
1620 to 1640Hrs	Vulnerability Assessment in Ahmedabad Old City	Prof. Pratima Singh
1640 to 1700Hrs	Q & A- Technical Session 2	Prof. K T Ravindran Dr. Tanushree Mokde
1700 to 1730Hrs	**Concluding Session & Vote of Thanks**	**Prof. Utpal Sharma Dr. Swati Kothary**
1730 Hrs Onwards	**High Tea**	**C-Block Courtyard**

Registration Sheets

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Name	Roll No.	Payment (Cash/Online)	Registration Kit Given
Vidhi jain	21bar090		
Jinal Vadodariya	22bar014		
Harsh Agrawal	22BAR059	Online	*(signature)*
Harsh Agrawal	22BAR059	-	
Devanshi Mehta	22bar065		
Zeel Parmar	22bar070		
Poorvi Sethi	22BAR076	Online	*(signature)*
Archie prajapati	22bar078		
Dwiti Raval	22bar082		
Twisha Gajjar	22BAR090		
Ananta Verma	23bar002	online	Entire *(handwritten)*
Prutha Goklani	23bar007		
Zeel Mistry	23bar015		
Ananya Patel	23bar019		
Tisha Shah	23bar035		
Viraj Patel	23bar041		
Vivane Kanuga	23BAR042		
Yashada M Sakhalkar	23bar043		
aarjav	23bar045		
Feni Vinodbhai Prajapati	23BAR049		
Mahek Hadvani	23BAR055		
Radhika Agrawal	23bar066		
Rani Patel	23BAR069		
Khushi B Raval	23bar071		
Shreya khandelwal	23bar078		
Tanisha Seth	23bar081	Onjen	
Vedika Pandey	23bar085		
Devansh Paliwal	23bar092		
Samriddhi	23bar093		
Tanya Puri	23bar201		
Aditi Mohan Iyer	23ptphda17	Cash 1- 3	*(signature)*
Shauryaa Khare	23BAR077		
Tanay		Cash 1- 4	V.P Nagar
Zahra	20BAR045	Volunteer	
Yashvi	20BAR041	volunteer	
Yug	23BAR022	Volunteer	
Krish	21Bar	Student council	
Ojas	2	Stud. council	
Hiya	21Bar	Stud. council	
Shreel	21Bar	Stud council	
Twisha	22BAR090	Cash 8	Maye
Shivan	22BAR069	Volunteer	
Utkarsh	23BAR039	Cash 5	
NITYA BHARGAVA	19BAR020	Cash 6	NB
SAUMYA GUPTA	19BAR037	Cash. 7	

Name	Roll No.	Payment (Cash/Online)	Registration Kit Given
Nimesh Bansal	19BAR019	*Volunteer*	
Mit Shah	19BAR039		
Vidushi Agrawal	19BAR046	*Volunteer*	
Binisha Gandhi	19BAR050	~~Online~~ / *Volunteer*	
Charvy Shah	19bar051	*Volunteer*	
Divyansh Mehta	19BAR055	*Cash*	
NIRAVSINH CHAWDA	19BAR065	*Cash*	
Ravi didhdhapara	19bar081		
Aayushi Shukla	20bar001		
Anuj Mathur	20BAR004	Online	
Raji Chokshi	20BAR006	Online	
Myanvy Gajjar	20bar011		
Jeel Shah	20BAR015		
Tanzila mansuri	20bar019		
Khushi nada	20bar022		
Sakshi patel	20bar026		
Pawas Prasad	20bar027	Online	
Rudraksh Dubey	20bar032		
Shabbir Hathiari	20BAR034		
Krishi Barot	20bar048	~~Cash~~ online	
Kajal Gajjar	20bar054	online	
Chandrakant javiya	20bar055		
Kanishka Keswani	20bar059		
Khushi Garg	20BAR060		
Nishi Mansharamani	20bar066		
Rishabh Falodia	20bar077	Online	
Noopur Ruparel	20Bar078		
Dhruv Sahani	20bar079	Online	
Rishit Sanchaniya	20BAR080		
Shaival	20BAR083		
Zankhna Pathan	20BAR089	Online	
Zeel Pandya	20bar090		
Shruti Patel	20bar202		
Aloknanda Sarkar	21bar001		
Brinda Patel	21bar003		
Bansi guna	21BAR010		
Kruti Bhavsar	21bar021		
Aksha Moliya	21Bar022		
Rhea Pillai	21BAR029	Online.	
Shreya sanghani	21bar034		
Saniya Bhargava	21bar035		
Hiya	21bar044		
Kishan Ginoya	21bar060		
Krisha Popat	21bar062		
Shruti Sanghvi	21BAR075		

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Name	Roll No.	Payment (Cash/Online)	Registration Kit Given
MAHARISHI	–	Cash / onlien	
Breunig			
SCHULZ, L.			
Trotta, Dana			D. Trotta
Parth Patel	22BAR026	cash 8	Porth
Wiktoria Janitz			W. Janitz
Laure Madlinger			
Anna lena Duffer			Bully
Simon Scharf			
Monta Buchlde			
Johnny Zuricher			
Lilli Vogel			Vogel
~~Maharishi~~	~~23BAR037~~		
Dhruvin	21Bar019	Vo Stud. Council	DPKava
hirjom Hirsdn			Nitti Sel
KRISTIN PICHLER			
Erjmann Mone-Lena			
Anna Gahse			A. Gahse
Annalena Rey			A. Rey
Tanya Puri	23BAR201	ONLINE	Tanya

German Students

German Students

German Students

Sr No	Name	Signature	Registration Kit Given
1	Bishwanath Mudi		
2	Foram Bhavsar		
3	Jaydeep Bhagat		
4	Jitendra Menghani		
5	Krishna Yadav		
6	Nishant Kansagra		
7	Parag Mistry		
8	Pooja Raval		
9	Prachi Patel		
10	Shweta Suhane		
11	Sneha Ramani		
12	Swati Kothary		
13	Utsavi Shah		
14	Vibha Gajjar		
15	Tanushree Mokde		
16	Aparna		
17	Jitesh Mewada		
18	Purvi Jadav		
19	Sujan Umaraniya		
20	Supriya Pal		
21	Yogesh Gandevikar		
22	Rajendra Singh Parde		
23	PVK Ramashwar		
24	SBLA KACAUACE		
25	GUNTHER BENEDKT		

Speakers.

Sr No	Name	Signature	Registration Kit Given
1	Prof. Miki Desai	*[signature]*	
2	Prof. K T Ravindran		
3	Prof. Daniele La Rosa	*[signature]*	
4	Ar. Ashish Trambadia	*[signature]*	
5	Prof. Karl Zankl	*[signature]*	
6	Prof. Utpal Sharma		
7	Prof. Deepika Shetty	*[signature]*	
8	Ar. Debashish Nayak	*[signature]*	
9	Ar. Abhijeet Lakhia	*[signature]*	
10	Ar. Anuj Malhotra	—	
11	Ar. Sumesh Modi	*[signature]*	
12	Prof. Gitanjali Rao	*[signature]*	
13	Prof. Pratima Singh	*[signature]*	