RESEARCH THESIS

related to SIX CROSS CUTTING THEMES UNDER

URGENT PROJECT

Analyzing the co-relation of community with respect to social and cultural aspects of kunds through architectural characteristics and elements: a case study of Junagadh, Gujarat.

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Batch: 2017-2022

B Arch Program

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NIRMA UNIVERSITY

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INDIA

In the final semester of a Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch) program, students engage in academic research by selecting an area of interest within the field of architecture. This process typically involves several steps to ensure that the research is rigorous, structured, and valuable. The process starts with a course on Research Methodology in VIII Semester followed by Research Proposal in IX semester. Here's an overview of the process:

1. Choosing an Area of Interest

- **Exploration:** Students begin by exploring various topics within architecture, such as sustainable design, urban planning, architectural history, construction technology, or digital architecture.
- **Narrowing Down:** After exploring, students narrow down their interests to a specific research question or problem. This could be based on current trends, gaps in existing literature, or personal interest.

2. Defining the Research Question

- **Problem Statement:** Students formulate a clear problem statement or research question that their work will address. This defines the scope of the research and sets the direction for the study.
- **Objectives:** Setting clear objectives helps in focusing the research. These could include understanding certain architectural phenomena, proposing new design solutions, or evaluating existing practices.

3. Literature Review

- **Existing Research:** A thorough review of existing literature helps students understand what has already been done in their area of interest. This involves reading academic papers, books, case studies, and other scholarly articles.
- **Gap Identification:** Through the literature review, students identify gaps or areas where further research is needed, which helps in refining their research question.

4. Research Methodology

- **Qualitative vs. Quantitative:** Depending on the nature of the research, students choose between qualitative methods (such as case studies, interviews, or observations) and quantitative methods (such as surveys or statistical analysis).
- **Data Collection:** Students plan how they will collect data. This might involve fieldwork, archival research, simulations, or experiments.
- **Data Analysis:** Once data is collected, students analyze it using appropriate tools and methods. This could involve software for statistical analysis, 3D modeling, or comparative analysis techniques.

5. Design and Proposal Development

- **Conceptual Framework:** Students often develop a conceptual framework that guides the design or theoretical aspects of their research.
- **Prototyping:** In some cases, students create physical or digital models to test their ideas. This is particularly common in research that leads to a design proposal.

6. Documentation and Presentation

- **Writing the Thesis:** The research findings are documented in a thesis, which includes the introduction, literature review, methodology, findings, discussion, and conclusion.
- **Visual Presentation:** Architecture students often need to prepare visual presentations of their research, including drawings, models, or digital renderings.
- **Defense:** Students may be required to present and defend their research in front of a panel of faculty members and peers.

7. Conclusion and Future Research

- **Summary of Findings:** The thesis concludes with a summary of the findings and their implications for the field of architecture.
- **Suggestions for Future Research:** Students may also suggest areas for further study based on their findings, contributing to ongoing academic discourse.

8. Submission and Review

- **Final Submission:** The completed thesis is submitted for review. This may include peer review, faculty evaluation, and sometimes publication in academic journals.
- **Feedback:** Based on the review, students may be asked to make revisions before the final acceptance of their research work.

This process not only helps students gain a deep understanding of a particular area within architecture but also equips them with the skills to conduct independent research, a valuable asset in their professional careers. Some of the research works undertaken by students are listed, examples of the some are also elaborated further.
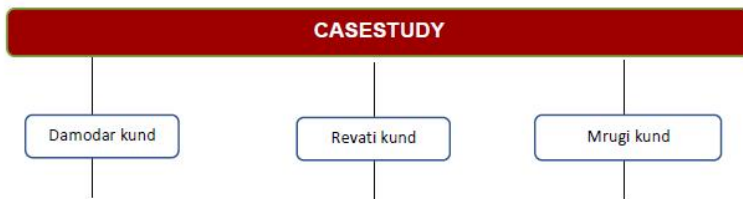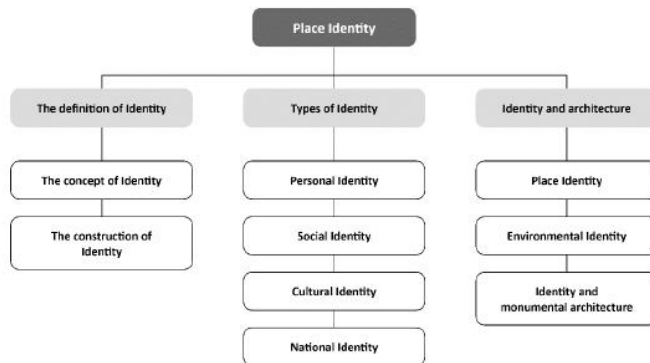
Analyzing the co-relation of community with respect to social and cultural aspects of kunds through architectural characteristics and elements: a case study of Junagadh, Gujarat.

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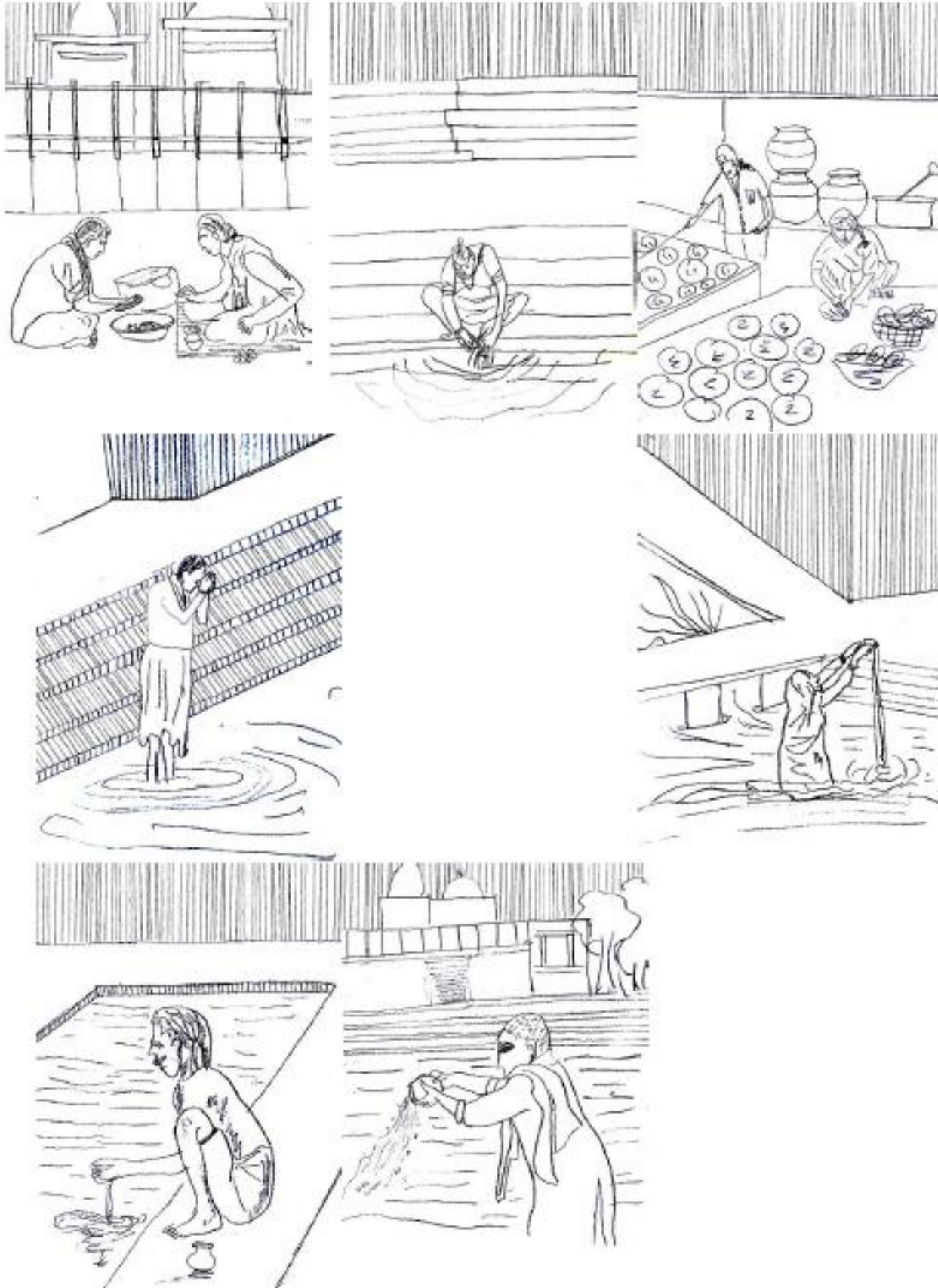| Processes	Nature of Process	Action (individual or interactional)	Meaning (individual or cultural)	Change over Time
Sensory	Experiencing the place through the five senses	Individual experience	Personal assessment and meaning: aesthetic value judgments based on personal preference, interpersonal interaction, and cultural values	Expands and develops over time, meanings shift with interaction and reinterpretation
Narrative	Practice of telling stories about the place, individuals in place, and cultural stories of place	Interpersonal story-telling, cultural stories of place	Individual, family, group, cultural	Continually evolving as people select which stories to retell and which to overlook and what personal and cultural meanings to emphasize
Historical (Biographical, Genealogical, Ancestral)	Personal life experience, family history, cultural history	Accumulation of life history and events in a place, family history, cultural history	Association of key life events with place, and association of place history to personal biography	Progressively expanding over time in place
Spiritual	Deep feeling or sense of belonging	Ongoing feeling of deep "oneness" with place	Deeply personal, difficult to share, often creates conflict over "authentic" attachment	Usually constant
Ideological	Moral, ethical, legal commitment to place	Individual, group or cultural commitment	Individual, interpersonal, cultural	Requires ongoing commitment/ adherence to code and related action
Commodifying	Cognitive act of assessing place based on a list desirable traits	Individual, interpersonal	Individual, interpersonal, cultural	Often diminishes as other processes develop
Material dependence	Reliance on a social resources, or features of place	Individual, interpersonal, cultural	Individual, interpersonal, cultural	Changes as material conditions change (e.g., life-course), and as personal requirements

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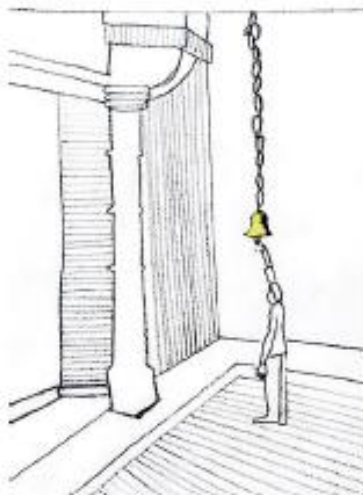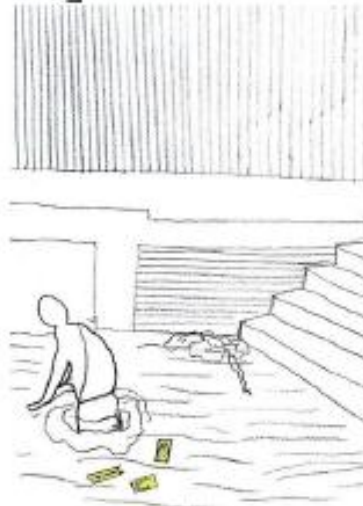
2. Narrative

Writing that takes the form of telling a tale is called a narrative. Writing that relates ideas, concepts, or events:

- It ties events together by displaying patterns and relating them to one another or to certain ideas, themes, or concepts.
- When we tell a story, we are essentially molding the narrative, or the sequence of events, which makes it both a discipline and an art form in the same sense.

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