Conference on Architecture – History, Theory and Practice (CArch2023)

Theme: "Pluralism in Architecture of South Asia and Other Regions"

1. **Description**

   Conference aligned with SDG-04 'quality education' since the major objective of conference is to expand horizons of the university going students. Other SDG's are SDG-10 'reduce inequalities', SDG-11 'sustainable cities and communities' and SDG-16 'peace, justice and strong institutions', that align with the theme of the conference that dealt with the plurality in architecture both locally, regionally and globally.

   Department: Department of Architecture and Planning, NEDUET
   Dates: 17th and 18th November 2023, Friday and Saturday.
   Venue: Beach Luxury Hotel Karachi

2. **Summary of Highlights of Conference**

   Overall 13 papers were presented including the Keynote address, out of which 05 were presented by international and 08 by local academics and researchers. Conference was hybrid in nature where papers were presented in person and online via zoom.

   The Guest of Honor was **Prof. Dr. S. M. Tariq Rafi**, Chairman Sindh HEC, Chief Guest was **Mr Cemal Sangu**, The Consul General of Turkiye and was presided by **Dr. Sarosh Hashmat Lodi**, Vice Chancellor NEDUET.

   Conference was preceded by 02 preconference session - panel discussions that were held at Department of Architecture and Planning, City Campus NEDUET on the morning of 17th Nov 2023 Friday between 10:00 – 12:00 hrs. Session 01 was titled "**Place-based pluralist architecture – designing affordable resilient homes**" session 02 was titled "**Preservation of Regional History - Recovering – Revising and Retelling**"

   Conference can be watched on architecture department YouTube channel by using the links shared below:
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ac3gmG93Gn0&t=8550s
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTudDNfDMgM

3. **Summary of Declaration of Conference**

   One of the meanings of the term pluralism is
   "a state of society in which members of diverse ethnic, racial, religious, or social groups maintain and develop their traditional culture or special interest within the confines of a common civilization"(https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/pluralism)

Pluralism, which is most commonly utilized in political philosophy, has many uses, particularly in areas with many ethnic and religious communities. The concept of linking ethnicity, religion, culture, and other variables to pluralism applies to both present and historical architectural works. We are looking for papers that take a pluralistic approach to the past for the 1st International Conference on Architecture. This viewpoint celebrates the rich mosaic of diversity that coexists, overlaps, and impacts the built environment in the South Asian context in particular and other regions in general, appreciating the examples of communal plurality and its effects on the built environment.

Subthemes:

• Collective memories and architecture
• Regional and foreign influences on vernacular architectural practices
• Continuities and discontinuities in architecture of the past
• Trade, mobility, movement and its impact on architecture
• Indigenous wisdom and its reflection in architecture
• Exchanges in forms, layouts & materials of construction

4. Keynote Speakers

  i.   Prof. Dr. Suna Guven, Department of Architecture, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey.

5. Top Research Papers

  i.   **"Prototype Jet Age Hotels in Turkey, Egypt, Iran, Pakistan and India"** online by Professor Bruce Peter.
  ii.   "**Pluralism in Indian Ocean cultures: Islamic architecture in the Maldives**" online by Professor Stephane Pradines
  iii. **"Modernist Heritage of Karachi: An Archival of Art Deco Homes and Collective Memories"** by Ghania Shams Khan.

6. The conference was organized by The History Group, DAP-NEDUET, funded by Sindh Higher Education Commission (SHEC), sponsored by Engro and souvenirs were sponsored by Mohmand Dada Minerals.

7. Pictures can be referred on next page