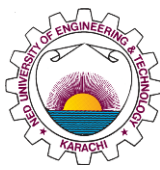
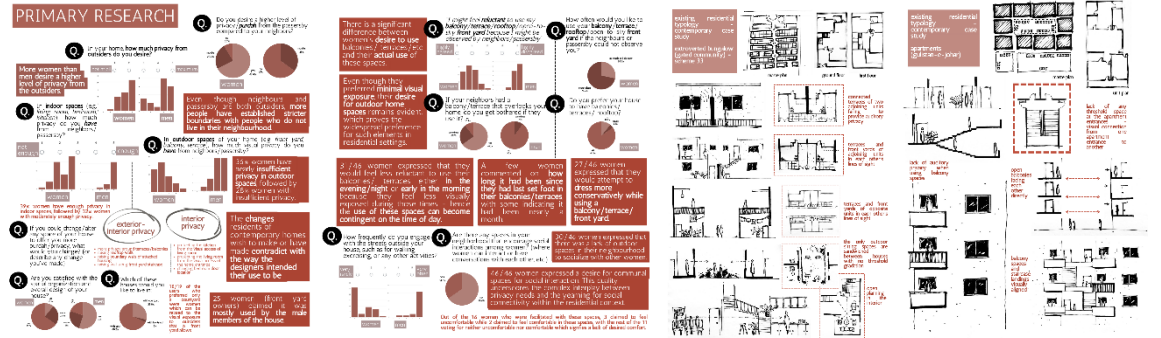


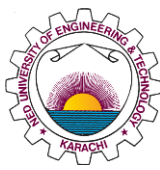
**Final Year Project Showcase Batch-2019  
Year 2024**

<b>Department: Architecture and Planning</b> Programme: <i>Architecture</i>	
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Project Idea</b></p> <p>Titled “Architectural Dynamics of Purdah: Tradition and Transition,” this thesis explores the intricate relationship between privacy, culture, and spatial design. It highlights the historical and evolving concept of purdah, focusing on how it has shaped traditional and contemporary architecture in South Asian and Islamic societies.</p> <p>The project envisions an urban living model that addresses cultural privacy needs, particularly for women, in densely populated environments. It stems from the observation that many contemporary residential designs fail to accommodate privacy needs of the residents and controlled interaction between families and neighbors. By integrating modern living with traditional privacy-driven design elements, the project envisions a culturally sensitive and socially inclusive space.</p> <p>This work underscores the importance of privacy in residential design and its impact on enhancing women's quality of life. By fostering security, promoting social interaction, and cultivating belonging in urban settings, the project contributes to the discourse on gender-sensitive and inclusive architecture, blending tradition with modernity.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Process</b></p> <p>This thesis used a comprehensive approach to examine the architectural dynamics of purdah in Pakistan. It began with a literature review of historical texts, academic studies, and contemporary research on purdah, privacy, and architectural design, providing a solid foundation to understand how purdah has shaped and continues to influence architectural practices.</p> <p>Case studies of traditional and modern residential spaces in Pakistan were conducted to observe how purdah principles have been maintained or adapted. These case studies revealed enduring architectural elements and spatial dynamics that support privacy needs.</p> <p>Surveys and interviews gathered primary data from residents and architects to understand how architectural design affects daily life and privacy needs. A mixed-method approach was used, combining quantitative and qualitative insights into four areas: General Privacy, Purdah, Architectural Spaces, and Social Spaces. Field visits further documented spatial arrangements, sketching, and photographing relevant features. Comparative analysis then revealed the common patterns.</p> <p>The research culminated in design strategies that balance privacy and community interaction, enhancing cultural sensitivity and inclusivity in residential architecture. The resulting design project was an apartment complex tailored to the privacy needs and living patterns of urban residents in Karachi, Pakistan.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Outcome</b></p> <p>The outcome of this thesis is an apartment complex in Karachi, Pakistan, thoughtfully designed to meet the privacy needs of urban residents, with a strong focus on cultural</p>

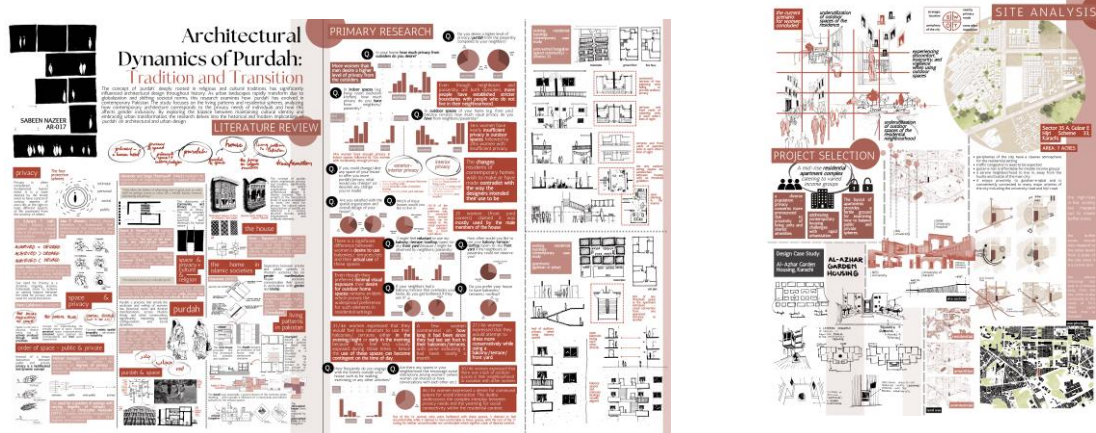
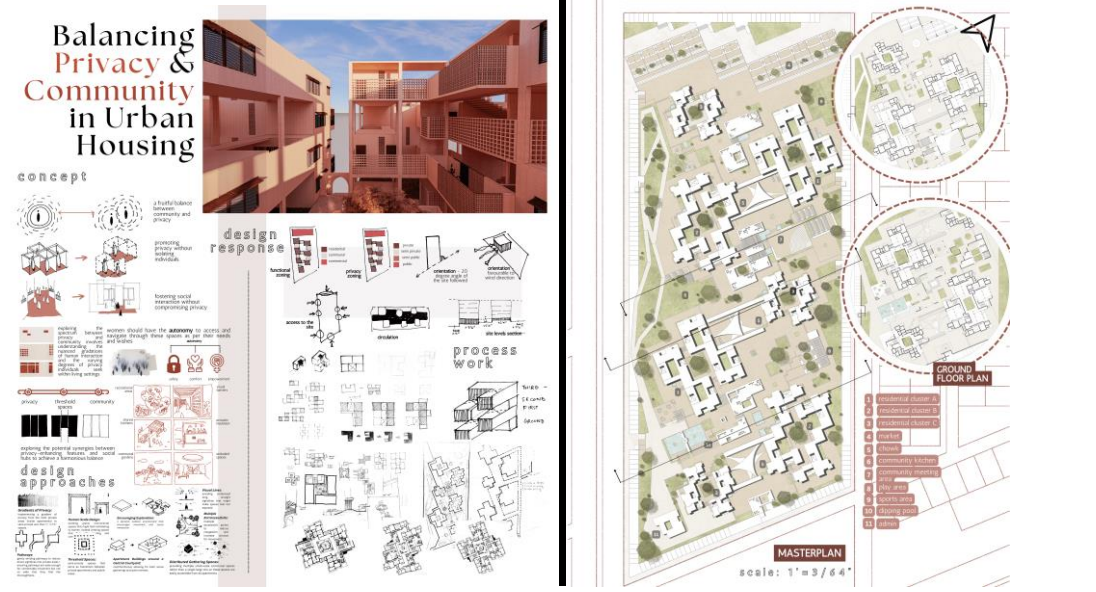


	<p>sensitivity and gender inclusivity, particularly for women. Targeting the middle-income group, the project ensures that privacy is not a luxury, but an accessible feature for a wide range of residents.</p> <p>At the core of the design is the balance between privacy and community. The complex is crafted to allow residents to maintain personal space while encouraging meaningful social interactions. It fosters privacy without isolating individuals, creating communal spaces that offer seclusion without sacrificing engagement.</p> <p>A key aspect of the project is empowering women with autonomy over how they navigate and use the spaces, enabling them to participate in community life while upholding cultural and religious values. The apartment complex serves as a model for contemporary architecture that addresses both personal and communal needs, offering a sensitive response to the privacy and social dynamics of modern urban life in Karachi.</p> <p>The design program includes three types of residential clusters: single-unit apartments (for families), duplex apartments (for larger families), and studio apartments (for single individuals or couples). It features communal spaces like a community kitchen, meeting area, dipping pool, sports area, play area, and walking track. The project is pedestrian-friendly, with separate parking and entrances for each cluster. Additionally, public squares promote social interaction, while a market on the project's edge caters to both residents and outsiders along with their controlled interaction.</p>
4	<p><b>Evidence (Theoretical Basis)</b></p> <p>The report comprises of 12000 words explained in a summary below described chapter wise:</p> <p><b>Chapter 1: Introduction:</b> This chapter introduces the core subject of the thesis, which is the architectural dynamics of purdah and its implications on privacy, cultural identity, and gender in architectural design. It outlines the background, hypothesis, rationale, and scope of the research, including how privacy and purdah manifest in architectural spaces in Pakistan.</p> <p><b>Chapter 2: Literature Review:</b> The literature review explores the human need for privacy and its cultural, religious, and spatial dimensions. It looks into how privacy is manifested in different architectural contexts, particularly through purdah, and how this has evolved over time. Key topics such as the dichotomy between public and private spaces, the cultural impact on architectural practices, and how purdah influences spatial arrangements are discussed.</p> <p><b>Chapter 3: Research Design:</b> This chapter outlines the research objectives, target groups, stakeholders, and methodology. The focus is on exploring how purdah has shaped architectural practices in Pakistan.</p> <p><b>Chapter 4: Research Findings:</b> In this chapter, the results of the primary research are presented. Survey and interview data are analyzed to understand the privacy concerns and gender-specific needs of residents. Contemporary case studies of Saima Villas and Sunny View Apartments in Karachi are detailed, highlighting issues such as visual and auditory privacy, spatial separation, and satisfaction with current housing conditions.</p>

	 <p><b>Chapter 5: Design Process:</b> This chapter covers the design process, including site analysis, design studies, and the development of the apartment complex. The design concept balances privacy and community, emphasizing women’s autonomy in navigating between private and public spaces through transitional threshold areas. The design focuses on creating intimate, human-scale spaces that ensure comfort and privacy for women. Winding pathways and multiple entrances reduce direct sightlines and provide flexible movement, enhancing autonomy. A gradient of privacy transitions from private apartments to semi-private and public communal spaces. Central courtyards foster social interaction while maintaining privacy.</p> <p><b>Chapter 6: Design Development:</b> Here, the thesis discusses the progression of the design, including floor plans, sections, elevations, and other architectural features. The design panels provide a visual representation of how privacy and community interaction are integrated into the apartment complex.</p> <p><b>Chapter 7: Appraisal:</b> This final chapter presents jury remarks and a reflection on the thesis project. The feedback highlights the seamless transition from research to concept to design and appreciates the attention to detail in balancing privacy and community spaces. It also includes suggestions for further exploration of structural aspects.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p><b>Competitive Advantage or Unique Selling Proposition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Culturally Sensitive Design:</i> The project is deeply rooted in the cultural practices of <i>purdah</i>, offering a unique architectural response to the privacy needs of women in South Asian and Islamic societies. By creating living spaces that respect gender-based seclusion and cultural values, the design ensures that residents, particularly women, can navigate and engage with their environment comfortably, without compromising their privacy.</li> <li>- <i>Balancing Privacy and Community:</i> One of the standout features of this project is its ability to foster social interaction while maintaining privacy. The integration of semi-private spaces, such as threshold areas and communal zones, offers a balance between personal seclusion and community engagement, ensuring that women can participate in social life without feeling exposed or isolated.</li> <li>- <i>Affordable Privacy Solutions:</i> Unlike many high-end residential designs where privacy is a luxury, this project focuses on delivering privacy as a fundamental need for middle-income groups. The design offers privacy-enhancing features, such as screened terraces, jaalis, and thoughtful spatial planning, making privacy accessible</li> </ul>



	to a broader population segment, ensuring cultural needs are met without the premium cost typically associated with privacy-driven design.
<b>a</b>	<p><b>Attainment of any SDG</b> (e.g. How it is achieved and why it is necessary for the region)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SDG#5, - Gender Equality: Achieved by designing privacy-sensitive spaces that cater to women, especially those practicing purdah. The project empowers women to navigate public and private spaces freely and safely by promoting gender inclusivity in residential design. In Pakistan, where cultural and religious practices like purdah shape spatial use, such considerations become essential for women's autonomy, social interaction, and mobility.</li> <li>- SDG#11, - Sustainable Cities and Communities: The project balances privacy and community interaction, creating resilient urban spaces that respect cultural traditions. Communal areas and social spaces promote inclusivity while preserving privacy, contributing to sustainable and cohesive communities. In a rapidly urbanizing Pakistan, culturally sensitive and efficient housing solutions are vital for sustainable urban development.</li> <li>- SDG#10 - Reduced Inequalities: Aimed at middle-income groups, the project provides culturally relevant housing, making privacy an accessible feature rather than a luxury. Given Pakistan's economic inequality, equitable access to housing can help reduce disparities in living standards, particularly in urban areas.</li> <li>- SDG#3, - Good Health and Well-being: Privacy-oriented homes enhance psychological well-being, particularly for women, by providing secure spaces that address privacy concerns. Communal areas further promote social interaction and mental health. By respecting cultural needs, the project fosters both physical and mental well-being in urban settings.</li> </ul>
<b>d</b>	<p><b>Process Improvement which Leads to Superior Product or Cost Reduction, Efficiency Improvement of the Whole Process</b> (e.g. What is the issue in current process and what improvement you suggests)</p> <p>Efficiency in designing urban residential spaces that cater to the privacy needs of women practicing <i>purdah</i> is crucial for enhancing their quality of life and promoting social cohesion. By thoughtfully incorporating privacy-driven design approaches, such as human-scale design, reduced direct sightlines, gradients of privacy, multiple entrances/exits, designing around central courtyards, distributed gathering spaces, and design elements such as screened terraces, controlled entryways, <i>jaalis</i>, breezeblocks, movable partitions, and more, the project reduces the need for ad-hoc privacy solutions that often increase costs and compromise usability. This method ensures that privacy is not only accessible but also sustainable across socio-economic brackets. Streamlining the design and construction process with these cultural needs in mind prevents costly retrofitting and fosters a more inclusive, functional living environment.</p> <p>Furthermore, the integration of communal areas and threshold spaces encourages community interaction without compromising privacy, optimizing both land use and social engagement. This dual focus reduces long-term maintenance costs, minimizes isolation, and enhances the mental well-being of residents. By addressing cultural sensitivities in the design</p>

	<p>process, the project achieves a balance between privacy and community, ensuring a more efficient, cost-effective, and socially inclusive residential model.</p>	
7	<p><b>Team Members</b> (Names along with email address)</p>	<p>Sabeen Nazeer (nazeer4201899@cloud.neduet.edu.pk)</p>
8	<p><b>Supervisor Name</b> (along with email address)</p>	<p>Ar. Masooma Shakir, Ar. Hira Qureshi</p>
10	<p><b>Pictures (If any)</b></p>  	

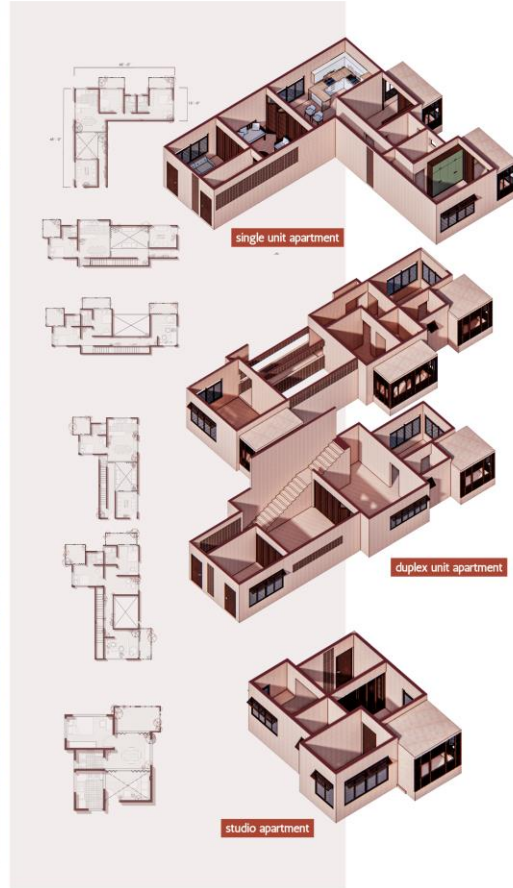


# SUSTAINABLE URBAN REGIONS

NED University of Engineering & Technology



Chair



## elevations



