



CHITKARA
UNIVERSITY



SPA
CHITKARA SCHOOL OF PLANNING & ARCHITECTURE

CSPA NEWSLETTER

ARCHISCAPE

Volume - 9 | Number - 2

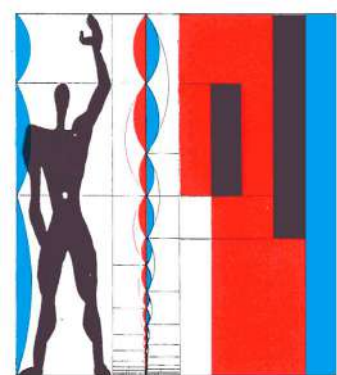
April - June 2025



Quarter 02 Highlights

- » Research Excellence Awards 2025
- » Expert Sessions-
 - Crafting your Professional Identity
 - Crafting a Research Proposal
- » Vastu Fest 2025
- » Online Training Programs
- » COA Technical Training Program
- » Masterclass-
 - Crafting the Visual Narratives
- » International Workshop
 - VR and AI Studio @University of Navarra, Spain
- » International Conference @Navi Mumbai
- » IDAC Intelligence Infinity Awards
- » External Juries
- » Faculty Achievements
- » Student Achievements
- » Paper Presentation





Message from Editor's Desk



-- Dr. HARVEEN BHANDARI
Principal and Dean- Ph.D. Program
Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture

Dear Readers,

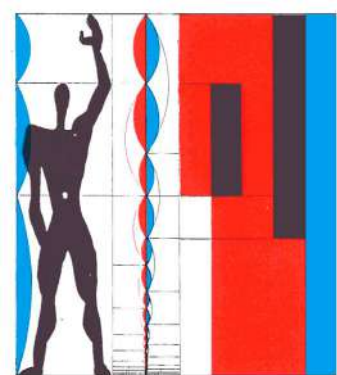
As we step into the heart of 2025, the second quarter from April to June 2025 has been a dynamic chapter of innovation, learning, and global engagement at CSPA. It reflected our unwavering commitment to academic excellence and professional development.

We were proud to participate and celebrate the faculty achievements through the Research Excellence Awards 2025 that recognize impactful contributions of the research community at Chitkara University. A series of expert sessions were conducted for students and faculty that provided valuable perspectives equipping our students and scholars with essential tools to shape their academic and professional journeys.

The creative spirit came alive during Vastu Fest 2025, showcasing the rich confluence of design, tradition, and innovation. The Vastu fest witnessed the participation of students in various competitive events and activities, promoting teamwork and critical thinking. Adding to the vibrancy of campus life, creative competitions such as the Bird Nest Making Competition on World Sparrow Day and the Poster Making Competition on World Heritage Day were also conducted. Simultaneously, online training programs and the COA TTPs continued to build strong technical foundations among our faculty members.

The CSPA team also explored the world of AI through an insightful session conducted by the Hon'ble Chancellor, on 'The Rudiments of Artificial Intelligence' and allied aspects, offering a forward-looking perspective on emerging technologies. On the global front, our students and faculty participated in an enriching International Workshop on VR and AI by the University of Navarra, Spain, fostering futuristic thinking and immersive learning. In parallel, representation at the International Conference in Navi Mumbai and accolades at the NPC Tricity Event and IDAC Intelligence Infinity Awards further reinforced our national and international presence. A special note of appreciation goes to our external juries, which marked the end of this semester, whose discerning perspectives, academic rigor, and mentorship elevated the standard of final design evaluations at CSPA.

As we look ahead, let's carry forward the momentum of growth, creativity, and collaboration. CSPA is proud to host the 3rd edition of the COA International Conference from 26-28 February 2026 at Chitkara University, Punjab. Each member of the CSPA community will strive to work hard ensuring commitment and contribution to shaping a vibrant and forward-thinking academic culture at CSPA.

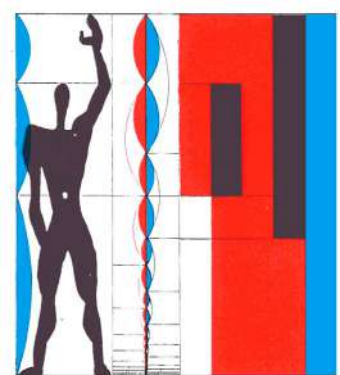


EXPERT SESSION World Sparrow Day

31 Mar - 02 April 2025

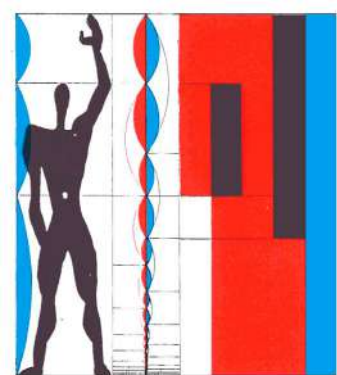
The Centre of Excellence for Sustainability organised a thoughtful three-day workshop to celebrate 'World Sparrow Day'. The initiative aimed to spark dialogue around urban biodiversity and promote hands-on sustainable practices. **Dr. Kanika Bansal, Dean-Academic Affairs, CSPA**, was invited as a resource person for the workshop and delivered technical sessions, followed by evaluation of the faculty and student outcomes. Dr. Kanika spoke passionately about the crucial role sparrows play in balancing ecosystems. She encouraged students to take simple, practical steps toward conservation, starting with building bird nests from recycled materials. Faculty and students visited a local scrapyards to collect reusable items, such as wood, metal, and plastic, which they later transformed into creative and functional bird nests. The final day featured a friendly competition, where nests were evaluated for sustainability, design, and practicality.





The competition was open to students and faculty of Chitkara University. CSPA faculty and students participated in large numbers. The first and second prize were bagged by students of CSPA, while a tie for third place was claimed by CSPA faculty, celebrating not just innovation, but collaboration across various levels. All awardees and participants received a certificate of appreciation.





ANNUAL AWARDS

Research Excellence Awards 2025

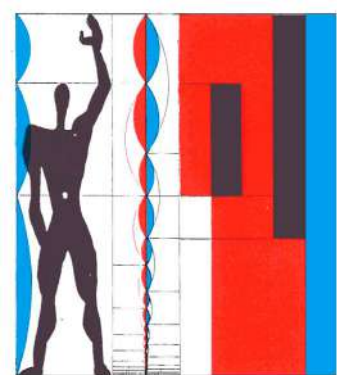
02 April 2025

CSPA congratulates **Dr. Harveen Bhandari** for bagging two awards in the annual Research Excellence Awards 2025 held at Chitkara University:

- **Best PhD Supervisor Award (1st position in Architecture)**
- **Best Research Author Award (6th position in the category of HSc & HSS)**

The awards were distributed by the **Hon'ble Pro-Chancellor Dr. Madhu Chitkara**, along with esteemed dignitaries from Chitkara University. 100-plus faculty members received awards this year for their contributions to research and innovation conducted at the university. The Research Excellence Awards were flawlessly coordinated under the mentorship of **Dr. Amit Mittal, Pro VC Research Programs, Chitkara University**. Such celebratory events further inspire all to continue contributing to our shared goals and fostering excellence.





CSPA is proud of students from 1st and 2nd year who gave a scintillating performance of **Ganesh Vandana** in the **Research Excellence Awards 2025**

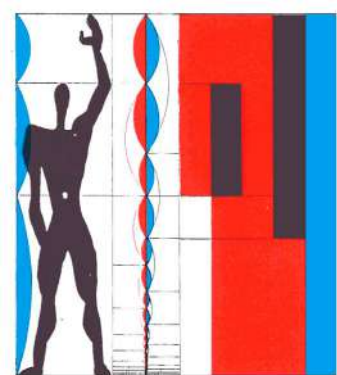
EXPERT SESSION

Crafting your Professional Identity

03 April 2025

The Department of Architecture, CSPA, hosted an enlightening event on 03 April 2025, titled '**Crafting your Professional Identity: Leveraging Self-Awareness for Workplace Success**'. The expert **Ms. Amrita Kalra** delved into the critical 21st-century skills required for workplace success, such as critical thinking, teamwork, communication, negotiation, leadership, adaptability, and innovation. A key focus of the discussion was the importance of building a unique professional identity and the pivotal role self-awareness plays in this process. Participants explored both internal and external dimensions of self-awareness, including recognizing how others perceive us. Ms. Kalra also conducted a reflection activity to highlight the potential consequences of lacking self-awareness in personal and professional settings, such as poor decision-making, interpersonal conflicts, career stagnation, and stress-related challenges like burnout and impostor syndrome. The event provided participants with valuable insights and tools to cultivate self-awareness, such as the Myers-Briggs Personality Test, Enneagram Testing, and DISC Assessment. Dr. Harveen Bhandari and Dr. Kanika Bansal felicitated the guest and delivered a vote of thanks.







CRAFTING YOUR PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY: LEVERAGING SELF AWARENESS FOR WORKPLACE SUCCESS



Expert
AMRITA KALRA
Learning and Development
Coordinator, Intact
Vancouver, Canada



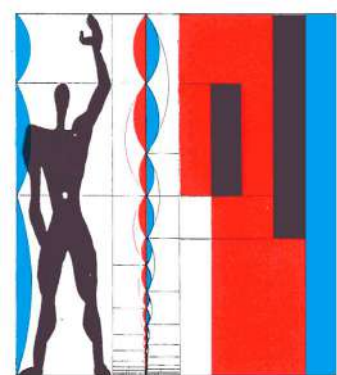
Date : 3rd April, 2025
Time : 10:00 AM Onwards
Venue : Martin Luther Hall, Martin Luther Block

Faculty Co-ordinator
Ar. Pardeep Singh Maan
Asstt. Professor, CSPA

Event Curated by:
Department of Architecture
Chitkara School of Planning & Architecture
Chitkara University, Punjab







STUDENT ACTIVITY Vastu Fest 2025

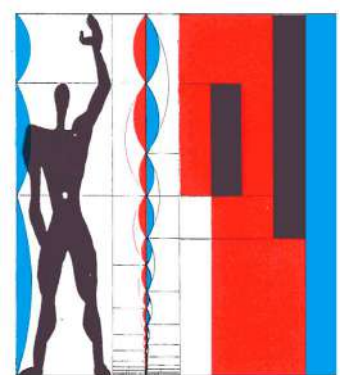
08 -09 April 2025

The campus of CSPA came alive with colour, excitement, and a shared sense of purpose as VASTU FEST 2025 unfolded on 08-09 April 2025. Organised by BLUEPRINTS, the student club at Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture, the event brought together students from all batches in a celebration of creativity, competition, and community. With four dynamic houses – Brutals, Debunkers, Urbans, and Modests – the fest transformed the academic space into a festive battlefield of talent and teamwork.



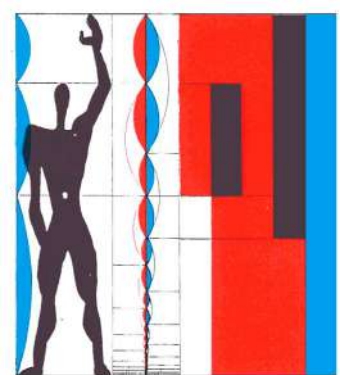
Day 1 kicked off with a spirited inauguration, setting the tone for the day's diverse line-up of events. Students showcased their skills in the Buzzer Quiz, tested their ingenuity with Bridge with Sticks, captured moments in Photography, and expressed themselves through graffiti. The energy only grew with the scavenger hunt, indoor games like Ludo and Chess, a thought-provoking documentary screening, and the much-anticipated tug of war, which drew cheers and chants from across the houses. Each event was a perfect blend of fun, learning, and healthy rivalry.





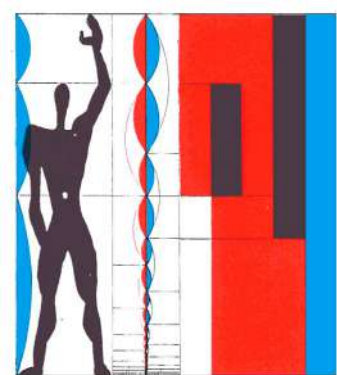
April - June 2025





Day 2 opened with reflections from the previous day and set the stage for cultural brilliance. Events like the open mic, singing faceoff, and the high-energy dance competition – ‘Rhythm in Motion’ kept the audience enthralled. A surprise performance by faculty added a heartwarming touch, while the personalities round brought out the confidence and stage presence of the participants. The day concluded with the Valedictory Ceremony, honouring not just winners, but also the spirit of participation and collaboration that made the fest truly special. The Guest of Honour for the event was **Col. Dr. Rakesh Sharma, Registrar, Chitkara University**. While **Team Urbans** lifted the coveted **House Cup**, each house earned accolades and recognition in various events. Beyond the trophies and medals, the fest succeeded in strengthening bonds, building leadership, and creating memories that will last well beyond the academic year.



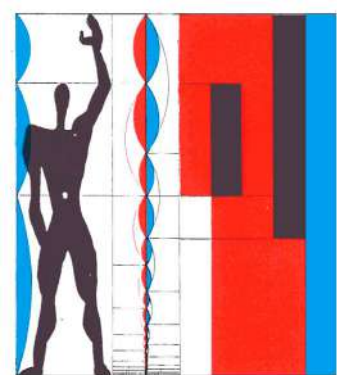


April - June 2025



VASTU FEST 2025 proved that when students are given the space and trust to lead, they not only rise to the occasion – they create magic





MASTERCLASS

Crafting the Visual Narratives

11 April 2025

To prepare students for real-world professional experiences, Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture hosted a masterclass titled 'Crafting the Visual Narratives: Integrating Innovation and Design Thinking in Portfolio and CV Building'. Curated specially for the students of Batch 2021, who are gearing up for their upcoming professional internships, and for Batch 2022, to help them become future-ready. The session was designed to guide participants in articulating their academic and creative journeys through well-structured portfolios and impactful CVs. The event was conducted by **Ar. Rishabh Khurana**, a distinguished alumnus of the 2009–2014 Batch, shared valuable insights drawn from his international academic and professional experience. Through the lens of design thinking and innovation, he demonstrated how portfolios can go beyond documentation to become compelling narratives of one's growth and potential. The session left students informed, inspired, and confident, with practical strategies for presenting themselves professionally in the architecture field.

CHITKARA UNIVERSITY **AVENUES** **SPA**

CRAFTING THE VISUAL NARRATIVES

Integrating Innovation and Design Thinking in Portfolio and CV Building

A Master Class by

Ar. Rishabh Khurana
CSPA Alumni (Batch 2009)
Partner in two Architecture Firms
RA+ Design Studio, Chandigarh
Devallum, Chandigarh

- Masters in Design Research from the Southern California Institute of Architecture
- Expertise in Computational Design, 3D Modelling, and Digital Fabrication.

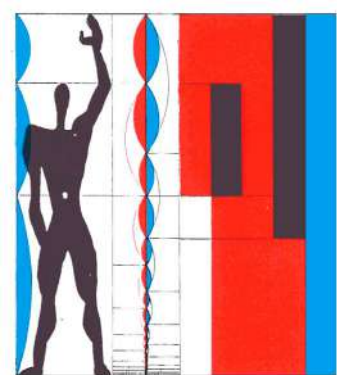
Date : 11th April 2025 | Time : 09:00 AM Onwards | Venue : Einstein Hall

Event Curated by
Prof. Dr. Kanika Bansal
Dean Academic Affairs, Dean M. Plan Program
Chitkara School of Planning & Architecture

Organised by
Department of Architecture,
Chitkara School of Planning & Architecture
Chitkara University Punjab

Coordinator
Ar. Shubham Jain
Assistant Professor, CSPA





PRE-FINAL JURY

Pre-Final Submission (PFS) Viva for ARV 9410 Architectural Design VIII

16 April 2025

The Pre-Final Submission (PFS) Viva for Architectural Design VIII students was successfully conducted on 16 April 2025. This significant academic exercise serves as a critical evaluation platform, enabling students to present and refine their architectural proposals for the final jury. The viva was held in the presence of esteemed external examiners: **Ar. Diggvijay Raajdev, Principal Architect, DIGGVIJAY Architects, Chandigarh**, and **Ar. Samanyu Bhatnagar, Principal Architect, More Designs, Zirakpur**. Both architects brought with them a wealth of professional experience and offered insightful feedback that encouraged students to engage critically and creatively with their design processes and outcomes.



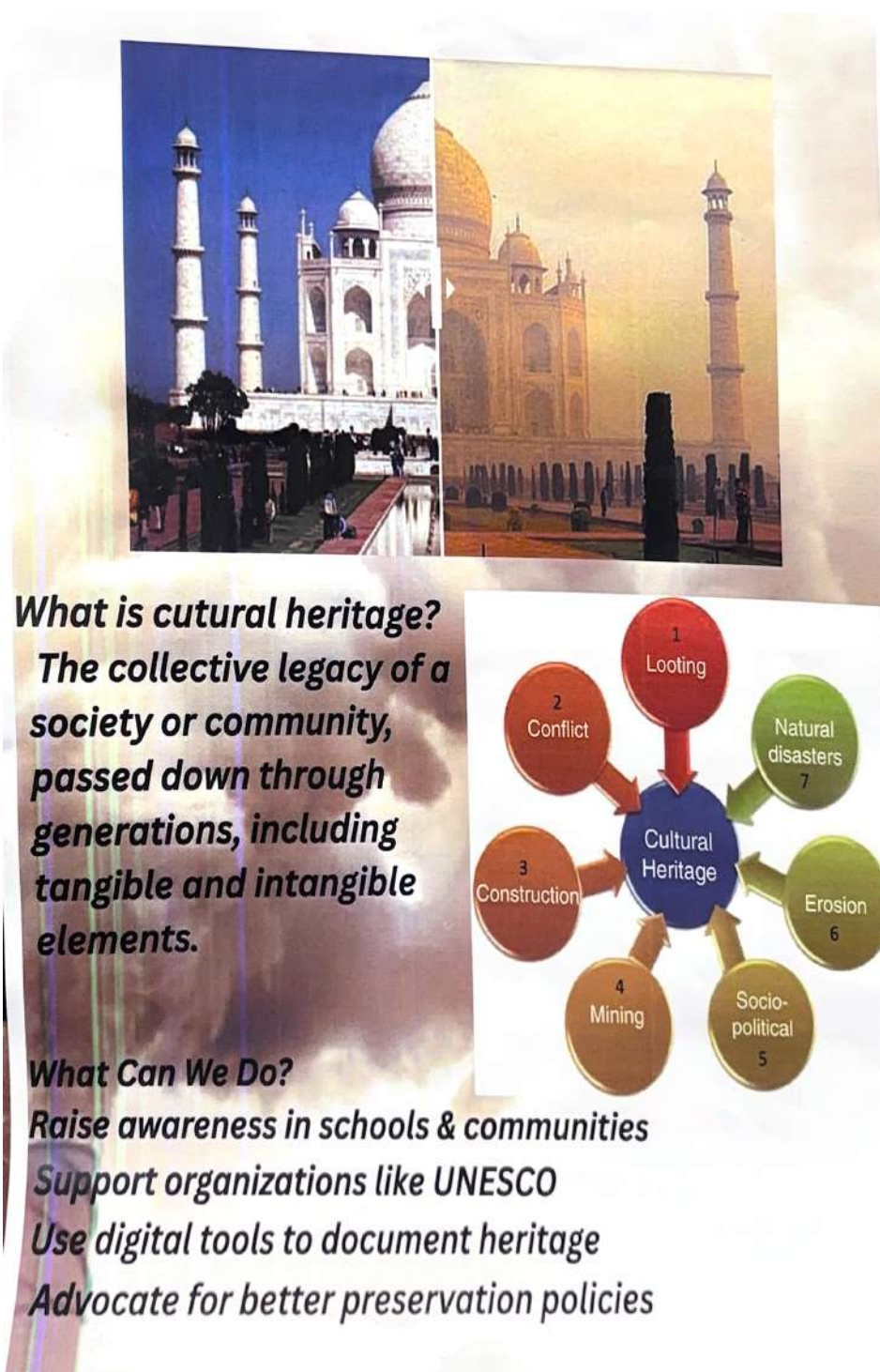
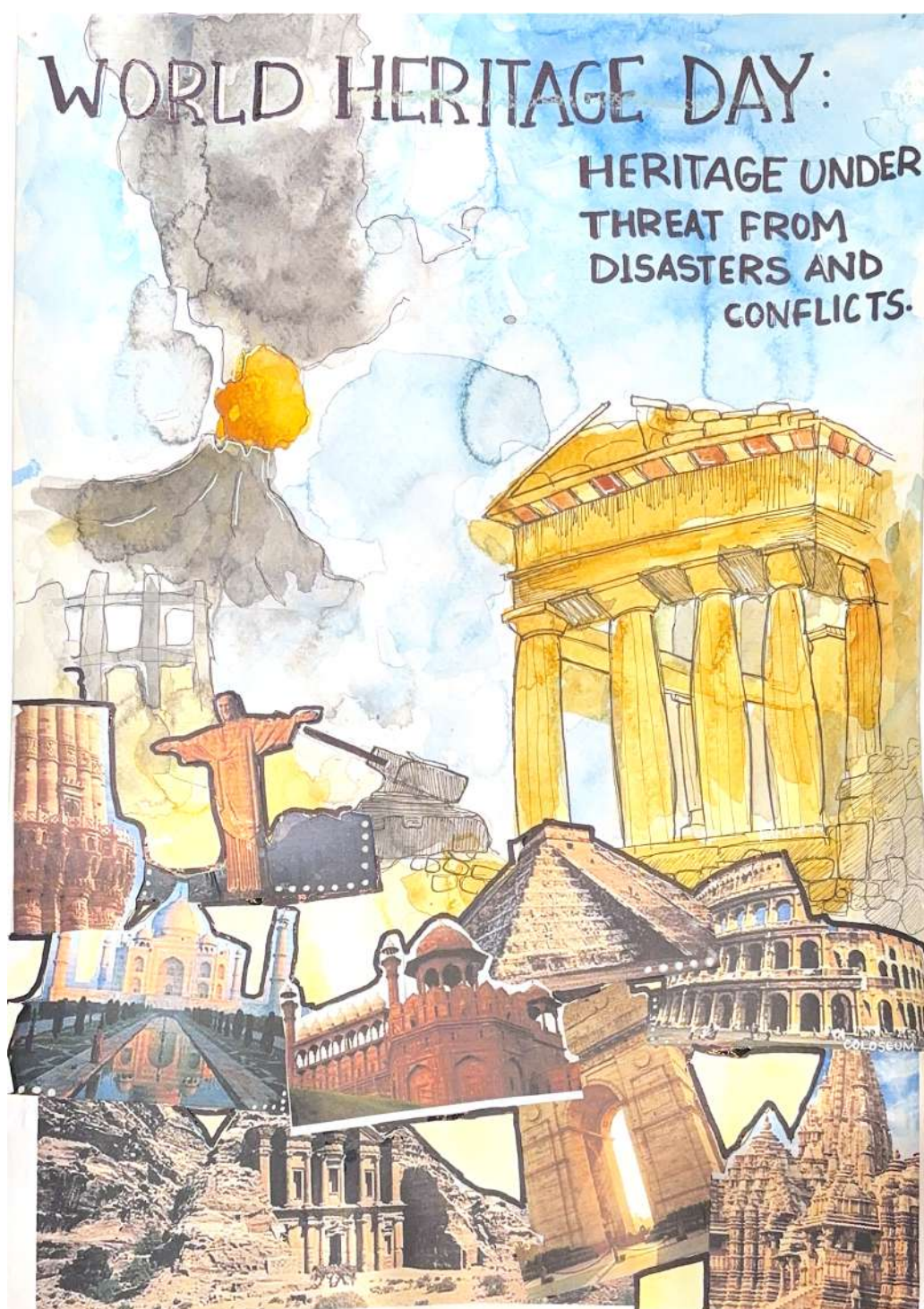
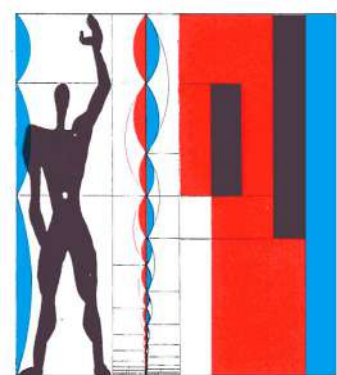
WORLD HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION

Poster Making Competition

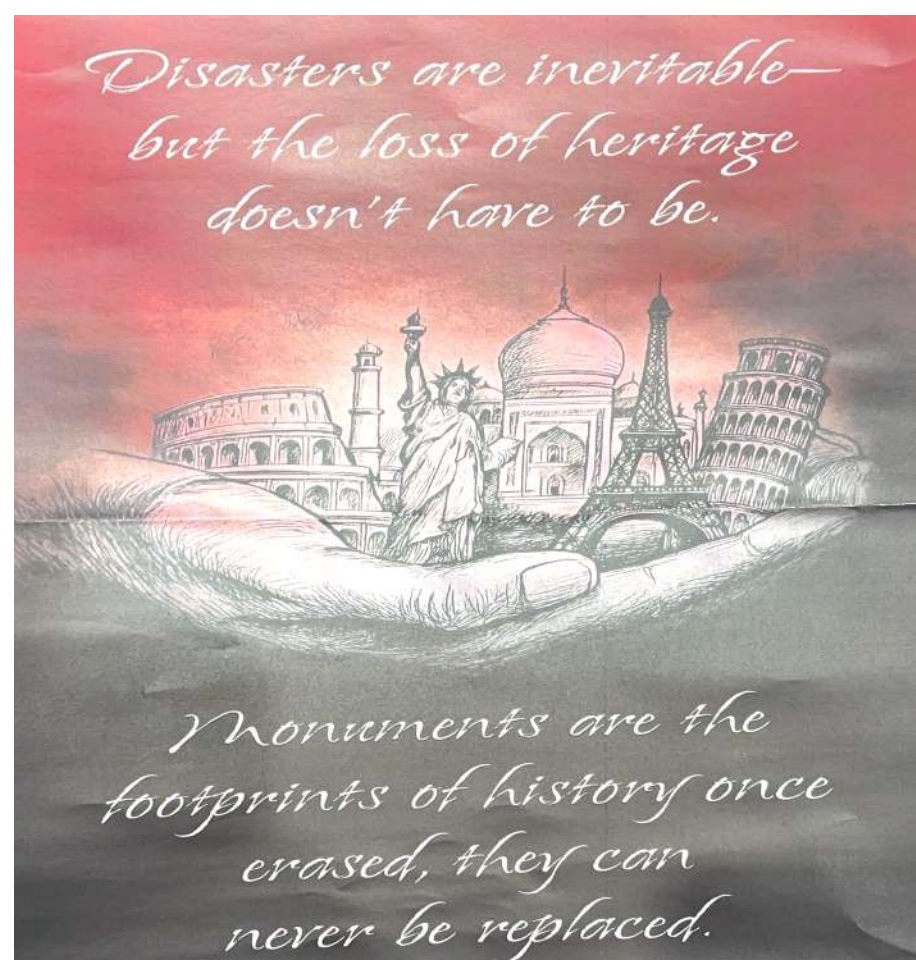
21 April 2025

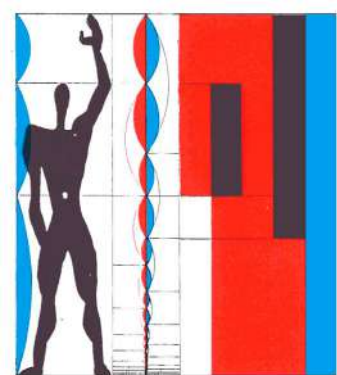
To mark World Heritage Day 2025, the Department of Architecture organized a creative poster-making competition titled 'Heritage on Canvas'. The theme of the competition was in line with the theme of WHD 2025 - 'Heritage Under Threat from Disasters and Conflicts'. The competition encouraged students to express their concerns and hopes through mixed media art. Participants combined hand-drawing, collage, digital techniques, and textures to communicate the urgent need to preserve vulnerable heritage sites. With enthusiastic submissions and powerful messages, the event not only celebrated heritage but also sparked awareness among young minds about cultural conservation and global responsibility.





Glimpse of entries received for the Poster Making Competition



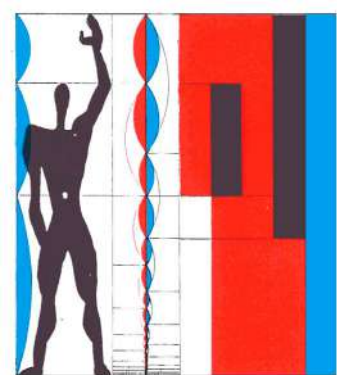


STUDENT ACTIVITY Visit to CSPA

21 April 2025

On 21 April 2025, students from **Government Polytechnic College, Faridabad**, and **Government Polytechnic College, Panchkula**, visited the Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture at Chitkara University. The educational visit was led by **Asstt. Prof. Saurabh Shukla**, accompanied by **Prof. Roopali Kansal** and **Asstt. Prof. Simran Jagdev**. The visit commenced with a presentation by **Prof. (Dr.) Harveen Bhandari**, who shared the best architectural practices adopted by the institution. This was followed by an insightful talk by **Prof. (Dr.) Kanika Bansal**, highlighting the dynamic classroom activities, achievements, and awards earned by our students. The guests then explored the school infrastructure, where they had the opportunity to witness the creativity and dedication of our students through various ongoing projects and studio work. The guest students were visibly excited and inspired by the vibrant academic environment. They also engaged in meaningful interaction with senior students, raising questions and gaining first-hand insights into the learning experience at Chitkara. Reflecting on their experience, they described it as a very informative and futuristic visit that broadened their understanding of architectural education.





FACULTY ACTIVITY Tree Plantation Drive

24 April 2025



Plant trees, nurture nature, and celebrate Earth Day every day.



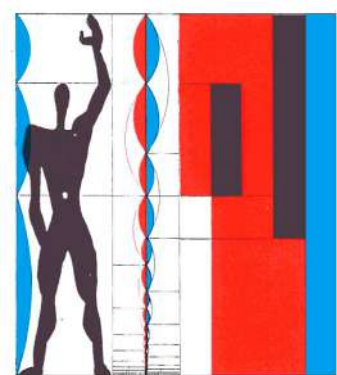
FACULTY ACTIVITY BIM Connect @Chandigarh

24 April 2025



Dr. Kanika Bansal and Dr. Harveen Bhandari attended the event titled 'BIM Connect: Shaping Government Projects from 2D to 3D' as special invitees. The event was hosted by Arkance (AutoDesk Platinum Partner) and held at The Lalit, Chandigarh, on 24 April 2025. This event is focused on Building Information Modeling (BIM) and its applications in architecture, engineering, and construction.





STUDENT ACTIVITY

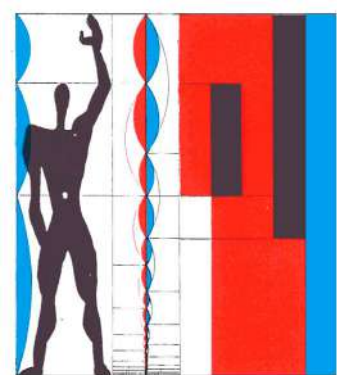
RCC Column Casting Experience

26 April 2025



The students of the 4th semester B.Arch. had a hands-on learning experience of casting RCC columns as they created a scaled model of the same on 26 April 2025. The model is a representation of all the stages of RCC column construction, including making the concrete bed, tying of stirrups on the rods, formwork and scaffolding, and mixing and pouring of concrete. This engaging experience strengthened their practical knowledge and boosted their confidence. The activity was conducted by **Ar. Mekhala Saha** in support of **Ar. Akanksha Garg**, **Ar. Roopali Bansal** and **Ar. Garima Bansal**.





STUDENT ACTIVITY

Weekly Book Display Initiative @CSPA

April 2025

In April 2025, Ms. Richi Sachdeva, Librarian at the CSPA Library, started a weekly book display activity to encourage students to read more and explore useful books related to Architecture and Interior Design.

Each week, books were displayed on different themes:

- Drawing for Architecture and Interiors
- Interior Design
- Lighting Design
- Health Care & Hospital Design

Students showed great interest in the displays. Many of them visited the library to browse through the books, and some even got the books issued for further reading. This simple step helped students connect more with the library and learn from valuable resources that support and enrich their academic learning. The weekly book display will continue as a way to keep students inspired and informed.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT

NPTEL Course

Feb - April 2025

Dr. Parminder Kaur completed the 8-week NPTEL course on Interior Design, offered from February to April 2025 by the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, and taught by Prof. Smriti Saraswat, Department of Architecture and Planning, IIT Roorkee. She is honoured to be ranked among the top 5% of performers in this insightful and enriching course. This accomplishment reflects Dr. Kaur's continued commitment to academic excellence and self-growth in the field of architecture and design.



Elite

NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION
(Funded by the MoE, Govt. of India)

This certificate is awarded to
PARMINDER KAUR
for successfully completing the course
Interior Design

with a consolidated score of **83** %

Online Assignments	24.88/25	Proctored Exam	57.75/75
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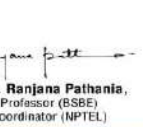
Total number of candidates certified in this course: 1159

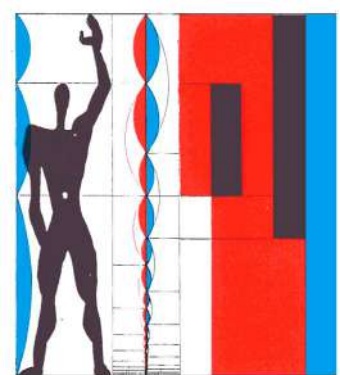
Feb-Apr 2025
(8 week course)

Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee

Roll No: NPTEL25DE115643100480 To verify the certificate

No. of credits recommended: 2 or 3





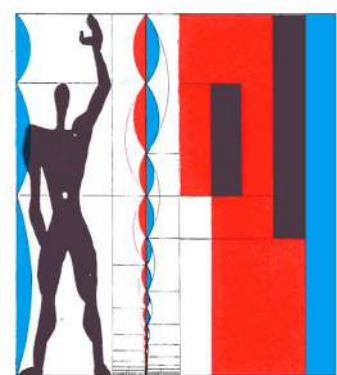
MASTERCLASS

The Rudiments of Artificial Intelligence, ChatGPT, DeepSeek, Grok and Metaverse

30 April - 02 May 2025

CSPA students and faculty attended the extremely engaging, productive and enriching sessions of the module on 'The Rudiments of Artificial Intelligence, ChatGPT, DeepSeek, Grok and Metaverse' taught by the Respected Chancellor, Dr. Ashok K. Chitkara. Sir taught these masterclasses to students from 1st and 2nd year, which indeed was phenomenal. The student response during the three days was overwhelming and the result of the exam conducted was worth sharing. 75% of students from CSPA scored above 80% marks, which is a testament to Sir's passion, excitement, interest and devotion to the profession of teaching. Dr. Harveen and Dr. Kanika, along with 11 faculty members, attended the masterclass on all three days. It was a profoundly impactful masterclass, offering a wonderful experience.





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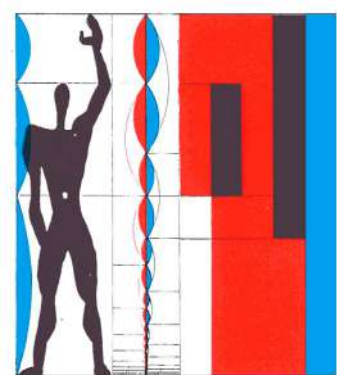
CSPA NEWSLETTER

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Volume - 9 | Number - 2

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CHITKARA
UNIVERSITY



(NAAC A+)

Punjab - 140401, India

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT



This is to certify that AASTHA, a student of Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture - Bachelor of Architecture, has successfully completed an exclusive three-day masterclass on 30 April, May 1 & 2, 2025 on "The Rudiments of Artificial Intelligence, ChatGPT, DeepSeek, Grok and Metaverse", expertly conducted by Dr Ashok K Chitkara, Chancellor, Chitkara University, Punjab & Himachal Pradesh. Demonstrating commendable proficiency, he/she secured an impressive score of 86 out of 100 in the formal written examination, reflecting a deep understanding of the subject matter.

Dr Harveen Bhandari
Principal & Dean - PhD Program

Dr Kanika Bansal
Dean - Academic Affairs



CHITKARA
UNIVERSITY



(NAAC A+)

Punjab - 140401, India

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

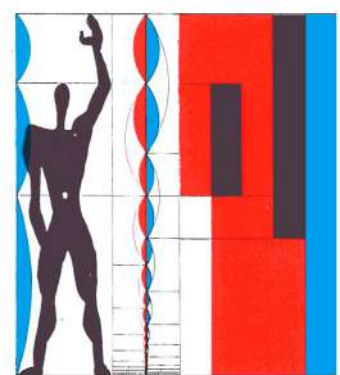


This is to certify that KHUSHI GOYAL, a student of Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture - Bachelor of Architecture, has successfully completed an exclusive three-day masterclass on 30 April, May 1 & 2, 2025 on "The Rudiments of Artificial Intelligence, ChatGPT, DeepSeek, Grok and Metaverse", expertly conducted by Dr Ashok K Chitkara, Chancellor, Chitkara University, Punjab & Himachal Pradesh. Demonstrating commendable proficiency, he/she secured an impressive score of 78 out of 100 in the formal written examination, reflecting a deep understanding of the subject matter.

Dr Harveen Bhandari
Principal & Dean - PhD Program

Dr Kanika Bansal
Dean - Academic Affairs





FACULTY ACTIVITY

Laughter Kitty

03 May 2025



Dr. Harveen Bhandari and Dr. Kanika Bansal participated and enjoyed beautiful moments in the 'Laughter Kitty' a wonderful initiative by Dr. Manav Bansal to spread happiness on the campus. Such happiness sessions also include an emphasis on caring for the mind, body and soul, as one whole. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of the Hon'ble Pro-Chancellor Dr. Madhu Chitkara.

PRE-FINAL VIVA

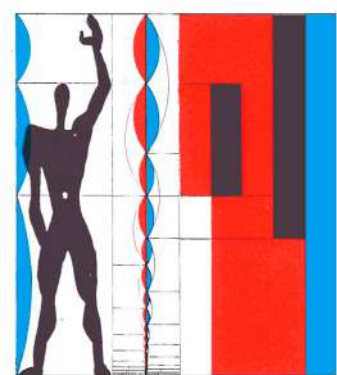
Architectural Thesis II

06-07 May 2025



The Architectural Thesis II Pre-Final Submission (PFS) Viva for the 10th Semester, Batch 2020 students was successfully conducted on 06 - 07 May 2025. The jury panel comprised distinguished architects from the region:

- Ar. Dhruve S. Lal, Principal Architect, Dhruve Sarveshwar Lal and Associates, Panchkula
- Ar. Daanish Singh, Principal Architect, TBC Architecture, Chandigarh
- Ar. Dineshwar Bansal, Principal Architect, House of Design, Chandigarh



The vivas were smoothly coordinated by the dedicated team of thesis internal examiners, who ensured the effective execution of the viva proceedings. This external jury marked a significant milestone for the graduating students, offering them valuable feedback and professional critique as they prepare to enter the field of architecture.

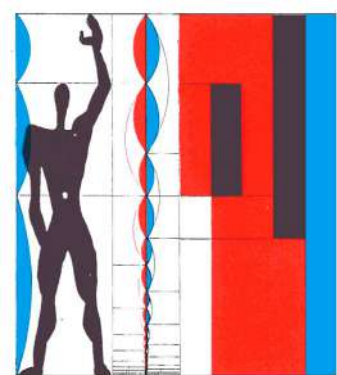


STUDENT ACTIVITY BMC-VI External Portfolio Viva Voce

06-07 May 2025

CSPA successfully conducted the External Portfolio Viva Voce for Building Materials and Construction – VI for B.Arch. Semester VI students. Renowned industry experts **Ar. Rajan Tangri, Principal Architect at Ideas Hub, Ludhiana,** and **Ar. Indu Arora, Principal Architect at Space Art Design Studio, Patiala,** were invited to assess the students' academic work and share their professional insights. The students presented a comprehensive compilation of drafting sheets focused on advanced building materials, prefabricated construction techniques, modular coordination systems, and structural detailing of one-way and two-way slabs. The experts thoroughly reviewed the work, appreciating the clarity in construction drawings, conceptual understanding, and technical accuracy. Both architects offered valuable feedback, emphasizing the importance of precision in documentation and the relevance of aligning academic learning with industry practices.





STUDENT ACTIVITY

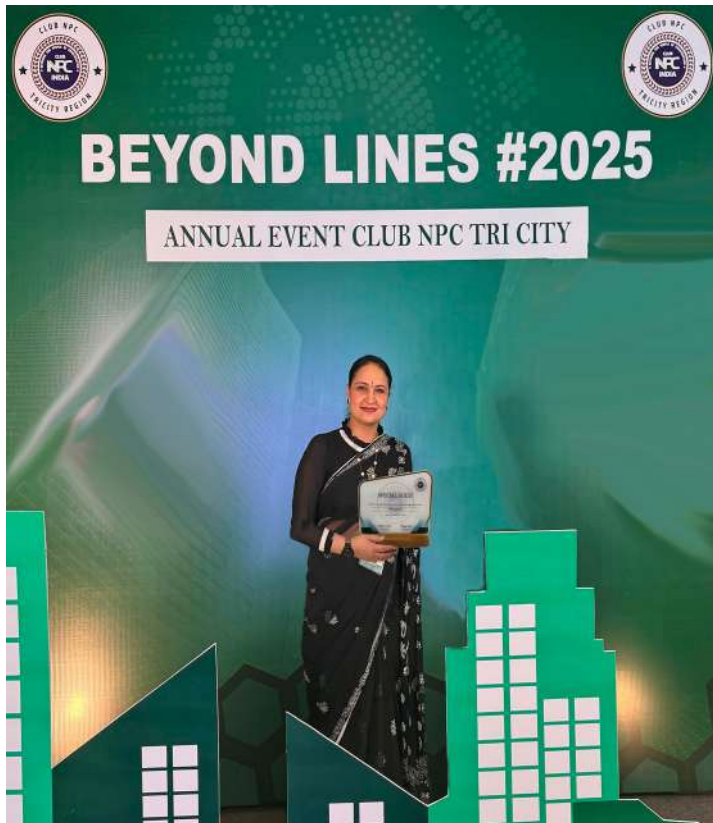
Professional Apprenticeship Viva 2025

06-07 May 2025

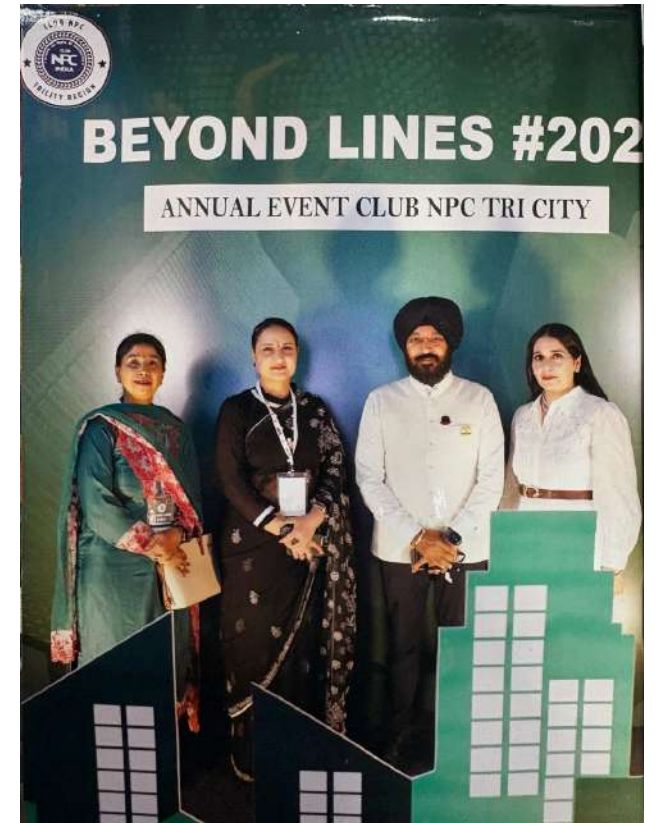
The Professional Apprenticeship Viva was held over two immersive days at Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture for final semester B.Arch students. The esteemed industry partners - **Ar. Saurabh Singla** and **Ar. Palak Singla** from **Design i.O**, **Panchkula**, **Ar. Payal Suneja** from **PS Enliven Studio**, **Mohali**, and **Ar. Purna Kaleru** from **Studio Ardete**, **Mohali**, were the jury members. Structured as a mock interview, the viva enabled students to present their academic portfolios and reflect on their apprenticeship experiences. Students were engaged in dynamic conversations with the visiting architects, receiving meaningful feedback. Several students were offered placements during the viva itself, turning this academic exercise into a real opportunity.



07 May 2025



Dr. Harveen Bhandari and
Dr. Kanika Bansal with
Mr. Ravijeet Singh, Captain in
Chief, Club NPC Tricity



Dr. Harveen Bhandari, Principal, CSPA, was invited and felicitated at the annual event organised by the **Club NPC (Network for People of Construction) Tricity**. Dr. Harveen received a memento from esteemed architects - **Dr. SS Bhatti is the Founder-teacher and Former Principal, Chandigarh College of Architecture, Chandigarh** and **Dr. Prabhjot Kaur, Vice Captain in Chief, Club NPC**. The NPC club had invited professionals from the construction industry, including architects, engineers, designers and project managers from Chandigarh, Panchkula and Mohali. The guest list also included heads from various schools of architecture. This year's theme, '**Beyond Lines**', fostered discussions on topics such as bridging the gap between design and execution, strengthening collaboration among teams, and overcoming bottlenecks in project delivery. **Dr. Kanika Bansal** also attended the event as a special invitee.

12 May 2025

CSPA DRC organised a session titled ‘**Crafting a Research Proposal: Insights from my Doctoral Journey**’ for the scholars enrolled in the PhD Program at CSPA. The expert for the session was **Ar. Shilpi Aggarwal, Associate Town and Country Planner, Urban Development Department, Delhi Secretariat, Delhi**. The session highlighted that crafting a research proposal focuses on understanding the structure, key components, and process of developing a compelling proposal. The session guided participants through the various stages of proposal writing, from identifying a research topic to outlining the methodology and expected outcomes. Ms. Shilpi, research scholar, SPA Delhi, shared important insights from her journey and her research on economic development reforms for Indian cities. The interactive session encouraged questions and discussions, making it a highly engaging and enriching experience for all attendees. It served as a meaningful step toward strengthening research orientation and capacity building among CSPA’s doctoral scholars.



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Expert Talk on

CRAFTING A RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Insights From My Doctoral Journey

RESOURCE PERSON



Ar. Shilpi Aggarwal
Associate Town and Country Planner
NCR Planning and Monitoring Cell
Urban Development Department
Delhi Secretariat, Govt. of NCT, Delhi

Former Principal
School of Architecture and Planning
P.P. Savani University, Surat

Research Scholar
SPA New Delhi



SCAN TO JOIN



 **12th May, 2025**

 **02.00 PM - 3:00 PM**

 **Online Mode**



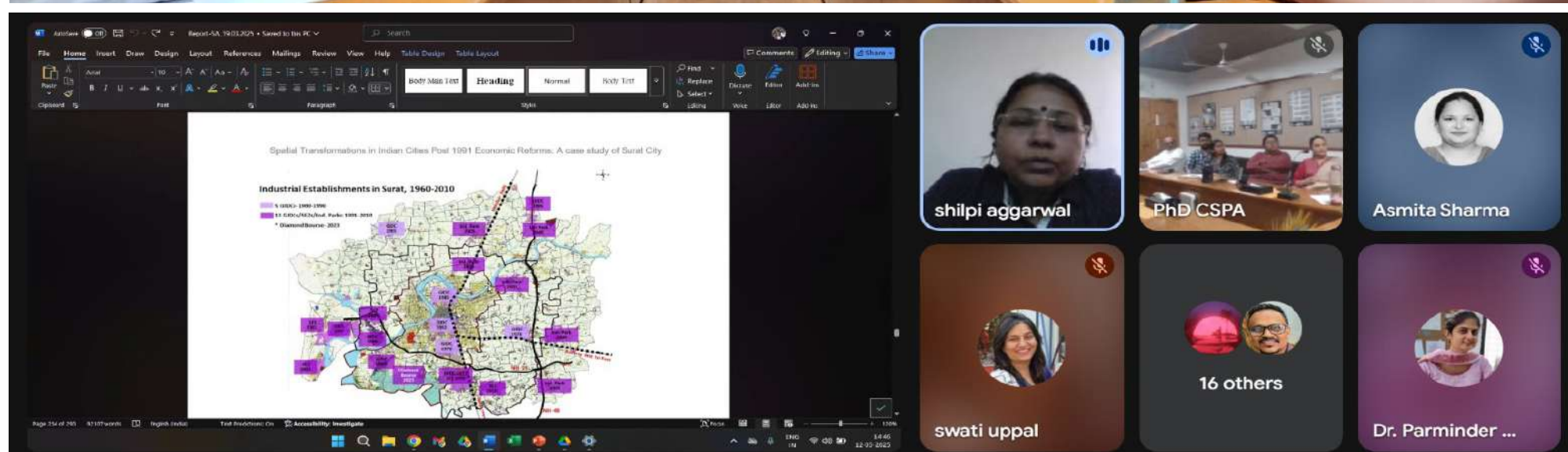
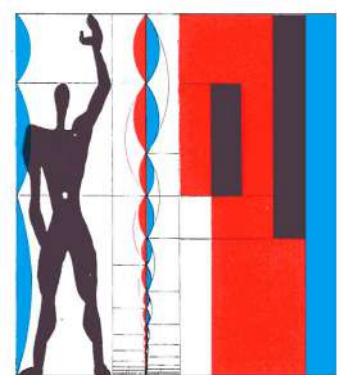


UNDER THE AEGIS OF

Prof. Dr. Harveen Bhandari
Principal & Dean-Ph.D. Program
Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture

ORGANIZED BY

Doctoral Research Centre
Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture
Chitkara University, Biscuit



STUDENT ACTIVITY

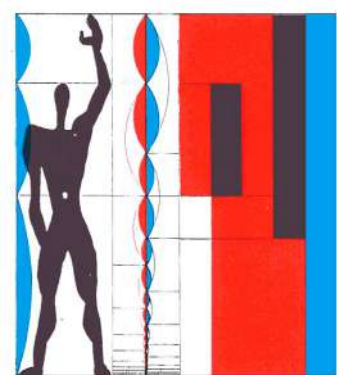
Community Happiness Drive

14 May 2025

As part of the Community Happiness Drive, a 12-day intensive training program was conducted for our student **Ms. Aastha Luthra (B.Arch. 2nd Semester)**, preparing her to lead happiness initiatives in the community. CSPA is proud to share that Aastha conducted this 'Laughter Yoga and Happiness Session' for Government school teachers in Batala on 14 May 2025. Her energy, warmth, and creativity were deeply appreciated by all, earning her heartfelt blessings and admiration.

A huge shoutout to Aastha for being a beacon of positivity and to our university for supporting such impactful community engagement.





STAFF ACTIVITY

Mandala Art Workshop

14 May 2025

Ms. Krimika actively participated in an online **Mandala Art Workshop** organized on 14 May 2025 by **Shwet Arts and Creations, Pune**. The session offered participants an opportunity to explore the therapeutic and geometric dimensions of mandala design from the comfort of their homes. The workshop was conducted by renowned artist **Mr. Deepak Kulkarni, Pune**, who shared valuable techniques and insights into mandala creation as a means of mindfulness and artistic expression. Ms. Krimika was awarded a certificate in recognition of her creative engagement and enthusiastic participation in the session.



STAFF ACTIVITY

Media and Information Literacy Workshop

17 May 2025

Ms. Richi Sachdeva, Librarian, participated in the 'Media and Information Literacy Workshop - FactShala x Google Super Searchers' conducted on 17 May 2025 by the CSMC, under the FactShala University Network Programme. The session enhanced critical thinking and media literacy skills to combat the growing issue of misinformation in the digital era. A certificate of participation was awarded upon successful completion.

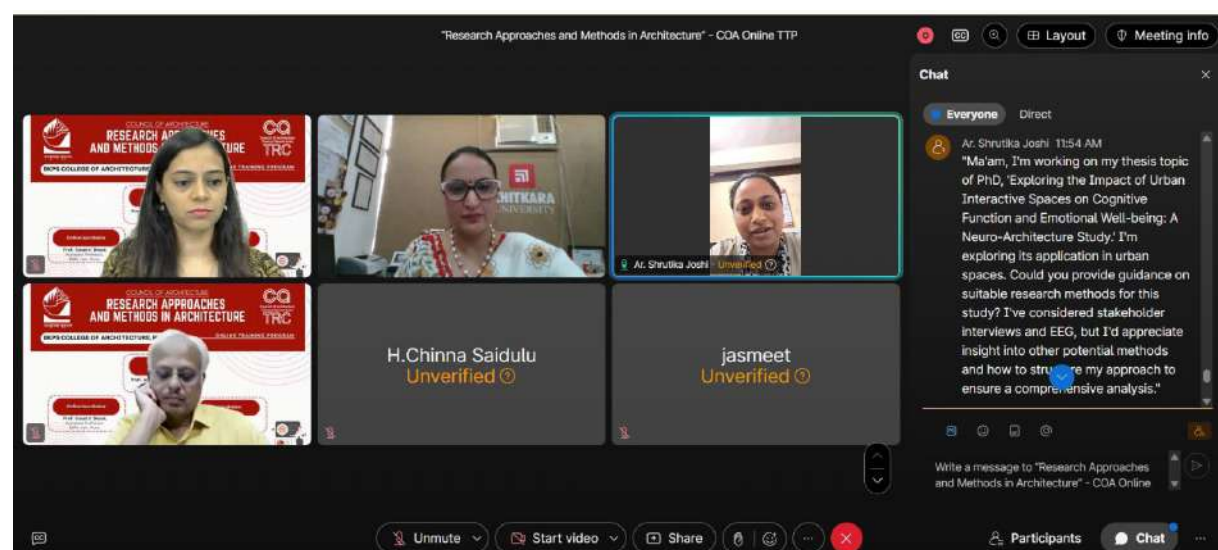


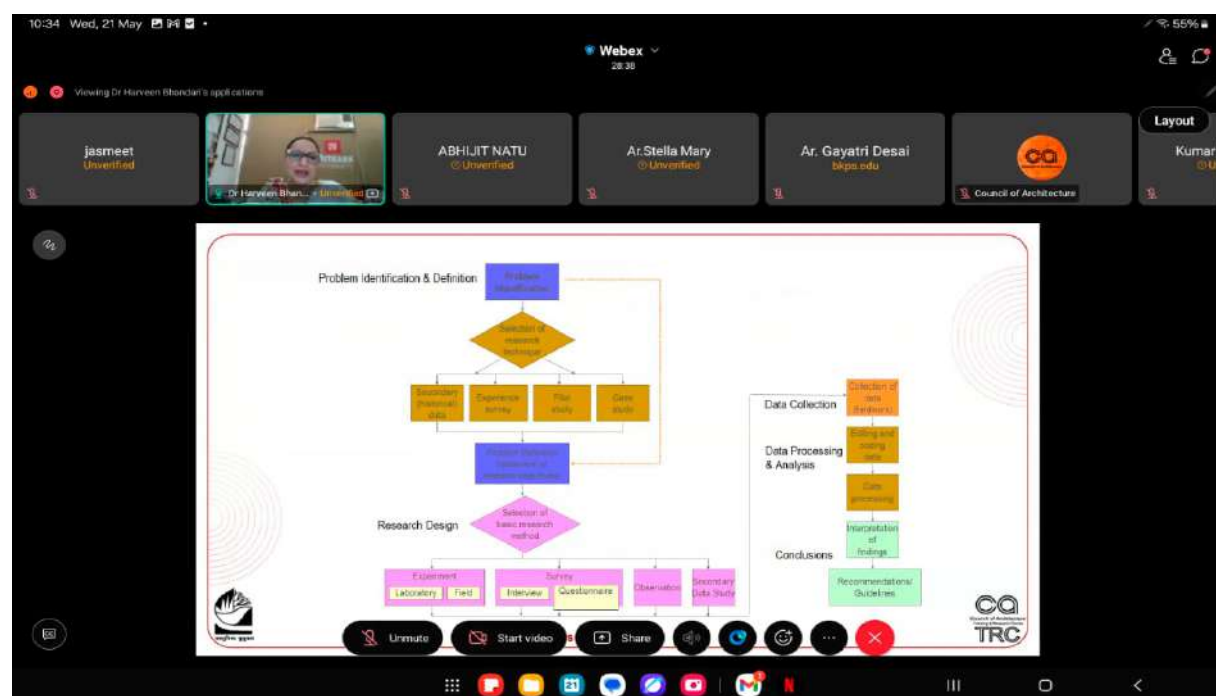
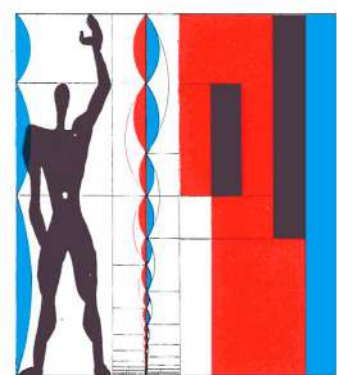
FACULTY ACTIVITY

Online Training Program @BKPS Pune

19 - 23 May 2025

Dr. Harveen Bhandari was an invited technical speaker to the **Council of Architecture Online National Training and Teaching Program (TTP)** entitled 'Research Approaches and Methods in Architecture' jointly organized by BKPS College of Architecture and COA TRC, Pune from 19 - 23 May 2025. Dr. Harveen delivered a presentation on 'Literature Review: Types, Process, and Publication'.

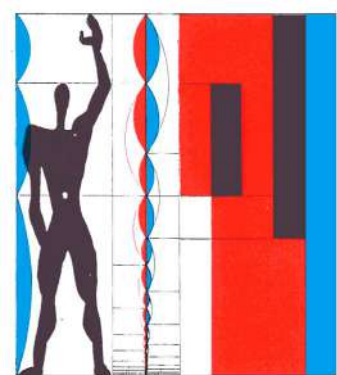




This presentation provided a comprehensive overview of literature review and systematic literature reviews (SLRs) as critical methodologies for synthesizing existing knowledge. The presentation highlighted the fundamental purpose, key characteristics, and distinct approaches of the traditional literature review method, as well as SLR, including bibliometric analysis. The TTP received an overwhelming response with 60 registrations across PAN India, and the session was well applauded by the participants for in-depth information.

Prof. Roopali Bansal, Assoc. Profs. Dr. Parminder Kaur, Jasmeet Kaur and Asstt. Prof. Shubham Jain participated in this Online Training Program. This national-level initiative aimed to enhance research capabilities and foster a deeper understanding of methodologies essential in architectural research. The training sessions, spread over five days, covered various aspects of research design, qualitative and quantitative methods, data interpretation, and academic writing, providing a comprehensive framework for academic and professional growth. Participation in such programs significantly contributes to faculty development, encouraging the integration of research-based learning in architectural education.





End Semester Juries

19 - 22 May 2025

Elevating our B.Arch Program: The Power of External Vivas

CSPA invited 27 practicing architects and reputed industry professionals from 19-22 May 2025 to provide our students across all semesters with real-world feedback and push them to think beyond the classroom. When industry experts step in as examiners, they bring invaluable real-world insights and a critical eye that pushes our students' designs to new heights. They don't just assess; they challenge, they inspire, and they help refine concepts with practical considerations. It's a powerful way to bridge the academia-industry gap and prepare the next generation of architectural innovators. This year, many of the experts were distinguished CSPA alumni.



End-Term Viva Week

DESIGN DIALOGUES – 2025
Where the Industry Experts Review Design Narratives
19th to 22nd May, 2025

JURY PANEL

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
2ND SEM, 4TH SEM,
6TH SEM, 8TH SEM







Ar. Amarjeet Sodhi
Arch Creations
Chandigarh

Ar. Purnima Sharma
SD Sharma & Associates
Panchkula, Haryana

Ar. Harsimran Singh
ArchLab
Mohali, Punjab

Ar. Sukumar Jairoth
Studio by Design
Chandigarh

Ar. Charanpreet Singh
SB Architects
Patiala, Punjab

Ar. Shweta Khorbanda
Kreative Haus
Mohali, Punjab

Ar. Shreya Malik
Attributes
Chandigarh

Ar. Aditya Suthar
Suthar Architects
Ambala, Haryana

Ar. Mohit Vij
ArchLab
Mohali, Punjab

Ar. Sachin Goyal
Odd Blocks Consortium
Tahana, Haryana

Ar. Sonakshi Kapoor
Alpha Arch
Chandigarh

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Dean Academic Affairs & Dean M. Plan
Chitkara School of Planning & Architecture



End-Term Viva Week

CREATIVE CONFLUENCE – 2025
Where the Industry Experts Review Narratives in Visual, Digital & Spatial Design
19th to 22nd May, 2025

JURY PANEL

2ND SEM, 4TH SEM, 6TH SEM, 8TH SEM





Ar. Amrit Panwar
Amrit Panwar & Associate
Chandigarh

Ar. Moksha Bhatia
Architectural Writer
Urbanism Spinning

Ar. Pritpal Saini
Government College of
Architecture, Chandigarh

Mr. Shivansh Sahi
Shiv Ansh Art Academy
Mohali, Punjab

Ar. Kashish Mahajan
KaMa Design Studio
Chandigarh

Ar. Afaq Ahmed
Arkance
Gurgaon, Haryana

Ar. Samar Singh Virdi
Arkance
Gurgaon, Haryana

Ar. Kulsum Iram
Arkance
Gurgaon, Haryana

Ms. Himani
Ourth by Himani
Chandigarh

Ar. Vishal Verma
Binecco
Chandigarh

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Chitkara University, Punjab



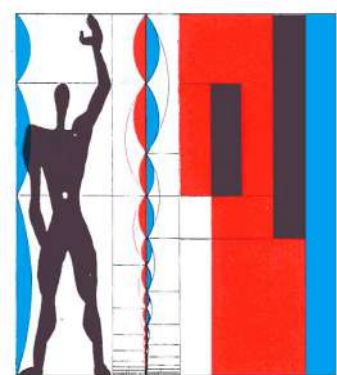
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Architectural Design VIII (8th Semester)



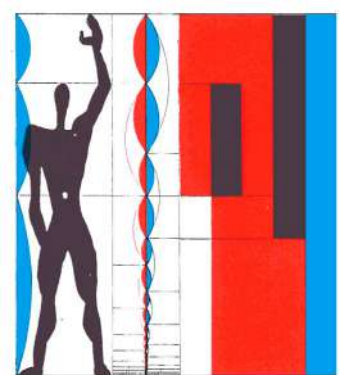
Architectural Design VI (6th Semester)



Architectural Design IV (4th Semester)



Architectural Design II (2nd Semester)



BMC IV (4th Semester)



Product Design (2nd Semester)



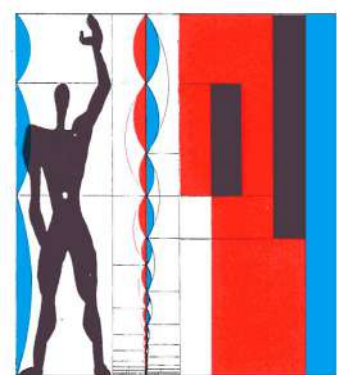
BMC II (2nd Semester)



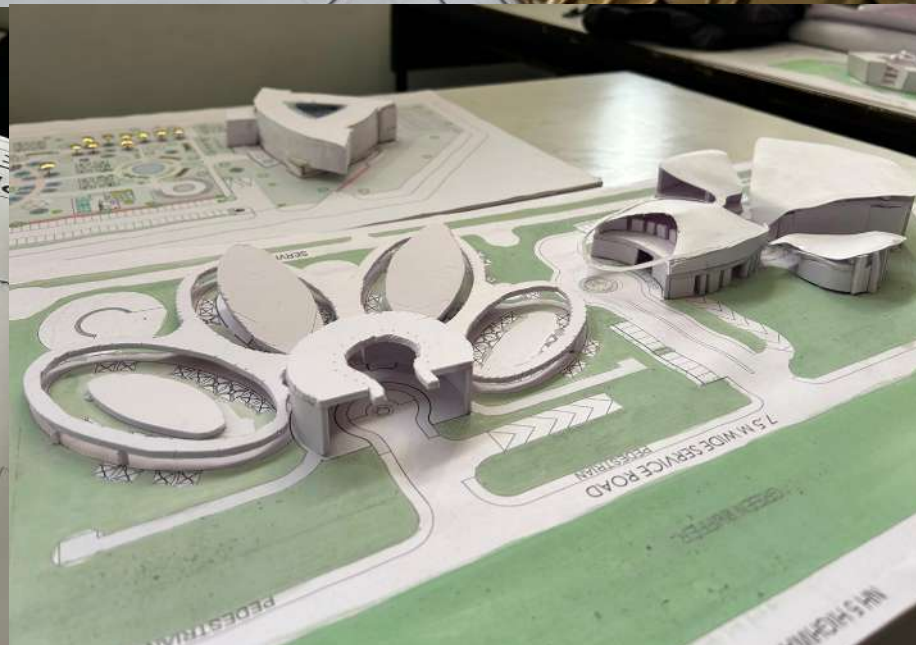
Universal Human Values (2nd Semester)

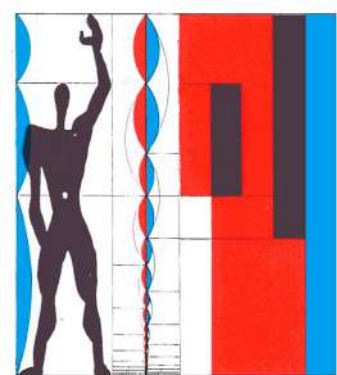


Visual Arts (2nd Semester)



Models: Outcome of Architecture Design Studio



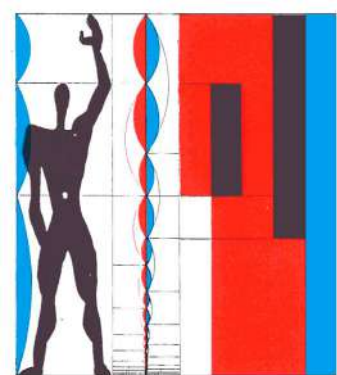


STUDENT ACTIVITY CIS Students Visit

23 May 2025

Students from Chitkara International School, Chandigarh, visited the university to apprise themselves of various programs being run on the campus. A group of young learners visited CSPA to understand the architecture discipline, its creative potential, and its significance in shaping built environments. The session aimed to introduce students to the fundamentals of architectural design, construction processes, and the integration of aesthetics with functionality. Through engaging interactions and demonstrations, the visit offered participants a deeper understanding of the diverse career opportunities and academic pathways in architecture.





PAPER PRESENTATION

National Conference @Nagpur

25 May 2025

Renuka Chutke, PhD scholar CSPA, under the guidance of Supervisor **Dr. Harveen Bhandari**, presented a paper on 'Social Sustainability through Architectural Patronage' in the National Conference at Nagpur. The **National Conference on the Philosopher Queen Ahilyabai Holkar** was organised by **Devi Ahilyabai Smarak Samiti, IIM, and Smt. Manoramabai Mundle College of Architecture, Nagpur**, along with the **Mythic Society, Bengaluru**, at **IIM Nagpur**. We congratulate Renuka and her Supervisor for a wonderful presentation and recognition from **Smt. Smriti Irani, Former Union Minister for Minority Affairs**, during her special address at the conference. The conference also witnessed widespread media coverage.



FACULTY & STUDENT ACTIVITY

VR and AI Studio @ University of Navarra, Spain

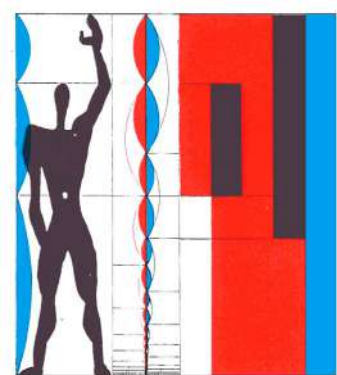
26 May 2025

Phase 1: Virtual Reality & Artificial Intelligence Studio Sessions on Urban Villages

A 6-month intensive International Studio on 'Virtual Reality & Artificial Intelligence For Urban Village Studies' was conducted by the University of Navarra, Spain, from January to May 2025. **The Department of Architecture, CSPA, was selected as one of the ten participating premier institutes in Pan India by UVCT for six-month long collaborative International Studio.** The team of CSPA was led by **Dr. Kanika Bansal, Dr. Harveen Bhandari**, and 08 faculty members and 11 students from the 8th Semester B.Arch. participated in this studio. The aim of attending this studio was learning the use of VR and AI tools for improving the research focus in line with UVCT (Urban Village Charitable Trust, trust under the collaborative umbrella of NIUA & COA). The sessions for this studio were conducted by 06 eminent experts from the University of Navarra, Spain, on every alternate Wednesday for five months.

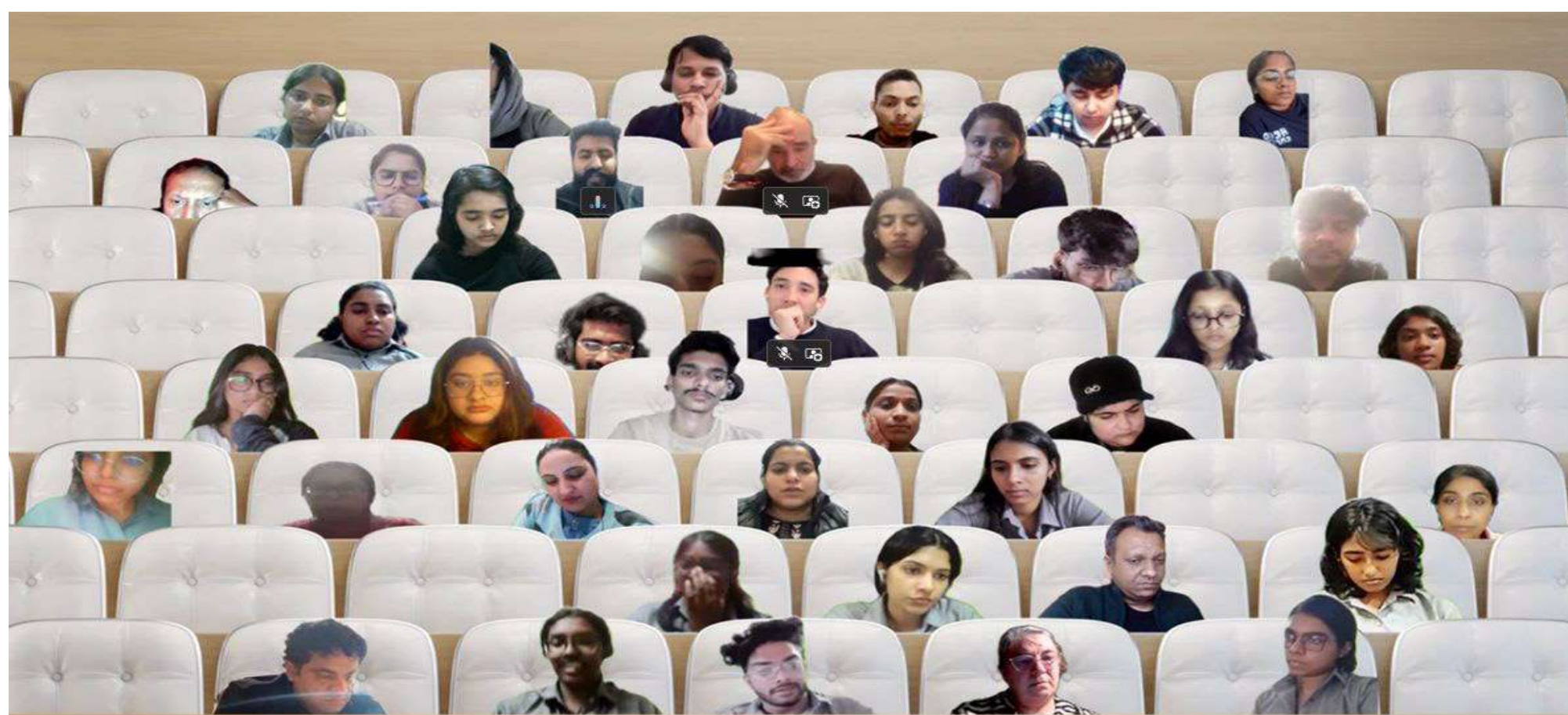
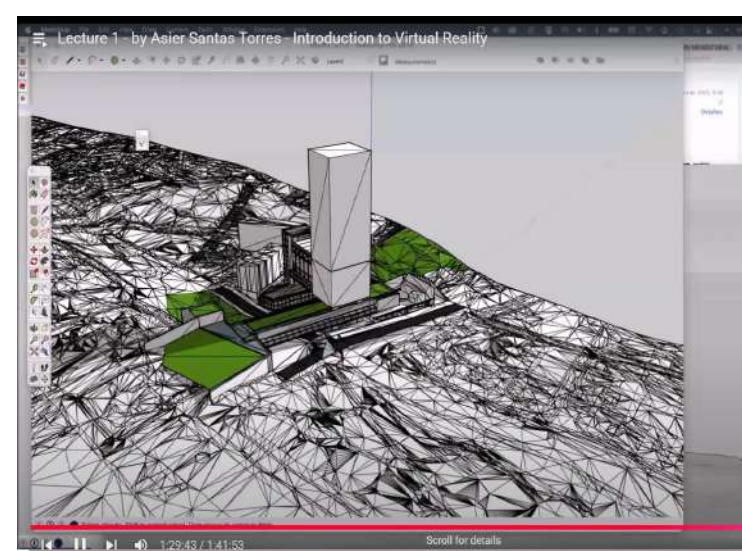
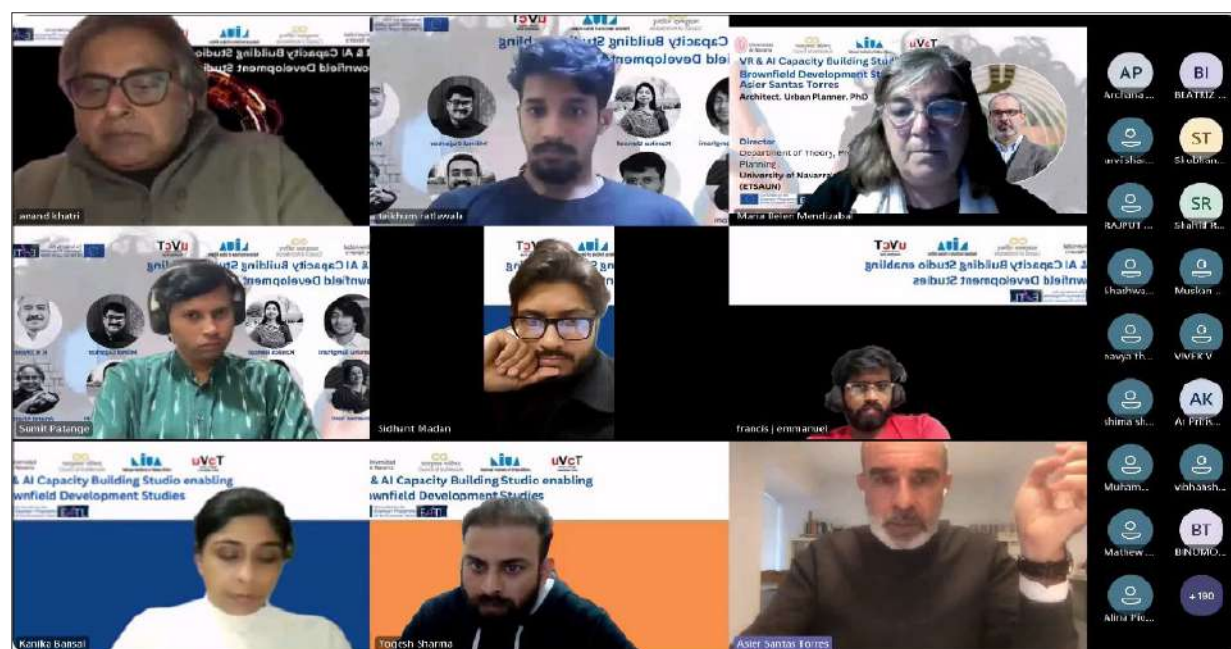
The studio at CSPA was phased in two stages –

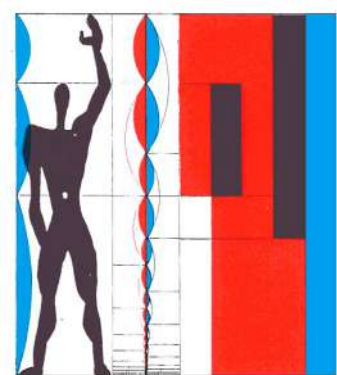
Phase 1: A 05-days preliminary workshop for recapitulation of the expert sessions was conducted by the faculty of CSPA for the students to impart the learning of the lectures delivered by the experts during the past six months. The lectures were followed by meticulously



April - June 2025

planned hands-on sessions. All the sessions aimed to equip the faculty and students with technology and AI. The learnings of the six-month intensive studio were to culminate in a presentation by team CSPA as Phase 2.





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CSPA NEWSLETTER

ARCHISCAPE

Volume - 9 | Number - 2

April - June 2025



Certificate of Participation

Universidad de Navarra
CA
वास्तुकला परिषद्
Council of Architecture
niu
National Institute of Urban Affairs
uVcT
urban village charitable trust

This is to certify that

Gurkamal Singh

student of Chitkara University – Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture, Punjab participated and completed the VR & AI Capacity Building Studio, enabling Brownfield Development Studies held online from Jan to June of 2025.

The studio was developed and organized by UVCT in collaboration with faculty members from ETSA, University of Navarra, Spain; co-funded by the E4TLI Program and the Council of Architecture.

Dr. Manju Baisoya Pundir
Dr. Maria Belen Mendizabal
Prof. Abhay Vinayak Purohit
Prof. Asier Santas Torres
Prof. Anand Khatri

Certificate of Participation

Universidad de Navarra
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niu
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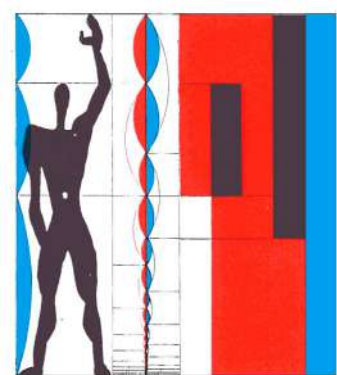
This is to certify that

Aakruti Singhal

student of Chitkara University – Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture, Punjab participated and completed the VR & AI Capacity Building Studio, enabling Brownfield Development Studies held online from Jan to June of 2025.

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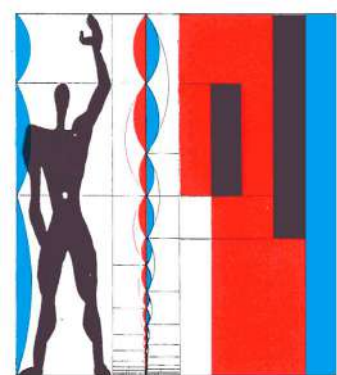
Dr. Manju Baisoya Pundir
Dr. Maria Belen Mendizabal
Prof. Abhay Vinayak Purohit
Prof. Asier Santas Torres
Prof. Anand Khatri



Phase 2: Presentation by Team CSPA on Urban Village of Attawa, Chandigarh

The Phase 2 continued into an outcome-driven presentation by CSPA as the participating institute in the program. The presentation included a case of Attawa, Chandigarh - a brownfield site where stories, structures, and systems were decoded through immersive tools and participatory methods. From virtual walkthroughs to AI-driven spatial analysis, the presentation gave deep insights to rethink urban villages not as neglected fragments, but as living ecosystems with untapped potential. This presentation was in the form of a video which documented on-site exploration, hands-on workshops, expert lectures, tech-integration using VR & AI, and reflections of the learnings from the studio. A special feature well appreciated by the organisers was the technology-driven community engagement where the immersive experiences were shared by the residents of Attawa, the faculty and senior leadership of Chitkara University. This wasn't just an academic studio - it was a leap into the future of empathetic, tech-enabled, community-rooted design. The CSPA presentation is live on the UVCT YouTube Channel.





THESIS JURY

Architectural Thesis II

27-28 May 2025

The Final Submission (FS) Viva for Architectural Thesis II of the 10th Semester, Batch 2020 was conducted on 27-28 May 2025. The jury marked the culmination of months of rigorous research, design development, and academic mentorship. It provided students an opportunity to present and defend their architectural theses before a distinguished jury panel comprising esteemed academicians and practicing architects:

- **Dr. Aradhana Jindal, Principal Architect, A.J. Architects, Ambala, Haryana**
- **Ar. Bandna Singh, Principal Architect, Positive Axis, Chandigarh**
- **Dr. Nisar Khan, Professor of Architecture and Urban Regeneration, JMI, New Delhi**
- **Ar. Sabeena Khanna, Principal Architect, Studio K.I.A., Gurugram, Haryana**

The jury proceedings marked a significant academic benchmark, reflecting the intellectual rigor and diverse thematic depth of the students' thesis work.

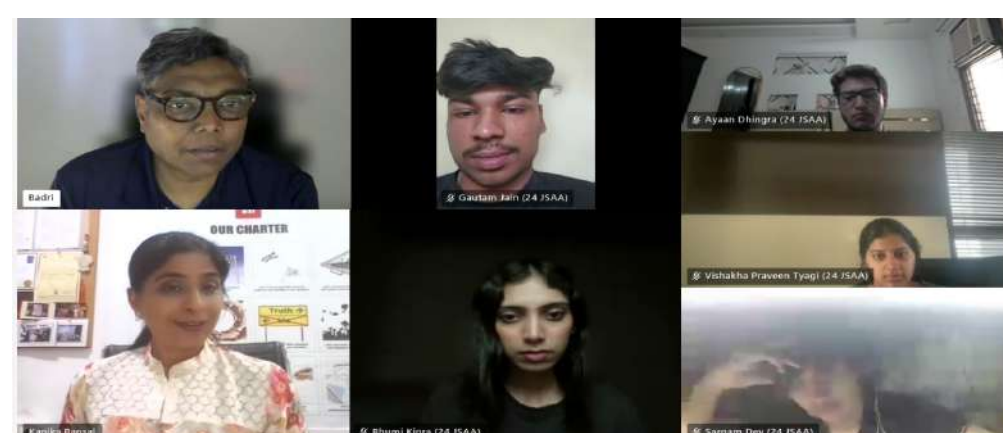
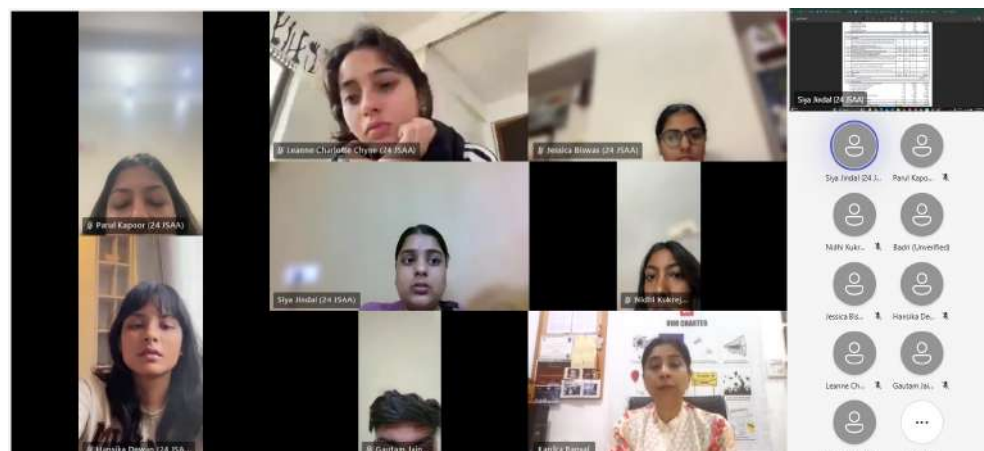
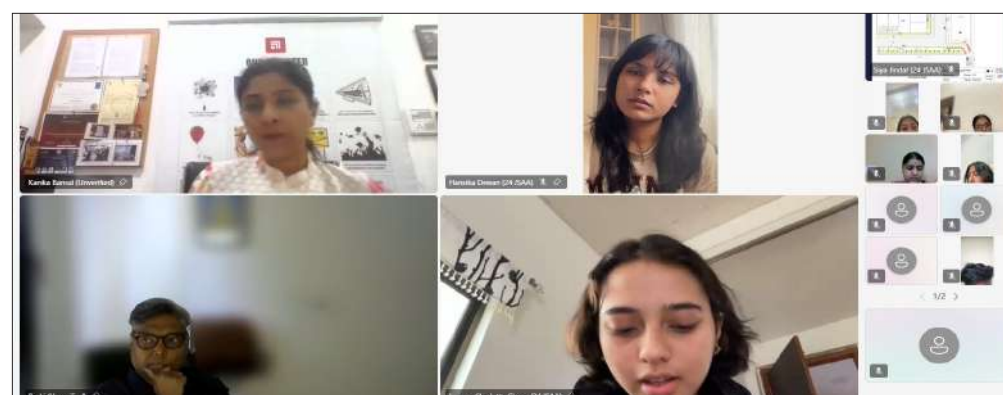


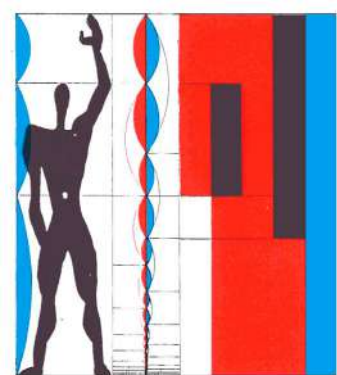
FACULTY ACTIVITY

Online External Jury for Architectural Design Foundation

31 May 2025

Dr. Kanika Bansal was invited to serve as an external juror for the **Forensic Analysis Studio** at JSAA. She conducted in-depth reviews of student projects, assessing their conceptual clarity, design methodology, and presentation skills. Dr. Bansal provided insightful and constructive feedback aimed at strengthening the students' design approach and the overall process.





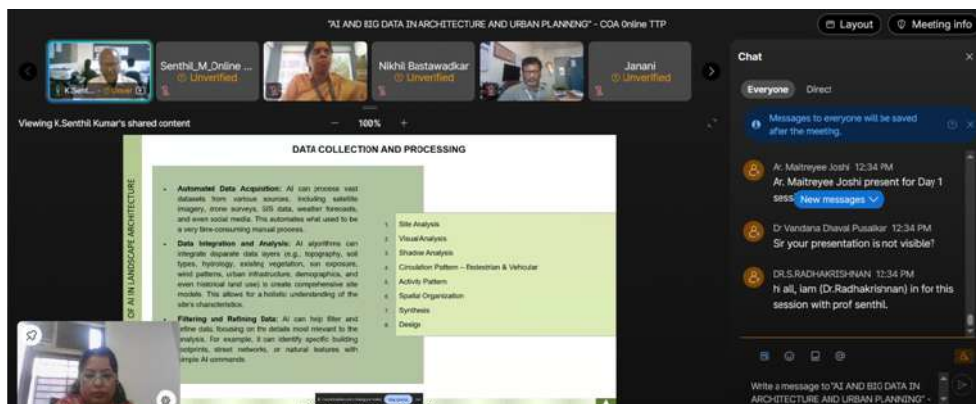
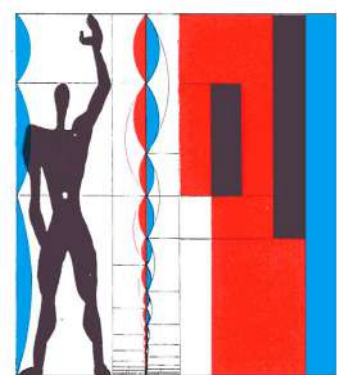
FACULTY ACTIVITY

Online Training Program @SIMATS, Chennai

02-06 June 2025

Dr. Harveen Bhandari was an invited technical speaker to the National Online Training Program entitled 'AI and Big Data in Architecture and Urban Planning' jointly organized by the Council of Architecture, COA-TRC, Pune & Saveetha College of Architecture and Design, SIMATS, Chennai from 02 – 06 June 2025. Dr. Harveen delivered a presentation entitled 'From Research to Practice: Exploring AI's Impact in Architecture'. This presentation provided an in-depth understanding of harnessing the power of AI to transform your work and refine your approach to design and execution. The presentation demonstrated live sessions on key AI tools and ways to integrate AI technology with visualization tools to create animated and hyper-realistic 3D renderings from architectural designs and images. The Faculty Training Program was attended by faculty from various colleges of Architecture, and the session was well-received and appreciated for the live demonstration of the use of AI tools in Architecture and Urban Planning.

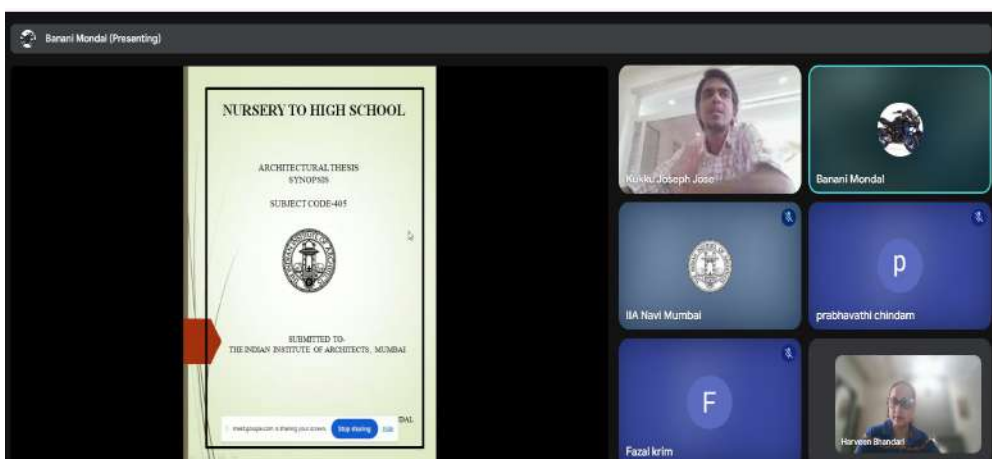
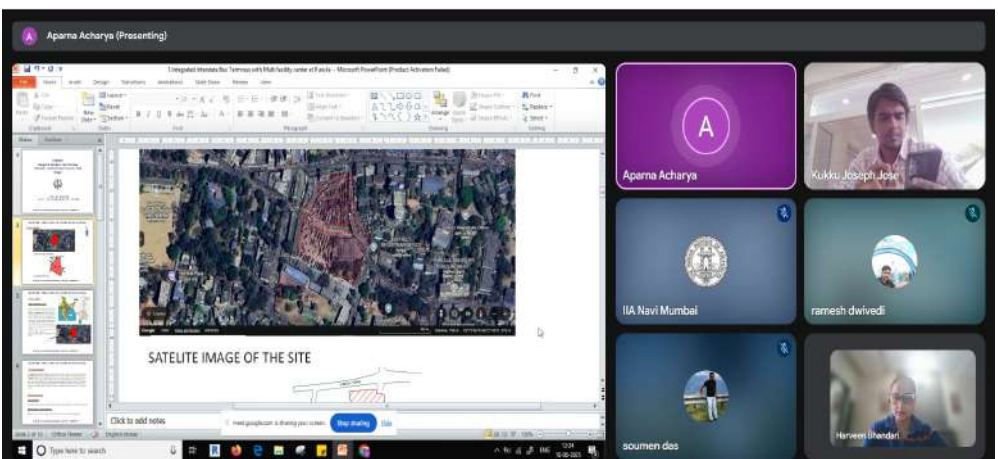
Asstt. Prof. Kritika Arora and Assoc. Prof. Mekhala Saha, CSPA, participated in this enriching online training program. This intensive program offered a comprehensive understanding of how emerging technologies like artificial intelligence and big data are revolutionizing the disciplines of architecture and urban design. The course began with an insightful introduction to research methodologies in architecture and urban planning, laying the groundwork for more informed, data-driven design decisions. It further delved into the integration of AI within landscape architecture, showcasing its potential to enhance environmental sustainability and improve design efficiency. Special focus was given to the role of big data in shaping smart cities.



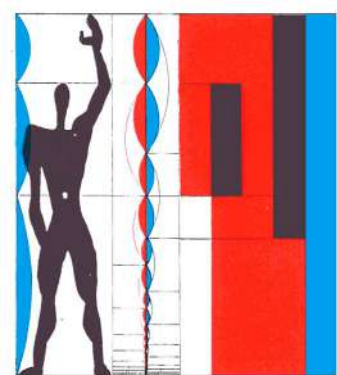
FACULTY ACTIVITY

IIA Thesis Topic Selection Jury

10 June 2025



Dr. Harveen Bhandari was invited as a Jury Member for the assessment and approval of 'Thesis Topic Selection' for students registered under IIA (Indian Institute of Architects), Navi Mumbai, for the degree of Bachelor in Architecture. The viva was scheduled on 10 June 2025 in online mode. The jury members gave their insights and selected one final thesis topic for each of the students to work on further.



FACULTY ACTIVITY

Faculty Development Program

16-20 June 2025

Dr. Kanika Bansal & Ar. Ananya Dutt attended a five-day online Faculty Development Program on 'Archiving Intangible Heritage Footprints: Experiential and Conscious Educational Learning' from 16-20 June 2025, organized by COA-TRC Pune in collaboration with MVS School of Architecture, Bengaluru. The FDP focused on innovative and reflective pedagogical approaches to documenting, preserving, and promoting intangible cultural heritage through experiential learning. The program provided valuable insights into integrating heritage-based learning into architectural education while fostering greater awareness of cultural sensitivity and local knowledge systems.



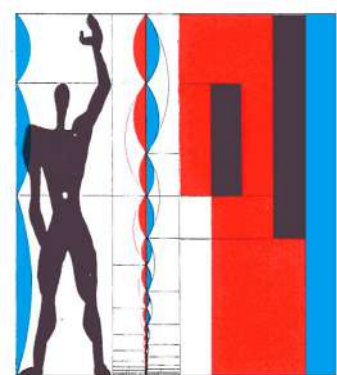
FACULTY ACTIVITY

IDAC Intelligence Infinity Awards

20 June 2025

Dr. Kanika Bansal, Dean - Academic Affairs, was invited as a distinguished jury member for the prestigious IDAC Intelligence Infinity Awards – a platform celebrating design excellence and innovation in architecture. The event fostered the much-needed dialogue between the academy and the industry. The event brought together over 150 leading architects from across the region, offering a confluence of creative minds and path-breaking ideas. Among the leading architects, as part of the esteemed jury panel, Dr. Bansal evaluated entries from renowned architects such as Ar. Bandana Singh, Ar. Aman Sohal and other eminent professionals recognizing design solutions that reflect innovation, sustainability, and contextual relevance.





FACULTY ACTIVITY

International Yoga Day

21 June 2025

Dr. Kanika Bansal, Chitkara University, Punjab, proudly participated in the record-setting event organized by Habuild on **International Yoga Day**, 21 June 2025. They were among the 7.52 lakh participants from 169 countries who joined the 'Highest Attendance in an Online Yoga Class Globally'. Their enthusiastic involvement in this global initiative reflects their commitment to promoting holistic well-being and yoga as a way of life. The event, recognized as an Official World Record, showcased their dedication to fostering physical and mental health within the academic community and beyond.



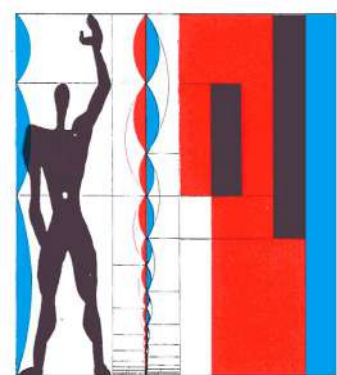
STAFF ACTIVITY

Meditation for Success

21 June 2025

Assistant Program Managers Ms. Nancy Chauhan and Mr. Somesh Sharma participated in the '**Meditation for Success**' session held on 25 June 2025 at Chitkara University. Organized in collaboration with the Isha Foundation, the session was conducted by **Atheer al-Sarayfi**, an experienced Isha trainer, who shared practical tools to achieve success through meditation. The hour-long session emphasized how meditation can enhance mental clarity, emotional balance, and focus essential ingredients for personal and professional growth.





STAFF ACTIVITY

Transforming Organizational Efficiency

25-27 June 2025

Ms. Richi Sachdeva, Librarian, and Ms. Nancy Chauhan, Assistant Program Manager, CSPA, participated in a three-day Staff Development Programme titled 'Orchestrating Excellence: Transforming Organizational Efficiency' held from 25-27 June 2025 at Chitkara University. The programme was organized by the Department of Education in collaboration with the Chitkara School of Psychology and Counselling. This initiative aimed to foster professional development and interdisciplinary collaboration, with a focus on enhancing organizational effectiveness. An e-certificate of participation was issued online upon successful completion of all three days of the programme.



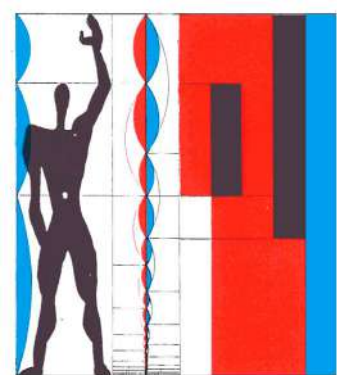
STAFF ACTIVITY

The Rudiments of Artificial Intelligence (AI), ChatGPT, DeepSeek, Grok, and Metaverse

April-June 2025

Ms. Krimika, Assistant Manager, participated as a core team member backstage managing all requisites in the sessions led by Hon'ble Chancellor Sir on 'The Rudiments of Artificial Intelligence (AI), ChatGPT, DeepSeek, Grok, and Metaverse'. The core team played a crucial role behind the scenes, ensuring smooth coordination and flawless execution of all backstage responsibilities such as stage transitions, handling technical setups, and maintaining the event flow without disruptions. With the guidance of Ms. Shipra Kumar, Director, Office of the Chancellor, the team demonstrated seamless coordination and remarkable efficiency throughout the event.





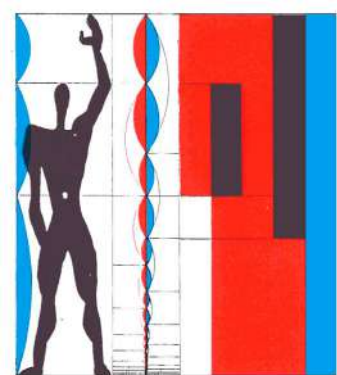
Grand Announcement

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE @CHITKARA UNIVERSITY Coming Soon

26-28 June 2025

CSPA is proud to announce that Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture, in collaboration with the Council of Architecture (COA), will host the **3rd edition of COA International Conference from 26-28 February 2026 at Chitkara University, Punjab Campus**. This grand announcement was made during the 2nd edition of COA International Conference at D Y Patil, Navi Mumbai, by Prof. Abhay Purohit, COA National President, in a gathering of more than 500 architects. Dr. Harveen Bhandari, Principal, CSPA showcased a beautiful video of our campus and the visionary leadership extending a hearty welcome for active participation in the upcoming Conference.





FACULTY ACTIVITY

International Conference @Navi Mumbai

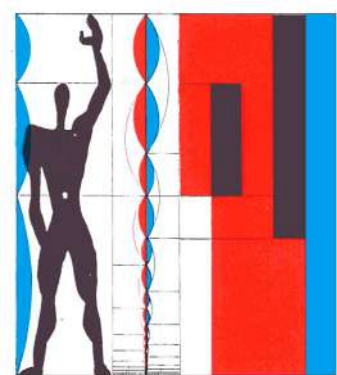
26-28 June 2025

Dr. Harveen Bhandari and Dr. Kanika Bansal were invited as **Session Chairs** for two different panels conducted during the **COA International Conference** held from **26-28 June** at **D Y Patil, Navi Mumbai**. Each Panel witnessed 09 presentations and gave their insights to the presenters. The other Co-Chairs were senior faculty members from different Schools of Architecture across the country. The conference witnessed 800-plus delegates from PAN India and international and national keynotes by renowned speakers. They were felicitated with a memento for their presence and valuable contribution to the technical session.



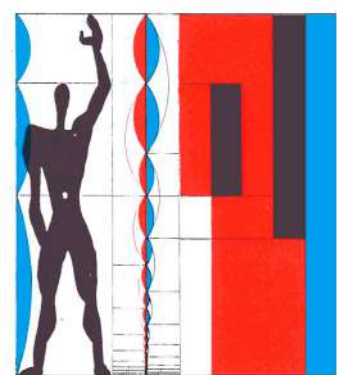
The Grand Finale – Book Launch

The culmination of a 6-month intensive International Studio organized by the University of Navarra, Spain, in collaboration with UVCT, NIUA, and COA was celebrated at the COA International Conference 2025. The studio focused on leveraging Virtual Reality (VR) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to enhance the research direction of UVCT. Representing CSPA as the team lead, **Dr. Kanika Bansal** shared key insights from the study conducted on the urban village Attawa, emphasizing the meaningful integration of



technology with community-based research. The CSPA team comprising 09 faculty members and 11 pre-final-year students had conducted a detailed study and attended expert lectures. The final presentations and reflections using AI and VR were presented to a panel of experts. The output of this collaborative effort has been published in the form a book titled '**The Research Grid**', featuring the work carried out by the CSPA team along with the other participating institutes. The book was officially launched by **Prof. Abhay Purohit (COA National President), Dr. Maria (University of Navarra), Prof. Anand Khatri, and other senior COA dignitaries**, in the presence of over 500 architects. Dr. Harveen and Dr. Kanika proudly represented CSPA during the launch ceremony and received wide appreciation for their impactful contributions.





Glimpses of 'The Research Grid'

Participating Institutes



CHANDIGARH UNIVERSITY - UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURE, MOHALLA, PUNJAB



MARIAN COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING - TRIVANDRUM, KERALA



SYMBIOSIS SKILLS AND PROFESSIONAL UNIVERSITY, KUNAL, PUNE



IDEAS (INSTITUTE OF DESIGN EDUCATION & ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES), NAAGPUR



JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA - A CENTRAL UNIVERSITY, DELHI



APEEJAY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY - SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING



CHITKARA UNIVERSITY - CHITKARA SCHOOL OF PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE, PUNJAB



API ABDUL KALAM TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY



RAJIV GANDHI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KOTTAYAM, KERALA, INDIA



SUSHANT UNIVERSITY



SUSHANT SCHOOL OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE, SUSHANT UNIVERSITY, GURGAON, HARYANA



MAMI BHOPAL



Universidad de Navarra



संस्कृत परिसर
Council of Architecture



National Institute of Urban Affairs



urban village
charitable trust

Research Team Leaders



Karika Bansal

Dr. Karika Bansal works as a Professor & Dean of Academics with the Chitkara School of Planning & Architecture (CSPA), Chitkara University, Punjab, India. She completed her Doctoral studies at GNDU, Amritsar in "Built Heritage Conservation in the Colonial Hill Towns of India". With more than two decades of professional and academic experience, Dr. Bansal excels in academic leadership, teaching, research, consulting, training and mentorship through her innovative initiatives for student and faculty development. She has been bestowed with several awards for her contribution in the field of academics and research, such as the Academic Achiever Award, Women Researcher Award, and Emerging Leader Award, to name a few. She has to her credit three design patents granted, many research publications in reputed national & international journals and conferences, and has been invited as a resource person in various national and international forums.



Mathew George

Mathew George is a seasoned urbanist with over 8 years of expertise in design, planning, and project management. With a Master's degree in Urban Design and Development from the MAHE, India, he specializes in crafting sustainable solutions that reshape urban landscapes. Currently serving as an Assistant Professor at Marian College of Architecture and Planning (MCAP), Trivandrum, he inspires future architects and designers through research guidance, thesis mentorship, and international academic collaborations. Mathew's global exposure includes leading transformative state-level projects in India and contributing to urban development initiatives internationally.



Nisar Khan

Dr. Nisar Khan is a Professor at the Faculty of Architecture & Ekistics, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. He completed his graduation and postgraduation at AMU, SPA Delhi, and IIS Hyderabad, respectively. His Ph.D. on the architecture of unauthorised colonies of Delhi was awarded by JMI. In his 18 years of experience in teaching, he has initiated the M.Arch. Urban Regeneration Program at JMI. His research work is published as well as presented in various journals and national and international conferences. He has delivered invited lectures at reputed institutes like IGNC, INTACH, SPA Delhi, SPA Bhopal, SPA Vijayawada, CPWD, National Museum Institute, Council of Architecture-NIASA, etc. He is also a Fellow of the Indian Institute of Architects. Dr. Khan is a recipient of the Dutch Orange Knowledge Program fellowship twice in 2019 and 2022.



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charitable trust

Research Team

INSTITUTE

Chitkara University - Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture, Punjab



FACULTY
Dr. Karika Bansal (Professor & Dean), Dr. Harveen Bhandari (Professor & Principal), Dr. Niva Turra (Assistant Professor), Dr. Mahinder Bawaria (Assistant Professor), Ar. Lohit Jain (Associate Professor), Dr. Parminder Kaur (Associate Professor), Dr. Prateek Dharmara (Assistant Professor), Ar. Shristi Nangalia (Assistant Professor), Ar. Sihant Madan (Assistant Professor)



STUDENTS
Garima Chawla (B.Arch), Himanshu Chiman (B.Arch), Gurkamal Singh (B.Arch), Sukdeep Kaur (B.Arch), Shubham Bhowmik (B.Arch), Nikita Nehru (B.Arch), Kaavya Arora (B.Arch), Nayanika Gogoi (B.Arch), Aakriti Singhal (B.Arch), Manasi (B.Arch), Namay Nayyar (B.Arch)



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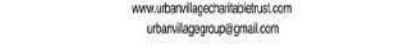
A UVCT Communique



THE RESEARCH GRID

VR & AI Capacity Building Studio
enabling Brownfield Development Studies

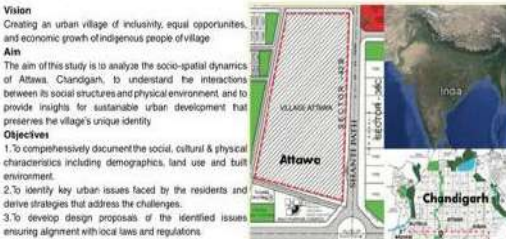
Manju Baisoya Pundir
Maria Belen Mendizabal
Anand Khatri



Attawa Chandigarh, India

Name of the location of study: Attawa Village

City/District/State: Chandigarh, India



Vision
Creating an urban village of inclusivity, equal opportunities, and economic growth of indigenous people of village.

Aim
The aim of this study is to analyze the socio-spatial dynamics of Attawa, Chandigarh, to understand the interactions between its social structures and physical environment, and to provide insights for sustainable urban development that preserves the village's unique identity.

Objectives
1. To comprehensively document the social, cultural & physical characteristics including demographics, land use and built environment.
2. To identify key urban issues faced by the residents and derive strategies that address the challenges.
3. To develop design proposals of the identified issues ensuring alignment with local laws and regulations.

Location Context
Attawa Village, circumscribed by sector 42B & 43A boundaries of Chandigarh and Stadium road on the north, Shanti path on north-west-east and Jan marg on the south of the village (Figure A).

Link to location of study area: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/2PchU25xv8tBj31A>



Figure Ground Map & Temporal Development

Demographic Details

- Attawa Village, located in Chandigarh, has undergone significant demographic changes due to urbanization (Figure C). Attawa Village has experienced significant population growth, with a recorded growth rate of 38.1%. As per the census population enumeration, the population, which was 4,247 in 1981 and 4,548 in 1991, is projected to reach 5,541 by 2024 and approximately 5,600 by 2025, based on linear growth projections.
- The population density has also increased over the years, rising from 1,061.75 persons per hectare in 1981 to 1,137 persons per hectare in 1991. By 2024, the estimated density is expected to be around 1,146.93 persons per hectare. This steady rise in population and density reflects the ongoing urbanization of Attawa, transforming it from a rural settlement into an integrated part of Chandigarh's urban framework.
- Attawa exhibits a gender distribution of 42% male and 57% female (primary survey 2025). The majority of the workforce is engaged in salaried jobs, small businesses, and services, with agriculture playing a minimal role. The literacy rate is lower compared to Chandigarh's urban areas, limiting access to higher education and economic mobility. Hinduism is the predominant religion (76%), followed by Sikhism (21%).
- Attawa has transitioned into an urban settlement with a growing number of rental properties and mixed-use buildings, as depicted in landuse map. Social infrastructure includes schools, parks, and religious centers, though accessibility to healthcare and recreational facilities remains limited. Economic activity revolves around small businesses, book markets, and labor-intensive jobs.



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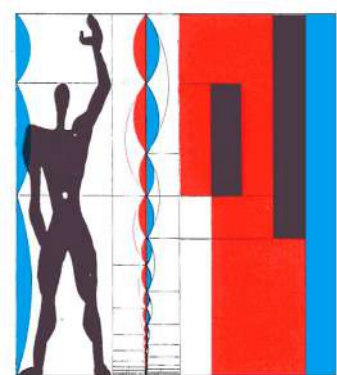
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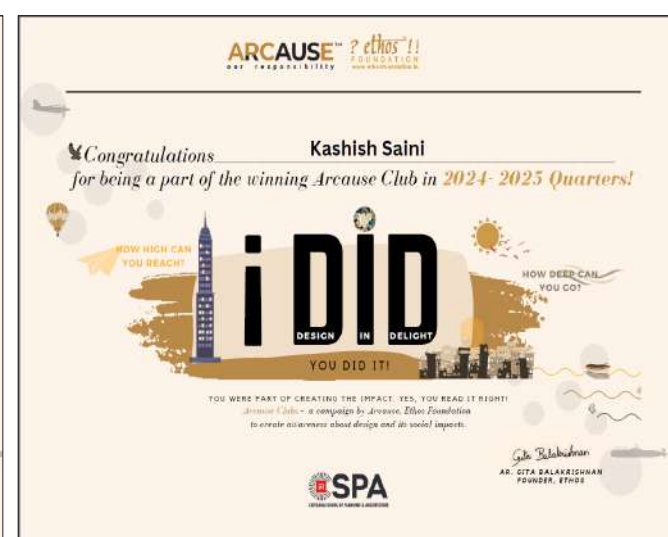
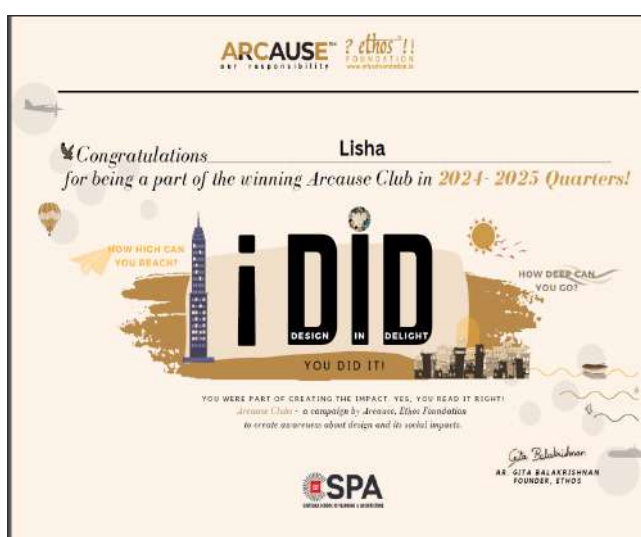
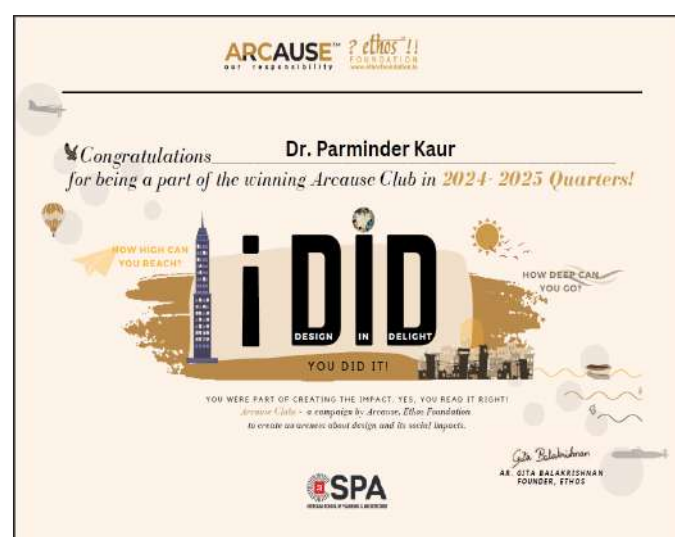
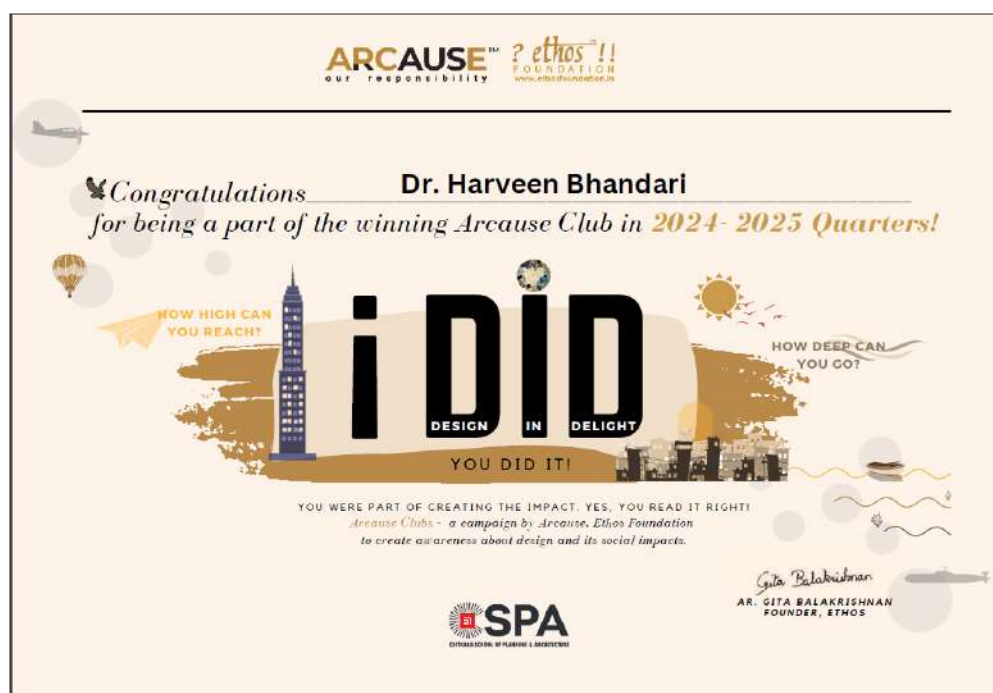
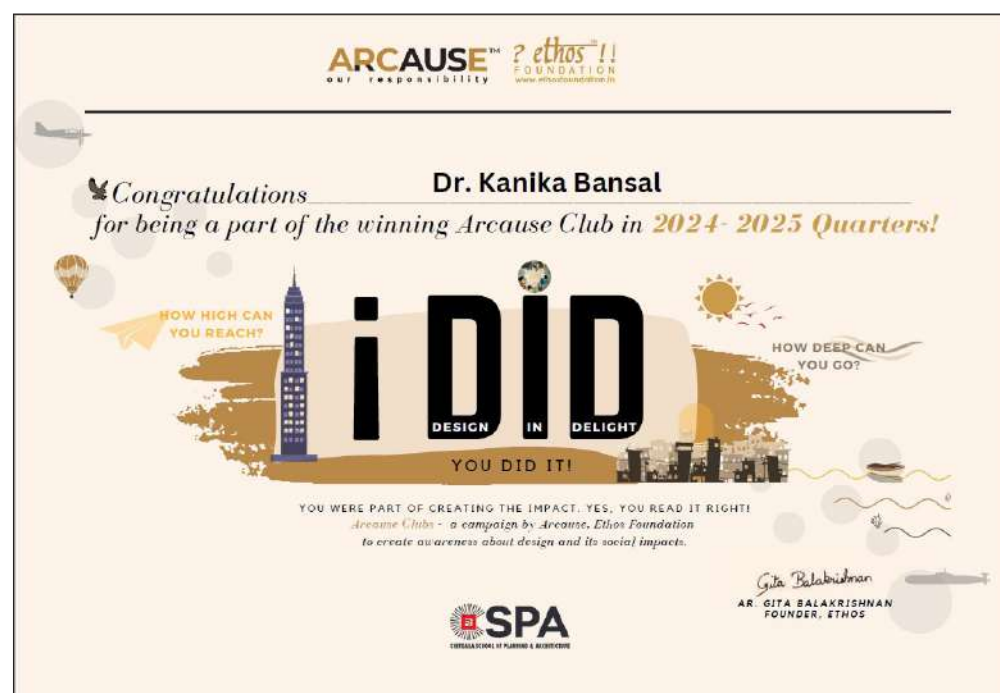
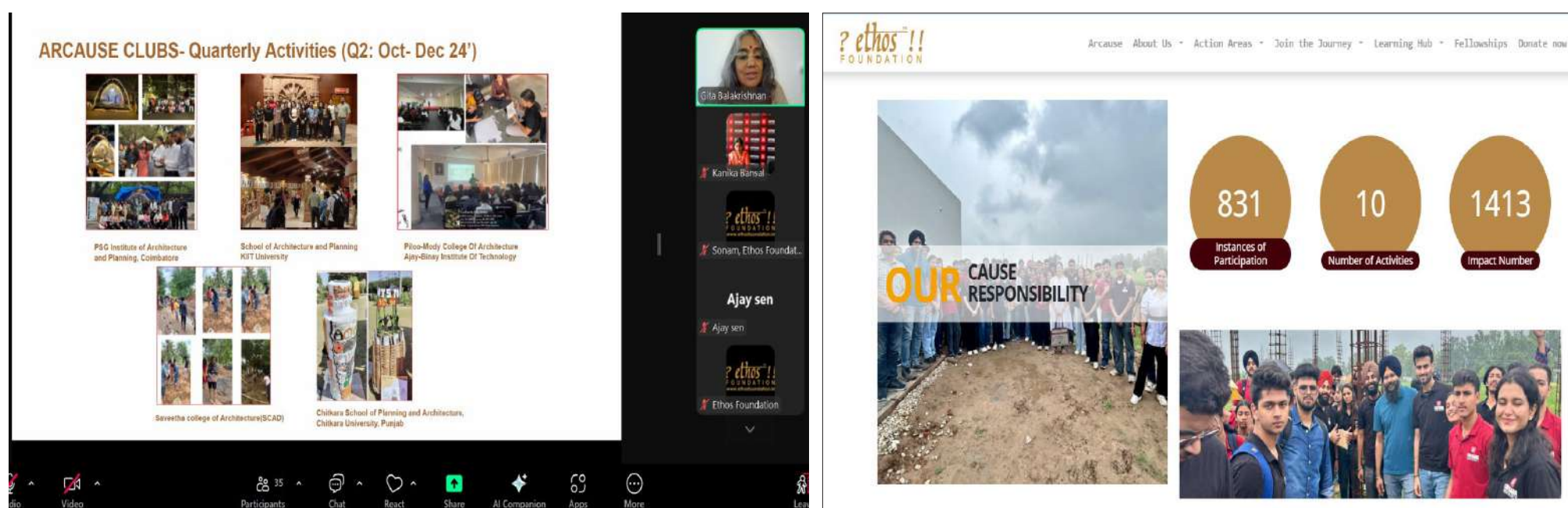


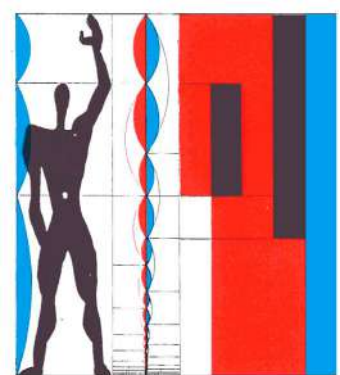
ACHIEVEMENT

Arcause Club Activities

2025

Chitkara School of Planning & Architecture has been recognized as the winner for three consecutive quarters - Q1 (July–September 2024), Q2 (October–December 2024), and Q3 (January–March 2025) for achieving the highest participation in Arcause Club activities organized by **Arcause, ETHOS Foundation**, a platform dedicated to fostering social responsibility in Architecture. The department has been awarded **cash prizes of 1,500 INR and 1,000 INR** for Q1 and Q2, respectively, in recognition of its continued commitment and active engagement.

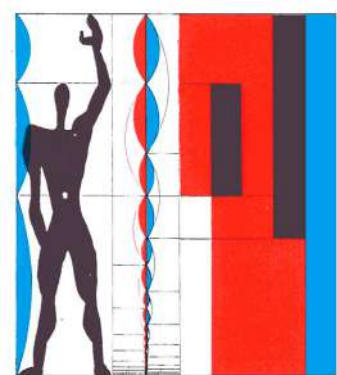




‘A model may be small, but it holds the depth of an architect’s vision’



CSPA team completed the on-scale model of the Galileo Block and handed it over for installation in the campus



CHITKARA
UNIVERSITY



SPA
CHITKARA SCHOOL OF PLANNING & ARCHITECTURE

CSPA NEWSLETTER

ARCHISCAPE

Volume - 9 | Number - 2

April - June 2025

MANAGING HERITAGE

CONSERVATION | PRESERVATION | RECONSTITUTION

For the use of students of B.Arch



Prof. (Ar.) Jit Kumar Gupta
Prof. (Dr.) Harveen Bhandari



Prof. Jit Kumar Gupta, with more than 53 years of Professional experience in architectural education, urban planning, policy planning, urban legislation, capacity building in sustainability, green buildings, affordable housing, smart cities, urban laws; urban missions, rural planning, public participation and urban local bodies He is Senior Fellow IGBC; Fellow IIA, Fellow ITPI and has been Founding Director of College of Architecture, IET, Bhaddal; Advisor(TP) PUDA and Former CTP at SPCL. He has also been Former Chairman of BOS, Architecture, PTU; Member of Court, SUPVA; Member Academic Council SMVDA; Current Chairman, BOE&AE, IIA; Member BOS MRSSTU; SBSTU; former Chairman, Chandigarh Chapter IGBC; Consultant Six Master Plans Punjab,

Srinagar, Chandigarh, Four Cities of Gujarat He has published 16 books, over 300 technical papers related to Architectural Education, Affordable Housing, Land, Heritage, Chandigarh, Amritsar, Sustainable Cities, Urban Planning, SDG11. Awarded Madhav Achval Gold Medal for lifetime Contribution to Architectural Education by IIA; Medal for standing first in the university in MCRP & Gandhian Studies. Currently a member of State Transport Committee, Chandigarh UT& Advisor, Review of Master Plan Jammu 2030.



Dr. Harveen Bhandari is working as Principal & Dean-Ph.D. Program at Chitkara School of Planning & Architecture, Chitkara University, Punjab. She is also heading the Ph.D. Program and guiding doctoral scholars. Her areas of interest include cultural heritage, vernacular architecture, architectural education, and architectural research. With an experience of 20 years, she has 30 papers published in refereed journals and several presented at national/international conferences. She has been a Technical Committee Member and chaired sessions for international conferences and has been a Jury member for the architecture thesis Vivas. Has conducted FDPs for faculty and scholars in architecture and attended several STPs by CoA, INTACH, ICOMOS India, and Coursera.

Had served as Guest Editor for the Journal of Indian Institute of Architects (JIJA-Jan 2015 issue); the Editorial Head for the Quarterly Newsletter of the school; a Lifetime member of INTACH and an Individual Category member of ICOMOS, India, and FSAI, India. Bestowed with Architecture Journalism Merit Award (2015) and Teachers Award (2017) by the prestigious A3 Foundation, Chandigarh; Award for Excellence in Architectural Education (2022) by the Times Group, India.



Council Of Architecture
Ministry of Education, Government of India



SAMARTHAYA

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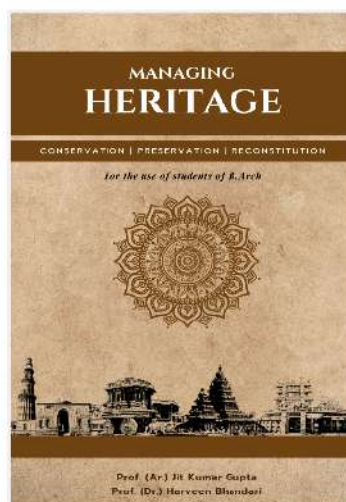


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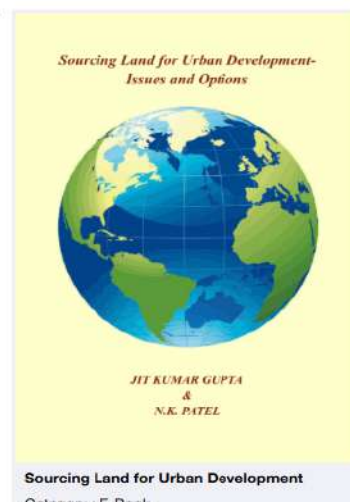


SAMARTHAYA

E-Book

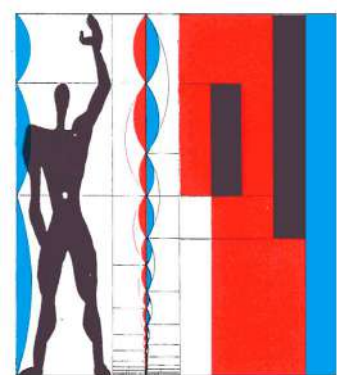


Managing Heritage
Category : E-Book



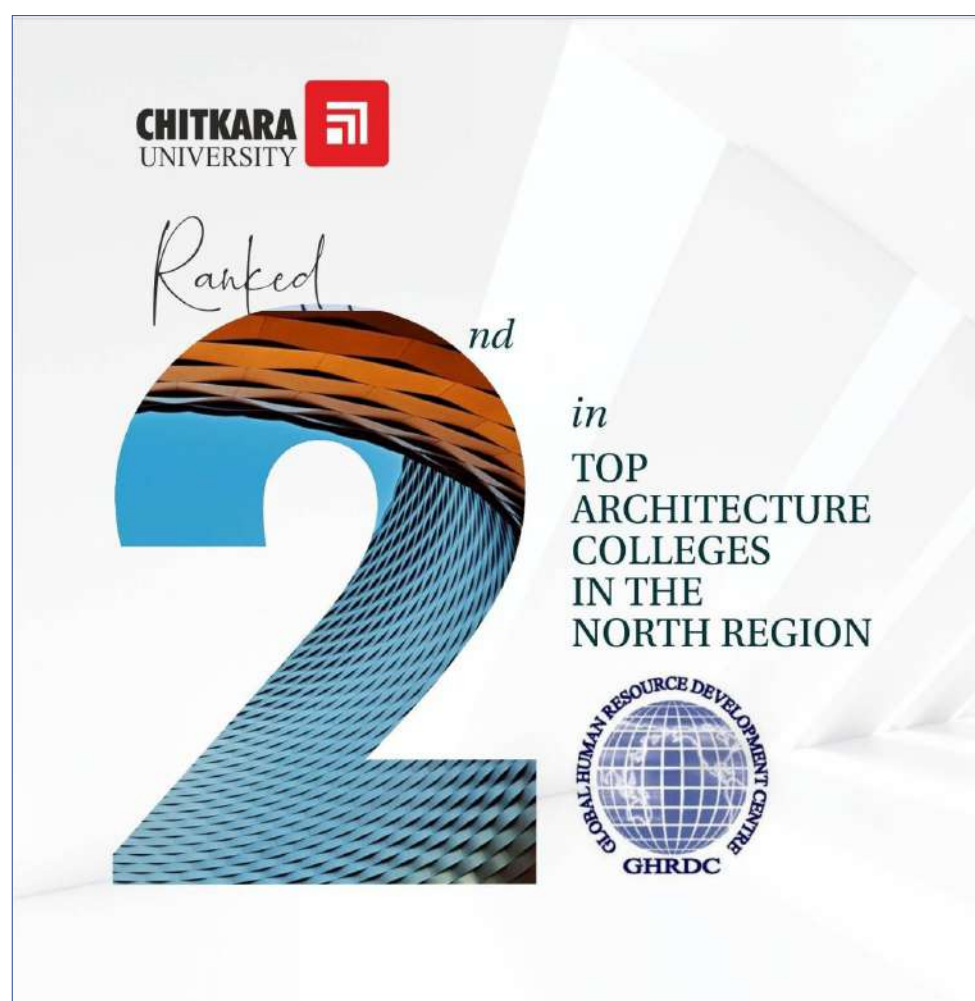
Sourcing Land for Urban Development
Category : E-Book

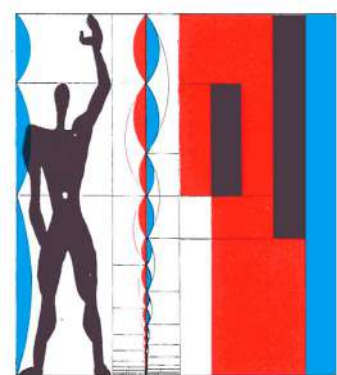
The book 'Managing Heritage' co-authored by Prof. Jit Kumar Gupta and Prof. (Dr.) Harveen Bhandari is now available online on the Samarthaya Portal of Council of Architecture.



April - June 2025

Happy Rankings





Ph.D. Progress Review Stage

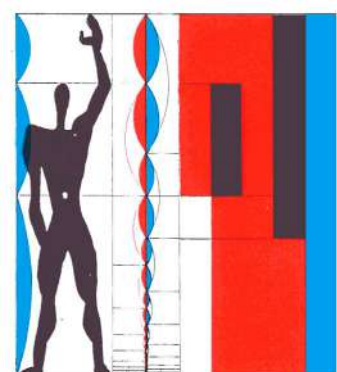
Glimpses of Ph.D. Progress Review Stages held in this Quarter



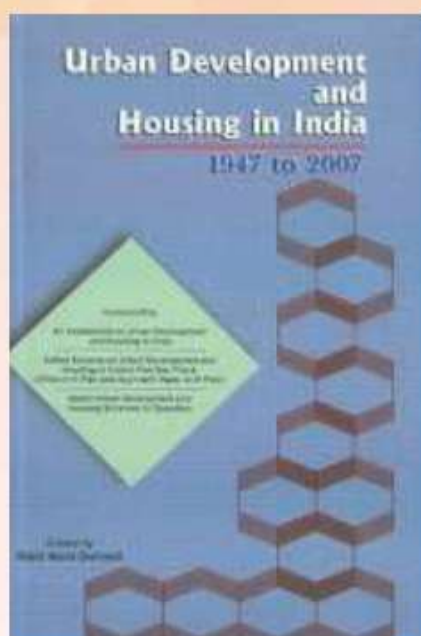
Progress Review Stage 3 (PRS 3) - Ar. Renuka Chutke



Pre-Thesis - Ar. Shubham Jain



HOUSING



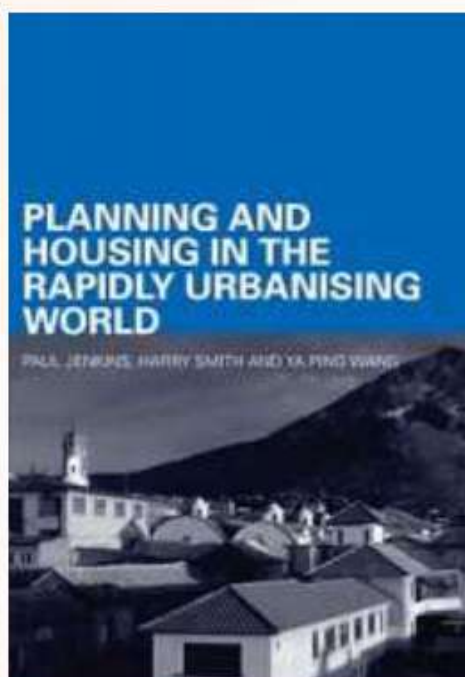
Title of the Book: Urban Development & Housing in India: 1947 to 2007

Author of the Book: Rishi Muni Dwivedi

Publisher of the Book: New Century Publications

About the Book: This book provides a comprehensive analysis of India's urban development and housing policies from independence to 2007. It highlights the need for balanced urbanization, integrating large, medium, and small industries while addressing rural-urban disparities. Emphasizing housing as a labor-intensive sector crucial for economic growth, the book explores its role in employment generation and poverty alleviation. It includes insights from India's Five-Year Plans and details key urban development and housing schemes. A valuable resource for students, researchers, and professionals in urban planning, architecture, and policy-making.

The book can be accessed from: CSPA Library



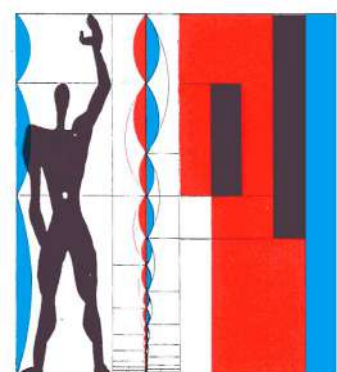
Title of the Book: Planning And Housing in the Rapidly Urbanising World

Author of the Book: Paul Jenkins

Publisher of the Book: Routledge

About the Book: This comprehensive teaching text explores the challenges of rapid urbanization, particularly in developing countries, and its impact on planning and housing. Written by leading academics, the book introduces key concepts such as informal settlements and sustainability, using case studies from Latin America, Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. It critically examines globalization's effects on land use, poverty, health, and the environment while offering practical approaches for sustainable urban development. Essential for students, researchers, and policymakers, this book bridges theoretical debates with real-world applications in the field of urban planning.

The book can be accessed from: CSPA Library



BUILT ENVIRONMENT



Title of the Book: Building Drawing: With an Integrated Approach to Built Environment

Author of the Book: S.Y. Patki, M.G. Shah and C.M. Kale

Publisher of the Book: McGraw-Hill

About the Book: *Building Drawing: With an Integrated Approach to Built Environment* serves as a comprehensive guide to building drawing fundamentals while emphasizing sustainability and smart city planning. The 6th edition introduces a new chapter on city planning, updates on sustainable development, and detailed case studies. With clear explanations, structured diagrams, and hands-on exercises, it is an invaluable resource for architecture and civil engineering students, as well as professionals looking to understand the evolving built environment.

The book can be accessed from: CSPA Library

Design Professionals and the Built Environment

AN INTRODUCTION

EDITED BY
Paul Knox
AND
Peter Ozolins

WILEY



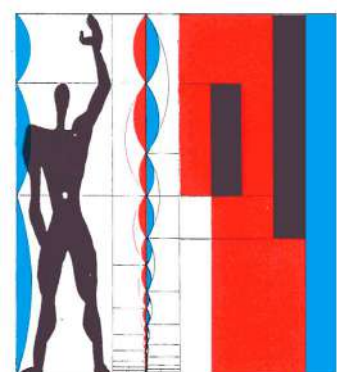
Title of the Book: Design Professionals and the Built Environment: An Introduction

Author of the Book: Paul Knox and Peter Ozolins

Publisher of the Book: John Wiley & Sons

About the Book: This book highlights the interconnected nature of design, construction, and urban planning, emphasizing that no aspect of the built environment exists in isolation. Paul Knox challenges architects, planners, and engineers to consider broader social, economic, and environmental contexts in their work. Key themes include the impact of technology, sustainability, and the need for a holistic approach to design. Featuring insights from global experts, this essential text provides students and professionals with a comprehensive understanding of the complexities shaping the built environment today.

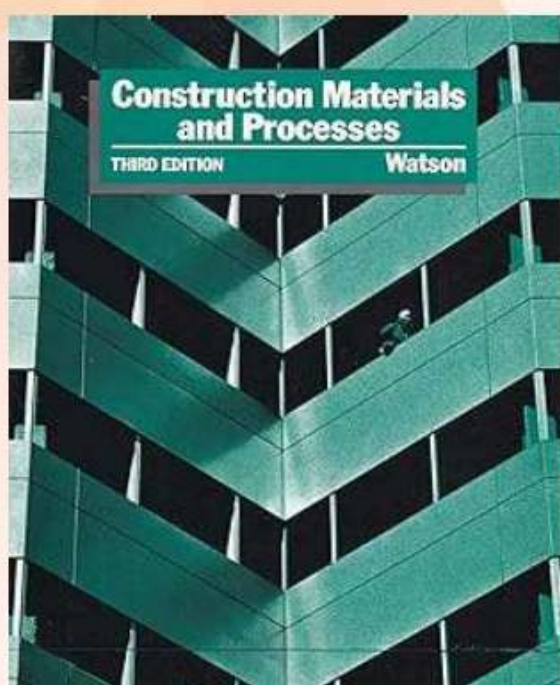
The book can be accessed from: CSPA Library



From the Librarian's Desk | CSPA Library

Jan – Mar 2025 | Volume-4, Issue-1

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS



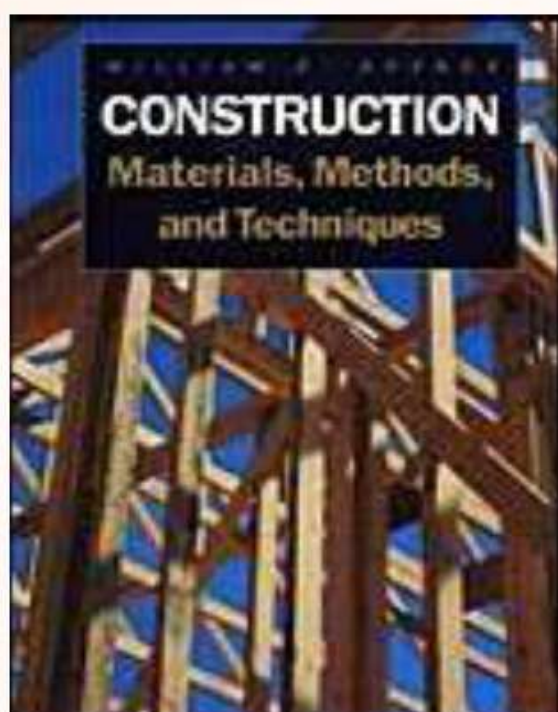
Title of the book: Construction Materials and Processes

Author of the Book: Donald Watson

Publisher of the Book: McGraw-Hill

About the Book: This book provides an in-depth understanding of construction materials and techniques, structured according to the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) format. It covers both traditional and modern materials, with updated content on energy conservation, sustainable construction, and the application of solar energy. Emphasizing practical applications, the book is a valuable resource for students, architects, engineers, and construction professionals seeking a comprehensive guide to materials and building processes.

The book can be accessed from: CSPA Library



Title of the book: Construction Methods, Materials, and Techniques

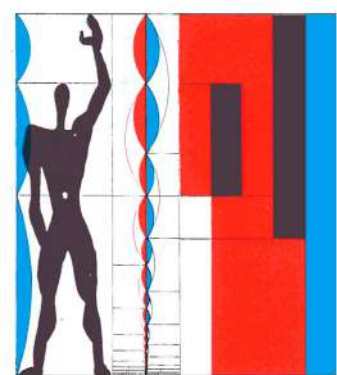
Author of the Book: William P. Spence

Publisher of the Book: Delmar Cengage Learning

About the Book: This book offers a comprehensive study of construction materials and methods, structured according to Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) standards. Covering both commercial and residential building applications, it details material properties, selection, and construction techniques, with special attention to light-frame construction using wood and metal. Unique chapters on plumbing, HVAC, and electrical systems enhance its practical value. Engaging glossaries, review questions, and references make it an essential resource for students and professionals in construction technology, architecture, civil engineering, and building trades.

The book can be accessed from: CSPA Library

Ms. Richi Sachdeva, Librarian, CSPA



Celebrations



Birthday Celebration



Summer Splash Celebration



Bidding a Gracious Adieu



Rainy Day Treats

Editor:
Dr. Harveen Bhandari
Principal & Dean-Ph.D. Program

Editorial Team:
Krimika
Assistant Manager

