Human Habitation Book

Architecture, Settlement & Urban Identity of the Persian Gulf Region

This important new book is linked to the international conference on Human habitation in the Persian Gulf Region helt at the Royal Institute of British Architects in London in October 2009, and organized by the University of Westminster, IAARA, UN-Habitat and other bodies. It will be published in Spring 2010. The aim of the *Human Habitation* book, like the conference, is to open up the debate, critically and speculatively, about what has been happening in the Persian Gulf region in recent years in terms of architecture and urbanism.

To this end, a team of researchers drawn from the region, or from countries such as Turkey and Britain, were asked to visit specific cities on either side of the Persian Gulf and write an analysis of current conditions. In these essays, researchers explore both historical and contemporary factors to unpick the development of architecture and urban settlements, and to reflect on the relevance to issues such as environmental sustainability and specificity of place. Further material for the book will be provided by contributors to the Human habitation Conference in London. Underlying this unique and innovative book is the impact of globalization in the Persian Gulf, especially in relation to cultural identity, human habitation and ecological building.

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