



# ARCHITECTURE IN CONTINUITY

BUILDING IN THE  
ISLAMIC WORLD TODAY



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ARCHITECTURE  
IN CONTINUITY  
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IN THE  
ISLAMIC WORLD  
TODAY

EDITED BY  
SHERBAN CANTACUZINO

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*Architecture in Continuity* celebrates recent projects throughout the Islamic world that most successfully preserve indigenous forms while providing for the future. It honors the insight, imagination, and skill that brought these projects into physical reality. The Aga Khan Awards Foundation's attention to the extraordinary effort required to develop an architecture both practical and spiritual is dramatically reflected in this volume, the second of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture series. In the words of the Foundation, the architects represented here provide environments in which people can "live, work, and practice the precepts of . . . faith harmoniously and to the fullest."

The eleven projects—found in nine countries from Mali to Pakistan, from Yugoslavia to Malaysia—range from hotels to mosques, from housing to an impressive air terminal for pilgrims to Mecca. The prizewinners show a deep respect for tradition, displayed in the historic buildings restored for contemporary purposes. Everyone connected with each project—the architect, client, and builder, the local craftsmen, artisans, and consultants—is honored for contributing to an integrity of purpose, to a spirit that is of and for the people.

This collection of color photographs by some of the world's finest photographers exquisitely depicts the Award-winning buildings. The introduction and three essays, by distinguished architects and architectural historians, explore the projects in terms of the pressures confronting

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emerging Muslim countries, the influence of the Western postindustrial world, and traditional Muslim forms and values.

**The Aga Khan Award for Architecture** was established in 1978 to encourage an understanding and awareness of the strength and diversity of Muslim cultural traditions, which, when combined with an enlightened use of modern technology, will result in buildings more appropriate for the Islamic world of tomorrow. The first award book, *Architecture and Community*, published by Aperture in 1983, was an unprecedented international success. Focusing on both traditional character and modern architectural form, the award series offers an important historical and artistic documentation of contemporary architectural thought.

**Sherban Cantacuzino**, editor, is an architect, a former executive editor of *The Architectural Review* and now secretary of the Royal Fine Art Commission, London. He was a member of the master jury of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in 1980 and a member of the Award steering committee from 1981 to 1983. He is the author of several books, including *Great Modern Architecture*, *New Uses for Old Buildings* and (with Susan Brandt) *Saving Old Buildings*.

**Aperture**, a division of Silver Mountain Foundation, Inc., publishes a periodical, books, and portfolios of fine photography to communicate with serious photographers and creative people everywhere. A complete catalog is available upon request. Address: Aperture, 20 East 23 Street. New York. NY 10010.



The Award Logo. The name of Allah in Kufic script, reflecting itself, forms the basis of the logo design.

Cover design by Peter Bradford  
Photograph by Jacques Pérez

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THE AGA KHAN  
 AWARD FOR  
ARCHITECTURE

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EDITED BY  
SHERBAN CANTACUZINO  
PUBLISHED BY  
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The Award logo. The name of Allah  
in Kufic script, reflecting itself, forms  
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Frontispiece: Sculpture Museum, Ramses Wissa Wassef Arts  
Center, Giza, Egypt. The brainchild of the architect Ramses  
Wissa Wassef, the center was founded to promote local arts and  
crafts. This museum houses the work of Habib Gorgy's students.

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1978 to 1983 and is the author of many books, including  
*Problems and Sources of Turkish Anatolian Architecture* and  
*Influences of European Art on Ottoman Architecture*.

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*Architecture in Continuity* has been produced to present the contemporary architectural projects that were honored in the second cycle (1981–1983) of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture and to make manifest their symbolic, social, and cultural contexts. The introductory chapter, the survey of contemporary Turkish architecture, the essays on the mosque and the diary of a technical reviewer were all specially prepared for this volume. The Awards were presented in September 1983 and the Topkapı Palace in Istanbul at the gracious invitation of President Evren of Turkey.

Many people deserve credit for their contributions. The members of the steering committee for the second cycle were His Highness the Aga Khan, chairman, Professor Mohammed Arkoun, Sherban Cantacuzino, Sir Hugh Casson, Charles Correa, Professor Oleg Grabar, Professor Renata Holod, Hasan-Uddin Khan, Professor Doğan Kuban, Mohamed Makiya, Kamil Khan Mumtaz, and Professor William Porter. The Award office was administered by Dr. Said Zulficar, secretary general, and Dr. Suha Özkan, deputy secretary general. Those serving on the master jury were Dr. Turgut Cansever, Rifat Chadirji, Habib Fida Ali, Professor Mübeccel Kiray, Professor Charles Moore, Professor Parid Wardi bin Sudin, Dr. Ismail Serageldin, Roland Simounet, and James Stirling.

The basic information supporting the visual presentation of the prizewinning projects came first from the architects and clients of each project. Technical reviewers then gathered additional information at each site. These reviewers included Dr. Halim Abdelhalim, Dr. Samir Abdulac, Dr. Yekta Chahrouzi, Bin Haji Abdul Majid Hajeedar, Syed Zaigham Shafiq Jaffery, Darl Rastorfer, Professor Ronald Lewcock, Piers Rodgers, Raoul Snelder, Dorothée Vauzelles, and Dr. Atilla Yücel. Once collected, documents and research were developed for publication by Nagineh Khaleeli, assistant to the editor.

Of the visual material the line drawings were prepared by Walter Conquy from drawings supplied by the architects. Some of the material was supplied by Margaret de Popolo, coordinator of library programs, the Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Brian Brace

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The photographs of the Ramses Wissa Wassef Arts Center, near Giza in Egypt, of the restoration in the Darb Qirmiz quarter in Cairo, and of the Hafsia quarter in Tunis were taken by Stephen Shore. The photographs who accompanied the technical reviewers were Kamran Adle, Chant Avidissian, Jacques Bétant, Steven B. Cohn, Reha Günay, and Jacques Pérez.

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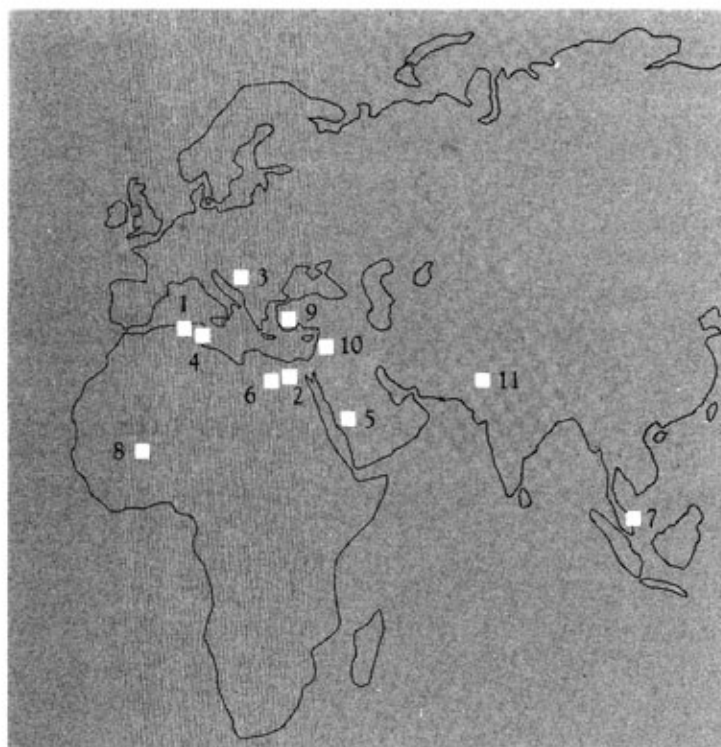
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