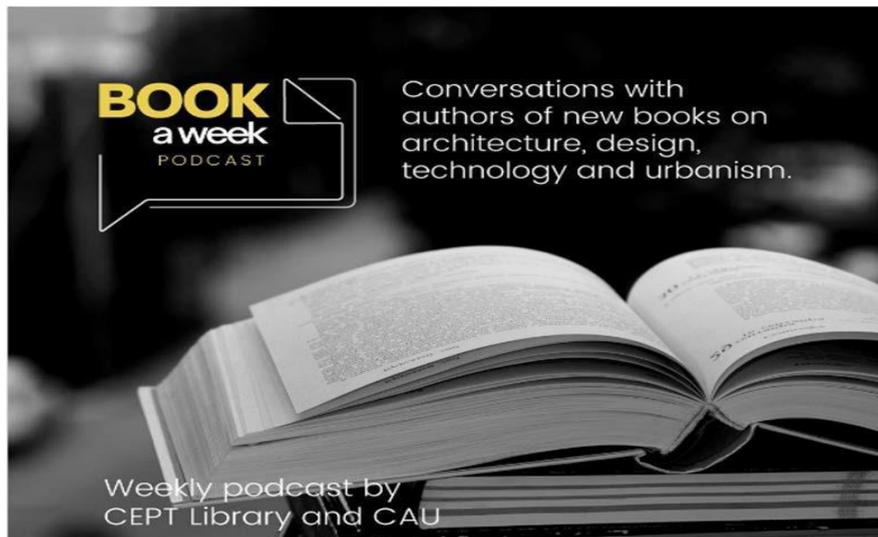


QUICK GUIDE  
.....  
**BOOK a week PODCAST Series**  
**Season - 1**



**About Book a Week Podcast**

The Book a Week Podcast Series initiative began in 2022 through collaboration between CEPT Library and the Center for Research on Architecture and Urbanism (CAU), CRDF. We engaged in enlightening conversations with authors of new books on architecture, design, technology, and urbanism. Book-a-Week was a weekly podcast in an author-interview format where young scholars interviewed authors of recent books on architecture, design, technology, and cities.

In our first season, we had the pleasure of hosting 14 episodes, including the introductory session by Prof. A. Srivathsan, each Podcast highlighting a diverse selection of books covering a wide range of topics, from architectural history and design theory to ecological thinking, urban studies, and anthropology.

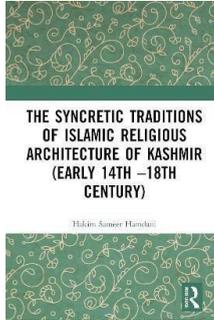
Each episode offered approximately 30 minutes of engaging dialogue, where we explored the book's context, significance, and relevance in today's ever-changing landscape. Our discussions were envisioned as reflective and genial conversations, providing listeners with valuable insights into the themes and ideas presented in each book.

All episodes of this series are available for streaming on Spotify. Simply click on the provided links for the episode description and to access each episode directly.

## Podcast Series - Season 1:

Titles	Description	Play
<b>Episode 2:</b> Venugopal Maddipati talks to Hakim Sameer Hamdani on his book “ <b>The Syncretic Traditions of Islamic Religious Architecture of Kashmir</b> ”		
<b>Episode 3:</b> Arul Paul talks to Tereza Kuldova and Mathew A. Varghese, editors of the book " <b>Urban Utopias: Excess and Expulsion in Neoliberal South Asia</b> "(Palgrave Studies in Urban Anthropology).		
<b>Episode 4:</b> Rajshree talks to Rahul Mehrotra about his latest book ‘ <b>Working in Mumbai</b> , RMA Architects’		
<b>Episode 5:</b> Venugopal talks to Asher Ghertner about his book ‘ <b>Rule by Aesthetics</b> ’.		
<b>Episode 6:</b> Sunaina Shah talks to George Michelle on his book ‘ <b>Late Temple Architecture of India</b> , 15th to 19th Centuries’.		
<b>Episode 7:</b> Rajshree Rajmohan talks to Anindita Datta on her book " <b>Gender, Space and Agency in India.</b> ’		
<b>Episode 8:</b> Rajshree in conversation with Dr. Ghazala Jamil, on her book ‘ <b>Accumulation by Segregation: Muslim Localities in Delhi</b> ’		
<b>Episode 9:</b> Sunaina Shah talks to Ebba Koch on the book titled ‘ <b>The Mughal Empire from Jahangir to Shah Jahan: Art, Architecture, Politics, Law and Literature</b> ’.		
<b>Episode 10:</b> Arul Paul talks to Dr. Rahela Khorakiwala, author of the book " <b>From the Colonial to the Contemporary</b> ": Images, Iconography, Memories, and Performances of Law in India's High Courts.		
<b>Episode 11:</b> Sunaina Shah talks to Ray Meekar, author and photographer of the book ' <b>Building with Fire</b> '.		
<b>Episode 12:</b> Arul Paul talks to Anshuman Gupta on his book ‘ <b>Celebrating Public Spaces in India</b> ’ co-authored with Archana Gupta.		
<b>Episode 13:</b> Arul Paul talks to Gautam Bhan on his book, ‘ <b>In the Public’s Interest</b> – Evictions, Citizenship and Inequality in Contemporary Delhi.’		
<b>Episode 14:</b> Sunaina Shah talks to Catherine about the book, ‘ <b>The Quth Complex: The Minar, Mosque and Mehrauli</b> ’		

**Episode 2:** Venugopal Maddipati in conversation with Hakim Sameer Hamdani on his book “The Syncretic Traditions of Islamic Religious Architecture of Kashmir”

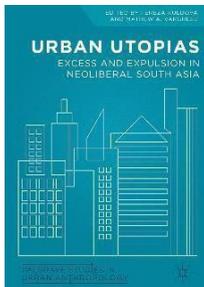


Venugopal Maddipati talks to Hakim Sameer Hamdani on his book “The Syncretic Traditions of Islamic Religious Architecture of Kashmir”. The book presents the rich historical context of Islam in Kashmir and explores newer dimensions of tracing histories through architecture. Hakim Sameer Hamdani is a notable architectural historian and an Islamicist and the Design Director of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Kashmir Chapter, Srinagar. Some of his major conservation projects include Reconstruction of 18th- century.



Wooden Shrine of Peer Dastgeer Saheb (2020–12) and Conservation of Aali Masjid at Eidgah, Srinagar (2007) — both of which were longlisted for the Aga Khan Award for Architecture. More recently he has received an offer under the Aga Khan Program, to do his post-doctorate at MIT, where he will be carrying forward his work on Muslim architecture and Muslim identity in the late 19th and early 20th century Kashmir, in the background of colonialism and the freedom struggle.

**Episode 3:** Arul Paul in conversation with Tereza Kuldova and Mathew A. Varghese on their book **Urban Utopias: Excess and Expulsion in Neoliberal South Asia** (Palgrave Studies in Urban Anthropology)



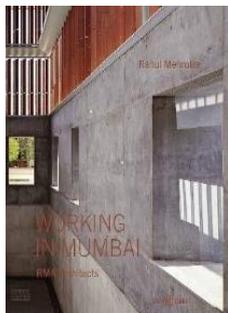
The Unfinished: Stone carvers at work in the Indian Subcontinent’ by Professor Vidya Dehejia and Peter Rockwell, is an exploration of the notions of ‘completeness’ in the context of construction of stone monuments of India. In this podcast, Venugopal Maddipati talks to Professor Dehejia about the varying degrees of unfinished stone monuments across the country to reveal the stories and the decisions that resulted in these incomplete works.



Vidya Dehejia is Barbara Stoler Miller Professor of Indian and South Asian Art at Columbia University and a Padma Bhushan awardee. Her extensive work in the field of art history draws from her travels across South Asia, and her background in classical Sanskrit and Tamil. Her subjects have ranged from Buddhist art in its earliest centuries to the esoteric temples of North India and from the sacred bronzes of the south to the art of British India.



**Episode 4:** Rajshree talks to Rahul Mehrotra about his latest book ‘**Working in Mumbai, RMA Architects**’



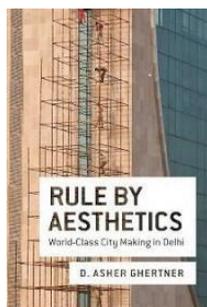
Rajshree talks to Rahul Mehrotra about his latest book ‘Working in Mumbai, RMA Architects’ published this year in 2021, by the CEPT University Press. The book is a critical reflection on thirty years of practice of RMA Architects and is structured into five segments, each referring to projects that address questions generated by the complexity of the design program, and also its context. Through this book, Rahul Mehrotra weaves a narrative to connect his various involvement in architectural practise since 1990, including teaching, research, documenting, writing, and exhibiting.



Play

Rahul Mehrotra is the principal founder of RMA architects, based in Mumbai and Boston. He is the Chair of Department of Urban Planning and Design and John T. Dunlop Professor in Housing and Urbanization at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. He has written and lectured extensively on issues concerning architecture, conservation, urban planning and design in Mumbai and in India.

**Episode 5:** Venugopal Maddipati in conversation with Asher Ghertner on his book ‘**Rule by Aesthetics: World Class City Making in Delhi**’.



Venugopal talks to Asher Ghertner about his book ‘Rule by Aesthetics’. The book talks about the role the state plays in everyday lives of the poor and how urban aesthetics often supersedes inclusivity in the Indian city. Asher contrasts the powerful influence in Delhi of property-owning citizens as represented through the Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) with the travails of the property less in the city, and their displacement from public land.

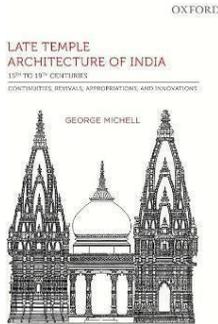


Play

Dr. Asher Ghertner is an interdisciplinary scholar who uses the contemporary politics of slum demolition and urban renewal in India to challenge conventional theories of economic transition, city planning and political rule. He previously taught at the London School of Economics and is currently an Assistant Professor in Geography and Director of the South Asian Studies Program at Rutgers University. He is the author and editor of three books and has written widely on subaltern urbanism, environmental politics, aesthetic governmentality, property, and the uses and limits of gentrification theory.



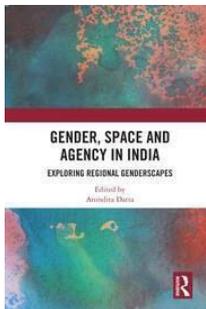
**Episode 6:** Sunaina Shah talks to George Michelle on his book ‘**Late Temple Architecture of India, 15th to 19th Centuries**’.



Sunaina Shah talks to George Michelle on his book ‘Late Temple Architecture of India, 15th to 19th Centuries’. This book is the first wide-ranging overview of temple architecture in the 500-year period that overlaps with the authority of the Sultanates, the Mughals, and the British and has been largely excluded from scholarly pursuit.

George Michell is Professorial Fellow at the School of Architecture, Building and Planning, University of Melbourne. He is a leading scholar on art and architecture in South Asia. His research has mainly concentrated on the Deccan, Bengal, Gujarat and, most recently, southern India. The projects have varied from surveys of town planning and Islamic buildings to detailed studies of temple architecture and sculpture. He is also a lecturer at universities and museums throughout the USA, Europe, India, and Australia.

**Episode 7:** Rajshree Rajmohan talks to Anindita Datta on her book "**Gender, Space and Agency in India.**'



Rajshree Rajmohan talks to Anindita Datta on her book "Gender, Space and Agency in India' This edited volume is a set of eleven insightful chapters by eminent researchers, each exploring links between gender space and agency across a diverse geographical context in India. The narratives are based on field studies and highlight not just the power of space in scripting gender, but also reinforced gendered spaces of power in a society marked by deep seated social divisions.

Anindita Datta is an Associate Professor at the Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics. With over 20 years of teaching experience, she has published consistently in international peer-reviewed journals with interdisciplinary perspectives; served as a member on the international editorial boards for Gender, Place and Culture and Social and Cultural Geography; and is also a member of the Steering Committee, International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on Gender and Geography.



**Episode 8: ‘Rajshree in conversation with Dr. Ghazala Jamil, on her book ‘Accumulation by Segregation: Muslim Localities in Delhi’**



Rajshree in conversation with Dr. Ghazala Jamil, on her book ‘Accumulation by Segregation: Muslim Localities in Delhi’, published by the Oxford University Press in 2017. The book explores the processes of creation and articulation of social identities of Muslims in Delhi and spatial components of identification like residential segregation, interaction with public spaces and institutions, and the socio-political positionality of Muslims in the urban social fabric. It maps the landscape of discrimination in Delhi's neighbourhoods and analyzes how such fractured geographies are created.



Ghazala Jamil is an Assistant Professor at the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She has earlier taught at the Department of Social Work, University of Delhi, and School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. Her current research interests are around materiality and spatiality of culture, urbanism, minority rights, and subaltern feminism.

**Episode 9: Sunaina Shah talks to Ebba Koch on the book titled ‘The Mughal Empire from Jahangir to Shah Jahan: Art, Architecture, Politics, Law and Literature’.**



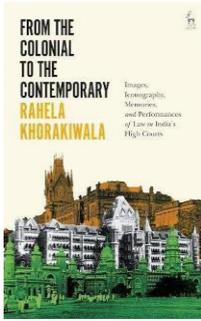
Sunaina Shah talks to Ebba Koch on the book titled ‘The Mughal Empire from Jahangir to Shah Jahan: Art, Architecture, Politics, Law and Literature’. The book is edited by Ebba in collaboration with Ali Anooshahr and published in 2019. It is a collective volume of articles written by 14 eminent scholars, and it takes a multidisciplinary approach to bring together historical, literary, architectural, and social studies in order to form a more nuanced multidisciplinary understanding of the least studied period of the Mughal empire in India.



Dr. Ebba Koch is a leading scholar and an authority on architecture, art and court culture of the Mughals of South Asia and their connections to Central Asia, Iran and Europe. She has published extensively on the subject, and has taught at the Universities of Vienna, Oxford and Harvard.



**Episode 10:** Arul Paul talks to Dr. Rahela Khorakiwala, author of the book **'From the Colonial to the Contemporary': Images, Iconography, Memories, and Performances of Law**'.

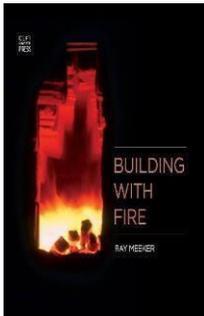


Arul Paul talks to Dr. Rahela Khorakiwala, author of the book *From the Colonial to the Contemporary: Images, Iconography, Memories, and Performances of Law in India's High Courts*. In this book, Dr. Rahela traces the remnants of the colonial pasts apparent in the practice and performance of law in the high courts of India at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras. She argues that the iconographic identity of these courts helps preserve these historical notions of justice as evidenced in the contemporary perceptions of the court personnel.



Dr. Rahela Khorakiwala completed her MPhil/ PhD from Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi, and has, in the past, worked with the World Bank for a project in Kabul, the Ministry of External Affairs on an international maritime dispute, and the law offices of Federal & Company in Mumbai. Presently, she is a Senior Resident Fellow at Vidhi and leads the work for Vidhi Maharashtra. Dr. Rahela has several publications to her credit, including contributions to the *Indian Law Review* and the *Asian Journal of Law and Society*

**Episode 11:** Sunaina Shah talks to Ray Meekar, author and photographer of the book **'Building with Fire'**.

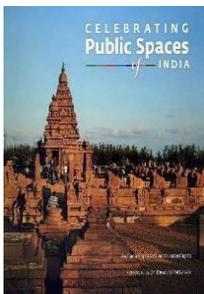


Sunaina Shah talks to Ray Meekar, author and photographer of the book *Building with Fire*, published by the CEPT University Press. The book is a compilation of Meekar's best studio ceramics, with some essays that accompanied his show catalogs.

The title 'Building with Fire, is meant to underline a technique where fire is introduced into the construction processes as 'cement', for bonding building elements together permanently. Born in New York, Ray Meekar lives and works in Puducherry, India where he founded Golden Bridge Pottery (GBP) with Deborah Smith in 1971. Pottery has remained significant in Meekar's prolific practice which ranges from modest utilitarian ceramics to monumental sculptural installations and kiln buildings/homes, a result of a fourteen-year experiment in developing fire stabilized mud buildings.



**Episode 12:** Arul Paul talks to Anshuman Gupta on his book **'Celebrating Public Spaces in India'** co-authored with Archana Gupta.

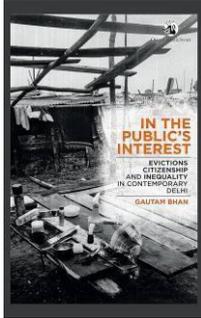


Arul Paul talks to Anshuman Gupta on his book 'Celebrating Public Spaces in India' co-authored with Archana Gupta. The book explores the architectural identity and socio-cultural-functional strength of urban public spaces by analysing fifty vibrant landmarks from across the country.

Anshuman Gupta, co-founder of The Foundation of the Indian Cities, works as Vice-President, Head of Projects (South Asia), at Deutsche Bank AG. As an architect and an accomplished corporate real estate professional, he has travelled and worked across India. He is a strong proponent of the sustainable approach to design, and he spares time to research and write about urbanization and cities.



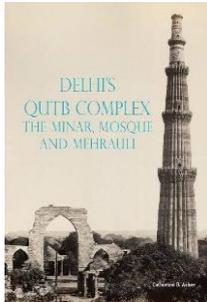
**Episode 13:** Arul Paul talks to Gautam Bhan on his book, ‘**In the Public’s Interest** – Evictions, Citizenship and Inequality in Contemporary Delhi.’



In the first episode of the Book-a-Week Podcast, Arul Paul talks to Gautam Bhan on his book, ‘**In the Public’s Interest** – Evictions, Citizenship and Inequality in Contemporary Delhi.’ The book situates acts of evictions in Delhi in the context of debates on informality, Citizenship & good governance, and judicial urbanism.

Part of the School of Human Development at Indian Institute for Human Settlement, Gautam Bhan teaches, researches and writes on the politics of urban poverty and inequality, urban and planning theory, housing, and identity and social practice. He also anchors the role of IIHS as a National Resource Centre, with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation and is part of IIHS’ work in affordable housing policy and practice. He has been an active part of urban social movements on sexuality as well as housing rights and currently advises and trains governmental agencies at national levels on housing policy.

**Episode 14:** Sunaina Shah talks to Catherine about the book, ‘**The Qutb Complex: The Minar, Mosque and Mehrauli**’.



Delhi’s Qutb Complex is one of the most iconic sites that has encountered several changes since its inception to the present day. Catherine Asher’s book ‘**The Qutb Complex: The Minar, Mosque and Mehrauli**’ traces these historical changes by analysing the site’s monuments, patrons, inscriptions, and history. In this conversation, Sunaina Shah talks to Catherine about the book and the modifications and appropriations that the Qutb complex site has undergone across several years of changing dynasties and political powers.

Catherine Asher is a specialist in Islamic and Indian art, well known for her work on the Mughal dynasty and the patronage of their Muslim and non-Muslim successors and predecessors. Her other interest is in the shrines that develop around deceased Sufi saints, and the appeal such complexes have for devotees. Her books include *Architecture of Mughal India* (2008), *India before Europe* (co-authored with Cynthia Talbot, 2006) and *Perceptions of South Asia’s Visual Past* (1994).

