

## Biography Yasmeen Lari

\* 1941

born in Dera Ghazi Khan, Punjab, British India (now Pakistan)

1940–50s

Queen Mary's School, Adabistan-e-Soofia School, and Kinnaird College, Lahore, Pakistan

1963

Graduation from Oxford School of Architecture (now Oxford Brookes University), UK

1964

Founder of Lari Associates, Architects & Urban Designers

Co-founder, Karachi Artists' Gallery (KAG), the first permanent exhibition and studio space in Pakistan

1980

Co-founder and CEO of the Heritage Foundation of Pakistan

## Selected Projects

1965

Mr. Parvaiz Bungalow, Karachi, Pakistan

1968

M. Ziaullah Khan House, Karachi, Pakistan

1969

Naseeruddin Khan House, Karachi, Pakistan

1969–70

Naval Housing, Karachi, Pakistan

1973

Lari House, Karachi, Pakistan

1975

Angoori Bagh Housing, Lahore, Pakistan

1978–87

Research project with Michael Jansen at the archeological site Mohenjo-daro, Pakistan

1979–89

Documentation of traditional wind-catcher houses, Thatta, Pakistan

1980

Lines Area Redevelopment Program, Karachi, Pakistan

1981

Army Mud Barracks, Bahawalpur, Pakistan

1982–89

FTC – Finance and Trade Centre, Karachi, Pakistan

1984–91

PSO House, Karachi, Pakistan

1997

ABN Amro Bank, Karachi, Pakistan

2000–

KaravanKarachi (later KaravanPakistan), awareness program for heritage preservation

2003–05

Saving of Sheesh Mahal ceiling at the UNESCO World Heritage Site Lahore Fort, Lahore, Pakistan

2005

Post-earthquake rehabilitation, Siran Valley, Swat, Pakistan – development of the KaravanGhar

2009

Community kitchens in Shaikh Shahzad Camp, Mardan, Pakistan

2010

Post-flood rehabilitation in Swat and Sindh, Pakistan – development of the Green KaravanGhar

Green Women's Centre in Khairpur, Sindh, Pakistan

Beginning of damage assessment at Denso Hall, Karachi, Pakistan

2011

Damage assessment of Sethi House, Peshawar, Pakistan

Damage assessment and conservation of the UNESCO

World Heritage Site Makli Necropolis, Sindh, Pakistan

Development of the smokeless Pakistan Chulah (Pakistani stove)

2016–

Zero Carbon Cultural Centre, Makli, Thatta, Pakistan

2019–

Rahguzar, walking street, Karachi, Pakistan

Cleaning of Denso Hall, Karachi, Pakistan

2020–

Zero Carbon Channel on YouTube

2022–  
Post-flood rehabilitation in Sindh, prefabrication of Lari OctaGreens (LOG) at Zero Carbon Cultural Centre, Makli, Pakistan

### **Awards**

2002  
UN Recognition Award for promotion of culture and peace

2006  
Sitara-e-Imtiaz, Star of Excellence, Pakistan

2011  
First Wonder Woman of the Year Award

2014  
Hilal-e-Imtiaz, Crescent of Excellence, Pakistan

2016  
Fukoka Art and Culture Prize, Japan

2018  
UN Habitat Award for Pakistan Chulah

2020  
Jane Drew Prize of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), London, UK

2021  
Honorary Degree in Architecture, Politecnico di Milano, Milan, Italy

### **Positions and Memberships**

1969  
Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), UK

1974  
Project Coordinator, Slum Improvement, Karachi Development Authority, Karachi, Pakistan

1975  
Appointment by UNICEF to report on flood-affected areas of Pakistan

1980  
Director, Heritage Foundation of Pakistan, Karachi, Pakistan

1980–83  
President, Institute of Architects, Pakistan (IAP)

1981

Member, Expert Group of Government of Pakistan on National Housing Policy, Islamabad, Pakistan

1982–85

Member, Majlis-e-Shura (Federal Advisory Council), Islamabad, Pakistan

1983

Member, Selection Board for Headquarters of League of Arab States, Tunisia

1983–90

Member, Advisory Council, Ministry of Finance Pakistan

1983–85

Deputy Chairperson, Architects Regional Council of Asia (ARCASIA)

1983–86

Chairperson, Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners (PCATP)

1984

Coordinator, Council of Architects and Town Planners of Islamic Countries  
Member, Board of Advisors and Keynote Speaker, First Asian Congress of Architects, Manila, Philippines

1987

Member, Pakistan delegation, South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Conference on Women, Islamabad, Pakistan

1988

Member, Karachi Aesthetic Control Committee, Government of Sindh, Pakistan  
Member, UN Habitat Group on Land Sharing, Bangkok, Thailand

1988–90

Member, Academic Council, NED University of Engineering & Technology, Karachi, Pakistan

1992

Member, Pakistani delegation to the Second International Symposium on Mohenjo-daro, Karachi, Pakistan

1992–93

Vice-Chairperson, National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA), Lahore, Pakistan

1992–94

Member, Board of Governors, National College of Arts (NCA), Lahore, Pakistan (also 2004–2006)

1993

Member, Sindh Chief Minister's Aesthetic Committee Vice-Chairperson, Pakistan National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

1995–97

Member Syndicate, NED University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi, Pakistan

1996–99

Expert Member, Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee, Government of Sindh, Pakistan

2002–03

National Project Co-Coordinator, UNESCO

2002–05

Member, Board of Advisors, International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA), Virginia, US

2003–05

National Advisor at UNESCO Heritage Site Lahore Fort, Lahore, Pakistan  
Board of Governors, National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan

2018

Founding Chair, International Network for Traditional Building, Architecture & Urbanism (INTBAU), Pakistan

2021

Trustee of Transparency International Pakistan

### **Conferences, Lectures, Teaching, and Exhibitions**

1965

"Some Thoughts on House Design," presented at the Karachi Artists' Gallery (KAG), Karachi, Pakistan

1966

"Our Heritage in Muslim Architecture," presented at the Second National Seminar on Muslim Architecture, Islamabad, Pakistan  
Lecturer, School of Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan

1968

"Architecture in West Pakistan—Islamabad," presented at the Third National Seminar on Muslim Architecture, Dhaka, Bangladesh  
"Museum Architecture," presented at the All-Pakistan Museum Conference, Dhaka, Bangladesh

1975

"Slums and Squatter Settlements — Their Role and Improvement Strategy," presented at RCD seminar on Urban Development and Housing, Islamabad, Pakistan

1976

Speaker, Habitat Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, Canada

1978

“Housing – A Personal View,” presented at the UN Regional Conference for the Economic Commission of Western Asia (ECWA), Amman, Jordan

Seminar for the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, Aiglemont, France

1980

Keynote Speaker, Aga Khan Award Seminar on Places of Public Gathering in Islam in Amman, Jordan

1981

“Lines Area Resettlement Project,” presented at the seminar on Housing Design in Islamic Cultures at MIT, Cambridge, MA, US

“Search for Identity,” presented at the Conference on Islamic Art, Architecture and Calligraphy, Peshawar, Pakistan

“Thatta: The Beginning of a Case Study,” presented at the seminar on Architecture in Archaeology and History at Mohenjo-daro, Pakistan

Guest Faculty Member, MIT-Harvard seminar, Cambridge, MA, US

1982

“Identity and Heritage,” presented at the All Pakistan Science Conference, Bahawalpur, Pakistan

MIT-Harvard seminar on Housing Design in Islamic Cultures, Karachi, Pakistan

Participation at 2nd Architectural Venice Biennial “Architettura nei Paesi Islamici,” La Biennale di Venezia, Venice, Italy

1983

Chairperson, Planning Commission Working Group on Housing for Low Income Groups

1984

“Expanding Role of an Architect in the Asian Context,” presented at the First Asian Congress of Architects, Manila, Philippines

MIT-Harvard seminar on Architecture in the Spirit of Islam, 2nd Session, Cambridge, MA, US

1985

Participant, WHO/UNEP Working Group on Environmental Health Aspects of Housing and Urban Planning, Moscow, Russia

“Women in Development,” presented at the Conference of Women from Pakistan and Bangladesh, Islamabad, Pakistan

1986

Only architect invited to Conference of Intellectuals and Thinkers convened by the President of Pakistan, Islamabad, Pakistan

1988

“Professional Practice and Education of Architects in Pakistan,” presented at the Conference on Development and Design in South and Southeast Asia, organized by the University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China

“The Lines Area Project: A Concept in Land Sharing,” presented at the United Nations Group on Land Sharing Conference, Bangkok, Thailand

1990

“Architecture and Politics, and the Politics of Architecture,” presented at the XVII World Congress of the International Union of Architects (UIA), Montréal, Canada

1991

Participant, UNDP & UNCHS Expert Panel on Karachi Masterplan — Beyond 2000, Karachi, Pakistan

2000

Speaker, International Conference of Architects, Mumbai, India

2001

International Conference “Heritage, Urban Space and Identity,” Karachi, Pakistan

2003

Keynote Speech, UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policy

2015

Invited to International Experts Meeting on Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management in Tokyo and Sendai, Japan

Chicago Biennial for Architecture, Chicago, IL, US

2016

Participation and Lecture at the Exhibition *Creation from Catastrophe*, Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), London, UK

Speaker, Oslo Architectural Triennale, Oslo, Norway

2019

Group exhibition *Critical Care: Architecture for a Broken Planet*, Architekturzentrum Wien, Vienna, Austria

Keynote Speaker, International Conference on Changing Values, Vienna Biennale for Change 2019, Architekturzentrum Wien, Vienna, Austria

2021

Impact Lecture, “Barefoot Social Architecture,” National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) Digital Fabrication, ETH Zürich, Zurich, Switzerland

2022

The Mumford Lecture, “The Architect for the Poorest of the Poor,” The Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture, The City College of New York, New York, NY, US

Talk, “Saving Humanity and Saving the Planet,” RIBA, London, UK

Lecture, “Rights-based Development for Climate Migrants Through Barefoot Social

Architecture," Nabeel Hamdi Human Rights Festival 2022, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK  
Sir Arthur Marshall Visiting Professor in Sustainable Design, Department of Architecture, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK  
Inaugural Lecture, "Climate Migrants. Making Communities Self-Reliant After the Catastrophic Pakistan Floods," University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK  
Visiting Professor at the Department of History of Architecture and Building Archaeology, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria

2023

Solo exhibition, "Yasmeen Lari: Architecture for the Future," Architekturzentrum Wien, Vienna, Austria

### **Selected Publications by Yasmeen Lari**

*Lahore. Illustrated City Guide.* Karachi: Heritage Foundation of Pakistan, 2003.

*Karachi. Illustrated City Guide.* Karachi: Heritage Foundation of Pakistan, 2000.

With A. F. Baillie. *Kurrachee: Past, Present and Future.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998.

With Suhail Z. Lari. *The Jewel of Sindh. Sama Monuments on Makli Hill.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997.

With Mihail S. Lari. *The Dual City. Karachi during the Raj.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, Karachi: Heritage Foundation of Pakistan, 1996.

*Traditional Architecture of Thatta.* Photographs by Suhail Z. Lari, Karachi: Heritage Foundation of Pakistan, 1989.

*Challenges of Transformation. Built Environment in Islamic Countries, 1<sup>st</sup> Conference of Architects and Town Planners of Islamic countries. Papers.* Karachi: Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners, 1985.

With Suhail Z. Lari. "Recreational and Tourist Complexes. An Overview." In *Architecture and Community. Building in the Islamic World Today. The Aga Khan Award for Architecture*, 52–54, edited by Renata Holod, New York: Aperture, 1983.

"The Lines Area Resettlement Project, Karachi." In *Designing in Islamic Cultures 2. Urban Housing*, edited by Margaret Bentley Sevckenko, 56–64, Cambridge, MA: Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, 1982.

"Slums are not a Lost Cause." *Pakistan Economist*, 1975.