

Ar. Ishita Chauhan

Architect & Assistant Professor of Architecture

Ahmedabad, India | +91 98250 64130 | ishita.chauhan@studio.example | studio-mitti.in

PROFILE

Architect and educator working on climate-responsive housing and heritage reuse in western India. Her studio has completed 22 projects using earth, lime and passive cooling.

Research interests: Passive cooling · earth construction · heritage reuse · affordable housing

PRACTICE & ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Principal Architect · 2016 – Present

Studio Mitti, Ahmedabad

- 22 built projects: homes, a rural school and two heritage mill conversions.
- Earth-block school in Kutch cut summer indoor temperatures by 6 °C without air-conditioning (sample data).

Assistant Professor (visiting) · 2018 – Present

Sabarmati School of Planning and Design

- Run the fourth-year housing studio and the climate-design elective.

Architect · 2014 – 2016

Lime & Stone Architects

- Project architect for a 120-unit affordable housing scheme.

EDUCATION

M.Arch., Sustainable Architecture · 2012 – 2014

Sabarmati School of Planning and Design

B.Arch. · 2007 – 2012

Sabarmati School of Planning and Design

Thesis prize for a courtyard housing cluster

SELECTED PROJECTS

Kutch Earth School · 2021

Studio Mitti

- Compressed earth blocks, wind catchers and shaded courts for 300 pupils.

Mill No. 4 Adaptive Reuse · 2023

Studio Mitti

- A 1930s textile mill turned into studios and a public library.

GRANTS, AWARDS & HONOURS

- Young Architect Award, national architecture foundation (2022)
- Shortlist, Asian sustainable building awards (2023)

TEACHING

- Housing Design Studio (B.Arch. Year 4)

- Climate-Responsive Design (elective)
- Building with Earth (workshop series)

PUBLICATIONS

Iyer, M., **Chauhan, I.**, Okafor, D., & Fischer, A. (2026). Revisiting courtyard housing typologies. *Urban Design and Heritage Review*, 11(9), 212–232.

Chauhan, I., & Menon, V. (2026). Measuring passive cooling in hot-dry climates. *Proceedings of the Asian Conference on Sustainable Buildings*, pp. 112–122.

Kim, J., & **Chauhan, I.** (2026). Scaling walkable neighbourhoods for small cities. *Built Environment Quarterly*, 28(11), 162–175.

Fischer, A., & **Chauhan, I.** (2025). Designing for courtyard housing typologies. *Proceedings of the Asian Conference on Sustainable Buildings*, pp. 798–809.

Okafor, D., & **Chauhan, I.** (2025). Evidence on earth-block construction. *Journal of Tropical Architecture*, 20(5), 430–440.

Kim, J., **Chauhan, I.**, & Mensah, K. (2025). A study of adaptive reuse of heritage mills. *Proceedings of the Asian Conference on Sustainable Buildings*, pp. 491–502.

Kim, J., **Chauhan, I.**, Mensah, K., & Fischer, A. (2024). Designing for passive cooling in hot-dry climates. *Urban Design and Heritage Review*, 34(11), 875–886.

Haddad, N., Banerjee, P., & **Chauhan, I.** (2024). Designing for courtyard housing typologies. *Built Environment Quarterly*, 47(2), 109–130.

Haddad, N., & **Chauhan, I.** (2024). Evidence on walkable neighbourhoods for small cities. *Proceedings of the Asian Conference on Sustainable Buildings*, pp. 155–167.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

- Invited talk: “Evidence on passive cooling in hot-dry climates”, Urban Design and Heritage Review, Boston, 2026.
- Contributed talk: “Designing for daylighting in classrooms”, Proceedings of the Asian Conference on Sustainable Buildings, Toronto, 2026.
- Poster: “Rethinking passive cooling in hot-dry climates”, Symposium on Tropical Architecture, Berlin, 2025.
- Contributed talk: “A study of earth-block construction”, Urban Design and Heritage Review, Hyderabad, 2025.
- Keynote: “Scaling walkable neighbourhoods for small cities”, Built Environment Quarterly, Berlin, 2024.
- Keynote: “Scaling walkable neighbourhoods for small cities”, Symposium on Tropical Architecture, New Delhi, 2024.
- Keynote: “Scaling courtyard housing typologies”, Proceedings of the Asian Conference on Sustainable Buildings, Bengaluru, 2023.
- Keynote: “New approaches to walkable neighbourhoods for small cities”, Proceedings of the Asian Conference on Sustainable Buildings, Toronto, 2023.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Registered architect, national council of architecture (registration on file)
- Jury member, student design competitions (2019–present)

SKILLS

Design: AutoCAD, Revit, Rhino, SketchUp, Enscape

Performance: Climate Consultant, Ladybug, daylight simulation

Languages: Gujarati (native), Hindi, English

REFERENCES

Prof. D. Shah

Dean, Sabarmati School of Planning and Design

d.shah@school.edu

Ar. R. Doshi

Founder, Lime & Stone Architects

r.doshi@firm.example