Event Brief on

Expert Lecture on "Udvada and Zoroastrian Tapestry"

Date: 9th September, 2025
Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Venue: Seminar Hall, Ground Floor, IDPT

Course: Urban Foundation Studio
Course Faculty: Prof. Persi Engineer, Prof. Hardik Gandhi, Prof. Kuldeepsinh Jadeja
Organized by: Mitraj Sarvajanik Institute of Design, Planning & Technology, Sarvajanik University
Target Students: All Students of M.Plan. (URP) & M.Arch.(UD) – 1st Year
Total Attendees: 25

No. of Students	No. of Faculties	Other Invitees	**Total**
21	4	0	**25**

Overview:

The Institute of Design, Planning & Technology (IDPT), Sarvajanik University, Surat organized an Expert Lecture by renowned architect and heritage conservationist Ar. Jamshid (Jimmy) Bhiwandiwala.

The session highlighted Ar. Bhiwandiwala's extraordinary journey in securing Heritage Town status for Udvada, the sacred seat of the Iranshah Atash Behram, a revered pilgrimage site for the Parsi community worldwide. With unmatched perseverance, he has led efforts to conserve Udvada's 300+ historic wells, protect its ecological systems, and preserve its spiritual identity against the pressures of urbanization and industrialization.

The lecture covered a wide spectrum of themes, including heritage-led urban planning, water heritage conservation, community engagement, and sustainable heritage tourism development. Students and faculty gained first-hand insights into the challenges and opportunities of conserving culturally sensitive urban areas.

This event not only inspired participants to view urban planning through the lens of cultural stewardship but also strengthened IDPT's vision of shaping future professionals who can balance development with heritage preservation.

Speaker Details:

The Session was conducted by an eminent speaker **Prof. Jamshid Bhiwandiwalla, Principal, Aditya College of Architecture, Mumbai**

Jamshid (Jimmy) Bhiwandiwlla, an Architect by profession, has a Master's in Architecture as well as in Ancient Indian Culture, he has been a Recipient of the MASA Best Teacher Award for the subject of Humanities in the year 2010. His interest in culture and heritage is not confined to academics but also his professional work. He has participated in numerous Undergrad and master's studios, guiding thesis students with an emphasis on Heritage Conservation and development in historic cities. His interest in urban studies also led him to participate in the European Union Erasmus Plus research project for 'Building Resilient Urban Communities' (BReUCom) Program which focused on various aspects of Historic cities and their water resources between the year 2018-2021.

His expertise on water resilience led him to contribute a chapter "Urban water Resilience" in the book "Resilience and Southern Urbanism: towards a New Paradigm", a Routledge publication. He was also a partner to a yearlong Fellowship Research program on Urban Water Resilience for the city of Mumbai funded by the Kamla Raheja Institute of Architecture and environmental studies. He has been part of numerous workshops nationally, whereas internationally he participated in the European union funded Asia Link Programme with Ecole de La Villette, Paris as well as was Jury member to the annual workshop conducted at the Universita IUAV di Venezia and was also part of a housing workshop with the University of Naples Federico II, Italy in 2010. Equally old is his independent Architecture practice associated with Heritage Conservation, largely restoring community institutions like Fire Temples, Convalescent Homes, etc. However, his major area of study is the Conservation and Management Plan for the Heritage Pilgrim town of Udvada and Sanjan, Gujarat where he was officially appointed as the consulting Architect for the Gujarat Govt. Presently, he is Member Appointed on the Heritage Conservation Cell of the Udvada Area Development Authority. Further his area of expertise in Adaptive Reuse, whereby he has curated interactive exhibits in Heritage structures such the Zoroastrian Information Centre, Udvada again for the Gujarat Govt. as well as converting the birthplaces of Sir Jamshetji Jejeebhoy, Sir Jamshedji Tata and Dadabhai Naoroji into Memorial Museums in Navsari, Gujarat.

Outline of Session

10:00 AM - 10:10 AM – Welcome Address & Introduction to Speaker and Topic
10:10 AM to 12:30 PM – Talk on Zoroastrianism & Udvada
12:30 PM to 12:55 PM – Q&A Session
12:55 PM – 1:00 PM – Vote of Thanks

Key Topics Covered:

1. **Heritage Towns & Their Significance**
2. **The Udvada Conservation Journey**
3. **Water Heritage & Ecological Protection**
4. **Balancing Faith, Culture, and Urban Development**
5. **Community Engagement in Conservation**
6. **Sustainable Heritage Tourism**
7. **Architect's Role as a Cultural Custodian**

Outcome:

The Session Enhanced knowledge of urban development theories and gave an attempt to Practical understanding of urbanization trends. Interaction with an expert in the field helped in Networking and academic engagement opportunities

Finance:

Event Sponsored by: IDPT
Total Expenses Incurred: 7,000/-

Photographs from Event




Surat, Gujarat, India
35, Athawa Ln, Adarsh Society, Athwa, Surat, Gujarat
India
Lat 21.181809° Long 72.80899°
09/09/2025 11:23 AM GMT +05:30
Google




GPS Map Camera
Surat, Gujarat, India
35, Athawa Ln, Adarsh Society, Athwa, Surat,
Gujarat 395001, India
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Attendance Report

Sr. No.	Enrolment No.	Name of Attendee
M.Plan. (Urban & Regional Planning) – 1st Year		
1	DP25MUUP001	ADROJA SMIT CHIRAG
2	DP25MUUP002	BHANUSALI RAJ KAUSHAL
3	DP25MUUP003	BHAVSAR YASHASVI KETANBHAI
4	DP25MUUP004	CHARAN KHUSHAL
5	DP25MUUP005	CHAUDHARI ANKITKUMAR BHARATBHAI
6	DP25MUUP006	DESAI PREET KALPESHBHAI
7	DP25MUUP007	GHASKATA DARSHAN VINODBHAI
8	DP25MUUP008	PARIKH KUSH JUGNU
9	DP25MUUP009	PATEL KINJAL RAJESHBHAI
10	DP25MUUP010	PATEL MEET ARVINDBHAI
11	DP25MUUP011	PATEL ROSHNI THAKORBHAI
12	DP25MUUP012	PATEL SHRUTI KAUSHIKKUMAR
13	DP25MUUP013	PATEL SHUBHAM PRAKASHBHAI
14	DP25MUUP014	SHAH BHAVYA ASHISH
15	DP25MUUP015	TAILOR ADITI SANJIV
16	DP25MUUP016	RABARI HARDIK RAGHUBHAI
M.Arch. (Urban Design) – 1st Year		
17	DP25MRUD001	PATEL BHAVIKUMARI KISHORBHAI
18	DP25MRUD002	PATEL NIDHI PARIMALBHAI
19	DP25MRUD003	PATEL RUSHANG KISHORBHAI
20	DP25MRUD004	RANA DENISH KAMLESHKUMAR
21	DP25MRUD005	SUTHAR ANKITKUMAR RAMESHWAR
Faculty Attendant		
1		PROF. VAHHBIZ ENGINEER
2		PROF. HARDIK GANDHI
3		PROF. ZEENIA ENGINEER
4		PROF. KULDEEP SINH JADEJA