

## Morphogenesis: The Architecture of Sustainability

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After completing our Architecture studies at The School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi, we proceeded to spend a long stint at the The Architectural Association, London where Manit pursued his interest in the study of nature, evolution and design processes in association with John Frazer. He also acquired a degree in Energy and Environment Studies with Simos Yannas. Sonali studied Housing and Urbanism with George Fiori as well as studied at 'The Design Research Lab' with Jeff Kipnis. Bringing together our bouquet of interests we started Morphogenesis in 1996 with a vision of defining a sustainable architecture for contemporary India, for a generation that we termed as a 'people of almost somewhere'.

We understand that we are often working in an environment with limited resources. Our approach to creativity is inspired by the evolutionary processes in nature and **our belief in sustainability shapes all our projects and** forms the consistent theme in our designs. We deploy passive strategies by responding to the local climate and ecology and address comfort, safety, livability parameters and are mindful that projects remain economically viable and globally pertinent.

With a **local, socio-cultural response** to design, our results are more often than not, **passive solutions**, which further help to reduce energy and water dependence by increasing the number of comfortable habitable hours with minimum reliance on mechanical means. **We have successfully created exemplars that consume 70% lesser energy than established green rating benchmarks**, without incurring additional cost. Optimization of all resources is a pre-requisite to our architecture today.

We believe that every project should establish itself as a benchmark for innovative building design by thinking systemically about Sustainability. Architecturally **we celebrate identity and diversity** versus visual homogeneity. We think of our buildings and cities as Bazaars, places of human interaction along with being places of human habitation. It is this all-inclusive nature of design with a unique focus on passive and low energy architecture that we believe in as being the new emergent Indian architecture.

We believe that Architecture and design is not only a profession- it is a way of life. The commitment required is paramount as there is a tremendous responsibility to one-self, the environment and society at large. We believe the opportunity is immense, the opportunity to define a new emergent Indian architecture – **An Architecture of almost somewhere, for a people, for a people of almost somewhere.**