

AASHNA DAGA/ aashnad@mit.edu
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EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Master of Science in Architecture Studies and Urbanism (SMArchS)
Cambridge, MA, USA

09/24- 06/26

Kamla Raheja Vidyaniidhi Institute of Architecture and Environmental Studies (KRVI)

Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch), 8.2 CGPA, Distinction
Mumbai, India

08/15 to 10/20

TU Delft/ KRVI Exchange Program

Ijburg Dwelling Studio- Dick Van Gameren and Rohan Verma
Delft, Netherlands

07/19

WORK

Research Assistant

Venice Biennale of Architecture 2025
MIT Department of Architecture
Assisted in curating and producing exhibition materials for the MIT Architecture showcase at the 2025 Venice Biennale, including visualizations, modeling, and graphic design for The Equitably Resilient City: Solidarities and Struggles in the Face of Climate Crisis with Prof Zachary Lamb and Prof Lawrence Vale.

01/25 to 03/25

Teaching Assistant

- Beginner's Guide to Visualizing Data and Life-Like Processes in Digital Art
MIT Department of Architecture
Supported faculty Mattej Vakula in course logistics, student coordination, and resource management; facilitated conceptual and practical skill building sessions and academic communication.

01/25 to 05/25

- A Global History of Architecture by Mark Jarzombek
MIT Department of Architecture and Edx

09/24 to 12/24

Teaching Assistant

- NMIMS Balwant Sheth School of Architecture (BSSA)
Mumbai, India
TA for Architectural Design Studio led by Tutor Kalpit Ashar for studio Form Follows Everyday Life- Typologies for the Civic Realm
- Assisted in guiding students in design and representation, facilitated weekly reviews, assignments and lectures, designed and developed a publication of studio work.

06/23 to 11/23

Architect

Abha Narain Lambah Associates (ANLA)
Mumbai, India

- Project Architect for redevelopment and conservation of Visitor Facilities at the monument of Gateway of India, Mumbai. (*design development, technical resolution, construction documents, client presentations, stakeholder engagement and co-ordination with 21 state/ central government departments, consultants and vendors for site execution*)
- Project Architect for redevelopment of Dadar Flower Market, Mumbai (*concept design, client presentations, approvals and government co-ordination*)
- Developed masterplans and conceptual design proposals for a wide range of programs including cultural, institutional and housing projects for multiple government tenders, empanelments and 3 competitions
- Graphics, print and publication design of documents for 3 UNESCO World Heritage Nomination dossiers.

11/21 to 02/24

Researcher

Chal Chal Agency
Mumbai, India

- Field research, surveying, mapping, photo documentation and generation of detailed 2D and 3D drawings of movable devices across the city to investigate spatial dynamics of Indian urbanity as a tool to gain agency over the administrative and spatial construction of territories in the city, for the research project Atlas of (In)Constant Infrastructures under the DXD Sanskruti Fellowship 2022

02/22 to 08/22

Junior Architect

05/21 to 10/21

RMA Architects (Rahul Mehrotra Architects)

Mumbai, India

- Landscape design development for a private residence at Conoor.
- Design development, technical resolutions, construction drawings, site inspection and client presentations for a private art foundation and residency at Alibaug.
- Design development and working drawings for JSW School of Public Policy at IIM Ahmedabad.

Design Apprentice

12/18 to 05/19

Sangath/ Vastu Shilpa Foundation (Balkrishna Doshi)

Ahmedabad, India

- Developed pre and post-occupancy study of LIC Housing Colony (Bimanagar) through surveys at site and preparation of representation drawings and a short film; design of Ludiya and Aranya housing research panels, team member for preparing construction drawings and detailed models, cataloging and logistics for the Retrospective Exhibition 'Balkrishna Doshi- Architecture for the People at Vitra Design Museum, Germany and subsequent locations of Munich and Vienna.
- Design development, preparation of tender drawings and site inspection for extensions and upgradations to Kanoria Center for Arts, L.D Institute of Indology, Ahmedabad and Tejal House, Baroda under the guidance of Balkrishna Doshi and Khushnu Panthaki Hoof.

Summer Intern

05/18

Mad(e) in Mumbai

Mumbai, India

- Design development, preparation of tender drawings and co-ordination with consultants for public convenience facilities from the Toilet Manifesto for seven cities in Rajasthan under the Government of India Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan program.

HONORS & AWARDS**MIT School of Architecture and Planning Department Fellowship**

/24

Tuition and Stipend Award

KC Mahindra Scholarship for Post Graduate Studies

KC Mahindra Scholarship Trust

Panelist

07/24

Kurula Varkey Design Forum (KVDF) at CEPT University, Ahmedabad, India

Policy in Action Fellow

08/23

Young Leaders for Active Citizenship

Worked on a draft policy brief for a Member of Parliament by evaluating existing policies and schemes at the state and national level through secondary research and stakeholder interviews and identifying short term and long term recommendations.

04/22 to 05/22

Finalist

Unbuilt Exhibition by ArchitectureLive

for undergraduate thesis: The State. The Temple. The Town

/22

Nominee

National Award for Excellence in Architectural Thesis

National Institute of Advanced Studies in Architecture, Regional Zone

/20

First Position

INTACH Heritage Award, National Level

for 'Building Stories Chakrata' Excellence in Documentation of Unprotected Heritage

/19

First Position

Architectural Heritage Award by Council Of Architecture, National Level

for 'Building Stories Chakrata'

/18

Rank 3

Overall Academics

Third Year of B. Arch, KRVIA

/18

Rank 3

Architectural Design 2018

Third Year of B. Arch, KRVIA

	Rank 3 Building Technology 2018 Third Year of B. Arch, KRVIA	/18
PUBLICATION	Drying Rivers and Temple Towns: Tale of Kaveri and Srirangam Social Policy Research Foundation (SPRF) https://sprf.in/photo-archive/drying-rivers-and-temple-towns-tale-of-kaveri-and-srirangam/	06/23
	A Reaction of the Profane to the Action of the Sacred Form Folio by thinkmatter https://formfolio.in/portfolio/a-reaction-of-the-profane-to-the-action-of-sacred-aashna-daga/	05/22
VOLUNTEER, ACTIVITIES, & LEADERSHIP	Communications Manger MIT Graduate Student Council	/24
	Mentor- Applicant Mentorship Program MIT Department of Architecture	/24
	Fabrication Shop Monitor MIT Department of Architecture	/24
	Publicity Officer MIT Housing	/24
	Graphic Design and Research Volunteer - Peoples Archive of Rural India (PARI) Design of graphics and illustrations to communicate data and statistics from published reports for a feature story on womens health and sanitation in India. https://ruralindiaonline.org/en/articles/notes-from-the-pari-library-womens-health/ - Contributed to the library and archives section by developing summaries for published papers.	02/23 to 05/23
	External Juror Kamla Raheja Vidyaniidhi Institute of Architecture and Environmental Studies (KRVIA) for Architectural Design studio titled Structures of Power, Spaces of Collective for semester four students	06/23
	Member of Internship Cell KRVIA	/18
	Student Co-ordinator Memory and Material Workshop by Nitin Barchha KRVIA	/17
	Newsletter Team/ Editorial Committee KRVIA Design, writing and editing of articles; compilation of student design projects	/16
	Member of Waste Management Cell KRVIA Design and implementation of recycle and reuse systems in the studio	/16
	The Production of Home Workshop Led by Dr Renu Desai, examined the theme of housing and the home in the city concerning migrant labor through field research, mapping, case studies and analysis of it's representation in popular culture.	/16
	Earthen Construction Techniques Workshop Hunnarshala Foundation Explored methods of soil identification, analysis and construction techniques	/15

**MEMBERSHIPS &
AFFILIATIONS****Emerging Working Professional**

/24

International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

Member of the National Scientific Committee of Cultural Landscapes and Water Heritage Working Group

Registered Architect

/21

Council Of Architecture (COA), India
CA/2021/131451**SKILLS**

Autodesk Autocad 2D, Adobe Indesign, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Google SketchUp+, Enscape, Vray, MS Office, ArchiCAD, Rhino, Tableau

languages

English (Proficient), Hindi (Native), Marwari (Native), Marathi (Basic), Tamil (Basic).

interpersonal

Multidisciplinary teamwork and collaboration, time management, community engagement, problem solving, public speaking, communication, critical thinking, analysis and research.

co-curricular
interests

Cartography, Art History, Publishing and Print Media, Swimming, Travel, Music, Reading and Writing