# **04.Apr - 28.Aug**Dewan Award for Architecture 2018

# SCHOOL IN THE MARSHES

AN ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL IDEAS COMPETITION

www.Dewan-Award.com



Empowering young architects around the world while responding to design challenges in Iraq

#### **BACKGROUND**

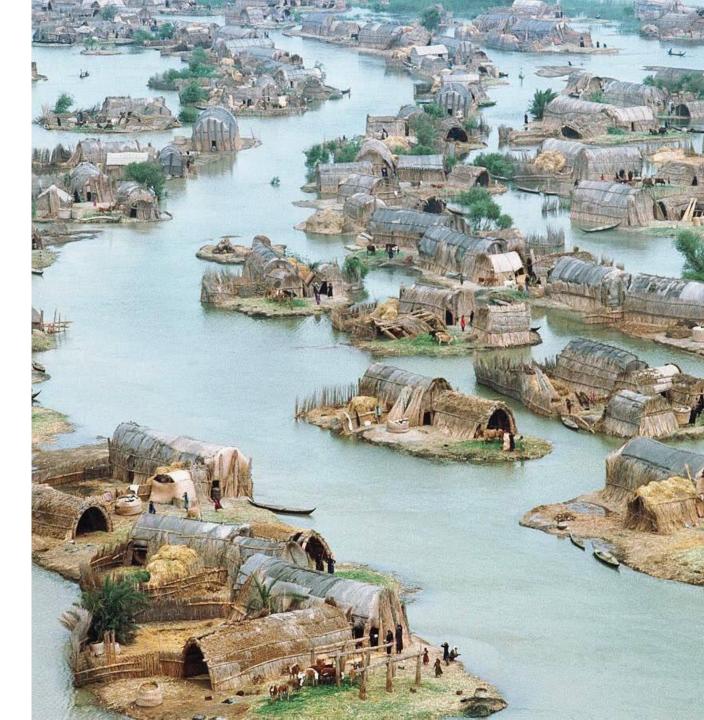
A Typical Marsh Landscape: Villages are built on artificial floating islands by enclosing a piece of swamp and filling it in with reeds and mud. For flood protection, more layers are added each year to strengthen the platform's foundation.

The Iraqi Marshes are a wetland area located in southern Iraq. Historically the marshlands, mainly composed of the separate but adjacent Central, Hawizeh and Hammar Marshes, used to be the largest wetland ecosystem of Western Eurasia. It is a rare aquatic landscape in the desert since 2016 the Mesopotamian marshes are listed as a UNESCO Heritage Site.

Due to the geographical location and ecological factors of the Fertile Crescent, a crescent shape area running from the basins of the Nile in Egypt, northwards along the Mediterranean coast in Palestine and southwards again along the Euphrates and the Tigris towards the Persian Gulf, civilizations were able to develop agricultural and technological programs. The crucial trigger was the availability of wild edible plant species.

Farming arose early in the Fertile Crescent because the area had a large quantity of wild wheat and pulse species that were nutritious and easy to domesticate. The marshes are home to 40 species of bird and several species of fish.

The marshes were once home to millions of birds and the stopover for millions of other migratory birds, including flamingos, pelicans and herons as they travelled from Siberia to Africa. At risk are 40% to 60% of the world's marbled teal population that live in the marshes, along with 90% of the world's population of Basra reed-warbler.



#### **HISTORY**

In the 4th millennium BC, the first literate societies emerged in Southern Mesopotamia, often referred to as the Cradle of Civilization, and the first cities and complex state bureaucracies were developed there during the Uruk period.

Rich with historical legacy, the wetlands are the locale in which Sumerian civilisation flourished, later to be succeeded by Akkadia, Babylonia, Assyria and Chaldea On its shores, the legendary Epic of Gilgamesh was enacted. It is also an area of major significance in the history of the three monotheistic religions: Christianity, Islam and Judaism.

Biblical scholars regard it as the likely site of the legendary "Garden of Eden", the "Great Flood" and the birthplace of the patriarch Abraham. Shrines of prophets and venerated religious figures engrave its landscape.

World-renowned archaeological sites on the fringes of the marshes include Ur, Uruk, Eridu, Larsa, Lagash and Nina. Little archaeological exploration has been carried out inside the marshes themselves. Mounds, known as tells, rising above marsh waters are believed to be sites of ancient cities.

Notable amongst these are the sites of Agar, Qubab, Ishan, Azizah, Dibin and Waquf (Roux, 1993). Wholesale changes in the region's land cover, associated with drainage engineering works, military activity and oil exploration, have seriously jeopardised a critical area of great archaeological interest.

A crucible of civilization, the marshlands have been home to ancient human communities for more than five millennia. The area's inhabitants are commonly known as the Ma'dan or "Marsh Arabs", whose population is estimated to range from 350,000 to 500,000.



#### **ESSENTIAL SITE INFORMATION**

The competition site was part of the Mesopotamian wetlands that undergone systematic draining from the 1950s – 1990s in Iraq and to a smaller degree in Iran, which resulted in the displacement and migration to the nearby cities of Basra, Amara and Al Nasiriyah.

The proposed plot (15,000 m²) was donated by one of the residents to be used for a primary school serving the nearby villages, the proposed school site can be easily access through rural roads which connects it with the surrounding villages, the easiest way to reach the school is by using the traditional boat "Mashoof". Lack of services including educational facilities has caused the residents to leave the area, the nearest school is no less than 3 km away.

One of the main reasons of this plot turned into a school is to encourage the return of the indigenous people of the marshes (Ma'adan) to return to their lands.



Click for Location



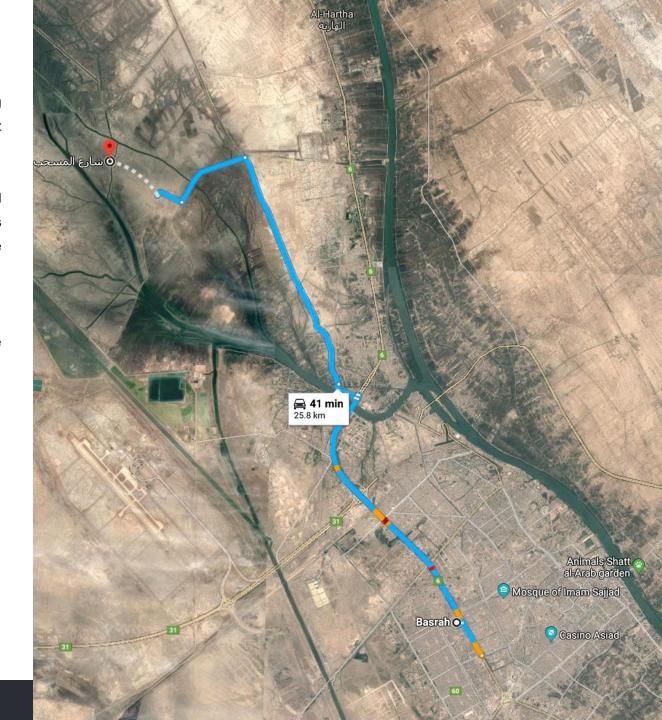
Click for photos from the Marshes in Iraq

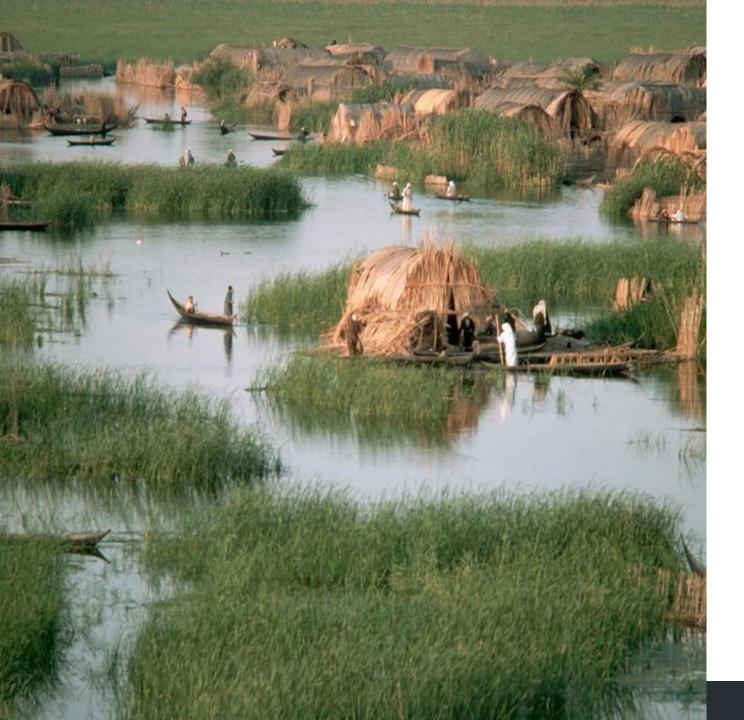


Click for a videos of the site



Click for important site infromation





### The Challenge

A historical and fundamental area of Iraq are the marshes which are home to many families with minimal infrastructure. Dewan has chosen this exact location to build a school in order to supply the families the much-needed education in an area that is lacking for facilities that will nurture the future of Iraq. The particular plot is located perfectly between two rivers for multiple means of properties with empty land surrounding it for possible expansion in the future to house more students.



Click for a video of the Green Bank School



### Response

Participants are asked to design a primary school in the long-forgotten area of the Iraqi marshes, taking into account the limitations of the area and the ecological impact of construction on nature and the fauna of the marshes. The design is for a 6-class primary school serving the nearby villages with all the amenities of a modern school.

The environmentally sensitive design to take special care to minimize the impact on the fragile ecosystem of the marshes and to emphasize the awareness of the children of their unique surroundings and the importance of the impact of the humans on the marshes and its

#### **DESIGN PROGRAM**

The school should be designed according to the modern teaching philosophies which encourages the students to search, innovate and face life challenges rather than the old traditional methods of memorizing the textbooks which are still in use.

The school activities whether academic, research, sport or even entertainment should be full of dynamics, spirit of challenge and call to respect all ideas and represents the unity of Iraq and its people.

The following spaces are for guidance and the designer may add other spacers if he found necessary:

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

The main lobby and information desk

Principal office

Teachers room/Admin

Clinic

Associates services, toilets, storage, etc.

#### **CLASSROOMS**

6 Classrooms each (50m2 - 60m2)

Future expansion of another 6 classrooms

General laboratory

Library

Associates services, toilets, storage, etc.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

General Activity room

Drawing room

Music room

Teachers room

Gymnasium/Multipurpose hall

Athletic changing room

Theatrical changing room

Dining hall

Dry Kitchen, etc. (food cooked and supplied from outside the school)

#### **OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES**

Volleyball/Basketball field

Mini football field

Small spectators stand

Outdoor non-covered areas, gardens, etc.

Car park for 5 cars

Parking for 10 small boats

the mentioned
specifications with a
possibility of future
expansion

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Develop the school with the mentioned specifications with a possibility of future expansion

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

#### **OPEN TO ALL**

Architects, students, engineers and designers are invited to participate in this prize. Participation can be on an individual or team basis (maximum of four team members). We encourage the participation of multidisciplinary teams.



#### **SCHEDULE**

**04 / April / 2018** - Official announcement of the competition and **Early** bird registration.

**01 / August / 2018** - Start of the Late registration.

**25 / August / 2018** - Closing date for **Registration**.

28 / August / 2018 - Closing date for Submissions.

November / 2018 - Announcement of Results.

December 2018 - Annual Tamayouz Excellence Award Ceremony. All Deadlines are 11:59 pm GMT (London)

#### REGISTRATION

**Early Registration**: £50/\$70 from 04/04/2018 Until 01/08/2018

**Late Registration**: £75/\$105 from 01/08/2018 Until 25/08/2018

# **REGISTER HERE**

#### **REGULATIONS**

- 1. This is an anonymous competition with the **Unique Registration Number** is the only means of identification.
- 2. The official language of the award is **English**.
- 3. The registration fee for this award is non-refundable.
- 4. Contacting the Jury is **prohibited**.
- 5. As the award organiser, Tamayouz Award reserves the right to modify the award schedule if deemed necessary.
- 6. Entries will not be **reviewed** if rules or submission requirements are not followed.
- 7. Participation assumes acceptance of the regulations.

#### **EVALUATION**

**RELEVANCE** - A clear declaration of conditions that set the contextual parameters of the project through identification of local challenges, construction and living culture.

**RESPONSE** - Aspirational and original projects with programmatic response to existing environmental and social conditions and local challenges.

**RESOLUTION** - Spatial, material and technical justification. Clarity of design process.

**IMPACT** - Clear definition of positive transformative social, spatial and environmental impact of the project.

**VISION** - Aesthetic, material and technical ambitions and treatment of the damaged facades.

**SUSTAINABILITY** - Local materials, traditional construction, water saving, minimisation of negative environmental impact of the building

**MODULAR DESIGN**- The designs should be modular in conception to allow for the possibility of expansion to cater for larger villages or increased age groups.



#### **SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Participants required to submit the following (In one **Zip** file named after the **unique registration number**):

- 1 One A0 board in PDF format, Every team is encouraged to submit all the information they consider necessary to explain their proposal. Content may include but not limited to plans, sections, elevations, visualisations, diagrams, etc. The resolution of the boards must be 150dpi with the unique registration number placed in the upper left corner of the board in 18 pt font.
- 2 A word Document file containing the project statement (250 Words Max) explaining the design proposal.
- **3** Submit your entry by using the upload link in your registration confirmation email.

**NOTE:** All files must be named after the **unique registration number** 

Zip File: 1 X A0 (PDF - 150 dpi) 1 X Word DOC (250) Words



#### **PRIZES**

The winners of the Dewan Award 2018 will receive the following prizes

1st

6 MONTHS
EMPLOYMENT AT
DEWAN ARCHITECTS +
ENGINEERS,
RENEWABLE TO ONE
YEAR OR \$5000\*

2nd

\$2000

.....

CERTIFICATE

Trip to the 2018 Award

Ceremony

(Flights and Hotel)

3rd

\$1000

**CERTIFICATE** 

+

Trip to the 2018 Award

Ceremony

(Flights and Hotel)

7 x Honourable Mentions

Certificates

**Top 20** 

Published work in publication, on our website, social media pages and in exhibitions.

First prize will be a fully paid employment at Dewan for 6 months expandable to one year supervised by seniors with experience in all departments. If for any reason this cannot be achieved then a sum of \$5000 will be presented

#### **The Ceremony**

An invitation to attend the Tamayouz Award Annual Ceremony for the **Top 20** mentioned above, The **TOP 3** winners will have their Flight and Accommodation costs covered by the organisers of the prize; Tamayouz Excellence Award, Every year Tamayouz International Award chooses a different city to host the ceremony, in 2017 it was held in Amman - Jordan. This year's City will be announced later in the year.

#### **Judging Panels**

The Judging Panels of Tamayouz Excellence Award always comprised of world class architects, engineers, planners, designers and academics

The Judging Panel for the Dewan Award for Architecture 2018; "School in the Marshes" will be announced soon.



2012: Dame Zaha Hadid, DBE - UK Judging Panel Chair

2017: Our Judging Panel for the Rifat Chadirji Prize for Architecture; Rebuilding Iraq's Liberated Areas - Mosul's Housing



Angela Brady OBE
Brady Mallalieu
Architects
London



Dr Rasem Badran Dar Al-Omran Amman



Mohamed Al-Assam

Dewan Architects +

Engineers

Dubai



Dr Wendy Pullan Cambridge University Cambridge



Ali Naji Najmat Al-Sharq

Amman



2016: The Tamayouz Award judges during the ceremony in Amman - Jordan

Click on Any logo to see the media mention

**Ceremony Video** 



**TV Interviews** 























#### **Tamayouz Award 2017 Ceremony**

The 2017 Tamayouz Excellence Award Ceremony was hosted by the Iraqi Business Council in Jordan at the Grand Millennium Hotel, Amman







#### **ABOUT THE AWARD**

Dewan Award is the newest award to be established as part of the Tamayouz Excellence Award program of championing and celebrating the best of architecture in Iraq and around the world.

The Award is named after Dewan Architects and Engineers, One of the leading architecture firms in the world and one of the most established firms in the Middle East. The Dewan Award is an international award addressing and responding to local challenges in Iraq and invite architects to submit their ideas and to establish an uncompromising open source of ideas tackling social issues in Iraq through design and present it to responsible authorities.

This award was established through a fund allocated by Dewan Architects and Engineers and Mr Mohammed Al Assam, the founder and managing partner at Dewan, after being involved for several years with Tamayouz Excellence Award



















Dewan's generous sponsorship of Tamayouz Excellence Award in 5 years is worth 12 student Interns, 24 months of experience & more than \$50K invested in the training of young architects and more to come.

This Year Dewan Architects + Engineers are offering EMPLOYMENT to the winner of the Dewan Award, 6 Months (renewable up to 1 year).

Dewan Architects + Engineers

With over 33 years of commitment to excellence in design and the built environment.

Dewan Architects + Engineers has a flourishing and successful legacy spanning over 33 years. Through the spirit of its long-standing culture of fostering strong relationships and encouraging dynamism and leadership, the firm has grown into one of the region's leading and highly reputed architectural and engineering consultancy firms. Dewan is a reflection of the diverse and passionate mix of people within the firm and it is through this multiplicity that we strive and grow.

Creativity and utilizing the right people for the job is the driving force behind building the teams that can work closely with the clients to help achieve the task at hand. These powerful relationships, enforced by the talent and passion of the teams, are what drive the projects and the relationships to deliver quality to the end user. As an active member of the communities we live and work in, our responsibility is to be a conscientious participant in this global world and to contribute positively and actively with a clear vision of adding value to the environment that we live in.

A passion for excellence is tangibly evident in every stage of a Dewan project, from design conception to successful completion of construction. Dewan's steadfast commitment to sustainable design and construction resonates across the firm which is dedicated to employing design and construction practices that minimize resource consumption and the negative impact of buildings on the environment. Dewan's architects and engineers are LEED Accredited Professionals and ESTIDAMA Certified Professionals.





# PHOTOS AND INFORMATION

**Download Information Pack here** 

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Please check all terms and conditions on www.dewan-award.com

# **CONTACT**

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