

The challenge of the JKWIS is to examine the evolution of architecture and its significance for society, and to evaluate the practical steps we may take to best influence our surroundings for social, material, and spiritual progress over time.

Introduction

Throughout the 4 months of in-depth discussion about architecture, our perceptions and ideas have been reinforced. Firstly, we have learned how architecture reflects time, place and a particular ideology. Moreover, we have also recognized its effect on the individual. Therefore, we believe that architecture is more than just two bricks put together and that we must work towards finding an effective solution to the challenge we face.

To begin with, let's define the terms social progress, material progress and spiritual progress. After a long discussion, we believe that

1. **Spiritual progress**- is when a person identifies his place and his existence along with others living in this planet. This calls for acceptance and tolerance of the various cultures in our world. When we move ahead in this modern world, dealing with globalization, we must not forget our very roots that define us.
2. **Material progress**- is the exploration of nature in order to create and accumulate. In order to progress in terms of material use, we must consider our environment and how sustainable it would be for the many generations to come.
3. **Social progress**- can be achieved when people are connected to each other through architecture. This would mean that the barrier for cities to transform slums into successful buildings is reduced or even completely removed. In order to have an optimal social level, we must ensure that people are able to reach other people easily.

Solutions

Our **responsibilities** for this challenge can be broken down into three major areas,

- Responsibility of individuals
- Responsibility of architects
- Responsibility of the government

As individuals, we must respect not only our homes but also the public spaces. Moreover, we must not neglect our culture. Rather, we must try to infuse it in our architecture. Today, as the role of the architect diminishes and there is a greater involvement of the individual in a project, it is we who must take into account our culture and environment before going ahead with a project.

As architects, we must focus more on the environment and use eco-friendly materials which are sustainable. Buildings should have a certain meaning and ideology behind them and they should not be just bricks put together.

It is the government who must regulate and ensure the well-being of the environment. For this, they should define parameters for the selection of material, location, use of space etc.

Conclusion

As human beings we have moved from caves to skyscrapers. We do not know where will we move further and how modern and technologically advanced architecture becomes. We must be ready for a change in order to progress.