

Office of the Chief Public Relations Officer
Jamia Millia Islamia

Press Release

**JMI's Department of Architecture Scholar Awarded Second Place at Europe-Based
'Rethinking Roofs' Global Competition**

New Delhi, May 20, 2026

Yusra Gul, a research scholar at the Department of Architecture, Jamia Millia Islamia has been awarded second place in the prestigious Rethinking Roofs – Global Competition organised by Europe based organisation Inform2Build in partnership with Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies of Erasmus University, Netherlands. This competition seeks innovative architectural and engineering solutions to improve housing for vulnerable communities.

The winning project under the supervision of Prof. Nisar Khan and Prof. Hina Zia is titled '*Borrowed Sky: Collective Roofscapes as Thermal Commons in Informal Settlements*' provides innovative solutions to reduce the impact of summer heat in the the unplanned housings of Delhi. The winning project was selected from a global pool of entries for its innovative approach to one of the most pressing urban challenge of heat stress in the informal housings of Delhi. The project was appreciated for addressing urgent thermal challenges by providing simple and affordable solutions which can be implemented locally by the marginalised sections of the society.

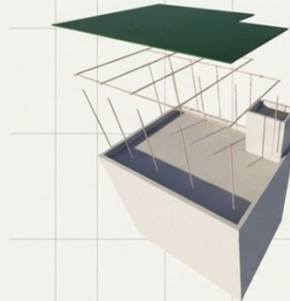
Prof. Mazhar Asif, Vice Chancellor, JMI while congratulating the research team said that Jamia Millia Islamia is continuously striving towards the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 through its research activities. Prof. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, Registrar, JMI expressed his happiness on the award and said that serving the society should be on priority for research institutions and this award is a testimony of the role Jamia Millia Islamia is playing in nation building.

As part of the reward the research team's work will be showcased at the World Urban Forum and featured in an upcoming book documenting the world's most innovative roofing solutions. Also, the researchers are invited to attend a conference in the Netherlands.

Prof. Saima Saeed
Chief Public Relations Officer

Borrowed Sky: Collective Roofscapes as Thermal Commons in Informal Settlements

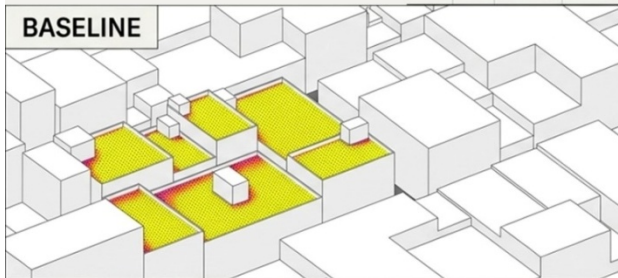
Ar. Yusra Gul



REALIZED MICRO-CLIMATE:
RECLAIMING THE SKY

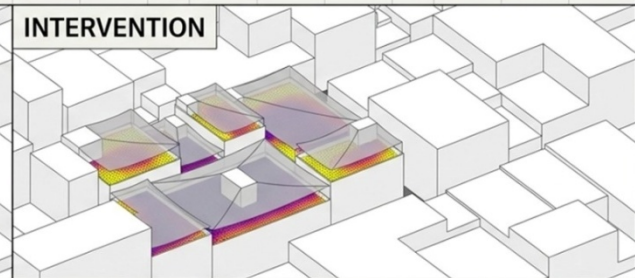


BASELINE



High solar radiation absorption limits roof utility. Unprotected concrete acts as a thermal mass, radiating heat downward into the residence.

INTERVENTION



Substantial reduction in surface radiation. The permeable shading layer creates a habitable micro-climate while maintaining critical cross-ventilation.

Project Concept



Yusra Gul



Prof. Nisar Khan



Prof. Hina Zia
