

THE 21ST ASIAN CONGRESS OF
ARCHITECTS - INCHEON

2025. 9. 8. - 9. 12. Incheon, KOREA



ARCASIA THESIS OF THE YEAR 2025

Announcement of Competition	10 March, 2025
Submission Closes (submission to Member Institutes)	10 June, 2025
Submission of 3 Finalists from each Member Institutes to KIRA	30 June, 2025
Final judging and notification of the finalists	30 July, 2025
Award Ceremony	10 September, 2025 during ACA 21

Rules & Conditions

A. Competition schedule

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B. Submission requirement

All entries for submission must include the following:

B.1. Presentation board PDF file

One (1) A1 (594mm x 840mm) size of board – Portrait format layout containing any important drawings or details that the student wishes to put including (but not limited to) written concepts, site development, plan, floor plan/s, elevation/s section/s, interior perspective/s, exterior perspective/s. The electronic file should be in PDF format based on a jpeg output with 300 dpi minimum resolution.

B.2. PDF file of text

PDF file of text, identifying the submitting ARCASIA member institute, institute's contact person and address, student's name, Degree Program name and duration (such as 5year B. Arch, B.S. Arch. or M. Arch), name of department & university, postal address, e-mail address & contact details.

B.3. Anonymity of submission

This is an anonymous award selection. Anonymity should appear in all submission materials, except item B.2 above. The participant making the submission must have legal rights and copyrights of all the submission materials.

No identification marks shall appear on the graphic layout. The participant(s) shall keep his/ her/their entry confidential and take necessary steps to ensure it is not disclosed to any third parties throughout the process until the public announcement of results.

B.4. The thesis entry must be presented in the English language

C. Thesis of the Year (TOY) 2025 Guideline

C.1. The objectives of the Students' Design Competition are as follows:

C.1.1. To Cultivate Cultural Appreciation: The Students Competition aims to inspire Asian architectural students to embrace and appreciate the architectural diversity and heritage of their own region, fostering a deeper understanding and respect for cultural nuances in architectural design.

C.1.2. To Promote a Spirit of Healthy Design Competition: The competition is designed to promote a positive environment for students to engage in healthy design competition. By fostering a culture of constructive rivalry and individual growth, students are encouraged to challenge themselves, strive for excellence, and push the boundaries of their design capabilities.

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C.1.3. To Champion Design Excellence: The Students Design Competition aims to nurture creativity and excellence in architectural design by providing students with an opportunity to showcase their innovative solutions and push the boundaries of traditional architectural practices. Through this competition, students are encouraged to strive for excellence and develop groundbreaking design concepts.

C.2. Competition Details

C.2.1. The competition is open to architecture students from ARCASIA member countries. Each institute must set up a procedure to select National Winners and submit a maximum of three (3) national winners to TOY ARCASIA Committee for the final judging (by TOY ARCASIA Judging Committee).

C.2.2. The thesis should be recent, not older than two school years from the date of the competition award. For example, if the competition will be awarded in September 2025, the thesis should have been produced between September 2023 and September 2025.

C.2.3. The thesis should be a product of students pursuing their first professional degree in architecture, be it B. Arch, B.S. Arch., or M. Arch, depending on which is recognized as the first accredited degree by their respective National Boards, Authorities, or Councils. Thesis of Post Professional or Post Graduate Courses i.e., Master Programs that are taken after B. Arch course (Professional Degree) is not be eligible for joining.

C.2.4. Individual or group work as an entry is allowed.

C.2.5. The entry must have any or all of the following characteristics:

C.2.5.1. Thesis with High Social Relevance: The thesis should address a pertinent social issue or need. For example, focusing on urban architecture solutions for overcrowding or slum redevelopment can demonstrate a high level of social relevance. The thesis should aim to provide better living conditions, sanitation, and well-being for the community it serves.

C.2.5.2. Thesis with High Innovation and Originality: A good architectural thesis that brings something new to the field. It should dare to present fresh ideas or unique approaches to architectural challenges. This could be in the form of innovative design, use of materials, or application of technology.

C.2.5.3. Thesis with High World Orientation: The thesis should consider global needs and challenges. It should not only focus on the student's interests but also on the broader impact of the project. The thesis should aim to make a positive contribution to the world, in terms of sustainability, inclusivity, or another global issue.

C.2.5.4. The thesis should make a contribution towards attaining any, some, or all of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations or its future global blueprint or roadmap.

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D. Convenor and Jury

D.1 Convenor

- Ar. Jongdae(Jaydi) Park from Korea, member of International Relations Committee, KIRA

D.2 Jury

- Ar. Preethi Agrawal from India, representative from ARCASIA Zone A
- Ar. Zul Idris from Brunei, representative from ARCASIA Zone B
- Prof. Yuhang Kong from China, representative from ARCASIA Zone C
- Ar. Jonathan Manalad, Chairman of ACAE (Head Juror)
- Ar. Tan Bee Eu, Principal of BEU TAN ARCHITECT(ARCASIA President's Nominee)