

## **Courtyard House in Islamic Society** Form and Meaning

## Prof. Dr. Saleh Lamei **Director General - CIAH**

The aim of this study is not to discuss the form and evolution of the courtyard in Muslim buildings but rather to search for the causes that led to the generalization of the courtyard in the architectural design of the Muslim World.

We have to find out whether the social and climatic conditions indicated such usage or if other basic factors were behind the continuous adoption of the courtyard in religious and profane architecture of the Muslim societies.

Since Islam has covered all ways of life for Muslims and defines human relations as well as the Muslim's way of living, thereafter the space in which he lives, too. That is why it was essential to throw light on the position of the Islamic courtyard in respect of earlier civilizations with the aim to understand the relation between its function in such buildings and in the Muslim ones.

The adoption of the Courtyard Plan in Muslim Architecture was not in the form seen in earlier architectural heritage, but it was executed in a way to adapt and fulfill the principles and instructions of Islam.

It is architecture inspired by the Spirit of Islam, rather than being an outcome of climatic or social prerequisites as in the case of earlier civilization.

## **Keywords:**

Courtyard concept - Climatic condition effect- Islamic concept.

Tel.: +49 2402 12750 2000 Fax: +49 2402 12750 2900 E-mail: office@ciah.eu Web site :www.ciah.eu

Associated institute: ICOMOS Associated institute: Organization of Islamic Capitals & Cities