



Changsha Meishihu International Cultural Centre

UPCOMING RUPAYAN GRAND

Most of the developments in the last decade and half have focused on maximising the living area when planning new buildings. As a result, very little open area has been left around buildings creating a congested, tightly packed sardine can effect. Rupayan is developing their own mini cities within a city so to speak and the goal is to tackle these uncomfortable living issues.

Rupayan Grand is a part or phase of their Rupayan City Uttara project. It comprises of a massive residential area of 540 apartments spread across 21 buildings over an area of roughly 7.92Acres.

The whole project brings together one school, a



convenience store to cater to all shopping needs and a mosque. The biggest complaint for most resident in Dhaka is that there is very little open space left for walking or even looking up to catch a glimpse of the sky. Incorporating that openness has been a primary feature in all of the plans. Rupayan Grand goes with the mandated 63% open area incorporating a 0.5 acre green playground and wide pavement roads to create an open area despite having this many apartments in one place. That spaciousness is reflected in the large floor space ranging from 1865sqft-2235sqft apartment units.

The pathways are designed with a jogging track to



complement the outdoor seating and landscaping. Physical activity is given prime importance in the design with indoor game areas for children and gyms and health clubs for adults.

It's also a technologically self-contained community with their own water treatment, recycling and harvesting systems. This is to ensure that water isn't wasted under any circumstances. The development is under way and to know more, contact Rupayan at <http://www.rupayancityuttara.com>

BEHEMOTHS AND LEVIATHANS

The unexplored universe of Zaha Hadid

AMIYA HALDER

In the past two weeks, social media has made us privy to the mysterious, almost Martian charm of Zaha Hadid's larger-than-life legacy. It is a wonder how her vast body of work had been unknown to so many of us for so long. Her powerful architectural form was evolved, distinct—more fluid than mere mortar, more muscle than mere stone.

While every building, every structure is fantastical in its own right, some of Zaha Hadid's creations defy the laws of physics and question the boundaries of man more than others.

CHANGSHA MEISHIHU INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL CENTRE

The construction of this 1800-seat performance venue hasn't moved much since its big unveiling in 2013, but its giant flower-like pods look spectacular scattered atop Meixi Lake in Changsha, China. If it becomes a reality, the Cultural Centre would consist of a grand theatre, an art museum and a multi-purpose hall.



Innovation Tower

stations take on a common spatial approach with their curved, umbrella-like bodies and are strewn across the snowy mountain town of Innsbruck, Austria.

INNOVATION TOWER

This awe-inspiring specimen of architectural genius is no less than the Fortress of Solitude incarnate. With its foreboding futurist geometry and its angular curvatures, the Innovation Tower in Hong Kong is more than a few steps away from Zaha Hadid's famed fluid forms, evidencing her unimaginable breadth when it comes to multiple perspective points and avant-garde architecture.

At the same time expressive as a starcraft, the Zaha Hadid's creations, with their sinuous sweeping limbs suspended in mid-air, have haunted and inspired the world for decades. The phenomenal architect lives on in her ground-breaking architecture, interior design, art and her many phantasmagorical designs still in the

HEYDAR ALIYEV CENTRE

This icy cavalcade of sloping loops in Baku, Azerbaijan wholly eschews the concept of sharp angles. The centre houses an auditorium, a gallery hall and a museum and is rightly the heart

NORDPARK RAILWAY STATIONS

At first sight, one wonders how the mushroom-like arches of the Nordpark Railway Stations support themselves so. The series of four



Nordpark Railway Stations



Heydar Aliyev Centre



Galaxy Soho

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY, USA

One of the three greenest buildings, NAU earns its rep by incorporating state-of-the-art technology and design principles. Recycled materials cover about 20 percent of the building's supplies. A "green" roof helps in regulating the temperature of the entire structure and about 75 percent of the lighting is natural. Water is reused throughout NAU to reduce wastage.



THE CHANGE INITIATIVE, DUBAI

Popular as the world's most sustainable building, TCI is a spotlight stealer in modern Dubai. Scoring a whopping 107 out of 110 in the LEED Platinum Certification test, one of TCI's highlights is the membrane filtration system used for water-purification. 120 solar panels on the rooftop generates 15 percent of the total electricity required.



ABHIK HASNAIN

THE PIXEL, AUSTRALIA

The first carbon-neutral building in Australia, The Pixel is designed to for making maximum use of natural light through their sun shade system. Vacuum toilet technology and an anaerobic digester along with a green rooftop are the features of this building. Black waste from kitchens and toilets are processed to produce methane which powers the water heaters. Not to mention the solar and photovoltaic panels and wind turbines which allows the Pixel to produce its own energy.



SHANGHAI TOWER, CHINA

Also well-known as the second tallest building in the world, Shanghai Tower gets a place in this list with a reduction in water consumption and energy usage by 40 and 21 percent respectively. Using wind turbines and a gas cogeneration system it produces about 54,000 kWh energy per year. The carbon footprint of the building down to 34,000 metric tons a day because of the design methodology and new technology used.

THE EDGE, NETHERLANDS

What's the best thing about The Edge? It produces more energy than it uses! Solar panels, led panels and water propulsion loop sums down to a very eco-friendly structure. The Edge also boasts a unique temperature regulation system. Adding to that, it's considered to be a smart building which can track individuals moving within.



WORLD'S MOST ECO-FRIENDLY BUILDINGS