

ARCHITECTURE KARNATAKA CHAPTER



LIST OF MEMBERS

	NAME	ROLE IN WICCI	
1	Akansha Jain	Council Member	
2	Aparna Narasimhan	Council Member	
3	Apurva Bose Dutta	Council Member	
4	Mughdha Thakurdesai	Council Member	
5	Mumtaz	Council Member	
6	Shweta Gupta	Council Member	
7	Geeta Murar	Vice President	
8	Sonia Jalali	President	

Ar. Aparna Narasimhan an architect with over 32 years of experience is Partner and Design Director at Venkataramanan Associates, a leading architectural practice. In her position, Aparna guides the firm's design process and critical review sessions.

A keen artist and proponent of art appreciation she maintains a strong emphasis on drawing by hand as a design tool. As co-founder of Kadambari - an organization that is involved in the promotion of performing arts and fine arts of India, Aparna has organized several exhibitions and workshops on traditional Indian textiles, arts and crafts.

Her work, which is dominated by residential and institutional projects, is characterized by an ability to straddle complex parameters and feasibility studies, a good understanding of context and a design process that displays knowledge ranging from master-plan level decision-making to minute design detailing. Aparna's design rationale is highly objective and user-responsive. She often revisits completed projects to observe first-hand the impact her design has had on human behaviour.

Her award-winning works continue to garner national and international attention. Her allied interests in art and craft have had her designing sets for theatre productions. She believes in reciprocating knowledge and sustains a healthy interaction with students through talks and workshops.



HONORS

1. **Winner, AYA (Architect of the year Award) 2012 by JK cement (IAA) Art Village - The Valley School, Bangalore**
2. **Winner, Award for Best Private Residence by JK cement (IAA) Chitra Kumar Residence, Bangalore**
3. **Winner, A+D Spectrum Architecture Awards for Best Institutional Building in the Year 2002 Science Centre - The Valley School, Bangalore**
4. **A+D Spectrum Special Mention award for Best Institutional Building in the year 2003 St. Joseph's Arts & Science College, Bangalore**

Ar. Apurva Bose Dutta is an **author, award-winning architectural journalist, curator, and editor**. Her professional journey of sixteen years has seen global collaborations with multimedia publication houses, firms, organizations, and institutions affiliated with architecture, design, and building.

Apurva explores her academic background (**B.Arch, India; Diploma in freelance journalism, UK**) in diverse roles—curating/writing architecture-design content and discourses, professional speaking, conducting workshops, masterclasses, courses, and consulting for academic and professional industry initiatives.

Recognized for her pioneering work in architectural design writing in India and focussing on its visibility, Apurva has also authored **ARCHITECTURAL VOICES OF INDIA: A Blend of Contemporary and Traditional Ethos** (2017). She represented the Indian delegation in International Media Visits of Architectural Writers in Melbourne (2016) and Helsinki (2018).



AR. MUGDHA THAKURDESAI

Ar. Mugdha Thakurdesai brings 20+ years of experience in programming and designing learning environments with an emphasis on climate responsive and sustainable design.

She believes in following best practises in education and design with a commitment to build a better environment for the users.

She holds a Masters in Architecture from the University of Colorado, Denver, USA and a Bachelors in Architecture from University of Pune, India.

She has worked on several LEED certified buildings and is a LEED Accredited Professional (LEED-AP).

She started her design career in California, USA with an architectural practise that specializes in sustainable architecture, where she got exposed to the green building industry, developed a deep understanding & liking for it.

Mugdha has conducted various workshops and seminars in designing 21st Century Schools as well as in climate responsive design. She is highly passionate about the built environment that improves the quality of space, and experience and well being of the users. She believes that whatever good things we build end up building us.



Co-founder, also with an outstanding academic career, Ar. Mumtaz is a Architectural graduate from UVCE, Bangalore. She is also a Housing Planner from School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi, which gives her the Diversified experience.

Highly skilled in Space Planning has given her an unmatched experience in Housing projects in Bangalore.

Mumtaz, highly adept in her spatial design, carries a great perception in building and services design & integration, local bye-laws & legislation, and immense skill in land utility.

Expertise of high caliber has been instrumental in mentoring many young architects with zeal & enthusiasm, that has her held in a high repute among the architectural Fraternity.

Her love for Architecture has evolved into a very simple & smooth design process that fits a varied exposure & versatile range.



Ar. Shweta Gupta is an architect and academician based in Bengaluru.

With an industry experience of 15 years, Shweta has worked across the disciplines of architecture, interior and urban design. She firmly believes that design can be used as an aid to human life. For the past six years her focus has been teaching as a full time academic.

Shweta is also deeply interested in gender issues and individualism, and how society shapes these two forces in specific directions. She works on bringing about an awareness towards these issues in her classes and student interactions.

She has actively organised awareness programs on campus and is also a certified POSH enabler, working towards spreading awareness regarding the prevention of sexual harassment of women at the workplace.



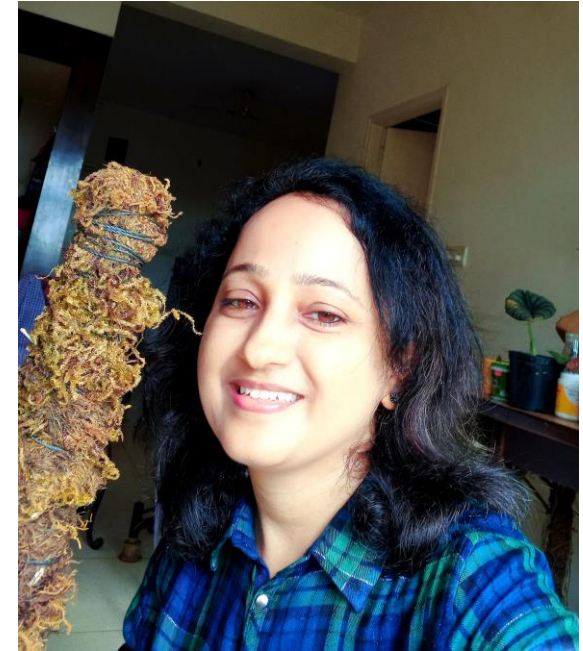
Ar. Geeta Murar completed B. Arch in the year 1996 from Karnataka university; Completed Masters in Environmental Architecture from Anna university.

She has worked with well-known Architectural firms in Bangalore like Venkataramanan Associates, Thomas Associates. Expertise in the Hospitality sector.

She established own Architectural practice in the year 2010 in Bangalore under Geetaa Associates, now as Geetaaz Dzine studio, office at HAL, Bangalore.

She has worked on Various Residential developments, Hospitality, health care and turnkey interior projects. Her firm has a very adaptive and flexible work culture, evolved through critical learning, focus and commitment.

Geeta has also taken charge as a Principal of "Eranad knowledge city college of Architecture, Manjeri Kerala, from 2018. Since then, it has been shuttling between Bangalore and Kerala.



Ar. Sonia Jalali is an Architect & a Design Management Expert with over 22 years of experience in Architectural Design, Interior Design, Project Coordination & Management across a varied scale and genres of projects like Airport, Hospitality, Educational Institutes, Mixed Use Development, Residential, Commercial and Corporate as project lead.

Her key strength lies in understanding issues & problems, identifying & resolving the risks involved with suitable solutions.

She has worked as a consultant as well as in client roles, and has an absolute edge in understanding with a wide perspective.

Having had a teaching experience in the field, she has experience with getting familiar with the student body and their present scenarios.

Sonia has also done freelance work and in the process has interacted with a lot of young women architects, women who are trying to make a comeback in the field as well as ones who have the ability and the enthusiasm but lack the confidence and the means to make the comeback a reality.

Presently she is working as AGM - Design & Planning in Bangalore International Airport Limited and is the Design Manager for many projects such as Taj Expansion, Retail and F&B outlets in Terminal 1, NSPR etc. in BIAL.



