



Sarvesh B Nandgirikar had Post graduated from School of planning and Architecture, New Delhi in 2007 in Town planning with specialization in Housing. Now practising as Architect and planner in Mumbai under “Planoscapes Architects & planners” on various Architectural & planning projects. Also working as visiting faculty at Sir J.J. College of Architecture and Pillai’s college of Architecture under Mumbai university.



Sudnya Mahimkar is an architect, M.E. in Town and Country Planning from College of Engineering, Pune. She is a research scholar pursuing PhD from University of Pune. Her areas of interest include gender studies and architecture, urban design and planning. Currently she is Associate Professor in MES’s Pillai’s College of Architecture, New Panvel.

Cultural Image of Original Settlements and Impact of Urban Change – A case Study of Worli Koliwada, Mumbai

Sarvesh Nandgirikar
Sudnya Mahimkar

Abstract :

Kolis (fishermen) inhabited Mumbai since before the seven islands merged to form the present city. The culture of Mumbai is synonymous with the culture of these indigenous communities. About 38 such village settlements with highly urbanised surroundings struggle to survive and maintain their cultural identity, yet with passage of time, the land under their ownership is fast diminishing due to the tremendous pressure of urbanisation. The aim of this study is to identify the extent of atrophy these communities have gone through and whether the benefits of development reach them. Worli Koliwada was selected as case study where physical survey was conducted to identify character of the spaces in context of urbanisation by observing land uses, demography, infrastructure and other services, socio-economic and cultural conditions as an impact of urbanization due to natural processes as well as government policies. The study is documented and analysed to infer that these communities are deprived of benefits of infrastructure development in general, resulting in tremendous pressure for opening up their land for development.

Keywords :

Cultural Image, Fishermen village, Redevelopment, Indigenous Settlements, Urban Change