

September 6th to 15th 2007



Design Methods – A Commonsense Approach

We are constantly designing things around us, whether it is planning our day, arranging our work or living spaces or designing a menu....

Human beings have always found inspiration in looking around and imitating nature. Design in the natural world is as old as life itself. It is a continuous process of change and adaptation. During the workshop we will explore how nature is the ultimate designer

Different societies have used different ways to deal with problems that they face. Certain ways of thinking (methods) were used for a short while and forgotten while others crystallized into schools of thought or design. We will look briefly at the evolution of design methods.

What is creativity? What is the relationship between invention and design? Using concrete examples of agriculture and the built environment we will try to understand the high degree of complexity in the world around us today. Older methods seem to be inadequate. We need design methods for a sustainable future. Perhaps an interdisciplinary, team approach is a good beginning.

This workshop is for undergraduate students, students of design and any interested souls.

Kanwarjit Nagi is an architect by training but has spent almost 18 years learning, understanding and tinkering with bamboo. His other areas of interest are encouraging problem solving abilities in young children and reducing energy use in buildings.