# **Mohammad Gharipour, PhD**

PROFESSOR AND DIRECTOR OF THE ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



An award-winning scholar and educator, Mohammad Gharipour seeks to elevate overlooked voices, experiences, and places within the built environment and architectural practice, and reflects a commitment to environmentally and socially responsible architecture that prioritizes equity and human resilience.



His breadth of work—from documenting endangered places in the Islamic world to conceiving solutions for Baltimore's most disinvested communities—is rooted in a deep curiosity for different perspectives, as seen in his dogged pursuit of historic inquiry, his affinity for cross-disciplinary collaborations, and his engagement in teaching, mentorship, and service.

With more than a decade of leadership and teaching in higher education, including serving as the director of architecture at Morgan State University, Maryland's largest HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities), Gharipour connects the threads between architectural history, design, and contemporary challenges, particularly for vulnerable populations. At Morgan, the city of Baltimore and other disinvested Maryland communities serve as a backdrop for partnerships that incite meaningful change, a charge he has brought to his new role as director of the University of Maryland's Architecture Program. His leadership emphasizes critical inquiry, experiential learning, and a supportive studio culture to excite students to learn and ready them for the profession.

The author and editor of 14 books, Gharipour is also editor and founder of the award-winning International Journal of Islamic Architecture the first publication on contemporary Islamic architecture and winner of the 2019 Mohamed Makiya Prize / Tamayouz Excellence Award. He has earned fellowships and awards from organizations including the National Endowment for the Humanities, Society of Architectural Historians, American Institute of Architects, Foundation for Landscape Studies, Fulbright-Hays Program, Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, and Fulbright. He is also the cofounder of Epidemic Urbanism, a multidisciplinary collective of global scholars, teachers, practitioners, and the public who share research, ideas, and dialogue around the undeniable impact of public health issues on the practice.

At each turn of his academic career, Gharipour has benefited from the influence of people, place, and partnerships bolstering his pursuit of meaningful scholarship, transformative education, and a global groundswell of best practices for a changing planet.

### **LEADERSHIP**

- Director, UMD Architecture Program
- Director and Co-Founder, Epidemic
   Urbanism Initiative
- Director, International Journal of Islamic Architecture
- Fellow, Big Ten Academic Alliance
- Second Vice President, Society of Architectural Historians
- · Nominator, Aga Khan Award
- Reviewer, NAAB
- Former Board Member, Construction History Society

"As architects, it is our moral responsibility to care about disappearing communities and heritage."

# **SCHOLARSHIP**

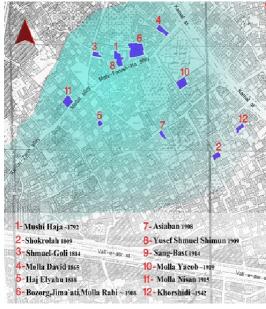
### Influence

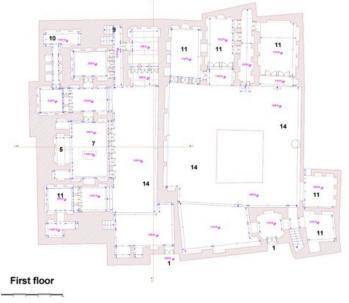
Born in Tehran, Iran, Gharipour was raised in Isfahan, one of the largest and most architecturally influential cities in the Islamic World, a rich upbringing that shaped his view of cities. After earning an architecture degree at the University of Tehran, he pursued his Ph.D. at the Georgia Institute of Technology, where he studied under legendary landscape architect Douglas Allen and leading Islamic architecture scholar Ronald Lewcock.

His passion for enriching community-, cultural-, and place-based narratives through architecture gained new prominence and urgency with the resurgence of ISIS in the Middle East, inspiring funded research and documentation projects across the Islamic world.

Gharipour's foundation as an architectural historian offers a lens to explore contemporary urbanism and design challenges within the urban environment, including housing, public health, and socio-economic issues. His most recent books, which focus on the role of design in shaping human health are borne from research, scholarly collaborations, and community partnerships; like his expertise as an architectural historian, this research has played an influential role in design studios, student-led research and other pedagogical activities.

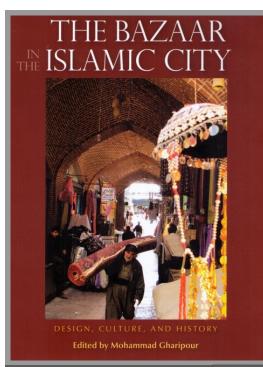


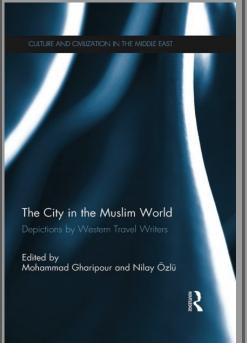




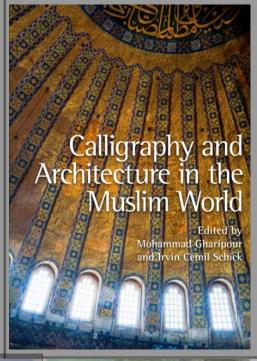
# DOCUMENTING THE JEWISH QUARTER OF ISFAHAN, IRAN

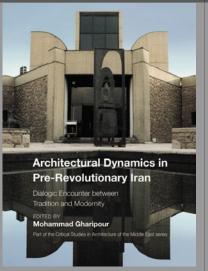
Through a National Endowment for the Humanities grant in 2014, Gharipour documented the remaining synagogues in the Jewish quarter of the city of Isfahan, one of the oldest Jewish settlements in Iran; his work is housed on Archnet for further research and scholarship.

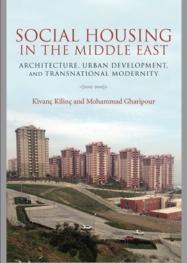


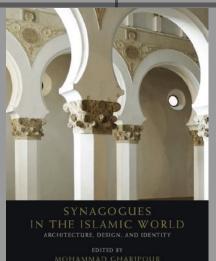


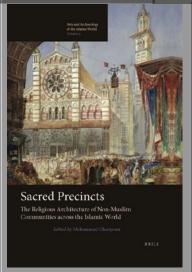












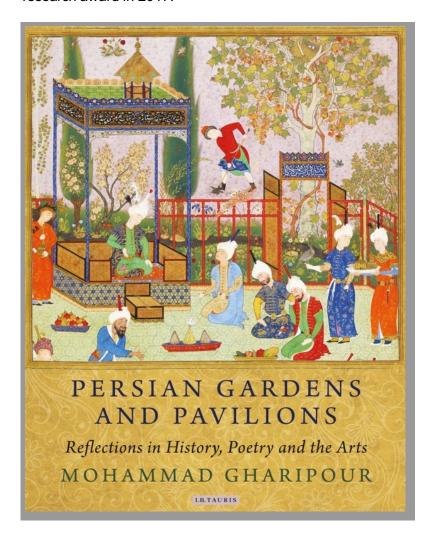


# **WRITING & RESEARCH**

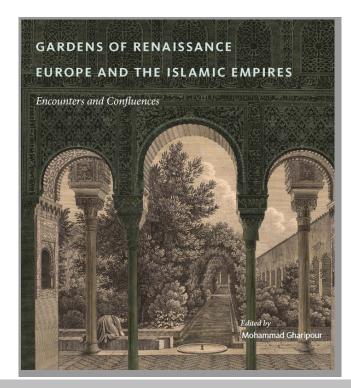
Gharipour's prolific writing, research and service has resulted in over 100 papers, 14 books and the Journal of Islamic Architecture (IJIA), which he founded in 2012. While topics range from Persian gardens to the historic connection between health and architecture, his documentation of non-Muslim heritage sites in the Middle East under threat of destruction has garnered attention by scholars and media worldwide, including the New York Times, Jewish Chronicle and Diverse: Issues in Higher Education.

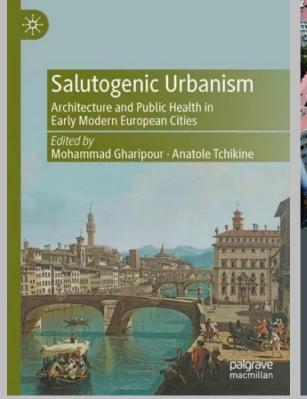
## LANDSCAPE RESEARCH

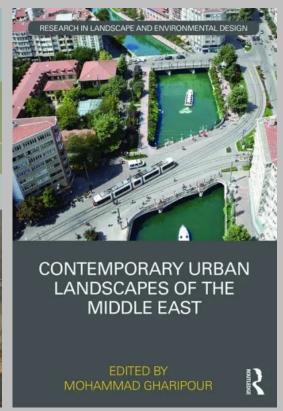
Gharipour's research on landscape, especially his comparative work on early modern gardens in Europe and the Islamic world, earned him a Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture research award in 2017.











## TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION

### Influence

Gharipour's work with Georgia Tech colleague Professor Craig Zimring sparked his interest in the nexus of the built environment and human health, a topic he revisited after beginning his career at Morgan State University. In Baltimore, he saw a tale of two cities: one, a modern campus housing the world's foremost research and teaching hospital, John's Hopkins; the other, crumbling, outdated infrastructure of the inner-city clinics that serve much of Baltimore's uninsured. Conversations with colleagues and professionals in the design field also reflected the need for more holistic, health-related design solutions.

The response was an emerging and robust health and design curriculum at Morgan State University, one that paired students with peers in different fields, design professionals, and community stakeholders, and placed them in underserved communities throughout the region. These environments went beyond learning laboratories; they allowed his students to be instruments of change, participating in community-directed design aimed at stimulating revitalization, opportunity, and better health outcomes. An emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration, student research opportunities, and practical experiences play a formative role of Morgan's design and designheath curricula.



School of Architecture and Planning **Health and Built Environment**ARCH 418.2 & ENST 742

Thursdays (1-4pm)

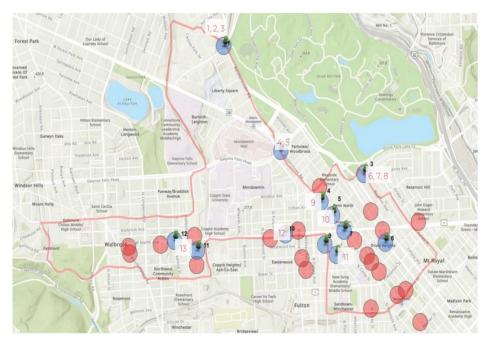
Instructor: Prof. Mohammad Gharipour

**Health and Built Environment** is offered as an interdisciplinary elective at the School of Architecture and Planning. This course will include lectures and discussions on a variety topics related to health and environment. This course will be open to all MSU students, especially from the following programs: BSAED, Urban Planning, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Psychology, Public Health, Engineering, and Business School.

For more information, contact mohammad.gharipour@morgan.edu

As an HBCU administrator, Gharipour also saw the vital role that health, opportunity and a culture of care played within the student body and in building a diverse profession. His efforts to cultivate relationships with regional firms and create an international mentorship program, coupled with scholarship opportunities, opened doors previously closed for many aspiring architects, particularly from marginalized academic communities.









# HEALTH-BASED ARCHITECTURAL INTERVENTION COURSE & STUDIO SERIES

A series of class offerings and studio opportunities developed by Gharipour and professional colleagues in design, health, planning and other disciplines sought to immerse students at Morgan in the contemporary health-related challenges of urban environments.

With the support of a 2016 grant from the National Institutes of Health, Gharipour launched an interdisciplinary design-health initiative to evaluate vacant and underused buildings for temporary community clinics to address health disparities in Baltimore. It was the basis for several student studio courses at Morgan State and cross-sector collaborations across both pedagogy and practice.

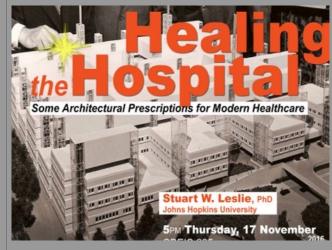
With the help of a team of researchers from various fields, he has studied five zipcodes in Baltimore, identifying optimal locations for community healthcare facilities and developed an evidence-based ranking system that could be used in other contexts. The result was a single building that met all the criteria, which is currently under assessment for conversion into a clinic through a Center for Construction Research and Training grant.

# THE COMMUNITY DESIGN & HEALTH FORUM

The Community Design and Health Forum lecture series—and later, a symposium on vacancy—sponsored by area firms and AIA Baltimore, brought global experts to Morgan State students on a variety of health-related design topics.

In 2015, Morgan State University was accepted to the AIA Design & Health Research Consortium, which brings research and solutions at the intersection of design and health to policymakers and healthcare professionals. This provided opportunities for students to engage in rigorous research on topics such as senior care facilities, wastewater treatment and displacement.









Responding to the lack of architects of color in the healthcare design field, Gharipour worked with colleagues in public health to establish the Student Design Health Club in 2015, bringing lecturers, workshops and networking opportunities to the architecture program.











# **DIVERSIFYING THE PROFESSION**

In 2016, Gharipour joined leadership from eight other universities as part of a consortium to diversify architecture education. Through this collaboration, he was able to develop a mentorship program that connects students with global practitioners for studio and thesis projects; a second mentorship project paired Morgan State thesis students with PhD students from the University of Michigan. Each program resulted in continued relationships long after the projects' end. This effort led to the creation of a national mentorship program, which has now engaged many other universities.

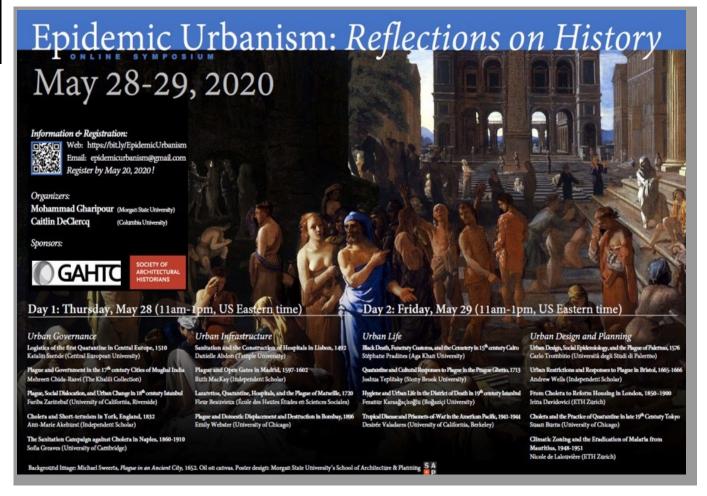
Workshops, a robust internship program, peer and professional mentoring, portfolio workshops, and career lecture series helped revolutionize the pathway to practice for Morgan State students.

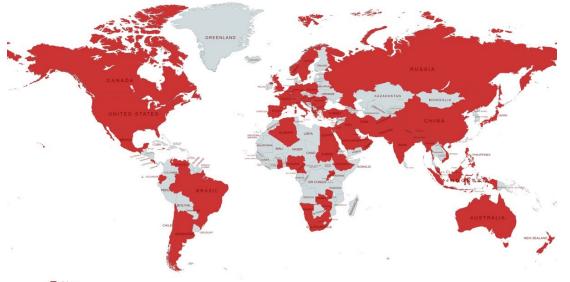


# GLOBAL GROUNDSWELL FOR A CHANGING PLANET

### Influence

As COVID-19 tightened its grip on the world in March of 2020, Gharipour and Columbia University colleague Caitlin DeClercq hatched an idea for a small conference to examine the complex relationship between a city's physical and social fabric and epidemics. The international response was immense, and in short order, **Epidemic Urbanism** was born: a multidisciplinary collective of global scholars, teachers, practitioners, and the public who share research, ideas, and dialogue around the undeniable impact of public health issues on the practice.





Capitalizing on the virtual platforms made readily available by the pandemic, this global thought community looks at the challenges and opportunities of the urban realm: shared spaces, senior housing, architectural education, and more. Today, the Epidemic Urbanism Initiative hosts academic liaisons in 76 countries.



Dr. Sandro Galea on Urban Life During Epidemics (Epidemic Urbanism)



Dr. Joshua Sharfstein on Urban Governance During Epidemics (Epidemic Urbanism)

Epidemic Urbanism



Dr. Monica Schoch-Spana on Urban Infrastructure During Epidemics (Epidemic Urbanism)

Epidemic Urbanism

Dr. Richard Jackson on Urban Design and Planning During Epidemics (Epidemic Urbanism)

Epidemic Urbanism





Dr. Richard Jackson on Urban Design and Planning During Epidemics (Epidemic

**FPIDEMIC URBANISM** 



# **HEALTH & EQUITY**

# in Architectural Practice

This panel provokes timely questions for global architectural practic ins pane provises timely questions for global architectural practice provised by the simultaneous urban epidemics of COVID-19, social inequity, and climate change. How does the practice of architecture need to change to confront the many vulnerabilities in urban settings rendered visible by COVID? What are the stakes for global public health in doing so? This session is sponsored by the Epidemic Urbanism Inflattive; epidemicurbanism/genalicom



For more information and registration: https://bit.ly/EUI-practice









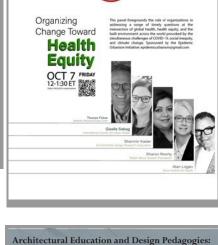


# Global Visions on Cities and Historical Pandemics in the 20th Century

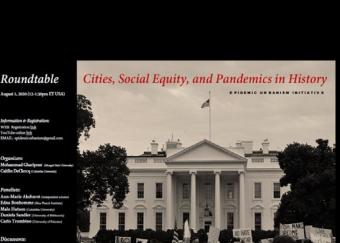
July 24, 2020 (1-3pm ET USA)











EPIDEMIC URBANISM'S global sharing of ideas broadens the already good work and research happening at a local

scale and creates fertile ground for idea

Urbanism's consortium.

sharing; in addition to practitioners, students from around the globe participate in the

lectures and workshops curated by Epidemic

Grounded in equity and inclusion, lectures spotlight case studies, academics and practitioners in regions often left out of global health conversations. Epidemic Urbanism also organizes free workshops for early career professionals and academics in developing countries to engage a diverse thought community.





Design Competition 2021

Designing for
Health and
Equity:
Supporting
Vulnerable
Communities in
the PostPandemic Age







# **DESIGNING FOR HEALTH & EQUITY**

A 2021 Design competition, entitled "Designing for Health Equity: Supporting Vulnerable Communities in the Post-Pandemic Age," resulted in 54 collaborative projects from 27 countries.

Senior Housing

"The Epidemic Urbanism Initiative makes clear that investing in infrastructure, ensuring access to health care, and prioritizing affordable and adequate housing for all will be significant steps toward a world in which health-centered, health-promoting design is the norm. It is possible to design cities to prevent and mitigate epidemic illness."

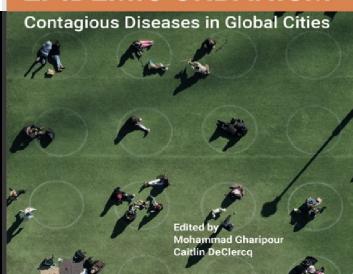
- MOHAMMAD GHARIPOUR

# PUBLISHING THE IMPACT OF EPIDEMIC ILLNESS ON URBAN ENVIRONMENTS

Case studies demonstrating the impact of epidemic illness on urban environments was the basis for a book in 2021, Epidemic Urbanism: Contagious Diseases in Global Cities. This book was selected for the ARCC Book Award in December 2023.



# **EPIDEMIC URBANISM**



Epidemic Urbanism Initiative 2023 International Design Competition

# ADAPTIVE DESIGN REUSE TRANSFORMATIONS FOR COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE



#### CATEGORIES



#### COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER:

Using an existing site or building, design a permanent, sustainable space that addresses current community health issues in the manner of a community health centre, a clinic, a center for women's health, etc.



EMERGENCY TREATMENT CENTER: Using an existing site or building, design a space that considers a future epidemic and the accompanying need for emergency treatment and isolation spaces



#### **AWARDS**

First Prize for each Category: \$2000 Two Finalists for each category: \$500

#### IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for inquiries: April 30, 2023 Deadline for submissions: May 30, 2023

#### CONTACT

epidemicurbanism@gmail.com

#### COMPETITION WEBPAGE



■報告
■ https://epidemicurbanism.wordpr ess.com/2022/10/25/2023-design -competition/













# EUI Workshops, "Equity, Health, and Environment:

# **Toward a More Just Global City**

Saturday, June 11, 2022

FEATURING:

Hakim

Bangladesh

Module 1: City and Urbanism (9-10:30am US ET)







Dr. Sheikh Serajul Nepal

Dr. Ula Abd Ali Khale

Module 2: Social-**Ecological** Environment (10:40-12:10pm US ET)

(12:20-1:50 US ET)

Architectural Practice...



Dr. Marie Bissong Cameroon



Bhargava



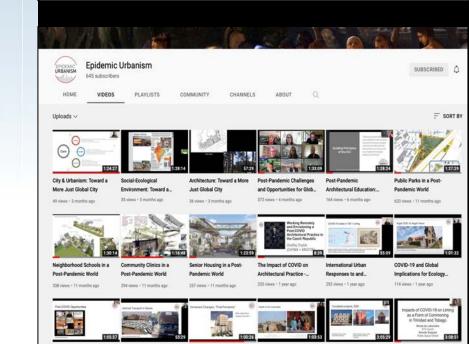
Dr. Adam Nadolny Poland



Perspectives on the Future.

Perspectives on the Future...

Andielkovic Serbia



Healthcare Spaces in a...

Implications of COVID-19





# THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE was

awarded the prestigious Mohamed Makiya Prize / Tamayouz Excellence Award in 2019, celebrated for its unblinking and tenacious study of Islamic architecture. "It is one of the few, if not only, journals of its kind," said the jury. "It brings together multidisciplinary, international scholars into its realm, as it aspires to a high standard of excellence. The journal has proven to be an important source for researchers and academics worldwide, which covers important issues and challenges that face our region."

# International Journal of Islamic Architecture

Volume 8 Number 2

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283-305	Design in Theory Atticles One House of Worship with Many Roofs: Imposing Architecture to Mediate Sunni, Alevi, and Gulenist Islam In Turkey AMGELAANDERSEN	444-445	Affect, Emotion, and Subjectivity in Early Empires: New Studies in Ottoman, Safav and Culture, Ed. Kishwar Rizvi (2018) ASLIHAN GÜRBÜZEL
397-335	Housing Others: Design and Identity in a Bedouin Village NOAM SHOKED	446-447	The Temptation of Graves in Salafi Islam. Destruction, and Idolatry, Ondrej Beräne (2018)
337-361	Staging Baghdad as a Problem of Development HUMA GUPTA	IAN STRAUGHN	
363-388	Architecture of Exclusion: The Savujbulagh i Mukri Garrison, Border-Making, and the Transformation of the Ottoman Qajar Frontier	448-449	Italian Architects and Builders in the Ott Modern Turkey: Design Across Borders, E and Ezio Godoli (2012) NICOLA YERDERAME
389-414	NADER SAYADI Reconstructing the Muslim Self in Diaspora: Socio- Spa tial Practices in Urban European Mosques ELISABETH BECKER	453-455	Exhibition Reviews  The World of the Fatimids, Aga Khan M Canada, March 10-July 2, 2018 HEBA MOSTAFA
417-432	Design in Practice Article The Rome Mosque and Islamic Centre: A Case of Diasponic Architecture in the Globalized Mediterranean THEODORE WARLOAN AND EVA-MARIA TROELENBERG	456-459	In the Fields of Empty Days: The Intersec Present in Tranian Art, Los Angeles Count (LACMA), May 6-September 9, 2018 DEANNA KASHANI
435-439	Jewish Salonica: Between the Ottoman Empire and Mod- ern Greece, Devin E. Naar (2016)	463-465	Synagogue, Church, Mosque: Connecti sions, Swedish Research Institute in Ist November 16–18, 2017 NILGON YOCEL
	The Merchants of Oran: a Jewish Port at the Dawn of Empire, Joshua Schreier (2017)		
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