

Msheireb Museums Hosts Qatar University Annual Architecture Exhibition



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- The exhibition showcased projects by more than 40 students from the university's

Department of Architecture and Urban Planning

- Msheireb Downtown Doha served as a living reference and tangible case study of what architecture rooted in research and national heritage can achieve
- Ibrahim Al Jaidah, Chief Architect and Group CEO of the Arab Engineering Bureau, honoured a selection of the most promising projects

Doha, Qatar – 14 May 2026: Msheireb Museums hosted “Mimar: From Education to Impact,” the annual exhibition organised by the Department of Architecture and Urban Planning at Qatar University, showcasing thesis projects and achievements by more than 40 undergraduate and graduating architecture students.

The choice of Msheireb Downtown Doha as the exhibition’s setting carried particular significance. The city serves as a living reference and tangible case study of what architecture rooted in research and national heritage can achieve. Born from three years of intensive architectural research, the city developed a distinct Qatari design vision embodied in its “Seven Principles,” a framework that combines the spirit and aesthetics of traditional Qatari architecture with modern technology and sustainable design. Through collaboration with leading international architects, academics, and urban planners, Msheireb Downtown Doha has established itself as a global

benchmark in sustainable urban regeneration.

Abdulla Al Naama, General Manager of Msheireb Museums, said: “Hosting this exhibition at Msheireb Museums is a natural extension of what these heritage houses represent. Situated within a city built on years of architectural research rooted in Qatari heritage, the museums offer spaces where emerging architects can engage directly with the concepts and thinking that shaped Msheireb Downtown Doha. We are pleased to support Qatar University in providing this platform, and to see a new generation of architects addressing questions of identity, sustainability, and community, the very questions that continue to guide our work.”

The exhibition, held in Msheireb Downtown Doha, traced the evolution of architectural thinking from foundational coursework to final thesis projects, reflecting how Qatar’s emerging architects are responding to environmental, social, and urban challenges whilst preserving the nation’s cultural identity.

Professor Mohammed Hussein, Dean of the College of Engineering at Qatar University, said: “We view architecture as an integral component of the broader engineering

ecosystem, one in which creative ideas are translated into engineering solutions through scientific rigour, technical precision, and a profound understanding of community needs. This exhibition demonstrates how our students in the Department of Architecture and Urban Planning are addressing pressing social, environmental, and urban challenges through design propositions anchored in engineering knowledge, sustainability, technology, and practical applicability.

“The projects on display reflect Qatar University’s commitment to preparing graduates equipped to develop thoughtful, responsible engineering solutions with tangible impact on Qatar’s built environment. They further underscore the capacity of architectural education to bridge disciplines within the College, including environmental performance, building systems, urban infrastructure, digital tools, and sustainable development.

“Through applied learning, research-led design, and collaboration with national and international partners, the College of Engineering continues to foster academic experiences that connect learning with real-world impact. We take great pride in our students, faculty, and partners, as this exhibition reflects architecture’s vital role in

advancing innovation, reinforcing cultural identity, and delivering engineering solutions that serve community needs and support Qatar's future development.”

As part of the exhibition, distinguished Qatari architect Ibrahim Al Jaidah, Chief Architect and Group CEO of the Arab Engineering Bureau, honoured a selection of the most promising projects, continuing his longstanding commitment to championing the next generation of architects in Qatar.

Ibrahim Al Jaidah said: “Architecture is not taught in a classroom alone; it is learned through engagement with the city, its history, and the communities it serves. MIMAR exhibition demonstrates that Qatar's emerging architects are asking the right questions: about identity, sustainability, and the relationship between built form and human experience. The AEB Excellence Award, now in its eighth cycle, was established to recognize this quality of thinking at its earliest stage. The exhibited work affirms that the next generation of architects in Qatar is well prepared to carry the discipline forward.”

The exhibited projects were developed in collaboration with national and international partners, including the Ministry of Municipality, Qatar Museums, Caravane Earth, and the Public Works Authority, as well as leading international practices such as OMA / AMO and Herzog de Meuron, reflecting a shared commitment to advancing architecture as a discipline rooted in research, systems thinking, and design excellence.

“Mimar: From Education to Impact” affirms the standing of Msheireb Downtown Doha not only as a prominent urban destination but as a catalyst for ongoing architectural discourse, connecting the lessons of the past with the aspirations of tomorrow’s cities.