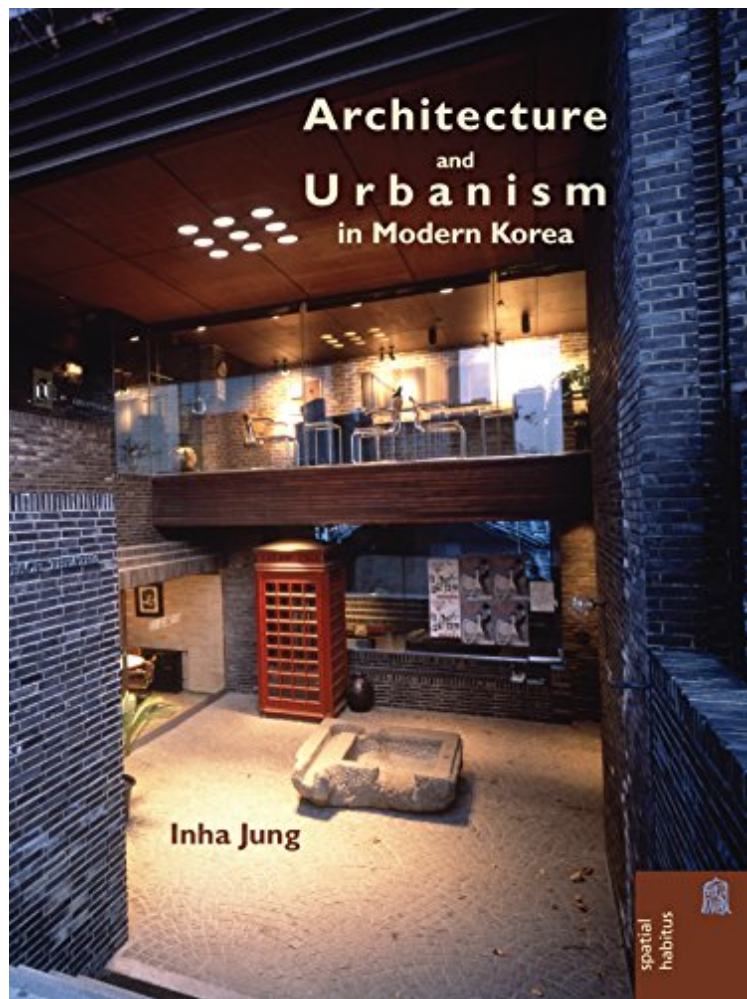


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Architecture and Urbanism in Modern Korea (Spatial Habitus: Making and Meaning in Asia's Architecture)

Inha Jung

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Inha Jung : Architecture and Urbanism in Modern Korea (Spatial Habitus: Making and Meaning in Asia's Architecture) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Architecture and Urbanism in Modern Korea (Spatial Habitus: Making and Meaning in Asia's Architecture):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Nice book on the historical survey of modern planning strategies that shaped contemporary Seoul, Korea. By Joongwon Lee Prof. Inha Jung became a popular architecture writer in Korea in 90s~00s through his trilogy on three key architects in Modern Korea; namely, Soogeun Kim, Joongup Kim, and Jongsung Kim. Like Bernini and Borromini, Soogeun and Joongup were lifetime rivals. The Korean regime leaders of

60s~80s favored Soogeun over Joongup. Soogeun, trained in Korean Japan, established SPACE. Joongup, trained in Korea France, was trained in atelier of Le Corbuiser. Soogeun and Joongup are the first generation of Korean architects. Jongsung represented 2nd generation of architects. Trained at IIT worked with Mies, Jongsung returned Korea as a first America-trained and Mies-trained architect. Prof. Jung's trilogy brought light architectural issues during 1960s~2000s. His current publication more or less focuses on urbanism issues during same period. This time he introduces many players who shaped modern and contemporary cities of Korea. The book also deals with the historical development of urbanism strategies. The book is a historical survey. It highlights planning strategies of, Japanese Era, Post Korean War Era, Construction Boom Era, and Global Era. Most emphasis is given to Seoul and its satellite cities. The task of this publication was executed during Prof. Jung's sabbatical stay at GSD. In that sense, the subject matter of the book is limited to Korea, but the audience of the book is beyond the scope of Korea. Hence, Prof Jung did great job telling a local story to the global audience.

Although modernization in Korea started more than a century later than in the West, it has worked as a prominent ideology throughout the past century; in particular it has brought radical changes in Korean architecture and cities. Traditional structures and ways of life have been thoroughly uprooted in modernity's continuous negation of the past. This book presents a comprehensive overview of architectural development and urbanization in Korea within the broad framework of modernization. Twentieth-century Korean architecture and cities form three distinctive periods. The first, defined as colonial modern, occurred between the early twentieth century and 1945, when Western civilization was transplanted to Korea via Japan, and a modern way of life, albeit distorted, began taking shape. The second is the so-called developmental dictatorship period. Between 1961 and 1988, the explosive growth of urban populations resulted in large-scale construction booms, and architects delved into modern identity through the locality of traditional architecture. The last period began in the mid-1990s and may be defined as one of modernization settlement and a transition to globalization. With city populations leveling out, urbanization and architecture came to be viewed from new perspectives. Inha Jung, however, contends that what is more significant is the identification of elements that have remained unchanged. Jung identifies continuities that have been formed by long-standing relationships between humans and their built environment and, despite rapid modernization, are still deeply rooted in the Korean way of life. For this reason, in the twentieth century, regionalism exerted a great influence on Korean architects. Various architectural and urban principles that Koreans developed over a long period while adapting to the natural environment have provided important foundations for architects' works. By exploring these sources, this carefully researched and amply illustrated book makes an original contribution to defining modern identity in Korea's architecture, housing, and urbanism. 198 illus., 114 in color

Inha Jung has written a fine volume, full of very well informed accounts of events, insightful analyses of projects, and nuanced ideas about the unique flow of architectural and urban modernization in Korea. Jung is a mature scholar who delivers a well-balanced and original account that is both ambitious in scope and delivered in unencumbered and economical prose, with lavish documentation should one want to go further into particular aspects. It is a book that can easily be read and appreciated by people outside the field, in, say, cultural or Korean studies, as well as by those without disciplinary affiliation who are simply interested in Korea. (Peter G. Rowe, Raymond Garbe Professor of Architecture and Urban Design, Harvard University) About the Author Inha Jung is a critic, historian, and professor of architecture at the Hanyang University,ERICA Campus.