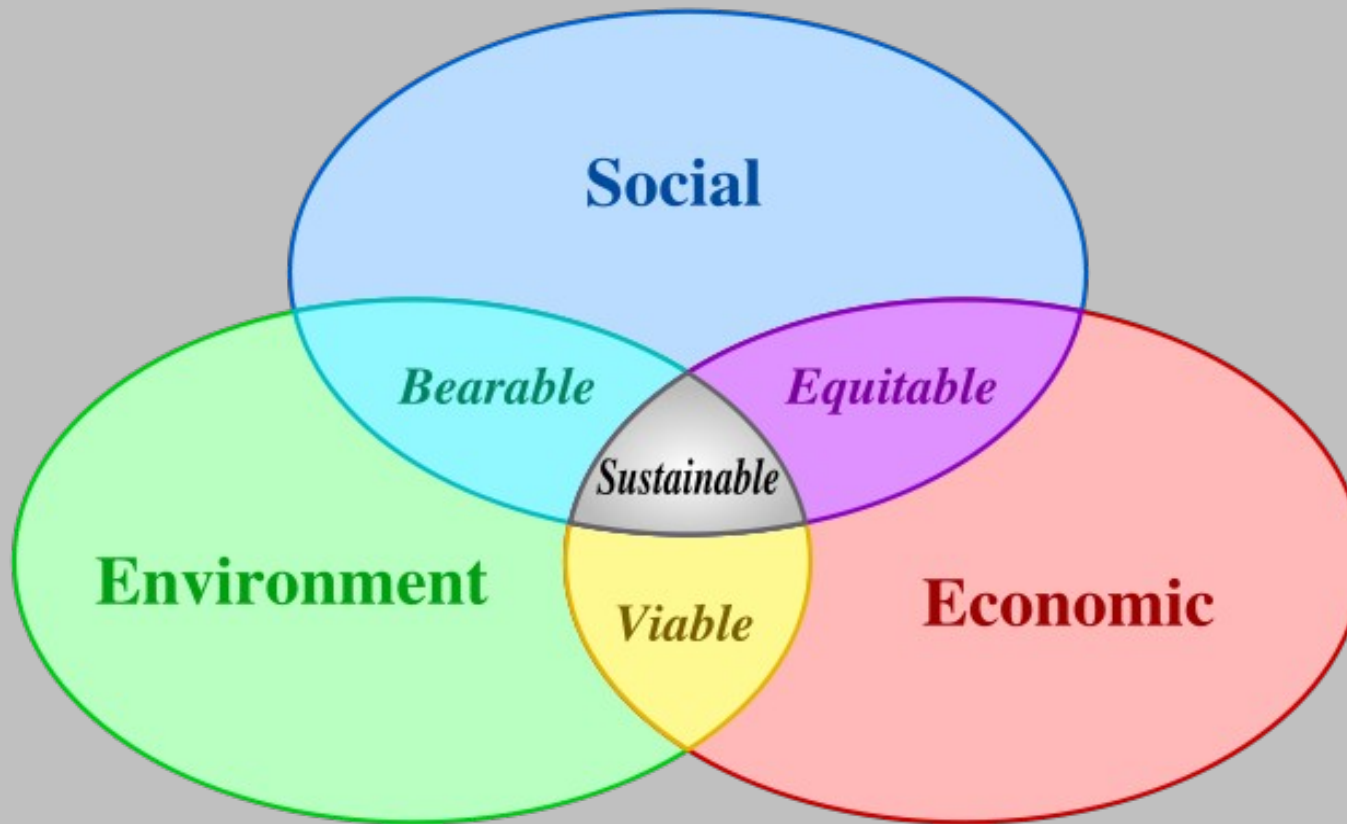# Social reflexion
for a sustainable development
in housing

Ludovic Philippon, architecte
Enseignant à l'ENSA Montpellier
Mai 2011

Sustainable development – Brundland report 1987

« […] *meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs* »
General Assembly Resolution 42/187, 11 December 1987.

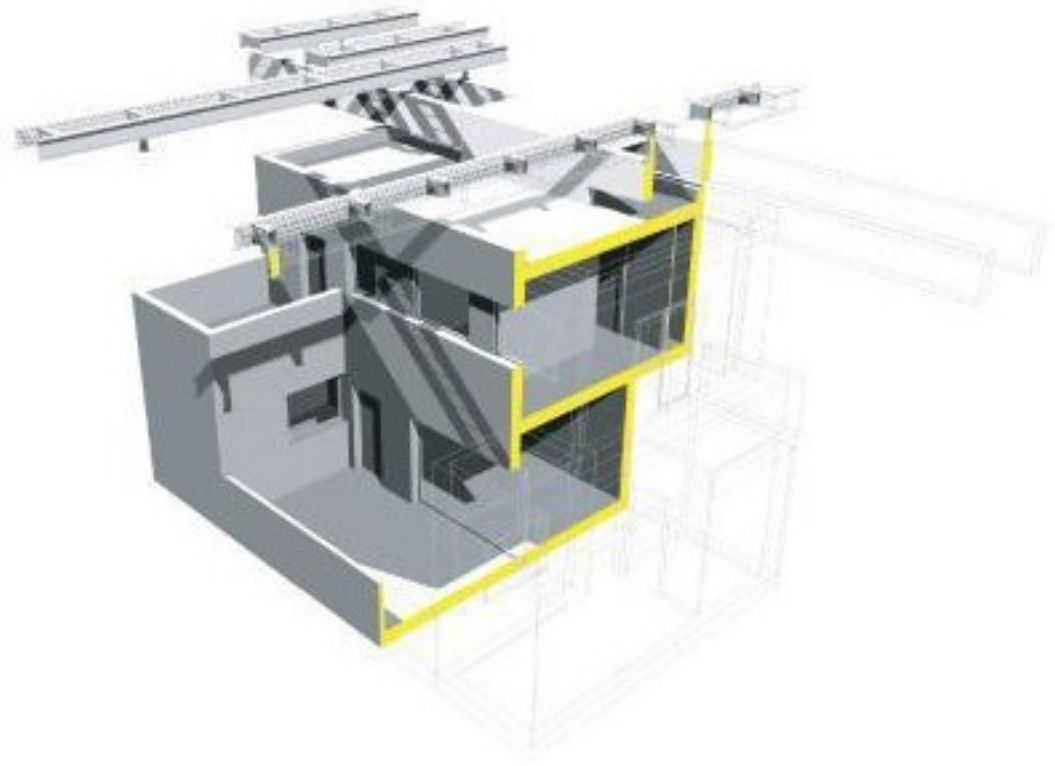# **Morphosis's project**, Social housing in Carabancel (Madrid)

Photo :Roland Halbe

Morphosis's basic parti : « *an extruded "J": a low-rise "village" building, flanked by a tall, slender bar to the North and a lower multi-level bar building to the South* »

Morphosis's principle of residential / organization model
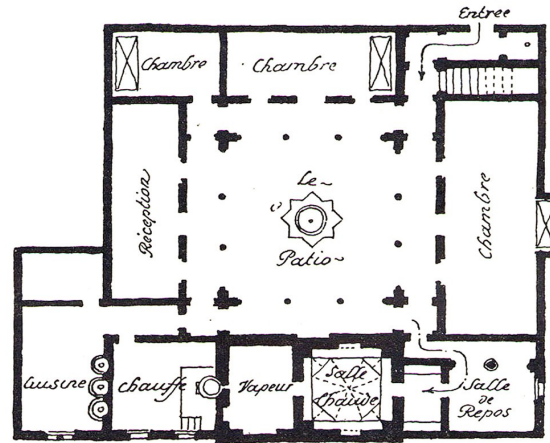
The organization of a Riad (Morocco)

Le Riad Marocain   -   Rabat

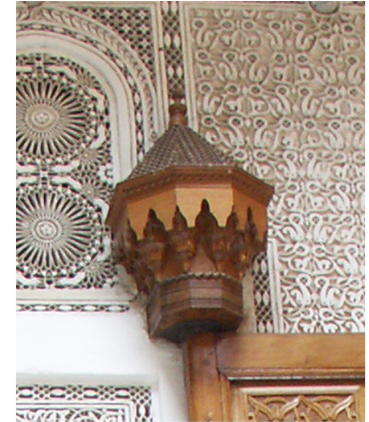Les Marocains ont deux sortes d'habitation:

- la maison sans jardin ou Dar
- la maison avec jardin intérieur au Riad

Les maisons malgrebines découlent à la fois et de la maison romaine et de la maison byzantine: cour intérieure, portique.

Les murs extérieurs ne sont plus qu'une seule enceinte, ce qui détermine la répartition d'ouvertures autour d'une cour centrale.

Plan type d'un riad au Maroc

Lampe sur les portes

Intérieur de la réception avec son somptueux décor.

Détail de la porte en bois

Fermé au dehors, ouvert au dedans sur des cours intérieures - LE PATIO

ENSAP-La Villette 2010 - 2011 /Ville et Banlieue/Zoratto - Crescenzi/ Et.: Otilia Cabrejos

Main crossing from south to north, « the paseo »

- Public passage

The paseo's structure
Articulation between public and private spaces

Photo :Giacomobeccari

« The paseo », a real « passage »?

The passage was closed at the request of residents.

The structures for plants seen from the roof

Crédit :Morphosis

Side passages and entrances: conception and troubles

From public to private spaces. Exit and entrance parking spaces.
The mat as a threshold

The « patio » : the lack of privacy of the common courtyard

Direct views from the neighbors.

Photo :Nic Lehoux

The « patio » : the lack of interest

No real social utility... no place for gatherings, no benches, a place only thought of as a passage

Morphosis architectural referents : the Andalusian's patio (south Spain)

- Intimacy/privacy

- No direct view

- significance threshold

A patio in Cordova (Spain)

The Medina of Fez (Morocco)

Doors, passages where there is ease of access/ usability (privacy respected)

Photo :Philippe Lahupe

Photo :Hugues Morin

The organization of a Riad (Morocco)
In and out zigzag (chicane). No direct views from the outside. Buffer space
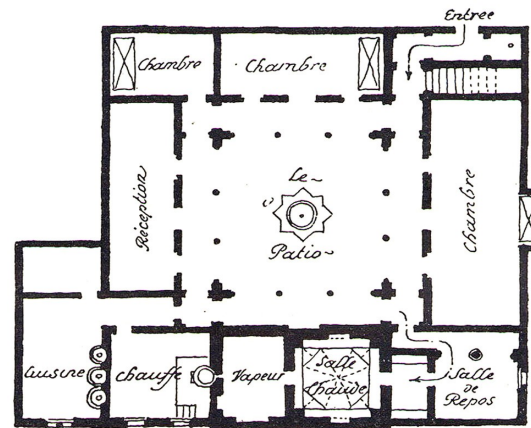
Le Riad Marocain   -   Rabat
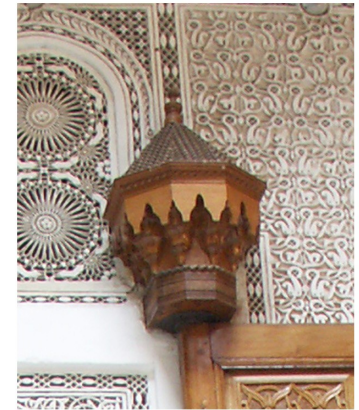
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Typical ways to create openings in Arabic culture

Traditional door (Tunisia).
The importance of the threshold

Photo :Citizen59

Moucharabieh.
To see without being seen

Photo :Angel Latorre

Morphosis's projects : the troubles

- A source of inspiration not respected (meaningless)

- Daily problems for residents (security services, lack of personal investment ..)

- The risk associated with lack of intimacy: to live under the law of the other

  Example : **The Panopticon**

The Panopticon : type of prison building designed by English philosopher and social theorist **Jeremy Bentham** in 1785.

The concept of the design is to allow an observer to observe (-opticon) all (pan-) prisoners without the incarcerated being able to tell whether they are being watched, thereby conveying what one architect has called the "sentiment of an invisible omniscience."

Prison Presidio Modelo, Cuba

This design was invoked by **Michel Foucault** (in *Discipline and Punish*) as metaphor for **modern "disciplinary" societies** and their pervasive inclination to o**bserve and normalise**.

Foucault proposes that not only prisons but all hierarchical structures like the army, schools, hospitals and factories have evolved through history to resemble Bentham's **Panopticon.**

The inside of the Prison Presidio Modelo, Cuba

Others choices?
How can the architect can create sustainable development integrating the social issue?

Leave the choice to the people: open or not their space to other

Examples :

- Social Housing in Madrid : FOA (Foreign Office Architects) and Andres Canovas's works

- Social Housing in Evora

FOA's work (Madrid)

Modular facades suggest possibility of
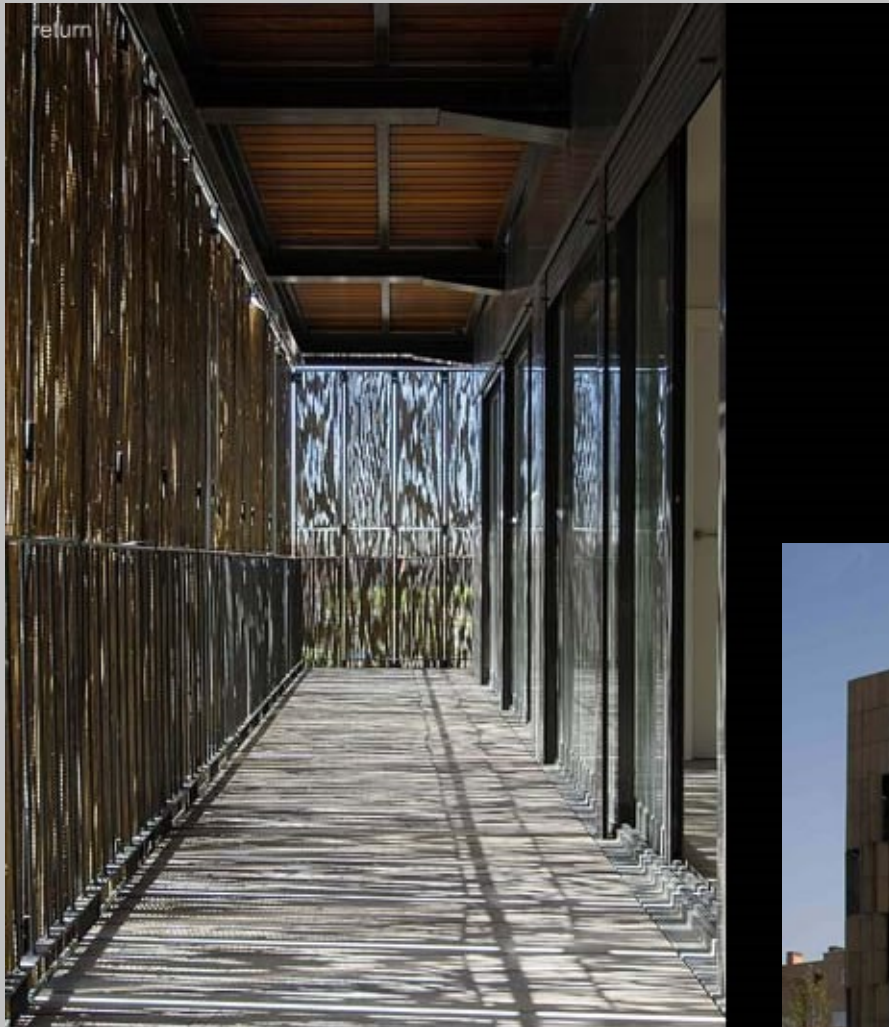closing or opening oneself to the world

foto Sergio Padura

Andres Canovas's work (Madrid)

A private space with a lack of privacy?

Alvaro Siza's work (Evora)