

# Applied Art and Design

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Application and Appreciation  
of Islamic Heritage in  
Contemporary Context

**Mandana Barkeshli**



**IIUM PRESS**

INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

# **APPLIED ARTS AND DESIGN**

## **APPLICATION AND APPRECIATION OF ISLAMIC HERITAGE IN CONTEMPORARY CONTEXT**

**Mandana Barkeshli**



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## CHAPTER FOUR

### ISLAMIC AND INTERIOR DESIGN COURTYARD AND GARDEN DESIGN

*Ismail Jasmani*

#### ABSTRACT

Courtyards, private open spaces surrounded by walls or buildings have been in use in residence for almost as long as people have lived in constructed dwellings. Courtyards have historically been used for many purposes. These include but not limited to cooking, sleeping, working, playing, gardening, and raising animals.<sup>1</sup> Islamic courtyard and garden designs have very special attraction to their own characteristics. This has been since the beginning of the Islamic architecture, the concept of which was derived from the Holy Quran itself. Water, trees, and flowers are some elements in the Islamic Courtyard and garden design. Activities such as planting, protection, and privacy were the major calls for its need at that time. This is to protect man from wild beast and other enemies. It was a place where people developed their activities such as planting herbs, vegetables and other fruits, as well as protecting domestic animals from wild beasts. The courtyard was used as a shield and protection of life and properties; this is to guarantee the security and safety of life and properties, both movables and immovable. It also served as a relaxing corner, or in a contemporary term, rendezvous corner, after the daily activities.

[Keywords: Courtyard, garden design, kitchen garden, pleasure garden, domestic animal and wild beast.]

#### INTRODUCTION

The Islamic courtyard and gardens were established throughout the Islamic world, they were found in the Southern Spain, North Africa, Iran, Afghanistan and India. The courtyard and gardens symbolize the paradisaical reward for the faithful based on the following Quranic testimony:

Allah hath promised the Believers, Men and women, gardens under which rivers flow, to dwell therein, and Beautiful Mansions in Garden of everlasting stay  
But the greatest bliss Is the Good Pleasure of Allah: that is supreme triumph.<sup>2</sup>

The secular tradition of the royal pleasure garden, which predated the Islamic era, also exists, especially in Iran. The factors to be considered in these countries are the climatic de-

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<sup>1</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Courtyard>

<sup>2</sup> At-Tauba 72, The Holy Qur'an: English Translation of the meanings and commentary, 1984