

# Climate and Vernacular

Architecture

What buildings did about climate before mechanical systems existed.

*Recurring responses to four broad climate types.*

| Climate   | Response                                  |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------|
| Hot arid  | Heavy mass, small openings, courtyards    |
| Hot humid | Light, raised, deep shade, cross flow     |
| Cold      | Compact form, thick fabric, small windows |
| Temperate | Mixed, seasonal, adaptable openings       |

Vernacular is evidence, not decoration. Copy the strategy, which was climate-driven, rather than the ornament.