

Connect knowledge - Stimulate ideas

[Silkcities.org](http://Silkcities.org)



Silk Cities

Silk Cities is an independent professional and academic initiative for contextual knowledge exchange, research and advocacy. The 'Silk Cities' initiative is concerned with contextual urban challenges that historical cities in countries along the historic Silk Roads face within the process of urban transformation, By using the narrative of the urban Silk Roads we tap on the notions of connectivity and exchange, historical presence that is reflected in city characteristics and urban life, and contextual contemporary challenges. Silk Cities' initial focus area has been these cities in the Middle East and Central Asia.

## WHY

A lack of sufficient communication in regard to the quality of the built environment is more evident in developing countries, especially those within the Middle East and Central Asia, which are not usually placed in the limelight of international focus (from a built environment perspective) and underexplored.

## HOW

Silk Cities aim to bridge the gap between theory and practice by connecting existing knowledge and to high-profile, up-to-date international research. These interactions will raise awareness on prevailing issues and stimulate the search for solutions. 'Silk Cities' organises workshops and conferences and undertakes research, while seeking further innovative initiatives. By communicating awareness, issues will be raised and ideas for solutions will be stimulated. Resultantly, knowledge will be transferred amongst academics and practitioners in related disciplines, namely, urban design/planning, disaster risk reduction and reconstruction, as well as urban management.

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

## **Urban Change in Iran**

*London, UK*

Hosted by The Bartlett, UCL

Was commended by The UNESCO Director General, Ms Irina Bokova

## **Silk Cities 2015: Knowledge Exchange Workshop**

*London, UK*

Hosted by The Bartlett Development Planning Unit, UCL

## **Silk Cities 2017: Reconnect population to urban heritage in the Middle East & Central Asia**

*London, UK*

Co-organised by Silk Cities and The Bartlett Development Planning, UCL

Supporters: UCL Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS), Oxford Brookes University, Urban Design Group



## **Silk Cities 2019: Reconstruction, Recovery and Resilience of Historic Cities and Societies**

*L'Aquila, Italy*

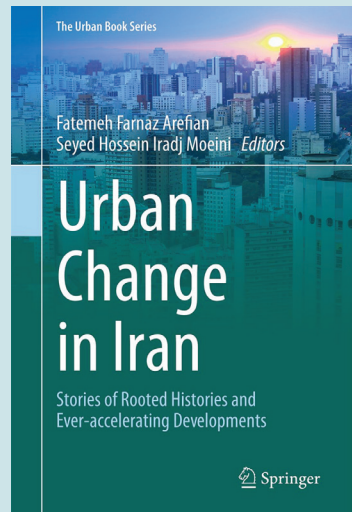
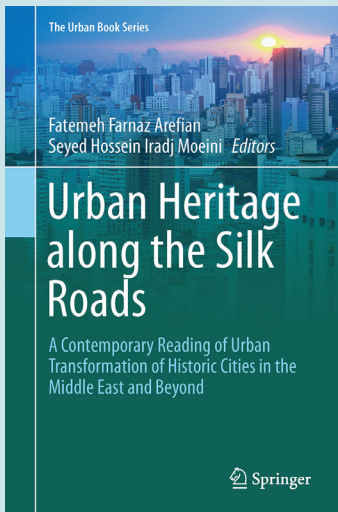
Co-organised by Silk Cities, University of L'Aquila, UCL

Sponsors: The Bartlett Development Planning Unit (DPU)/UCL, City Partnership Programme/UCL, Università degli Studi, L'Aquila, DICEAA, Dipartimento di Ingegneria Civile, Edile-Architettura e Ambientale, Università degli Studi dell'Aquila, DSU Dipartimento di Scienze Umane, Università degli Studi dell'Aquila, Dipartimento di Eccellenza, Università degli Studi dell'Aquila, History Department/UCL

## EXHIBITION



## PUBLICATIONS



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better cities

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