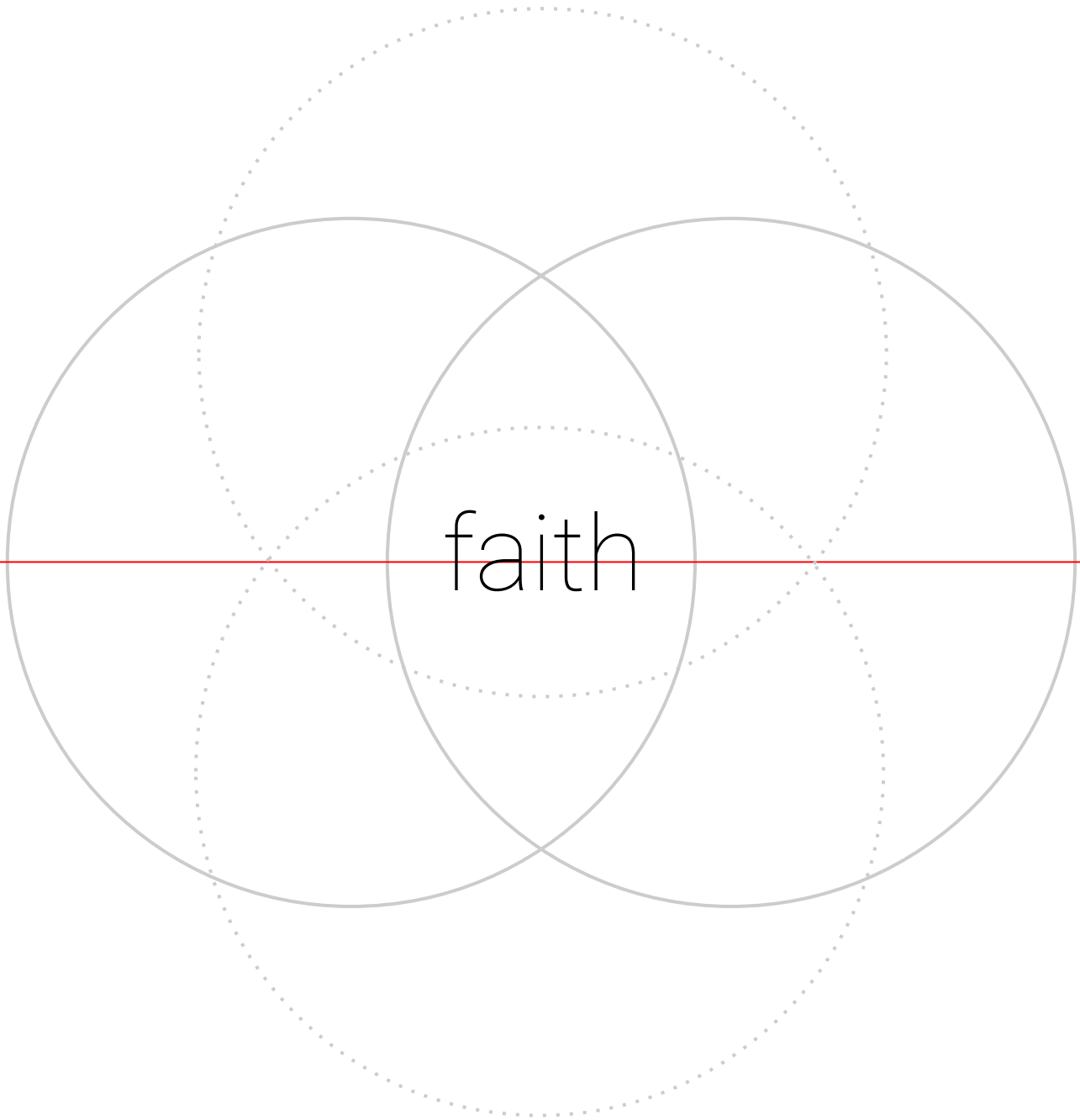




Architecture for New Belief Systems



Img 1: Journey to find new hope.

Premise

There has been a gradual increase in people's knowledge about Science and Technology as well as other belief systems.

With this increase, faith in religious authority is seen to be diminishing for multiple reasons across the globe.

Thus, more and more people are moving towards the idea of **Atheism**.

Atheism is a lack of belief in the higher deity. It infact **refuses the existence of the almighty** altogether.



Img 2: People moving towards new belief systems.

Emerging Beliefs

Global Index of Religion and Atheism* measures self-perceptions on the beliefs at a global level. Their research conducted in 2012 indicated that **a global average of 13 percent population** identified themselves as **convinced atheists**, **23%** identified as **not religious**, **59%** as **religious** and **5% didn't know**.

China had an average of **47%** people as convinced Atheists. **Japan, Czech Republic, France, South Korea, Germany, Netherlands, Austria, Australia and Iceland** were other countries showing an increase in the Atheist population in their country ranging from an average of **10% to 31%**.

*conducted by WIN/Gallup International



Img 3: Places that can offer peace.

Worship Places

Ironically, even though people have started disregarding religion, they don't disregard visiting a worship place altogether. As multiple researches suggest, some people find **peace** when they visit a worship place, for some it is a **source of hope** in occasion of distress, for some it is also a source of **belongingness to a particular community** and the list goes on.

With growing globalization and connectivity in the world, there's growing tolerance and acceptance for different faiths and faithlessness around the world.

Worship places, however are predominantly made religion specific. Thus, there are no worship places that invite practising all faiths.



Img 4: Places that offer the feeling of solitude.

Brief

Where do people go in search of peace/hope/solitude? What kind of places can resonate such feelings? What will the intersection of faith and faithless look like? What will be the form of a place where this acceptance of all faiths is manifested in architecture?

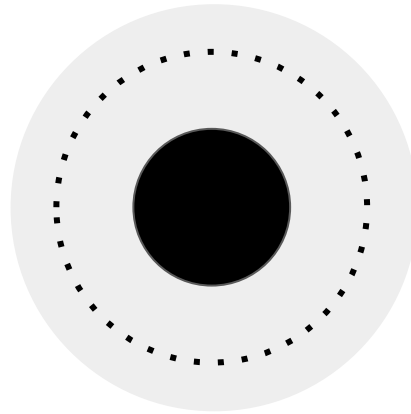
If a Centre inclusive for every faith is to be made, what would such a place look like?

Design Challenge - Propose an intervention - **A Centre for Faith Agnostics**. The proposed center should be open for all regardless of their faith.



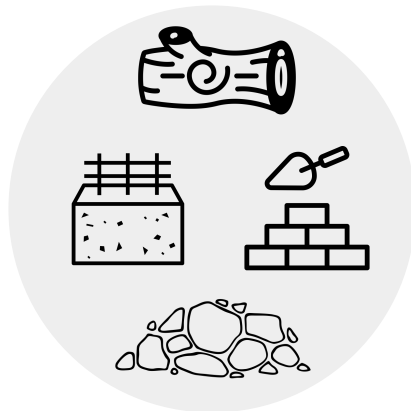
User Friendly

Proposed intervention should be open for all and accessible to all.



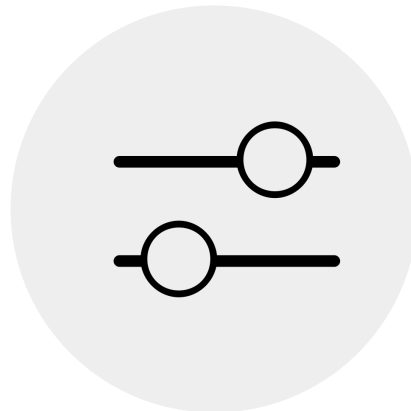
Intimate

Providing a refuge from the everyday by creating spaces for reflection.



Materiality

Proposed intervention should carefully consider using materials to resonate specific feelings.



Altering with Seasons

Design should focus on modifying itself with the changing seasons.

Objectives

Participants can use the suggested objectives to begin their design. However, this is not an exhaustive list. Participants can use their own interpretation of the given objectives to create their version of this center.



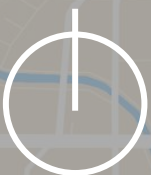
Img 5: Ancient Buildings in the District.

Dongcheng, Beijing

The Dongcheng District forms the Eastern part of Beijing's Urban Core. Most of this district is densely developed and the main roads follow a strict grid. However, it also inhabits multiple parks and a few plazas too.

Architecture from various eras can be experienced within this district. It ranges from traditional Chinese buildings from the 15th Century (**Forbidden City**) to two-storey stone houses in the tiny lanes to the newest tall office buildings.

The proposed intervention could be seen as renovating this existing park (Img 6) into **a Center for Faith Agnostics**.



Site Area- 7950 sqm | Built up Area (Maximum)- 1000 sqm
Site Coordinates- 39°54'09.0"N 116°25'45.8"E |
Site Overview | Height Restrictions- 5 mts



Img 6: Existing Public Park- Site for Intervention.

Site Details

The site is an existing public park in Dongcheng District of Beijing. A small part of the Ming Dynasty Wall lies adjacent to the park. Some of the landmarks around the site include Hotel Marriott and Beijing Railway Station.

Common trees found in this area include **Chinese pine, Locust, Aspen, Juniper, Japanese Pagoda tree** etc..

Common shrubs in this area include **ginkgo, peach, lagerstroemia, magnolia** etc.

Site Area- 7950 sqm | Built up Area (Maximum)- 1000 sqm

Site Coordinates- 39°54'09.0"N 116°25'45.8"E |

Site Overview | Height Restrictions- 5 mts

Guidelines

You have to deliver an design outcome on the following site, based on the given outlines.

- **Recommended** number of sheets/presentation images/boards:

5 (Five) of size [**2800px x 3500px**] in portrait digital format (**JPEG only**).

Minimum 3 (Three) & No maximum sheet limit. Each image should be less than **15MB**. (Do not submit PNG format)

Minimum requisite submission are sheets/boards + Cover image containing:

- Site plan (Compulsory)
- Key conceptual sections x 1 (Minimum)
- 3D views x 4
- Cover image / Thumbnail of size 2000px x 1000px or larger in aspect ratio 2:1.
- Answering 6 FAQs #
- This is the link for new file sizes, [here](#).

#The FAQ's have to be answered as instructed in the FAQ document in the 'additional resources folder'.

Deadlines

Discover the competition schedule and deadlines on the competitions page or on this link - [Schedule](#).

Resources

This competition contains additional resources that contains a set of files useful to complete the competition submission. This folder is made available on your profile dashboard automatically as soon as you register.

This additional resources folder of this competition contains: Submission Format files in PSD | AI | InDD, FAQs, High Res maps and CAD file of the site plan.

Rules

+ The competitions is open for **students and professionals** from all the disciplines of design.

+ The team limit for this competition is **4 members maximum per team**.

+ You can register more than one team but they have to be registered separately.

+ Ensure that the final sheets submitted **do not include your name or any other mark of identification**. Your submission is linked to your user account which stands as your identification.

+ This is a design **ideas challenge only**. There is no built commission/realization associated with the problem.

+ In case of publication in yearbook we will reach out separately for selected entries.

Pro-Tips

+ Use exploded views to discuss multi levelled conceptual models better.

+ Mention sheet number on corner of every sheet.

+ Plagiarism of any idea / form / design / image will be disqualified with a notice.

+ All the sheets or images will be viewed on a digital device. **e.g.** Laptop screen or projector. Uploaded sheets or images will not be physically printed for evaluation. The submission hence should be prepared for digital viewing only.

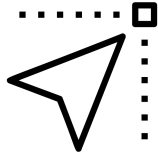
+ Submit JPEG images only. (PNG will not function)



Awards

Grants of up to a total of **24,000\$** can be won on this challenge. Learn more about the full conditions on the competition page [here](https://uni.xyz/competitions).

The entries will be judged by an international jury of the competition on the following criteria:



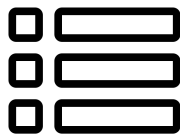
Presentation

The fundamental to a good entry is a good presentation.



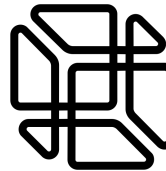
Concept/Idea

Quality of thought and intent in pre-design phase.



Spaces/Programme

How the spaces are calculated and ordered.



Design Outcome

The final architectural outcome of the solution.

Judging Criteria

The judging panel can also add other criteria based on their internal discussions - which will be in line with the problem statement. Participants are advised to fulfil above given criteria first in their design.

About



Unfuse serves as a unit for **Uni** in the field of Architecture. It intends to break the fusion of traditional design barriers and methodologies by making it a platform for experimentation and conceptual exchange of ideas in architecture, urbanism, society, culture and ecology. It is a research initiative dedicated to providing opportunities for designers from all domains to explore ideas that go beyond the boundaries of architectural discipline and enrich our built environment; thereby opening up possibilities for promotion of architectural thought at a global level.

Queries: support@uni.xyz

Discover other competitions: <https://competitions.uni.xyz>

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Discover FAQ's about this competition on our help forum here: <https://help.uni.xyz/>

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