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PRESS RELEASE

The international architectural practice BERGER PARKKINEN+ Architekten (Vienna, Helsinki, Doha) is pleased to announce that it has won the competition and been commissioned to carry out the design work for **two major projects in Qatar:** the **Court of Cassation in Doha** and the **Court Complex in Lusail**. Planning is already advanced, with completion expected in 2029.

Together, these public buildings are **redefining contemporary judicial architecture** – a thoughtful synthesis of traditional Arab architecture and urban planning, elements of the Qatari landscape and the principles of sustainable construction give~~s~~ rise to a distinctive and innovative architectural style.

The projects are of great significance in the context of the **country's ambitious modernisation programme**. The two new buildings take the judiciary to a new level and serve to highlight the justice system as a modern, functioning institution. Their design brings together **architectural excellence**, **advanced technologies**, **sustainable principles**, and high standards of operational efficiency to support the continued development of the country's judicial infrastructure.

In a statement, **architect Alfred Berger**, CEO of Berger Parkkinen+ Architects **explains**: *"These two projects offer a unique opportunity to bring our architectural vision to Doha. The cultural context, the extremely hot climate, as well as the project's significant social importance and scale, call for innovative solutions. After more than 30 years of working on many wonderful projects, the Court Project in Doha represents a special challenge and a new highlight in our work.*"

The **Court of Cassation on Khalifa Street** stands as a pioneering judicial institution opposite the Grand Mosque. Qatar's highest court will occupy a site of 70,000 m² and have a gross floor area of 75,000 m². The **Court Complex in Lusail, Wadi al Banat**, is a groundbreaking project featuring 94 courtrooms covering a total area of 300,000 m², built on a site of 100,000 m².

The Court of Cassation

Inspired by the Qatari landscape and its architectural heritage, the project expresses dignity, transparency, and public accessibility while embodying the authority and significance of the nation's highest court.

The idea of the historic Caravanserai and the old Palace in Doha, where multiple buildings are placed within an enclosure was the foundation of the architectural concept. This concept is reinterpreted through a continuous elegant arcade that frames the ensemble while creating a welcoming and accessible public realm.

Following the tradition of Qatari palace compounds, the Court of Cassation is conceived as a composition of distinct yet interconnected buildings rather than a single monumental structure. The individual volumes are organized within the enclosing arcade, establishing a clear functional relationship between the buildings while creating a cohesive architectural ensemble.

The Court Complex

The architectural identity of the Court Complex emerges from a thoughtful synthesis of the Qatari landscape, traditional Arabian architecture, regional craftsmanship, and the traditional principles of garden design.

The design of the Court Complex draws inspiration from the traditional Islamic townscape, shaped by a rhythm of density and openness, shadow and light, built form and the spaces in between. The Court Complex is a contemporary interpretation of this timeless spatial principle.

Buildings are arranged in carefully considered clusters, creating a network of courtyards, passages, and public spaces. Rather than a single monumental object, the complex forms a living townscape, where density is balanced by openness and solid and void define the architectural character.

Functionally, the compound has a clear and understandable structure, that allows easy navigation within the huge building. All public functions are concentrated on the ground and first floors, while administration and judges' offices are located on the levels above. A generous entrance portico provides direct access to the four

courts, with glazed arcades extending from it to provide clear and efficient access to all 94 courtrooms.

Designed for long-term adaptability, the complex incorporates flexible floor plans, a regular structural grid, and efficient service distribution, allowing it to respond to future organizational needs while preserving its architectural identity.

Externally, the Court Complex is conceived as an ensemble of 51 sculptural buildings, forming a distinctive architectural identity through their dynamic gabled silhouettes. The silhouette changes constantly as one drives past but remains unmistakable from every angle. Like a sand dune, its form changes with every perspective, revealing a shifting silhouette that is difficult to grasp yet always recognizable. It becomes a powerful symbol, deeply rooted in the landscape, culture, and history of Qatar.

Press Contact
Ana Berlin
+43 660 47 53 818
press@berger-parkkinen.com