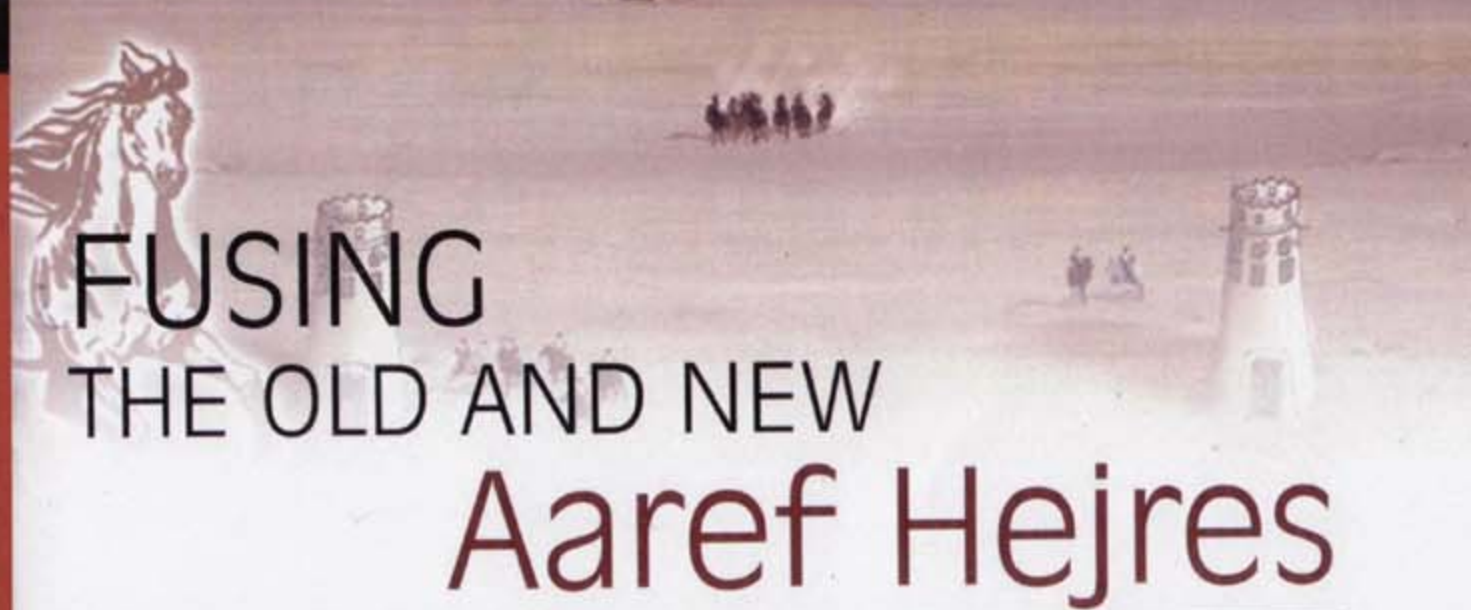


# Arabian HOMES

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## FUSING THE OLD AND NEW

# Aaref Hejres

Emaar Engineering is a prominent architectural company in Bahrain. They create designs for some of the most prestigious developments across the Kingdom and make many people's building dreams come true in a completely unique and adventurous style. We managed to get some time with Aaref Hejres, the owner and man behind Emaar Engineering's phenomenal success.

**To start things off, can you tell us a bit about Emaar Engineering and what exactly they do?**  
 Emaar Engineering is an engineering consultancy firm, established in 2000. We design various projects, such as villas, residences, commercial, industrial and some 'special' projects, which are confidential.

**Are you at all linked with Dubai's Emaar Properties?**  
 No, they are project developers, while we are an engineering consultancy firm.

**What exactly is your role within the company?**  
 I'm like a dynamo, I deal with everything from meeting the clients to creating the engineer's brief and checking the work before it goes back to the client.

**Can you describe a typical day at work?**  
 Every day is a typical day! Every day is a long day; I sometimes work from 8am until midnight or later. Sometimes my staff has to work long hours too, in order to meet deadlines. I believe the human being is like elastic, I push myself to the extreme until I break. I believe everything is possible, and push myself to the limit. Thank God I always succeed.

**As a company, what are Emaar's goals?**  
 Our goal is to be one of the leading engineering construction firms in the Middle East. It will take a lot of effort and work to get there.

**What projects have you been involved with in Bahrain?**  
 There are so many projects! We're working on some classified projects, and the Endurance Village, which will have many international competitors visiting. That's scheduled to open in 2005. We've recently participated in a competition to design a shopping mall, and we have designed Sheikhha Kanoo Grand Mosque, which I like to call a 'landmark mosque'.

**What are you currently working on?**  
 The Endurance Village for His Highness Sheikh Nasser, and Sheikhha Kanoo Grand Mosque in Tubli. There's also 'Johnny Rocket's', an American chain restaurant, and a restaurant called Nino, from Kuwait. We're also working on a boxing gym, which will feature a rock climbing wall, running track, 25 meter swimming pool, boxing ring and massage rooms, plus a coffee shop, all in an oval building.

**In total, how many projects has Emaar been involved with?**  
 We've been involved in a lot since we started.



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