



International Rammed Earth Workshop Pune 7-8-9th April 2011

By Hanno Burstchur from Austria

First participation in a rammed earth project of martin rauch (www.lehmtonerde.at) in 1998. From that time further involvement in projects until 2005. Graduation in 2005 as architect at the department for architecture at the technical university in Vienna. In the years 2006 and 2007 travels in India which are further opening the interest in responsible construction with natural materials. Participation in the design and construction process of the green school on bali (www.greenschool.org) From 2007 onwards focus on workshops for layperson as well as professional builders, architects, iengineers and assisting design teams in implementing rammed earth in their projects.

“My aim is to bring you as close to rammed earth as possible. I will provide you with all the knowledge about rammed earth walls you need so that you can include rammed earth walls and floors for your homes and your upcoming projects. In a lecture (slideshow) I will give during the workshop, you will see a variety of rammed earth projects. This is valuable input for you in regards of a broad spectrum of architectural design as well as technical details of the building process.

Beside the knowledge, it is essential for me to transmit the spirit of the rammed earth. During the time we spend together you will get a different approach to earth as a building material.”

.....Hanno



Day 1

- ◆ Looking at possible sources for the material (earth, gravel, sand).. already bought as per your advice at institute.
- ◆ Checking different versions for the formwork according to the availability of the material (we need to organise the formwork material before hand as we have few options at the institute)
- ◆ Checking suitable materials for water barrier.. what is this
- ◆ Preparing suitable form for the samples
- ◆ Preparation of different mixtures according to the availability
- ◆ Preparation of the form for the first rammed earth samples.
- ◆ Preparation of the stampers (welding) (can we omit this as we don't have facility to weld as of now, will include this in your next longer days workshop in Bhor)
- ◆ Ramming of the first samples

Day 2

- ◆ Building a formwork for a sample wall (approx. 1m x 0,3m x 1m)
- ◆ Begin to build the sample wall
- ◆ Finish the sample wall
- ◆ Finish the samples

Day 3

- ◆ Ramming of new samples (if we adjust the mixture)
- ◆ Begin to build a formwork for the wall (approx. 4m x 0,4m x 2,5m)
- ◆ Ramming of the earth wall
- ◆ Building up the form, adjusting the form
- ◆ Finishing the ramming process, remove the form
- ◆ Treatment of the surface

Day 4

- ◆ Building of a sample for a rammed earth floor (optional)

(This schedule is flexible and open for changes beforehand as well as during the construction)

After this workshop you will have enough knowledge and feeling to involve rammed earth in your architectural design. Beside the gained knowledge, the most important fact is that the participants get reconnected with the archaic element EARTH.

“The purity and gentle power of rammed earth walls is simply overwhelming. Earth is one of the honest building materials nature provides.”