

**ПРИЛОЖЕНИЕ НА ПРЕСОВАНИ ЗЕМНИ БЛОКОВЕ
В СТРОИТЕЛСТВОТО НА СГРАДИ –
ПРОУЧВАНЕ НА ПРИМЕРИ ОТ АФРИКА И БЪЛГАРИЯ**

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**APPLICATION OF PRESSED EARTH MODULAR BLOCKS
IN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION –
STUDY OF EXAMPLES FROM AFRICA AND BULGARIA**

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Abstract:

Building with natural materials is a worldwide trend, gathering strength. Many architects from developed Western world are turning their attention towards millennia old techniques of building with earth, where the builders have direct access to raw materials on or near the site. Some buildings form Gando, Burkina Faso, by architect Francis Kere are investigated. Due to scarcity of “modern” building materials the architect, turned builder employs ancient technique of building with earth using manually operated presses to produce the modular blocks form material taken from the site. Additional materials include stone, corrugated sheets for roofing and steel rebars. The architect employs the principle of passive cooling, which corresponds to the local climatic conditions and helps to avoid the use of expensive AC equipment. The local community is directly involved in the building process, through which they acquire new skills. This creates a positive chain reaction: new skills, job opportunities and better quality of living. Review of Bulgarian traditional earth building methods is presented as well as currently built projects. The Author argues that the technology of building with pressed earth blocks is a viable alternative for contemporary sustainable projects in Bulgaria.

Keywords:

Pressed Earth Modular Blocks, Passive Cooling, Sustainable Architecture.

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