

Feb 28
Mar 01
2014

a SENSE
OF
PLACE

9th ISOLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
DELHI 2014

Delhi Walks

WALK I

Humayun's Tomb World Heritage Site

Led by

Prof. Mohammad Shaheer

ISOLA Medal 2012 recipient Professor Mohammad Shaheer studied architecture and urban design at the SPA, Delhi from 1965 to 1972, and then landscape architecture under a Ford Foundation fellowship at Sheffield, England. After a two year stint in Northern Ireland, he returned to Delhi in 1976. He was on the faculty at the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi from 1976 to 2003, as Professor and later Head of the Department of Landscape Architecture, a role in which he is widely respected as a dedicated and thoughtful teacher who has guided and taught an entire generation of landscape architects.

Prof. Shaheer has been practicing landscape architecture for over three decades, and his firm Shaheer Associates has successfully participated in the landscape design of large public open space and heritage projects in Delhi, Lucknow and Kabul, apart from many private commissions throughout India. His work includes significant projects such as the Memorial to Rajiv Gandhi at Sriperumbudur, Mr O.P. Jain's Sanskriti Kala Kendra, New Delhi, environmental improvements to the historic gardens of the Humayun's Tomb precinct in Delhi as well as the rehabilitation of Bagh-e-Babur, Kabul – both of these for the Aga Khan Trust for Culture.

He is deeply interested in writing on landscape and related topics. He has served on national level government committees concerned with environment, conservation and city planning, and was a Member of the Delhi Urban Art Commission from 2005 to 2011. He is currently engaged in integrating heritage, ecology and public recreational use in a design proposal for New Delhi's historic Sunder Nursery.

His project Sanskriti Kala Kendra in New Delhi received the ISOLA Landmark Award 2012, and in 2014 he received the Hudco Award (First prize) in the Landscape category for the design of Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Park at Lucknow (2006).

& Mr. Ratish Nanda

Mr. Ratish Nanda is a conservation architect and Director of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in India. He has extensive international experience in promoting, developing and delivering architectural heritage projects across India and the UK.

As the AKTC Projects Director in India, he heads a multi-disciplinary team implementing the Humayun's Tomb – Sunder Nursery – Hazrat Nizamuddin Basti Urban Renewal project. He has been involved with the Humayun's Tomb Garden Conservation, Baghe Babur Restoration, Kabul, Afghanistan; work for ICOMOS in Iran, Turkey and Nepal; and, several conservation projects for INTACH, including the preparation of an inventory of historic buildings for Delhi.

Mr. Nanda completed his architectural studies with a Gold Medal in 1995 from the TVB School of Habitat Studies Delhi followed by a Masters in Conservation Studies from the University of

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York, UK in 1998. He has been a recipient of the Eisenhower Fellowship, Sanskriti Award for Socio-Cultural achievement, Prince Claus fund Urban hero title, Aga Khan Foundation international scholarship and the Charles Wallace Conservation Fellowship.

He has served as a member of the Delhi Urban Arts Commission (DUAC) in the years 2008-11. And, he has been listed amongst the 50 most influential young Indians by India Today magazine in 2005.

Walk II

Calm and Chaos in three ages: Lodhi Heritage Area Walk

The genesis of the Lodhi gardens area through the medieval era, its development as an urban fringe of the colonial capital; and its current position as an uber-sophisticated hub is an interesting and unique phenomenon.

The story of the walk moves from the sainted Nizamuddin, to the lost water channels of the Satpulla, through an enormous graveyard; onto Lutyens' vision and Lady Willingdon's gate, amidst the search for a national identity of an independent nation; into Rockefeller and Ford foundations' interest, to Eckbo doffing his hat to Olmsted, and Joseph Allen Stein's magnum opus; finally to breathlessly land at the mecca of those who have 'arrived'.

Prof. Samir Mathur hosts the walk. It will start from the front gate of India International Center, Max Mueller Road at 7:30 am on 1st March 2014.

Led by

Prof. Samir Mathur

Prof. Samir Mathur, graduated from the Masters program for Landscape Architecture at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA after earning his Bachelor in Architecture from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. His landscape design practice 'Integral Designs' has been involved in a variety of projects ranging from Sustainable City Master Plans, Landscape Heritage precincts and a wide spectrum of projects.

He is also associated with academics, teaching at the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. Landscape related research is an intrinsic part of the studio. He has presented research papers at various International and National venues. His work on landscape and master planning of cities was presented as a paper on 'Greenways in India' at the Fabos Conference on Landscape and Greenway Planning at Amherst, USA last year.

Samir Mathur is a panel member at the Heritage Conservation Committee (HCC) constituted by the Ministry of Urban Development. He is an International member of the American Society of Landscape Architecture (ASLA) and is an Executive Committee member at the Indian Society of Landscape Architects (ISOLA), Delhi Chapter.

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Walk III

Safdarjung Tomb and Gardens

Led by

Dr. Priyaleen Singh (Walk Leader)

Priyaleen Singh is a Professor in the Department of Architectural Conservation at the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. She has a Masters degree in Landscape Architecture. She was awarded the Charles Wallace India Trust scholarship to do her MA in Conservation from Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, University of York, U.K. and subsequently got the Commonwealth Scholarship to do her D.Phil from the same institute in 1998. As a practicing Conservation architect and a Landscape architect she has worked on several Urban conservation and Historic landscape conservation projects. She is also compiling a National Register of Historic Gardens of India and at the same time continues to be concerned with contemporary landscape design and urban conservation issues in India.