

The Green God Ganesha

The elephant-headed, remover of obstacles & the god of beginnings and wisdom!



ANTONIO GAUDI YOU WILL NOT GET A CHANCE TO LIVE AGAIN !!!



e have experienced time and again that human beings are more involved in the relationship called "Friendship" than any other relationships! We enhance beautiful moments in life by inventing and reinventing our interactions with our friends. One such friend of mine who keeps walking through life is "Vikas", which means "progress"! Giving complete justice to his name, he keeps enhancing his moral values and personality, as he treads through life! He roams around the whole world for his own business, which is in its highly exponential phase. He discusses his work and business with me and during one such discussion, I lightly commented that if possible, he should visit Spain and see the immortal creations of Antonio Gaudi and more specifically, experience them! Otherwise a person with a heavy work schedule and not a person to get involved in any such things, Vikas was astounded when he stood casually before one such creation, in Spain! When he enquired, he realized that this was the same very extra-ordinary creation, about which his friend had told him and he got totally engrossed in experiencing the beauty of all other magnificent creations! He called me up and asked me what all that was about? He was not ready to believe that these were creations on this very earth. He saw all the creations of Gaudi and returned home with loads of information and videos. But after that, I forced whoever went to Spain, to visit the creations of Gaudi and they came back satisfied, adding beautiful memories and photographs to their collection! Abhay and Neeta is one such pair who has come back with memories and pictures, which they have brought back!

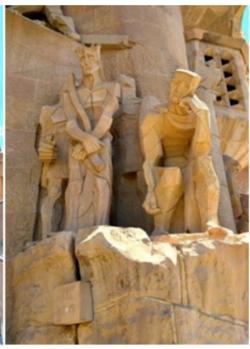


Antonio Gaudi, born on 25th June, in 1851, at Reus, Catalina, Spain; a multi-dimensional architect, is known for bringing all his excellent creations, into reality, in Spain! His striving towards achieving his dreams of creating something extra-ordinary and incomprehensible, into reality, is worth appreciating, especially when he had no hereditary linkage with architecture, whatsoever. Even so he was extremely proud of the rich architectural heritage of his motherland!

A total vegetarian, he saw all the rich architectural heritage of his country, riding on a horse back, at the age of twenty-seven and decided firmly that he would spend his whole life for the same and started his walk towards his destination, with determination. During 1875 to 1878, he joined the compulsory military services and his inborn talent started emerging with his discipline and

determination. He achieved his degree in architecture in 1878 and started working with great architects in the field. In extremely adverse conditions, he started his march towards his destination.



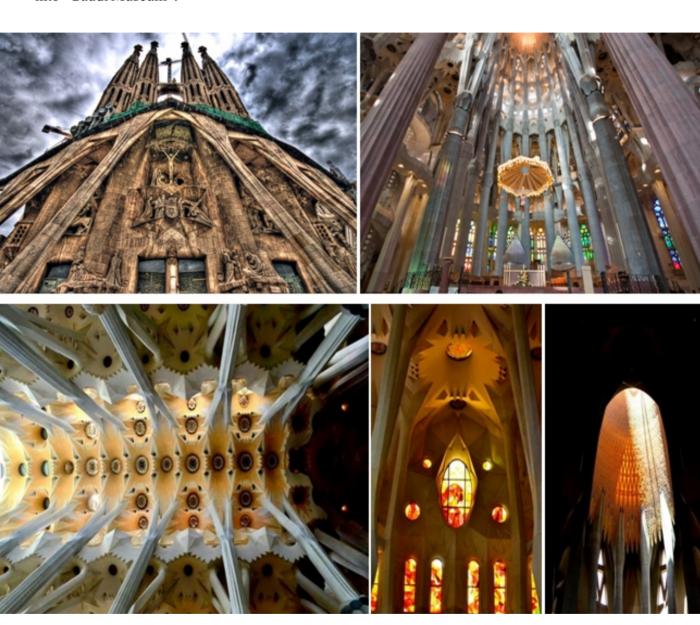








An architect making use of a lot of ceramic, glass, wrought iron and wood in his work, Antonio got his first chance in the form of construction of a lamp post. Around 1890, at an international exhibition, Antonio's life took a magical turn. He never looked back, after showcasing the inherent talent in him, through his extra-ordinary work, in front of the world. At the beginning of nineteenth century, after working on various projects, he started his own work through his "Saint Luke Artistic Circle", by participating in projects including various churches and prayer grounds. Around 1910, he made his own lodging arrangement in "Sagrada Familia", a world famous Art hall, which is today converted into "Gaudi Museum".



Gaudi created a totally different style of architecture, beyond description, while creating some immortal, world famous excellent monuments; Park Guell, Sagrada Familia, Cassa Batllo and Casa Mila. He was always very strongly determined about his different style and hence had to work very hard, to bring it into reality. Even today, some architects are spending their whole lives in studying the blue prints of his creations, which are beyond the understanding power of commoners.



This excellent artist literally immersed himself with dedication, in the world famous creations in Spain, which have now become the landmarks of Spain. His work required special artists; their whole families got engrossed in his work. The work continued for years together and Antonio dedicatedly created very cute and fine details, through his special style and different medium. His total determination helped him in etching his special style at an international level.

He spent the rest of his life, for personal reasons, at Sagrada Familia, a place known as the prayer place for the poor. In the decade of 1910, this artist had to see the deaths of his relatives, friends and work partners. This extremely sensitive artist expressed his sorrow by saying that his friends were his close family, his life and he had lost them. He had lost his life. He would thereafter dedicate and spend the rest of his life at Sagrada Familia, the prayer place for the poor.

Antonio's working style included very fine detailing and the use of ample ceramic and stained glass in a very artistic way in the internal and external designs. A hard working person, who came up in a very hard way, he never knew what style he had created for the world! As, a few artist families and their generations in the world, have worked for and developed a particular style, a few families in Spain were completely dedicated towards Gaudi's working style.



An uncommon artist and architect, he always strived day and night to think about sustainable designs and converting them to reality. While doing that, he always preserved his own style and aimed at creating an immortal art, preserving the gorgeous heritage. He stayed alone all his life, dedicating his whole life to his work! Keeping in mind the well being of his workers and artists, so that they would not over exert themselves, he would prepare small models of his creations. Called as the "God's Architect", Antonio left for the heavenly abode on 10th June 1926.

His life is like a fairy tale for today's generation, because of his skill of maintaining an excellent harmony between colour combinations, heights and shapes. Even today, there are many artists exhausting their whole lives to study his techniques. Incomprehensible to them, this eccentric artist has left his indelible mark on the international architectural scenario! His excellent Spanish creations stand tall and stylish in front of the world, wherein he has employed very fine designs and various artistic materials. We are astounded and pleasantly surprised too by such creations which represent the culture and heritage of a country! Such creations touch our hearts and prove to be monuments giving an "out of this world" realization. "Sagrada Familia", a prayer place, made out of material very close to nature, proved to be his last but most significant creation.

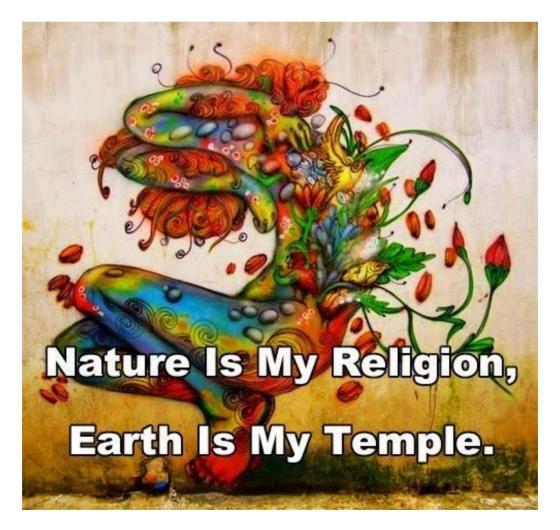
The central 550 inches tall "God's tower" is a salute to this great artist! Preserving the greatest religious values, using eco-friendly material with utmost perseverance and love, pouring life in every creation, each of these creations, stand out because of their extreme beauty.

The greatness of the artist comes to the fore, more because of the fact that, even in this computerized age, the creations of Antonio, in organic shapes having their own special style, dedicated totally to nature, cannot be recreated.

While he was walking along the road, to Saint Phillips church, on 7th June 1926, he was dashed by a tram. Because of his very simple clothes and down to earth style of dressing up, he lay as an unknown person on the road for a very long time. A policeman took him to a hospital where he succumbed on 10th June 1926, at the age of seventy three.

His style of creating prayer places, churches, schools, with utmost devotion, emotions and dedication, inspired by nature, reached a pinnacle but today I feel very happy and satisfied to place before you his extremely high grade, divine, huge, beautiful, shapely heritage creations, in natural shapes, internationally famous, in their own right!

Nothing is invented, for its written in nature first!"



...... Compiled by Pramod Changule

Foot-prints * * *







...... Compiled by Pramod Chaugule

Habit of Donation since childhood a green gift!



WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY DAY!

Keep Clicking with a Smile !!!



Rain, Rain!!

Dr. Jaya Kurhekar xecutive Editor, Greenergy Waiting to spread their green message and hue! The flowers are waiting for you, to bloom, Hey dear friend, come soon! Cattle depends on you for their bread and butter, The farmers gaze at the horizon, Come on, let's zoom in and clear all the matter! Water bodies are depleting, Saving their contents with all might, How will the life thrive? -Do you imagine, what's happening is right? The earth, the rivers, the oceans, Wait for you to arrive, with emotions! Praying for the well-being of life, Singing songs in your praise, Hoping for all life to thrive! I know, they have hurt you a lot, Disturbed the ecological cycles, Without any inkling of thought! But please, please, I beg you to listen, It's human to err and forgiveness divine, Come dear friend and everything will be fine! I know you have taught us a lesson, I hope this helps us learn, Not to disrespect the environment and burn, The green gold, which is our life line, The sun, moon, the seas and star shine! It's easy to disturb, destroy and enjoy, Difficult to preserve and conserve, however we try! Hey rain, leave your anger Forgive us, your children, close to hunger! Come swirling, come dancing, You are our life, you our basis of being

A MESSAGE FROM THE MOST BEAUTIFUL **CREATIONS OF MOTHER NATURE!**





Mogara (Jasminum sambac) says:

"Never boast about yourself, the fragrance of virtues always travels miles!!!"



A rose (Rosa rubiginosa) says:

"Don't cry at the drop of a hat, Smile amidst thorns !!!"



Periwinkle Vinca minor says:

"Don't keep frowning and sulking and crying, But keep smiling while laughing !!!"



The Night blooming jasmine or Queen of Night Rajanigandha (Cestrum nocturnum) says:

> "Don't get scared of darkness, Blossom in the dark !!!"



Green Ganesh to Green Revolution!

The Upcoming Ganesh Chaturthi is one of most magnificent festivals celebrated with stupendous zeal and grandeur in the western part of the country. Lakhs and lakhs of Ganesh idols are immersed in the Rriver/sea as a religious ritual which makes millions of devotees dance together in prosperity.

In the ardour and splendor of celebrating this iconic festival, most people conveniently forget the hazardous impact of the immersion of idols on the environment. The grandeur of this festival might be irresistible, but the damage it inflicts on us is irreparable! A large section of society is unaware of the pollution, of these chemical-made idols, bring to the sea water. Ganesha idols are made using highly corrupt materials like Plaster of Paris and other chemical paints which contain high amounts of mercury and lead. It takes several months for these idols to completely dissolve in the water while they continue to poison the water bodies in contact. To be able to choose the most appropriate eco-sensitive solution it is important that we understand the environmental impacts of Ganesh Chaturthi.

Polluted sea water is not only injurious for the environment, but also for the living beings! It slowly kills the aquatic plants and the marine life in the first place, thereby, disturbing the flow of ecosystem. At some places the same water is pumped to the homes for drinking purposes. Since these idols do not dissolve easily, they get accumulated as waste in the sea. Every year, the government digs out tonnes of garbage from the water bodies to clean the waters. Not only the idols, but the other accessories used during Ganesh Chaturthi are also dumped into the sea, adding to the level of pollution in the water. There is a lot of noise pollution created by the Dolby systems. The Visarjan Miravnuk gives rise to the traffic congestion.

The **possible solution** to these are:

- 1. Immersing the idol in a water tank constructed by the government, instead of directly into natural water bodies.
- 2. Using only a natural clay idol and immersing it either in the tank or in a bucket of water at home.
- 3. Immersing a 'betel nut' which symbolises the idol and reusing the same idol every year.
- 4. If one is using a PoP idol, simply sprinkling a few drops of water on it as a symbolic immersion and donating the idol to be recycled for the following year. Along with the idol, there are several accessories used during the worship, which are collectively referred to as 'Nirmalya'. These include flowers, fruits, coconuts, cloth, incense, camphor, etc. Further, many people create elaborate temples out of thermocole to houwe their idols. Until some years ago, all these were also immersed along with the idols.

The possible solutions for these are:

- 1. Avoiding the use of non-biodegradable material such as thermocole altogether.
- 2. Composting all bio-degradable material.
- 3. Distributing food items such as coconuts and fruits among the poor.
- 4. Recycling flowers to make hand-made paper or dried flower products.

People have totally blindfolded themselves in the name of religion. They are blatantly ignoring their accountability towards nature to accomplish their own materialistic-spiritualistic motives. Only if they could realize that it is not possible to please the God by damaging his universe. Rituals and customs are not the commands of God but only man-made principles. It is not an undeniable order to follow them blindly. Besides, there are a number of ways in which the rituals can be performed without damaging the environment. Several measures have been taken by the government to bring awareness amongst the people and to minimize the hazardous impact. A lot of campaigns and advertisements are specially designed for people to understand the value of our environment

However, it still leaves out a large population that remains wary of the environmental harms they cause. This in turn has, over the last few years, led to the severe damage of the ecological balance of the city's coastline. In most cases, the environmental problem is caused by a certain consumer choice, of a toxic product. After studying the issue in depth, we start by offering environmental educational activities to children and adults alike. We had a presentation on eco-friendly Ganesh in various schools like Podar International School, Shri A.B. Patil English School, Nav Krishna Valley School, Rajput English Medium School, Parshwanath English & many more. The students at these schools were very interactive and got the concept understood clearly. Many even promised that they would go green with Eco-friendly Ganesh Festival this year onwards. The Students being the future responsible person of the Eco System need to know and have these green dose from now on words so that they can go forward as GREEN...!







At the end of the day, people definitely need to realize that just as it is important to worship God, it is equally important for us to protect the beautiful world he has gifted us with!

"Nature is a reflection of the GOD"!



Are You All Fit? Physically And Mentally! No

Because working for 18 hrs is Mechanical work! Old Concept is- Hasta, Pada, Guda, Upasta, Vani Till, having no problem means Fitness! Is Body Building, Big Belly, Heavyness Fitness! No! Is Playing of any Type of Game is Fitness! No!

My Concept is- Mann, Maan, Manke, Mot - When strong and flexible is Fitness! Stability Of Mind, Self—Control is Fitness! Flexibility of 24 vertebra & all joints is Fitness!

Which is perfect Exercise for fitness? Why Yoga

Walking, Badminton, Cricket, Muscle building etc. Act on hands & legs cause sweating, stiffness of spine. Increase in diet, weight, sleepiness, heaviness in body. Accidental traumas, Exertion, Arrogant attitude.

YOGA on the other hand

Creates calmness of mind, Increase concentration. Helps to treat Psycho-Somatic problems, Keeps fresh. Reduces Duality, Gives Flexibility to Spine, No Traumas. Lowers Respiratory & Heart rate, Reduces weight & sleep.

How Yoga acts? Mode of action

Yoga acts on all levels, specially on Mindlevels & Physical level.

On mind level - Mantras, Yoga-nidra, Meditation; Relaxation asanas & Balancing asanas On Physical level - Making manke flexible & strong; Toning Nervous, arteries, veins, muscles, ligaments extremities by suddha scientific asanas; Making Lungs & Heart strong by pranayama; Gently massaging all endocrine& exocrine glands helping to stimulate hormonal secretions; Toning Abdomen & All body systems etc by suddhi kriyas & special asanas.

Do's and Don'ts when doingh yoga & Pranayama

Do's

- Learn from teacher having yoga qualification. + is a Ayurved graduate + able to do Hanuman asana or any Poorna asana.
- Always do yoga, empty stomach, early in the morning.
- Perform relaxation asanas after Counter –pose asanas.
- Always be vegetarian and always breath by nose.

Don'ts

- Avoid In hernia, ulcer, T.B., in menstrual period, 2nd & 3rd trimester pregnancies, post & cardiac arrest.
- Don't stop breathing in asanas, Don't exert pressure
- Don't give jerks, Never bend knees, Not after meals.

So my dear colleagues and friends, learn yoga!

Yoga keeps you like a Finger - slim & flexible, compared or like a panther-slim, swift, and highly flexible!

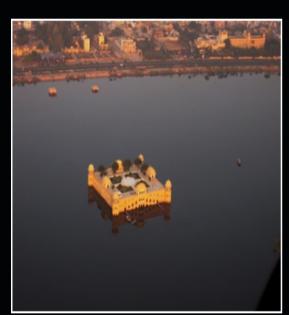






JEWEL OF JAIPUR; A PLEASURE MEMORY!!!

..... Ar. Preeti



For nearly 300 years back, Jaipur's visionary founder, the great ruler Sawai Jai Singh II built up the festive gathering place for generations of Jaipur's royal families i.e. The jewel of Jaipur, Jal Mahal.

Jal Mahal which literally means the "water palace" is a palace located in the center of the Man Sagar lake in Jaipur city.

Jal Mahal is considered as one of the most beautiful architectural palaces that was built with the Mughal and Rajput craftsmanship. The palace provides a charming view of the Man Sagar lake and the Nahargarh hills that border it. The palace's architectural beauty considered as a best example of combination of Mughal and Rajput architectural styles.

I visited this palace on 2nd February 2013, to

attend the workshop of restoration and conservation of historical buildings by international expertise. It was hard to imagine that just a few years back the lake was an environmental disaster and palace a derelict ruin. Today, as Jal Mahal rediscovers its magic, it transforms into a pavilion of pleasure once again. It is a 100 acre mixed — use land tourism development project, which is environmentally, sustainable and regenerative. It has been meticulously restored as a part the ongoing restoration projects.

The complete palace is made of red stone and is 5 storey high. The 4 floors of the palace stay under the water and it is only the 5th floor that is visible. There are 4 chattris on all the four corners of the palace. These are octagonal in shape. The palace has some exquisite marble carvings which denotes the royal touch and the palace has twenty pillars which are the cenotaph of the royal family of Raja Jai Singh II.



For the first time, the Public and private sectors have joined hands to revive a Heritage site in Rajasthan. It provides a requiring environmental revitalization, historic monument restoration and tourism development. The restoration of Jal mahal started by Jal Mahal resorts Pvt. Ltd. In 2005, has been a phenomenal effort involving the skills of international experts, traditional master craftsmen, architects, historians and authorities on art, culture and design. The research and study of structural elements, forms, details and ornamentation allowed the monument to reveal itself, which then began to

rebuild its jetties and stairways, arches, corridors and alcoves with traditional knowledge, materials, techniques and artistry.

Chameli Bagh, the lush garden on the terrace has been traced from surviving elements of the original patterns and recreated in the best of Rajput and Mughal traditions. The beauty of the white marble walkways and carved platform, to sit in the shade of tibaris gilded with exquisite miniature paintings or



to be refreshed with a stroll through the fragrant garden.

Chameli bagh has been designed by the internationally renowned heritage garden expert and anthropologist, Mitchell Abdul Karim Crites. Built in the traditional charbagh style, each of its four quadrant flaunts a beautiful raised marble flower bed shaped like a scrolling floral arabesque and is planted with a fragrant flowering shrubs.

Water, the other hallmark of such gardens, cascades down thinly over the traditional chinikhana walls of the platform and flows through lotus lights and

fountainheads to create a constant changing play of light and glitter.

The central feature of Chameli Bagh is raised octagonal platform with elaborate marble work that lights up to create a dramatic stage for dance and music performances. Under the open sky, the beautifully restored tibaries and even the chattris that stand sentinel over the Jal Mahal, is space to seat an audience of up to 225 guests.





Platform lights up the marble

The four different tibaries represents four different styles.

- 1st is the most opulent tibari at Jal Mahal is resplendent with graceful floral motifs in red, blue and gold.
- 2nd reveals the magical frescoes depicting Lord Krishna and his consorts romancing in a wooden grove abundant with fruit trees and framed by jaipur's most celebrated landmarks.
- 3rd tibari is on process which will feature pink and white decorative stucco.
- 4th tibari, with its dark clouds swirling across the ceiling, raindrops patterning the walls and lily pools blossoming in the panels, will bring all the colours of monsoon of life.

The interiors of each chattris, located on four corners of Chameli bagh, is designed to be unique. It is with the rare distinctive Jaipur technique of blue glazed finish pottery. One of created with complex jaipuri brasswork that involves embossing, cutting, enamelling and filigree work and dedicated to Hindu Sun god, Surya.

The conacept and design: Heritage garden expert and anthropologist, Mitchell A K Crites Creation of Chameli Bagh: Expert marble carver, Kalu Ram Saini.

Tibari and Chhatri Artwork Curation: Eminent Historians Dr. Vibhuti Sachdev

A colourful, multimedia experience that celebrates Jaipur's artistic heritage, Painted pleasures. Water palace, traditional style gardens, brings together the vision and works of Jaipur's leading artists and crafts persons to take visitors on an incredible journey of the senses as they have never been on before.



Writer with Heritage graden expert and anthropologist, designer of Chameli bagh, Mitchell A. K. Crites



BERT HAANSTRA THE EXTRAORDINARY FILM DIRECTOR

Albert 'Bert' Haanstra was a Dutch film director of films and documentaries. His documentary Glass won the Academy Award for Documentary Short Subject in 1959.

- Born: May 31, 1916, Espelo, Netherlands
- **Died:** October 23, 1997, Hilversum, Netherlands
- **Spouse:** Angenieta Barendiena Wijtmans (m. 1944–1997)
- Children: Jurre Haanstra, Rimko Haanstra
- Parents: Jansje Schuiveling, Folkert Haanstra

Early life

Albert Haanstra was born on 31 May 1916 in Espelo, a small village near Holten, in the Netherlands. His father was Folkert Haanstra, a schoolteacher, and his mother Jansje Schuiveling. Haanstra grew up in the village of Goor. Haanstra's father retired early as a schoolteacher and started his life long dream of becoming a painter. Haanstra himself, after realizing teaching didn't interest him, became a painter himself and started experimenting with photography.

Career



Haanstra receives his Academy Award for Glass from **Ambassador Philip Young in 1959**



Haanstra gives instructions on the film set of De Zaak M.P. in 1960

Haanstra became a professional Dutch documentary film maker in 1947. He won international acclaim with his short documentary Spiegel van Holland / Mirror of Holland, for which he received the Grand Prix du court métrage at the Cannes-festival of 1951. During the fifties he made six films for Shell, among others The Rival World (1955) on insects spreading deadly diseases and how to fight them. In 1958 his documentary Glass, a filming improvisation made in a glass factory, won an Academy Award for Best Documentary Short Subject.

He directed several fiction films. Fanfare, a comedy situated in a small Dutch village, is still the Netherlands' second most popular film ever (measured at the box office), only surpassed by Paul Verhoevens Turkish Delight. Abroad however, Fanfare was hardly noticed, but it was entered into the 1959 Cannes Film Festival and the 1st Moscow International Film Festival.

In several shorts and in long documentaries like Alleman / The Human Dutch and Stem van het water / The Voice of the Water Haansta reflected on The Netherlands and its inhabitants. All these films made him one of the most popular filmmakers in the history of Dutch cinema. The documentary Alleman was seen in the cinema by 20 percent of the total Dutch population. In the seventies and eighties Haanstra addressed a new subject. He made several films about animals. In the long documentary Bij de beesten af / Ape and Super-Ape (1973), for which he collaborated with Frans de Waal and Jane Goodall, among others, he compared the behavior of animals and human beings. In total Haanstra received close to a hundred awards.

Haanstra was Officer in the Order of Orange-Nassau.

Death

Haanstra died on 23 October 1997 at the age of 81 in a nursing home in the town of Hilversum in the Netherlands. He died of Alzheimer's disease.

..... Compiled by AGS

















NATURE UMBRELLA





Green Thinking!.



Your mind is a Garden! Your thoughts are Seeds! You can grow Flowers or You can grow Weeds!

Compiled by AGS

Green Dose!



We have been arrested into pollution's prison,

The killing of Trees is the main reason!

Everybody will live with ease, If we go on planting trees!

Devendra Khot



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