

MONUMENT AND HERITAGE: THEME

LINGAYA'S PIXELS

2021-22

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*“Monuments should speak of it's time and place
but yearn for timelessness”*

AYUSH TYAGI



"Monuments
have
thousands
of stories
,to tell
yet they
Eerily silent."

BARA IMAMBARA

Photography by : Ayush Tyagi

Bara Imambara, also known as Asfi Imambara is an imambara complex in Lucknow, India built by Asaf-ud-Daula, Nawab of Awadh in 1784. Bara means big. This imambara is the second largest after the Nizammat Imambara

Construction of Bara Imambara was started in 1780, a year of a devastating famine, and one of Asaf-ud-Daula's objectives in embarking on this grandiose project was to provide employment for people in the region for almost a decade while the famine lasted. It is said that ordinary people used to work in the day building up the edifice, while noblemen and other elite worked at night to break down anything that was raised that day. It was a project that preceded a Keynesian-like intervention for employment generation. Construction of the Imambara was completed in 1794. The estimated cost of building the Imambara ranges between half a million rupees to a million rupees. Even after completion, the Nawab used to spend between four and five hundred thousand rupees on its decoration annually

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT BARA IMAMBADA

The Bara Imambara of Lucknow is one of the most famous monuments in the city. It was built under the rule of Asaf-ud-Daula, the Nawab of Awadh

The biggest attraction of the Bara Imambara is the infamous Bhool Bhulaiya! With 1024 ways of going in and only 2 to come out

Its central hall is said to be the largest vaulted chamber in the world and it certainly defies all laws of Physics and gravity

The construction and famine both lasted for 11 years and so did the employment scheme! It is believed 20,000 men were involved in the making of this monument

This classical site has no pivotal support and unlike most Persian or Mughal structures, it does not have any dome or minaret



"A palace of *wind*"



HAWA MAHAL

Photography by : Jitender Kumar

Hawa Mahal is a palace in Jaipur, India approximately 300 kilometers from the capital city of Delhi. Built from red and pink sandstone, the palace sits on the edge of the City Palace, Jaipur, and extends to the Zenana, or women's chambers

The structure was built in 1799 by Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh, the grandson of Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh, who was the founder of Jaipur. He was so inspired by the unique structure of Khetri Mahal that he built this grand and historical palace. It was designed by Lal Chand Ustad. Its five floor exterior is akin to honeycomb with its 953 small windows called Jharokhas decorated with intricate lattice-work. The original intent of the lattice design was to allow royal ladies to observe everyday life and festivals celebrated in the street below without being seen, since they had to obey the strict rules of "purdah", which forbade them from appearing in public without face coverings

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT HAWA MAHAL

Hawa Mahal was built by Rajput Sawai Pratap Singh in 1799. Hawa Mahal is built in the shape of a crown, it looks like Lord Krishna's crown. Sawai Pratap Singh was believed to be a great devotee of Lord Krishna. His passion became the reason behind this design

Hawa Mahal was constructed as a separate complex for the royal ladies. The idea was that, royal women could watch the daily life of the city through the windows

Hawa Mahal doesn't have a direct entrance; one has to enter from the side of City Palace. Hawa Mahal was built as a part of the City Palace, so there is no entrance from outside

Hawa Mahal has 5 floors and there are no stairs to climb, instead there are only ramps to reach the top floors

Only intellectual and artistic
creations are *Immortal*.



BARA GUMBAD

Photography by : Akshit Gusain

Bada Gumbad was constructed in 1490 CE, and is believed to have the earliest constructed full dome of any building in Delhi

The Bara Gumbad is speculated to serve as a gateway to the Friday mosque. However owing to the constitutions date, placement and stylistic differences the theory of gateway is not supported. The purpose and significance of the Bara Gumbad is unknown and to date remains a mystery

Including the bada gumbad there are four monuments in the Lodhi Gardens; the other three being Tomb of Sikandar Lodhi, Shisha Gumbad and the tomb of Muhammad Shah (who belonged to the Sayyid dynasty). The Bada Gumbad is situated approximately 400 metres (1,300 ft) southwest of the tomb and 75 metres (246 ft) south of Shisha Gumbad

Some historians suggest that the Bara Gumbad was built by an unidentified noble in 1490 CE

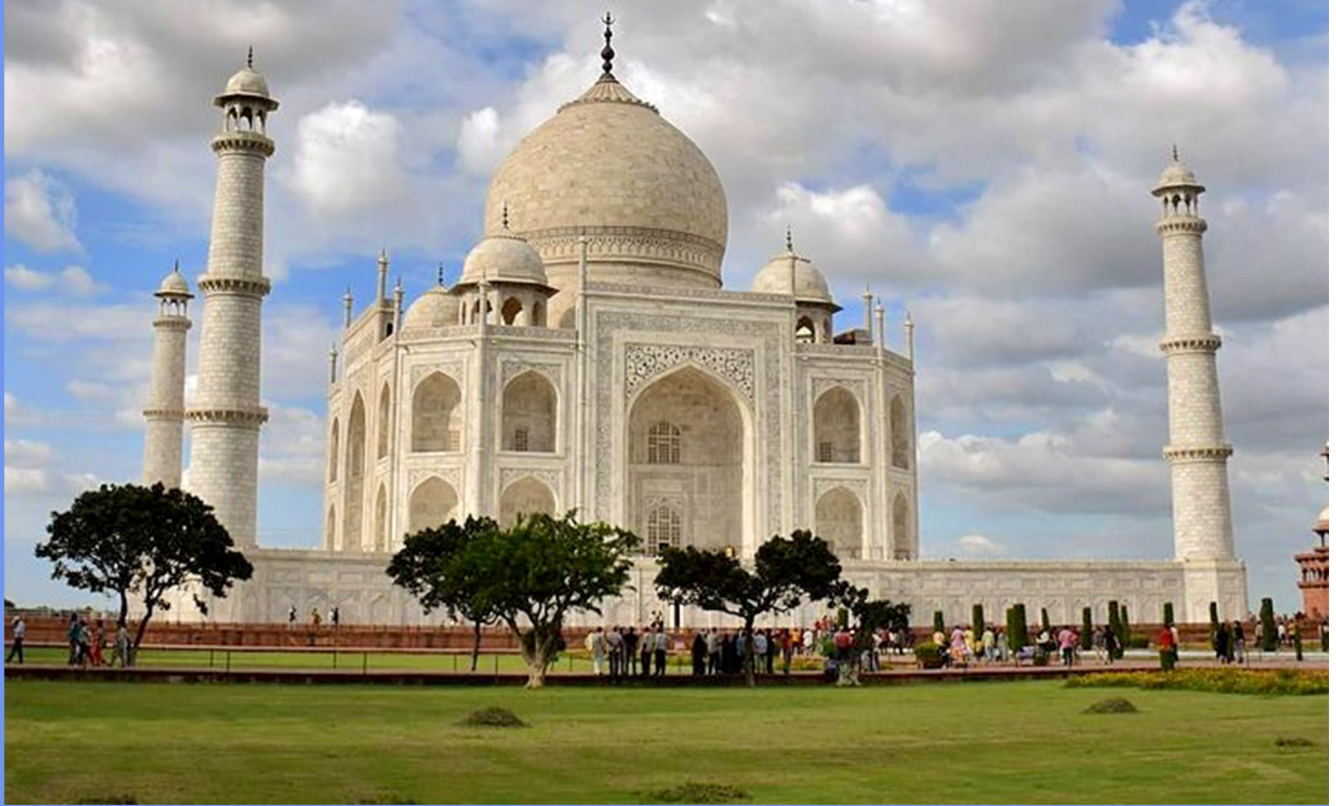
INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT BARA GUMBAD

Measuring 19 metres by 19 metres and 27 metres high, this is one of the biggest and finest examples of the Lodi period monuments in Delhi

A typical feature is that from the outside the building appears to have two storeys

The main material used is grey quartzite with some other stones used for decorative touches such as red sandstone on the doorways and a combination of red, grey and black stone on the façade

The interior is very plain, and the stone finish is unplastered and mostly uncarved



*“Marble, I perceive,
covers a multitude of **sins**”*



TAJ MAHAL

Photography by : Anahita Sethi

The **Taj Mahal** lit. 'Crown of the Palace', is an ivory-white marble mausoleum on the right bank of the river Yamuna in the Indian city of Agra. It was commissioned in 1632 by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahah to house the tomb of his favourite wife, Mumtaz Mahal; it also houses the tomb of Shah Jahan himself. The tomb is the centerpiece of a 17-hectare (42-acre) complex, which includes a mosque and a guest house, and is set in formal gardens bounded on three sides by a crenellated wall

Construction of the mausoleum was essentially completed in 1643, but work continued on other phases of the project for another 10 years. The Taj Mahal complex is believed to have been completed in its entirety in 1653 at a cost estimated at the time to be around 32 million rupees, which in 2020 would be approximately 70 billion rupees (about U.S. \$1 billion). The construction project employed some 20,000 artisans under the guidance of a board of architects led by the court architect to the emperor, Ustad Ahmad Lahauri

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT TAJ MAHAL

The changing moods of the Emperors wife are well captured by the changing hues of the Mausoleum at different times of the day. It takes a pinkish hue in the morning, milky white in the evening and golden at night when illuminated by moonlight

As always, rumor mills are on the overdrive about this mausoleum. It is rumored that the Emperor ordered that all the workers who worked on the mausoleum get their hands chopped off so that no one could make anything like it ever again

Many of the precious stones on the mausoleum were ripped off from the walls of the mausoleum by the British army during the Indian rebellion of 1857

The Taj Mahal was built by a whopping 22,000 laborers, painters, stonecutters, embroidery artists



"A haunted Step well in the heart of **Delhi**"



AGRASEN KI BAOLI

Photography by : Prachi Gupta

Agrasen ki Baoli aka Ugrasen ki Baoli stands in the heart of Delhi as a souvenir left behind by time. This ornate stepwell, which was once a water reservoir, is an exquisite example of splendid architecture and ancient engineering skills. One of the oldest monuments and the best-preserved stepwell in Delhi, it now serves as a prime attraction for tourists and photography enthusiasts visiting the national capital. Its silent walls, forlorn steps, and stone arches narrate the tale of its erstwhile grandeur and glory. Agrasen ki Baoli is definitely one of those heritage structures you must explore when you step out of your hotels in Delhi for a sightseeing spree

It is rumored that the water reservoir contained mystical black water that enticed people to jump into it and end their lives. As you go down the staircase towards the water, it feels as if an unseen force behest you to enter this abyss of doom and you are hypnotically drawn towards it

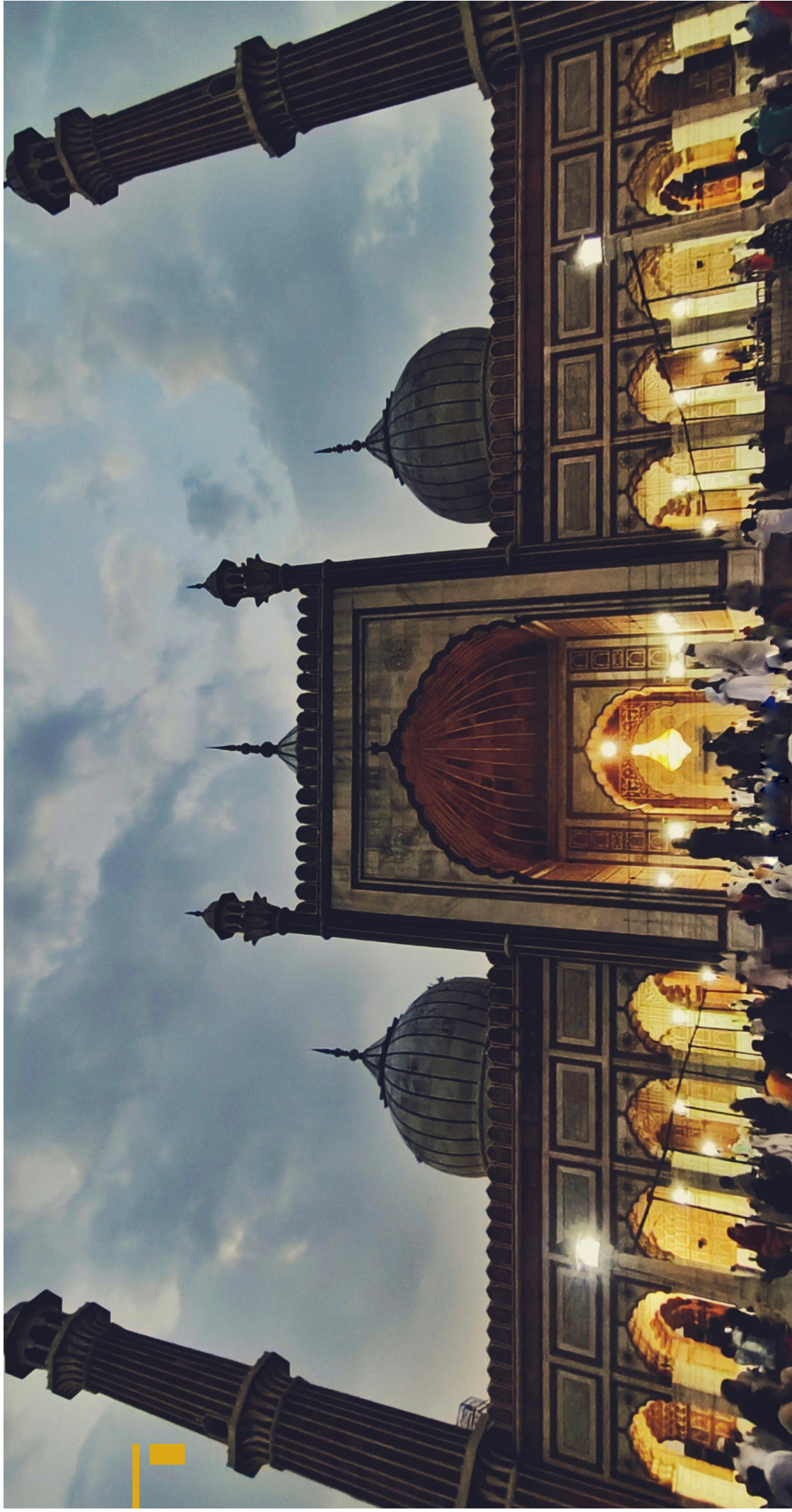
INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT AGRASEN KI BAOLI

Although it is believed that Agrasen ki Baoli was built by Maharaja Agrasen of the Shaurya dynasty in the 14th century, but till now no such historical information has been found related to it to know who actually built this rich architecture

It is said that once upon a time there used to be black water in this stepwell which used to hypnotize the depressed people who came here and force them to jump inside it

The chirping of pigeons and the cries and flutters of batons that resonate in the stone walls make the atmosphere of the Baoli even more frightening

It is one of the finest stepwells in Delhi, built of rough and chiseled stone



.....
"If God guides you to remember him
it is a sign that he **loves** you"
.....

JAMA MASJID

Photography by : Divanshu Sibbal

The Masjid-i Jehan-Numa commonly known as the **Jama Masjid** of Delhi, is one of the largest mosques in India

It was built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan between 1650 and 1656, and inaugurated by its first Imam, Syed Abdul Ghafoor Shah Bukhari. Situated in the Mughal capital of Shahjahanabad, it served as the imperial mosque of the Mughal emperors until the demise of the empire in 1857. The Jama Masjid was regarded as a symbolic node of Islamic power across India, well into the colonial era. It was also a site of political significance during several key periods of British rule. It remains in active use, and is one of Delhi's most iconic sites, closely identified with the ethos of Old Delhi

The mosque is located within the historic city of Shahjahanabad, today known as the locality of Old Delhi. Across from the mosque are the Red Fort and Sunehri Masjid. As one of the focal points of Old Delhi, Jama Masjid is surrounded by various commercial centres,

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT AGRASEN KI BAOLI

Jama Masjid in Delhi is the biggest mosque built in India, with its courtyard that can accommodate up to 25,000 devotees at one stretch

One of the interesting facts about Jama Masjid in Delhi is that the mosque was originally named Masjid-i-Jahan-Numa which translates 'to 'mosque reflecting the world

Jama Masjid has witnessed massive attacks on it in 2006 and 2010, killing a few people and injuring several

The mosque was built between 1644 and 1656 with more than 5000 artisans, at a cost of around one million

Ever thought why we call it 'Jama'? Well, Jama means 'Friday' and a huge number of muslims arrive in order to recite the namaz on this .day

"Creativity is making marvelous
out of the discarded"



WASTE TO WONDER

Photography by : Nitish Sharma

Home Minister Rajnath Singh had inaugurated the '**Waste to Wonder Park**', spread over seven acres in Rajiv Gandhi Smriti Van near Sarai Kale Khan. It is Built at the cost of Rs 7.5 crore. It is created by South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC). And it has been made with the scrap of automobile parts and other metal waste like fans, rods, iron sheets, nut-bolts, bicycle and bike parts, metal railings, the torch has been created from an old bike and its chain, defunct sewer lines and age-old appliances

SDMC has made this theme park self sufficient for running on its renewable energy because it consists of 3 windmills (worth 1 KW), 3 solar trees (worth 5 KW) and rooftop solar panel of 10 KW

The development of this park will provide a boost to the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' and tourist economy and forge ahead towards transforming waste to wealth

Entry is FREE for students of Municipality Schools, Senior Citizens and children below 3 years. And for

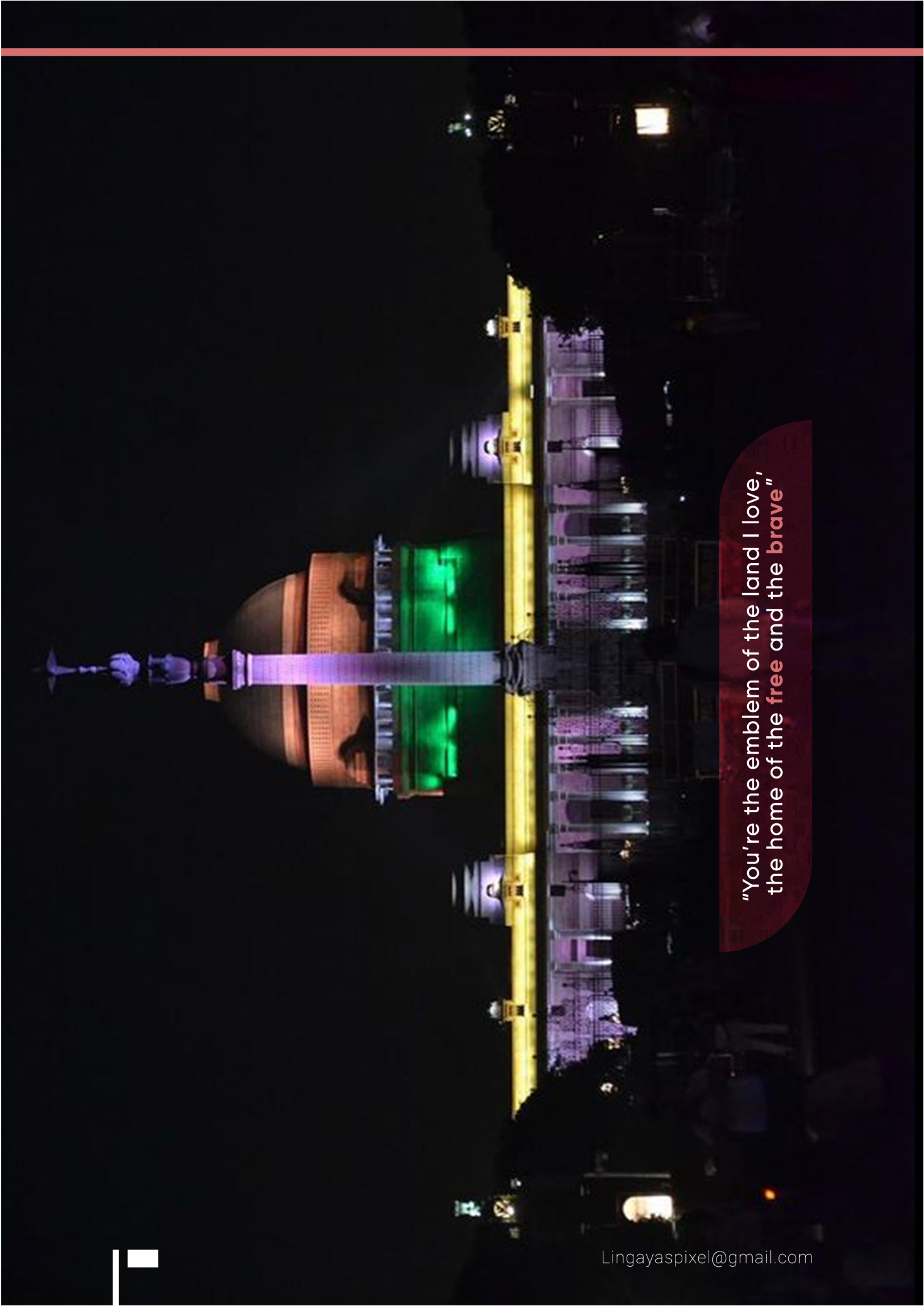
INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT WASTE TO WONDER

One of the most important and impressive fact about this park is that you will see 7 wonders of the world. Composition of sculptures: Around 150 tons of scrap, including 90 tons of industrial waste and waste automobile parts has been collected by SDMC and been put together for making these sculptures of the seven wonders of the world

The park has been constructed within six month's time and it is built in 5 acres of land area

It was conceived as an idea from a similar park in the city of Kota, Rajasthan

In the development of the park around 150 tons of scrap, 5 artists, 7 supporting artists, 70 welders and helpers have been used



"You're the emblem of the land I love,
the home of the **free** and the **brave**"



RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN

Photography by : Shivangi Rawat

The **Rashtrapati Bhavan** is the official residence of the President of India at the western end of Rajpath in New Delhi, India. Rashtrapati Bhavan may refer to only the 340-room main building that has the president's official residence, including reception halls, guest rooms and offices, also called the mansion; it may also refer to the entire 130-hectare (320-acre) Presidential Estate that additionally includes the presidential gardens, large open spaces, residences of bodyguards and staff, stables, other offices and utilities within its perimeter walls. In terms of area, it is the largest residence of any head of state in the world

The Governor-General of Fort William resided in Belvedere House, Calcutta, until the early nineteenth century, when Government House, Calcutta (now Raj Bhavan, Kolkata) was constructed. Lord Wellesley, who is reputed to have said that 'India should be governed from a palace, not from a country house', ordered the construction of a grand mansion between 1799 and 1803 and in 1854, the Lieu-

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT RASHTRAPATI BHAWAN

Rashtrapati Bhavan also known as Presidential palace is the second largest in the world after the Quirinal Palace, Rome, Italy

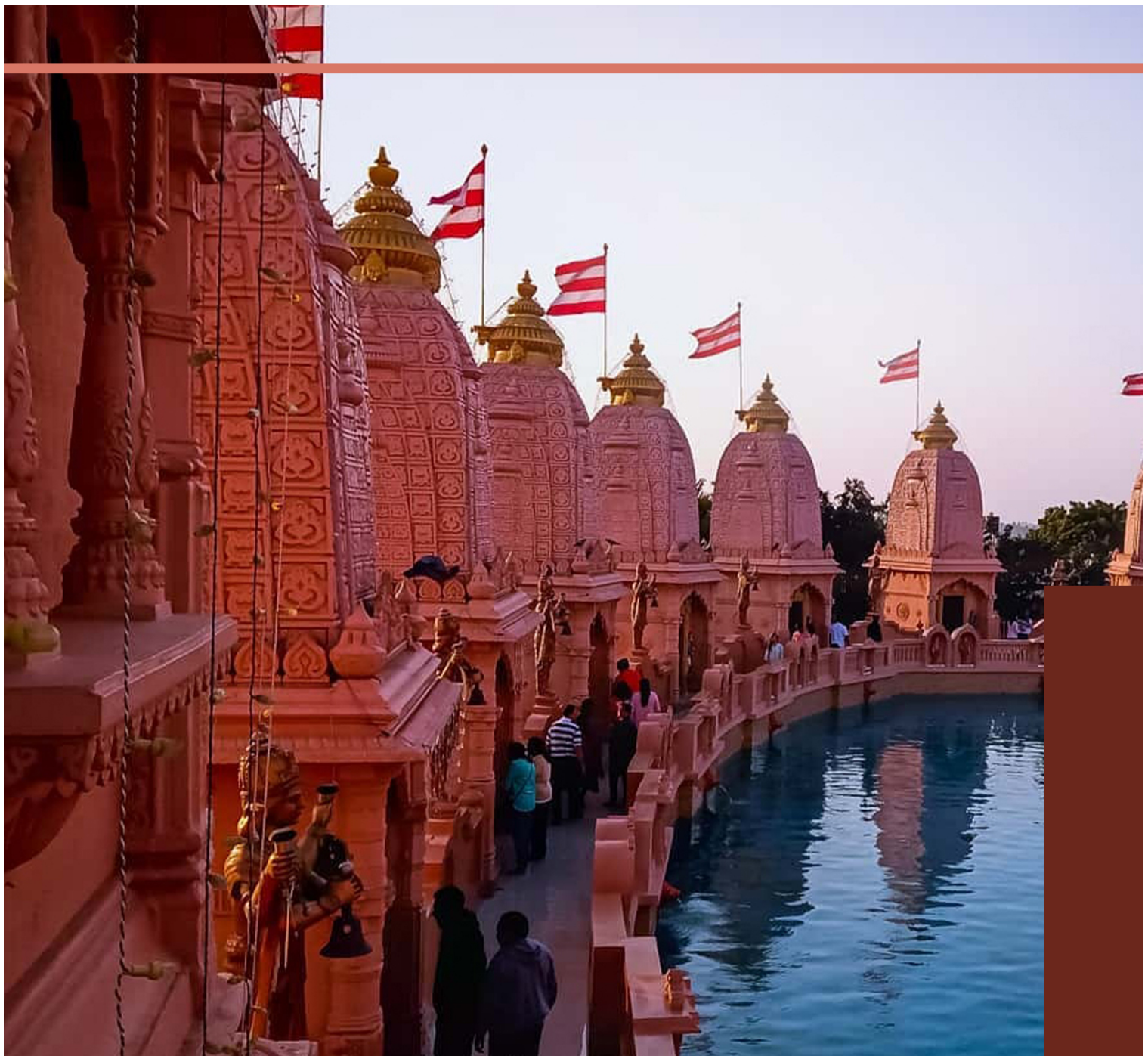
Took 17 years for its completion as its construction was started in 1912 and completed in 1929, around 29,000 people have worked

It has more than 300 rooms including the presidential office, guest rooms and staff rooms

It has strength of 750 staff, of which 245 are in the President's Secretariat

It has been built using 700 million bricks and 3 million cubic feet of stones

Before Independence it was formerly known as the Viceroy's House and is the largest residence in India



"Our life would be wholesome only if we do good activities and walk in the *spiritual* path"



NILKANTH DHAM SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE

Photography by : Sakshi Rawat

Nilkanthdham is an eye-catching, fantabulous and spectacular temple.

At the same time, It is oozing with spirituality and divine vibes all in the air. Divinity, spirituality and purity of nature help one identify one's own self and experience bliss of soul. This has been the prime opinion from most visitors that self-realisation was not far when they approached the place. In the lap of nature, far away from concrete jungles(cities), situated at the bank of Narmada providing more than a kilometer of straight riverbank to the campus, Neelkanthdham will help you know your original state. Our interests lie in sheer devotion. Practicing unprecedented devotion towards the eternally divine feet of Shree Neelkanth Prabhu (Bhagwan Swaminarayan) is our life and breath. The temple itself is a marvelous piece of sculptural art. Every single stone is an attention grabber here.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT NILKANTH DHAM

The Nilkanth Dham was built just a few years back in 2013 and is now managed by Shri Swaminarayan Gurukul, Surat

Nilkanth Dham is one of the beautiful constructions established on the lands of Poicha. It is dedicated to Lord Swamy Narayan

Nilkanth Dham has many places to attract tourists. This includes Kids Park Zone, Exhibition Zone, Food Court, Park Zone, and many other areas. The other attractions of Nilkanth Dham are God Vishnu with Sheshnag, Lord Ganesha, Hanumanji, 108 Gaumukh, Saptarishi, and 12 Vishnu Avatar Darshan

The evening Aarti at Nilkanth Dham is very unique with a beautifully decorated temple with lights that develop a divine atmosphere. Elephants ringing the bells during the aarti is just surprising

Each monument has a *history*...



LODHI GARDEN

Photography by : Naveen Nischal

The Tomb of **Sikandar Lodi** is the tomb of the second ruler of the Lodi Dynasty, Sikandar Lodi (reign: 1489–1517 CE) situated in New Delhi, India. The tomb is situated in Lodhi Gardens in Delhi and was built in 1517–1518 CE by his son Ibrahim Lodi. The monument is situated 100 meters away from the Bara Gumbad and the area in which it is situated was formerly a village called Khairpur

Sikandar Lodi , was the Sultan of Delhi between 1489 and 1517 CE and was the son of Bahlul Lodi. After the death of his father in 1489, Sikandar Lodi assumed the reign the same year and ruled until his death in 1517 CE. Upon Sikandar Lodi's death in 1517 CE, his son Ibrahim Lodi built the tomb. The Tomb of Sikandar Lodi was inspired in parts by the tomb of Muhammad Shah which is also situated in the Lodhi Gardens

The Tomb of Sikandar Lodi is located in and is a part of the Lodhi Gardens in Delhi, India. The village, where the monument stands was earlier called Khairpur

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT LODHI GARDEN

Lodhi Garden is the historical garden, older than Mughal age. It is extended to about 90 acres and had many tombs and monuments

Lodhi Garden is well known for monuments, which are the primary attractions. If you feel to know about history, then go for a guided walking tour. Delhi walks offers the best options such as Legacy of Sayyids and Lodhis tour

When you enter from the main gate and turn left, you will reach the tomb of Muhammad Shah Sayyid. It features an octagonal design and an elegant Indo-Islamic architecture with a small-style chhatra that surrounds its distinctive central dome

Sikandar Lodi's tomb is located in the north of the Sheesh Gumbad. It is covered by a substantial protective wall that has a complicated gateway. When compared to other tombs, it is not really impressive

Monument bind one generation to another.



TUGHLAQABAD FORT

Photography by : Rishita Khawal

Tughlaqabad Fort is a ruined fort in Delhi, built by Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq, the founder of Tughlaq dynasty, of the Delhi Sultanate of India in 1321, as he established the third historic city of Delhi, which was later abandoned in 1327. It lends its name to the nearby Tughlaqabad residential-commercial area as well as the Tughlaqabad Institutional Area. Tughlaq also built Qutub-Badarpur Road, which connected the new city to the Grand Trunk Road. The road is now known as Mehrauli-Badarpur Road.[1] The entry fee for the Fort is Rs. 20 for Indians.[2] Also, nearby is Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Range and Okhla Industrial Area

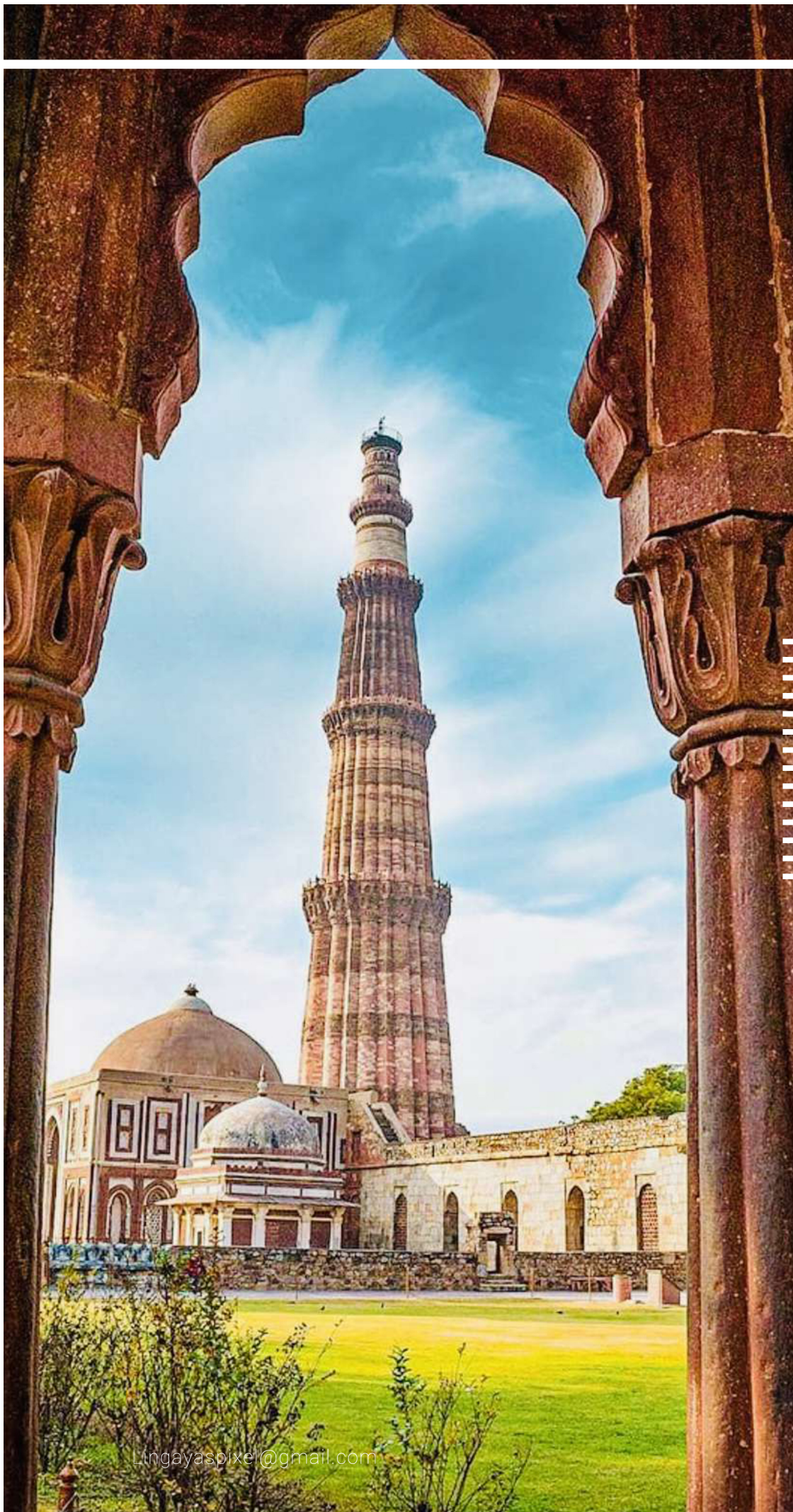
Surroundings are an important biodiversity area within the Northern Aravalli leopard wildlife corridor stretching from Sariska Tiger Reserve to Delhi. Historical place around sanctuary are Badkhal Lake (6 km northeast), 10th century ancient Surajkund reservoir and Anangpur Dam, Damdama Lake, Tughlaqabad Fort and Adilabad ruins

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT TUGHLAQABAD FORT

The Tughlaqabad fort is a fort located in Delhi which has now been converted into a ruin. The area of this fort is spread over 6km, which was constructed by Gias-udDin Tughlaq who established the Tughlaq Empire in Delhi Sultanate in 1321

The 'Samadhi of Gias-udDin Tughlaq is associated with a paved road leading to the southern outpost of the fort. The length of this paved road is 600 ft, which has been provided by 27 arches, which were used to cross a delicate lake

There are three graves inside this tomb from which Gias-udDin Tughlaq of the center and the other two are his wife and his son or his successor, Muhammad bin Tughlaq. There is an octagonal mausoleum in the rugged corridors of the north-western bastion of the wall of the enclosure



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“Every picture doesn't require a story,the words
are automatically spoken by its **Glory**”



QUTUB MINAR

Photography by : Geetika Sharma

The **Qutub Minar**, also spelled as Qutb Minar and Qutab Minar, is a minaret and "victory tower" that forms part of the Qutb complex. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site in the Mehrauli area of New Delhi, India. It is one of most visited tourist spots in the city due to it being one of the earliest that survives in the Indian subcontinent

It can be compared to the 62-metre all-brick Minaret of Jam in Afghanistan, of c.1190, which was constructed a decade or so before the probable start of the Delhi tower. The surfaces of both are elaborately decorated with inscriptions and geometric patterns. The Qutb Minar has a shaft that is fluted with "superb stalactite bracketing under the balconies" at the top of each stage. In general, minarets were slow to be used in India and are often detached from the main mosque where they exist

The Qutb Minar was built over the ruins of the Lal Kot, the citadel of Dhillika. Qutub Minar was begun after the Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque, which was started around 1192 by

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT QUTUB MINAR

Qutub Minar in Delhi is one of the most visited tourist attractions in India. It is one of the best historical monuments of India. Surrounded by many other prime attractions

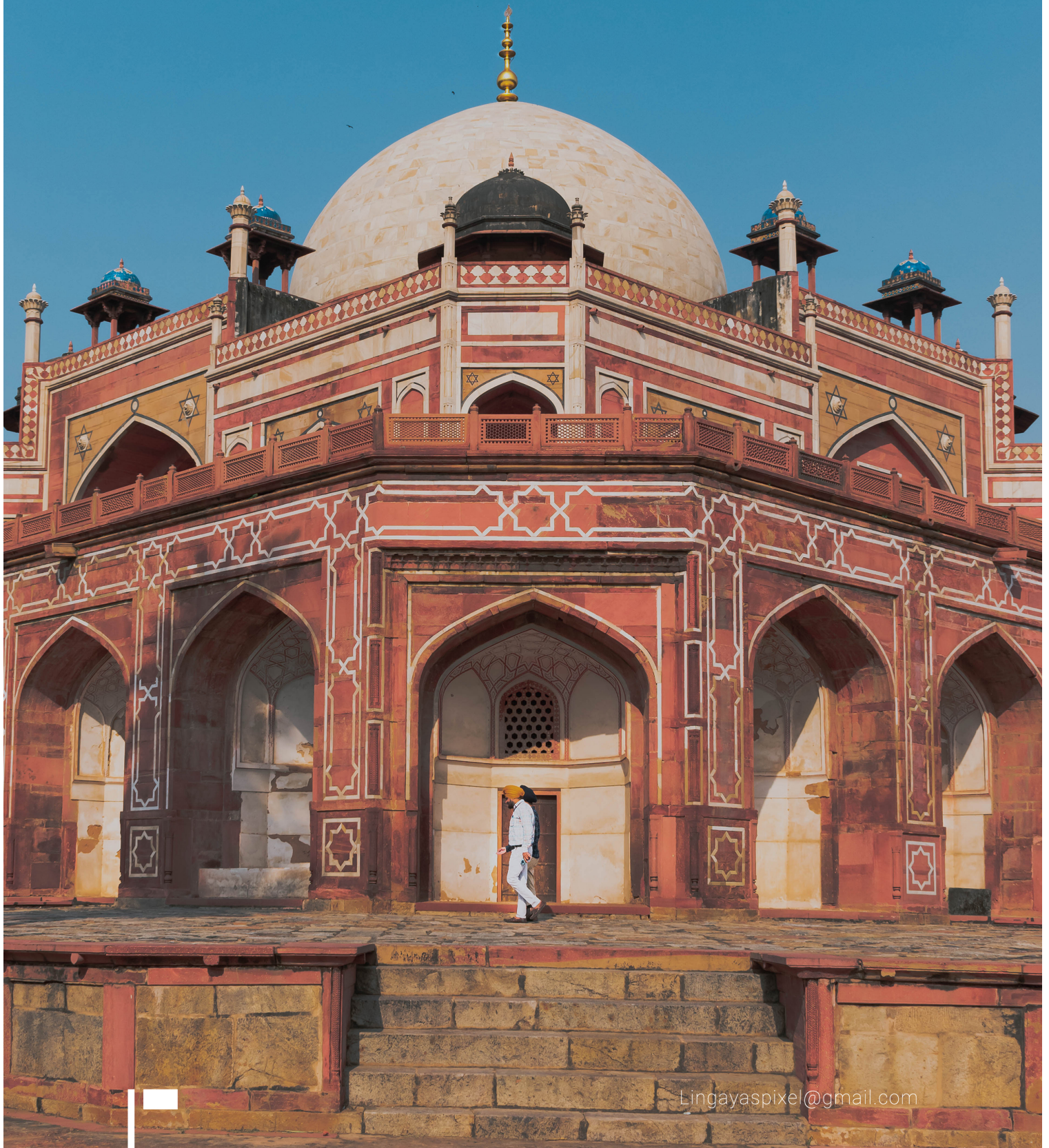
Qutub Minar is the tallest brick minaret in the world at a height of 72.5m

The structure portrays Indo-Mughal architecture with its beautifully done carvings and the intricate designs. There are 379 stairs inside the tower of Qutub Minar, which leads to the top

The whole structure is built using red and buff sandstone. It also has verses from the Quran carved into it

It is said that there were around 27 temples at the site which were destroyed by the invaders

"WE DON'T BUILD MONUMENTS ;
WE BUILD GOD'S *KINGDOM* ."



HUMAYUN TOMB

Photography by : Aniket Saxena

This tomb, built in 1570, is of particular cultural significance as it was the first garden-tomb on the Indian subcontinent. It inspired several major architectural innovations, culminating in the construction of the **Taj Mahal**

Humayun's Tomb was built in the 1560's, with the patronage of Humayun's son, the great Emperor Akbar. Persian and Indian craftsmen worked together to build the garden-tomb, far grander than any tomb built before in the Islamic world. Humayun's garden-tomb is an example of the charbagh (a four quadrant garden with the four rivers of Quranic paradise represented), with pools joined by channels. The garden is entered from lofty gateways on the south and from the west with pavilions located in the centre of the eastern and northern walls

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT HUMAYUN TOMB

Humayun's Tomb, also known as the "Dormitory of the Mughal", houses not one or two but 100 tombs inside the single complex. The Humayun's Tomb graves are not scripted anywhere so it's difficult to ascertain the names of people engraved in it

Defying the popular principle, Humayun's Tomb was actually built by a wife, Hamida Banu Begum, for her husband, Mughal Emperor Humayun

A reflection of the architectural excellence of the Mughals, the Humayun's Tomb interiors are made with rich and elegant carpets and shami-ana which imparts the monument a grand and royal look

Humayun's Tomb was completed in approximately 8 years and the amount spent in its construction was around 1.5 million rupees

PIXEL SOCIETY

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