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EDITOR'S NOTE

THAMANNA PARVIN

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The topic I choosed is architecture. I used to enjoy architecture whenever I visit any monumental places, also I love to visit newly build houses to find new models of architectures and home interiors. Not only newly built houses but old houses that have traditional features also. The traditional houses in Kerala gives very good ambience to sit and relax ourselves with the nature.

The field work was based on architecture. I visited a newly built home which contains a lot of traditional essence in it. In this world of contemporary era , this traditionality kept the beauty of this home highlighted. This house is situated in Thrissur district of Kerala. There were lots of new experience and good moments in the visit to this particular home. Another interesting fact about this home is, the owner of the house itself is the architect of this house. The talking session with the architect also gave me interesting facts about traditional architecture to present through this issue of magazine.

Happy Reading!

REVIVING TRADITIONAL HOME ARCHITECTURES IN KERALA.

This particular home I visited was so simple and elegant in a traditional way. The mindset of the architect is very keen here and it's perfection is set out to be very classic. This is the dream home of an idealist who executed his plan seamlessly throughout the building of his home. Let's have a talk and find out the inner beauty behind such an idealist who is truly a traditional lover.....

What is the concept behind the traditional style of designing home in this modern era?

Traditional homes are always adaptable to the culture and climate of Kerala than the modern contemporary style houses. Each culture and traditions are meant for some reasons. Another primary fact why traditional construction is preferred is that it employs energy-efficient materials than modern architecture. It is generally considered more durable than modern architecture.

As a modern architect, what is the idea behind avoiding interior designs throughout?

Firstly, interior designing is not apt for the climate conditions of Kerala. It is mostly rainy and monsoon season that prevails in Kerala. This will keep the boards used for interior works always in a wet condition, which may lead to the collapse of whole interior board and also it is difficult for maintenance in such situations.



Ummer T V
Architect

What is the interest behind giving a courtyard inside the home?

In ancient times, homes were built in naalukettu and ettukettu style by keeping the concept of joint family, so that the houses will be too big and spacious to accommodate them. But in our case it is a nuclear family, consisting of five members, so it is unnecessary to give a naalukettu and make it too luxurious. However by giving a courtyard inside brings the true essence of naalukettu style and more natural lighting inside our home.

-THAMANNA PARVIN



TRADITIONAL HOME *style of Kerala*

Traditional houses of Kerala are designed keeping the joint family system and environment in mind. There is heavy use of wood, stone and clay roof tiles.

Another feature was the number of kettus - whether a nalukettu, that is a four-block structure or an ettukettu which was an eight-block structure. Other notable features are poomukham or the verandah entrance, chuttu verandah, ambal kulam or a pond. Within the house the courtyard would be in the middle.



A"charupadi" is an entrance where one can sit and relax with an outside view. Their exteriors are mainly warm and inviting and their unique mix of historic styles makes them serene, and classical. Their understanding floor plan blends seamlessly. These traditional homes are known for their simple, elegant, and inviting particularity. Such homes blend modern and classical elements- simple rooflines, symmetrical windows, and other modest touches.

-THAMANNA PARVIN

Traditional spots of the home

-THAMANNA PARVIN



This is the main entrance to the home where we can see the traditionality at the first sight. By giving the 'Ranthal' (traditional name for kerosene lamp in kerala) light in front of the home, gives it a great essence of beautifying traditionality at it's most.

'Poomukham' is the entrance area of a Kerala house, usually adorned with intricate wood work and decorative elements. It serves as a welcoming space and is often decorated with traditional lamps and religious symbols.



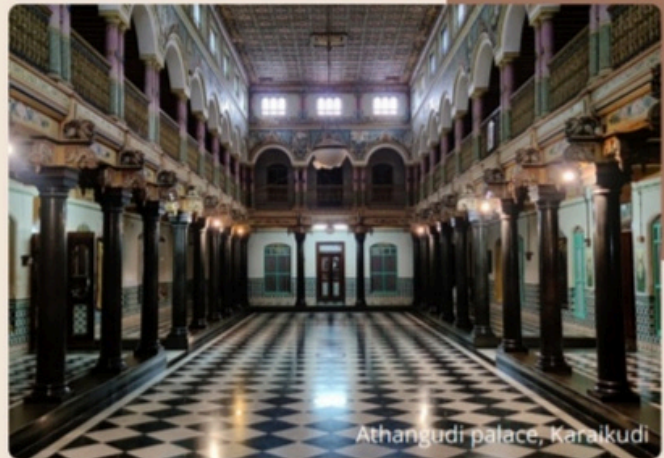
This is known as 'Aatukattil' in Kerala. This is also a traditionally important one to introduce. It also have heritage values. Sitting or laying on it gives immense pleasure to experience at leisure time or even after returning from a busy schedule. This home's beauty is also given through this aatukattil's placing, as it is given in the middle of the home's structure.



MASTERY ARTS FROM LOTUS MAHAL, HAMBI.

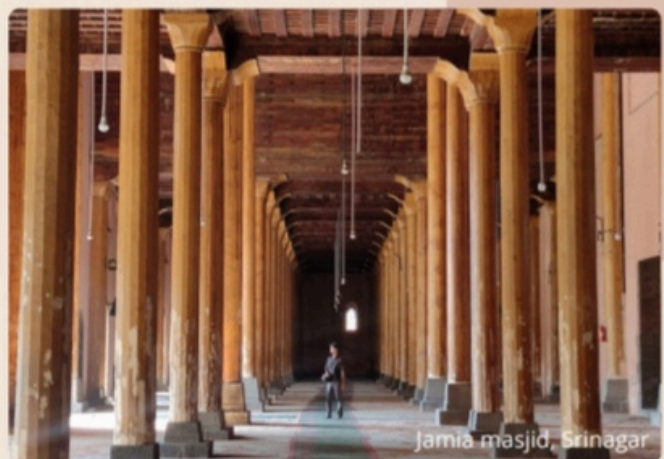


ECHOES OF HISTORY



where every stone
whispers tales of a
rich and vibrant
past.

-NIRANJAN K



A photograph of the interior of the Palace of Mysore, showing a grand hall with ornate pillars, arches, and a domed ceiling. The architecture is Indo-Saracenic, featuring intricate carvings and a mix of colors like gold, blue, and green. The title 'ARCHITECTURE OF MYSORE PALACE' is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters.

ARCHITECTURE OF MYSORE PALACE

The Palace of Mysore (also known as the Amba Vilas Palace) is a historical palace in the city of Mysore in Karnataka. Designed by the English Architect, Henry Irwin, the Mysore Palace dominates the skyline of Mysore. A three storied structure in the Indo-Saracenic style built between 1897-1912, the palace has beautifully designed square towers at cardinal points, covered with domes. The Durbar Hall with its ornate ceiling and sculpted pillars and the Kalyanamantapa (marriage pavilion) with its glazed tiled flooring and stained glass, domed ceiling are worth noting. Intricately carved doors, the golden howdah (elephant seat), paintings as well as the fabulous, jewel encrusted golden throne (displayed during Dasara) are amongst the palace's other treasures. The walled palace complex houses the Residential Museum, temples and shrines including the Shwetha Varahaswamy temple. The palace is illuminated on Sundays, Public Holidays as well as during the Dasara Celebrations where 97,000 electric bulbs are used to illuminate it.

-ASWIN A

BUILDING UP BIG DREAMS



The biggest dream that every individual has is a dream house of their own.

Making it special can be their ultimate goal. Even if the purpose is same, style is same, our own home will be special for us. But there are a lot of people behind this big dream. Those who choose their profession as being a part of someone's dream.

From the building up of foundation for the home to the final touch of painting needs human labor. Creating a home involves a range of professionals, including architects who design the structure, engineers who ensure its stability, interior designers who focus on aesthetics and functionality, contractors who oversee construction, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, painters, and landscapers. Each plays a crucial role in bringing a house to life, ensuring it's safe, functional, and visually appealing.





Considering the painters and Carpenters it seems to be an art rather than a job. It is something that they do from their heart. From the traditional design to the modern style every traditional worker like carpenter, painter, and every worker related to building a house can be said as an artist.

Let's take a look on the wooden works used in home and the art.

The perfection they need while creating this includes the satisfaction they get when it is completely appealing and beautiful.

But on the other side there lies the question of the stability of the profession they do.

Are they paying correctly, with the intervention of contractors and modern machines? Many of the daily wage workers are struggling when they don't have work because house is for once and there is no need to continue the same or to have the same work. So when it comes to this job there is always instability.

The art they do as a profession should be considered as the deep field of artwork. Instead of simply making a door or a window they are creatively making it special and beautiful but these artists remain unknown to the world.

-AKSHAYA M S



NOT ONLY HUMANS...

"Rain slashes the cattle lives."

-by Thamanna Parvin

The place I visited for taking this interview was Perumpugalur, near Thiruvapur. I visited two houses nearing the difficulties of delta region. I talked with two women named Jyothi and Gayathri, who faced difficulties in rainy season very badly. This particular residential area is considered as a village in Thiruvapur.

What will be the situation of this geographic area when heavy rainfall happens?

All the houses except the first house while entering to this area will be in water. This situation is very worse, which will cause a lot of damage to our household things. The water will enter into our homes, maybe till the length of our ankle.

Will there be any transportation facilities during this time to this area?

Usually, the buses to this area are limited. During this season, there will be no transport facilities at all. Children face difficulties and danger in going to school, even we see snakes in water, so the classes are also suspended in this time for them. Even going to shops are also not practical.

So what will you guys do to by essential household items to your house?

There will be rescue teams allotted for this area due to all such emergencies. They are allotted by the head of the residential area, so that we can call and tell the list. At the end of the day, they will bring things to area together according to the order from same area.

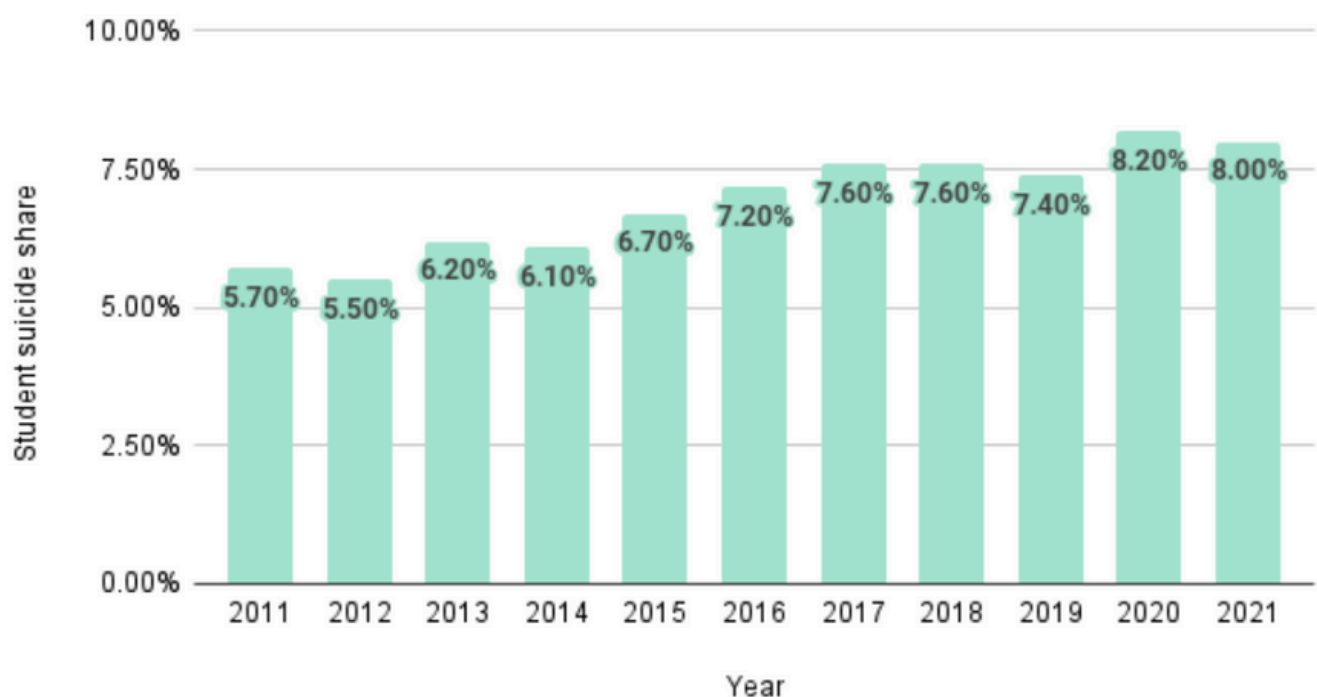
Is there any another major issue faced by your village?

We have many cattle farms, agricultural plots, hen farms etc., all these will get destroyed. The cows and goats won't get food to eat properly. The agricultural lands will be fully sinked in water, where all the crops and farms will be damaged. There will be a great loss for our daily means of living. Every year after this rainy season, it is considered as our rebirth to lives and means of lives. We will have to start everything from one.



The NCRB report on the suicide rate among students.

Student suicide share (%)



The data provided by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) says that 13,089 students died by suicide in 2021(the year of its latest report on suicides). This represents a 70% increase from 7,696 student suicides in 2011. The number of suicides in India since 2011 has generally increased since 2011.

-THAMANNA PARVIN



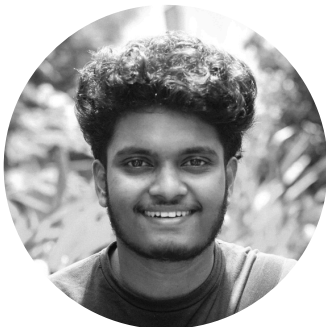
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