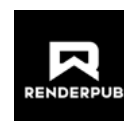


National Association of Students of Architecture
Louis I Kahn Trophy 2024-25
Exclaim!



About NASA India



The National Association of Students of Architecture (NASA India) is one of the largest architectural student organizations in the world with student participants from more than three hundred colleges all over India and countries around the world. The main objective of NASA India is to create a platform for architecture students to learn and interact, engage them directly and indirectly through both online and offline platform. NASA India conducts events, conventions, seminars, workshops, design competitions and trophies, and many other activities.



Exclaim!

Choose between being a goat in a herd or the king of the jungle as a lion.

I believe that most of us choose architecture as the path to break away from the conventional routes of engineering and medicine. It's a pursuit fueled by the desire to showcase one's unique ideas, creativity, and innovation. Many of us carry dreams of designing landmark buildings in the cities or villages where we were born and raised, making pursuing this lengthy professional program.

However, the obstacles that a student architect faces in India are sadly numerous. These include the demanding nature of the course, navigating through assessments that balance creativity and innovation, limited exposure to professional practice within a six-month timeframe, inadequate or nonexistent compensation for interns, and witnessing unhealthy working conditions.

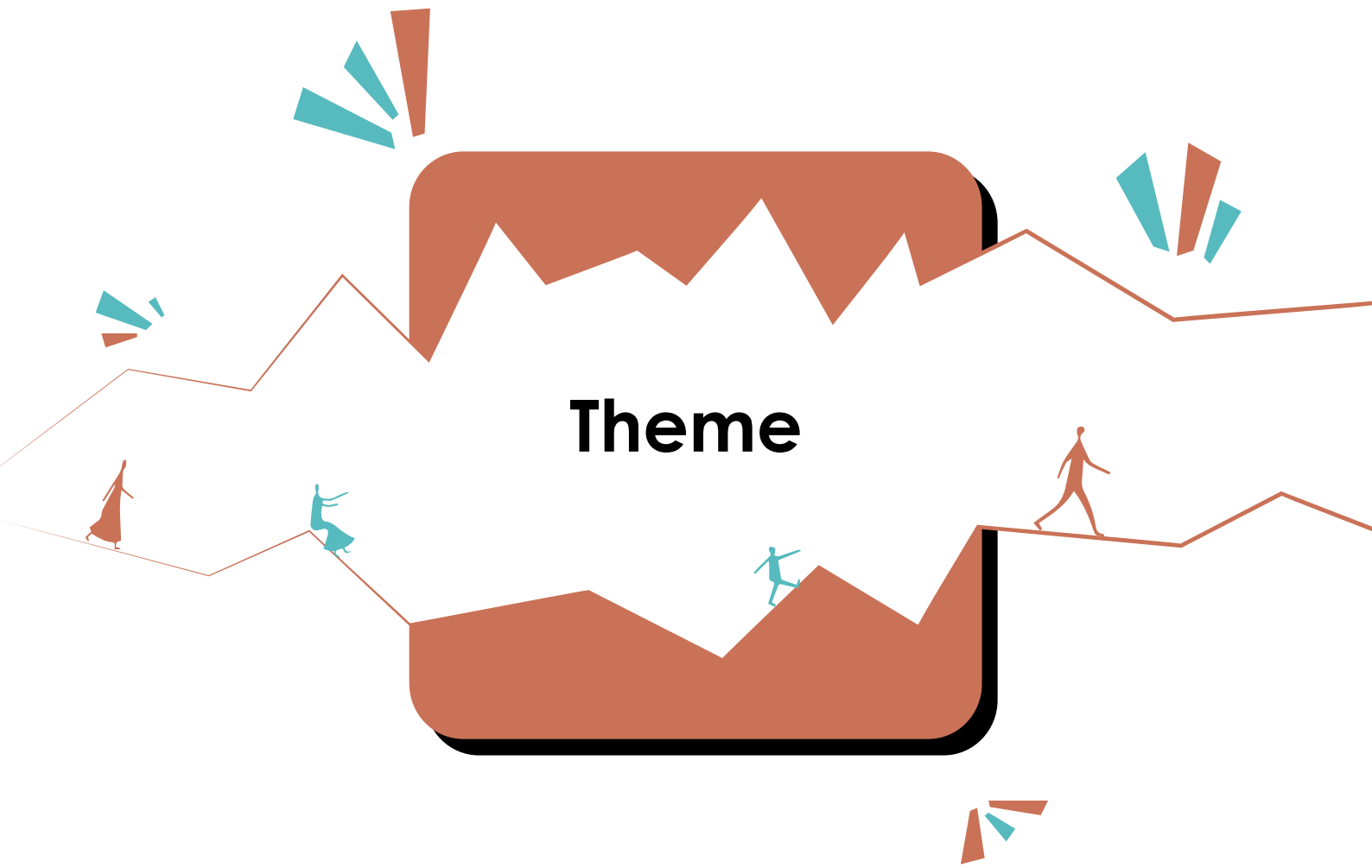
Yet, for aspiring architects in India, the road is riddled with challenges. From the intense demands of the course which eventually bounds creativity and innovation between juries, the journey is far from easy, limited exposure to professional practice within a six-month timeframe, inadequate or nonexistent pay for interns, and witnessing unhealthy working conditions adds to the struggle.

In the face of such obstacles, many find themselves questioning their choices and seeking alternative paths. It's not uncommon to see architecture graduates ending up in IT roles and other such irrelevant platforms.

Did they choose to be a lion only to find themselves relegated to the role of a goat?

With the staggering pace of urbanisation and its consequential social and environmental concerns, the necessity for architects is indisputable. However, do we possess sufficient awareness of architecture within the grassroots of the society? Can we envision architectural education as accessible and affordable for all? Will our curriculum provide enough autonomy to both institutions and students to ensure the quality of architectural education in India?

I call upon all members of the National Association of Students of Architecture to participate in the assemblage with like minds and deliberate upon the array of prevalent issues and potential solutions. Together let's **Exclaim for reform** and ensure a brighter future for the architecture fraternity in India!



Theme

Louis I Kahn Trophy

Preamble

One direction that LIK brief has been focusing during recent years is to compliment the architecture schools by suggesting topics generally not covered there. As such, a theoretical and complex topic like seeking the fundamentals of a design may invite the mind of a curious student into an analytical journey.

One such possibility lies in trying to describe that elusive quality of design which cannot be easily described. Let us look at terms like original, essential, fundamental, intangible, natural, critical, character, implicit, generic genius loci or the spirit of a building – all these and more can entice students to do some fresh thinking. We find such essentials both in historic and modern buildings, though they had greater presence in the architecture of the past.

Trophy Theme

A single term to cover all the above could be ELEMENTAL – the original phenomena from where all the ideas emerge. Most buildings would have matters of design to claim, but may have nothing much to exclaim. However, a few structures could have something to exclaim, which would impart it with a unique quality of monumental architecture. The challenge for 67th Year NASA India LIK theme is to identify what a building can EXCLAIM, which is also the Annual theme itself of the 67th year.

Much of architecture of today is influenced from everywhere, thanks to global communication systems like internet, websites and social media. So, modernity sources ideas from outside of its location, looking at architecture that is built, un-built, published, awarded, iconic and popular. As such, sets of values different from those of the locale and of the past are now getting embedded in the architecture of anywhere. In contrast, most of historic, vernacular and regional designs were rooted in a place with lesser influence of ideas from other regions.

It's not that the original traditional is better than the sourced modern, for both have produced ordinary designs, but today the original designs are on a decline. There could be exceptions of modern masters like Gaudi, Correa, Baker, Bawa, Ando, Doshi or Nari Gandhi, just to randomly name a few. Pre-set software programs also add to this dilution of personal ideas, reducing the role of architects and their intuitive signatures in design. Artificial intelligence is threatening to replace architectural intelligence.

Is the generative basic a physical entity like in Yatin Pandya's book "Elements of Architecture" or the principles found in "Space, form and order" by Ching, the contents of which are found both in the past and present? May be or going beyond, they can also be a vision like those of Hadid or Gehry. Is it a theoretical positioning of a building like we find with Tschumi, Calatrava, Eisenman, Coolhaas, Libeskind and such others, who rose to prominence by what could be loosely termed as theory-based architecture? All these are possible and more based on the merits of the buildings under study.

Despite identifying few essential designs today, we may still feel that the 'idea of the original' is diluting both in academics and consultancy. One recourse could be to study our local and historic structures which exhibit the architecture of quality, a quality that arose from situating a building in a context, a quality that could be connected to the essential and elemental roots of that architecture. LIK brief could revolve around identifying architecture of such original, elemental and intuitive quality - some simple ones determined by climate or complex ones generated by spiritual philosophy.

Author's word

Prof. Sathya Prakash Varanashi will be coordinating the trophy, with selected highly qualified jurors from across India. Shortlisted entries get published by NASA for future references. Students who do an excellent study may consider developing it further to present in seminars and journal publications or even as part of CV for entering master's programs based on theory and history. This trophy brief and participation can take the students far and wide.





The Task

Selection of the Monument

Students can select any building of any functional or stylistic typology, from the pre-independence period. It could be in active use now or even abandoned, but should have the original design and construction intact. There could be some alterations, as long as the original character of the structure is intact. The minimum built up area should be more than 1000 sqm., just to ensure there could be adequate elements and complexities worthy of studying.

Documentation as per the normal LIK trophy expectations are mandatory. However, next step can be to analyse the architecture for its source of design, relevance to the context, meanings of the images and its tangible and intangible expressions. The critical challenge however, is to document not just the elements of design but understand and communicate the fundamental, essential, original and the elemental in architecture.

Most young students of architecture may not have much exposure to deep theorization, as such participating in the LIK trophy could be an opportunity to hone the analytical skills. To compliment what the college has taught, it is worth reading books, listening to talks in the internet and discussing with eminent creative thinkers. Ideas generated from these sources can be quoted in the presentation to gain additional credibility.

Submission Requirements

The Submission shall comprise of a MAXIMUM OF 20 A2 SHEETS/40 A3 SHEETS/ COMBINATION OF A2 AND A3 EQUIVALENT TO 20 A2 SHEETS IN LANDSCAPE FORMAT ONLY.

- Panel quality: Opaque
- Ink: Only black, no dilution of ink allowed
- Computer Aided Drawings only, no hand drawn drawings
- Jury shall happen online. Participants must ensure legibility and readability is maintained by choosing the right drawing scales and text sizes.

Note: Participants can choose to submit all sheets in A2 sheets or all sheets in A3 or a combination of A2 and A3 e.g. A participant can submit 10 A2 sheets and 20 A3 sheets (which is equivalent to 20 A2 sheets).

Architectural Documentation

- At least 2 A2 or 4 A3 or Combination of A2 and A3 equivalent to 2 A2 mandatory panels displaying the collected data.
- Minimum of 5 A2 or 10 A3 or combination of A2 and A3 equivalent to 5 A2 mandatory panels for documentation drawings (Plan, Section, Elevation, etc.)
- Free hand sketches / hand drawings (should be digitally composed in the sheet)
- Axonometric / Isometric drawings (can be computer aided drawings)
- Use of satellite imagery allowed as a basis for analysis
- Photographs allowed (All satellite imagery, photographs, sketches, and perspectives shall be in support of the document and not be stand alone and desirably in black and white)
- The drawings should be self-explanatory with as little text as possible.

Analysis

- At least 3 A2 or 6 A3 or Combination of A2 and A3 equivalent to 3 A2 mandatory panels to show case analysis.
- Black and White
- Minimum of 2 A2 or 4 A3 or Combination of A2 and A3 equivalent to 2 A2 mandatory panels for design intervention.

Detailed 3D Model of the documented structure to be made and the respective views to be included in the report.

Field Notes

- Final Documentation drawings shall be accompanied by a set of field notebooks showing the hand drawn drawings /sketches over which measurements were first recorded.
- These are mandatory and are to act as a supplement to the formal documentation.
- The notebook should be bound in to **A4 sized Notebook of 20 pages maximum only.**
- All pages should clearly mention the date of recording of the documentation, descriptive title.
- The hand drawn sheets, if need be, can be photocopied / scanned and bound together in sequence with the A4 graph pad.
- Avoid retracing drawings for submission purposes.
- Please make sure to scan the notes clearly or it wouldnt be considered for evaluation.

Report

Report shall highlight the subjective aspects of the documentation. It shall be exactly structured along the panel structure, to give more background information about the building, the special techniques used, evidence found, all illustrations, sketches, maps, drawings, details etc. drawings used in the panels to be clearly mentioned and referenced in the Report (e.g. source of maps, plans, drawings, timelines, dates etc.) along with bibliography and acknowledgements page in the end.

Use 12-point Times New Roman font style for the body text of the Report, which should not exceed 20 pages of A4 size. No decorative titles allowed.

A general structure for the same is given below.

- Brief description of location, the structure / building (s) / complex and its natural setting.
- Justification for choice.
- History and Evolution
- Physical Form
- Spatial Organization
- Nature of use and purpose
- Construction materials and techniques
- Technological / Scientific advancement.
- Identification of significance and value assessment of the selected site
- Analysis of the structure selected
- Conclusions

Guidelines

Checklist for submission

1. Online Submission in form of PDF (25MB or below only)
2. Original Copy of Authentication Letter (10MB or below only)
3. Original Copy of Declaration Letter (10MB or below only)
4. Editable Format of the Sheets (Applicable if shortlisted)
5. Editable files of 3D Models (Applicable for winners only)

Kindly note that submission of Larger files would directly lead to disqualification.

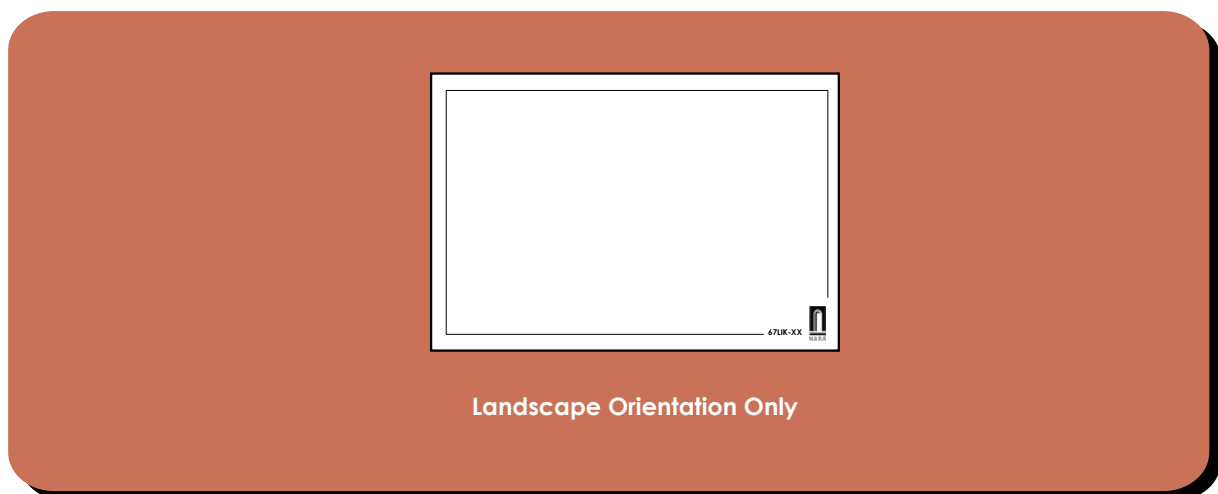
Sheet & NASA India Logo Guidelines

Failing to comply with any of the guidelines may lead to disqualification at the discretion of the executive council.

- NASA India Internal Logo shall always be placed on the right-hand bottom corner of the sheet.
- NASA India logo should not be merged, overlapped etc. with any sort of text, graphic, image, etc.
- NASA India logo should be in true black with a perfectly white background.
- **Sheet Template to be followed is available in the drive link -**
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1BQK7beT3hAxIMYu5TzNZ4d_LfGKnMMGL?usp=sharing
- **Authetication & Declaration formats to be followed are available in the drive link -**
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mschiSd0GIM4gjzg5914bdkUi54ZzluS?usp=sharing>

Important Information

- Maximum One (01) Entry Will Be Accepted Per College For Louis I Kahn Trophy.
- Queries to be put forward through the trophy page on the website (<https://www.nasaindia.co/Trophy/Index>)
- Registration should be done by the Unit secretary in NASA India website before the registration deadline strictly.
- Registration of the trophies will be final and cannot be changed or withdrawn henceforth.
- Late Registration and submission will not be entertained and henceforth the defaulters shall be disqualified.



General Submission Guidelines

Failing to comply with any of the guidelines may lead to disqualification at the discretion of the executive council.

- All text should be in English.
- The projects should use the decimal metric system and contain a metric graphic scale in order to enable publication in reduced formats.
- The format of the sheets should clearly mention the name of the trophy followed by the year i.e., "Louis I Kahn Trophy 2024-25"
- The format of the sheet should contain a square box of 25mm*25mm at the bottom righthand corner, next to the NASA INDIA logo which should have the unique registration number allotted to the participants after registrations.
- 10MM White margin is to be left on all sides of A2 sheets.
- The scale is left to the discretion of the participant(s) to the condition that the scale should be in a metric system and all the drawings should be clear and legible.
- **The soft copy (non-editable format) of the sheets along with authentication letter, declaration letter and any other required documents prescribed in the submission requirements should be strictly uploaded on the website by the submission deadline and no submissions will be considered post the deadline.**
- The soft copy file of the sheets should not be corrupted or incomplete or in low resolution.
- It is mandatory to produce the original copy of the Authentication Letter for each entry (entry code should be mentioned) with the name of participant(s) and stating the unit will abide by whatever may be the final results and also agree that this entry is a property of both the institute and NASA India.
- The Authentication Letter should be signed by the HOD/Principal/Director and must be on a letter head of college.
- It is mandatory for the colleges to produce the original copy of the Declaration Letter for each entry (entry code should be mentioned) signed by the participants stating the work submitted is genuine and they have endorsed copy- rights for the same and to adhere by all the rules and regulations, jury process and the results.
- **The Authentication and Declaration Letters should be submitted on the college Letterhead only in the mentioned format, failing to which the entries will be strictly disqualified.**
- The working files in editable formats of the Shortlisted Entries should be submitted to the Council, failing which, the submission requirements would be deemed incomplete leading to the prize money being withheld.
- Shortlisted Entries with manual hand-done sheets should submit high quality scans (min. 300*300 dpi) along with the content in a word document of the shortlisted entries should be submitted to the Council, failing which, the submission requirements would be deemed incomplete leading to the prize money being withheld.
- Any misconduct such as exposing identity through college name/ stamp participant(s) name or college code on the sheets, or the video will be disqualified.

Incentives for winners

The **top 5 winners** of the 67th Year Louis I Kahn Trophy will be assisted by Renderpub, our tech-partner in creating virtual 360 tours of their projects and publish them in the Metaverse. This would be our first digital exploration and experience in "NASA India Metaverse Hub" .

Important Dates



Release of Brief:
6th July 2024, Saturday

Registration Deadline:
28th July 2024, Sunday 1800 Hrs IST

Queries Deadline:
28th July 2024, Sunday 1800 Hrs IST

Submission Deadline:
20th August 2024, Tuesday 1800 Hrs IST

Prize money of **2 Lakh
INR** is allotted

The prize money will be divided according to the number of Citations and Special Mentions based on the jury.

Prize Money



Moderator



Ar. Sathya Prakash Varanasi is a distinguished architect and author renowned for his sustainable and innovative designs. With a focus on ecological balance and cultural sensitivity, his work integrates traditional principles with contemporary techniques. Throughout his extensive career, Varanasi has undertaken a variety of projects while leading his architecture firm, Sathya & Consultants. He is also a respected educator and thought leader, sharing his expertise through lectures, workshops, and publications, and inspiring future architects with his commitment to environmental sustainability and social responsibility.

Ar. Sathya Prakash Varanasi



Tech-Partner

Founded with the vision of enabling immersive 3D experiences at the speed of thought, Renderpub is a generative AI powered 3D design and visualization software tailored for architects and interior designers. We're reimagining 3D design and visualization with generative AI. Whether you're using SketchUp, Revit, Rhino or Archicad, Renderpub helps you create hyper-realistic image renders, video walkthroughs, 360 tours and immersive VR experiences faster than ever before. The link to website www.renderpub.com

RenderPub



All the best!

Don't forget to follow our social media handles! Visit them by clicking the icons below



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