



BA NI OSHARI

Architectural Design for an Outhouse

Client:	Mr Rahul Dholakia
Site Location:	Narayan Munidev Society, Katargam, Surat, Gujarat- 395004
Master Plan Area:	92,224 sq ft / 8,567 sq m
Construction Area:	12,866 sq ft / 1,195 sq m
Cost of Project:	Confidential
Year of Completion:	2020
Services:	Master planning, Architecture, Interior Design, Landscape, Art Integration
Firms Involved:	EssTeam, Oblique



THE PROJECT:

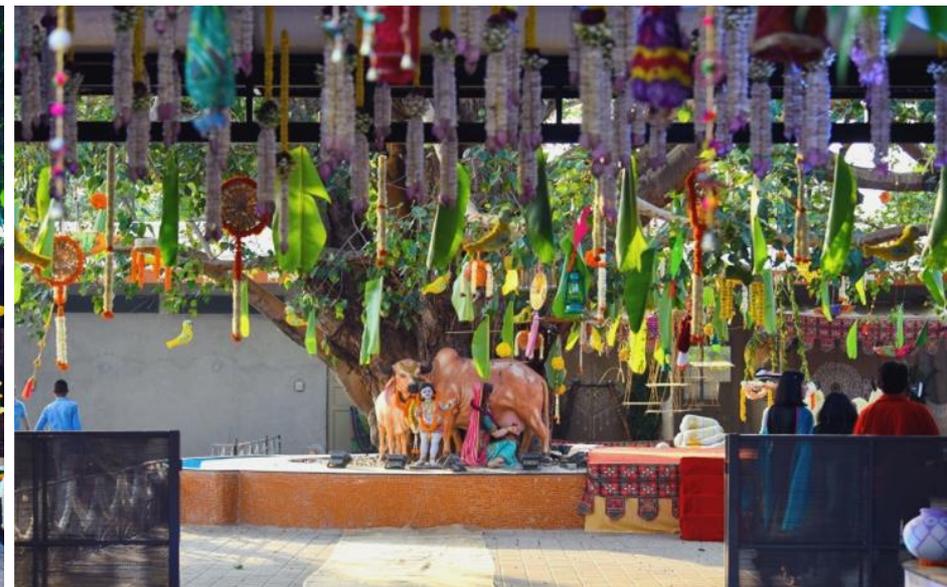
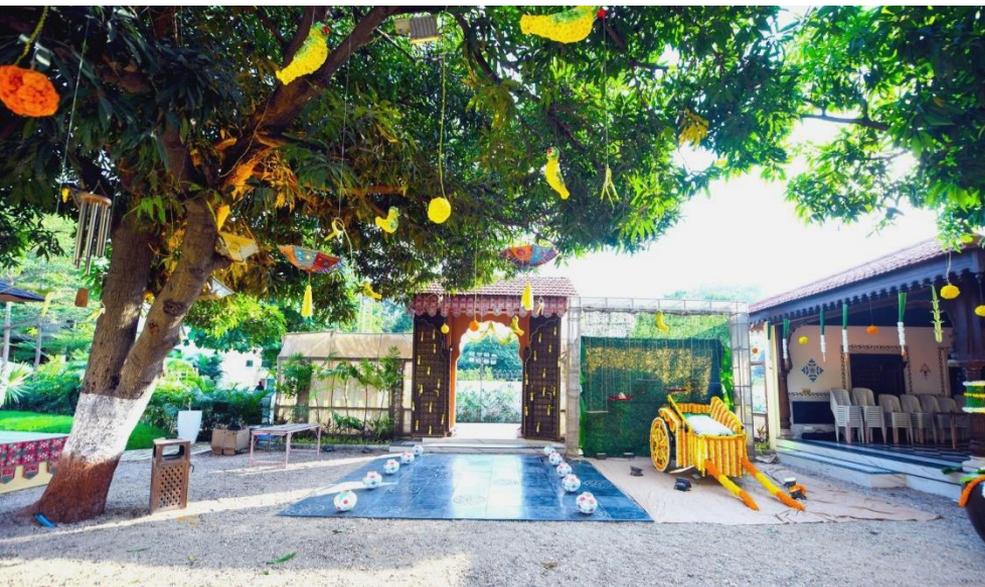
Memories from the childhood is a priceless thing! The client's childhood days, coming from a small village in Saurashtra, had distinct memories of spending time on the verandah- which was also a popular spot for hosting the 'Dayra' cultural programme back then. So the project was about reliving this experience of conducting events and family get-togethers like those days. As a process, the project is constructed out of assembling architectural elements accumulated out of houses that were brought down in various parts of Gujarat.

THE SITE:

The site is in the Katargam area in the city of Surat that consists of a lot of old and new diamond industries. It consists of a large farm area with some mango trees and with five houses belonging to one of the well known diamond- industry family of the city,

'Ba ni Oshari'- Verandah in a Mother's house is a C- shaped otta where the cultural program- 'Dayra' is held in the centre and is a part of a building. Thereby we decided to create a C- shaped otta depicting a building creating the doors and windows that opened out to the otta. 'Dayra' is an interesting cultural event related to literature where the Oshari becomes the stage and they enjoyed the program sitting in front of it. The clients left these 20 years back and now they wanted to relive those moments they enjoyed when they were young. We felt as if we were designing a theatre set in the entire process and believed that we added the most value in the various traditional elements like columns, brackets, jharokha, railings, doors and windows that we bounded together to form the entire space as one, which in itself became one of the most unique elements in the design.





DESIGN INTENT- CULTURAL EVENTS AT THE OSHARI AND GAUSHALA

The original master plan that was redesigned to incorporate the Oshari and the Gaushala to increase the farmland catering the client's requirements and moving the mango trees away instead of taking them down due to the client's environment conscious and a sustainable approach. The experience that was needed to be created was towards the traditional style of architecture that the existing site was missing. In order to make the Oshari and Gaushala included with the neighborhood structures, the entire site area was utilized to form a beautiful vicinity to celebrate various cultural events.

- 01. Existing space for cultural events
- 02. Existing Gazebo
- 03. Existing Gaushala



EXISTING SITE PLAN

The Oshari and the Gaushala was designed in a vernacular style of architecture, easy to maintain, climatically sensitive and with a flexible layout. The proposed site plan had another fascinating story about the Gazebo that was built right opposite the Oshari. Architecturally, the geometry of the Gazebo was irrelevant, therefore with the help of a crane we lifted the entire structure with its foundation and tilted it in the correct geometry which created an interesting courtyard between the Gazebo and Oshari- defined perfectly and increasing its grandness. The way this C- shaped building comes together to hold the court and facilitate the anticipated events, gives unparallel joy to the user and the designer alike!

- 01. 'Ba ni Oshari'
- 02. Gazebo (realigned)
- 03. Gaushala



PROPOSED SITE PLAN



A CULTURAL FUSION OF SEVERAL ERAS AND MEMORIES

We were frequently reminded of the story of the 'Ship of Theseus' as there were 17 different elements that made a completely new space which had a different purpose and the memories connected to them were from totally different eras. In terms of timeline, it is an extremely interesting process and our values of sustainability were reflected in terms of reusing everything and trying to create a space that looks completely new, out of the things that are totally old. This entire process gave us the utmost satisfaction in this project.



We suggested reusing the old furniture and creating the traditional space, as making new furniture would use up a lot of natural wood. Therefore, we went to a lot of 'Katpitias' in Navsari, Surat and Ahmedabad to pick up various elements for the Oshari. It was not about the modernism or our own philosophy, but it was about respecting and integrating the works that are done in so many different areas and eras starting from 20 years old to about 120 years old. We adopted the Main Door and the Internal Doors from the traditional houses built decades back.

ELEMENTS ADOPTED FROM VARIOUS STYLES AND ERAS

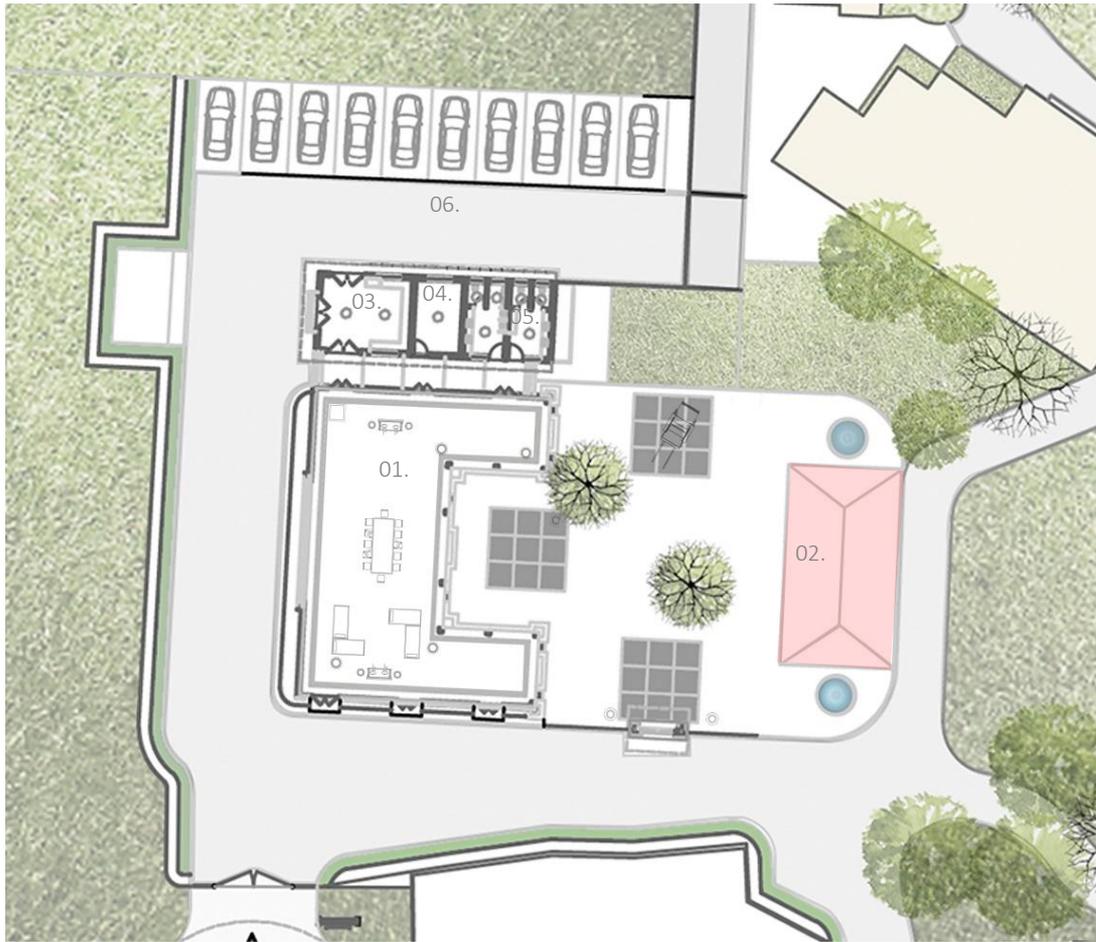


Wada Architectural Style (Jharokha)

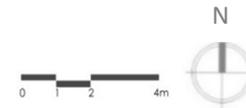


Wada Architectural Style (Columns)

ELEMENTS ADOPTED FROM VARIOUS STYLES AND ERAS



- 01. 'Ba ni Oshari'
- 02. Gazebo
- 03. Kitchen
- 04. Bathroom
- 05. Toilets
- 06. Parking



'BA NI OSHARI' AND GAZEBO



WHITE AND BLACK
INDIAN MARBLE



TEAK WOOD



TRADITIONAL CLAY
TILES



KOTAH STONE



PAINTED MILD STEEL



FABRIC



01. BA NI OSHARI





01. BA NI OSHARI



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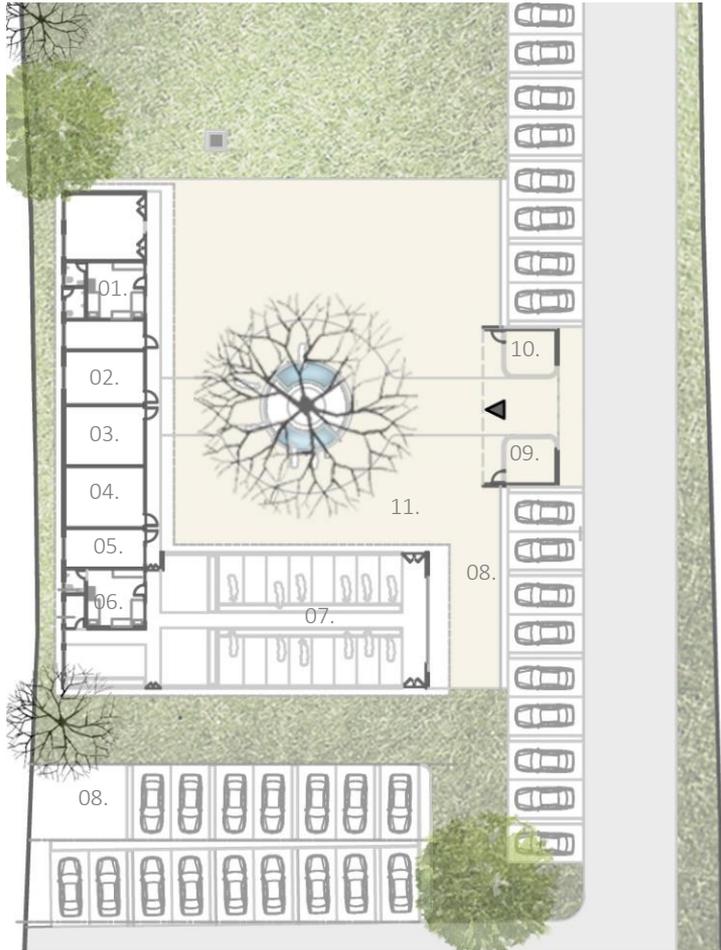






01. BA NI OSHARI

The clients had a lot of cows and they wanted to design a 'Gaushala' – Cowshed, around a 100 year old Peepal tree, where the cows could feel free in their own environment. The client being religious, an idol of Lord Krishna was placed in that space depicting a scene from Gokuldham. In this entire process of designing, our major learning as a firm was how to change our paradigms about architecture and how we can cultivate openness and inclusiveness in our natural thought process.



- 01. Servant Quarters
- 02. Farming
- 03. Grass Storage
- 04. Horse Stable
- 05. Grass Cutting Machine
- 06. Calf Area
- 07. Cowshed
- 08. Parking
- 09. Dog House
- 10. Pigeon House
- 11. Space around Peepal Tree

02. GAUSHALA



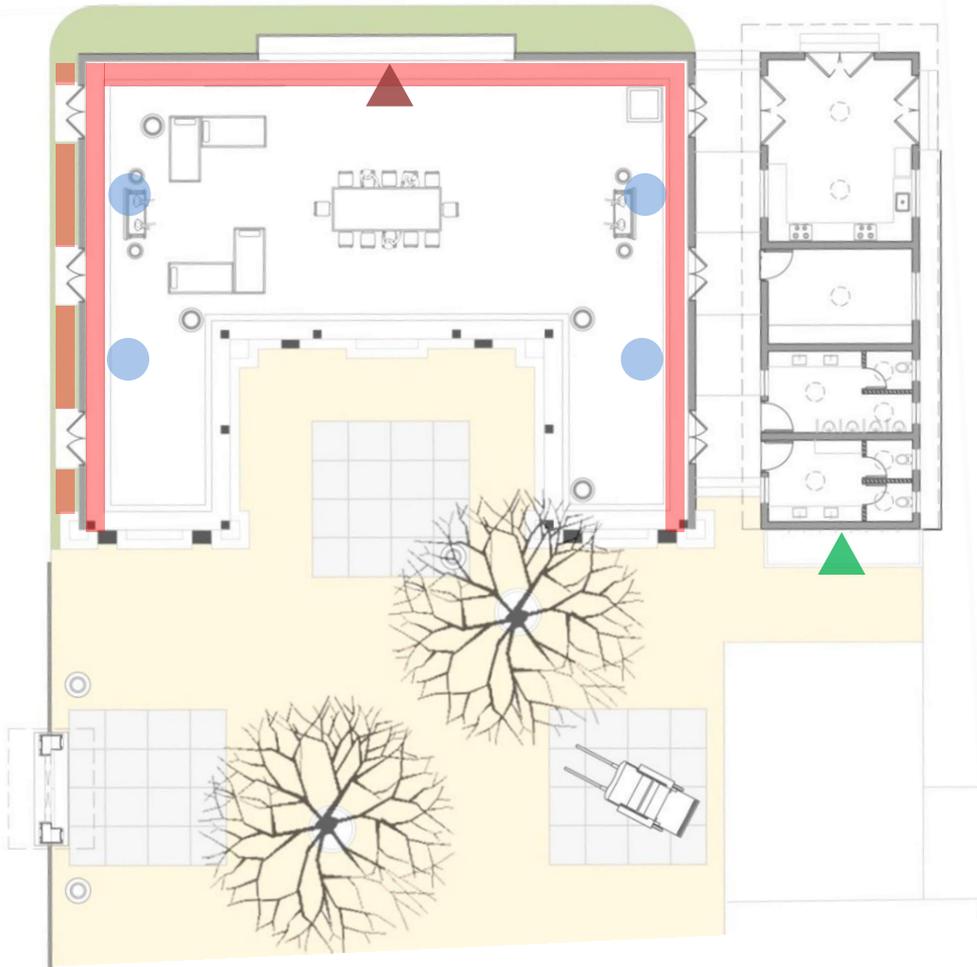






NATURE AND TRADITION

The theme of the artworks is about creating 'a place for celebration' with subtle concepts and a traditional Indian language throughout, keeping in mind the crucial role of nature that is brought within the artworks. The intricate carving was matched by two elements- to finish the ambience in accordance to the built space and secondly the lighting- using traditional textile cloth and brass parats. It's a fusion of painting style across time period and across different regions of India, but it is interesting to see how everything comes together in a harmonious way.

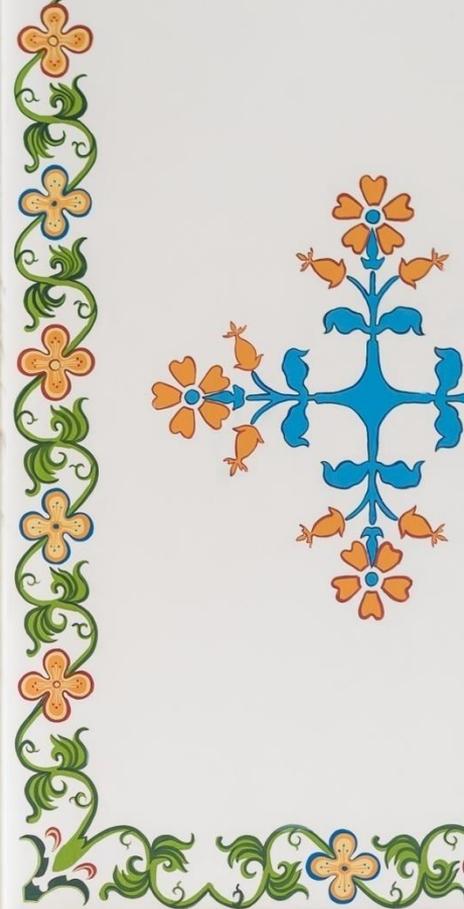


-  *BORDER ELEMENT AND INFILL MOTIFS*
-  *FRAMED JHAROKHA ACCENT*
-  *TREE OF LIFE MOTIF*
-  *SERVICE BLOCK WALL*



The design of the borders are inspired from the carved wooden border motifs to bring in the continuity of the wooden elements used in the space as well as the theme of nature.

Technique: Hand Painting on the wall, in accordance to the theme.





 BORDER ELEMENT AND INFILL MOTIFS (INNER SIDE WALLS)



Following the traditional Indian language, the wall painting celebrates customary motifs.

Technique: Hand Painting on the wall, in accordance to the theme.





■ BORDER ELEMENT AND INFILL MOTIFS (OUTER SIDE WALLS)



Portraying the nature and motifs in and around this built space, this wooden frame encapsulates an accent of the traditional art.

Technique: Hand Painting on the wall, in accordance to the theme.



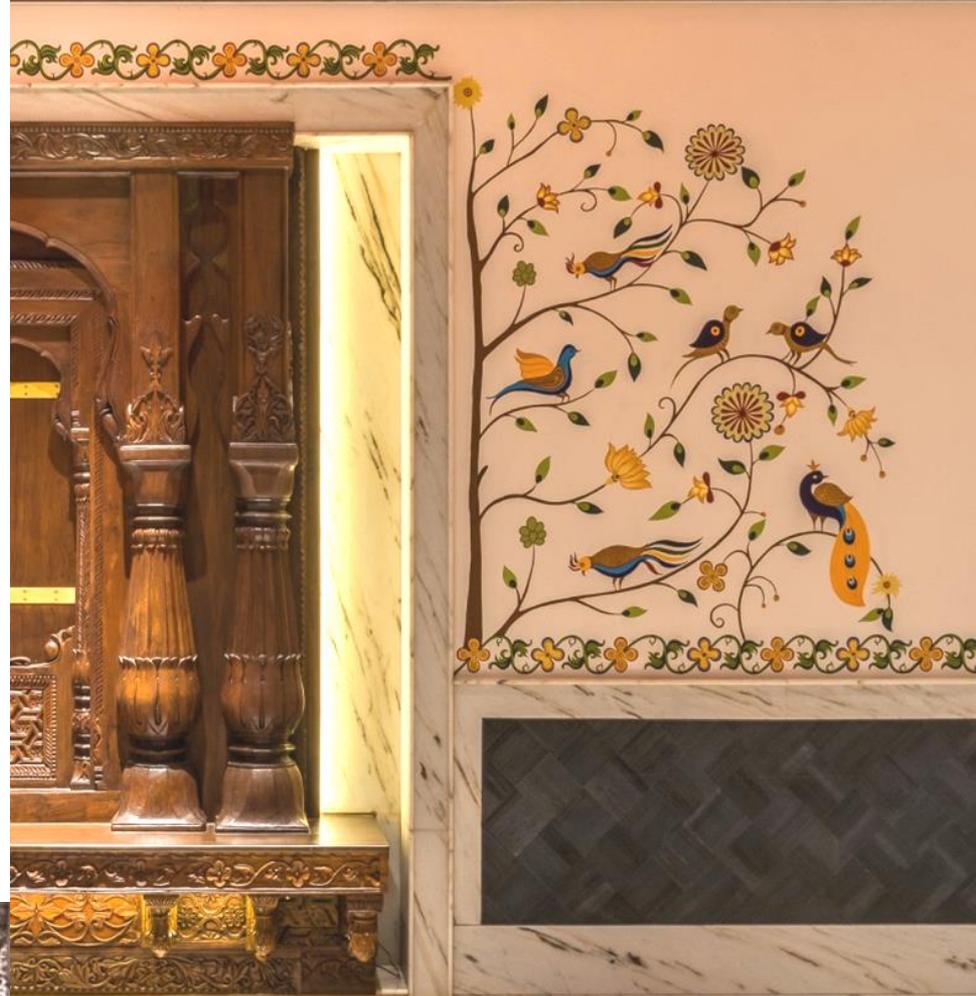


● FRAMED JHAROKHA ACCENT (INNER SIDE WALLS)



The theme of the wall painting on the traditional jarokha wall, is the trees surrounding the Oshari with beautiful birds sitting on the branches.

Technique: Hand Painting on the wall, in accordance to the theme.



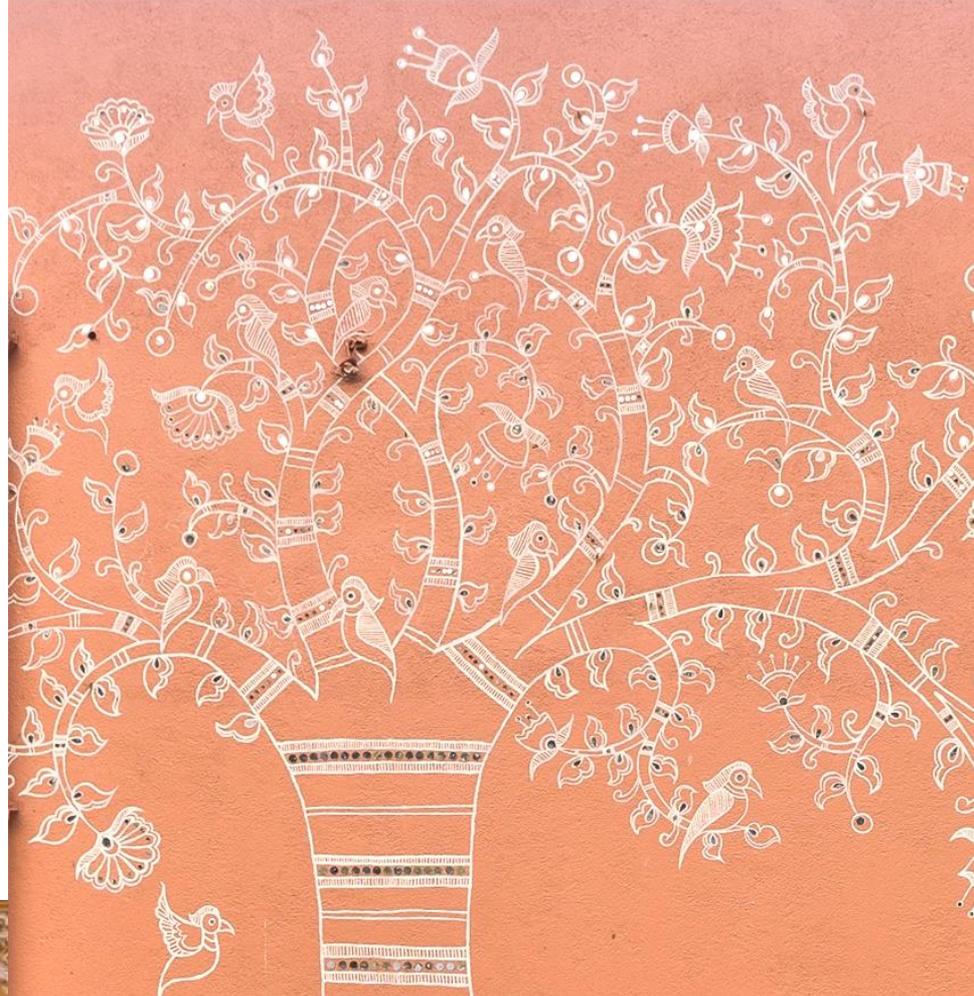


▲ TREE OF LIFE MOTIF (MAIN WALL)



Depicting the mango tree in the close proximity of the space, the wall painting showcases the traditional art of mirror work.

Technique: Hand Painting on the wall with mirror work, in accordance to the theme.





▲ MIRROR- WORK TREE MOTIF (SERVICE BLOCK WALL)



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