



BEAUTY:
THE ADJUSTMENT OF
ALL PARTS
PROPORTIONATELY
SO THAT ONE
CANNOT ADD
OR SUBTRACT
OR CHANGE
WITHOUT IMPAIRING
THE HARMONY
OF THE WHOLE
LEON BATTISTA
ALBERTI



HARMONY OF THE WHOLE

CITIES BEAUTIFUL IN 20TH CENTURY INDIA

Italian architect Ernesto Rogers described the role of an architect as the designer of everything “from the spoon to the city.” In practice, architects rarely have the opportunity to touch all scales of a single project, ranging from urban design to the design of furniture and objects. In 20th century India, political change and rapid urbanization twice called for new cities: urban plans, public and institutional buildings, monuments, residences, and furniture designed all at once, by a single team, under the direction of an architect. Sir Edwin Lutyens’ 1912 plan for New Delhi and Le Corbusier’s 1950 plan for Chandigarh provide two chronologically and geographically adjacent examples of this rare opportunity.

Using Alberti’s definition of beauty as our springing point, we will analyze the relationship between the parts to the whole of New Delhi and Chandigarh. Concentrating on Lutyens and Le Corbusier’s shared interest in proportion, materiality, and symbolism, we will investigate the way harmony is maintained across vastly different scales and functions in the respective cities. This study will result in diagrammatic analysis of key quarters, landscapes, buildings, and objects designed by the respective teams.

In our study of these cities, we hope to identify strategies employed by Lutyens and Le Corbusier applicable to our own process of place-making at RAMSA. The relationship of the part to the whole is paramount in the design of beautiful places. As RAMSA teams face similar challenges of designing new cities at varying scales and contexts, these strategies become increasingly essential in achieving that sense of place clients desire and identify with. This close examination of two contemporary precedents will contribute to our understanding of the design of harmonic cities. By decoding the sense of place evident in New Delhi and Chandigarh, we will further the dialogue at RAMSA and in the profession on the creation of beautiful places.

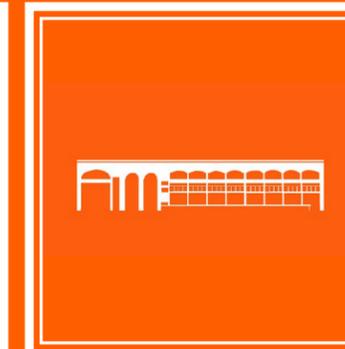
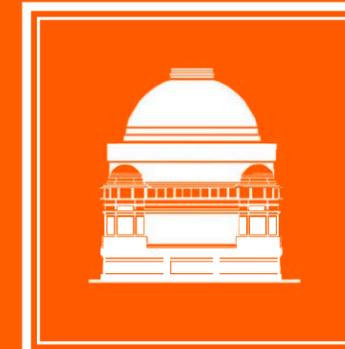
Budget

| | | | | | |
|----------|--------------|---------|-------------------|----------|----------------|
| Flights: | \$1,200 ea. | \$2,400 | Transport: | | \$ 200 |
| Lodging: | \$120/night | \$1,440 | Visas: | \$60 ea. | \$ 120 |
| Museums: | \$80 ea. | \$ 160 | Drawing Supplies: | | \$ 80 |
| Food: | \$30/day ea. | \$ 360 | Books | | \$ 200 |
| | | | Total: | | \$4,960 |

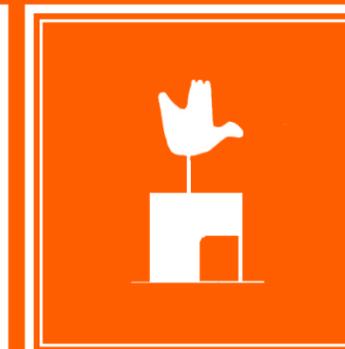
DAY 1 & 6 CITY



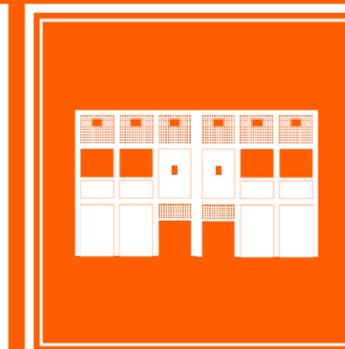
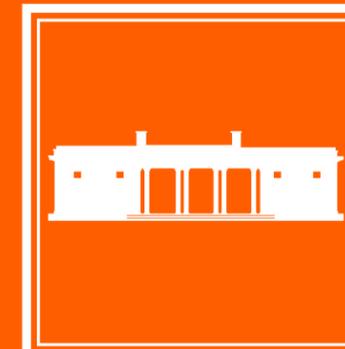
DAY 2 & 7 PALACE



DAY 3 & 8 MONUMENT



DAY 4 & 9 RESIDENCE



DAY 5 & 10 FURNITURE

