



T.Y. B'Arch Educational Tour 2022  
Jodhpur | Jaisalmer | Jaipur

An Educational tour for the Third year B.Arch students was organized by **L.S. Raheja School of Architecture** to three major cities of Rajasthan namely **Jodhpur, Jaisalmer & Jaipur** from 21st November, 2022 to 1st December, 2022. Study Tours are vital in imparting practical knowledge in students along with their academic studies. The aim of this tour was to aid the students acquire basic knowledge of **regional variant of Indian Architecture and Contemporary Architecture inspired by the regional.**

The Tour began in the city of Jodhpur where the students walked through the **heritage streets** towards the **Mehrangarh Fort** and explored the planning of the fortress, the vernacular elements and intricate details of the façade and interiors within. Below the fort is an architecture & ecological restored site, The **Rao Jodha Desert Park** which was established to remove invasive alien plants and bring back the original desert and arid land vegetation of the region. An educational tour was conducted within the park under the guidance of trained guides and naturalists.



*Figure 1 Heritage Walk, Jodhpur*

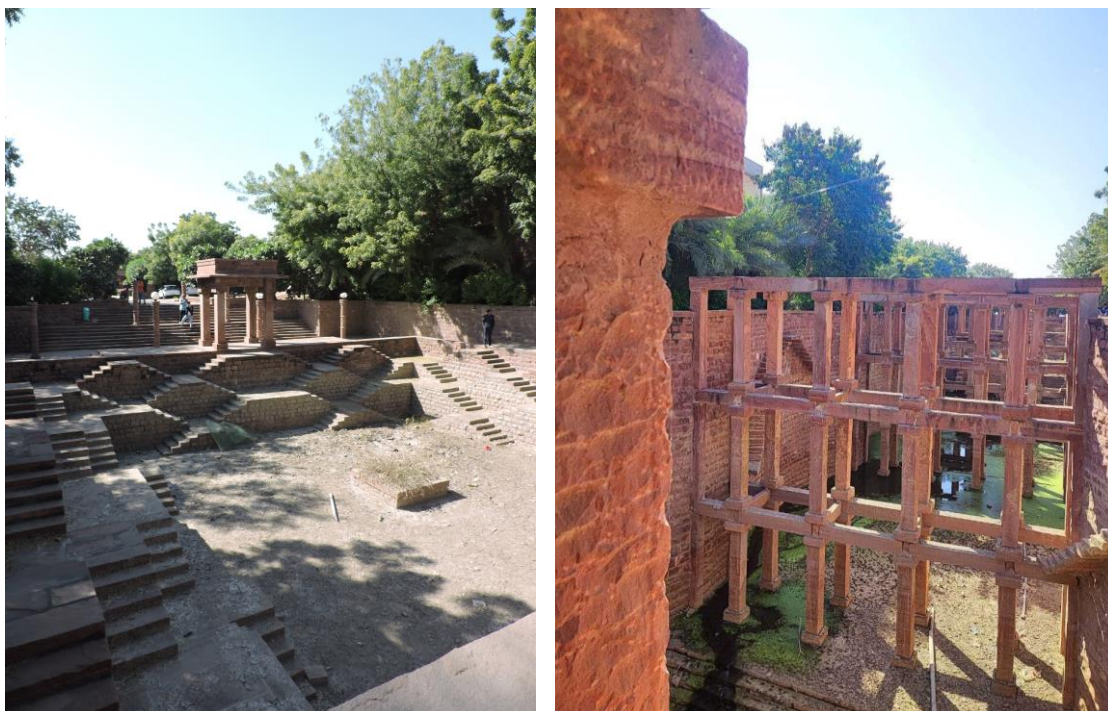


*Figure 2 Rao Jodha Desert Park*

As a part of L.S.Raheja School of Architecture's Insights Lecture Series, a presentation by a well known Architect, **Anu Mridul**, was organized after a physical visit to **Birkha Bawari**, a modern water harvesting system inspired by India's ancient Kunds & Bawaris, located within the Umaid Heritage Housing complex. The Architect addressed the issue of water shortage happening in various parts of India and how they can be resolved using various systems of harvesting and management. It was truly an inspirational lecture.



*Figure 3 Insights Lecture by Ar. Anu Mridul*



*Figure 4 Birkha Bawari, the modern step well*

Along with the Birkha Bawri, the students also visited a contemporary temple where a Hindu & Jain temple shared the same stone plinth and was part of the Umaid Heritage complex. Above the complex, was situated the popular **Umaid Bhavan Palace**, where students explored the museum & the gallery of vintage cars. One of the evenings was spent doing experiential mapping at **Mandore Gardens** where landscape and architecture blended into creating a sensuous experience.



*Figure 5 Temple in Stone & Light by SpaceMatters*

Located between Jodhpur & Jaisalmer, was the **temple in stone & light**, a contemporary temple of lord Shiva, part of the **JSW plant in Barmar**, designed by **SpaceMatters**. The tour of Jaisalmer officially began from this temple. The **Sonar Fort** was explored in detail by the students, understanding the architecture, socio-cultural aspects, the history and the changes with time. Along with the fort, Hawelis such as **Patwoki Haweli and Nathmal ki Haweli** were part of the Jaisalmer study. Students were also taken to the Sand Dunes of Jaisalmer and Bada Bag.

Another contemporary Architecture was explored at the **Rajkumari Ratnavati Girl's School**, designed by a New York based firm - **Diana Kellogg Architects**. The school is one of three buildings in the complex known as the "**Gyaan Centre**". The architects designed it in the shape of an oval that can withstand temperatures of up to 50 degrees Celsius. The students of L.S. Raheja School of Architecture were privileged to explore the spatial quality, the design elements and the climate responsive architecture of the building.



*Figure 6 Sonar Fort, Jaisalmer*



*Figure 7 Rajkumari Ratnavati Girl's School*

While in Jaisalmer, the students were taken to **RIICO industrial area** where the **Jaisalmer stone** were cut, dressed, carved and transported from. An old Jain Temple, **Amar Sagar** made of Marble and Jaisalmer stone was also a part of the study tour.

The Jaipur tour began with **Hathi Gaon**, designed to provide proper places for the families of the **Mahavats** who took care of elephants and elephants used in tourist rides in Amber Fort and to take care of elephants. The Elephant village was designed by **Rahul Mehrotra's firm RMA**. On the same day, students visited the **Chand Bawari** along with the oldest temple of Jaipur, at **Abhaneri**.



*Figure 8 Chand Bawari*

Early morning trip to the **Galtaji temple** was conducted to study one of the oldest water harvesting systems and the temple complex designed within the rocky hills. The three Heritage structures of Jaipur namely **City Palace, Hawa Mahal and Jantar Mantar** were visited during the day. The last day of the tour was majorly spent at the **Amer or Amber Fort**.

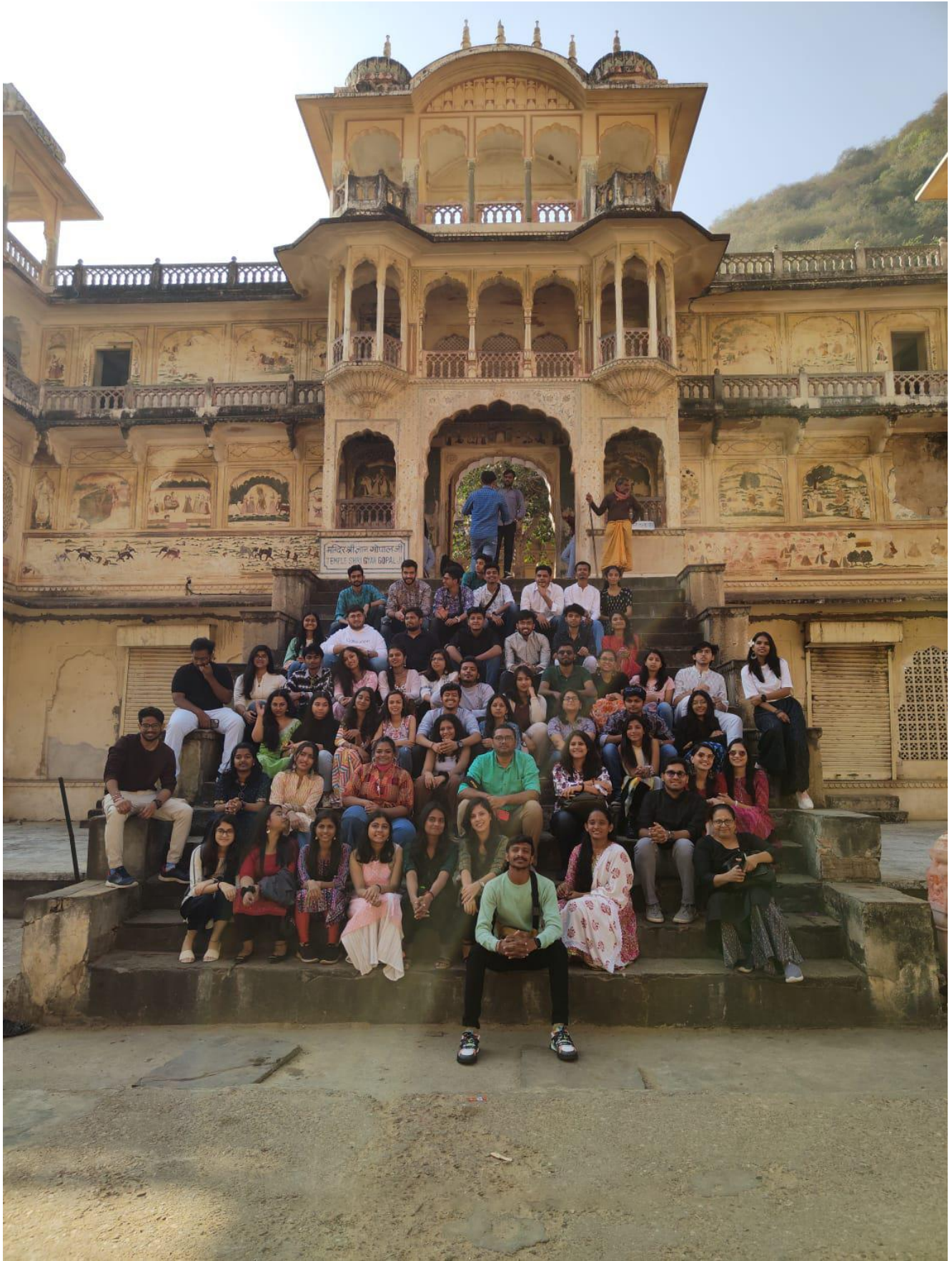


Figure 9 Galtaji Temple



*Figure 10 Amber Fort*

The tour concluded with the visit to **Gyan Museum**, constructed to depict a reciprocal recognition of about **3000 years of cultural heritage and designed by Paul Mathieu**. Gyan Museum orbits around the assortments of the naturalist, collector, and gemologist Late **Mr. Gyan Chand Ji Dhadha**. Students were permitted to a time bound visit to the museum to explore the lighting, spatial design and a contemporary exhibition space.

A series of Forts, Mahals, Hawelis, temples, Bawaris, streetscapes, markets, geography and materiality were studied and explored during this educational journey, both in heritage and contemporary architecture. The tour was guided by Professors of L.S.Raheja School of Architecture namely **Ar. Uttara Nalawade, Ar. Swanand Mahashabde & Ar. Gargi Karve**.

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