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AHANAS JOURNAL

SPACES, STORIES AND IDEAS IN DESIGN

Designing Homes *with* Natural Light & Ventilation

The Dancing Courtyard:
The Decision to Look Inward

Return of **Heritage** Flooring to Indian Homes

Four design elements worth taking home

The Farmhouse,
From the Sketchbook

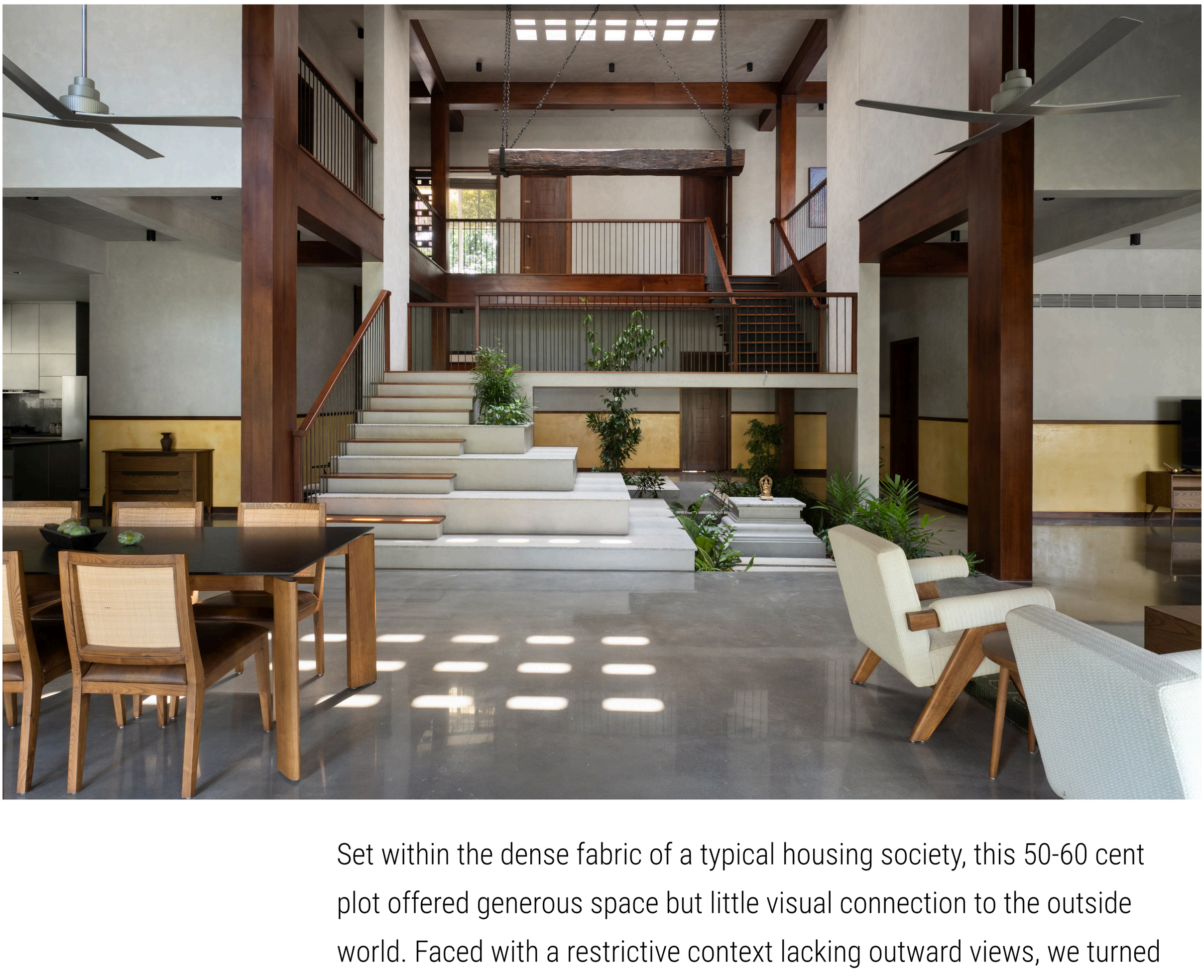


AHANAS SM
DESIgN 4 SPaCE

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

The Dancing Courtyard:

The Decision to Look Inward

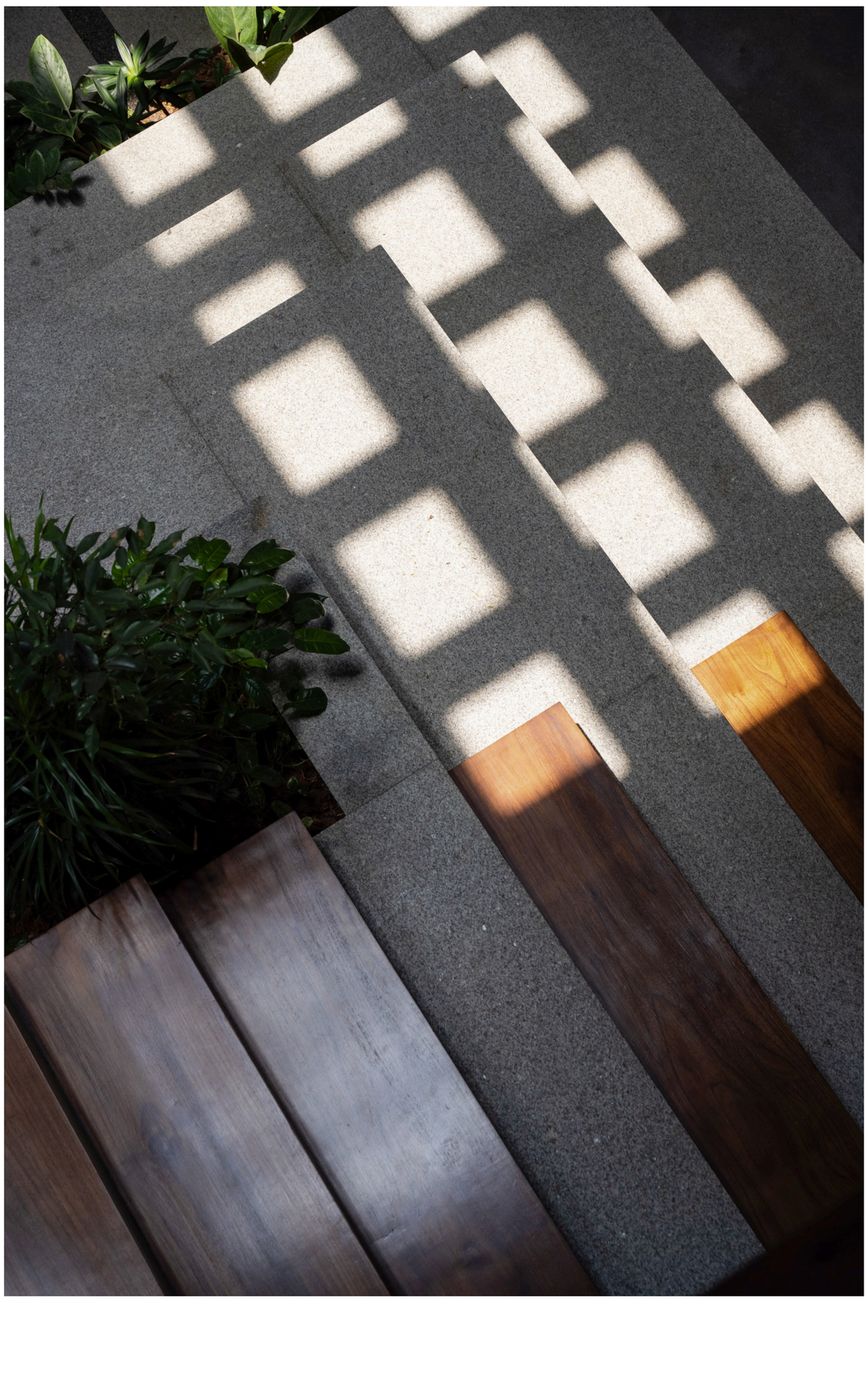


Set within the dense fabric of a typical housing society, this 50-60 cent plot offered generous space but little visual connection to the outside world. Faced with a restrictive context lacking outward views, we turned the home's gaze entirely inward. **The result is The Dancing Courtyard, an introverted haven that creates a mesmerising internal world of its own.**

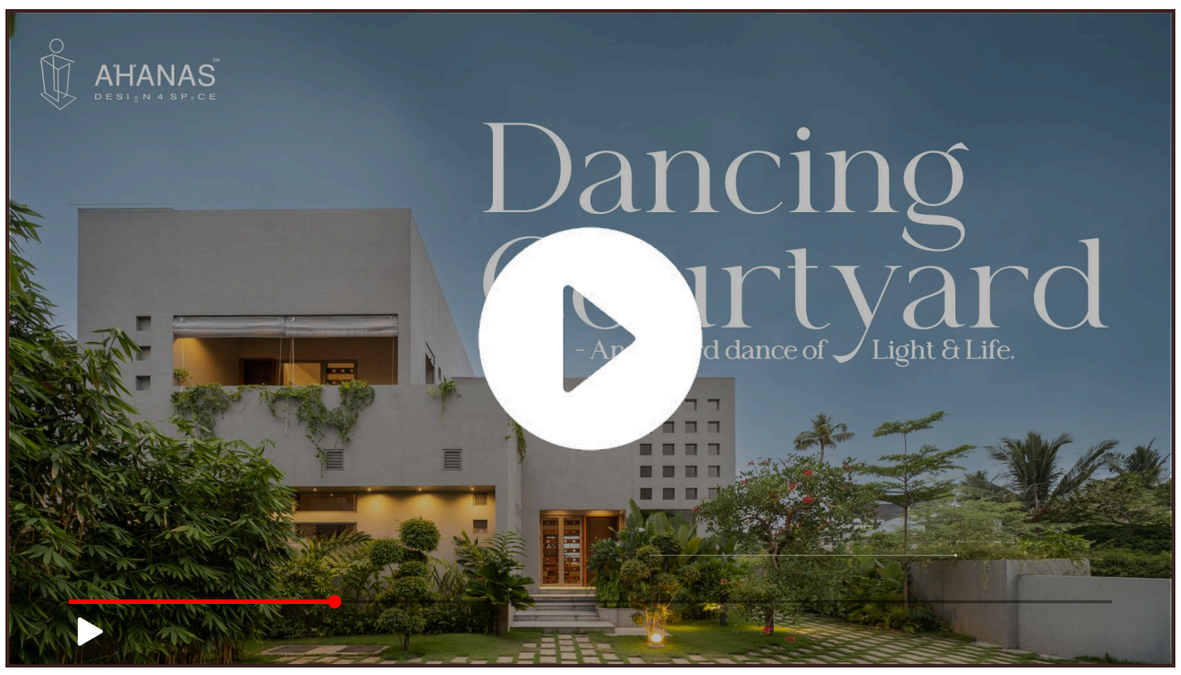
PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



The courtyard serves as the heart of the home, conceived not as a passive green void but as an active nucleus for everyday life. The main staircase rises directly from it, while a pooja space, intimate seating areas, and personal corners gather around its edges. A peripheral passage connects three bedrooms, allowing the private wings to remain intimately connected to this lively social core.



Above, a series of small, square skylights punctures the roof, drawing sunlight deep into the house. As the sun moves across the sky, shifting geometries of light and shadow glide across the raw walls and earthy floors. This continuous interplay gives the space its sense of movement and its name.



▶ *See The Dancing Courtyard in motion*

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



Materially, the house balances the stark, raw geometry of Brutalist concrete and perforated brick jali with the nostalgic warmth of an Indian home.





We utilised the client's personal collection of heirloom timber alongside earthy red oxide floors to beautifully soften the modern edges.

Without a horizon to look out at, we built a peaceful, inward-looking world that is profoundly alive.

DESIGN BREAKDOWN

Designing Homes *with* Natural Light & Ventilation





Long before air conditioning, Kerala's architecture had already mastered tropical comfort. Sloping tiled roofs, shaded verandahs, courtyards and perforated jaali screens were designed to work with the climate, allowing homes to breathe while tempering heat, glare and humidity.

DESIGN BREAKDOWN



That same principle of designing with light and air shapes Collage in the Sky and The Dancing Courtyard. In Collage in the Sky, a balcony filled with over 35 plants, a fruiting mango tree and citrus plants brings daylight, greenery and fresh air into high-rise living, while privacy screens maintain seclusion.

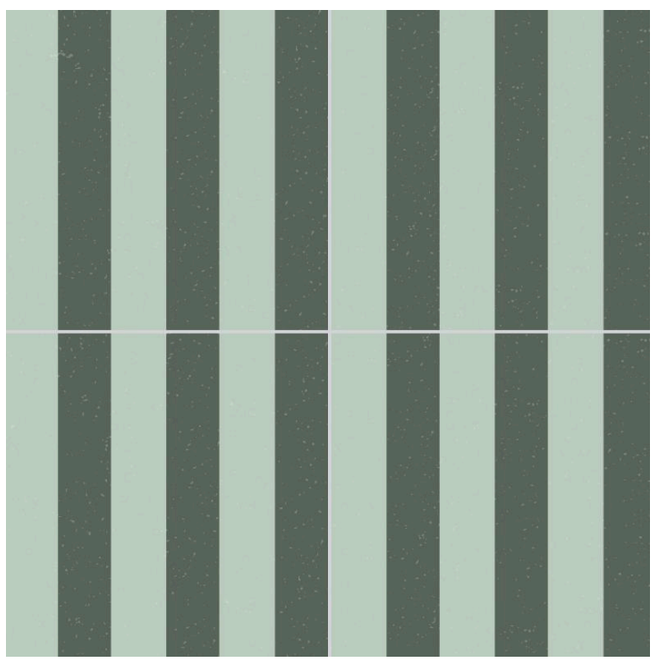




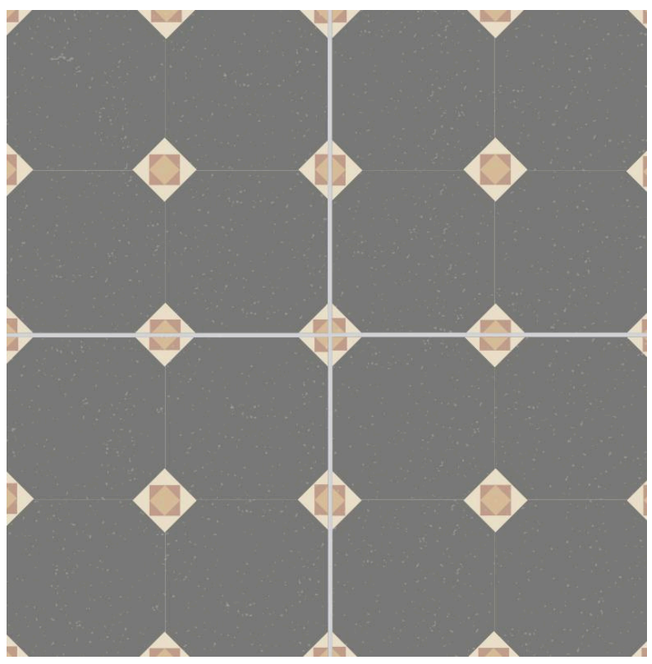
At The Dancing Courtyard, a central courtyard becomes the home's source of light and ventilation. Square skylights bring changing sunlight indoors, while perforated brick jali walls encourage cross-ventilation without compromising privacy.

TREND RADAR

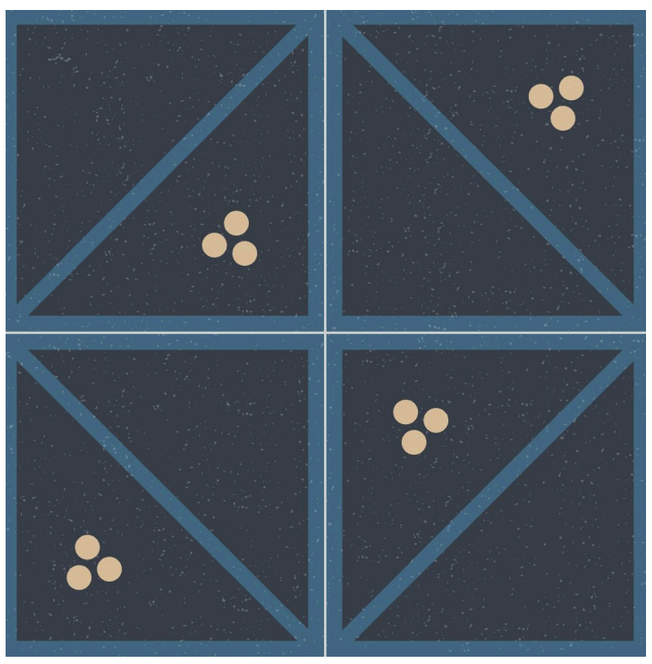
Return of Heritage Flooring to Indian Homes



1.



2.



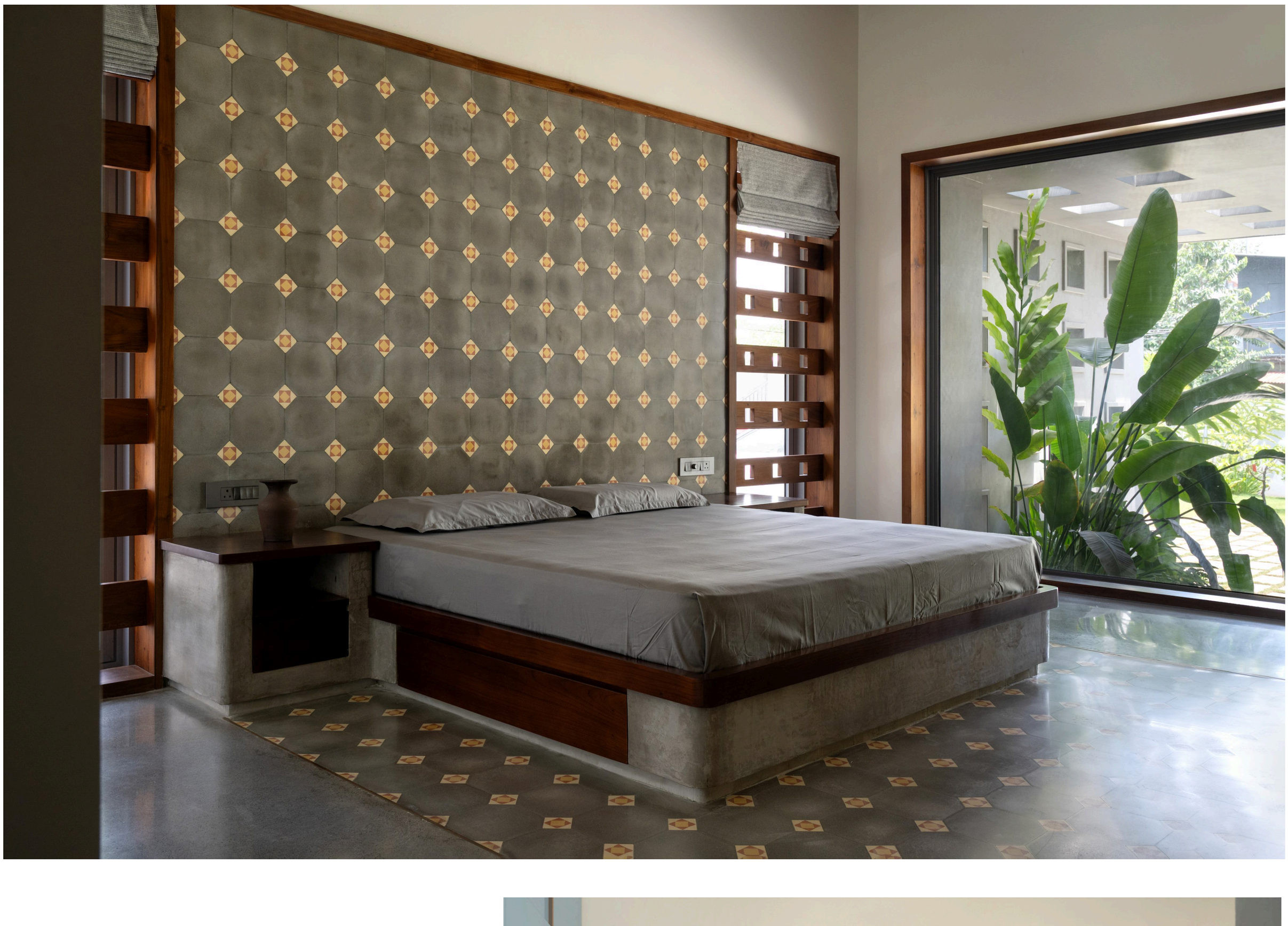
3.



Heritage tiles by
Bharat Floorings, featured at
The Dancing Courtyard.

Heritage designer tiles are making a strong comeback in Indian interiors. Whimsical motifs, classic stripes, and geometric diamond patterns are replacing plain, minimal flooring choices. Inspired by traditional craftsmanship, these tiles bring depth, warmth, and a sense of continuity, reviving a nostalgic design language that once defined Indian homes.

TREND RADAR



1. STRIPES - HERITAGE PATTERN

2. DIAMOND & SQUARE TEKDI - HERITAGE INSERT

3. TYPE A DashDashDot





There is a quiet profundity in a studio discovering a new landscape together. This project marked our team's first journey to Tirunelveli, where our client envisioned a farmhouse in their hometown, a place they returned to only occasionally. The brief, therefore, carried an emotional weight: to create a home that felt instantly familiar, yet functioned with a thoroughly modern sensibility.

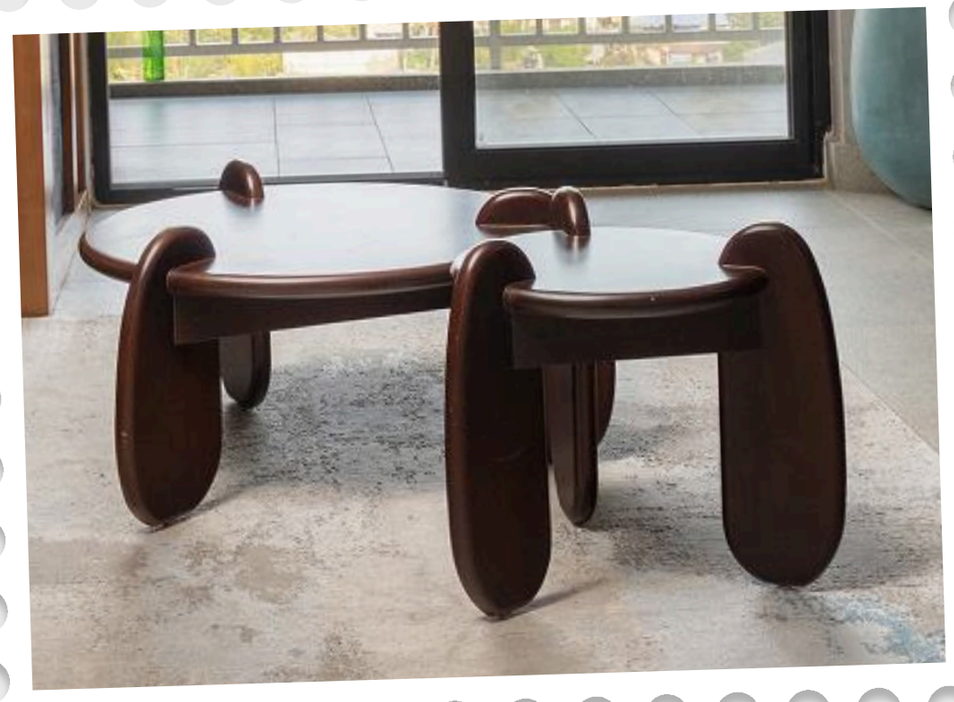
Our first response became an exploration of the place itself. Tirunelveli's architectural character, where Art Nouveau meets Chettinad influences, inspired us to reimagine the compound wall as more than a boundary. For a 15,000 sq ft home, it became the defining gesture, framing an architecture shaped by courtyards, light and air.

The Farmhouse, From the *Sketchbook*



The final home eventually took a different traditional direction, but this first iteration remains a record of where the journey began.

AHANAS SELECTS

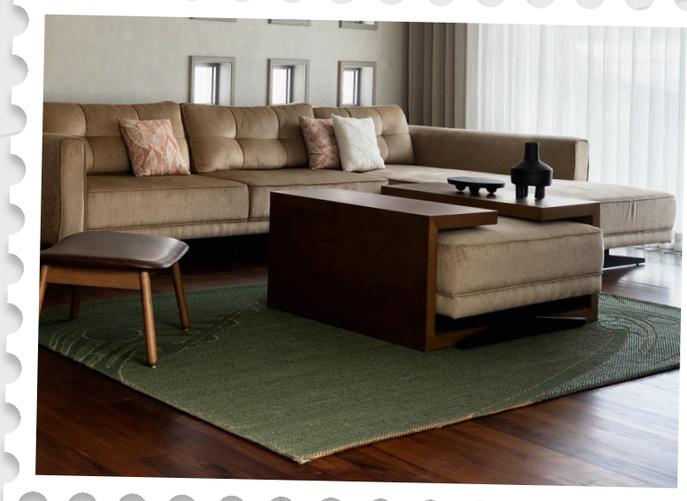


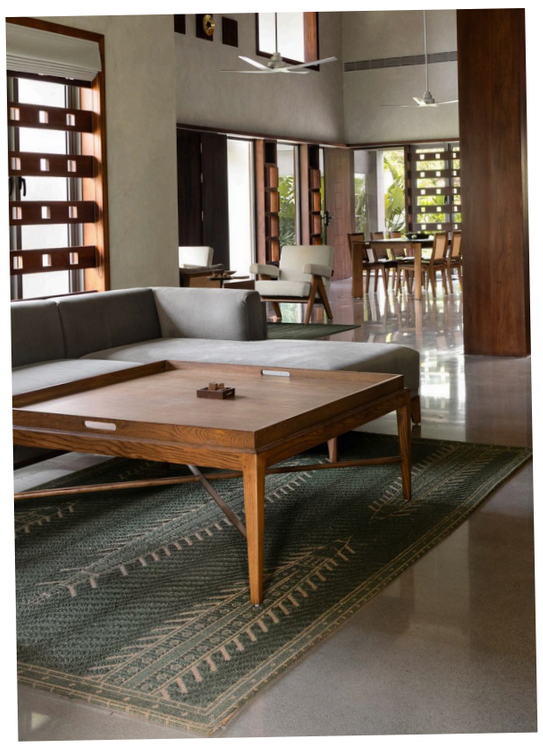
Japandi Sculptural Coffee Table
From Rugged Plush



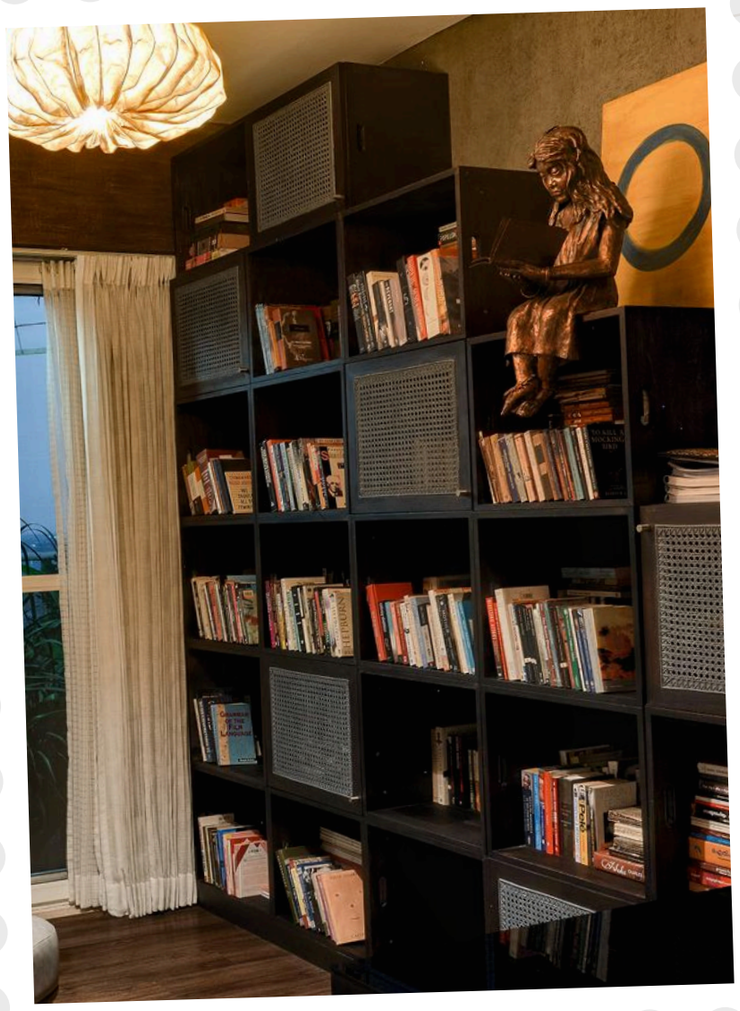
‘Little Girl Lost in a Book’
Bronze Sculpture
From Collage in the Sky

FOUR DESIGN ELEMENTS WORTH TAKING HOME





Kerala Vallamkali
Carpet Series
From Dancing Courtyard
Neytt Extraweave



Tetris-Inspired Bookshelf
From Collage in the Sky



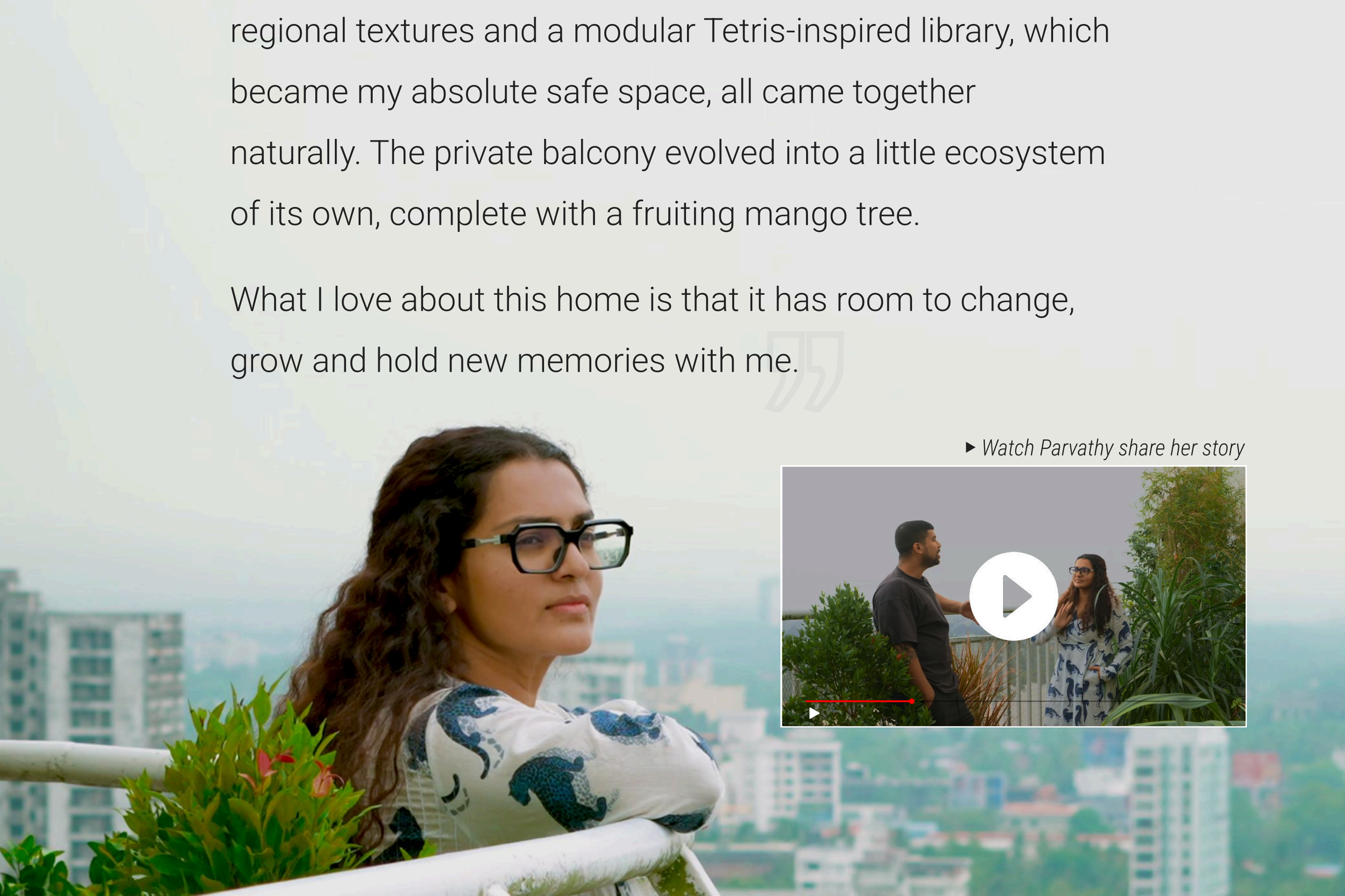
IN CONVERSATION

Parvathy Thiruvothu on her ‘Collage in the Sky’ designed by Ahanas

Home, for me, needed to be a space that could hold me and refuel me. My work involves intense emotional attachments that often end abruptly, so I wanted an anchor rather than another transient experience.

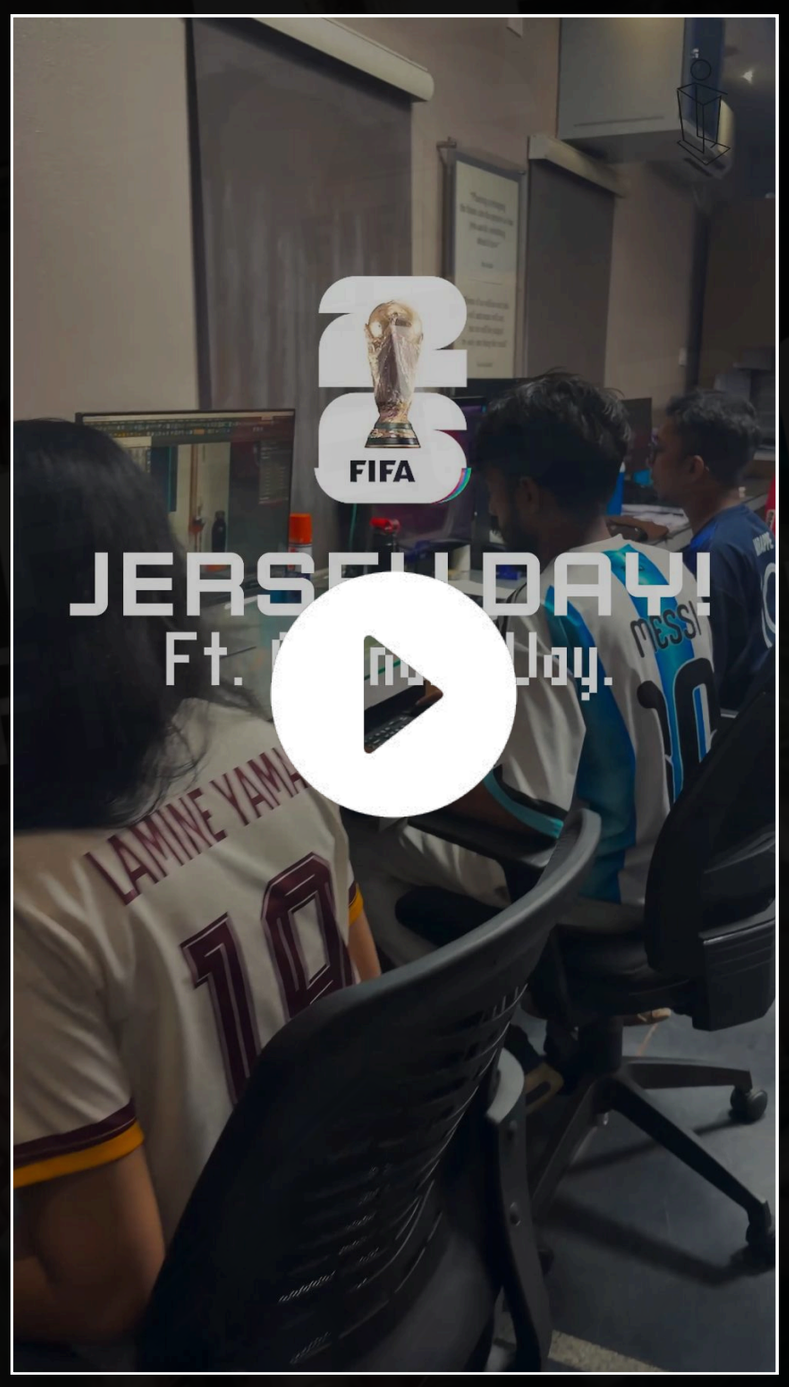
A lot of what has been part of my life over the years found its way into this home. My childhood furniture, woven regional textures and a modular Tetris-inspired library, which became my absolute safe space, all came together naturally. The private balcony evolved into a little ecosystem of its own, complete with a fruiting mango tree.

What I love about this home is that it has room to change, grow and hold new memories with me.



▶ Watch Parvathy share her story

LIFE AROUND AHANAS



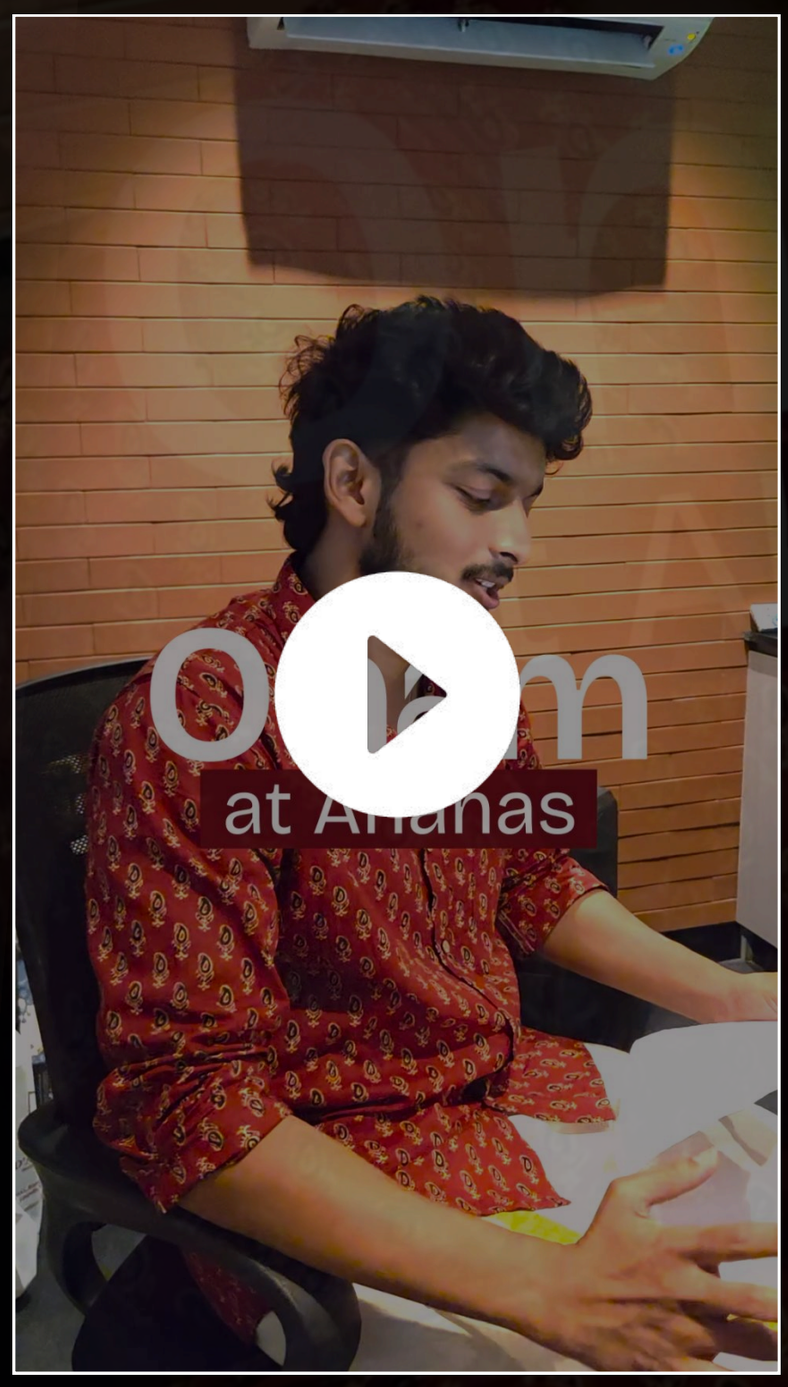
FIFA FEVER

The FIFA season brought the Ahanas team together in their favourite jerseys for a day of football, fun and good food.



Onam

Celebrations, The Ahanas Way!



Our team shares their favourite **Onam** moments at Ahanas.

HAPPY WORK Anniversary



Fify Varghese

Senior Draftperson

15 years together



Renjith V

Site Coordinator

4 years together



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