

OUR LIVING HOME AND ITS MIND

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Haven't you locked your house and lived away from your house for several days? What do you feel after opening the doors when you return after the few days? Haven't you felt the irritation and suffocation inside? Haven't you felt like the normal smell and temperature of the air inside had changed? Why? How? People often say that this is because the air outside is being blocked to enter the house. This might be right, but, analyze the same situation, but, by keeping the doors and windows open. You can find out that the suffocation is the same as in the first situation. Why does this happen?

We leave our house and return back each day. We cook, we play, laugh and sleep in our home every day, since day one throughout all these years. Why do not we get bored of our house in spite of these repetition, while we get bored when using the same dress, eating the same food, listening to the same music every day?

People often buy a piece of land and simply try to make up a design plan that might not even fit to the site conditions. Should our place of happiness be something that was just cooked up suddenly? Even after building up it with all the difficulties, why should we complain about our home that the room size could have been larger, or facilities could have been more or the car porch size could have been larger and the final expense was far beyond the budget, etc. Why should all these happen?

Our house concerns with many other things like, regarding what we see, think, feel, etc., beyond the materialistic things like cement, sand, stones, etc. The firmness and proper fixing of all those things apart from those that are physical, build up a home with a living heart.

1. Integration of Dreams beyond time period:

We collect and explore ideas about our dream home far from our childhood itself. Since then, as we travel down through the different paths of life, we

gather the experience and knowledge with us, along with those ideas about our home. These ideas and knowledge get empowered from their basic energy level in the long run. Along with these, several ideas and dreams get involved, like a Pooja room for grandma, a modular kitchen for wife, a computer room for son, a central courtyard for father, a hanging cot for children, front garden, kitchen garden, etc. When the situations become favorable, all these reach their ways to destinations.

2. The Architect's mind:

After finding the best place for home and understanding the requirements of the owner, the architect generates an idea in his mind. After many thoughts, analysis and mental conflicts, he develops the generated idea into drawings. The formed drawings involves parameters like time, individuals, experience, nature, wind, air pressure, vaasthu techniques, measurements and proportions, technology, etc.

3. Contribution from the Construction labours:

Many people like Malayalees, Tamilians, Bengalis, etc. from different places get assembled for a single purpose and their working minds are involved in the construction of a house, from the initial stage of placing the foundation stone (kallidal) to the final touch of painting and finishing. They return after converting the dreams and ideas into reality by working hard and contributing both physically and mentally in spite of the change of seasons. Thus, a part of their life and their self-dedication also gets involved in the house construction like a signature of time and truth, which could not be avoided.

4. Nature, The Silent Guardian:

Who does the earth, on which we build our home, belongs to? Where do we get the raw materials to build the house, like stones, sand, water, wood, etc.? Where do we get so generously, the pure air, pure water, light, etc. which makes life possible on earth? The one and only answer is The Mother Nature. We should include and accept the Nature as a reality with our full heart, with love and with care beyond the human selfishness towards money, luxurious life, cash and business, social psychology, etc. Only Nature can embed completely the beats of life in to a home.

5. The Structure of the Building Materials:

The human body is made of the Panchabhootas. The base construction structure of the house is also the same. We gather and try to involve many things in the construction of our house, which in reality were something which belonged to nature or something the nature had gathered and stored for us. The nature's wealth like wood, water, earth, stone, etc., are very much similar to the life structure of the humans from the basic nuclear level itself. Thus, knowingly or unknowingly a strong bond exists between nature, humans and their living home.

6. The True Witness:

People often say that nobody would hear you when you are crying or nobody would see your tears. But, the one who can hear you crying and see your tears, at the end of the day would be your home itself. The only thing that touches our mind and always be with us would be our house even when we cry with a broken heart, when we laugh out loudly with happiness, when we laugh for conquering something, when celebrating with friends and relatives to the utmost, etc. Even without a word of rage or roar.. without a complaint... silently by blending with our emotional and spiritual levels.

So, to conclude, our home is a perfect blend of all the points mentioned above. The ideal combination of emotions, technology, aesthetics and natural, atmospheric, mental and spiritual elements results in the construction of our sweet homes. Thus, I feel that identifying the true sense of this perfect integration is essential and my journey through the civil engineering world is inspired by this unavoidable fact.