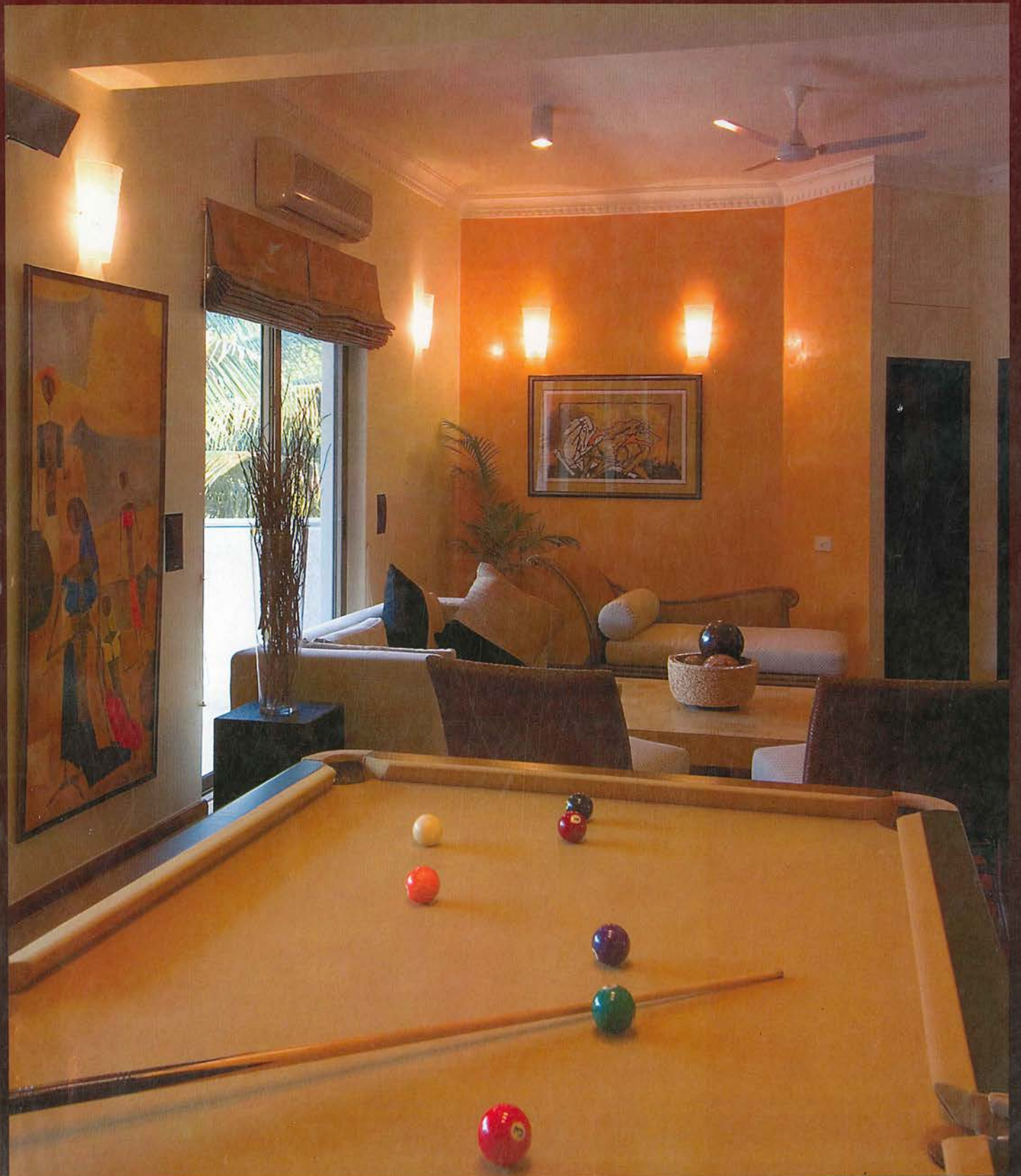


# INSIDE OUTSIDE

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## INTERIORS

### THE HOMES THE PATHAKS BUILT

Architect Pradeep Pathak and his designer wife Anshu show their flair for the drama of colour and light in their own home and the one he designed for her parents in Delhi.

Text: Elizabeth Eapen



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## PROFILE

### A SIMPLE STRENGTH

Goa-based architect Rahul Deshpande integrates a sensitive understanding of vernacular architecture with a deep appreciation of Western modernist styles. We take a look at an island getaway, the D-Link office, and his own workspace.

Text: Subur Ahmad



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## CLINIC

### NO TINY TEARS

Architects Hemanti and Prashant Sutaria, ably assisted by Reena Chhabria, design a pediatrician's clinic in Mumbai that is full of cheer and fun.

Photographs: Sammeer Chawda

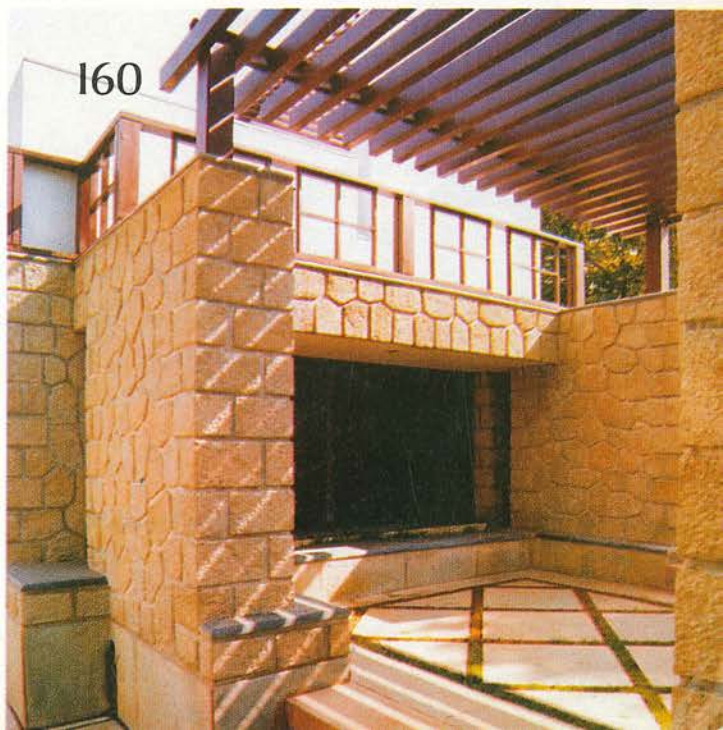
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## GARDEN

### A GARDEN FOR ALL SEASONS

Ruchi Sawhney spends a memorable morning enjoying the colours of spring in Pamela and Deepak Prakash's sprawling farmhouse garden in Delhi.

Photographs: Anshuman Sen



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## ARCHITECTURE

### A PLAY OF LEVELS

US based architects Jayesh and Bindu Hariyani, believing firmly in the value of tradition and the vernacular, design a residence in Bhavnagar for the Agrawal family, adapted to contemporary times.

Photographs: Prashant Bhatt & Palak Jhaveri





PHOTOGRAPHS: PRASHANT BHATT & PALAK JHAVERI, COURTESY THE ARCHITECTS

US-based architects Jayesh and Bindu Hariyani, believing firmly in the value of tradition and the vernacular, design a residence in Bhavnagar for the Agrawal family, adapted to contemporary times.

## a play of levels

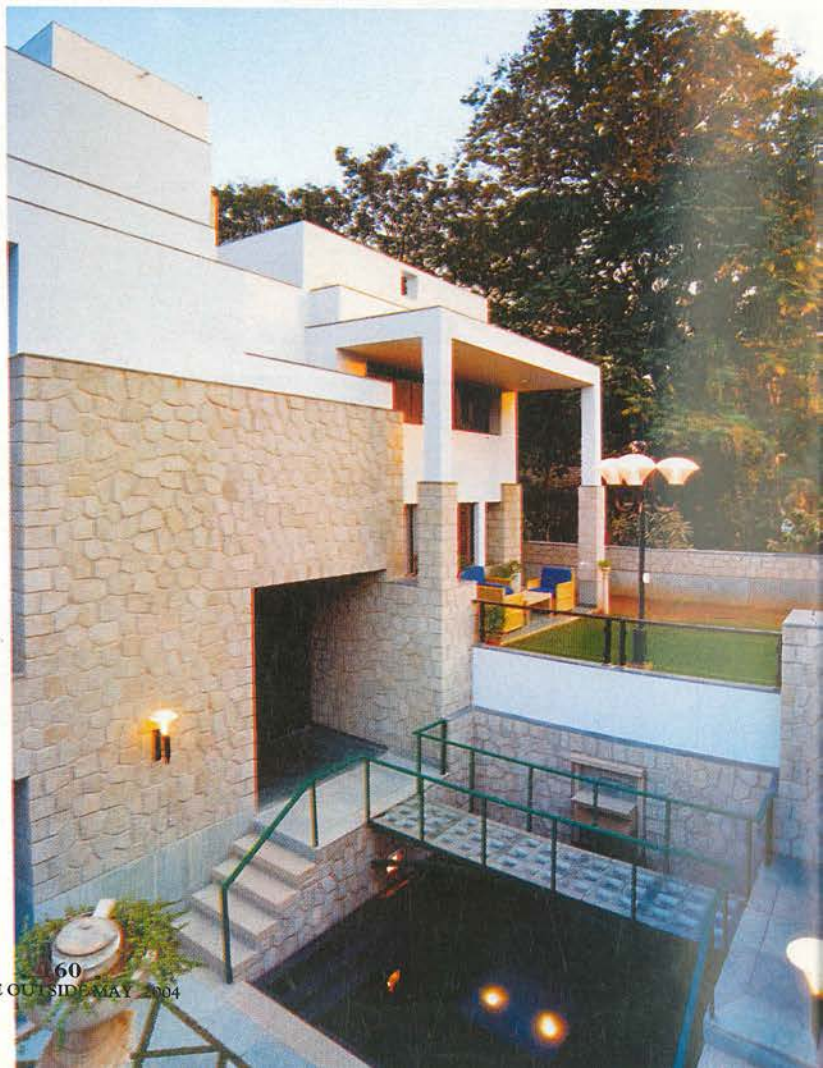




The architects focused on exploiting the views of the outside and the access to the landscape by locating the private areas of the house towards the rear garden. This gives the feel of living amidst nature, as one gets uninterrupted views of the gardens from each room.

‘Through the centuries, every society has built shelters, which are perfectly consonant with its needs and resources. There is hardly any need for “improvement” in the indigenous languages of housing,’ says Jayesh. In the 7,400 square foot house Jayesh and Bindu designed for Vipin and Niti Agrawal in Bhavnagar, the architecture has an organisational simplicity where artificial barriers separating the inside from the outside are







The central court, with  
a pond and waterfall,  
has a bridge made of glass  
blocks on a light metal frame.

This is the heart  
of the home and every  
space in the house is  
visually or physically  
connected to it and  
the rear garden.







An honest use of natural materials like chamardi stone and the honed simplicity of forms distinguishes the architecture of the house.

A play of light and shadow through the wooden slats of the pergola, animates the terrace garden.





done away with. The living spaces are surrounded by trees and landscaped courtyards, while water bodies similar to the ones in vernacular architecture serve a natural cooling function. The building mass has been carefully sited around new and existing trees, making the house appear much larger than it actually is.

The architects focused on exploiting the views and the access to the landscape by locating the private areas of the house towards the rear garden. This gives the feel of living amidst nature, as one gets uninterrupted views of greenery from each room, further intensified by the use of locally available chamardi stone walls, green marble floors and wood.

As one walks into the entrance courtyard and lobby, one senses the play and interconnection of all the different levels of the house, highlighted by visual connections to the gardens beyond. Towards the left, the area opens into the formal drawing room, which also connects to the outside landscape and the interior spaces at ground level. Leather seating in shades of black and green lines three corners of this room, while a glass wall allows views of the upper level family room.

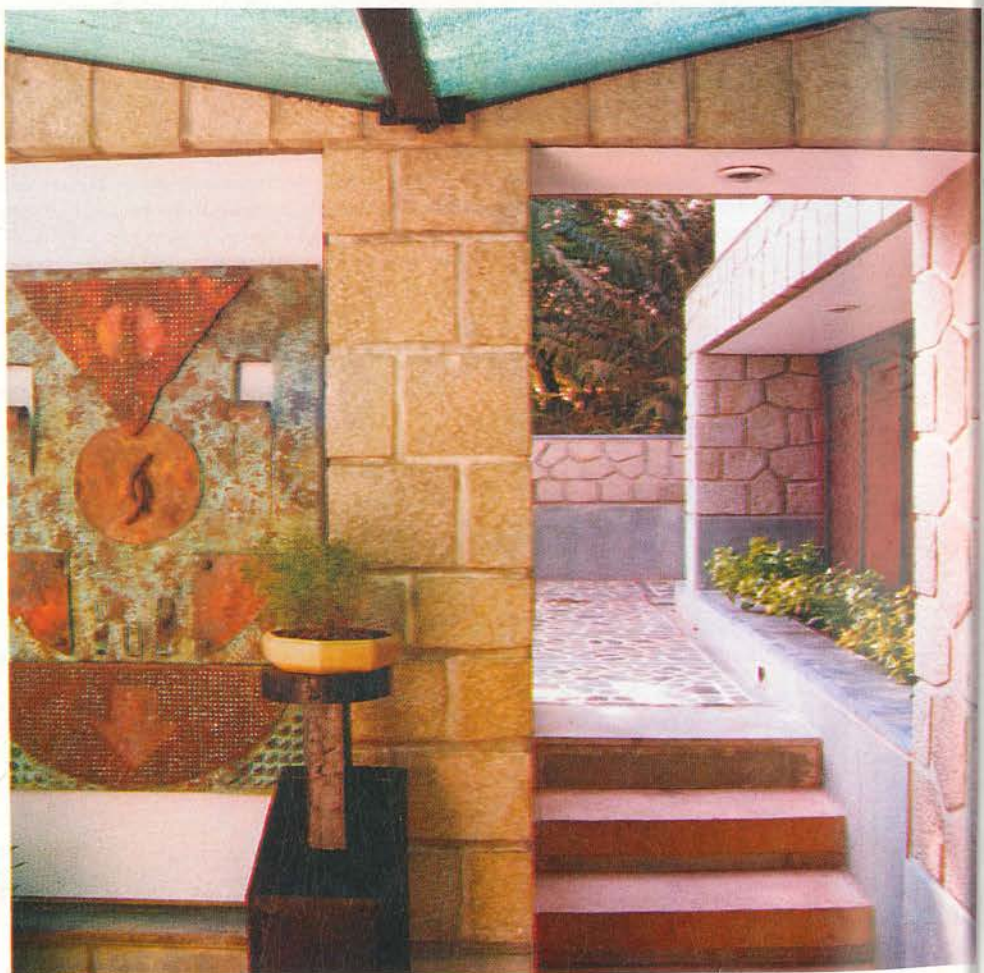
The family room, dining room and kitchen form the nucleus of the central grid of the plan, and have a micro-climate of their own. The family room at the rear opens to





## THE HARIYANIS' DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

- Careful consideration of the orientation of the building and placement of openings for natural ventilation and sun shading.
- Landscaped courtyards, passive cooling and water features to micro-climate the environment.
- Rainwater harvesting by collecting storm water from all terraces through architectural spouts into an underground water tank for irrigation.
- Drip irrigation for gardens, use of hardy native plants, and retaining all existing trees.
- Recycled and low-energy materials, like salvaged burma teak and wood rescued from old buildings or ships, for doors, windows and furniture.
- White glazed tiles scrap on terraces, and naturally ventilated cavity walls to minimise solar heat gain.
- Stone and or brick masonry load-bearing walls.
- Recycled steel used in reinforcement for all concrete work.
- Use of solar water heater system.
- Wooden pergolas/screens to control glare and wooden louvres on doors and windows to allow natural ventilation and screen sunlight.
- Marble used for the floor available within a 200-mile radius.





the outside through verandahs on the south and west, while the private garden in the rear uses the natural contours of the site and link all three levels dramatically. One can walk into the garden from the drawing room at ground level, or from a bedroom in the basement.

A straight flight of steps near the dining room leads to a guest bedroom suite on the lower floor and to one of the guest suites across a garden court, with a pond and waterfall. A bridge made of glass blocks on a light metal frame, connects all the different areas. This courtyard is the heart of the home and every space in the house is visually or physically connected to it and the rear garden. A terraced garden above the master guest suite, with a pergola forming a 'pavilion island', overlooks all the levels of the gardens. The family lobby, master bedroom and children's bedroom are on the upper floor, all of which again open out onto greenery.

The architects' penchant for the expressive honesty of natural locally available materials and the honed simplicity of forms and detail, have resulted in a tactile architecture, with intriguing visual connections to the outside, where the changing quality of light creates different nuances at various times all through the day. ❶

The welcoming entrance, adorned with murals, a foretaste of what to expect inside.

