



Indian Trust for Rural Heritage
and Development

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Life Achievement Award for Built Heritage

Vikram Lall

1962–2020

Architect, Scholar, Academic & Musicologist

Vikram Lall, in his short life, epitomized the best characteristics of a rooted, modern Indian, engaged in creating contemporary architectural landmarks, immersed in path-breaking scholarly research on the built-heritage of the country, and being a passionate rasik.

In addition to leading a well-regarded and successful professional practice, for over two decades he simultaneously conducted research in far-flung institutions and sites in all parts of the world. His passion for the conservation of tangible and intangible cultural heritage and its promotion, resulted in the formation of SAAAR, Society for Art Appreciation and Research, a not-for-profit organization.

He has designed a diverse range of architectural projects all over the country, like The Indian School for Business in Hyderabad and the Buddha Smriti Park in Patna.

His research into how Buddhist architecture travelled from its Indian origins and created indigenous traditions in other parts of the world, established benchmarks in new ways to study Buddhist architecture. The first of his intended six-volumes on the subject was titled, The Golden Lands, which dealt with the history, architectural styles and interpretations of Buddhist temples, monasteries and ancient monuments across Southeast Asia. He was also assisting ITRHD to organise an international conference on Buddhist architecture and the imperatives for its conservation.

He curated concerts and gave presentations on the literary, artistic and musical traditions of India. He directed and anchored a television series on the History of Musical Traditions of India for Doordarshan.

On June 23, 2021, the Indian Trust for Rural Heritage and Development, acknowledges his life-long engagement with the Built Heritage, and his path-breaking contributions to promoting the diverse cultural legacies of India, with this Life Achievement Award for Built Heritage.

Chairman