



Is the World on Pause?

It is clear that the U.S. economy is facing a perfect storm. The housing crisis, the credit squeeze, spiralling oil prices and the bottomless dollar slide have resulted in a confluence of the unprecedented. Once again the U.S. has shared its slump with global neighbours near and far. What everyone wants to know now is: With so many countries sinking into a slowdown at the same time, how severe will this global downturn become, and how long will it last?

So where are we exactly? The parking lots at most of the malls are still filling up on weekends and even food courts are bustling with hungry customers, however, take a closer look and you'll see there aren't many bags. Well, not much anyways! Despite the special offers and discounts, it seems like

customers aren't interested in spending money like they use to. The economic crisis is posing challenges for many sectors and its impact on the global situation on consumers has been serious. Nielsen's global online survey conducted in 52 countries in October 2008 showed that 62 per cent of the consumers globally consider their country to be in

recession and only 18 per cent believe that they will be out of recession in one year. The wall street journal says a downturn is particularly evident in the luxury items sector, where large purchases of big-ticket items like cars, yachts and properties have dipped in recent months. A noticeable decline in tourist traffic is also threatening retail

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CHAIRMAN SPEAKS

Dear Friends,

Greetings from your Expat Family.

I would like to briefly encourage you and advise you at the start of this new financial year with a hope, there is always hope, and we need to focus on the positives that we have experienced and are experiencing through the storm of 2008 into 2009. The financial markets are tentatively waiting for a "change" in the present as promises and more promises continue to prop up a tired and nervous market. On the other hand the common man has resigned to a Que cera cera.

Expat has for a long time believed in the adage "Buy land, they've stopped making it- Mark Twain". Some may believe that, that might not be true anymore, especially with man-made island projects like The Palm and The World being developed in Dubai. However, global meltdown, recession, financial crisis, or whichever scenario, they still come at a sizeable price!!

Today, we find nervous investors sitting on the sidelines, waiting for something to change in the market, but what we would advise is to adapt and know this is a buyers market and it is rare that the opportunity to "buy low" presents its self to us. We just need to move by fundamental reasoning and invest where the affordability is our anchor. Land does not depreciate, it does not suffer wear and tear, it doesn't go out of fashion and it is not greatly impacted by fluctuations in the market. Land as an investment is more stable and secure because it is a tangible asset.

The world may be on pause, but you could start moving yours with a safe and tangible investment, we encourage you to make an informed deliberate choice. A choice to invest in LAND.

Warm Regards,
Santosh Shetty



CUSTOMER RESPONSE

I was introduced to Expat properties through my family and I am thankful for that introduction. When I came to the Expat office I was looking for something very specific in terms of my requirement and they met just that. They have properties scaling all over India so whatever your requirement they are sure to have a fix for it. Also the after sales service has been phenomenal unlike other Real Estate houses where once the sale deed is signed you are left to fend for yourself.

Looking at the current economic and market condition, it's really not rocket science that property in India is a safe bet. Land is an asset class that will not depreciate below your purchase cost and the ROI (Return on Investment) if not

maximized is at least secured and simultaneously you have a lucrative asset in hand. Hence I have taken the liberty to recommend Expat's services to others in my social circle.

Keegan Varella

Associate, Capital Street Partners,
Dubai - UAE

I would like to commend the sales team for the excellent service standards they have shown till date. It has been and continues to be a pleasure to do business with Expat Properties. The site visit organized in Mumbai was a memorable experience as it was handled well by the Mumbai Team. They were very forthcoming with information. I am glad we decided to invest through Expat. I am

sure that I will not be let down and that my investments are in safe hands.

Errol Edwin Goveas

Managing Director
Pure Magic Events & Entertainment
Service , Dubai -UAE

I must appreciate Expat Properties for the professionalism shown in dealing with their clients providing all assistance and prompt services all the time. My dealing with them was a memorable and satisfactory experience. Wish them all the success in their future business plans.

Prashant Pore,

AVP-Credit, First Gulf Bank,
Abu Dhabi - UAE

IS THE WORLD ON PAUSE? (cont'd from page 1)

sales and is seen to hinder growth in the sector this year.

In particular, many industrialized countries, which are more similar to the U.S., have not gotten a boost from government stimulus programs, at least not yet and so have been affected just as much. But even countries that rely more on natural-resource exports are feeling the pinch of falling world trade and lower commodity prices. The drop in oil prices is a double-edged sword, helping consumers but hurting the OPEC and other oil-exporting countries. Watching

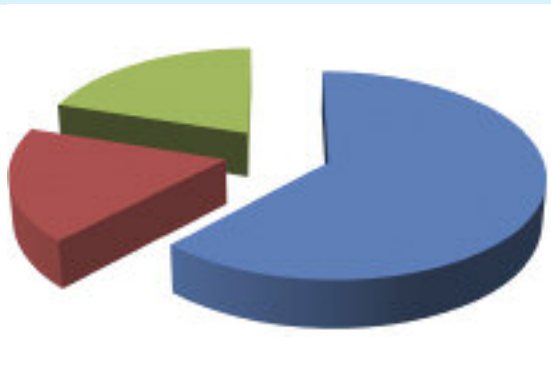
down anything that is not absolutely necessary. Many immigrants like the Mexicans in US or Asians in the Gulf are going back to their home country-chased by lack of jobs. The latest employment numbers, from December, show the slowest job growth and an increase in the unemployment rate. The housing slump continues, with the inventory of unsold homes at a historic high as sales have declined to a 12-year low. Its pretty scary stuff for independent professionals who rely on other people's budgets and spending habits to pay their own bills.



who invests for your retirement or your child's college savings fund or any other long-term goal, it is actually a good idea to invest RIGHT NOW. This is the perfect time to get that overvalued stock that you have been tracking for a long time, or that first holiday home, or that land inheritance to hand down from generation to generation that you couldn't buy because you thought the price was too high. Warren Buffet rightly put it, "When the market gets greedy I get nervous, when the market gets nervous I get greedy".

The world is in a highly synchronised global recession, no one knows for sure when the markets will end their downward spiral, but no body expects that it will continue for the next 20 years as well. Somewhere along the line the markets will correct themselves (no matter how painful the correction is). So make the choice to look at the brighter side and perhaps then you will be happy you invested at the right time!

Nielsen's global online survey on consumers conducted in 52 countries in October 2008:



- 62% of the consumers globally consider their country to be in recession.
- 18% believe that they will be out of recession in one year.
- Others.

the news everyday for the past couple of months has been really harrowing. With each new day, another batch of warnings and data indicating that the world will be in the throes of a sharp economic slowdown, with governments scrambling to find ways to boost lending and spur growth. The drop in oil and gold prices further pressured the gloomy global economic outlook. Banks are no longer giving out loans, in sharp contrast to the ridiculous handouts that went on until a few months ago. Multi-nationals are shrinking their budgets and shutting

Newspapers in Australia say that the economy unexpectedly shrank for the first time in eight years last quarter as chastened consumers chose to save rather than spend, reviving pressure for yet more monetary and fiscal stimulus. As the world pauses with a global recession and financial markets remain volatile, many people are rebuilding their savings rates and trying to pay down debt with that money. It is in times like these that we see paradigm shifts in consumer mindsets and behaviour.

But the real question remains, is the present situation just a pause or more than that? Sure, things could be better and being in a down economy is not something to be taken lightly. But... is it fair to compare our current situation to "The Great Depression"? I do not profess to be an economist (that would be a huge stretch) but personally, I think the world will simply have to wait and that irritates the world greatly. But the fact of the matter remains, no one knows for sure when the fog will clear. It is clear habitual spending might not be the best choice right now, but is it better to stop investing as well and wait for some semblance of sanity? Well, of course not... Many have felt a bit of the slowdown and are choosing to hunker down for a while and ride out the storm instead of evaluating a new opportunity. But, in the end, it's not all that bad! If you are the kind of person



“ When the market gets greedy I get nervous, when the market gets nervous I get greedy - Warren Buffet ”

BULLETIN BOARD

Bank on Land

Source: Economic Times - 16th March, 2009



Land values are known to appreciate more than 40-50 times, though, over a long period. However, investors get bogged down by the procedure and legal formalities involved in buying a plot of land.

Invest in non-agricultural land: A common perception is that buying land could be time consuming and an expensive affair. The solution to this lies in buying non-agricultural (NA) land directly from the local authority. However, this comes with a condition that it must be developed within a specified time limit. On the other hand, NA land situated at the fringes of city limits can also be bought from private developers. This will save the buyer from the hassles of getting various approvals.

Tax benefits: It is believed that no tax benefits accrue in buying land as against buying a house. However interest can be capitalized and added to the cost of acquisition of the plot which would help in reducing the capital gain tax liability at the time of sale of the plot.

Not just for the rich: One does not need tonnes of cash to buy land. Small investments worth Rs 5-10 lakh in a good location would also be sufficient to give worthwhile returns (in 10-15 years). Banks also provide financing facility for buying land from statutory bodies or reputed developers.

Liquidity: Since non-agricultural land is not easily saleable, the investor's liquidity gets restricted. Land can however be used as collateral for securing credit from financing institutions. Though it does not provide any merit to the business proposal, it does take care of the cash crunch situation.

Encroachment: The most common fear is the encroachment of the property or the zoning changes. The ideal way out for this is to buy in clearly demarcated NA plot schemes.

Payment: Transaction of such types involves a lot of cash as sellers may demand cash payment. It could lead to a lot of legal hassles later on.

Transaction costs: High stamp duty (upto 10-15%) charges and different rates applicable across various states nullify the gains unless investment is spread over a long duration. However, this downside is small when compared to the gain potential.

Location is the key rule: One should go looking in either outskirts of large cities or in suburbs of upcoming central business districts. One could also look at investing in a group, as it will help to get rules implemented (if needed). The horizon should not be less than 10 years to get the maximum benefit.

As it has been proven that such downturns are the best times to get the maximum benefits, if you are looking at investing in this timeless investment avenue, now is the time. Happy Land Buying."

Single window to make land registration easier in Maharashtra

Source: Times of India - 3rd Jan, 2009.

PUNE: The state government is setting up a single window facility wherein registration, land records as well as mutation and cadastral surveys by the state department of registration and stamps will be available under one roof.

All this, however, will come for a price as the department plans to charge a service fee for this value-for-money' concept.

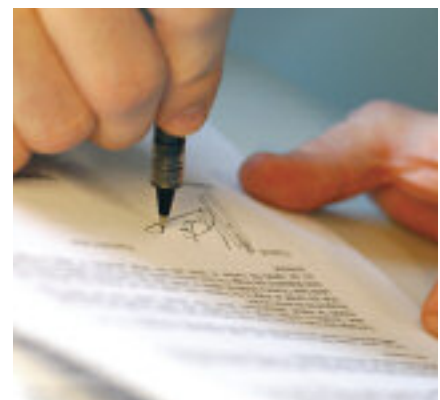
"The trial results are encouraging. The new system will benefit citizens immensely as they will be spared of making trips to registration offices. Their time and cost will be saved," Pune's outgoing divisional commissioner Nitin Kareer said.

At present, a land deed registration process takes place at three different locations — registration at the sub-registrar's office, documentation at tehsil centres and the final mutation at the talathi's office in the village, Kareer said.

"With the new integrated project all these services will be available at one place. The land registration will be followed by recording of mutation entries and issue of notice for mutation to all the stakeholders."

"Though the process of registration is computerized the mutation system is not. With the new system, a mutation will be generated at the time of registration itself. This will ensure transparency. However, besides the existing fees for registration and mutation, a separate service fee will be charged so that the value-for-money' concept will get introduced," Kareer said.

Thus, the receipt of registration will include the standard government fee for mutation and land measurement, fee for sending the mutation and measurement notices by registered post to other landowners and "a minimum service fee of Rs 50," Kareer said.



The XLR8 Sunsuit Calendar!

We promised 2009 as the bigger, better and faster of sports, and certainly with more oomph, in India's Best Indoor Sports Arena! And in our motto of 'Something for Everyone' and 'Rolling with the Season'... we've got just that in building up 'The XLR8 SunSUIT Calendar 2009'. Excuse the play on words given the plethora of swimsuit calendars, but the point is just as artistic and the significance that much more functional.

Let's start in reverse mode, the first for the last, the last for the first, with a fast and furious agenda all year round. Woah!

December: Steams up with a Futsal League for Women – the Women's Premiere League – historic, dynamic and crazy! And you can't go wrong with Children after the Women, so we have the XLR8 Winter Coaching 2009 for the kids, and a few hundred parents will be grateful patrons of the cricket and soccer, boys and girls coaching offering, if only for channelising the exuberant energies of their wards into sport and out of trouble. So Women and Young Models for December!

Are we ignoring the adrenalin pumping male species of our generation? Well no... And precisely for them we have an overdose in November – Cricket and Soccer – one, a religion of the masses and the other, the religion of the Classes, considering you don't hear nobody spouting East Bengal or Mahindra



United... oh no, if you're in with the times and have a Cable addition to your Idiot Box you're definitely tongue-twisting around Manchester United, Bayern Munich, Chelsea, UEFA and the like ... to cricket buffs this definitely is UFO stuff, and fashionably at that, with our desi heroes thrashing all and sundry around, as far as New Zealand for crying out loud! India shining? Definitely! Tata Nano, Airtel crosses 1 crore users in the Karnataka circle, still the fastest growing economy, and XLR8 - the world's best indoor sports arena in India...

November: Bangalore Premiere League and the Corporate Champions Cup – soccer and cricket - to crown Corporate Bangalore's best!

October: Well the heat is certainly on – with some sizzlers from Bangalore's length and breadth vying for the right to be called the Gully Cricket ka Champions! Big, Beautiful and the Best!

September: The models showcasing for this month are the Best International Curriculum School in Cricket and Soccer, and the Best Church Parish – to crown that cradle of soccer fancy!



August: Best State Curriculum School for Cricket and Soccer to be crowned

June-July: Showcasing the Best College for the title of 'We are the Champions' after Queen's 'mercurial' song sensation & soon to be college anthem!

April-May: 'Corporate Champions Cup – Summer Rage' for Cricket and Summer Coaching 2009.

Not to forget our regular hot bods - the fortnightly Rolling Trophy on Cricket and High Fives on Soccer, which recently featured on MTV's popular Wassup? Cricket and Soccer, cricket and soccer, cricket and... oh no! Volleyball, Netball, Throwball, Badminton, perhaps even Hockey, TT and Snooker soon... Hold on to that beautiful thought and don't salivate all over this article now! Ok, ok... indulge your senses if you must with the IPL on big screen (created specially for the purpose), shavarma, coffee and cold drinks... voila, sensuous stuff that.

So friends, the surf's up at XLR8; time to get your play-suits out and dive into the magic where the sun never sets! Well, if it does, we've got em flood-lights. Rock On!

— BULLETIN BOARD —

Connectivity improves in Devanahalli – new train service starts from city to Devanahalli airport.

Source: The Hindu - 7th Jan , 2009.

BANGALORE: South Western Railway (SWR) has decided to run two daily passenger trains later this month from the City Railway Station to Bengaluru International Airport (BIA) terminating at Devanahalli even as the high-speed rail link project is to take off. The rail service will cost Rs. 8, far cheaper than Vayu Vajra, which charges the present lowest, between Rs.100 and Rs.150. The new trains will be in addition to two existing passenger train services operated between the city and Chickaballapur. The new trains may take 80 minutes to reach the airport station. Note: The property at Devanahalli is just 9 kms from the international airport and 5 kms from the NH 7. The land for the proposed railway station has been promised on NH7."



UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Operation 5K



With the global recessionary trends seeping in, leaving no sector untouched, Expat still had an overwhelming response for the Operation 5K products, with over 700 acres being sold in 5 months!

We already know that Mahad is an important municipal council and is in close proximity to Panvel and Mumbai. It situated on the banks of river Savitri in the South-East Raigad district. Although Mahad is situated 175 kms to the south of Mumbai, this vibrant and active city has a personality all its own due to its historical, social and cultural importance. The Raigad fort is an important tourist spot to the north of Mahad. It even acts as a major stop-over for tourist going to the Konkan region and Mahabaleshwar. However, one of its best features from an investment perspective is The Mahad MIDC which is the largest industrial area in the Konkan! The three layouts in Mahad are Sanaya in Panderi, Aarushi in Khardi and Ananya in Kosambi and they are all part of the scenic taluka of Mahad in Maharashtra.

Additionally, we have plots in Bangalore. Mahika our project in Hiriyyur is just 176 Km from Bangalore city. It is a central place for most commuters traveling to southern and central parts of India and is famous for Horticulture and Agro resources. Several developments like the Flying Test Range Center by Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO), Electronic Hardware Parks, Food Technology Park and the Research center to be set up by the Indian Institute of Science in Challakere Taluk will prove to be the reason for the appreciating value of land here.



GENESIS

With all eyes on the Real Estate market, we are happy to announce that our Project Genesis has made considerable progress despite the slowdown being witnessed within the Real Estate market. Excavation work has been completed in building A1 and A2 and is underway for building A3. Currently, with footing work complete, plinth work has been started in building A1 and PCC work is in progress in building A2. At the pace at which work is progressing, we expect to be on schedule with delivery.



Flanked by picturesque greens, our land in Khalapur is developing at a steady pace and at present, road work has been completed and plot formation is being carried out. We are optimistic of a scheduled delivery.



Your private piece of greenery at The Gardens has now received town planning approval and the TLR copy. With final plot measurement complete, we are expecting the final N/A order by the first week of April 2009.



Silent meadows: a combination of nature and modern amenities. At present, the final slab has been cast and ceiling plaster for basement, ground and first floor has been completed. Masonry work is taking place in stages and 75% work is complete on the first floor, 65% is complete on the second and ground floor masonry work is complete while third floor will commence shortly. Additionally, Electrical work on the ground floor has commenced and overall progress is on schedule.



With only 6 plots available and 80 plots being sold out in a time span of 4-5 months, The Dove in Tuticorin is a hot property of the south. Progress on the site has been steady with fencing of the entire project coming to completion.

Presently road and demarcation work is in progress.



OCEAN SPRAY

Final design and layout for Ocean Spray has been approved. We have received a draft approval for building we are awaiting the final approval which is due by the 1st week of April. This property just beckons attention with its scenic and natural beauty.



THE SOLITUDE ENCLAVE

In Goa, steady progress is evident with our project Solitude Enclave. So far, roof casting on Bungalow 1 has been completed and masonry work for the first floor is in progress. In bungalow 2, roof slab shuttering is complete and masonry work is ongoing.



Boasting a panoramic view and located just 8 Km before Lavasa, Avani, our land project in Lavarde is moving ahead quite well. So far, road formation for around 6 Km is complete and soiling and storm water drainage work is in progress.

Urawade:

With land acquisition of our investment project Urawade now complete, we are presently awaiting township approval.

Solitude:

Some of you may have received a communication informing you of the opportunity that Lavasa has put forward to encash your investment in Solitude (Mugaon) and receive a complimentary membership at the Dasvino Town and Country Club. For more information, contact any of our sales representatives at an Expat office near you.

For update on all the products please visit our website:
www.expat-group.com

CITY FOCUS: TRICHY - A FLOURISHING CITY



Tamil Nadu is the southern-most state of India. It is beautifully nestled in the southern Indian peninsula, on the shores of the Bay of Bengal and the deep blue Indian Ocean. Bordered with Pondicherry, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, it has an invigorating combination of tropical climate, hill resorts, ancient culture, and friendly people.

Centrally located is the thriving commercial centre of Tamil Nadu-Tiruchirappalli. This historical city of Tiruchirappalli, popularly known as Tiruchi or Trichy is situated on the banks of river Cauvery and is the fourth largest city in Tamil Nadu. With an area of 18.47 sq km, Trichy is famous for its rich cultural and wonderful architectural heritage. It has several beautiful temples, churches and a large number of scenic spots. The city is also famous for artificial diamonds, cigars, handloom cloth, and wooden and clay toys.

A fine mixture of tradition and modernity

is the historic landmark – an 83 meter high Rock Fort. This spectacular monument perched on a massive rocky out crop rises abruptly from the plain to tower over the old city. It is regarded as one of the oldest in the world, approximately 3,800 years old and one has to climb a flight of 437 steps to reach the top.



Connectivity

On the infrastructure front, Trichy is well connected to various parts of Tamil Nadu with the completion of highway projects. Trichy will have four track highways from the city branching to destinations like Chennai, Madurai, Nagappattinam and Coimbatore. Trichy is connected by major National Highways which connect Chennai (towards north) and Dindigul(towards south) by NH 45, Madurai and Tuticorin by NH 45B(towards south), Coimbatore and Ooty (towards west) and Tanjore and Nagapattinam (towards east) by NH 67,Putukkottai and Ramanathapuram

(towards south-east) by NH 210 and Chidambaram (towards north-east) by NH 227.

Apart from good roadways, Trichy is also known as the hub of Southern Railway's connecting it to various parts of India, notably regions in Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Delhi, and Madhya Pradesh. Southern Railways is planning to operate 100 long-distance special trains, mostly to southern states of Tamil Nadu, and 372 short-distance special trains as these routes have seen an increase in passenger traffic. The special trains will be operated to Nagercoil, Tirunelveli, Kollam, Bangalore, Tiruchi and Thoothukudi. After the completion of electrification of tracks it is set to become one of the busiest railway junctions.

But that's not all, it even has an international airport about five kilometers from the city, which operates flights to Indian cities, territories, and neighboring countries including Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka and the Gulf. The airport is the second airport in south India next to Chennai to get international connectivity. Plans are being made to upgrade it to a full fledged international airport in the next three years. The extended runway (8000ft) was commissioned and further expansion to 12500 ft has started. A new Air Traffic Control Centre is also being planned to be constructed to cope with growing air traffic in the region.

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Developments

Tiruchirapalli (Trichy) is a fast growing tier II destination, housing Asia's largest boiler manufacturing facility and has gained recognition as a hub for power equipment manufacturing, fabrication and ancillaries. It contributes to 70 per cent of the requirement of power product manufacturing in the country. Growth in the power product industry would in fact spur the overall growth of this city.

Due to its geographical location in the centre of Tamil Nadu, developments in Trichy are nothing short of expected. State owned electronic corporation ELCOT is said to be setting up an IT park in Trichy similar to the one in Coimbatore. It will come up at Navalpattu on the outskirts of the city and has land measuring 135.04 acres, off the Tiruchi-Pudukottai highway. The park will include a built up area of about one million square feet, which will be open for allotment apart from plots to be constructed by the ELCOT. The Corporation had also planned to get the park declared as a special economic zone for IT and IT-enabled services. The construction of the ELCOT's built up area will commence after obtaining Government approval. The ongoing infrastructure development work at the airport and the four-laning of almost all national highways, are expected to be added attractions for the IT companies to set shop here.

Aside from the boiler industry and the development of IT Parks, Trichy is also witnessing growth in the Medical field. Telemedicine has improved the accessibility to medical services in villages and Tiruchi would soon be one of the nodal centres for the Telemedicine Networking Foundation of Apollo Hospitals. The cost-effectiveness and

speedy access has heightened the popularity of telemedicine and the convergence of technology and healthcare has helped millions of rural Indians to gain access to tertiary health care.

With several famous temples dotting the town's skyline, Tiruchi is a favourite destination for pilgrims. Now, the fort city hopes to find a place in the eco-tourism map of India with a zoo on the lines of the Arignar Anna Zoological Park at Vandalur in suburban Chennai. The zoo, when developed on a scenic 300-acre stretch of reserve forest area with a beautiful stream running across it, at M R Palayam along the Tiruchi-Perambalur highway, will be the biggest attraction in the region. The preliminary works like

raising a compound wall along the perimeter of the area identified for the park will start shortly. The Central Zoo Authority has recently approved the detailed layout of the park and has released a sum of Rs 40.5 lakh for raising the three-foot compound wall around the area earmarked for the park. The entire expenditure, yet to be worked out, would be shared by the Central Zoo Authority and the Tamil Nadu government.

Trichi is a city where the land is fertile and at present there exists no shortage of water. The presence of educational institutions has contributed immensely to the knowledge pool. Though IT penetration is gradual, Trichi is one city that has kindled the interest of investors everywhere.



Trichi at a glance...

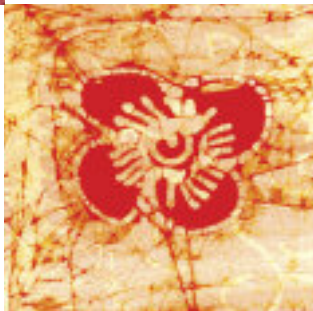
1. This city has many well known educational institutes. It has about 12 Engineering Colleges and 134 arts and science colleges. Bharathidasan University, Bishop Heber college, St. Joseph's college, Holy cross college and some of them.
2. Approximately 135.4 acres of Government Land adjacent to the Airport will be used for expansion of the airport.
3. Trichy has many interesting places to visit like the Rockfort temple, the Ranganathaswamy Temple built on 600 acres of land, the Viralimalai Sanctuary and St John & Lourdes church, to name a few.
4. Mukkombu, Kallanai, Pachchamalai hills are some of the best places for leisure.
5. Infrastructure development is taking place rapidly, thus commuting is easy in and around Tamil Nadu as well domestically and internationally.
6. Trichy is one city that does not have a water problem.
7. It is also said to be a City with a very low crime rate.
8. The city is at the heart of Tamil Nadu and is well connected to all major cities by the well-networked rail and road systems.
9. BSNL, TATA VSNL, BHARTI, RELIANCE offering Broadband Communication facility.
10. The land allotted by ELCOT for the IT Park in Navalpattu is within 10Km from the international airport.

LIFESTYLE: FUSION TRADITION AT YOUR HOME!



In an eternal quest for eye candy and undying interest in design and décor, we stumble upon the world of Indian themed design. India has a mysterious style and an exciting colour palette all its own, one that reflects the vibrant diversity of its people, traditions, and design. From the Mughal invasion in the twelfth century to the arrival of the British in the eighteenth century, India has survived a turbulent history, yet retains a sense of originality and cultural identity that transcends the diverse influences that it has absorbed. The Indian theme of home interiors is not as completely new as it may seem at first glance. Still, the precise copying of this style and its elements can be overwhelming as we come from a country where all kind of styles get along better than in any other place.

how this rich artistic heritage can be adapted and updated to the new century. Mainstay of Indian decoration is carved wood and patterns. Throughout India you can find a lot of carved wood decorating windows, balconies, doors, sometimes even ceilings, and, by all means, furniture. Carved columns and plate traceries of figured arches are essential elements in Indian design. Painstakingly carved and inlaid, the wooden articles are quite a rave with all lovers of wood carvings. The range of designs includes floral, geometric and figurative decoration, in addition to the traditional carvings, jali (fretted ornamentation), brass, copper and Ivory inlay work. Today, even bone and plastic are being used as low cost substitutes for Ivory since extracting of Ivory is banned in India.



The beauty of Indian style and interior influence focuses on the northwest areas of Rajasthan and

Gujarat. However, with any Indian theme, attention is focused on the delightful details, innovative patterns, and extraordinary motifs that define each style. Even contemporary homes, detail

Additionally, India has a wide range of textiles of varied designs and manufactured by numerous techniques when compared to other countries in the world and every Indian home tries to incorporate different types of textile



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designs. Batik is a medium that lies somewhere between art and craft, and its technique is a development of soft & subdued resist printing. You will find several wall hangings in Batik print.



The Bagh and Phulkari embroidery of Punjab is a labour of love. The Phulkari does not have embroidery all over the surface, but it has motifs distributed over the surface revealing parts of the background material. The embroidered or appliqué work called is an important decoration for the homes used for cushion covers or bedroom décor and even cloth lanterns.

Indian silk is special not only in colour, but in texture as well. Indian women have been wearing the sari with dignity and grace for centuries. However, now they gladly hang them upon the windows. Who would have guessed that one silk sari is enough to make two curtains!

From colour to craftsmanship, Indian furniture is low, sawn by hand from Indian oak, nut wood or pink wood. It is functional and whimsical at the same time.

Indian furniture is environmentally friendly: all mordant's and dyes are of natural (plant) origin, and natural wax is used for polishing and coatings. Easy transformation is a common feature of Indian furniture. For example, an elegant carved door can easily transform into a table top. These whimsical things are abundantly decorated, sometimes in-laid by ivory or camel bone; they are riveted or rimmed with metallic strips to protect wood from termites and moist climate. Typical items of Indian furniture are a stool with grooved lacquered legs and a woven seat, a low couch with brocade pillows, and a dresser with multiple sliding drawers.

Believe it or not, a screen is a traditional attribute of interior in the country of miracles. Used to create cosy spaces in the enormous palace rooms, today it is an active element of every interior in Indian style. And don't forget elephant figurines. They can be cut of wood, or made of papier-mâché and stretched over with camel or buffalo skin. Few countries in the world have an ancient

and diverse culture of styles, craftsmanship and colour as India's. However, of late the interest in Indian culture, design, color, fashion and craftsmanship has become huge globally. Remember how Japanese culture went from being joked about in the 1950s to being respected by the average man on the street in the early 90s as their economy caught up with the west. Well, India too has in concert with its economic progress increased its image greatly from a land of maharajas and snake-charmers to well... something better. Certainly, the fact that Indian fashion, design, music, and even Indian Ayurvedic medicines are already being used in the west, speaks volumes for the heritage that India can give the world. Albeit, these are a few drops in the ocean when one thinks of the vast cultural treasure that Indian has but we still have a lot left. Whether one is fascinated by Indian design, culture, artwork, or history, India provides a never-ending treasury of resplendent photographs, classic artwork, and inspirational design ideas for a colourfully fused home of Indian tradition! And the world will be richer for it.



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