



# immersions

Gandhi 3.0 Retreat

Jan 12-17, 2018 | Ahmedabad

day I

Jan 12, 2018

## Day in Silence

*Welcome home!  
Rest your limbs...  
Just 'Be' ...  
Settle in...  
Soak in the silence...*




*Love brings us  
home*

day 2

Jan 13, 2018

Morning

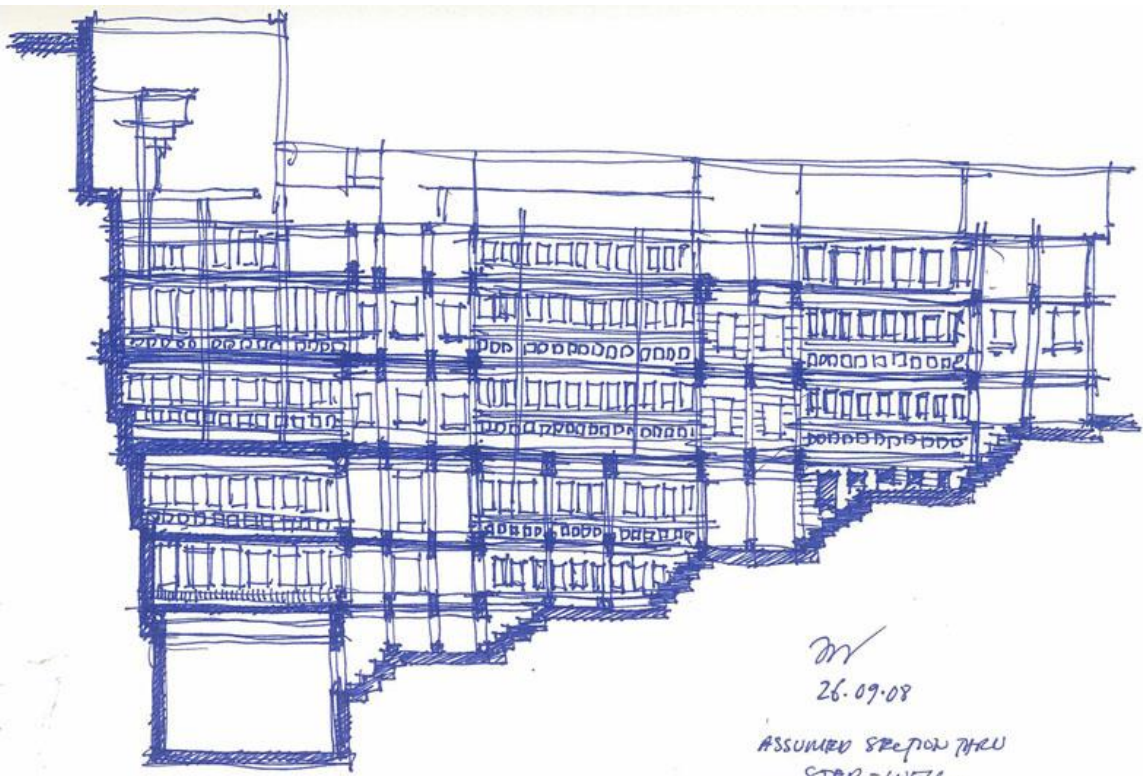
Lilapur Village

A group of nine children and two adults are walking in a line on a sandy field, holding hands. The children are wearing colorful shirts (yellow, red, orange, green, white, and yellow). The adults are wearing light-colored shirts and dark pants. The background shows a line of green trees under a cloudy sky. A dog is lying on the sand in the background.

A dekho into the life of an Indian village, an opportunity to observe and learn about the diverse realities of India and make everyday conversations with the village community and local change makers

*Assemble at Main Gate at 9:30 am. Return by 12:30 pm*

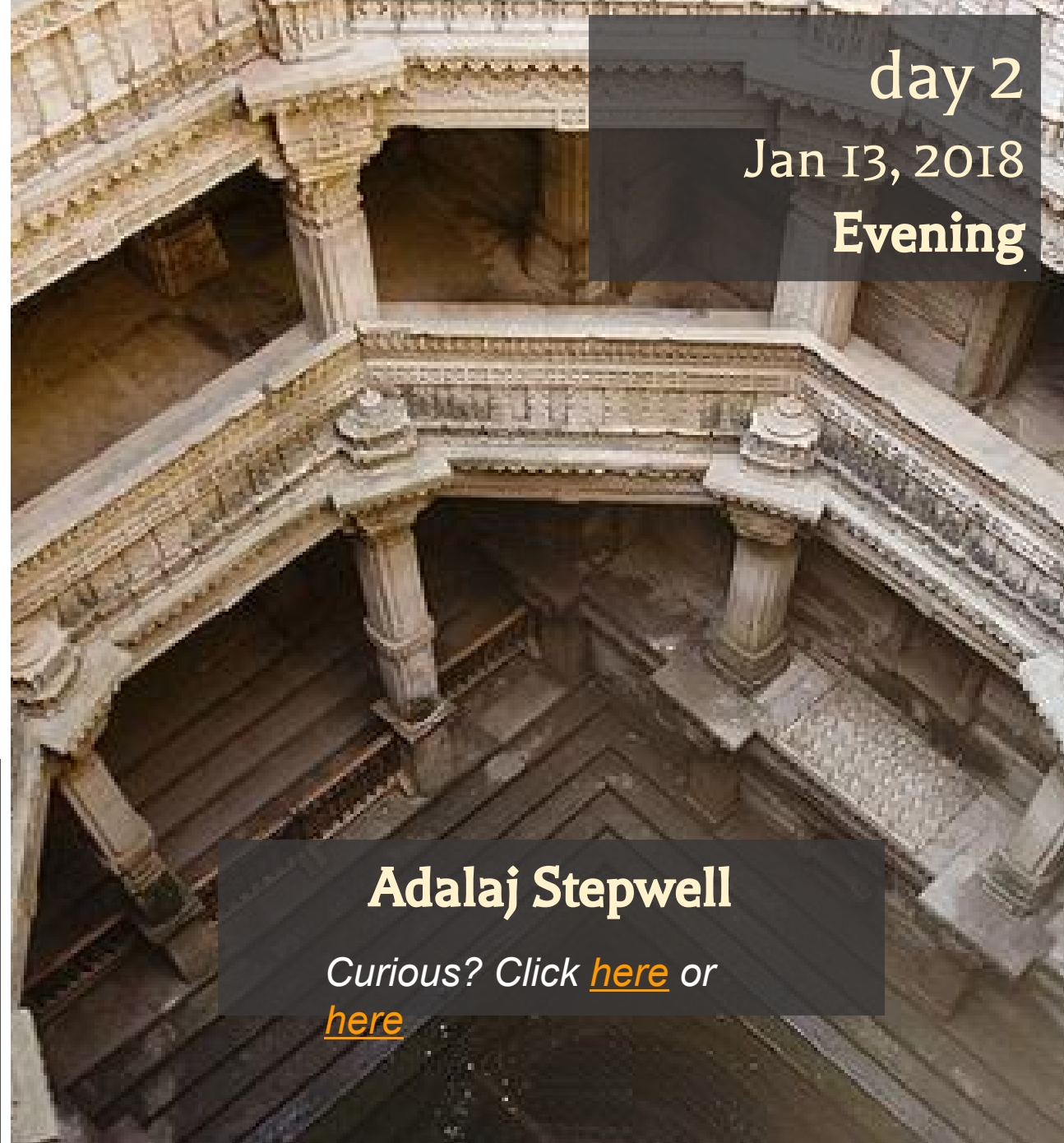
*The fun begins – where the paved roads*



*26.09.08*  
ASSUMED SECTION FROM  
STEP - WELL.

This 500+ year old stepped well structure is an example of Indo-Islamic architecture, mixing the necessity of a semi-arid region (source of drinking water) with leisure (lively space for festivals, rituals and gossiping ☺ )

*Assemble at Main Gate at 3:00 pm. Return by 7:00*



day 2  
Jan 13, 2018  
Evening

## Adalaj Stepwell

Curious? Click [here](#) or [here](#)



day 3

Jan 14, 2018

Afternoon

## Old City Visit

After observing the life in an Indian village, let's check out the [old walled-city areas](#) of the 600-year old Ahmedabad. We will amble around the narrow lanes of the famed '[Pol](#)'s (self contained neighbourhoods) at the pace of cows, visit some iconic mosques and wind down over [dinner](#) at the rooftop of one of the best preserved Pols

*Assemble at Main Gate at 2:00 pm. Tour continues...*



Jan 14<sup>th</sup>, is Uttarayan, the winter solstice as per Hindu calendar. It's a signal that spring is to follow soon. Materially, it announces the start of the harvest season. Spiritually too, it's considered the time to harvest the highest of human potential. We celebrate this inflection point of the earth's trajectory, by flying kites and eating sweets



day 3  
Jan 14, 2018  
Evening

**Kite Festival**

*They say you can't buy happiness. But you can buy a kite. And that's pretty close!*

*Continuing post the Old City Walk. Return by 9:00 pm*



day 4

Jan 15, 2018

Morning

Gandhian elder &  
Sculptor

Kanti Patel is a renowned artist – some one fortunate to have observed and made sculptures of Gandhi, Vinoba and the likes. Into his 90s, his life remains an example of mobiosity – where inner journey intermingles with the outer. A conversation with him at his idyllic studio is an opportunity to see the intersection of wisdom, skill and in-the-moment joy of living. Do not miss it !

*Assemble at Main Gate at 9:30 am. Return by 11:30 am*



day 4  
Jan 15, 2018  
Evening

## Awakin Circle

Awakin Circles started when three friends got together in 1997 to sit in silence, once a week, in an ordinary Silicon Valley home. Now it has rippled out to many such gatherings around the world, People meditate for the first hour, engage in a circle of reflective sharing in the second hour, and conclude the night by receiving a delicious home-cooked meal. A palpable sense of gratitude and community weaves through it all. The ripples of inner transformation are countless -- and continue on. Come on in, to experience a slice of it at a Special Awakin at a local host.

*Assemble at Main Gate at 6:30 pm. Return by 10:00 pm*





day 5  
Jan 16, 2018  
Morning

## Make Some Handicrafts

Some local artisans will be visiting us at ESI for us to see them at work, and – if we feel up to it – for us to just jump in and co-create some small handicraft stuff (heart pins, brooms) with them. May be this will take you back to your childhood, or ripple out in some way or the other

*Venue is ESI Lawns at 9:30 am*

A woman wearing a bright blue sari is sitting on a patterned red and brown fabric. She is smiling and looking towards the camera while working on a piece of orange fabric with white floral patterns. The background is a blue fabric with purple patterns.

day 5

Jan 16, 2018

Afternoon

## Meeting Artisans and Visiting Crafts Store

After hosting artisans at ESI in the morning, let's be their guests. If we are lucky, we may get to eavesdrop on the conversation between the art and the artist. We will visit a co-operative established to link directly traditional artists to the market - thereby breathing life into age-old crafts, promoting rural / urban poor / women employment and to the artisans, giving them a sense of pride in their work and family heritage. We will end the day with some retail therapy ☺


*Assemble at Main Gate at 2:00 pm. Continue to next experience*

## Qawwali at Sarkhej Roza

day 5

Jan 16, 2018

Evening



We continue our exploration to visit Sarkhej Roza, a mosque complex and once-prominent center of Sufi wisdom in India. This monument's design is a fusion of Islamic, Hindu and Jain style architecture. While the legendary Le Corbusier compared it to the Acropolis, its design has been interpreted as composed of both *jism* (body) and *ruh* (spirit). Soak in the beauty of this 550-year old creation as we close the day with qawwali (sufi devotional music)

*Return to ESI campus by 10 pm*

day 6

Jan 17, 2018

Morning



### Option 1

As Gandhi engaged the nation in its unique freedom struggle in its prime time, [Gandhi ashram](#) was a hub of activities. [Kalam Khush](#), a handmade paper centre is next to the Ashram.

### Option 2

Those engaged with the social sector may want to join the group that visits [Manav Sadhana](#) within ashram campus and the [nearby slum community](#)

### Option 3

Those of us educators may want to peek into the various educational initiatives of the ashram ecosystem – Vinay Mandir, PTC School and such.

*Assemble at Main Gate at 9:30 am. Return to ESI campus by 12:00 noon*

day 6

Jan 17, 2018

Afternoon



## Mahatma Mandir

The Mandir (Temple of the Great Soul) is a museum built on one man's story - Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi. The Museum is housed within a structure that is designed as a mound of salt, reminding us of the iconic [Dandi march](#). It thus represents Gandhi's powerful idea of people across lines of class, gender, age and community asserting their common right to salt itself, a symbol to inspire a pluralistic society to march towards independence.

*Assemble at Main Gate at 2 pm. Continue to next experience*



day 6

Jan 17, 2018

Evening

Seva Cafe

Imagine a restaurant where there are no prices on the menu and where the check reads Rs. 0 (zero) with only this footnote: "Your meal was a gift from someone who came before you. To keep the chain of gifts alive, we invite you to pay it forward for those who dine after you." We close our evening with an evening of stories, songs and conversations at [Seva Cafe](#), a volunteer-run labour of love experiment in 'peer to peer' generosity.

*Return to ESI campus by 10:00 pm*



Gandhi 3.0