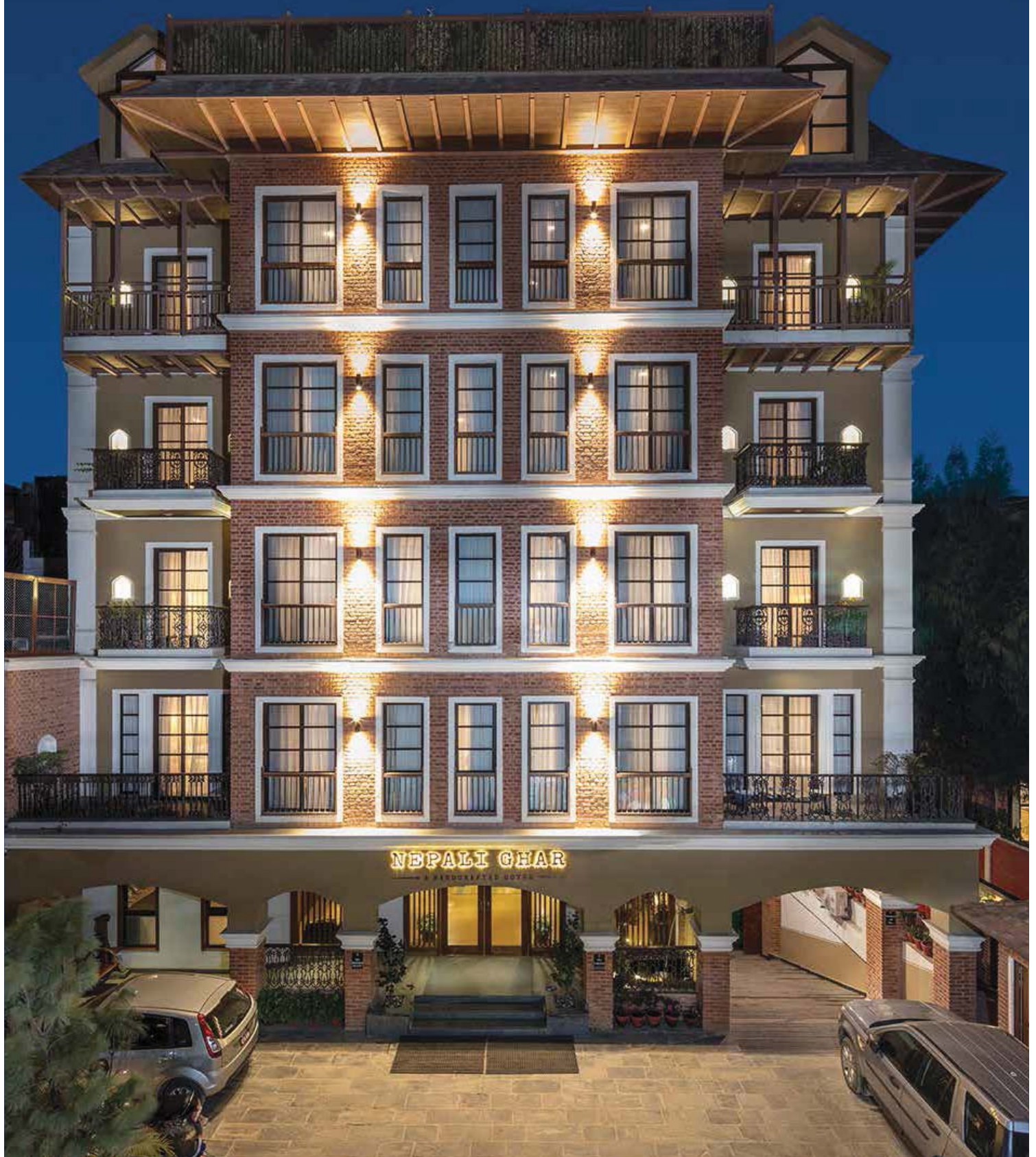


NEPALI GHAR

Text : Samir Dahal





Perched along the hustle and bustle of the concrete jungle lies a jewel: Nepali Ghar, literal translates to a beloved home dwelling. Nestled amidst the urban fabric; in an amalgam of old and new residency and commercial centers, the Ghar is charismatic to all beloved art and architecture enthusiasts. The 17th century dated house well documents the early 90s era Nepali architecture.

Nepali Ghar punctuates the new trend and breezes an ode to Nepalese traditional styles with its unique scale and color mosaic lending a continuum to the defining elements of the traditional architecture. These elements afford a warm and homely environment for the visitors to carry back nostalgic memories and cherish the visit.

Symmetrical in view, the front façade comprises of central projection with balcony on either side of the multi-floored majestic masterpiece. The roof

settles and slopes down creating visual aesthetics of a sloped home. Recycled railing show a distinct character where no railing design is alike on the external balconies, mostly are salvaged and reused. White plaster frames the doors and windows, while surkhi bricks forms a distinct visual character widely used in all traditional homes in the Valley. The overall aura of the built environment encompasses comfort in both the exterior visual ailment and to the interiors.

The central void is in rich use of wood on all fronts: beams slabs, brackets stirring deep and cozy feel, which is exaggerated by the skylight at the end that provides daylight that amplify rich earthen materials. Railing on every level with wooden hukkass perched on slabs clad with wooden finishes.

Wood and wood substitutes with bare brick and rough plasters finishes along with

architecture

metal gives Nepali Ghar a distinct flavor. Toned down earthen palette are introduced throughout from room interiors to bathrooms to bed linens and further towards the lobby and restaurants. Bed upholstery are of rich and vibrant borders, which gel along with the theme of the interiors. While a tailored saying engulf the armchair, distinct on every room. All materials are easily and readily available that serves the purpose of a business design thriving well in the uprising hospitality arena. Material choices are as per the operation demands and

caters to serves their function well. Granite countertops are practical designs and Surkhiis painted with brush on local bricks while floor tiles that facsimile telia characters are used for easy operation and handling.

Voids, grooves and niches is introduced throughout the buildings. Whether to conceal structural components with jali fencing on wooden backdrop or on closet facades in the rooms, the transparency portrays a partially hidden view while providing a sense of



congruency in deep visual cues to the earthen context. Warm lights flood through deep niches and corners that add subtle taste of richness and grandeur. Besides, graphics and typology has been well addressed that bring forth Nepali context to the entire building.

All human interaction and sentiment are taken into account that reverberates with the practical aspects that aids well to the visual

composition. Immaculate detailing can be observed throughout the spaces while every functional spaces are well catered to fulfill their purpose, all accolades to the designer, architect Siddhartha Gopalan who has diligently seen that no unturned stone is left without his Midas touch: shining, shimmering, splendid indeed. ●

