

Projects: Sanchi Stupa Chair

BRIEF:

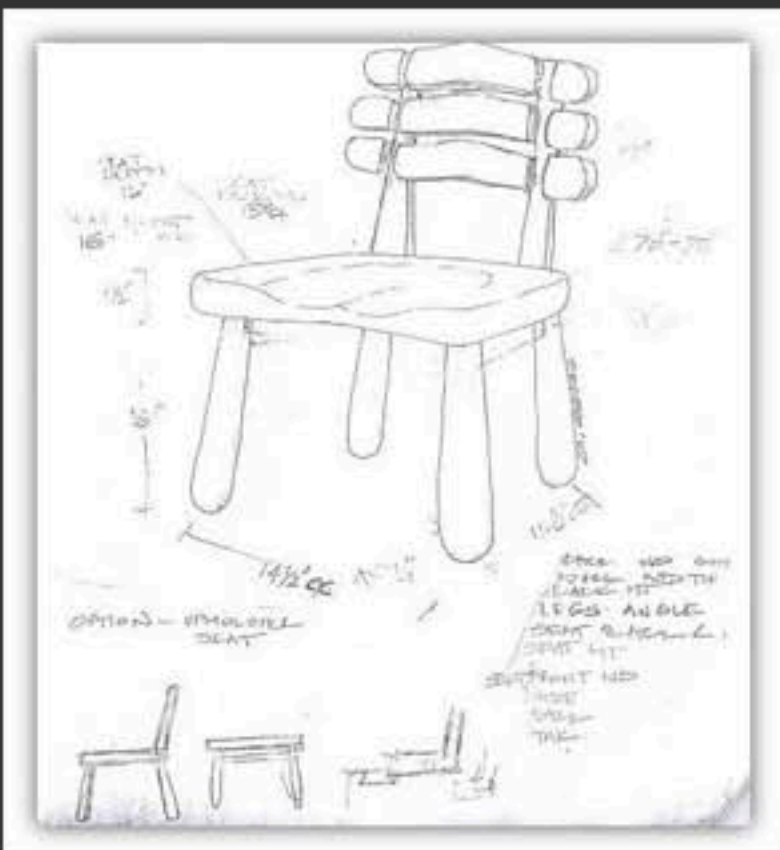
The brief was to recreate something from history, something of grave significance and something in sync with the theme of Le Sutra Hotel's room 'Nirvan' that reflects the life of Lord Buddha.

The chair in this room was thus a result of sheer inspiration of the Sanchi stupa, creative brainstorming and an endeavor for perfection. This art furniture represents love, peace, trust and courage that are very important attributes to attain 'Nirvan' state of mind meaning 'an awakened state of mind'.



IDEATION & EXECUTION:

The Stupa at Sanchi is one of the oldest stone structures in India. With a massive hemispherical dome, the Stupa stands majestically. There are four Toranas (gateway) which surround the Stupa and they each represent love, peace, trust, and courage. They are believed to bring good fortune and signify auspicious and festive occasions. They also mark the victory of a king. All this became the thought process and drawing basis for the execution of this piece of art furniture.



REVEALING THE ARTWORK:

The Stupa Chair in the Nirvan Room of Le Sutra is inspired from the intricately carved Toranas at Sanchi Stupa. The figures and symbols depicted on the backrest of the chair narrate stories related to life and events in Buddha's life.

The first panel reveals the birth of Gautam in a series of dramatically rich carvings. The second panel reveals the miracle associated with Buddha as told in the Jataka tales. The last panel illustrates seven incarnations of the Buddha, represented anionic symbols and first Sermon at Sarnath. The Chair is crowned by Chakra (wheel of law). Each corner is adorned by the Shrivasta within Tri-Ratna (Bhuddha-Dhamma-Sangh) Symbol and this is again placed over the Chakra.

The human figures, the animals and the symbols marvelously depict the style as that of the Shunga, the Satvahana and the Gupta Period. The distress white and ancient gold color palate signifies the sattvic elements in the room. Although, intricately carved this chair is equally comfortable to sit on; thus creatively blending art with functionality! The Chair reflects remarkable design dexterity and has become one of the most distinguishing elements of this Art Hotel.

