



# PENTHOUSE PAFEKUTO

What would one expect when two apartments in a high rise with immense transformation potential, a collaborative client, and a dedicated team of architects and interior designers come together? One can expect a reflection of perfect design. Penthouse Pāfekuto is the transformation of this reflection into reality or rather realty.

Penthouse Pafekuto is a pied-à-terre for a family; a resting place to facilitate the family members' frequent visits to the satellite city of Ghaziabad.

Penthouse Pafekuto is a multi-level penthouse with 8000 square feet of indoor area and 6000 square feet of outdoor space, spread across three levels. The design vision is centred on transforming generic apartment units into a functional, versatile and inspiring living space that honours client specific needs and reflects their lifestyle.

To create a spacious home, two separate apartments on top of one another were combined into this luxury penthouse and ownership rights were acquired to the high rise tower's terrace above for private use. One apartment comprises a master suite, a private workspace, a guest bedroom and sit out area. The second apartment,



## FACT FILE

**Project name:** Penthouse Pafekuto  
**Architect's Firm:** Conarch Architects  
**Website:** www.conarch.co  
**Contact E-mail:** info@conarch.co  
**Project location:** VVIP Addresses, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, India  
**Completion Year:** 2018  
**Gross Built Area:** 18,900 sq. ft.  
**Principal Architect:** Ar. S.K. Goel  
**Project Lead Architect:** Ar. Nitish Goel  
**Project Team:** Pushplata Dinkar, Tanya Kumar, Usha Narain, Suman Singh  
**Photo credits:** Vibhor Yadav, Conarch Architects



internally connected with the first one, includes a spread out indoor & outdoor living area, a kitchen and three bedrooms.

Connecting the two units internally has the major advantage of passive ventilation. The staircase opening between the levels acts as a chimney and helps release hot air from the window openings at the upper floor; inducing natural air flow in the apartment. This restricts the need for mechanical air-conditioning only to extremely hot days.

The focal point of the space is the cantilevered floating wood steps with the artistic fall protection in a Prussian blue backdrop. Created in a simple style that belies its complexity, this staircase is meant to sit lightly to let light and conversations pass through. The staircase also emphasises the interconnected relationship between the levels. The spatial form in the project has emerged from a host of variables and



located at two levels. Imagine the feeling when you rise from your bed in the morning and the first thing you see is about 50 feet of extended green area!

As evident in the circular niche in the office lobby or the kitchen partition, the creative team has gone to great lengths to establish this connection with outdoors, even in the spaces deep inside the unit. This link to the outdoors invokes a feeling of 'front yard', a rarity in high rise setting.

The connection to the outdoors has another benefit- ample entry of daylight. The entire property is effectively illuminated with natural light, eliminating the need for artificial lighting throughout the day and thereby significantly reducing energy loads.

The exterior glass letting in the light remains shaded due to deep overhangs of the outdoor terraces. Moreover, since there is no direct incident solar radiation



constraints, such as the needs of a family with teenage children, structural limitations of the high rise building and limited flexibility in relocating plumbing and electrical services.

High rise living is synonymous with a detached existence which the team of architects and interior designers changed in this project. The spaces were laid out in such a way so that bedrooms, living areas and even kitchen have a visual connection to the 'green' outdoor terraces.

Some of the areas open directly to these staggered, double height open spaces







on the glass, the heat gain is minimal, resulting in low cooling load requirement. To establish a sensorial connection and meet the human necessity to connect with natural systems, both the levels extend into double height outdoor areas. The upper level

leads to the tower's roof level terrace; unfolding into a place for gathering, refuge and play. At a time when birds are becoming increasingly scarce in cities, the roof terrace with its hydroponic 'Living wall', Plumeria & bonsai trees, Ficus



Architect - Nitish Goel

trees, flowering plants and water feature can be seen attracting migratory birds. The resulting benefits are two prong - a well-designed green roof is slowly becoming an ecosystem for bird-habitat regeneration and now, the kids in the family can emotionally and physically benefit from spending more time outdoors, while interacting with nature. ●

Conarch Architects

Conarch Architects is a Delhi-based architectural design firm founded in 1988 by Ar. Nitish Goel. and Ar. S.K. Goel. The two made a connection while working together as recent architectural graduates at an architectural firm in Delhi, and decided to establish a partnership in business.

Here it deserves a mention that Ar. S.K. Goel, the architect of the above-mentioned project, graduated from School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi in the year 1984. Since then he has been serving architectural profession with utmost integrity and sincerity. With like-minded vision, complementary skill-set, mutual respect and admiration, the foundation of the firm's identity was laid. What this entrepreneurial collaboration lacked in financial backing was more than made up by unbridled energy, passion for the discipline and the willingness for

sustained hard work; all the while upholding the highest standard of professional ethics and integrity.

From a venture of two people in a swim or sink situation to a firm employing 30 odd employees, their vision has gone a long way through the roads of fascinating realities. Conarch Architects remain a small practice by intention as the partners prefer to direct and drive each project personally; working together with clients so that every project turns out to be the best version of itself. "We seek to design spaces that consistently express the needs, aspirations and identity of the occupants," observed SK Goel.

"Conarch Architects combines the myriad desires of client, along with project considerations to craft solutions unique to the given parameters. We consider each project

as a design opportunity, rather than a design problem," expressed Nitish Goel. "We 'own' our projects from the day of the inception of their idea to the day they are occupied. As designers, we don't think of architecture as separate from interiors and our approach towards space creation blurs the distinction and blends the two," he added. Within the firm, a simple, non-hierarchical spread out structure exists. The firm operates in a common studio where project teams approach the task at hand in a highly collaborative environment.

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