



### **Developed by a National Design Team**

The concept for the Dandi Memorial has been developed by a National Design Team with participation of leading artists, and designers from major design schools from India; under the overall direction of a High Level Dandi Memorial Committee constituted by the Government of India, Ministry of Culture.

IIT Bombay has been appointed the co-ordinating agency for the project.



## **Dandi Memorial : An Experiential Journey Re-living the Dandi March**

The Dandi March Memorial is conceived as an experiential journey recreating the spirit and the energy of the Dandi March, and taking the visitors step-by-step to understand the Dandi March story and the methodology of Satyagraha, which finally led to India's freedom from colonial rule.

It is proposed to create a pathway towards the main memorial which will replicate the Dandi March route, through 24 spaces representing the 24 halts. Each space will have a panel carrying a visual depiction of the main events which occurred during the day's journey to the halt, through bas-relief sculptural narratives. The pathway is proposed to be created around the left bank of a small lake to be constructed in the space earmarked for the memorial complex. The individual spaces are designed to enable groups to gather around each narrative panel, where a guide could take them through the episodes.

A statue of Gandhiji, inside a pyramid of light, leading the marchers, followed by life-size sculptures of the group of the 80 fellow marchers will be the main memorial. Two stylized hands raised up in the sky, holding at the top a handful of simulated salt crystals, will form the canopy under which the main Gandhiji sculpture would be placed. The hands would have solar panels mounted within them with a bank of LED search lights floor mounted around the rim of the base pedestal. With light levels going down towards evening, a pyramid of light will rise up in the sky illuminating the salt crystal at the apex.

It is envisaged that every year on the culmination of the Dandi Yatra on 5th April, the entire pathway will get filled by marchers, in a re-living of the historical Dandi March.



## The Memorial as a Light Pyramid

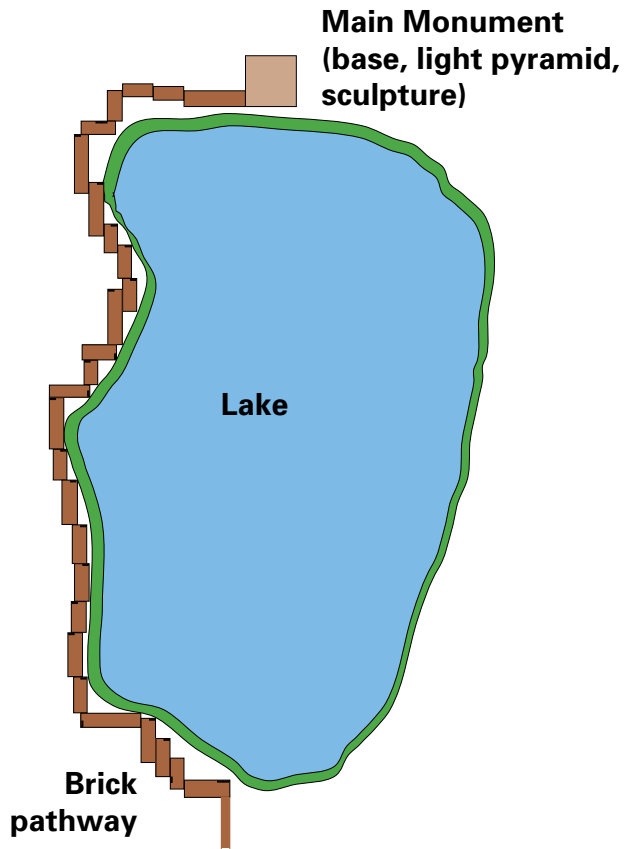
The light pyramid formed every evening, rising up in the sky and lighting the salt crystal at the top, will be a visually and experientially unique phenomena, expressing the energy of the thought of Salt Satyagraha, where a small symbolic gestures lit up a new world of freedom .

The bank of solar panels integrated in the two columns symbolizing hands holding salt, will provide a striking image in the skyline – a symbol of self-sufficiency and energy of the sun for everyone.



## Solar Energy as Power source

The energy requirements of the entire monument complex will be met by solar energy, with solar panels integrated in the design of the two vertical columns of the memorial complex. Besides the lights required to create the light pyramid, and the main sculpture, it is planned that there will be solar garden lights along the pathway; built-in solar light in 24 sculptural murals; and external lights for the group of 80 marchers. Solar energy will also be used to power the pumping unit for pumping water in the lake to top up the level; for generating mist to enhance the light pyramid effect, and for embedded sprinklers / drip irrigation system for watering plants on the lake bank.



## Lake

A small lake is proposed to be constructed in the space earmarked for the memorial complex, suitably designed to prevent water leakage, and remain full throughout the year. The lake symbolically represents the sea by the side of which the Dandi March took place. A landscaped bank on the sides would add a natural feeling to the pathway, with sprinklers embedded and running from solar power with auto-start programmed switches. The waterbody provided by the lake will create beautiful reflections of the monument from all sides, and is expected to become a favourite spot for the tourists to the complex in the night.

## Narrative Panels

24 bas-relief sculptural narrative panels, each mounted on walls along the pathway, will tell the Dandi March story through evocative composite imagery of main episodes which happened during each day of the Dandi March. The murals will be created as stoneware panels, to be embedded in the wall, and lit in the night. The brickwall would be covered with stoneware tiles for durability. The narrative panels will become important points for telling the story of the Dandi March: how from a group of 81 marchers starting from Sabarmati Ashram, it became one of the most important mass movement in human history, leading to India achieving freedom.





## Dandi Memorial : Concept Proposal

### 80 Marchers Sculpture Cluster

It is proposed to create a cluster of full-size sculptures of all 80 marchers who took part in the march from the start at Sabarmati, at the end of the pathway. The marchers' sculptures will be created on site in glazed stoneware, as part of a National Sculpture camp at the site, when the pathway is ready. The camp will be guided by master craftsmen of terracotta technique, and will be led by a team of well-known sculptors and artists invited from art colleges from all over India.

It is expected that teams will work together on individual sculptures, which will be fired on the spot in their final location at the site, so as to avoid the risk of transit damage. This participatory event is expected to lead to highly unique experience in itself.