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# Editorial

Sustainable tourism devlopment requires management of all resources to fulfill economic, social and aesthetic needs while maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life support systems. Local communities can benefit more widely from it if they are producers in related sectors.

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## **THE INNER VOICE**

NO BATTLE CAN BE WON WITHOUT COMMITMENT OF THE TROOPS AND THE LEADER. EACH AND EVERYONE MUST BE FULLY DEDICATED TO THE CAUSE. THE SIDE WHICH IS THUS WILL CERTAINLY EMERGE VICTORIOUS

MAHABHARTA

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## Lost Smiles and Growing Anxiety

By Yogita Yadav



Child care is not a part time job. It requires full attention, full time and sheer affection. However, now a days all these three needs find no place in the life of the children. Physical, mental and emotional development of every child makes the society sound and robust. Why we keep in mind that only an orphan feels neglected? Why we think like that only those children are devoid of rights who are so called backward and underdog? However, reality is quite different. Those, who are vanguard of the society, are having all the facilities. From economic point of view these persons belong to richer class of our society. On the other hand, the whole society is becoming aware of the need of betterment of the lower strata of our society. The middle class, which is the pivot of the expectations of the whole society, is in fact most neglected. The condition of these children of the middle class society has become now like that of monkeys, rabbits and rats of the laboratory, on which all types of experiments are being done. Mothers of these children are forging new dimensions of the progress. Their fathers are moving from one city to another one and from one country to another one in the quest of good jobs and good opportunities. The previous generation of these children is being disconnected with them due to various reasons. Who will at last raise the issue of the rights of the children of these families?





These lovable children, whose parents are doctors, engineers or journalists are the consumers of these cheaper modern products. At a time when the market is expanding, wish list is becoming longer, awareness is increasing and habit of taking self decisions is gaining ground, who is taking decisions regarding children? Whatever being done in the name of the children in this fast running society, is there any role of the children? Have ever been children asked about what in fact they want to study while preparing their course? We will try to explore these questions and their solutions on the basis of the case study of the children belonging to various classes and communities of the society.

In comparison to other children of Indian families, the situation in Jammu-Kashmir is quite different. History of J&K as well as present scenario is different. Of course we can boast of glorious memories of the past era, but there are a few bitter memories also which have sown the seeds of acerbic, haphazard and confused present scenario. This bitterness is spreading in the whole society in the form of fear and insecurity, which is highly affecting all round development of the children. The smallest unit of the society i.e., family is most embattled at present. The entire awareness programmes, schemes and propagation of women empowerment have certainly made the women right conscious. However, the other major section of the society i.e., menfolk is not in a mood to provide this right to the women at present. The children become victims of the conflict between getting the rights and not providing them. The right conscious mother when steps out of her home and starts searching her economic self-reliance, then child caring necessity gets a big jolt.

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In J&K, women since many generations are engaged in govt. jobs. However, modern females have started stepping out of this comfort zone and now they are entering private sector also. But the circumstances in the private sector are not family friendly. The circumstances are totally unfavourable to the infants. Five month breast feeding is considered indispensable, but the entire private sector provides maternity leave of only three months. In some private companies, there is no maternity leave. From career point of view, 23<sup>rd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> years of age is considered golden period.







However, this is an ideal age period for family formation also. It means, females feel maximum mental pressure during this age period. While moving fast for career building, they are compelled to think about their marriage also at the same time. During pregnancy they have to bear maximum mental agony. One can easily imagine what will be the mental health of the infant growing up in the womb of her highly tensed mother. It is also very easy to imagine how will be the physical health of that infant whose mother has to manage family and career both. There is no doubt that physique as well as mental state of such types of children is also decaying. The female who takes this so much risk while going through motherhood, will certainly either not try to become mother again or shall take such risk only after 5-7 years. I am here describing the opportunity of becoming mother as a risk. But the present scenario paints this very picture.

These children are either having no sibling or there is such a long gap between the ages of the two siblings that they fail to develop the natural bondings of brotherhood or sisterhood. On the other hand, cultural awareness is inculcating aggressiveness in the multi cultural society. The children are unable to decide that whom they should follow the cultural rules and festivals narrated either by their paternal or maternal grandfather. One special point is that the hypothesis of the mother tongue is proving here to be totally absurd. In general, only that mother tongue is written on the paper which is the language of their father and the family, while the language of the mother is different. How can any language become mother tongue, which is not spoken by the mother herself. There are so many other issues on which we will discuss in detail later on.

\*\*\*\*\*(Author is a reputed Writer & a Journalist)



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# Mughal Gardens of Kashmir



The Mughal emperor Jalaluddin Muhammed Akbar's concept of an all India sovereignty led to the annexation of Kashmir into the Mughal empire in 1586. The Mughal perception of One India from Kabul upto the Indian Ocean was the basis of the integration of Kashmir into the Mughal empire. The Mughal period in Kashmir extending from 1586 to 1753 was the highest point in the history of Kashmir. It brought political stability and socio-economic prosperity in the region for a considerable period. The Mughal emperors were enamoured by the natural beauty of Kashmir and made it their summer resort so as to get rid of the scorching heat of the plains. Kashmir as a region was very close to the Mughal emperors which reminded them of the cool environment of their native country.

#### By Ainee Ambreen



The Mughal emperors made it a policy to visit Kashmir and their presence in the valley greatly helped in the overall socio-economic development of the region. The natural beauty and resources of Kashmir attracted the attention of the Mughal emperors and they worked enthusiastically to utilize the natural resources of Kashmir for its cultural development. Mughals identified the potentialities of these natural resources and acted as the conservator of these resources. Huge public works in the form of building fort, canals, roads, *sarais*, gardens and bridges etc. were initiated by the Mughals under their policy of utilization and propagation of the natural resources of Kashmir. It is important to mention that the Mughals revived the art of stone buildings in Kashmir and one of the first Mughal building in Kashmir was the Hariparbat fort. Earlier wooden architecture was famous in the sultanate period. According to Percy Brown, "There now remains the effort made by the Mughals in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries to revive the art of stone building in the state not however, in its ancient form, but according to the architectural ideals of this dominating dynasty."

The Mughal emperor Nuruddin Muhammed Jahangir treated Kashmir as his most favourite region. He used the term *Firdaus* (Paradise) for Kashmir. He says, "If one were to take to praise Kashmir, whole books would have to be written. Accordingly a mere summary will be recorded...Kashmir is a garden of eternal spring, or an iron fort to a palace of Kings- a delightful flowerbed and a heart expanding heritage for dervishes. Its pleasant meads and enchanting cascades are beyond all description. There are running streams and fountains beyond count." Jahangir has devoted a huge space of his memoirs to the people, water resources, arts and crafts, flora and fauna etc. Jahangir also mentioned the historical events of Kashmir pertaining to its people which show the Mughal emperor's policy of integration of a region with the Mughal empire. The description of Kashmir in the various sources of the Mughals highlights its historical significance.



Photograph by **Afzal Shah** 





Mughals selected Kashmir for the flourishment of their cultural heritage. One such heritage was the char bagh system or the Mughal concept of terraced gardens. Mughal emperor Zahiruddin Muhammed Babur introduced many Turkish traditions in India one of which was the char bagh system. Aram bagh in Agra was the first garden based on this pattern. C.M.Villiers Stuart has vividly described the general pattern followed by the various Mughal gardens laid out in India. According to him, "The Mughal gardens, copied from the earlier gardens of Turkestan and Persia, are invariably square or rectangular in shape, their area being divided into a series of smaller square parterres. A high wall, adorned with serrated battlements and pierced by a lofty entrance gateway, encircles the garden.



Photographs by Afzal Shah

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These imposing entrances are a great feature of the Mughal style, and in the larger garden there are always 4 main gateways...the water runs in a trim stone or brick edge canal down the whole length of the enclosure, falling from level to level in smooth cascades, or rushing in a tumult of white foam over carved water chutes (*chaddars*). Below many of these waterfalls the canal flows into a larger or smaller tank, called a *hauz*, usually studded with numerous small fountains." Mughals identified the potentialities of garden culture in Kashmir due to its numerous water resources like springs, lakes, canals, rivers etc.

Before the advent of Mughals in Kashmir, garden culture existed in Kashmir and some of the gardens of the Sultanate period were well known such as *Bagh-i-Zainagir, Bagh-i-Zainakot, Bagh-i-Yusuf Shahi etc.* but these gardens are now untraceable. Akbar was the first Mughal emperor who introduced the culture of terraced gardens in Kashmir.

**Naseem bagh** or the 'Garden of breezes' was one of the first Mughal gardens in Kashmir. It was planned on a raised open platform above the Dal lake. It was considered as one of the best royal gardens of old times due to its picturesque surroundings. According to Walter Lawrence, the Settlement Commissioner of the Jammu and Kashmir in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century writes, "The park of plane trees known as the Nasim bagh, the garden of breezes, which was planted in Akbar's time, is the most beautiful of all the pleasure places of the royal gardeners of old times" It is now in ruined condition as all the walls, canals and fountains of the Mughal period have disappeared. It is no more in the category of the great gardens of Mughals and is now being mostly used as a camping site by many nature loving tourists. Villiers Stuart has also commented about the ruined terraces of the Naseem bagh. According to her, "Green turf covers the ruined masonry terraces of the Nisim Bagh, which rise grandly from the water; but the trees are in their prime, and the view from under their boughs across the blue expanse of the lake, crowned by the snow-streaked Mahadev, remains as enchanting as when Akbar chose this site for the first Mughal garden in Kashmir."

**Hariparbat garden**-Akbar chose Hariparbat hill as the site of a new fort called Hariparbat fort. A small town was also constructed around it so that the Mughal soldiers and his attendants could live without interfering with the life of the common masses. A large garden was also laid around the fort in the reign of Akbar which was later rebuilt by Jahangir who gave it the name of Nur-Afza. Jahangir writes, "I ordered Mutamid Khan , who is a servant who know my temperament, to make every effort to put the little garden in order and repair the buildings. In a short space of time, through his great assiduity, it acquired new beauty. In the garden he put up a lofty terrace 32 yards square, in three divisions (qit'a), and having repaired the building he adorned it with pictures by master hands, and so made it the envy of the picture gallery of China. I called this garden *Nur-afza*."



**Shalimar Bagh** was laid out by Jahangir in 1619. It is one of the most finest examples of Mughal gardens in Kashmir. It is said that Pravarasena II (79-139), the founder of city of Srinagar, had built a palace on the edge of the lake and called it Shalimar which in Sanskrit means 'the abode of love'. Jahangir revived the garden on the old site. Shalimar was a royal garden and was divided into 3 separate parts. The outer garden was for the use of the general public. It started with the canal leading from the lake and terminates at the *Diwan-i-Am*. A small black marble throne of the emperor still stands over the waterfall in this part of the garden. The central part was reserved for the use of the emperor and was slightly broader than the first part. It consisted of two terraces which had *Diwan-i-Khas* in the centre. Unfortunately, only the carved stone bases of the original building remains. The third part of the garden which was reserved for the use of the ladies of the Harem was flanked by two small guard rooms. A beautiful black marble pavilion stands at the middle of this part which was added later by Shahjahan and was surrounded by a tank which contained numerous fountains. According to Villiers Stuart, "This unique pavilion is surrounded on every side by a series of cascades, and at night when the lamps are lighted in the little arched recesses behind the shinning waterfalls, it is even more fairy-like then by day"

Jahangir considered Shalimar as the best sights of Kashmir. He records in his memoirs that he ordered his son Khurram (future Shahjahan) to make a waterfall in the Shalimar garden. According to him, "Shalimar is near the lake. It has a pleasant stream, which comes down from the hills, and flows into the Dal lake. I bade my son Khurram dam it up and make a waterfall, which it would be a pleasure to behold. This place is one of the sights of Kashmir." Inayat khan also considered Shalimar as the best among the Mughal gardens in Kashmir. According to him, "Kashmir also possesses charming gardens and pleasing parks, the best of which is the Bagh-i-Farah Bakhsh constructed by His Majesty's command during the late emperor Jahangir's reign…This garden is irrigated by a canal resembling the *Kausar*, the nectar flowing river of paradise."

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**Nishat Bagh** or the 'Garden of Gladness' was built by Asaf Khan, brother of Nurjahan and father-in-law of Shahjahan. As Nishat Bagh was a private garden, so it was divided into two sections- one for the owner and the other for the women. It was also called a 'garden of terraces' as it contained 12 terraces, one for each sign of the zodiac. Villiers Stuart has given a lucid description of the various features of the Nishat bagh. According to her, "The stream tears foaming down the carved cascades, fountains play in every tank and water course, filling the garden with their joyous life and movement. The flower beds on these sunny terraces blaze with colour-roses, lilies, geraniums, asters, gorgeous tall-growing zinnias, and feathery cosmos, pink and white. Beautiful at all times, when autumn lights up the poplars in clear gold and big *chenars* burn red against the dark blue rocky background, there are few more brilliant, more breathlessly enacting, sights than this first view of Asaf khan's Garden of Gladness" The various stone and marble thrones placed over the head of almost every waterfall is an unique feature of the Nishat bagh. The third terrace of the bagh contains a small tank in the centre of which is the only original stone fountain.

**Chashma Shahi garden**-A small garden was laid out in the Chashma Shahi or the royal spring by Ali Mardan Khan in the reign of Shahjahan in 1632. It is laced with terraces and inspite its small size, it contains all the features seen in the other great Mughal gardens like fountains, pavilions, waterfalls etc. Giving details of Chashma Shahi, Villiers Stuart writes, "The copious spring round which it is built bubbles up in a large stone vase in the hall of the upper pavilion. The garden in front of this building is an oblong of about an acre divided into two terraces.

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A stone *chabutra* with a shallow carved fountain basin, something after the fashion of those at Hazrat Bal, is the feature of the upper terrace. A tiny carved water-chute brings the narrow canal rippling down three feet to the second terrace, in the centre of which is a tank with a single jet fountain; the water running on through another pavilion at the end of the garden. These buildings are characteristics Afghan structures on old stone foundations. Walking through the hall to the arched openings overlooking the Dal, where the wall is bounded by a black marble rail, a relic of Mughal times, the lower garden comes as a complete surprise. The narrow white-chute slopes sharply down eighteen or more feet to a second enclosure, about half the size of the upper garden. In the centre is a reservoir with five fountain jets. Round its edges are the outlines of a continuous flower parterre, and the sides of the garden are still filled with lilac and fruit trees."

**Verinag Bagh-** Verinag is the source of Jhelum river. It was the most favourite place of both Jahangir and his empress Nurjahan. Jahangir was so much fascinated by its beauty that he considered it incomparable to any other sight in Kashmir.



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He writes, "In the whole of Kashmir there is no sight of such beauty and enchanting character." Jahangir built an octagonal tank around the spring and a small garden. He himself informs in his memoirs that "By my order they have made a building and a garden at that source (Verinag)." Shahjahan also laid a fine garden at the Verinag spring. Giving details of the garden built by Shajahan in Verinag, Inayat Khan informs, "Here His Majesty constructed a delightful garden provided with summer houses, baths, reservoirs, cascades and fountain and he named the place Shahabad."

Achhabal garden- Acchabal was also called Sahibabad after it became the property of Princess Jahan Ara Begum. The garden around the spring of Acchabal was laid by Jahan Ara Begum in 1640. It has three terraces and each terrace contained waterfall, tanks and fountains. Giving details about the garden, Bernier writes, "The garden is very handsome, laid out in regular walks and full of fruit trees, apple, pear, plum, apricot and cherry, Jet d'eau in various forms and fish ponds are in great number and there is a lofty cascade which, in its fall, takes the form and colour of a large sheet, thirty or forty paces in length, producing the finest effect imaginable, especially at night, when innumerable lamps fixed in parts of the wall adapted for that purpose, are lighted under this sheet of water." Villiers Stuart considered it to be the most perfect garden on a medium scale. According to her, "If I were asked where the most perfect modern garden on a medium scale could be devised, I should answer without hesitation, Achibal" She further adds, "Nowhere else have I seen such possibilities for the combined appeal of a stately stone-bordered pleasance between ordered avenues of full –grown trees, and a natural rock and woodland upper garden with haunting, far reaching views, where the white wild roses foam over the firs and boulders, rivaling the "sheet of water" Bernier praised."







**Dara Shikoh's garden-** Dara Shikoh also laid a garden in Bijbehara which is now called the Wazir bagh. The remains of the garden are now used as the camping ground by the people of Bijbehara. Giving description of the garden, William Moorcroft, an English traveler who came to India in early 19<sup>th</sup> century, writes, "Opposite to the town of Vijipara stood what was once the garden of Dara Shikoh. It has been laid out in the same manner as the gardens of Shalimar, Nishat and others in Kashmir, and consisted of little more than a number of cross avenues or walks-some of the trees were still standing, and the *chenar* trees especially were of stately size and magnificent foliage. Along the centre was a line of tanks, connected by a canal and there were also the remains of a small brick palace or lodge"



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Mughal gardens of Kashmir were given huge publicity in the various sources of the Mughal period. Abdul Hamid Lahori in his *Padshahanama* has given a list of the Mughal gardens laid out during the reign of the various Mughal emperors. According to him, "*Bagh-i-Farah Baksh* was raised by the emperor while he was a prince with Shah Nahar and other buildings and was previously known as Shalamar and was renamed by him as such this time. Another garden on its back was named as *Faiz Baksh* where all canals fountains and cisterns, *Jharokha Daulat Khanah Khas-o-Am*. The garden in the *Daulat Khanah* is called *Noor Afza* and *Bagh Behr Aara* adjacent to *Jharokha*. Another garden was called *Bagh Aishabad*. *Bagh Noor Afshaun* was laid by Noor Jahan during the period of emperor Jahangir and has two buildings in the front of the same period on the bank of Beht. Bagh Safa is on the bank of the pond of Safapur. Another garden during the period of emperor Jahangir was raised by Jawahar Khan, Khwajasara. All three are connected with Saltanat Begum. Bagh Shahabad was laid by Muhammed Quli Turkman during the period of his own government and became a garden of this government when the emperor was a prince and now was conferred upon *Padshahzadah* Iqbalmand Muhammed Dara Shikoh."



the ruins at Bawan, which lie off the direct route, were centred round a holy spring." These Mughal gardens were not only used as pleasure grounds but they also be

in the island of Dal."

These Mughal gardens were not only used as pleasure grounds but they also brought rich dividends to the Mughals in terms of increase in revenue. In Mughal times, it was a pious act to plant avenues of trees to shade the way farers on the great high roads as well as in the gardens. Mughal gardens were filled up with different varieties of flowers, fruit trees, *chinar* trees and other ornamental trees. These numerous flowers, *chinar* in the form of timber and fruits from the various fruit trees were sold in the chief markets of the Mughal empire. According to Walter Lawrence, "The roses and the bed musk brought in a revenue of one lakh of rupees per annum."

Thus Mughals made an everlasting contribution to the preservation and propagation of the natural heritage of Kashmir. All the Mughal emperors worked for the protection and preservation of the historical and cultural heritage of Kashmir in a big way. They created a social consciousness towards the heritage of Kashmir and worked earnestly for its overall development. The Mughal gardens of Kashmir remind us of the grandeur of the mighty empire of the Mughals and the aesthetic taste of the emperors who laid these gardens in the choicest sites of the valley. It would not be wrong to say that besides the charming natural beauty of Kashmir, the fame of Kashmir in the present day world is mainly due to the Mughal heritage built in Kashmir of which gardens are an inseparable part.

\*(Writer is a Historian From University of Jammu)



He further adds that "*Bagh Murad* is situated in the middle of Dal lake and was conferred upon *Padshahzadah* Murad Baksh. *Bagh Nishat* to the south of Dal lake was laid by Yamin ud daula, *Bagh-i- Nasim* by Azam Khan, Bagh Afzelbad by Allama Afzal Khan and *Bagh* of Saif Khan, all on Dal lake. *Bagh* Zafar Khan is on the bank of Jadibal, which was quite lengthy so the emperor named it *Bagh-i-Tulani*. Then there is *Bagh-I-Ilahi* laid by Yusuf Khan during his Subahdari. Bagh-i-Firoz Khan is on the bank of Bahat and the *Bagh* of Khidmat Khan is

It is said that there were hundreds of gardens in the vicinity of Dal lake during the Mughal period. According to Walter Lawrence, "In the Vicinity of Dal lake there were 777 gardens in the Mughal times." It seems that most of the Mughal gardens had to face the vagaries of the passing time and are now untraceable. Some of them are in ruined condition and cannot be identified beyond recognition. Mrs Stuart has also commented on the ruined gardens which lie scattered and are now mostly used as camping grounds. According to her, "Leaving Srinagar by the Jammu route, the old way was by boat up stream to Islamabad. A whole series of ruined gardens lies scattered throughout its length. In most cases they mark the site of royal camping grounds, built for the convenience of the court on the journey to and from the plains, while other gardens, like the ruins at Bawan, which lie off the direct route, were centred round a holy spring."

#### **CURTAIN-RAISER EVENT TO REVER 200 YEARS OF RAJ TILAK CEREMONY**

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#### SAINIK SCHOOL NAGROTA CADETS CLINCH TOP HONOURS IN HERITAGE PAINTING COMPETITION

<u>JAMMU</u> : Two cadets of Sainik School Nagrota brought laurels to the school by bagging the first and consolation prizes in the Painting Competition held at Amar Palace Jammu on 09 Jun 2022. The Competition was organized as part of the celebrations to mark the continuation of revering 200 years of the Raj Tilak Ceremony of erstwhile Maharaja Gulab Singh under the theme "My Heritage My Pride".

Cadet Ayush Pratap Singh (school no 3984) of class XII of the school won the first prize in Group-2 and Cadet Medhansh Singh (school no 4453) won the consolation prize in Group-1.

Capt(IN) AK Desai, Principal, Sainik School Nagrota congratulated both the prize winners for their achievements. He also commended the role of Mr VK Sehgal, Senior Ex-Nagrotian and Mr RS Dayal TGT (Art) in facilitating the participation of Sainik School Contingent in this Competition. The event witnessed overwhelming participation by student from various schools in and around Jammu. The celebration was organized by Maharaja Gulab Singh Brigade under the Chairmanship of Mr Shivang Gupta. Former J&K Minister and Senior BJP leader Mrs Priva Sethi. Kunwarani Ritu Singh was the Chief Guest. Renowned artists and various other dignitaries were also present in the function. The Cadets also took this opportunity to visit the Amar Mahal Museum and had a glimpse of rich cultural heritage of the region.

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Under The Theme "My Heritage My Pride"

LADAKH & TIBETADHIDESH MAHARAJA GULAB SINGH JI





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WANDER ASTRAY, PLEASE LET YOUR STRONG ARM LEAD US STRAIGHT.



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### THE WISE KING PRAYS THUS TO HIS ELDERS, BE UNTO US AS A FATHER, LOVING, NOT INSPIRED BY WRATH.BE UNTO US A TEACHER.SHOW UP THE RIGHTEOUS PATH.IF WE

MAHABHARTA





















## Four A Lords Resorts Being one with Nature

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So, what is stopping you from enjoying a leisure time with us? Just pack your bags and visit Four A Lords Resort, a man-made wonderland, which features **luxurious rooms** that are maintained with High-speed internet access, hi-end amenities and designed with private balconies that offer the beautiful canvas of Nature. If this is not enough, we have one of the best recreational facilities on board for the entire family, namely, for indoor activities, there are**Under Pin-Bar** and **Bowling alley**; and the out-of-the-world, **Avatar Game Zone** with a dazzling interior and equipped with games that takesone to a virtual world filled with fun characters that is sure to zoom in and out of the screen. There is also the **snooker room** for younger guests, who can try their luck in scoring brownie points and hit the object balls into one of the six pockets. For the health conscious, there is a swimming pool with a kid's pool, a gym and a spa to soothe the inner Zen. So, if these activities have burned your energy and appetite than order an appetizing meal from our **24rs restaurant Chai Roti** and satiate your taste buds for more.

**Four A Lords Resort** welcomes all to experience a holistic leisure amidst Nature, be it for a family reunion, theme wedding or a corporate event.



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