

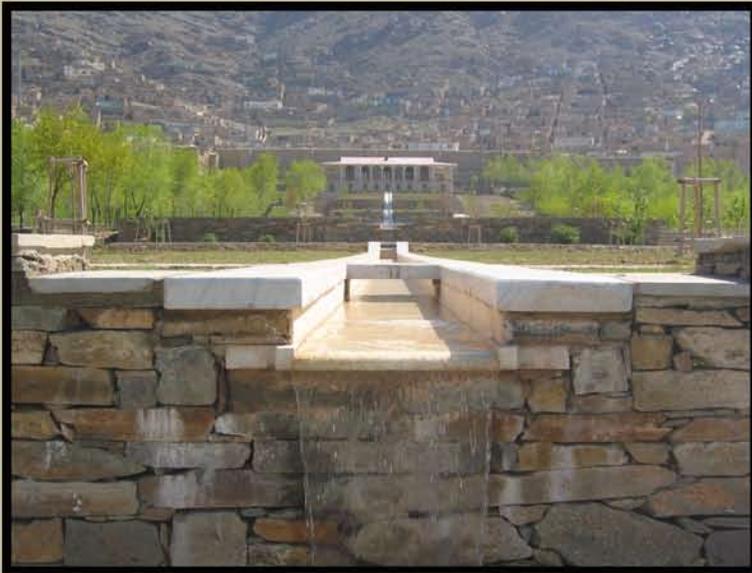
DUMBARTON OAKS  
GARDEN & LANDSCAPE STUDIES

PUBLIC LECTURE

**RATISH NANDA**  
PROJECTS DIRECTOR, AGA KHAN TRUST FOR CULTURE

**WORKING IN MUGHAL PARADISE:  
RESTORING HUMAYUN'S TOMB, DELHI & BAGH-E BABUR, KABUL**

**MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2010 AT 5:30 P.M.**



*Bagh-e Babur Gardens; Kabul, Afghanistan*



*Humayun's Tomb gardens; Delhi, India* Images © Aga Khan Trust for Culture

The Mughals ruled the Indian Sub-continent for over 300 years from the early 16th century onwards. Bagh-e Babur and the landscape at Humayun's Tomb are the earliest surviving Mughal gardens in Afghanistan and India respectively. Both gardens are the setting for several monumental buildings and both have been restored by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) as part of the Aga Khan Historic Cities Program. The gardens at Humayun's Tomb, though largely intact, had lost their historic character, while Bagh-e Babur had mostly been destroyed in the 20th century. Extending their work at the Delhi site, AKTC is now landscaping a 28-hectare park with distinct heritage, ecological, and nursery zones in Nizamuddin, the urban area abutting Humayun's Tomb. For each of these garden projects M. Shaheer has been the Landscape Architect. Ratish Nanda's talk will describe all three garden projects with an emphasis on **site histories**, the landscape restoration **process**, and the **philosophical, political, and physical** challenges of the projects.

RATISH NANDA is Projects Director, Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) in India and is presently a member of the **Delhi Urban Art Commission**. He has an MA in Conservation Studies from the University of York, UK, and worked in Edinburgh for Historic Scotland before joining AKTC in 1999. For AKTC he was responsible for garden conservation at Humayun's Tomb and restoration at Bagh-e Babur; he is now heading the AKTC team implementing the Nizamuddin Urban Renewal project that has distinct conservation, environmental, and socio-economic development objectives, including the creation of a new 28-hectare park in Delhi. Awards received include the **Eisenhower Fellowship** and the **Sanskriti Award** for Socio-Cultural achievement.

*Reservations are required. Please RSVP by Thursday, April 15th to: [Landscape@doaks.org](mailto:Landscape@doaks.org) 202-339-6460.  
The lecture will be held in the Music Room at Dumbarton Oaks's Main House located at 1703 32nd Street, NW, Washington DC.  
The lecture is open to the public without charge. A light reception to follow. Parking not provided.*