



ACHARYA'S NRV SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
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AINMANE: WHERE ARCHITECTURE NARRATES THE STORY OF
KODAGU'S LIVING HERITAGE
ARCHITECTURE DESIGN PROJECT (THESIS) – 2025

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the Requirements for the
“Bachelor of Architecture” Degree Course

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that this thesis report titled “Ainmane: Where Architecture Narrates the Story of Kodagu’s Living Heritage” by Punyashree PM of XI SEMESTER B. Arch, USN No. 1AA21AT033, has been submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of under graduate degree **Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch)** by Visveshwaraya Technological University VTU, Belgaum during the year 2024- 25.

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DECLARATION

This thesis title “Ainmane: Where Architecture Narrates the Story of Kodagu’s Living Heritage”, submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the under graduate of Bachelor of architecture is my original work to the best of my knowledge.

The sources for the various information and the data used have been duly acknowledged.

The work has not been submitted or provided to any other institution/ organization for any diploma/degree or any other purpose.

I take full responsibility for the content in this report and in the event of any conflict or dispute if any, hereby indemnify Acharya’s NRV School of Architecture and Visveshwaraya Technological University, Belagavi, and its official representatives against any damages that any raise thereof.

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ABSTRACT

Ainmane: Where Architecture Narrates the Story of Kodagu's Living Heritage, is a heartfelt culmination of my academic journey and deep connection to the cultural essence of Kodagu. This project is envisioned as a Cultural and Agro based Experience Centre that seeks to rediscover, preserve and reinterpret the spirit of the traditional Ainmane, a space that once formed the emotional, social and ritual core of Kodava life.

Situated within a landscape where rapid modernization and growing tourism continue to overshadow lived traditions, the project aspires to create a meaningful architectural narrative that bridges the past with the present. It thoughtfully brings together spaces that celebrate indigenous produce such as coffee, honey, spices and wine along with zones for cultural expression, community interaction, processing, retail and worker housing, forming an environment where heritage, livelihood and landscape coexist in harmony.

Rooted in field documentation, interaction with local communities and an exploration of vernacular spatial principles, the design reflects lived memory, ritual and identity. Rather than functioning as a mere display of culture, the project seeks to revive the Ainmane as a living space that

strengthens cultural continuity, fosters belonging and allows visitors and locals alike to experience Kodagu beyond its visual beauty.

This thesis stands as an attempt to reconnect people with the land, its stories and its traditions, allowing architecture to become a medium through which Kodagu's living heritage is preserved, experienced and carried forward.

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