



The National Assembly Building of Bangladesh
Image credit: Public Works Department, Dhaka, Bangladesh

20th Century American Visionary Architect, Louis Kahn's National Assembly Building

Sundaram Tagore traveled in the architect's footsteps to experience and understand how this American visionary came to South Asia to build his masterpiece.

Kahn's story of his iconic monument is tied to South Asia and to modern world history.

"Here, Kahn conceived of a unique and provocative design and the Bangladeshis upheld his vision even when the country was war-torn and its economy completely destroyed."
~ Sundaram Tagore

In the early 1960s, Louis I. Kahn was invited by the West Pakistani government to design the buildings that would serve as their eastern capital, which, after the East Pakistani freedom struggle, became the Capital Complex of Bangladesh.

In his quest, Sundaram Tagore was plagued by the question:

'What force of will enabled Kahn to design a Capital Complex on the 'tabula rasa' of the rice paddies of Bangladesh?'

Thus began Tagore's 8-year film-making journey in quest of his passion:

Kahn's famous Parliamentary Complex Sher-e Bangla Nagar, also known as the 'Tiger City'.

"The complex was the beating heart of the newly formed democratic nation. I was unprepared for the raw emotional power and poetic beauty of these buildings. 'Tiger City' looked futuristic and ancient at the same time. In order to make this feature-length documentary film, I went on a worldwide quest to more than fourteen countries to find out how this Estonian-born American architect built such a daringly modern and monumental complex in a culturally rich but economically shattered country."



The National Assembly Building Complex, Bangladesh
Image credit: K E Domínguez

Please Join Society for Art & Cultural Heritage of India 2023 Annual Event

Featuring
**Sundaram Tagore's Documentary
Film Screening, 'Tiger City'**

A Tribute to
**Louis Kahn's 20th Century Architectural Icon:
The National Assembly Building**
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Presented in Partnership with
Asian Art Museum, San Francisco

Saturday, November 4, 2023

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

10:00 AM Introductory Remarks,
Sundaram Tagore, In-Person
10:15 AM Film Screening, followed by Q & A

Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum
200 Larkin Street, San Francisco

Free with Museum admission and open to the public
Advance registration recommended

RSVP: info@sachi.org

SACHI Annual Meeting follows at 2:15 PM
in Koret Center after a lunch break

The National Assembly Building of Bangladesh (detail)
Image courtesy of STG Production



Sundaram Tagore is a Calcutta-born Oxford-educated art historian, gallerist, and an award-winning filmmaker. Imbibing the influential Tagore family penchant for East-West dialogue, Sundaram's passion translates through his contributions to numerous exhibitions, combined with his four art galleries which promote multicultural and multidisciplinary events.

Louis Kahn's *Tiger City*, a feature-length documentary on the renowned architect debuted at the Museum of Modern Art, NY, in 2019, with recent screenings at the National Gallery of Modern Art, Mumbai, the India Habitat Center, Delhi, and the National Gallery, Singapore. A much awaited Kimball Art Museum, Dallas viewing takes place on October 22, 2023.

Tagore completed his undergraduate and graduate degrees in the United States and pursued a D.Phil. in modern history at the University of Oxford. His academic pursuits—focusing on Frank Lloyd Wright and Japan, American architect Louis Kahn's work in Bangladesh, and Indian artists' response to European modernism—cemented his passion for cross-cultural exchange.



The National Assembly Building of Bangladesh
Image courtesy of STG Production

SACHI expresses deep gratitude to the following Program Sponsors:
Lopa & Paritosh Choksi, Jennifer Kao, Sheila & Ketan Kothari, Manish Kothari & Carmen Saura,
Dr. Prithvi & Shivi Singh Legha, Louise Russell, and Gita & Ashok Vaish



SACHI
Society for Art & Cultural
Heritage of India

www.sachi.org

