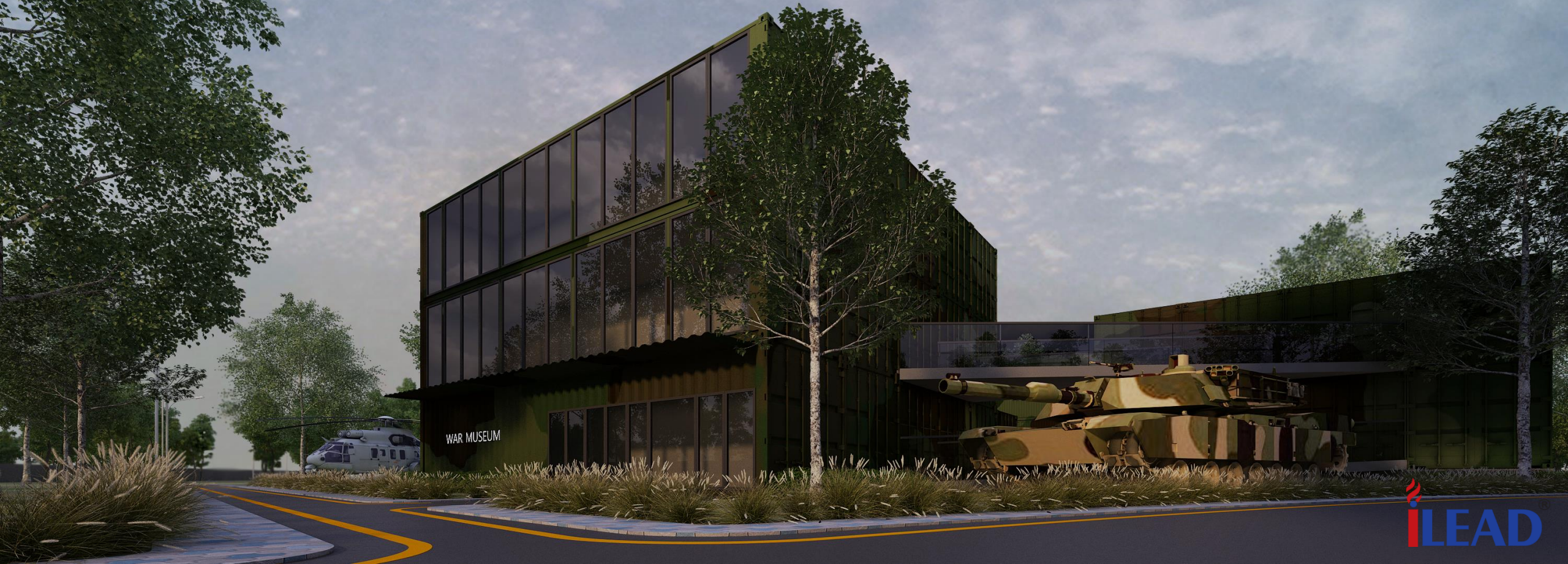


# VIJAY SANGHRAHALAYA

1971 WAR MUSEUM

FORT WILLIAM, KOLKATA







# ABOUT 1971: 'THE LIBERATION WAR'



# INSIGHTS



- The chapter of 1971 in History of India depicts the story of Bangladesh from the time of partition till the time of separation from Pakistan
- The Indian military campaign has been described as '*Lightning Campaign*' because they made the impossible possible.
- The strategy used by the Indian Army back then, is studied in military institutions all around the world, including Pakistan.
- All the 3 wings of the Armed Forces, Border Security Force, the Defence Ministry, External Affairs Ministry, Home Ministry, Finance Ministry, Railways and RAW(Research and Analysis Wing ) worked together like a well-oiled machine.
- During the 1971 Indo-Pak conflict, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi conducted herself with remarkable patience and restraint. She won the war decisively — splitting Pakistan into two, with the new country, Bangladesh, consisting of over 60 per cent of Pakistan's population.

**The National Defense College of Pakistan wrote: “*The Indians planned and executed their offensive against East Pakistan in textbook manner. It was a classic example of thorough planning, minute coordination and bold execution.*”**

# INSIGHTS



- December 16, 1971 was a significant day for India and its neighbors Bangladesh and Pakistan.
- India won the war against Pakistan that resulted in the birth of Bangladesh (then East Pakistan). Pakistan lost half of its country, its forces in the East and had to publicly surrender to India.
- It was also the largest military surrender after World War II. It was perhaps the first time in which India's all three forces fought in unison.
- India very efficiently responded to West Pakistan's oppression of East Pakistan by joining hands with East Pakistan's Mukti Bahini and creating a strategy led by Chief of Indian Army, Sam Manekshaw.
- West Pakistan surrendered in 13 days and hence followed the liberation of East Pakistan and the consequent formation of Bangladesh.



# DEFEAT OF PAKISTAN



- The war began with preemptive aerial strikes on 11 Indian air stations, leading to the commencement of hostilities with Pakistan and Indian entry into the war of independence in East Pakistan on the side of Bengali nationalist forces.
- India quickly responded to Pakistan Army's movements in the west and successfully captured around 15,010 kilometers of Pakistan territory.
- Amir Abdullah Khan Niazi, along with 93,000 troops, surrendered to the joint forces of Indian Army and Bangladesh's Mukti Bahini.
- General Niazi signed the Instrument of Surrender on 16 December 1971 in Dhaka, marking the formation of East Pakistan as the new nation of Bangladesh.
- Pakistan also lost half of its territory with the birth of Bangladesh.

# DEFEAT OF PAKISTAN



- The war lasted for just 13 days and is one of the shortest wars in history.
- The military confrontation between India and Pakistan occurred from 3 December 1971 to the fall of Dacca (Dhaka) on 16 December 1971.
- Nearly 300,000 females were raped in that small period.
- The Indian Army gave 75 million people of Bangladesh their independence. It led to mass migration in India.
- Over 3,800 soldiers of India and Pakistan lost their lives in this war to end the genocide Pakistan had been conducting against the Bengali population of East Pakistan.

*The conflict was a result of the Bangladesh Liberation war, when Bangladesh (then East Pakistan) was fighting to seek freedom from (West) Pakistan.*



# BACKGROUND OF THE WAR



# BACKGROUND



- The British quit India after ending a reign of nearly 200 years, but India's fate was still fraught with uncertainty and ambiguity.
- Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the leader of 'All India Muslims' wanted a separate home for Muslims, fearing oppression and inequality for his people.
- The rumors of divisions spurts violence between the Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs. After months of tough negotiations the main players in the fate of India - Jinnah and Nehru made the final decision on June 04,1946. And hence followed the scission of India.
- The announcement sparks widespread panic and speculation about which part of Punjab would go to Pakistan and which would remain Indian.
- The fear psychosis created between Hindu, Muslim and Sikhs led to violence and bloodshed in their struggle to protect their own territories. People started moving even before the partition was formally announced.
- On August 14, 1947 Jinnah declared Pakistan an independent country. The next day it was India which was declared free from the British rule.



# THE BLOODY PARTITION

*What followed after the announcement of partition was total unrest in the country and among the people.*





# CONSEQUENCES OF THE PARTITION



- Punjab and Bengal were divided, around 10 million people crossed the borders and around 1 million people lost their lives.
- It was undoubtedly one of the deadliest communal massacres of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- Pakistan was divided into two parts, **East Pakistan and West Pakistan** and things got really ugly in the East.
- Bengalis in East Pakistan realized, they were ruled by a powerful West Pakistan bureaucracy and military with no economy of their own.
- The real control of Government, of legislature and of economic power all vested with the West Pakistan.



# REASONS THAT FUELLED THE WAR



- Jinnah went on to declare his 'Urdu only Policy' on his visit to East Pakistan. This obviously resulted in the rage of the East Pakistanis, which consisted mostly of Bengalis.
- East Pakistanis were treated as second class citizens.
- A young protesting student Mujibur Rahman formed an East Pakistan Muslim Students' League to make Bengali their official language, this movement was mainly driven by the youth of Pakistan.
- On **February 21, 1952** students and intellectuals call for an **ALL-OUT PROTEST** to make Bengali the official state language
- The police open fires on killing protestors at **UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA** for defying section 144, killing masses of students and intellectuals.
- '**EKUSHEY**' - **21 Feb, 1952**- is now celebrated as Shaheed Dibas (Martyrs 'day).
- **THE GOVERNMENT UNITED FRONT** formed on **MARCH 1954** to fight against the ruling Muslim League was short lived.



# REASONS THAT FUELLED THE WAR



- In **1966**- Origins of **Six Point Demand** by Mujib Khan came into existence, to demand democracy but also autonomy.
- Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was falsely accused of treason in the '**Agartala Conspiracy**' case and sent to prison which resulted in mass protest.
- In **1969**- the dissatisfaction of the military regime was not confined to East Pakistan.
- On **November 12, 1960**, East Pakistan was struck down by a devastating cyclone –**Bhola**. And they received no assistance from Pakistan.
- After the National Elections, which showed Awami League as clear leaders but Yahya Khan and Bhutto still didn't transfer the power to Sheikh Mujib.
- Bhutto makes a controversial statement that majority is not everything and it should not be forgotten that the main power lies in the Western Wing.

# HOW DID IT END?



- On **March 1971**, using the violence as an excuse, the Pakistan Army intervened to stem the growth of nationalist sentiments in the east with '**OPERATION SEARCHLIGHT**'.
- The world woke up to the scale of the persecution and pressed Pakistan to retreat.
- Mukti Bahini and Pakistan army fought pitched battles and East was losing due to poor support and intelligence in network.
- Pakistan Air Force Struck 6 air force bases in India which brought India into open warfare with Pakistan.
- The Indian Army, Air Force and Navy went into action and almost effortlessly brought Pakistan to their knees in within 13 days.

*The war ended on 16 December 1971 after West Pakistan surrendered.*

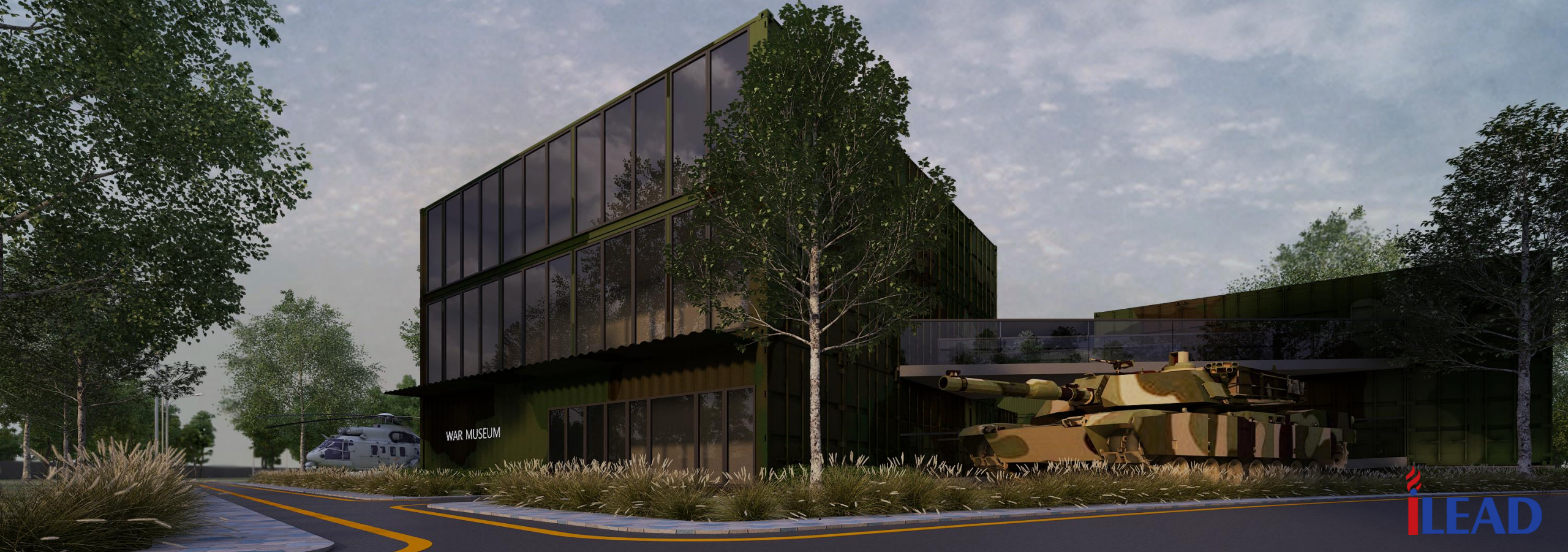


# VIJAY SANGHRAHALAYA

## 1971 WAR MUSEUM

# FORT WILLIAM, KOLKATA

*Remembering the triumphant war of 1971, celebrating the victorious glory of India through years*





# WHY IS THIS MUSEUM IMPORTANT FOR THE YOUTH?



- The year 1971 exists everywhere in Bangladesh- on its roads, in its sculptures, museums , oral history projects, in its curriculum. As it marks the birth of its nation and its liberation.
- **The 'Fall Of Dacca'** in India represents triumph and valour that paved way for its rise of Military Power.
- Sadly, the year 1971 is not featured in Indian textbooks which leaves many Indians unaware of that part of the glorious history of India.
- This museum on **THE WAR OF 1971** is going to keep alive the victory of India in the minds of the youth.
- The reason for building this museum is to make Indians aware of the glorious history of their country and make them feel proud about it and their armed forces.
- This museum is going to showcase one of the greatest victories of the Indian Armed Forces which was an unprecedented event in the Military history of the world.

*The museum will be unveiled in 2021 on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the event.*



# OTHER FACTS ABOUT THE WAR



# FACTS



- “Lightning Campaign” is the term that describes the Indian military campaign in the 1971 Bangladesh War of Liberation.
- The strategies employed by India is taught in the textbooks of 150 countries.
- Pakistan’s military academy upholds and teaches India’s war operation against West Pakistan .
- In the words of the National Defense College, Pakistan:

*“The Indians planned and executed their offensive against West Pakistan in a textbook manner. It was an example of thorough planning, minute coordination and bold execution”.*



# ATROCITIES OF THE WEST PAKISTAN MILITARY JUNTA



- **OPERATION SEARCHLIGHT** was launched on 25 March, 1971.
- The targets were East Pakistan's activist Mujibur Rahman and the Awami League.
- Lieutenant General and GOC Tikka Khan was in charge of the crackdown. Tikka Khan was named the "BUTCHER OF BENGAL".
- Yahya Khan's statement was published in an *ASIA TIMES* article: "Kill 3 million of them and the rest will eat out of our hands."
- **OPERATION SEARCHLIGHT** resulted in 3,00,000 casualties.

# INDIA'S CONSENSUS WITH EAST PAKISTAN



- Former Indian Prime Minister, the late Indira Gandhi supported East Pakistan's struggle to gain independence.
- India's Former Chief of Army Staff assured the PM that Indian army will be prepared for war by November 1971.
- Indian government collaborated with Mukti Bahini, led by General Osmani.
- On April 1971, Bangladeshi leaders came to Calcutta and established their headquarters at Theatre Road.



# INDIA'S TREATY WITH OTHER NATIONS



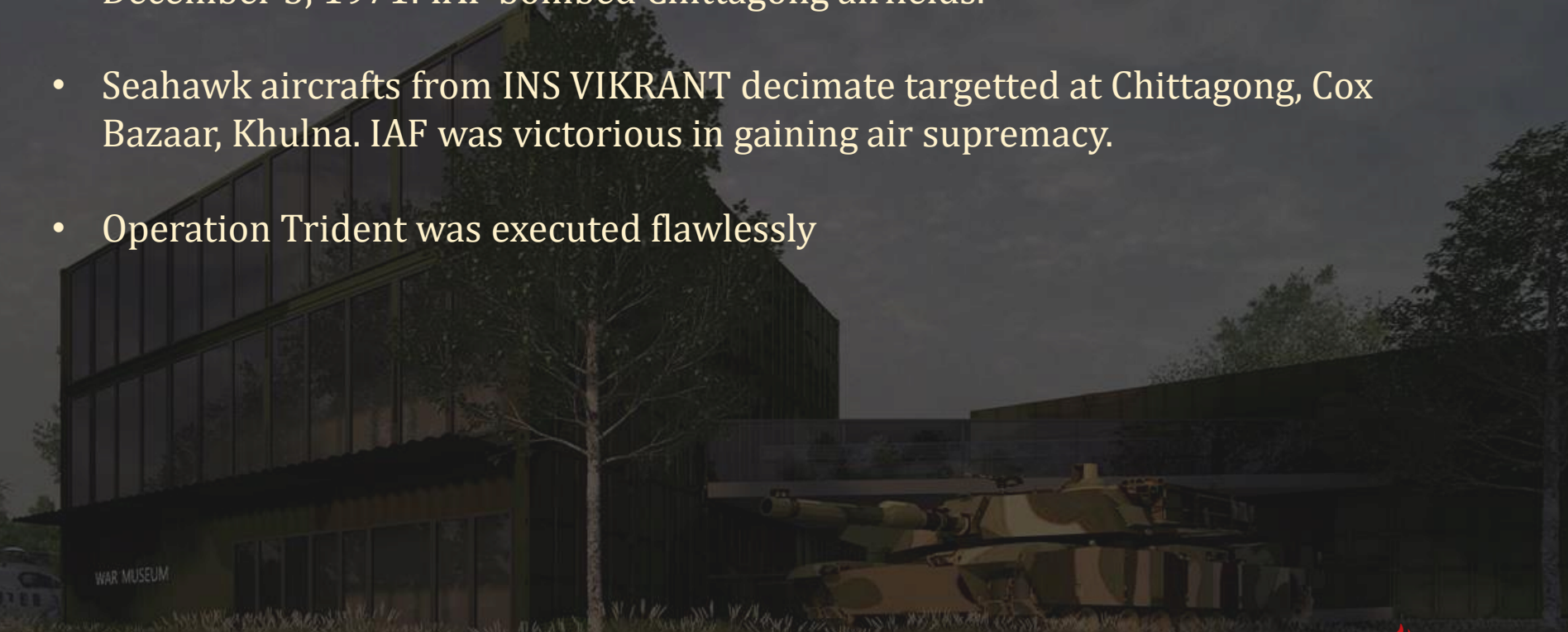
- On August 10, 1971, India signed *A TREATY OF PEACE, FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION* with Russia.
- India established diplomatic relations with Israel.
- Israel supported India by providing India with arms and ammunitions.



# CONTRIBUTION OF THE INDIAN AIRFORCE



- November 21, 1971: Air Battle over Boyra. It marked the first official clash between the IAF and the PAF.
- December 3, 1971: IAF bombed Chittagong airfields.
- Seahawk aircrafts from INS VIKRANT decimate targetted at Chittagong, Cox Bazaar, Khulna. IAF was victorious in gaining air supremacy.
- Operation Trident was executed flawlessly





# CONTRIBUTION OF THE INDIAN NAVY

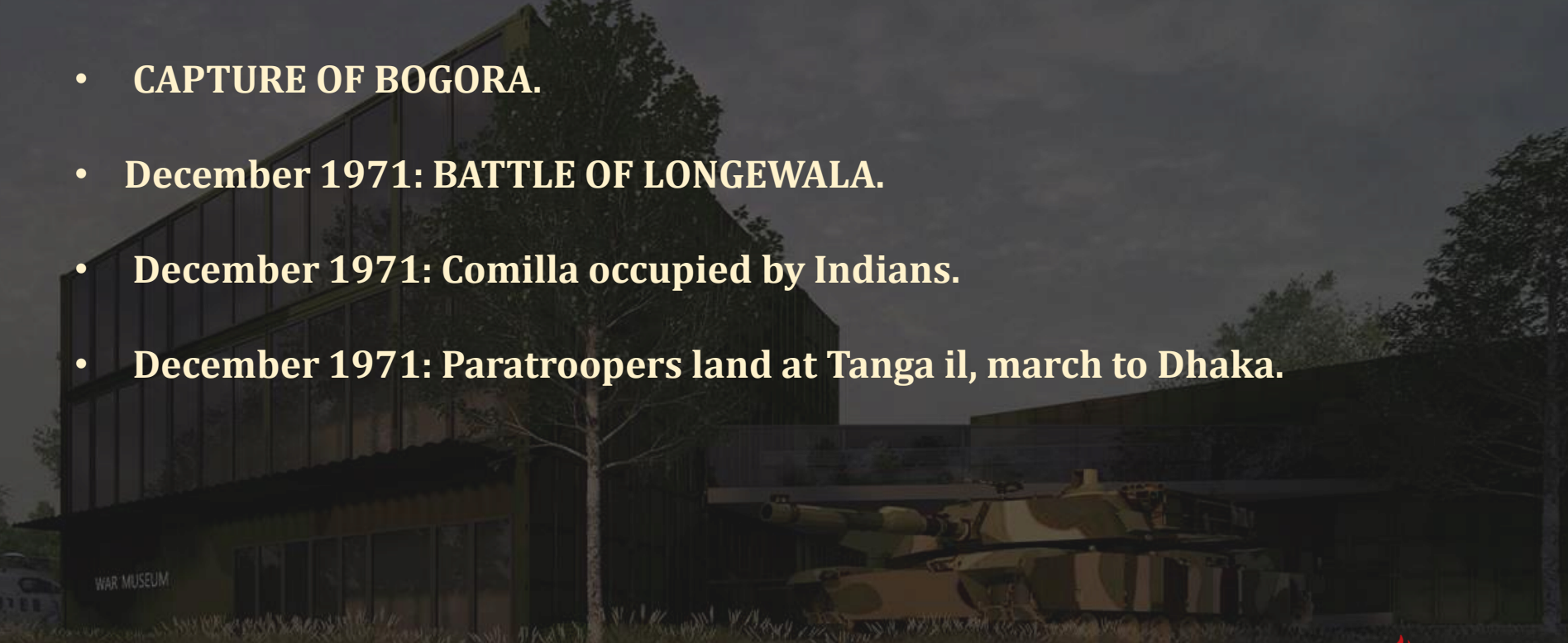


- PNS GHAZI was unsuccessful in sinking INS VIKRANT.
- December 4: Indian Navy attacked Karachi.
- December 4: India's VEER MISSILE destroyed Minesweeper PNS MUHAFIZ.
- Kamari oil installation was targeted.
- Operation Trident was a joint successful operation by the INS and the IAF.
- Indian Navy bombed Changla, Mangla and Chittagong ports.

# BATTLES FOUGHT FOR THE LIBERATION WAR



- **November 1971: AIR BATTLE OVER BOYRA.**
- **November 1971: BATTLE FOR HILLI.**
- **CAPTURE OF BOGORA.**
- **December 1971: BATTLE OF LONGEWALA.**
- **December 1971: Comilla occupied by Indians.**
- **December 1971: Paratroopers land at Tanga il, march to Dhaka.**





# THE FORMATION OF BANGLADESH



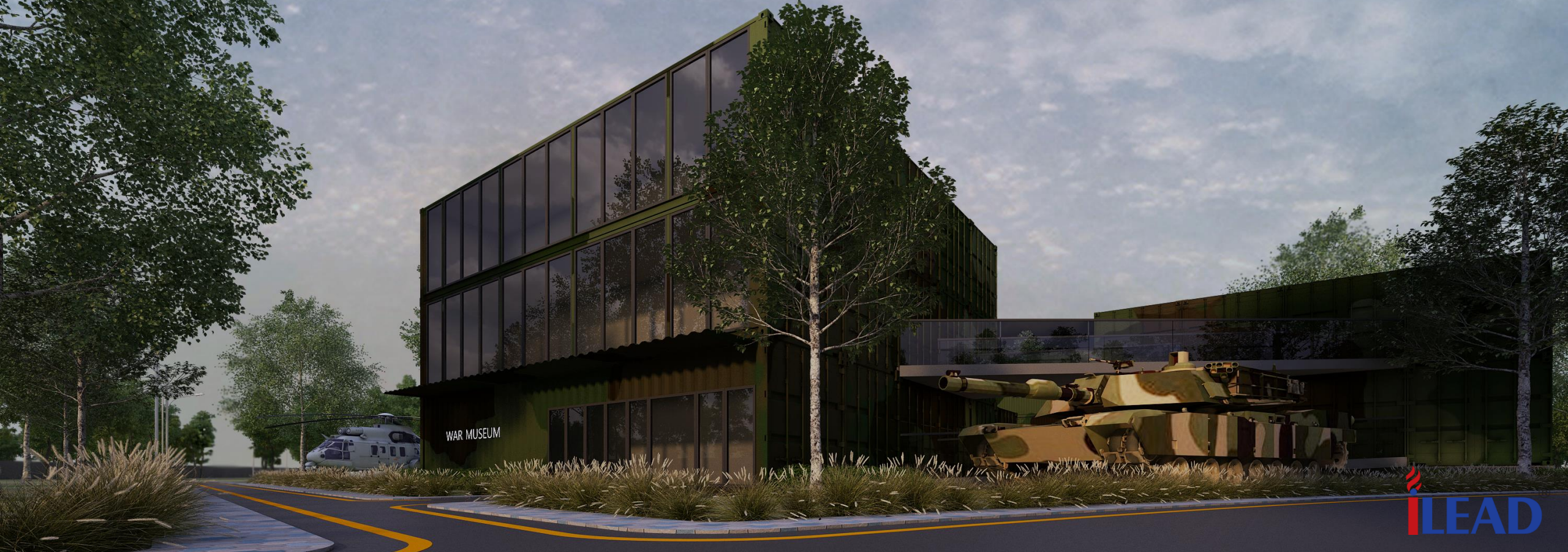
- Former Chief of Army Staff, Sam Manekshaw broadcasted from Calcutta Radio, asking West Pakistan's troops to surrender.
- December 13: Russia supplies Flotilla, resulting in West Pakistan's surrender.
- Mujibur Rah man's family was rescued.
- Indian troops withdrew from Bangladesh.
- Shimla Agreement, return of POWS.
- Bangladesh declared a sovereign nation state.



# ABOUT THE PROJECT

## VIJAY SANGHRAHALAYA

### THE 1971 WAR MUSEUM





# VISIONARIES BEHIND THE PROJECT

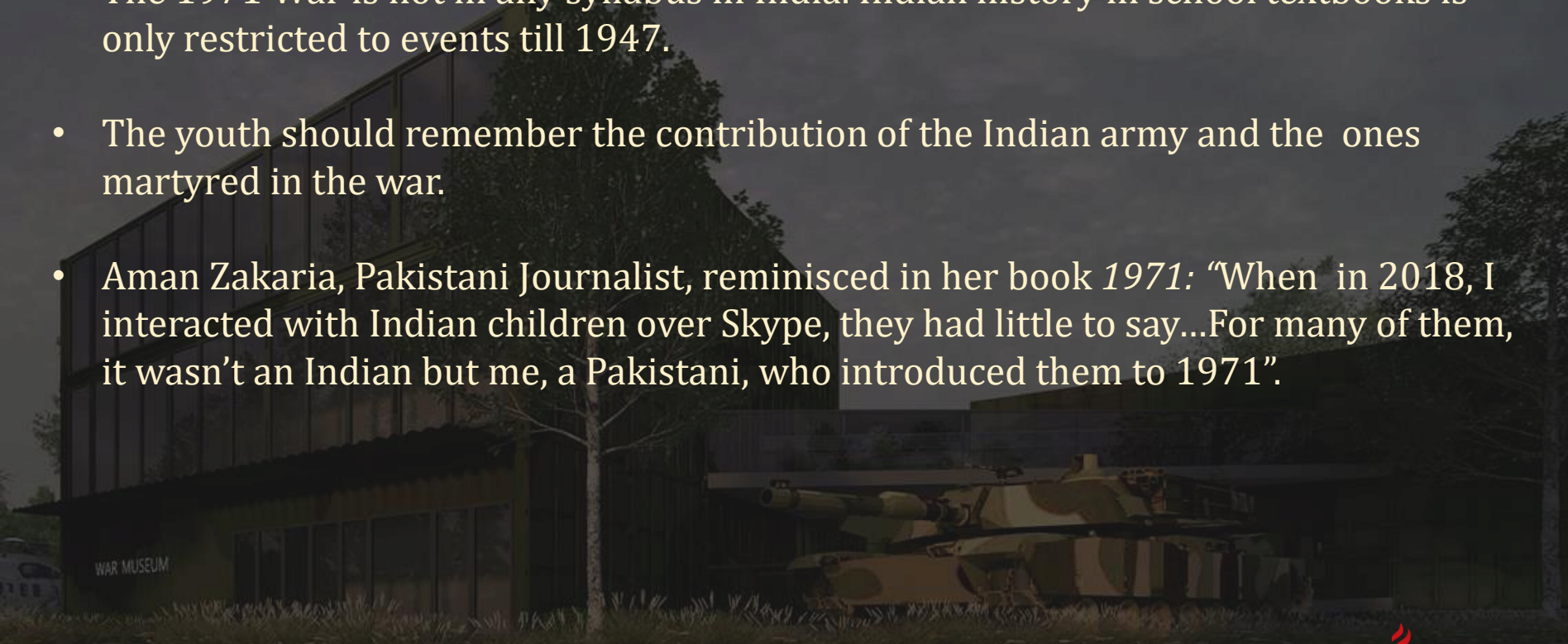


- Pradip Kumar Chopra, Chairman, PS Group and iLEAD.
- **Core Advisory Committee Members:**
  1. Dr. Satan Bhattacharya, Dy. Director, Indian Museum, Kolkata.
  2. Dr. P.K.Mishra, Ex Regional Director, ASI.
  3. Ar. Ajan Mitra, Historians and Conservation's Architect.
  4. Mr. Sanjiv Parekh, Structural Engineer.
  5. Rana T.S. China, MBE, Sqn. Ldr. (Retd.), Center for Armed Forces Historical Research, USI.

# MOTIVATION BEHIND THE CREATION OF THE MUSEUM



- The presence of the museum, located at Fort William Ground, Kolkata will be a historical memory of India's strategic military operations.
- The 1971 War is not in any syllabus in India. Indian history in school textbooks is only restricted to events till 1947.
- The youth should remember the contribution of the Indian army and the ones martyred in the war.
- Aman Zakaria, Pakistani Journalist, reminisced in her book *1971*: "When in 2018, I interacted with Indian children over Skype, they had little to say...For many of them, it wasn't an Indian but me, a Pakistani, who introduced them to 1971".





# GALLERIES OF THE WAR MUSEUM



The War Museum will be unveiled on 2021. It will have galleries exhibiting the following:

- History of the Indian army and Eastern Command.
- The Partition of India.
- The creation of West Pakistan and East Pakistan.
- History of East Pakistan from 1947 till 1971.
- Detailed history of the Bangladesh Liberation War.
- Auditorium screening iLEAD TV's production, *1971 INDIA'S FINEST HOUR, a documentary film on the war.*
- Video games on war.

# BUDGET



## UNDERFOUNDATION COST

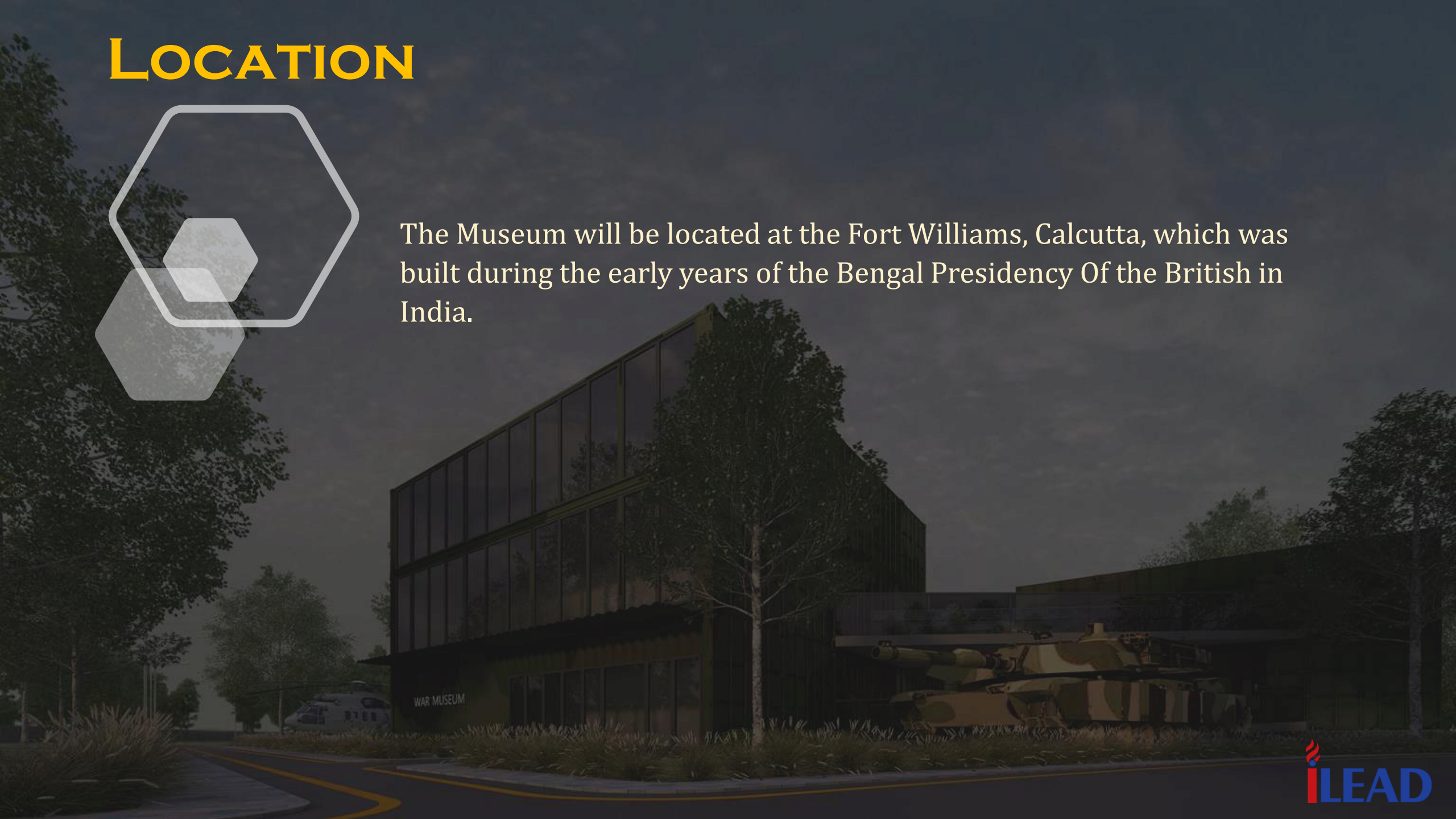
- SITE DEVELOPMENT: INR 70,00,00.
- FOUNDATION COST: INR 4,12,58,187.
- SUPERSTRUCTURAL COST: INR 4,77,42,500.
- COST OF INTERIOR AND DISPLAY AREA: VINR 4,00,15,882
- ONE TIME ROYALTY PAYMENT TO USE THE FILM *1971 INDIA'S FINEST HOUR* IN THREE LANGUAGES(ENGLISH, BENGALI AND HINDI) FOR THE AUDITORIUM: INR 75,00,000.
- TOTAL COST: INR 14,35,16,569.00.
- CONSULTANCY FEES: INR 71,75,830.00.
- OTHER MISC. COST: INR 1,18,12,800.
- TOTAL PROJECT COST: INR 16,25,05,199.00.



# LOCATION



The Museum will be located at the Fort Williams, Calcutta, which was built during the early years of the Bengal Presidency Of the British in India.



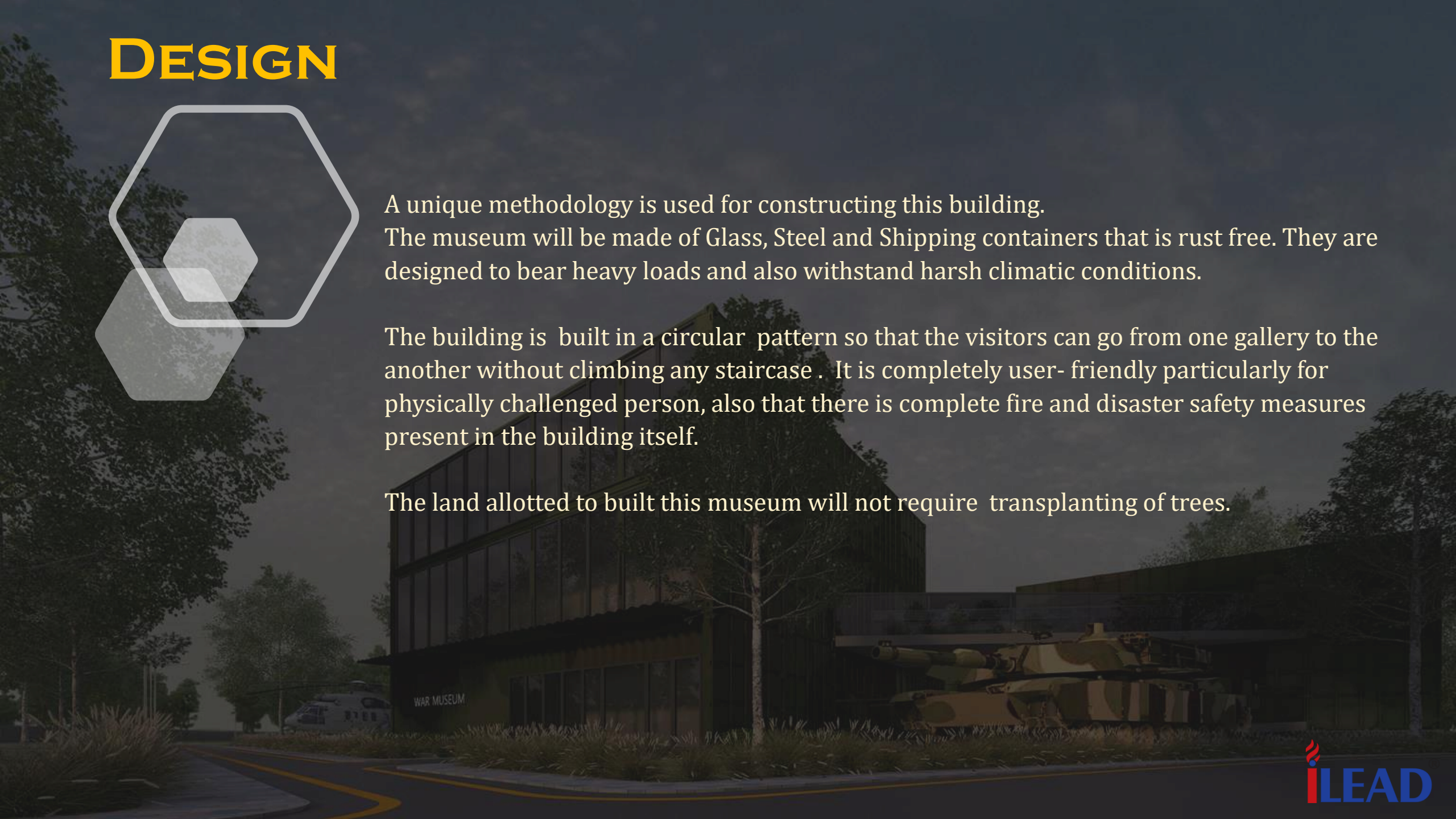
# DESIGN



A unique methodology is used for constructing this building. The museum will be made of Glass, Steel and Shipping containers that is rust free. They are designed to bear heavy loads and also withstand harsh climatic conditions.

The building is built in a circular pattern so that the visitors can go from one gallery to the another without climbing any staircase . It is completely user- friendly particularly for physically challenged person, also that there is complete fire and disaster safety measures present in the building itself.

The land allotted to built this museum will not require transplanting of trees.





**WHAT THE MUSEUM WILL HAVE**

**VIJAY SANGHRAHALAYA**

**THE 1971 WAR MUSEUM**





# INSIDE THE MUSEUM



- Entrance And Ticketing Counter
- Souvenir Shop
- Inner Courtyard
- Library And Research Centre
- Roof Top Restaurant





# TYPICAL GALLERY

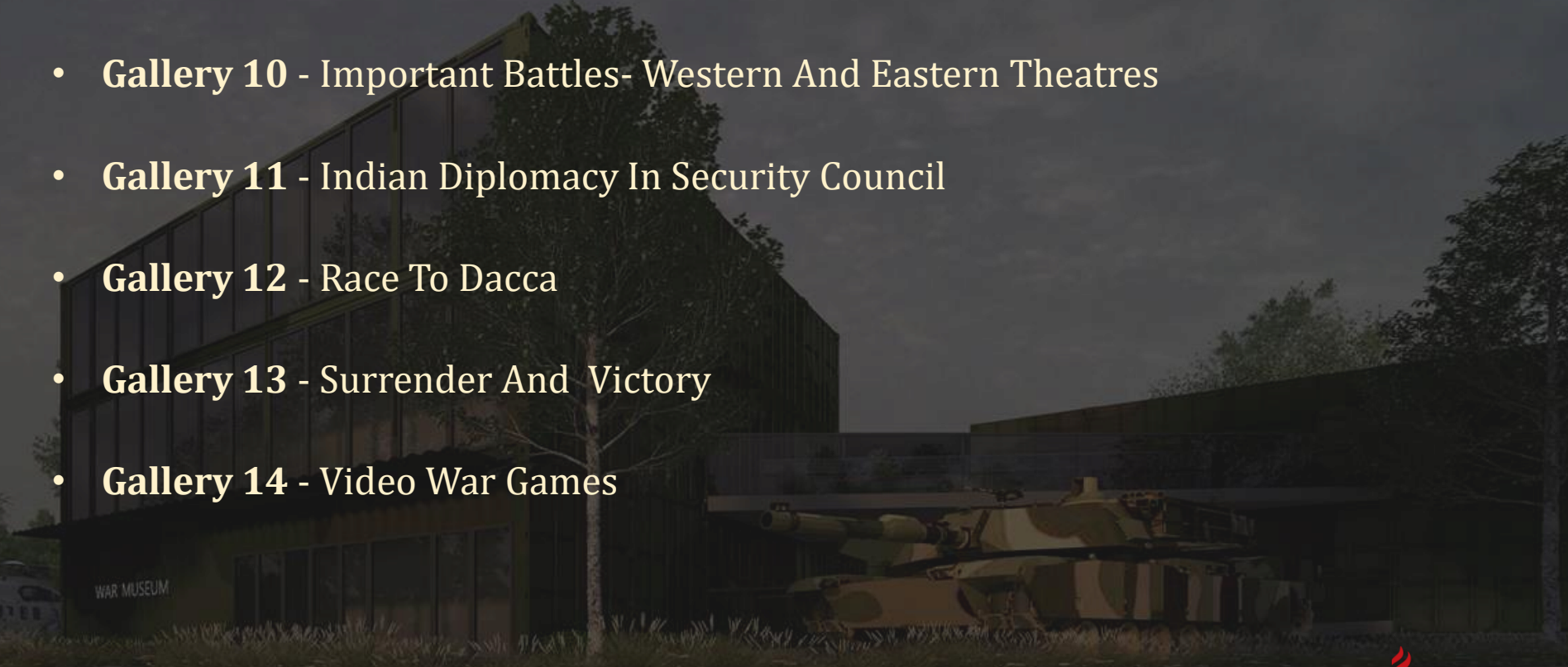


- **Gallery 01** - History Of Indian Army & Eastern Command
- **Gallery 02** - Two Nations
- **Gallery 03a & 03b** - History Of East Pakistan from 1947-1971
- **Gallery 04a** - Genocide
- **Gallery 04b** - Mukti Bahini
- **Gallery 05** – Refugees, Call For Help From **‘BLOOD BROTHERS’**
- **Gallery 06** - Indian Prepares For War/Starts Global Diplomacy
- **Gallery 07** - Pakistan Attacks, Indians Retaliates
- **Gallery 08a** - History Of Indian Force From Inception Till Date
- **Gallery 08b** - Important Air Force Action During The 1971 War

# TYPICAL GALLERY



- **Gallery 09a** - History Of Indian Navy From Inception Till Date
- **Gallery 09b** - Important Indian Naval Actions During 1971 War
- **Gallery 10** - Important Battles- Western And Eastern Theatres
- **Gallery 11** - Indian Diplomacy In Security Council
- **Gallery 12** - Race To Dacca
- **Gallery 13** - Surrender And Victory
- **Gallery 14** - Video War Games







**THANK YOU !**

