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LEGAL AND TAX COUNSELING WORLDWIDE

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SPRINTING TO THE FUTURE OF LAW

January 2025

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SPRINTING TO THE FUTURE OF LAW

January 2025

Welcome to the World of Research at Nishith Desai Associates.

As a research-based law firm, we have often found that our approach allows us to discover newer ways thinking, uncover sharper insights across various industries and find solutions to complex problems. All this has resulted in delivering great outcomes for our clients.

We are pleased to bring you a compendium of our Sprinting Series. Just click on the QR code beside the thumbnail of any paper, to access your copy of these papers.

We sincerely hope you enjoy reading these papers.

Stay connected.

From all of us at NDA



Nishith Desai

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Research@NDA

Research is the DNA of NDA. In early 1980s, our firm emerged from an extensive, and then pioneering, research by Nishith M. Desai on the taxation of cross-border transactions. The research book written by him provided the foundation for our international tax practice. Since then, we have relied upon research to be the cornerstone of our practice development. Today, research is fully ingrained in the firm's culture.

Over the years, we have produced some outstanding research papers, reports and articles. Almost on a daily basis, we analyze and offer our perspective on latest legal developments through our "Hotlines". These Hotlines provide immediate awareness and quick reference, and have been eagerly received. We also provide expanded commentary on issues through detailed articles for publication in newspapers and periodicals for dissemination to wider audience. Our NDA Labs dissect and analyze a published, distinctive legal transaction using multiple lenses and offer various perspectives, including some even overlooked by the executors of the transaction. We regularly write extensive research papers and disseminate them through our website. Our ThinkTank discourses on Taxation of eCommerce, Arbitration, and Direct Tax Code have been widely acknowledged.

As we continue to grow through our research-based approach, we now have established an exclusive four-acre, state-of-the-art research center, just a 45-minute ferry ride from Mumbai but in the middle of verdant hills of reclusive Alibaug-Raigadh district. Imaginarium AliGunjan is a platform for creative thinking; an apolitical ecosystem that connects multi-disciplinary threads of ideas, innovation and imagination. Designed to inspire 'blue sky' thinking, research, exploration and synthesis, reflections and communication, it aims to bring in wholeness — that leads to answers to the biggest challenges of our time and beyond. It seeks to be a bridge that connects the futuristic advancements of diverse disciplines. It offers a space, both virtually and literally, for integration and synthesis of knowhow and innovation from various streams and serves as a dais to internationally renowned professionals to share their expertise and experience with our associates and select clients.

We would love to hear from you about any suggestions you may have on our research publications. Please feel free to contact us at research@nishithdesai.com.



Ranked as the 'Most Innovative Indian Law Firm' in the prestigious FT Innovative Lawyers Asia Pacific Awards for multiple years. Also ranked amongst the 'Most Innovative Asia Pacific Law Firm' in these elite Financial Times Innovation rankings.



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Contact

For any help or assistance please email us on conciierge@nishithdesai.com or visit us at www.nishithdesai.com.

Sprinting to the Future of Law



December 2024

A Drop in the Ocean!

Roving the Seven Seas with Sea Drones



Baby's Day Out!!!

You may have heard about Ukraine's "Sea Baby".

In the current war between Ukraine and Russia,
Ukraine's use of sea drones,
charmingly called "sea baby,"
have wracked havoc on Russia's naval assets
and infrastructure.

Such notoriety has made sea drones famous.
But in reality, sea drones offer much more than
their military uses.



August 2024

Ah, What a Relief!

Adapting to Ambient Intelligence



Imagine...

After doing a chore on a hot summer day, you just walked into your home.

You are dead tired and slump into a chair near a window.

Immediately, the window blinds roll down to shade you from the blazing Sun coming through the window, room lights adjust to create evenly diffused lighting, the air-conditioner starts blowing cool air, your music system starts playing soothing tunes that you like, and fresh jasmine fragrance arises in the air to calm you down.

All these actions without you even uttering a word to your domestic help or to your Alexa.

Wouldn't this be lovely... what seemed like a pipedream just a few years ago is now becoming a reality thanks to the seamless integration of various technologies already available to us.

Such intelligent systems are called ambient intelligence.



April 2024

Caring for Mother Earth

Sustainability with NetZero Buildings



For the most part of the human history, we used stone wall dwellings, mud adobe huts, wooden houses, and thatched roofs, made up of mostly natural materials that required very little processing. Only in the last one century or so, we started using highly processed materials, specifically cement, steel, and glass.

Unfortunately, these materials require significant energy to produce. In addition, we are increasingly using heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to maintain comfortable room temperature regardless of the conditions outside. These systems and various household appliances, such as refrigerators, washer-dryers, ovens, and dishwashers, require even more energy!

So, the energy required to construct and operate modern buildings is adding significant amounts of carbon-based greenhouse gases, into the atmosphere causing global warming and climate change.

We ought to do something to about it.

We need to care for Mother Earth for the brighter future of humans and all other living organisms. Since buildings consume 40% of total energy production worldwide, NetZero buildings go a long way providing a solution.



April 2024

Heaven, Help Us!!!

Global Connectivity Through Space Internet



From the beginning of the time,
we have looked up and prayed to the gods in the heavens to provide us with peace and
wisdom.

But **“the gods must be crazy.”** Instead, they have provided us with so much information that
whatever the peace and wisdom we had have disappeared.

Perhaps, our recently expanded reach into the heavens through our space exploration
technologies will quench our eternal thirst for peace and wisdom.

What do you think?



March 2024

Look Ma, No Ground!
Soaring High on Hoverbikes



One of the most vivid feelings we have from our childhood is when we learned to bike.

On a bicycle,

we were in control,

going faster than we ever did before,

the exhilarating wind is flowing on our faces.

And invariably, we ended up with

“Look Ma, No Hands!”

What a feeling!

Why can't we have the same feelings again, even as grown-ups?

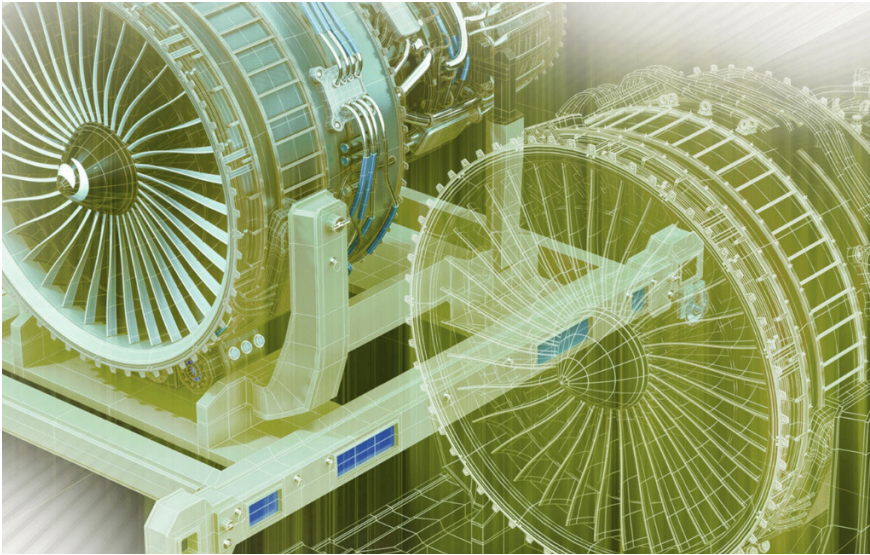
Yes, we can but this time not on the two-dimensional ground

but in a three-dimensional space.

Sounds scary!

So what, life is all about experiences and reliving our memories.

Hoverbikes offer us the chance to relive that long-lost part of our childhood.



March 2024

Two Peas in a Pod One Real, One Virtual Duplicating with Digital Twins



Aren't twins awesome?!!!

Do you know that they start playing with each other in their mother's womb?

Some twins even speak their own language.

Not necessarily always identical, they can also be a mirror-image of each other with birthmarks on the opposite sides of their bodies.

Yet, you may not know that twins can be born years apart.

They have different fingerprints.

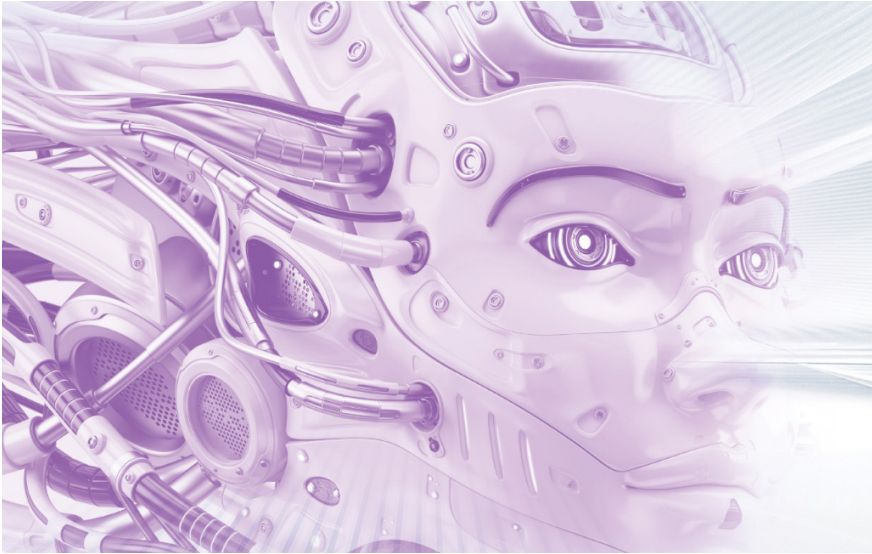
They can even have different dads.

And you can tell them apart by their belly buttons!

Wouldn't you like to have a twin?!!

It is not too late. You can have a virtual one, a digital twin.

More importantly, we can even create digital twins of the complex world around us.



March 2024

Who Am I – Human or Machine?

Synchronizing with Cyborgs



“Hasta La Vista Baby!”

This line is etched in the hearts of Terminator fans.

A terrorizing cyborg from the future has come to
eliminate a future leader of the Resistance
in a war between humans and machines.

Yes, cyborgs are coming into our life,
not from the future, but soon in the near future.
Technically speaking, some forms of cyborgs are
already amongst us.

However, the gloomy picture of terrorizing cyborgs
painted by Hollywood movies is only
a small part of the future landscape.
Most cyborgs are going to enhance our lives,
provided we learn to live with them.



January 2025

Research Paper Compendium

Clickable Catalogue of Publications





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