



Chhayankan (Visual Art)

Diversive Cohesion

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The image was drawn live at a street scene in Mombasa, Kenya. This area of the old town in Mombasa was reminiscent of old city centres in India such as Colaba in Bombay or Daryaganj in Delhi, because of the diversity and layers seen on the streetscape.

There were natives, refugees, ailing patients, children, elderly, and animals - all of them in perfect order and harmony amongst the chaos of an old city. It reminded me of what is really

essential out of all that we do, our professions / backgrounds / politics - and that is humanity and acceptance of the other.

The drawing took me about 5 minutes to make (on a background of a colour wash I had been doing previously), but left a lasting impact on me, especially because similar visual scenes often go unnoticed here. There was a funny familiarity in an unfamiliar country, and it stemmed from acceptance and diversity.

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