



Chhayankan (Visual Art)

The Tree of Life

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(Acrylic on paper)
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The Tree of Life is an abstract concept often used in science, spirituality, philosophy, religion and mythology. It is seen by some to be a metaphor for the common descent and interdependence of all beings in an evolutionary sense. From a spiritual point of view, it could represent our life, our ancestry, and the future. Closer to home, in a medical environment, it could very well be taken to epitomize a pedigree chart, although to ascribe such a pedantic role to an object of beauty and mystery, and one often deemed worthy of veneration, is almost sacrilege.

My version of the Tree of Life emphasizes the contribution that communication makes in every sphere of life. Communication is at the root of every meaningful interaction, especially the non-verbal kind – the wordless communication that passes from skin to skin between mother and child; across fingertips; and the wordless embrace.

This Tree of Life is a reminder that we need to learn to speak and listen with our eyes and our bodies!