

P2 Report

# City For All:

# Living together with animals

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# **Approval Sheet**

The Communication Design Project 2 entitled 'City for All: A children's book on animal human co-existence' by Yash Vardhan Singh (216450015) is approved towards partial fulfillment of the requirements for the post graduate of Master of Design in Communication Design.

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IDC School of Design Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

# **Declaration Sheet**

I affirm that this written submission reflects my own ideas expressed in my own words. Wherever I have included ideas or words from others, I have given appropriate citations and references to acknowledge the original sources. I have maintained the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity throughout the writing process, and I have not misrepresented or fabricated any ideas, data, facts, or sources in my work. I am aware that any violation of these principles may result in disciplinary action by the Institute and may also lead to legal consequences if proper citations or permissions were not obtained when necessary.

yashvardhan

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# Acknowledgement

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I also thank Prof. Sudesh Balan and Prof Arun Mascarenhas for their valuable feedback through throughout the stages. I would finally thank my dear batchmates for lending their support both mentally and emotionally through these trying times and for going above and beyond as friends to be there for me. This project would not have been half the project without all of you.

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# Abstract

The project explores the relationships between stray animals, people, and their spaces. Through storytelling, we spread awareness about caring for street animals and showcase the beauty of animal-human coexistence in cities. This children's book features three captivating stories, blending photographs and illustrations to engage young readers.

The first story captures the bond between humans and community animals, highlighting the joy of harmonious living. The second tale emphasizes the importance of compassionately caring for injured animals, inspiring children to handle and interact with them with kindness. Lastly, the power of adoption takes center stage, showcasing the transformative journey of a stray finding a loving home.

As strays become part of our communities, it is essential, especially for children, to learn how to coexist with them. Join us on this captivating journey where photographs and illustrations weave stories promoting empathy, kindness, and the well-being of street animals. Together, let's create a world where every animal is cherished and cared for.

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# 1. Aim

The Aim is to explore with different relationships that the strays have with the space and the people who live around them. While also indicating how one should be handling/ Interaction with them. Help out spreading awareness about helping and taking care of street animals.

# 2. Motivation

I've been a dog lover since childhood. After many days of requesting my father finally agreed on adopting a dog. I used to spend entire days with him and it was quite a memorable time for me. After his demise, I never had a pet again due to various reasons like shifting to new cities due to my father's job transfers and my growing academic load. Often times i used to feed stray dogs and feed their pups. I used to build cardboard houses with discarded quilts from my house to build shelters for them for chilly winters.

India comes 7th in terms of the highest number of stray animal populations in the world.

India has around 6.2 crore stray dogs and 91 lakh street cats according to a report.

These stays live in the concrete jungle with us sarong the same common spaces surviving on the resources present there. This naturally brings us to a question:

Are we living in a harmony with them?

#### THE CONFLICT

Many of us are scared of dogs, especially ones that live on the street. A large part of this fear is bred from ignorance. We are not taught about dog behavior in our schools and colleges. We are not taught about how to avoid dog bites, and what to do in the event of such an incident. We are not taught about the incidence of rabies, and how to identify a rabid dog. We are not taught that for the

most part, dogs are wonderful animals, make loyal companions, and are brave guards of our communities. With little to no knowledge about the above, most of us are bound to be woefully underprepared when a dog bites us.

This lack of unawareness would lead to 2 tangible behaviors. Whether one would become extremely scared of the strays or would wish that they get eradicated from the place.

#### THE SOLUTION

Most dogs are friendly, loving, and peaceful. They play with us, give us joyful company, and take care of us when we're feeling low. Like the odd human that does not conform to the peaceful norm, the odd dog could act strange and even bite. It requires some understanding of dog behavior and human-dog relationships in order to appreciate the full context of why dogs bite, and how we could get rabies

As most people are not aware of the above, it is important to communicate such information to them and help remove this ignorance and the associated fear. In this way, we are able to communicate that all dogs are not violent or rabid, about precautions against dog bites, and about post-dog-bite care.

Ideally, this is something that is passed on by the parents to the child (given that they do not suffer from the same ignorance), so that this natural fear of animals gets away from one's mind from the very beginning. But if that is not the case there is a need to know this through external aid.

# 3.Introduction

There are an estimated 80 million homeless cats and dogs that are roaming India at any given time. According to research done by Mars Petcare Ltd, there are 9.1 million street or stray cats and 62 million street or stray dogs.

"Udhar Mat Jao Kutta Kaatlega!"

"Arre ye gande hote hai door raho inse!"

"14 injection lagenge agar kaata to."

are some of the phrases we have heard many times from people around us. Although their concern is actually right and it might be true, in the long run when we have no interaction with animals throughout our growing up, we build up a level of ignorance towards the animals.



http://animal-abuse-and-rescue2.weebly.com/global-issue.html

Percentage of the types of abuses in 2008. It tells us that neglect is the most common abuse.

In the graph given we can see various categories of abuses regarding animals including beating, Fighting, poisoning, etc.

Negligence is not just considered abuse but also is the largest among all.

## Introduction

#### Man brutally assaults two stray dogs with iron rod; both go missing

In a case of animal cruelty, a man beat two community dogs in Dindoshi with an iron rod. Both dogs are now missing and one of them who sustained grievous injuries is be lieved to be dead. Locals and animal activists said the Dindoshi police were reluctant to register a complaint and instead threatened to book the crowd when they persisted.

A local who witnessed the assault on the dogs around 9.30 pm on Saturday said it was so brutal that a twowheeler around which the dogs hid to save themselves, was dented with the blow of the rod. "I began screaming from my home for him to stop. Later, the man and his friends were trying to take away the dog that was severely injured, in a sack probably to dispose it off, but locals did not allow them to do that," she said, still disturbed. "I heard one man from the group tell the assaulter to beat the dog till it died," she said.

Somebody recorded a video of the assault and soon it went viral in animal welfare groups. Locals and vol-



unteers from animal welfare NGOs assembled at the spot and outside Dindoshi police station to register an FIR, while the assaulter had fled by

The sister of the complainant said the police were not ready to take the complaint. It took some calls and pressure from animal welfare NGOs to make it happen. Her family had arrived on seeing the video.

"It is rare that in a case of animal cruelty where locals insist that the police register a complaint. Since

many times police are not aware of animal cruelty laws and don't know how to deal with such crimes," says

the Ant spoke th of Dinde Instead those as under S sembly a disperse woman saulter

lested a some pe Savita Rescue a had been said the been dis escape r ed the po

API I Swami tered in

#### ested a man from Bhayander or allegedly running his car over a stray dog in a posh society. Instead of showing remorse and helping the animal, Harshad Prabhakar Patil passed nsensitive remarks, an animal A resident of Ramdev Park,

#### nan Roy, who witnessed Mumbai: Dog's penis cut off in Andheri; cops told to lodge offence

Patil allegedly drove his Volk-

wagen car over the canine on

Saturday, badly injuring it. Su

ran Fazal a journolmran

ctivist has alleged.

THE TIMES OF INDIA



The profusely bleeding dog was taken to Bombay SPCA animal hospital in Parel where an emergency operation was done to save

#### Driver crushes dog, actor files case

Bhayander man's antic leaves activists stunned; accused facts charges that attract up to 5-year jail term

'Strays are meant to be killed'

A TV actor has filed a complete against a truck driver, alego that he mowed down a sir dog. The Mira Road police at yet to arrest the accused

Natasha Sinha, who play Jodha's mother Queen Ma awati in serial Jodha Albe said she found the body of ador under the rear wheels, its fur legs stuck to the tyres of amier truck bearing registr umber MH-48-T-1899 at Magi Vagar on Friday

The actor, a resident of Ha ceah in Mira Road, said the

saw the dog's body, I informed animal activists and approached the police to lodge a complaint," said the actor.

She added, "The driver should be given strict punish ment as he has killed an inno cent animal sleeping on the

An officer from Mira Road police station said they have registered a case under Section 428 (mischief by killing or maiming an animal), 279 (rash driving) of the Indian Penal tions of the Prevention of Animy locality and also treat them mal Cruelty Act.

#### I my parents to donate for animals'

animals scary, the

crocodiles in safaris abroad

Natasha Sinha found the dog's body

spot. She then contacted animal

activist Salim Charania and ap-

"I often feed stray dogs near

under the wheels of a trailer truck

proached the police.

How do you want to help

#### Navi Mumbai Horror: Man Kills A **Puppy Just Because It Defecated Outside His Shop, Arrested**

Somak Adhikari | Updated: Sep 26, 2021, 11:12 IST











#### TIMES CITY

## Youths beat cat to death, witness files FIR

Vijay Singh | TNN

Mumbai: Kalina resident recently filed an FIR after she saw three unidentified youngsters beat a cat to death.

According to the complainant, Shahana Shaikh (44), the youths pushed the cat in a sack and then hit it repeatedly with a stick. Shaikh went after the three with a hockey had been told that a tribe stay-

stick, who fled leaving the dead cat

Shaikh lodged an FIR at Vakola police station on September 12 under the Preven tion of Cruelty to Animals Act. The cat's remains have been sent for post-mortem.

"For several months, I have noticed many stray cats disappearing from Kalina, I

According to the

complainant, Shahana Shaikh, there have been instances of stray cats going missing in Kalina

> ing in a nearby butment was killing and eating them." Shaikh claimed

three youths in the age group of 15 to 25 years moving in a suspicious manner near my building with a stick and sack," she added.

"I screamed at the three and actually managed to hit one of them with my hockey stick. They immediately ran away, leaving behind the sack. I found a cat in the bag

smashed. She died within a minute after I took her out of the sack," she added.

After contacting animal rights activists Shirley Advani of NGO Save Our Strays and Amit Pathak of Animal Welfare Office, Shaikh lodged a police complaint.

"Earlier, several cats had mysteriously gone missing

"On Wednesday, I saw the and its head was badly from Versova. We received complaints from animal lov ers that some people were killing stray cats and eating them," said Amit Pathak.

"We hope the police are able to catch the culprits in the latest case and stop this cruelty. The post-mortem report will be handed over to us on Monday," he added.

toireporter@timesgroup.com

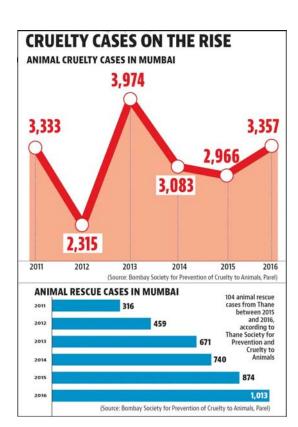
Some News paper clippings of Animal Abuse in Mumbai



# 4. Research

#### 4.1 Overwhelming load on NGOs

There are various problems faced by people and animals because of each other. These are dealt with on various levels, on an individual level, locality level, and via external entities like Animal Welfare NGOs. These organizations not only help in rescuing needy strays but also try to educate people about animal behavior and how one should deal with them.

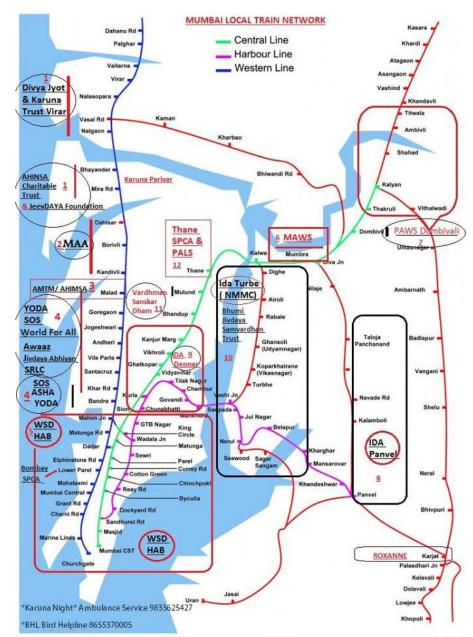


In the above-mentioned News clip we can see a fluctuating number in Animal cruelty cases, but what is common through these years is the huge difference between the cases of cruelty and cases of rescue. Although there is a significant growth in rescues, this doesn't deny the fact that there is a huge gap to cover

So one of the responsibilities of NGOs becomes to increase the number of rescues and to decrease the cases of animal cruelty.

Talking about the city of Mumbai, there are a number NGOs spread all over the city. Collaborating to work towards a common goal.

WSD(Welfare of Stray Dogs) works in Colaba, Dadar, Parel, Lower Parel, Worli, Mahalaxmi, Lalbagh, CST and Mahim, Prabhadevi, Sion; WFA(World For All) works in East of Andheri, Powai, Jogeshwari, Goregaon, Parla, Juhu; YODA(Youth Organization in Defense of Animals) works in Badra and many other NGOs as you can see functions inside the city of Mumbai. These NGOs work with each other and have divided the work area wise among themselves which makes a lot of sense as the city of Mumbai is a vast area to cover.



https://www.facebook.com/saveourstraysmum/photos/a.289738381137556/1889939367784108/

Map with NGOs throughout the city

## 4.2 Field Visits:

To get to know about the context in depth there was a need to visit animal welfare organizations, how their system works, the resources(manpower, finance, infrastructure, etc) they have, and how they manage all this. For the sake of this project, my focus was the city of Mumbai as each city has a unique kind of relationship with animals, somewhere it is good, somewhere it is terrible, and somewhere it just needs a little guidance to be better.



4.2.1 Visit No. 1

Mr. Abodh Aras

Founder of Welfare of Stray
Dogs(WSD)

# 4.2.1.1 What does an NGO expect from the general public?

While talking about the need of having sensitivity toward animals and whether everyone should be actively concerned about animals or not. Abodh Sir said that People do not need to be active to such a level that they go out of the way to take care of Dogs/Cats. "The only thing I would appreciate is that they should be actively aware of such an organization which works in the direction of animal welfare and contact us when they see a needful animal."

#### 4.2.1.2 Roles of an NGO

There are various roles that an NGO of such kind have, some need immediate action such as helping out needy animals, feeding them, and possibly helping them to find them a loving family. Another is educating people about animals and solving the conflicts which occur between them.

"When there is a problem related to animals the first thought which comes to the mind of people is to remove the animal from the area. But as an NGO it is our responsibility to educate and solve problems in the right way."-Abodh Aras

#### *4.2.1.3 Education programs*

Places that NGOs do not have access to might have such ignorance toward animals. To deal with this, NGOs conduct education programs, conduct presentations on kindness towards animals, and help them to open up to interact with strays, by bringing puppies and dogs to interact with them.

Talking on a larger scale, education about the same is important on a policy level. As not every NGO would intend to or wouldn't have enough resources to conduct these programs.

Other than all these insights, Mr. Abodh Aras also suggested that I talk to those people who go out of their way to help out animals or have unique relations with strays. To understand why they do it while no other person does it around them.



5.2.2 Visit No. 2

# Ms. Meenal Rajda Co-founder & Director of Youth Organization in Defense of Animals (YODA)

#### 4.2.2.1 Categorizing People

We started the conversation about what type of people there are when it comes to interacting with animals.

- Animal Lovers: Who helps Animals out or helps out nearby NGO(s)
- Animal haters: Doesn't want to get bothered by the animals at all, will try to find out any way to remove the animal from their nearby area
- Bystanders/Neutral People: Neither love nor hate animals their interaction purely depends on the scenario they are in.

Animal haters are in the minority whereas most people lie in the neutral spectrum.

# 4.2.2.2 Influence in perception according to the surroundings

The reason behind this division of people into these categories happens because of the values/thinking adopted by an individual from their surroundings. Usually, it comes from one's parents but also depends upon the collective thinking of that area. So a person surrounded by animal lovers would not be scared of dogs/cats on the other hand a person surrounded by 'not so animals lovers' would often get scared/bothered by animals being around them.

The above-mentioned phenomena can be seen in the city of Mumbai as well. According to YODA's general statistics. Repetitive cases of animal cruelty & abandonment come from certain areas of the city. Khar, Bandra is friendly towards animals, one can see many animals which are collectively taken care of by the people living nearby, and there are close to no cruelty cases.

Whereas East Mumbai, Kalina, Thane, Virar, and places beyond Borivali there are many animal conflict cases.

# 4.2.2.3 Problems faced in pet adoption

#### (1) Rise of Abandonment cases after COVID

During the pandemic when everyone was locked down in their homes, many people got the idea of getting a pet dog or cat to deal with their boredom and loneliness. But when things started abandoning them due to reasons like, not having enough time to invest, they needed to shift back to their work city from their hometown etc.

The decision of getting a pet is very impulsive and is not thought through. Which results in the suffering of the pet.

#### (2) Preference of Forign breeds of Pets

Other than impulsively getting a pet there are other problems as well.

People often prefer getting popular non-native breeds over indie breeds. Native breeds are generally encouraged to be adopted because of various reasons such as

- · Indigenous to the Indian climate
- Low Maintenance
- Street Smartness
- Incredible Immune System

I asked them about, as a mediator for people to adopt dogs & Cats, NGOs motivate them to adopt indie breeds.

"We don't push anyone to adopt an Indie because in the long run if the person didn't take that decision on their own tier, the chance of abandoning the dog/cat would be high.

# 4.2.2.4 The Animal lover citizens: 'Gully Guardians'

Not all people are ignorant about animals, some are there who actively help out such needful animals. YODA calls them Gully Guardians. When they spot needy animals they bring them to the nearest NGO. They are ready to even volunteer themselves to foster the animals if the facility is unable to give them shelter.



4.2.3 Visit No. 2

#### Mr. Shashikanth Purohit

Ex-employee of Bai Sakarbai Dinshaw Petit Hospital for Animals, Prabhadevi Mumbai

As he has worked in an animal hospital we started talking about the issues animal hospitals face, one of which is people leaving injured animals at the gate of the hospital as they are not capable enough to take care of them. On asking possible reasons for it. Shashikanth replied "People do not know about the details of the cost hidden in owning an animal"

Another issue is that in the case of animal injury, people didn't know whom to contact and where they could get help. Many times people simply don't notice that organizations and hospitals like ours are willing to rescue such helpless animals.

Other than problems faced directly between animals and humans we discussed what problems are there at the institutional level and what can be done to solve them.

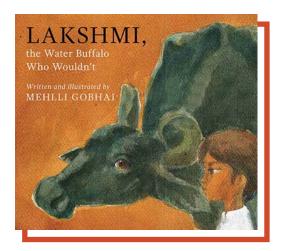
## 4.3 Insights from Field Visits

From all the secondary research and field visits there were various things I came to know the things which would be helpful for the scope of the project are mentioned below:

- 1. NGOs don't ask everyone to go out of the way to help out an animal in need, they just need to know who they can call in situations like these, be it any NFO, vet, or animals hospitals
- 2. The responsibility of an NGO is not just to treat injured animals but to resolve the conflicts between animals and humans which are ultimately causing injuries.
- 3. On a policy level, there is a need to include topics like animal behaviorism and how to deal with them in the education system.
- 4. People's perception of animals is heavily influenced by people of their surroundings. If they are surrounded by people who are scared of animals they will be scared too.
- 5. Young students are more responsive compared to college students in educational drives conducted by NGOs.

## 4.4 Literature study

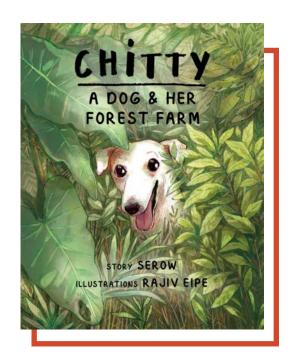
5.4.1 Understanding structure of Children's book Stories



#### Lakshmi the water buffalo who wouldn't:

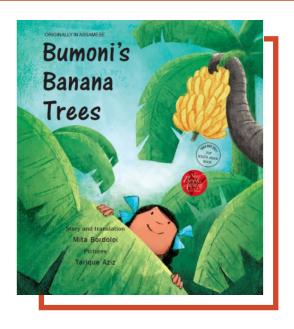
A children's book talks about a child telling about his family buffalo who doesn't give consent to anyone in the family to milk her other than the child's mother. This story actually is a very good introduction to children that animals are not just primitive beings who do everything for survival and are not developed enough to have emotions.

This promotes the reader to think first before approaching the animals. Reading the signs that the animals might be trying to communicate, the animal might be scared, aggressive, or simply doesn't want to interact with anyone.



#### **Chitty:**

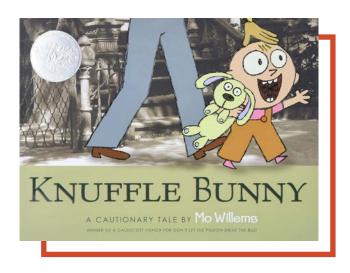
The story is about a farm dog and the family to which it belongs. The book summarizes the dog's entire time with the family from adoption to demise. Catching on to such intricate feelings and thoughts which many readers would find relatable.



#### **Bumoni's Banana trees:**

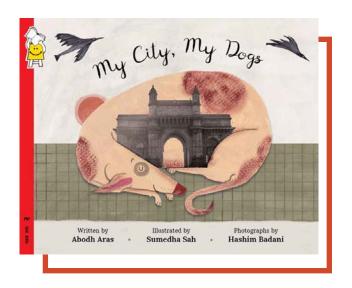
The story is about a girl named Bumoni who helps his dad with taking care of their banana farms. But things get bad when overnight a bunch of elephants arrive and eat most of the bananas. The problem is later solved by the adults. But Bumoni feels bad for them and requests the adults to plant banana trees in forests as well. This nonhuman-centric thinking is communicated well in the book through the means of Bumoni. A child protagonist doing the right deed on their own. When adults don't consider the thought in an interesting direction. Showing that the brains of an adult and a child run very differently despite living in the same house/area/context

# 4.4.2 Studying combination of illustrations and Photographs



#### **Knuffle bunny:**

The style in which the book Knuffle bunny is not often used, but interesting. The combination of illustrations and photographs is a good method to use the intricate details and relatability of photographs. Connecting these separated photographs by putting illustrated characters over it.



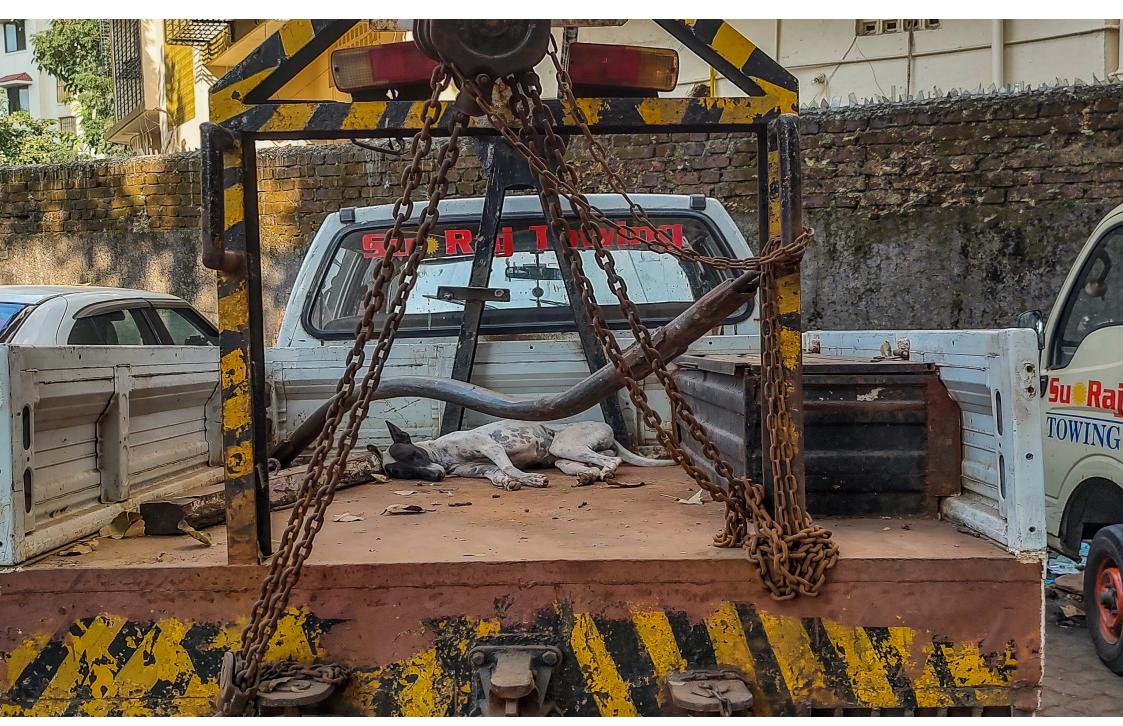
#### My city, My Dogs:

This is a book written about the dogs, the city and the relationship they have with each other. The book uses pictures of well-known locations in the city and narrates the story of animals living there. This book uses locations photographs and the characters of the story as illustrated as paper cutouts. Bringing out the best of both mediums.



Throughout the journey of the project, I've been taking pictures of animals living in the city, for the sake of references for my illustrations, but what I experienced was that I was also capturing the relation of these animals with the people and the place they are living in.





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# 6. Design Process

After the secondary research and field visits, I concluded that the best way to convey the message which I want to spread to everyone would be a children's book with a collection of short stories each carrying individual messages which I found needed to be shared.

As asked by Mr. ABodh Aras, I looked for various real-life stories, which he helped me to meet with and some were searched by my own ad after all these visits I was able to select the 3 short stories which I intended to narrate.

- 1. Community Animals
- 2. Dealing With Injured Animals
- 3. Adoption VS Buying

# 6.1 Exploring combinations of photographs and illustrations

CASE STUDY: 'Who Framed Roger Rabbit':



The film was made in the late 1980s used a combination of Video and animation to narrate the story, although this type of experimental animation was done before as well such as in Mary Poppins, Cool World, etc, but what made 'Who Framed Roger Rabbit' stand

## **Design Process**

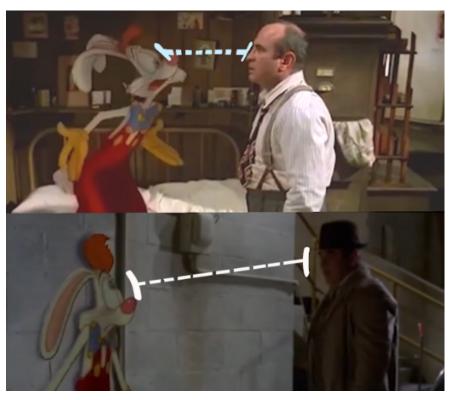
out was some basic self followed rules that made this interaction between 2 more believable

#### 1. Considering a single light source



Considering common light sources for the characters was a great way to make both animated and real-life characters belong in the same world. Depending on the position in the frame the lighting was considered accordingly for the character to be drawn.

#### 2. Eye contact between the 2



Maintaining eye contact was a crucial decision which was not taken in any other similar kind of contemporary films. Which helped the interactions to look more real and doesn't look like the animation was one over a flat screen.

## Design Process

#### 3. Interaction with real objects



Animated character using real-life objects pops out characters as it emphasizes the point that only that particular entity is different from the rest of the world around him. Not using animated objects with animated characters helps in breaking the wall between these two worlds.

# Design Process

# **6.2 Character Designing**

Initial attempts of designing the characters, taking references from real life.





## 6.3 Story Writing

## Story 1: 'Belongs to Whom?'

A story about Community Animals

LOGLINE: The story is about Ekansh, a newly shifted boy who encounters a scary looking dog. But suddenly his opinion changes because of some event and now he wants to know who is the owner of the dog.

#### Panel 1:KIRANA SHOP COUNTER

Ekansh has recently shifted to society. Leaving his old friends he feels a little lonely in the neighborhood. To cheer him up his mother decides to make his favorite dish, Shahi Paneer! She asks him to bring the required vegetables and Paneer from the Kirana shop downstairs.

He buys the required ingredients and heads back to his house while dreaming about the delicious lunch he's going to have.

While returning from the shop, Ekansh hears a loud bark from a

distance...

Panel 2: MARKET PLACE

He starts shivering! Is that animal after his precious Paneer?

He quickly wraps the Jhola with his arms and closes his eyes.

The steps become louder ...and louder ...and louder but suddenly it passes away.. The mysterious creature has apparently ignored Ekansh completely

He checks his jhola and then his body for any bite marks or scratches. But there were none.

Ekansh is relieved as well as confused, he turns back to check what happened.

#### Panel 3: KIRANA SHOP FRONT

Ekansh was surprised, the scary animal was apparently a Big fat dog jumping out of joy and licking the Kirana shop person he had just met.

Ekansh looks at the jolly dog and talks about it to the apparent owner of the dog, the shopkeeper. "He looks very active for his big body, what do you feed him?"

"Well sometimes I bring some raw chicken leftovers from my house, he really loves it". Shopkeeper replied.

"What about other days? I'm sure your pet must be eating a lot," Ekansh asks.

"Hehe, well I don't feed him every day, only when I've come in spare. He's not my pet" the Shopkeeper replies and gets back to the shop to attend to other customers.

Ekansh now gets curious about the mystery owner of the dog and decides to follow the dog for more clues.

Panel 4: SOCIETY LANES

The dogs roam around society, interacting with many people.

Playing around with a couple of kids

Getting showered with water after getting dirty

Getting fed by people

And applying tika over its forehead.

The shopkeeper notices Ekansh observing the dog from a distance. He asks him why he's been looking at the dog for so long.

Ekansh tells him about his confusion and after his failed investigation seeks an answer directly from the shopkeeper.

The shopkeeper laughs a little and then takes him somewhere.

Panel 5: SOCIETY GATE

The shopkeeper pointed at a self-made dog house-looking structure.

"You see, this was not made by any one person or one family. This was made with the collective efforts of the society members. Some contributed material, some labor, and some ideas."

"The dog doesn't belong to any single house, but the entire society. We all love him more or less and take care of him, feed him, get him vaccinated, groom him, etc." Says the shopkeeper.

Ekansh, feeling excited to know about this asks the shopkeeper a last question "Can the dog also belong to me?"

The shopkeeper smiles and gently pushes him towards the dog a little.

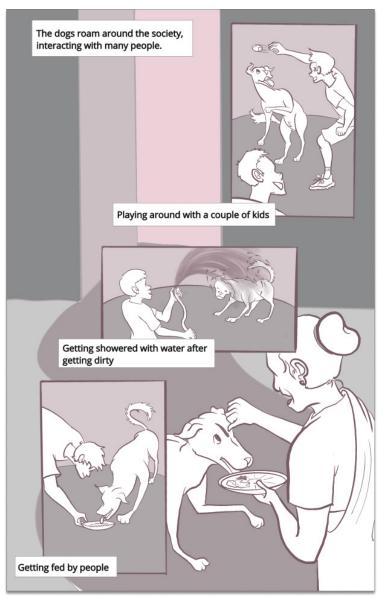
Ekansh kneels, takes a piece of paneer from the jhola, and offers it to the dog.

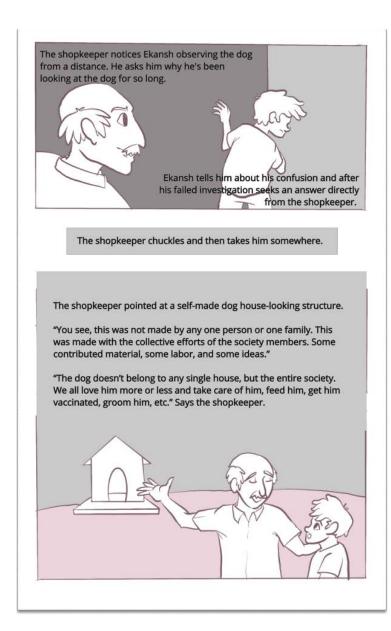
## **Story board**











Ekansh, feeling excited to know about these asks the shopkeeper a last question "Can the dog also belong to me?"

The shopkeeper smiles and gently pushes him towards the dog a little.



Ekansh kneels, takes a piece of paneer from the jhola, and offers it to the dog.

#### Story 2: 'Helping Hand..'

A story about how to deal with injured animals

LOGLINE: The story is about a boy named Mayan who notices an injured cat and wants to help it. But his father restricts him to do so as it might be dangerous for him. What will Mayan Do?

#### Panel 1:NIGHT1

It's one of the chilliest nights of the season, Mayan, Shruti, and their dad are out for their after-dinner night walk. Carrying pouch of chapati and food leftovers the teams exits their base.

Shruti sometimes complains about the night walks, as she doesn't like to interact with the night dwellers. But father and son don't want to waste the leftovers.

#### Panel 2:NIGHT2

The trio follows the schedule and path every day until one particular day something happens. On one certain turn, they started hearing some strange sounds. Everyone was confused about it. But they continued anyway.

After a while, a cat appeared, but something was wrong with her.

There was an open wound on the back of its head, it was limping. The appearance was not pleasing. The little sister felt disgusted and hid behind her father to avoid it. The father held their hand and took a different path that day.

There was relief in Shruti's eyes, but Mayan was still processing what just happened.

#### Panel 3:NIGHT3

The next day they followed their usual schedule but as soon as that turn came they were able to hear that familiar voice. Father again took a different route. Mayan tries to bring up the topic, but the father knows that the sister is scared of that particular cat so he changes the topic.

#### Panel 4:NEXT DAY

Mayan now directly asks his dad to help the cat. But his dad asks him to stay away from an animal who might be violent to his son or become a source of infection because of its wound.

But Mayan didn't want to sit silently, as his father had directly said no to him going in person, he decided to try to search for other ways.

Panel 4:NEXT DAY

Mayan and her sister are getting ready for school, Mayan gets ready early and so he goes outside. While he was just closing the gate he saw something, a guy just fell off his cycle and had a wound on his leg.

Mayan doesn't want to get involved and tries to ignore it thinking someone else would help him out, while moving ahead he sees that a man from nearby, approaches him, picks him up, calls him down, and does basic first aid.

#### Panel 5:FOLLOWING EVENING

The NGO comes and Mayan helps them to locate the cat from a few feets of distance. The worker compliments his efforts. And takes away the cat to treat it.

Both Father and Shruti appreciate his will to go out of the way to help an animal. His father asks him to save the NGO no. and he pastes it on their fridge door.

#### Story board





# Conclusion

In conclusion, this project has sought to explore the intricate relationships between stray animals, people, and the spaces they share. Through the medium of storytelling, we have endeavored to raise awareness about the importance of caring for street animals and the beauty of animal-human coexistence in urban environments. This children's book, comprising three captivating stories, blends photographs and illustrations to captivate young readers and impart essential life lessons.

In the first story, we highlighted the deep bond between humans and community animals, showcasing the joy and harmony that can be achieved through mutual understanding and respect. The second tale emphasized the significance of compassionately caring for injured animals, encouraging children to treat them with kindness and empathy. Lastly, we focused on the power of adoption, demonstrating the transformational journey of a stray animal finding a loving home and a new lease on life.

By integrating strays into our communities, it becomes crucial for children, and indeed all individuals, to learn how to coexist with them. Through this captivating journey, the combination of photographs and illustrations has effectively woven tales that promote empathy, kindness, and the well-being of street animals. Our hope is to instill these values in young minds, fostering a future where every animal is cherished and cared for.

As we spread awareness about the significance of compassion towards strays, we envision a world where human-animal interactions are characterized by understanding and mutual respect. Let this book serve as a stepping stone towards building a more compassionate society, where all creatures, no matter their origins, are treated with love and care. Together, let us forge a brighter future, one where the harmony between humans and animals thrives, and the welfare of our furry friends is safeguarded with unwavering dedication.