

Summer Internship Project Report

Mentor- K. B. Jinan

Drawing as a cognitive tool

Submitted by

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Approval Sheet

The workshop project 1 summer internship which has done at K.B. Jinan's guidance is approved, in partial fulfilment of requirements of the masters of Design degree in Animation in Industrial Design Centre of Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.

.....Project Guide

.....Internal Examiner

.....Chair Person

About K. B. Jinan

He is a graduate from National Institute of Design. Jinan began his association with this artisans during 1992. Their joint explorations for the revival and sustainability of the potter craft helped the artisans realise their latent creativity and skills, enabled them to create their tools, designs and products. Kumbham Pottery was thus born.

He conducts workshops with children from 2003 at Nilambur. The emphasis is on awakening the senses, in line with the innate capacity of children.

Preface

My summer internship was with K. B. Jinan sir at his place Nilambur, Kerala. There I conducted a workshop for children with the guidance from Jinan sir. His idea of drawing was not related with art. He considers drawing as a cognitive tool.

For me it was a new experience to interact with children. Instead of telling something to children, I was learning from them. It was a very short time for me, to interact with the children. Most of my writings here are Jinan sir's thoughts. Whatever he told me, I tried to observe that in children's drawings.

Workshop with Children

I met Jinan sir at his house, Nilambur. He gave me some samples of previous workshops. He has two houses. I stayed at one of his house. This place is called Aruvakkodu. It is a village. I was staying in ground floor and the workshops were conducted on the 2nd floor. Most of the people around were belong to the community called 'Kumbhar'. They do pottery works for their living. 1st day we went to some of the near by houses to inform the children about the workshop.

Most of the children were poor. They couldn't afford the expenses of drawing materials. So Jinan sir asked them to come without anything. We will provide the materials.

From next day onwards the workshop started. I purchased the drawing materials from the town.

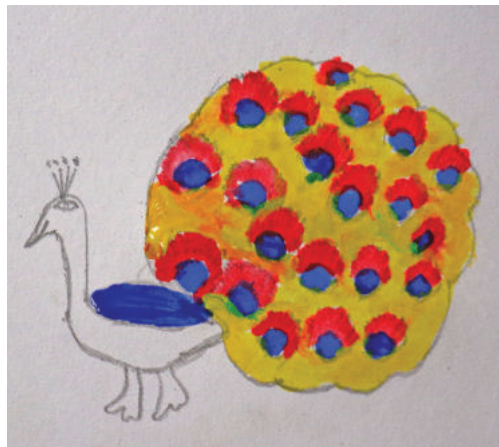
4 weeks, 2 phases

My Summer internship contains two phases.

1st was the 3 weeks workshop with children and the 2nd phase was to help Jinan sir for his book ' Seeing through Hands'. In the second phase I helped him to colour correct childrens drawings, done a rough layout, traced some of the unclear drawings and done a cover for the book.

Workshop Samples

At the beginning children drew objects like house, trees, flowers etc. What ever is familiar with them. Some of them drew peacocks. Those birds were familiar to them



Initial stages

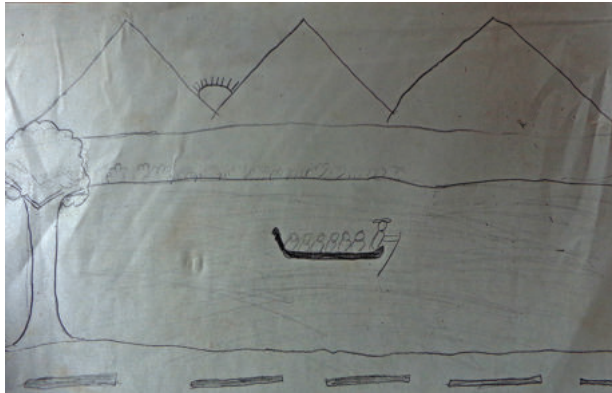
At the beginning I had the tendency of judging children's drawings. But after hearing some of it Jinan sir said "Don't come to conclusions at this stage. It is too early. Just observe, what the children are doing and learn from them. We are conducting this workshop to learn from the children. The children might not get anything from us! Don't give advise or guidance. Let them draw."

This was a new experience for me. At the beginning it was little boring. The children will take some time to adjust with a stranger (me). Day by day they becme familiar to me and that reflected in their drawing too. Initially they always ask for permission to draw. They might be thinking that if something goes 'wrong' I might scold them! Later on, the children explored more.

Later onwards

Then we slowly introduced real life objects and sometimes asked them to draw from their memory.



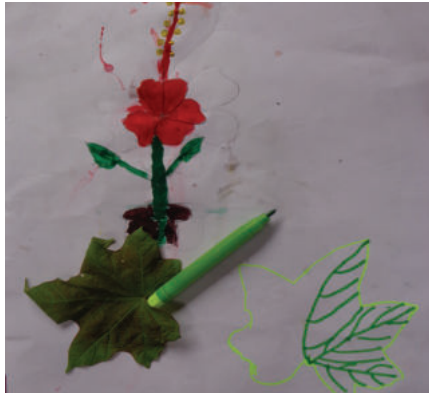


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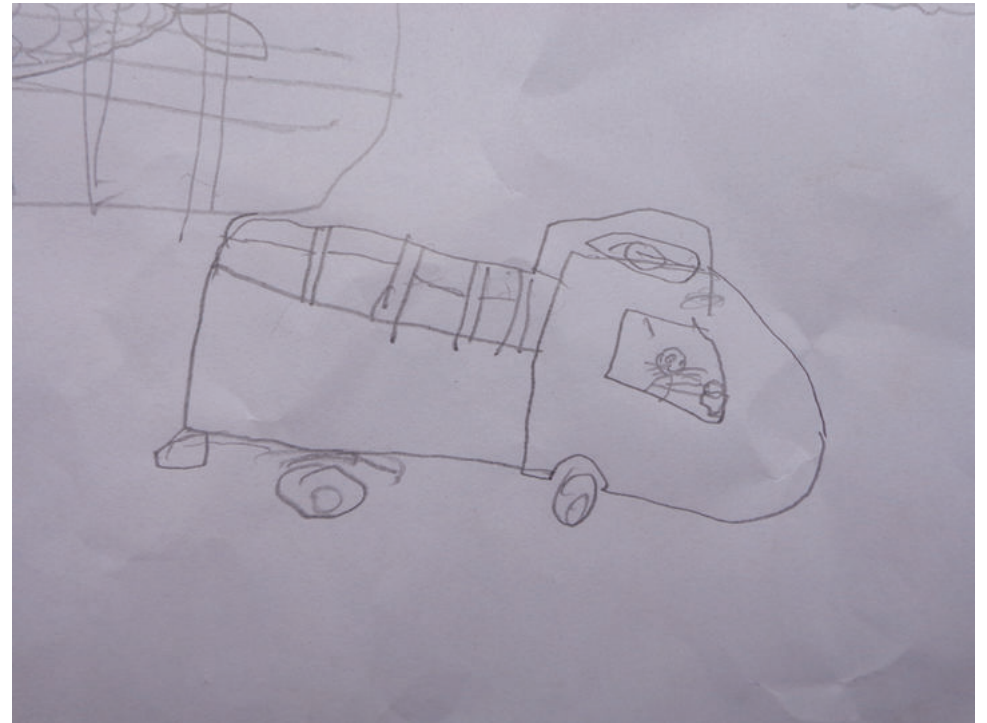
Houses, Beetle, Vehicle, plants

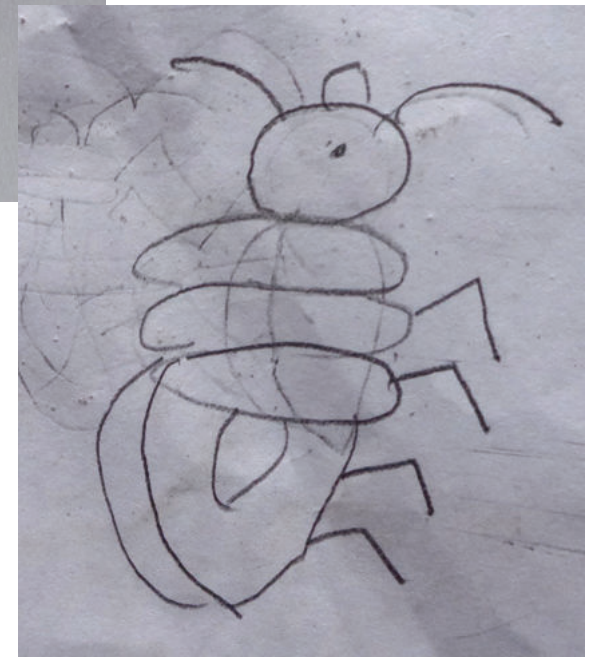
Initially children collected leaves, flowers etc. Then they started doing other objects also.





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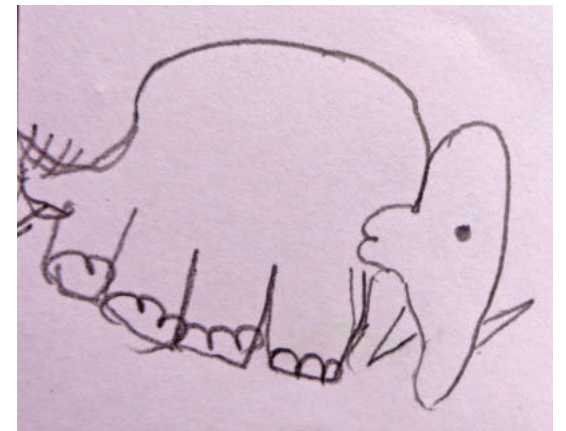
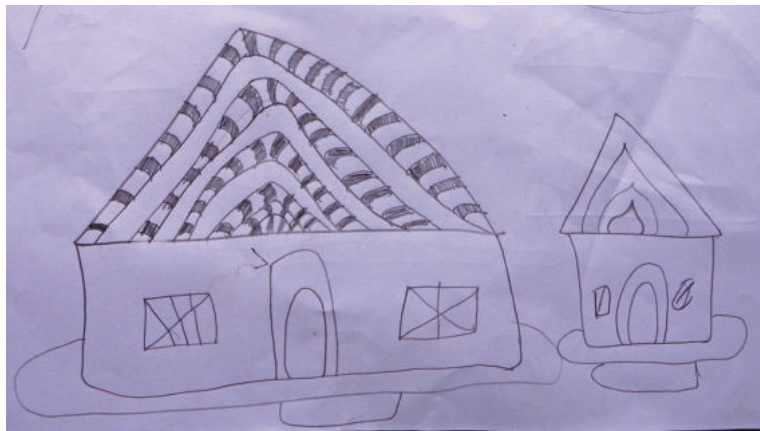




Cut & Paste

Along with paint and pencil, we provided glue and scissors to the children. Children didn't do much exploration with these mediums, compare with the drawing. Most of the time they were making the same objects again and again. So after some time I avoided giving them these materials.





Character in humanform

Slowly I tried to prompt children with some topics and directions. Topics were given by Jinan sir. One of the

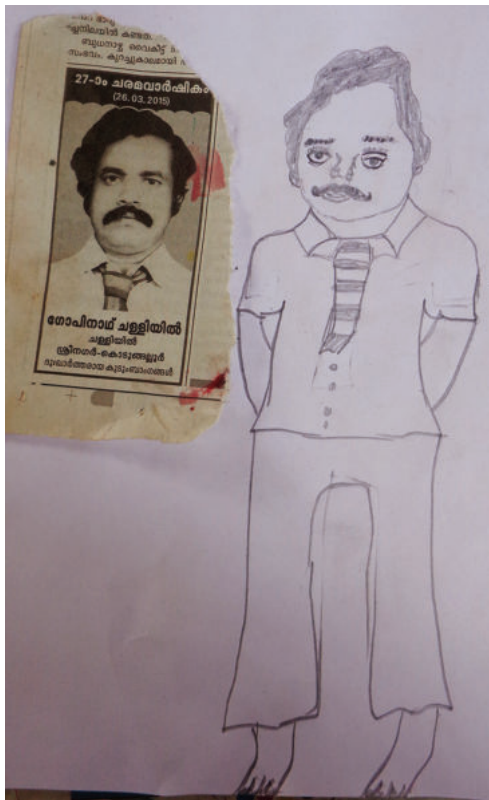




Summer Internship Project

From Photo to Family

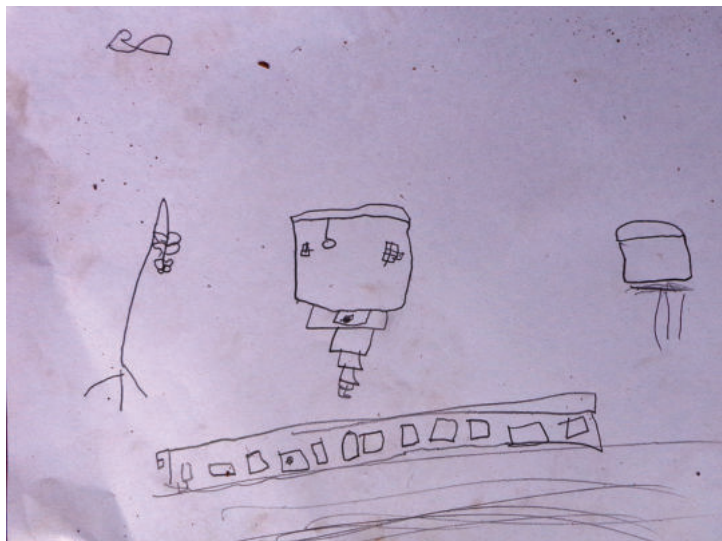
Here the child drawn a portrat from the newspaper cutting. Then she expanded the picture to the family.





Marriage depiction

These are drawings by 2 children. First one doesn't have any people. When I asked him what is the reason behind it, he said ,that is grooms house. So all the people are inside the bus to go the brides house. Then he pointed to the next drawing by his friend. Hearing what he said she made one more drawing in another paper and attached to her drawing.

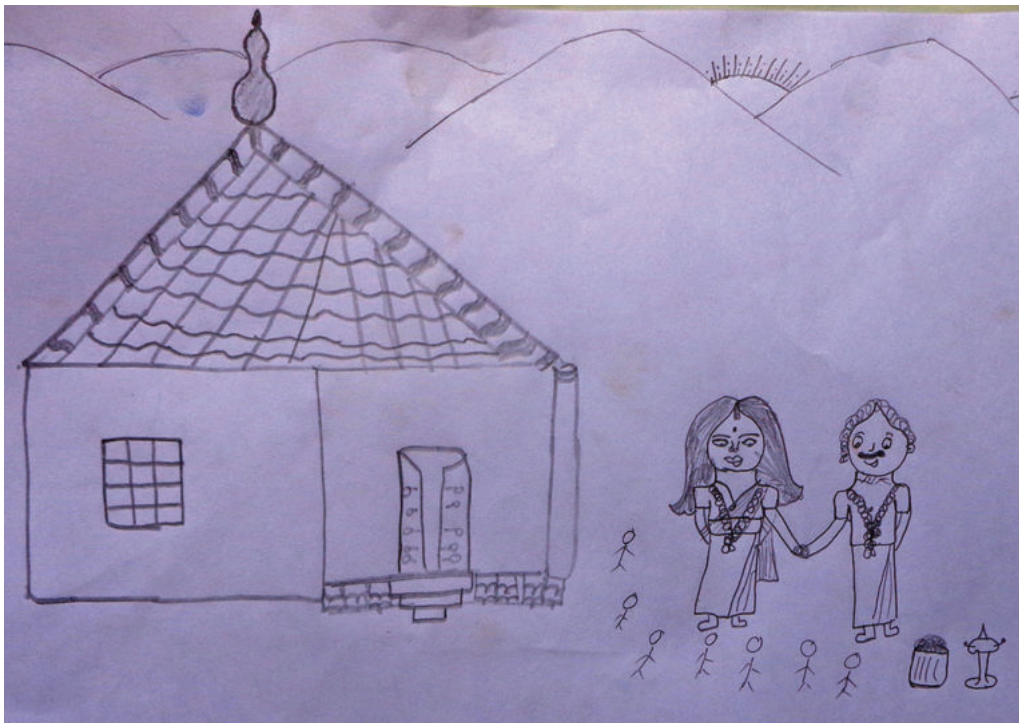


Onam celebration

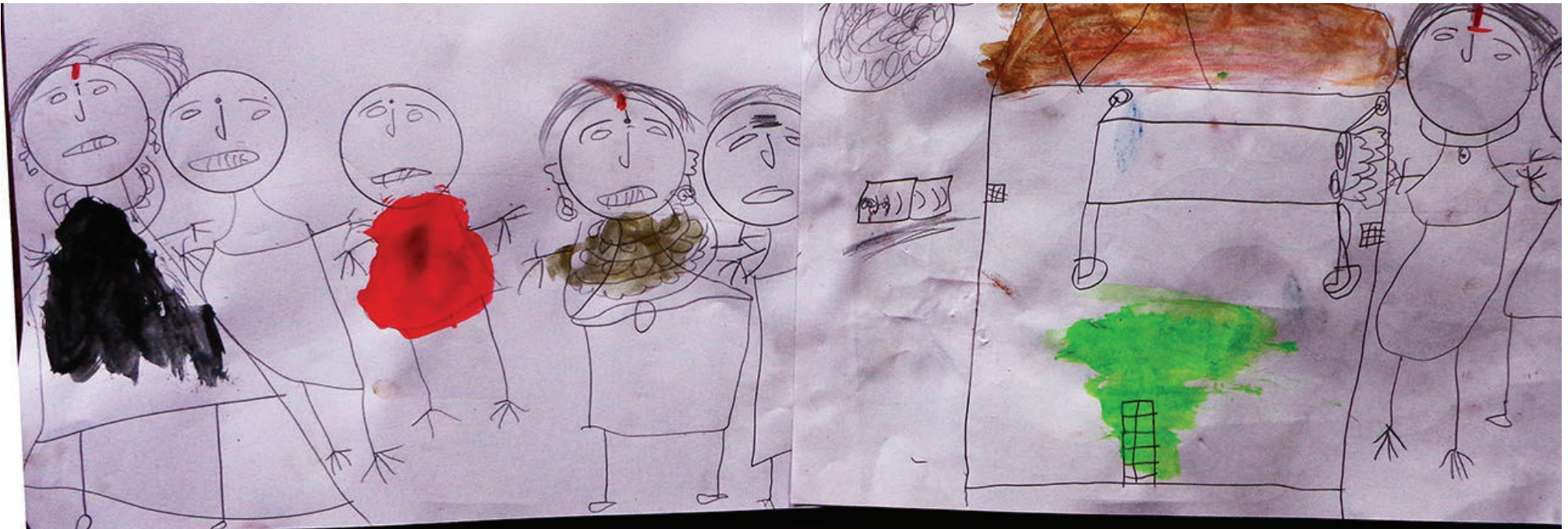
I asked the children to draw some images from their previous year's Onam celebration. They came up with different drawings. One interesting thing was, if the paper is not enough they just combined 2 or 3 papers together.



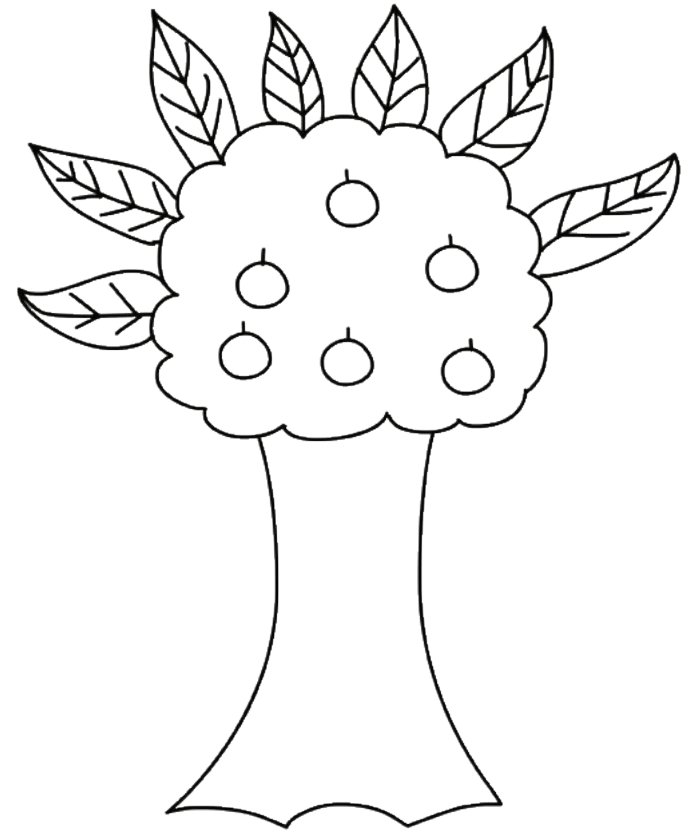
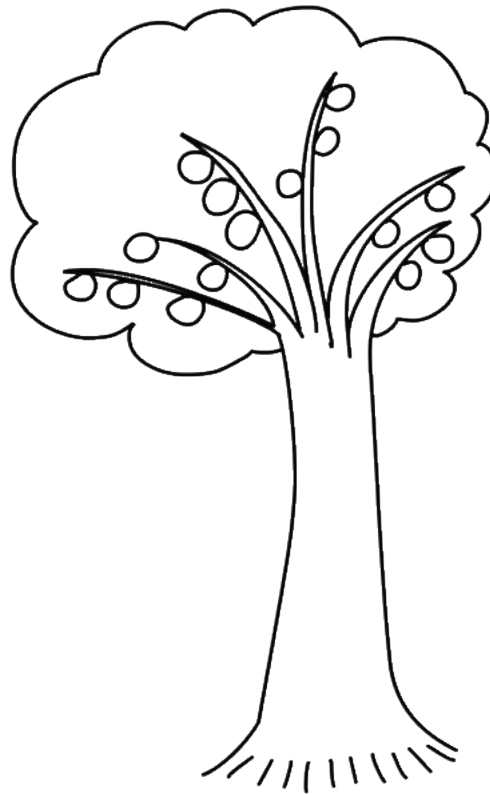
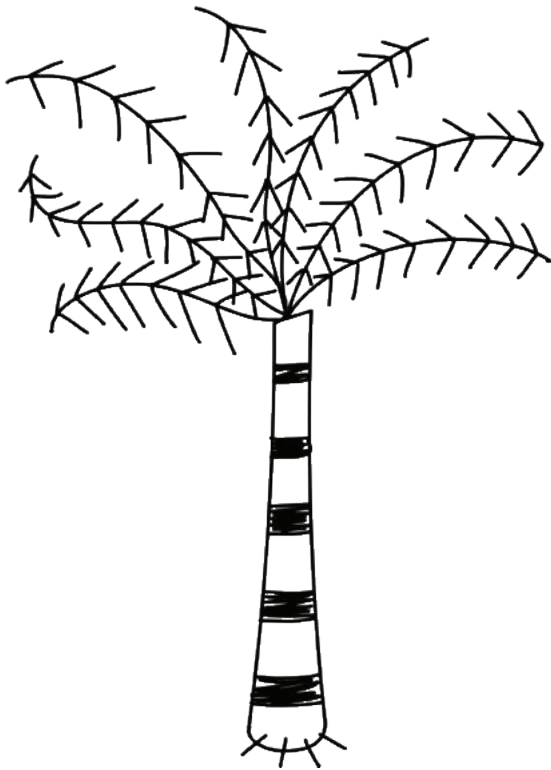
Another Marriage depictions



This was the final drawing by the 2nd child.



‘Trees’ I wouldn’t have drawn without this workshop



After the workshop

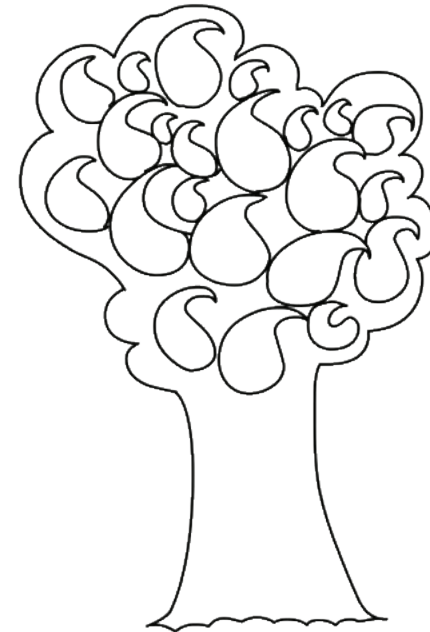
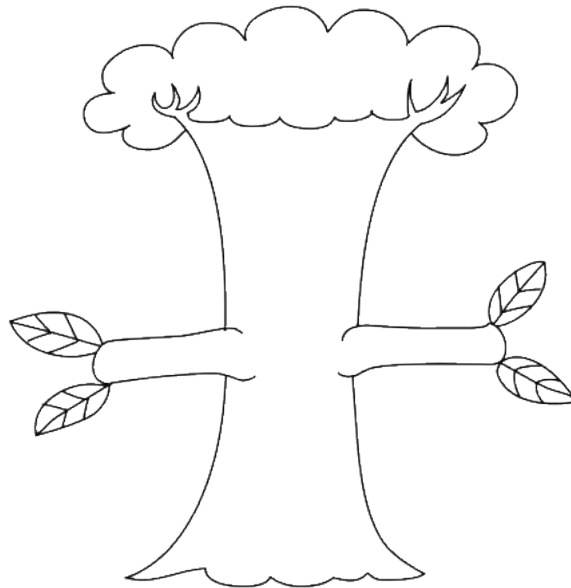
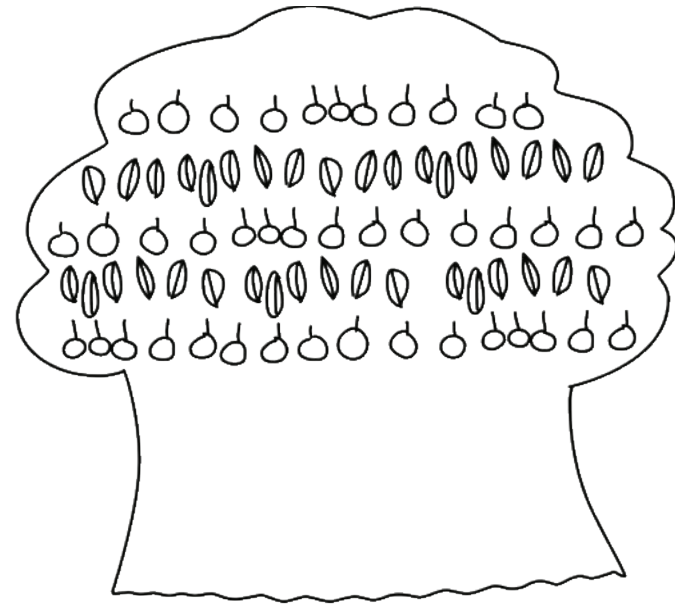
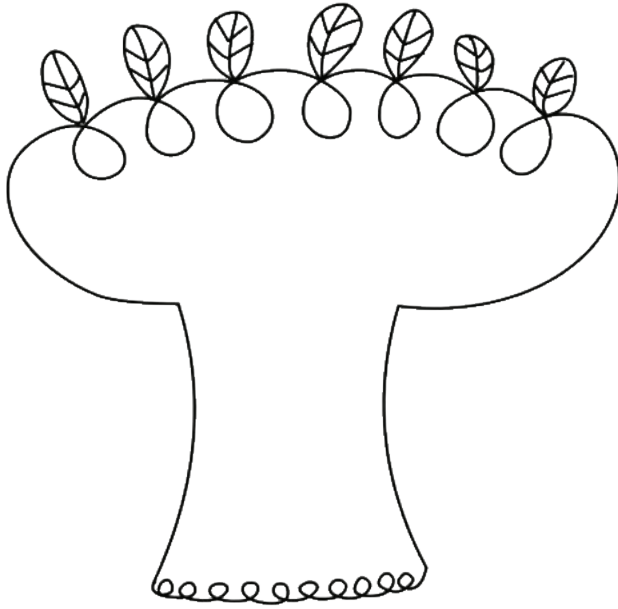
It is a very short time period to observe and coming up with a conclusion. Jinan sir told me it will take some months to see some patterns in their drawing.

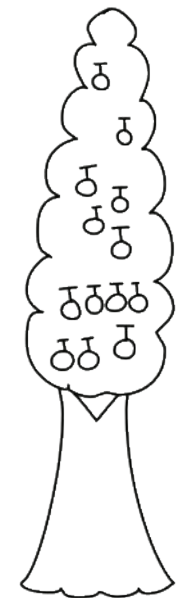
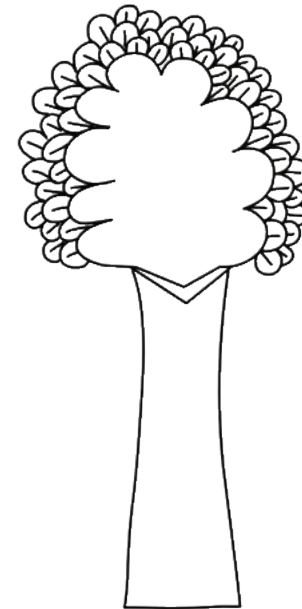
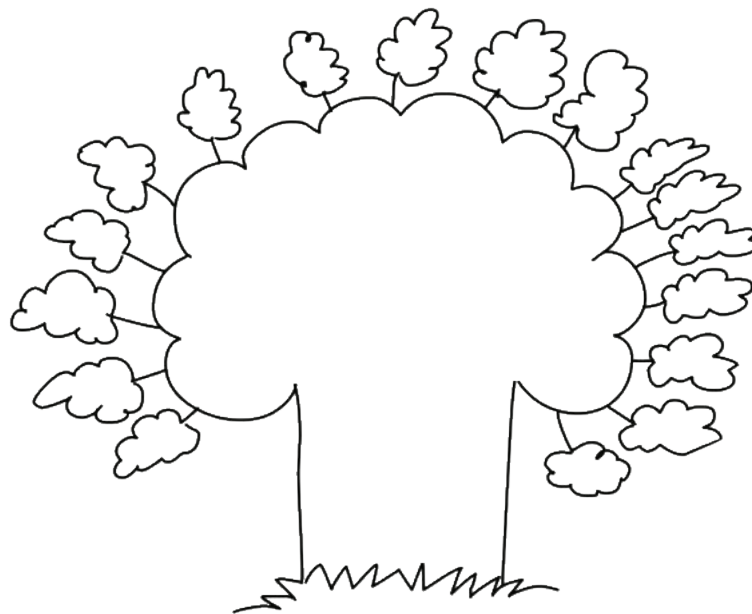
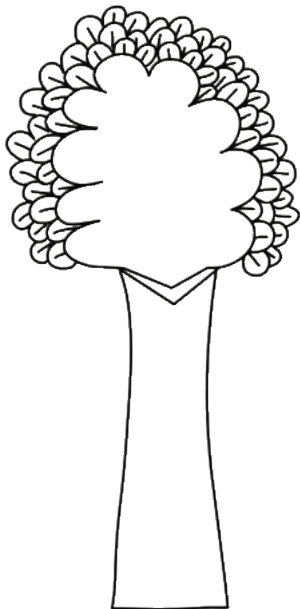
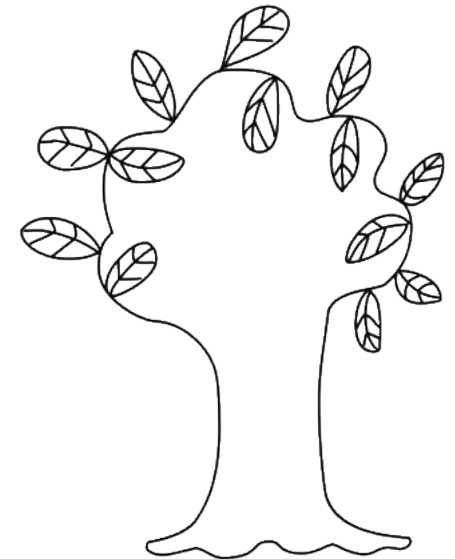
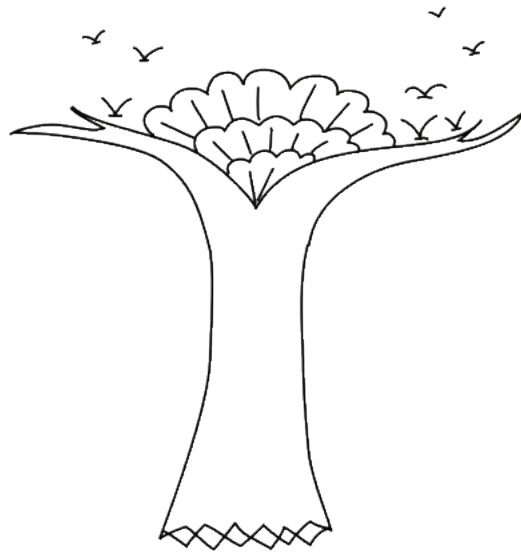
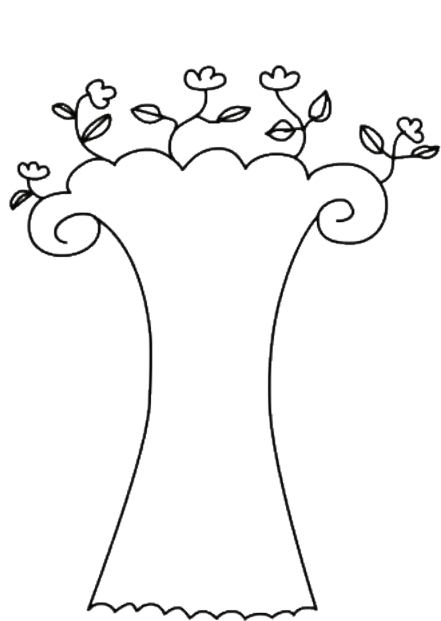
Also I was lucky enough to read his rough draft of the book- ‘Seeing through Hands!’

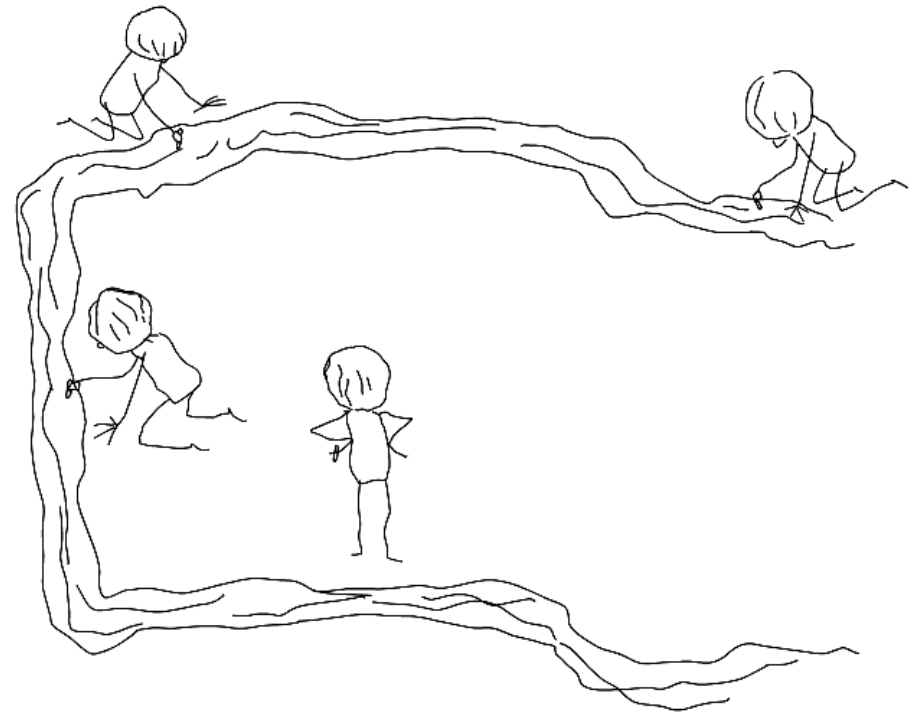
In that book he has observed some of the common patterns in children’s drawings.

After the workshop, I went back home and helped him for his book. I have done the colour correction and clean up of the drawings. Also done a rough compilation for the book.

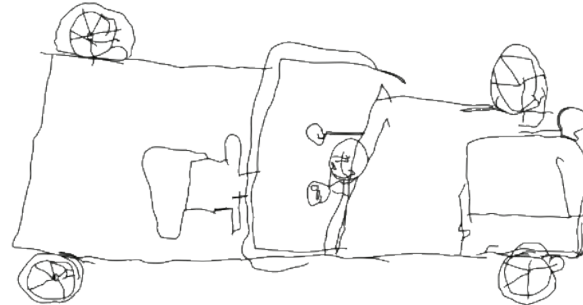
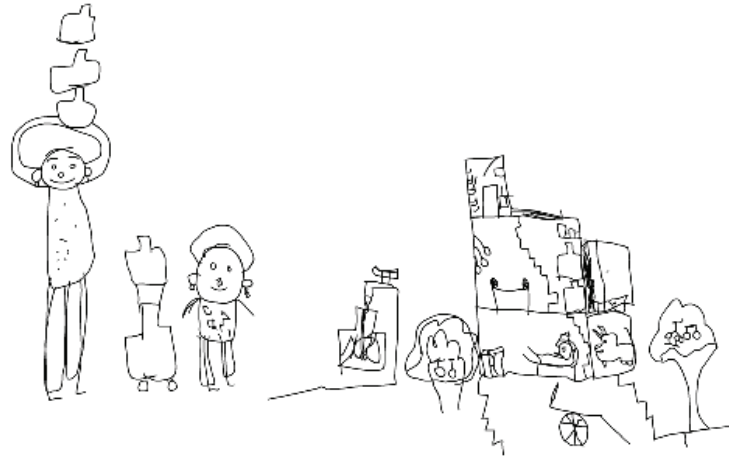
One of the thing inspired me the most is how children simplifies what they see and drawing only the essence of that image. With that thought in my mind I observes children’s drawing, especially trees, and made few trees.





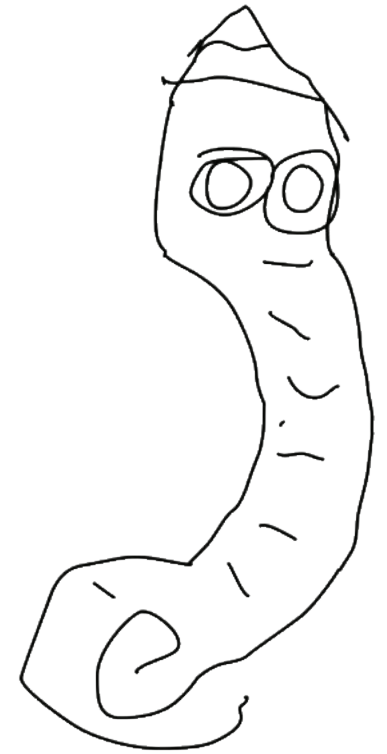
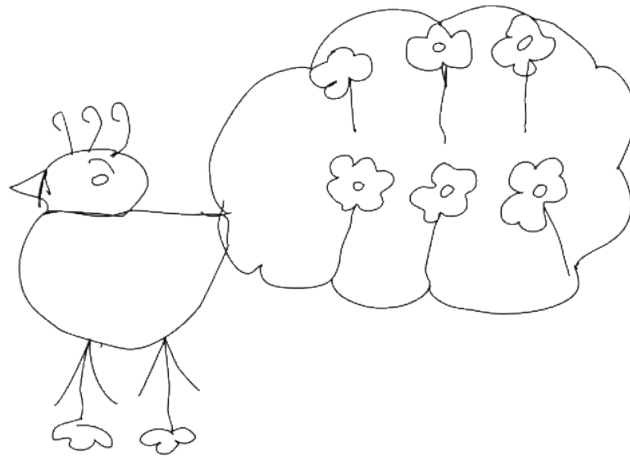
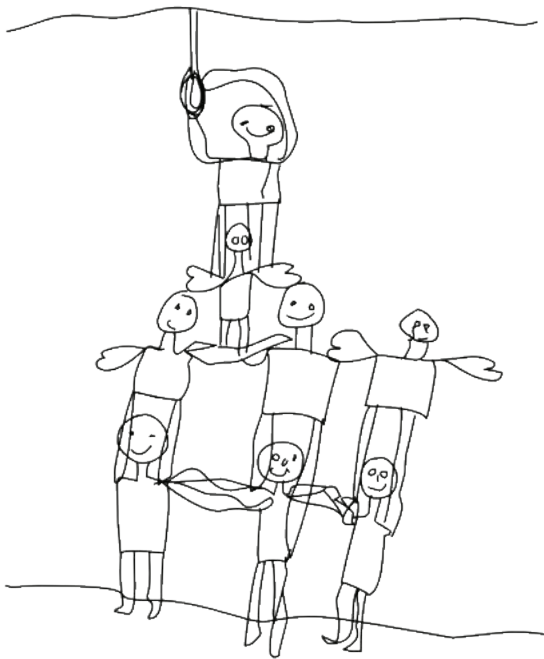


Work for K. B. Jinan's book



Book Cover explorations





Final Cover- ' Seeing through Hands'





My Learnings

This internship was refreshing for me. Jinan sir has a very different point of view towards the society we live. He is very sensitive towards the damages, which modernity causes to our society, especially in children. He struggles to live his life. But never sacrifices his philosophies. He is keep on working towards his goal, whether there is financial support or not.

His philosophies are deeply rooted to Indian tradition. In this heavily western influenced society, he might not be loud enough to hear. But one cannot avoid his voice. Because he is talking about the qualities which makes human ' a human'.

This internship allowed me to think in a completely different way. The one month was a very short time but it was worthful.

Some thoughts from Jinan sir

Human being should learn to represent their observations through drawings rather than writing. We should start using drawing as a cognitive tool rather than writing.

There is nothing wrong with the bad drawing. Like writing, drawing also will take time to learn.

There is no deep meaning in art. It is just the appreciation of beauty. It is like a flower blooming. Art shouldn't be constructed.

Writing is only a documentation tool. Don't depend on it for knowledge. Knowledge comes from the world around us.

Mail from Jinan sir, regarding my internship



Regarding Internship- Roney  Inbox x   

**Roney Devassia** Jul 12 (4 days ago) ☆
Dear sir Could you please send me a mail saying that I have done internship u...

**Jinan K B** Jul 13 (3 days ago) ☆  
to me ▾

Dear Roney
Thank you for the presentation. I hope enjoyed the experience of
working with children as an intern.
All the best.
jinan

On 12/07/2015, Roney Devassia <rdevassia@gmail.com> wrote:
> Dear sir
> Could you please send me a mail saying that I have done internship under
> you. This is for my report submission. Also please give me your thoughts on
> my presentation.
> Thank you
>
> --
> Roney Devassia
>

Acknowledgement

To Jinan sir for his kind support and inputs.
To my teachers for their guidance.