



Lines Laid on a Liminal Land

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Strangers House Gallery, Mumbai

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*"Sab aaya ek hi ghaat se, aur utra ek hi baat
Beech mein duvidhaa pad gayi, to ho gaye baarah baat."*

*Everyone came from one place, and took the same road.
Half way along, you fell into doubt, suddenly: twelve roads.*
- Kabir

The paradox of an individual's inherent connection with nature dependent on their position within society, has been viewed through a range of perspectives, from anthropocentrism to biocentrism. While many indigenous communities are interconnected with their environment, the modern society views itself and nature as two distinct entities. This shift was significant in the Enlightenment era when the human race believed to have accumulated adequate knowledge, institutional and technological capacity to take charge of their conditions of existence and be logically independent of it. This conceptual separation of society resulted in categories within one and another to form classes and communities.

Lines Laid on a Liminal Land suggests the idea of markings or patterns drawn upon a landscape that exists in a transitional state. Whether physical or metaphorical, or even cultural or societal boundaries; these lines represent the imposition of human order or structure onto an area. The liminality of our environment is transitional or in-between, often associated with ambiguity, transformation, or thresholds. It's a place where boundaries blur, and the usual distinctions between categories or states may break down. The exhibition suggests themes of human impact on the environment, the intersection of natural and constructed landscapes, and the liminality of human experience and identity.

In this light, the crisis isn't merely a temporary or accidental occurrence but a concerning consequence of expansion. Man in the present world is part and apart of nature and society. The concept of societal nature relations is a triangular framework of 'individual' - 'nature' - 'society'. How individuals relate to their surroundings depends on their position in the hierarchy of the expansionist society, how they got there and their experiences. By dissecting the complex relation of dependency & dominance, co-existence & imbalance, universality & inequality; the group show interrogates the co-relation of man and nature in the contemporary society.
