

Illustrating Iconography of Buddhism

Project 3 | Stage 3
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Background

Work Process

Final Output

Background

Work Process

Final Output

Buddhism

Theravada

Mahayana

Vajrayana

Buddhism

Theravada

Mahayana

Vajrayana

Adi Buddha or Vajradhara

Dhyani Buddhas

Dhyani Bodhisattvas

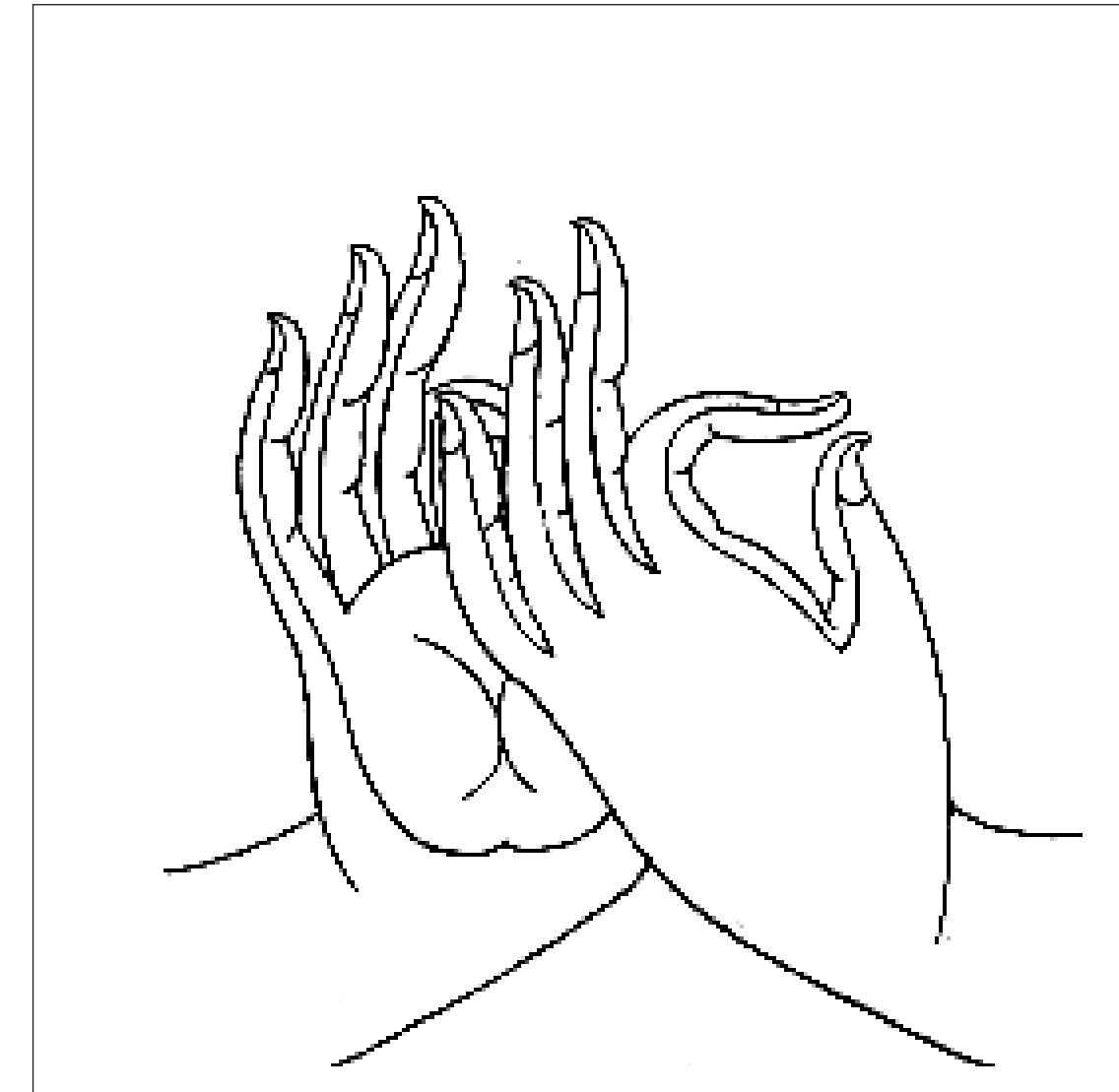
Buddhist Iconography



Idols



Mandala



Mudras

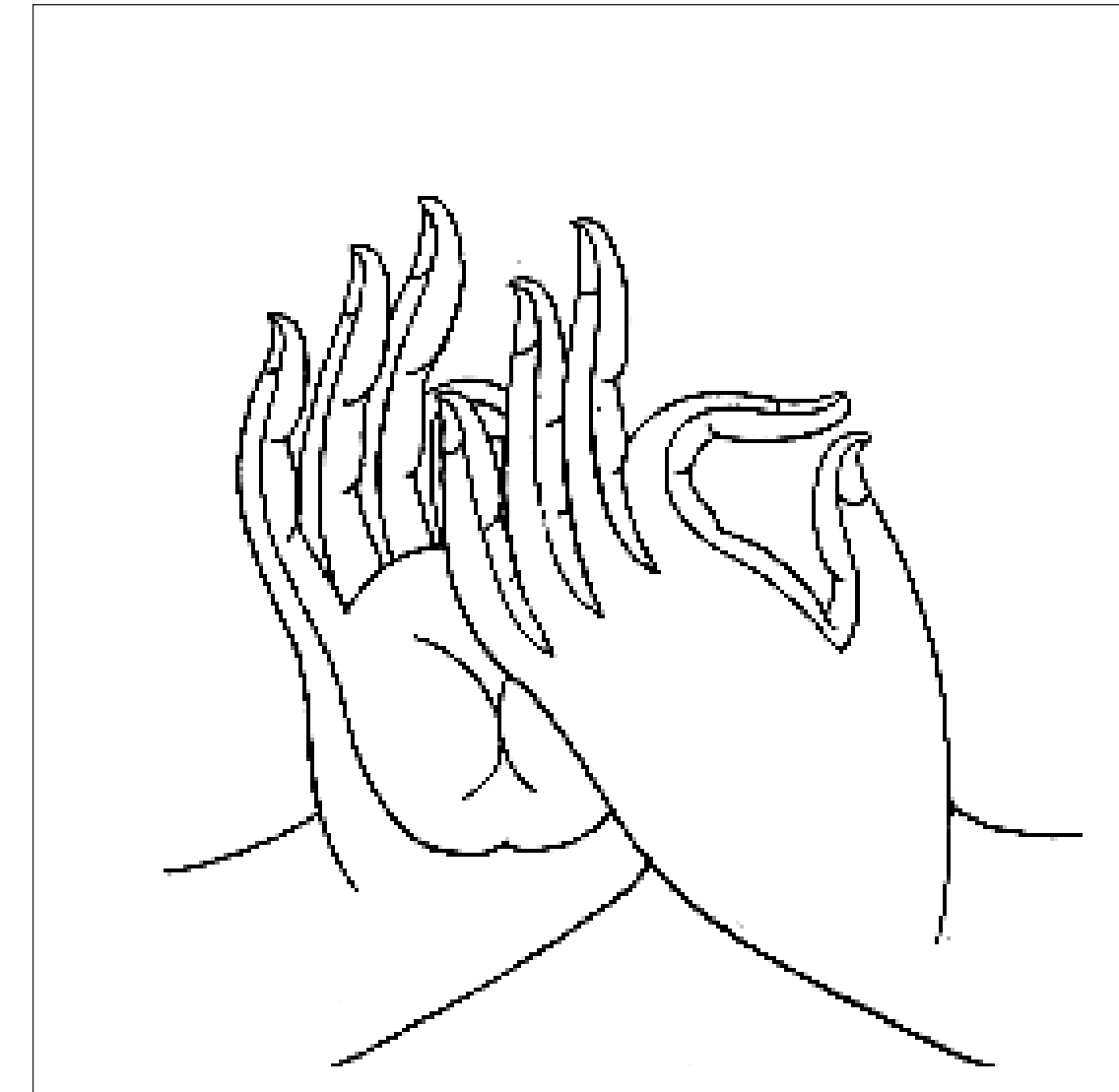
Buddhist Iconography



Idols



Mandala



Mudras

Mudras





Background

Work Process

Final Output

Study visit - Kanheri Caves





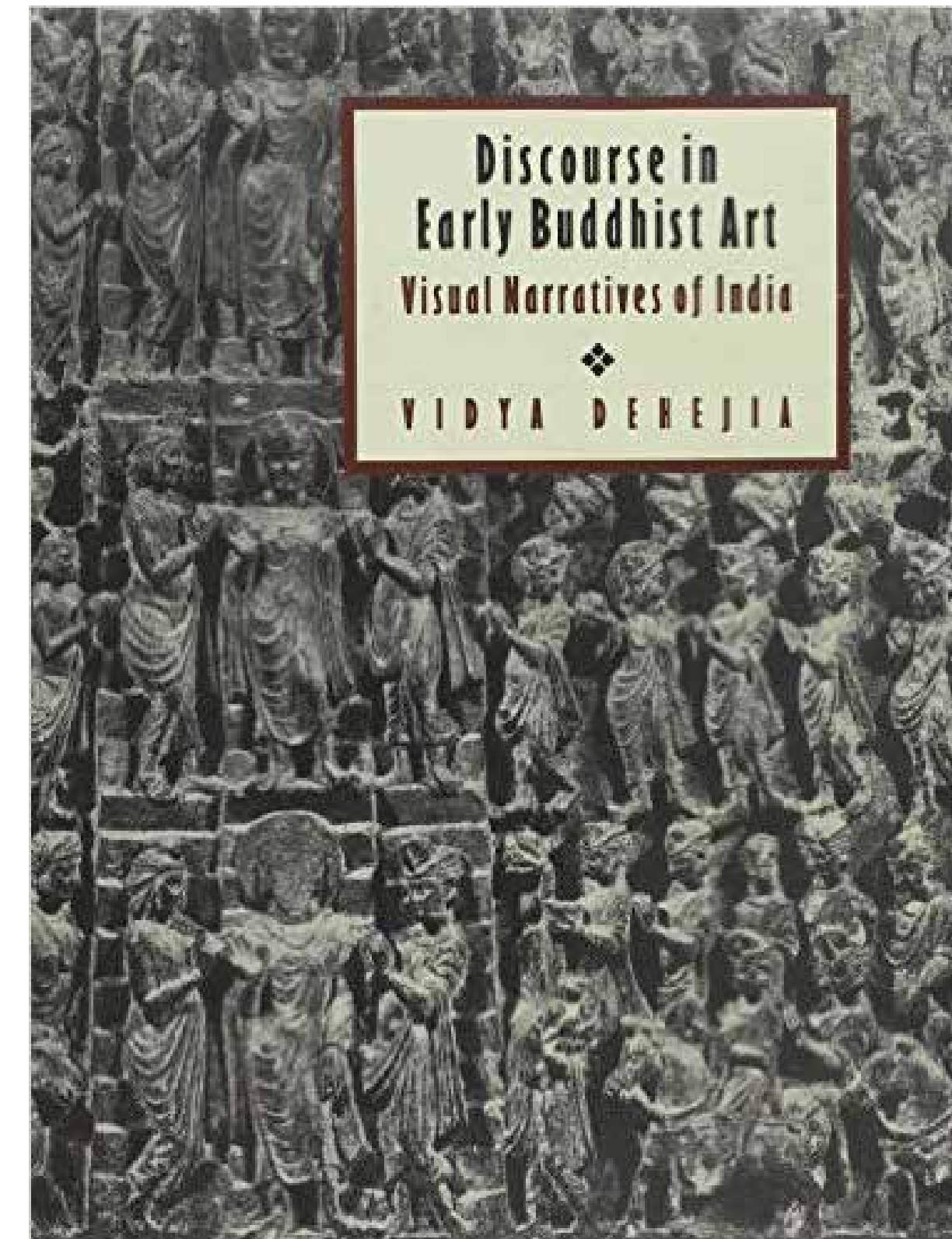
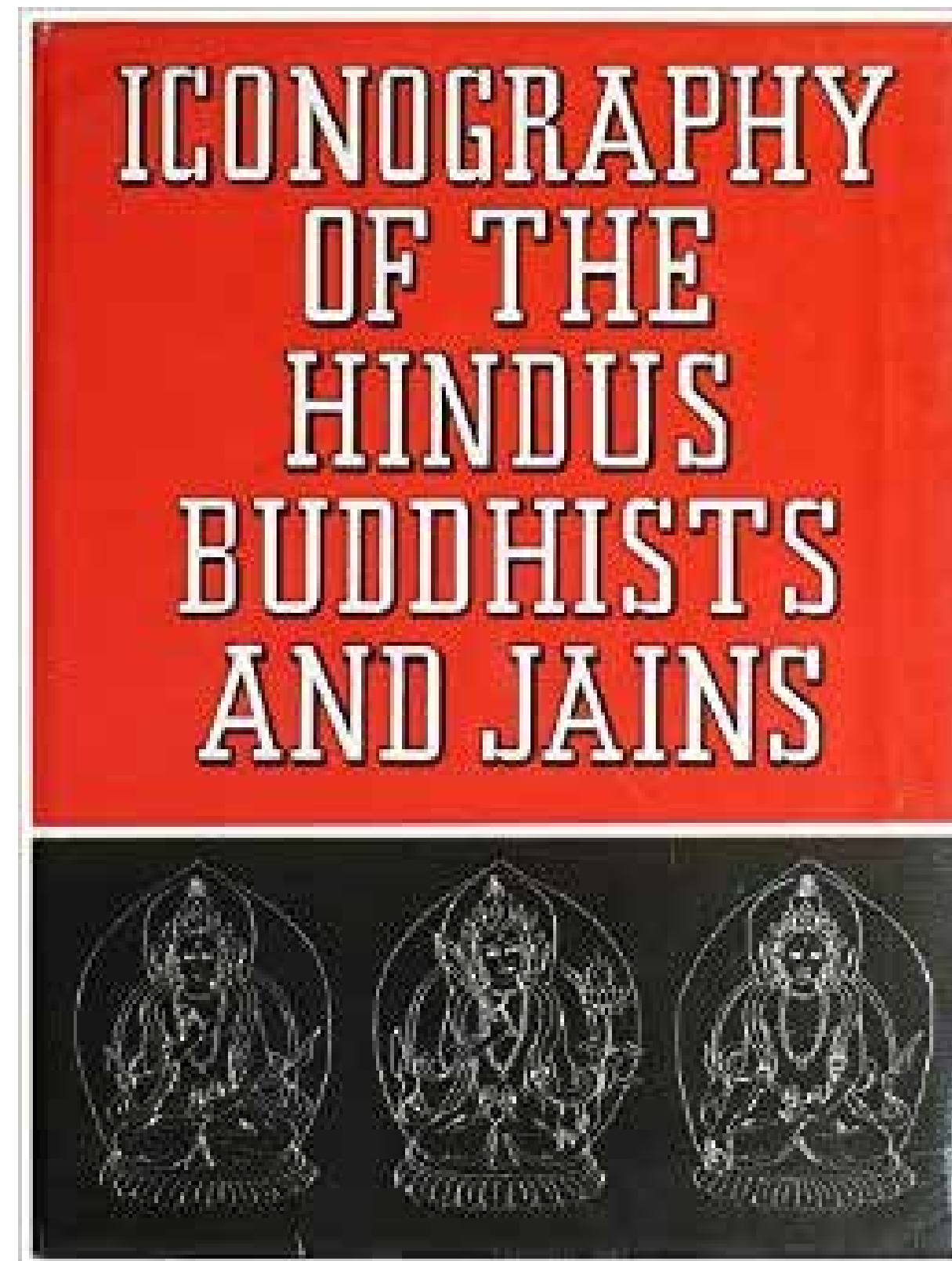


Study visit - Pagoda

आते जाते सांस पर, रहे निरंतर ध्यान ।
कर्मों के बंधन कटे, होय परम कल्याण ॥

श्वासोश्वासावर असो, नित्य निरंतर ध्यान ।
बंधन कर्मांचे तुटे, होई परम कल्याण ॥

Book Referred



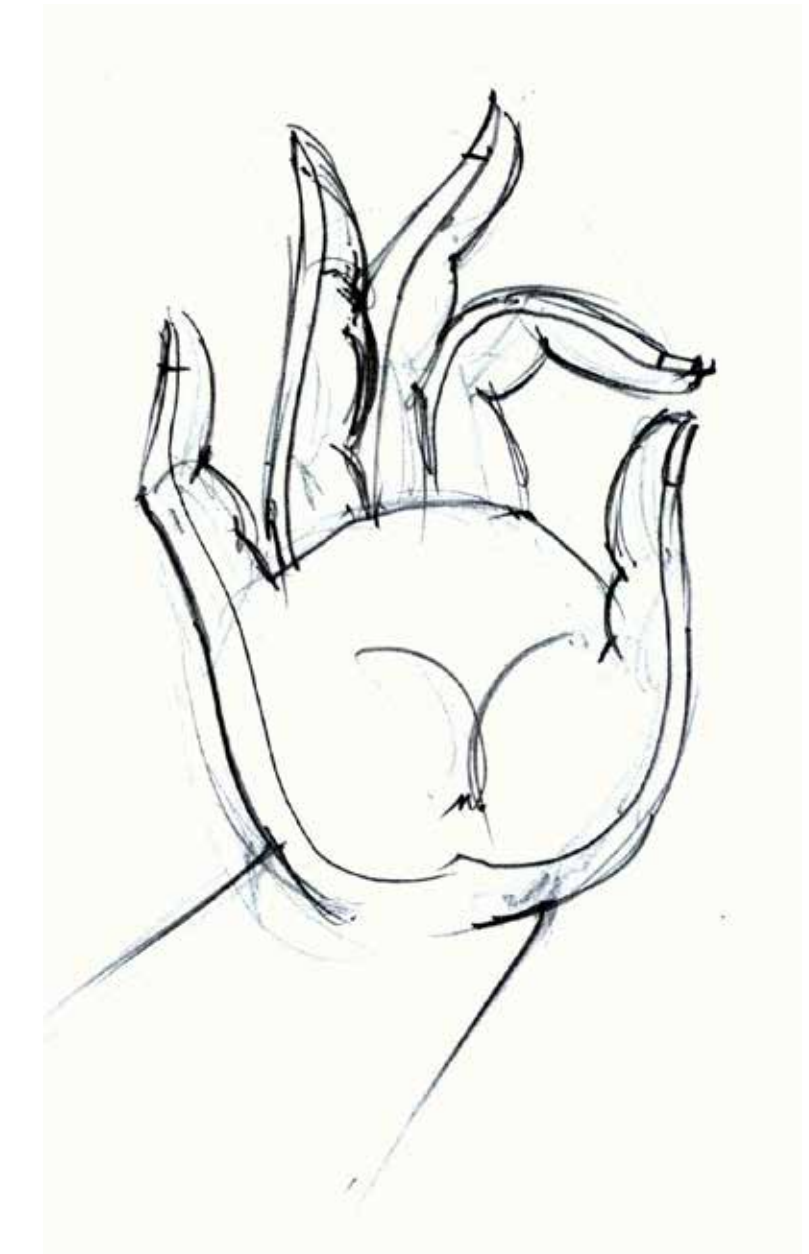
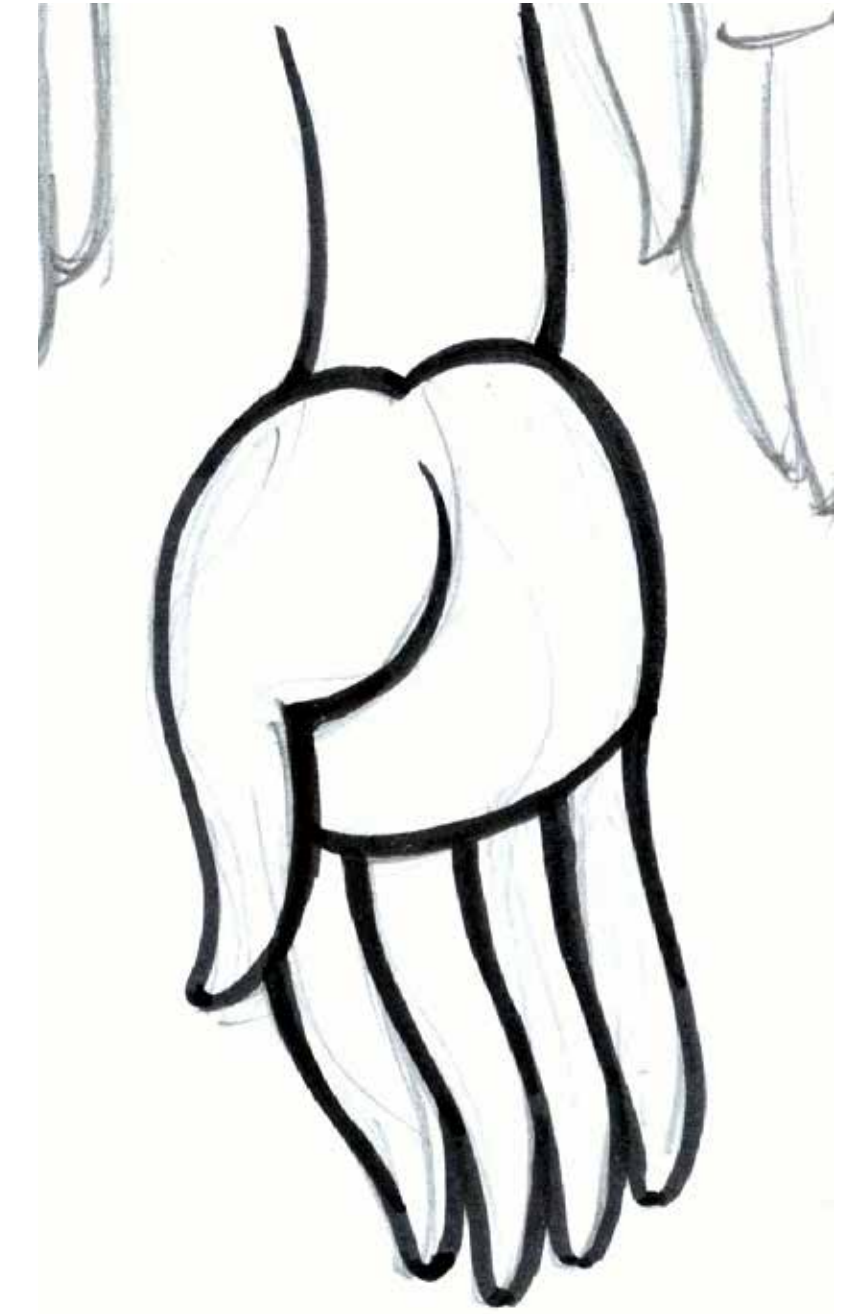
Conversation with Bhadant Sanghapriya

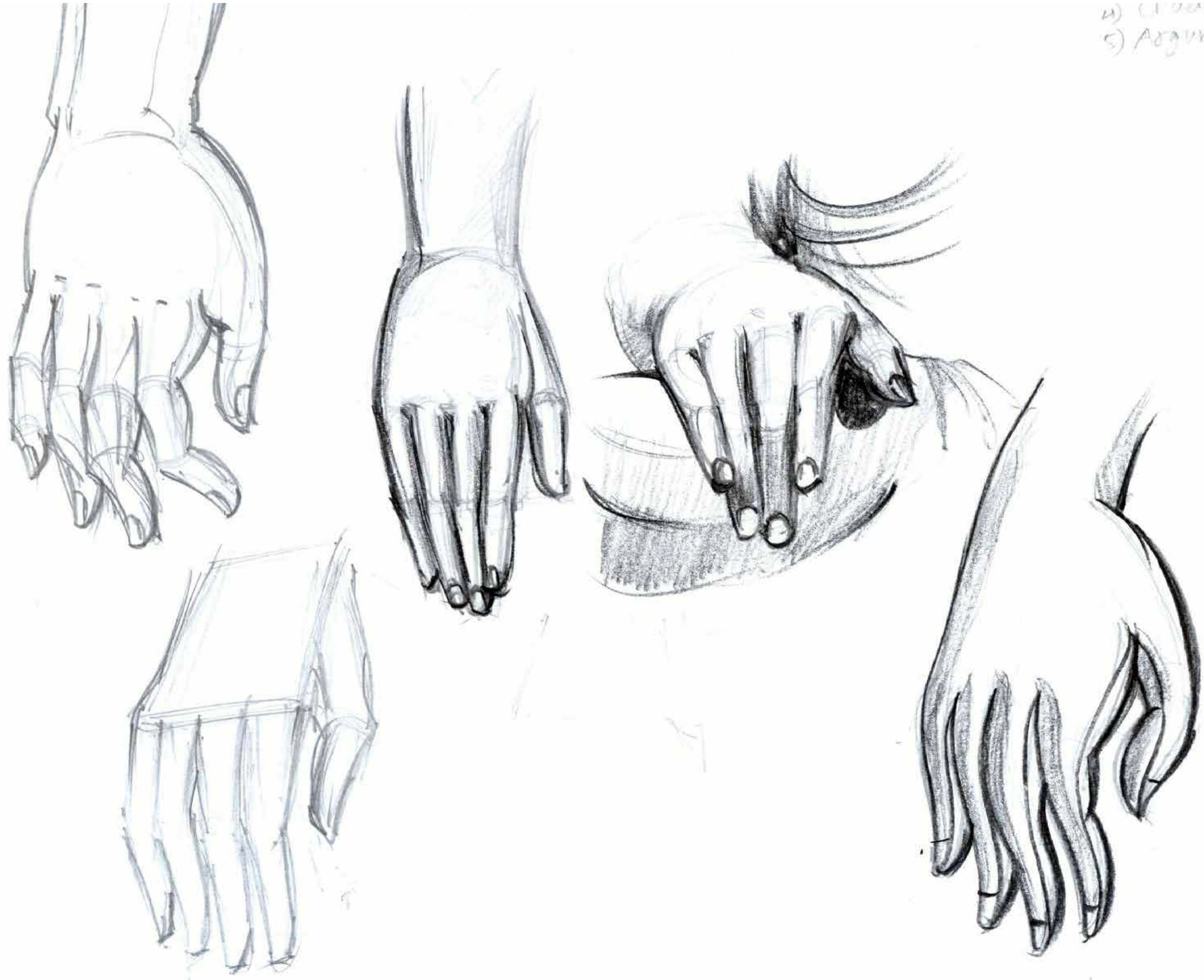
“

A man goes through the cycle of birth and death till enlightenment. Then there is the state of liberation. It is mentioned in the Jataka tales that Buddha took several births (Manushi Buddhas) in various forms till Bodhisattva stage.

”

Sketches





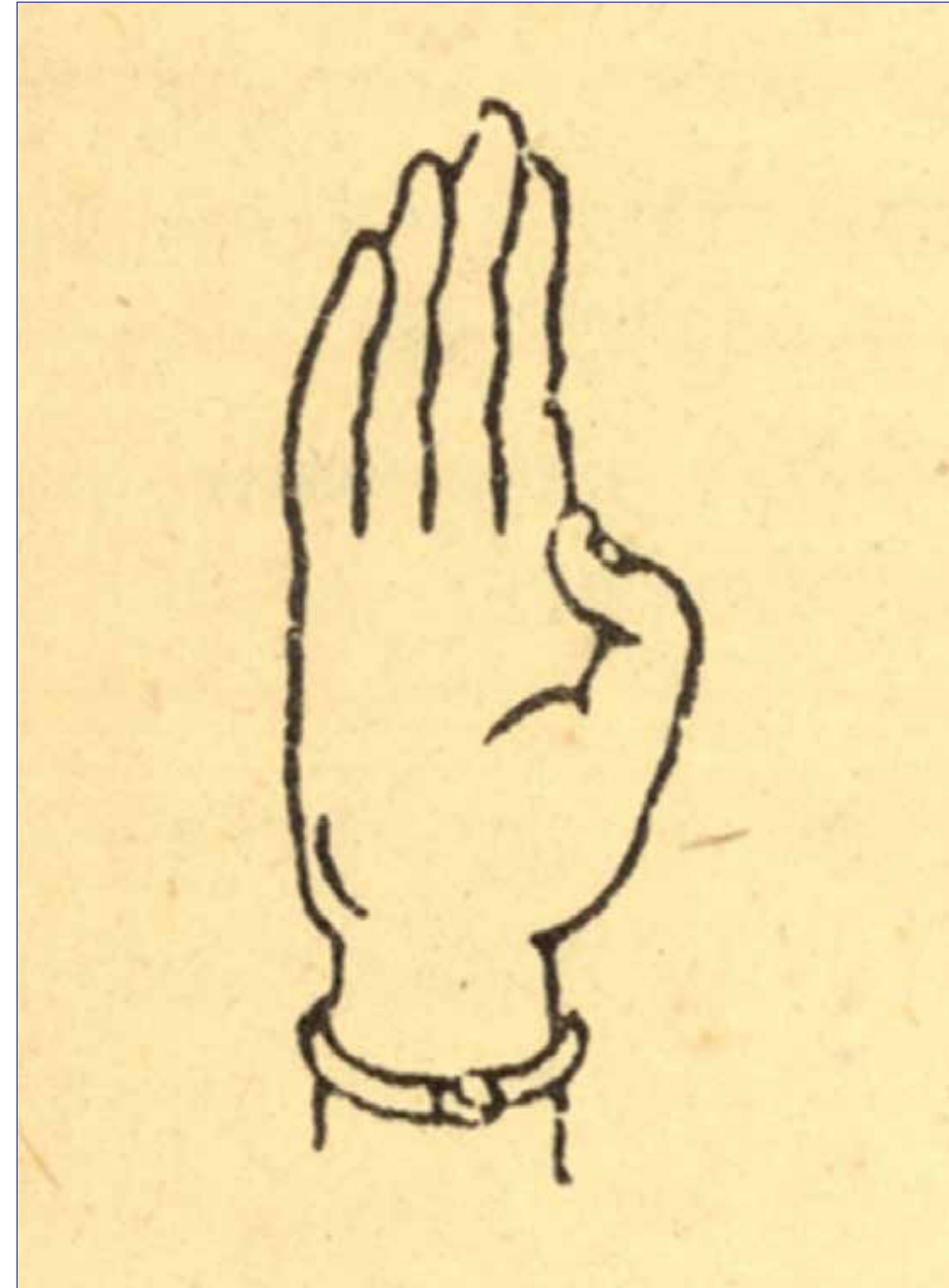
4) Cradling
5) Argument



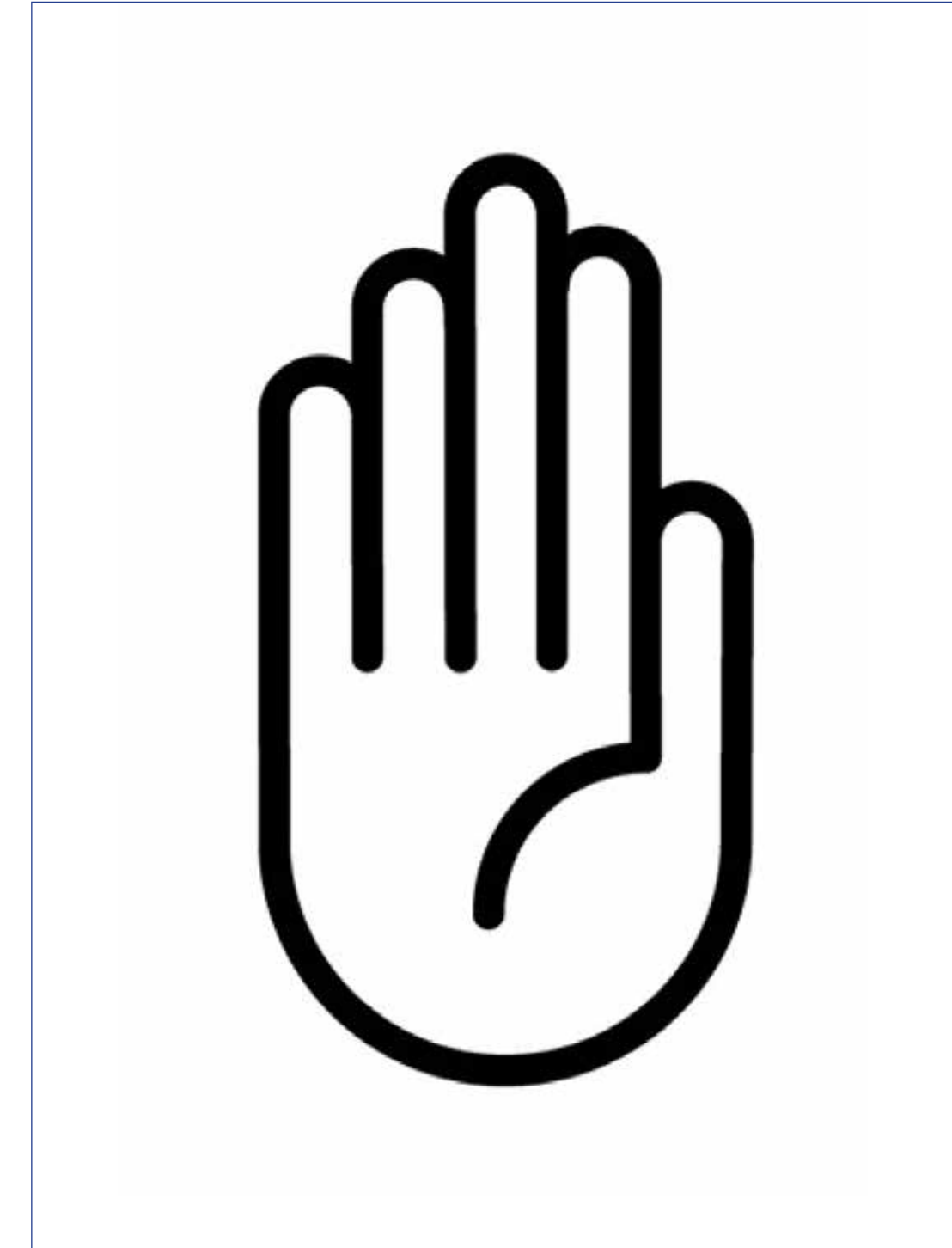
Representation Possibilities | Abhaya Mudra



Contextual



Illustrative



Graphical

Representation Possibilities | Bowl in hand



Contextual



Illustrative

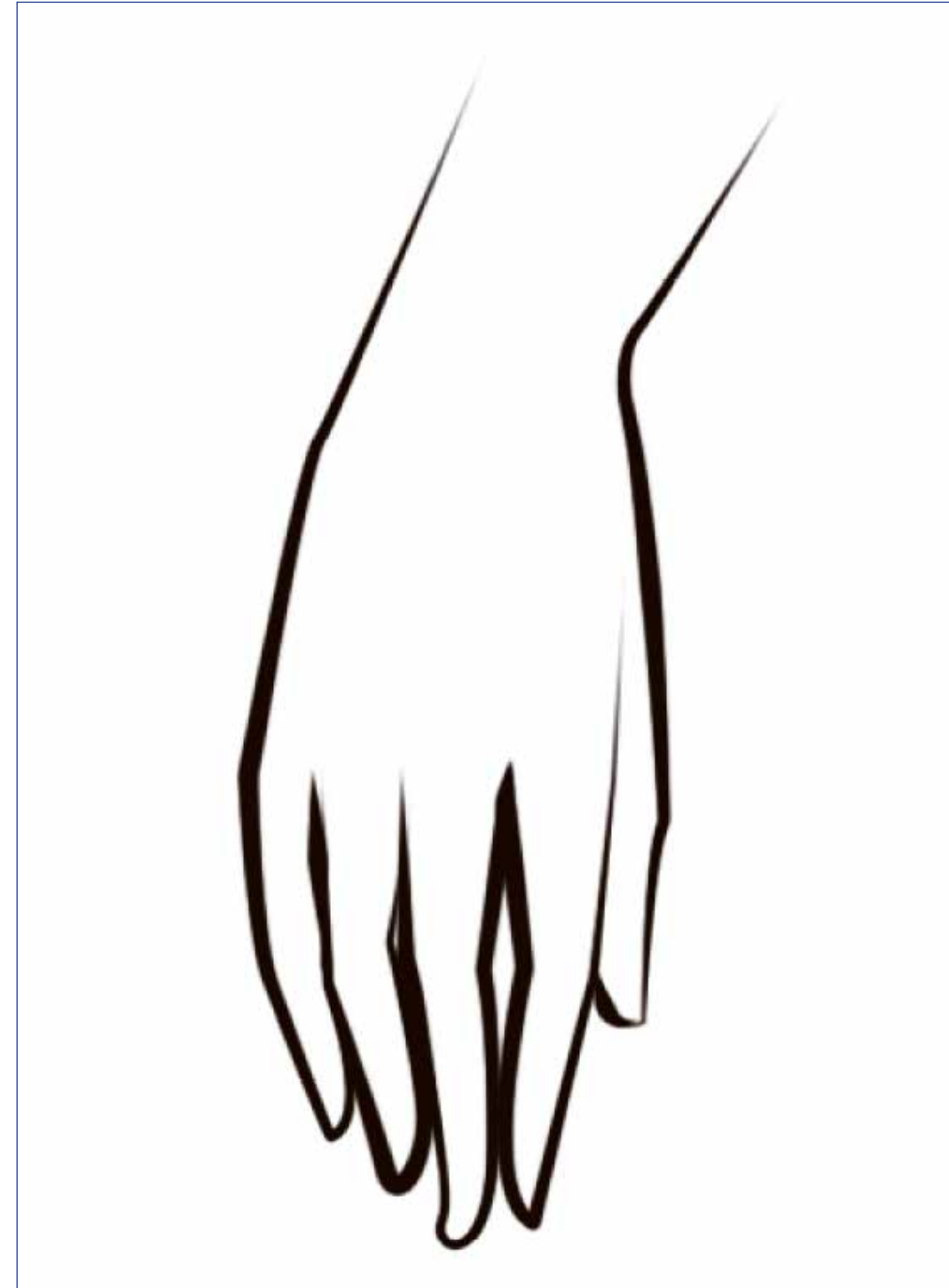


Graphical

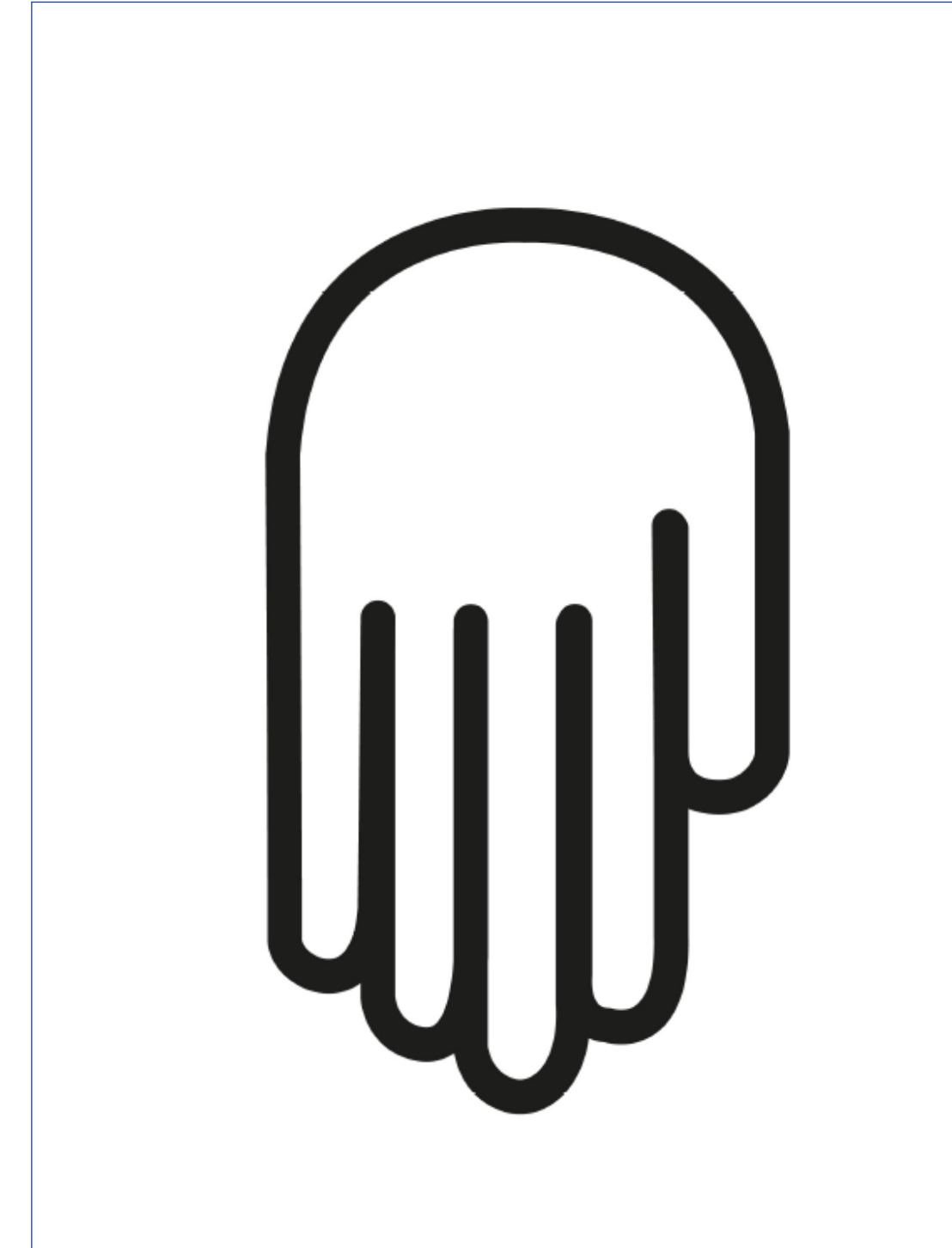
Representation Possibilities | Bhumisparsa Mudra



Contextual

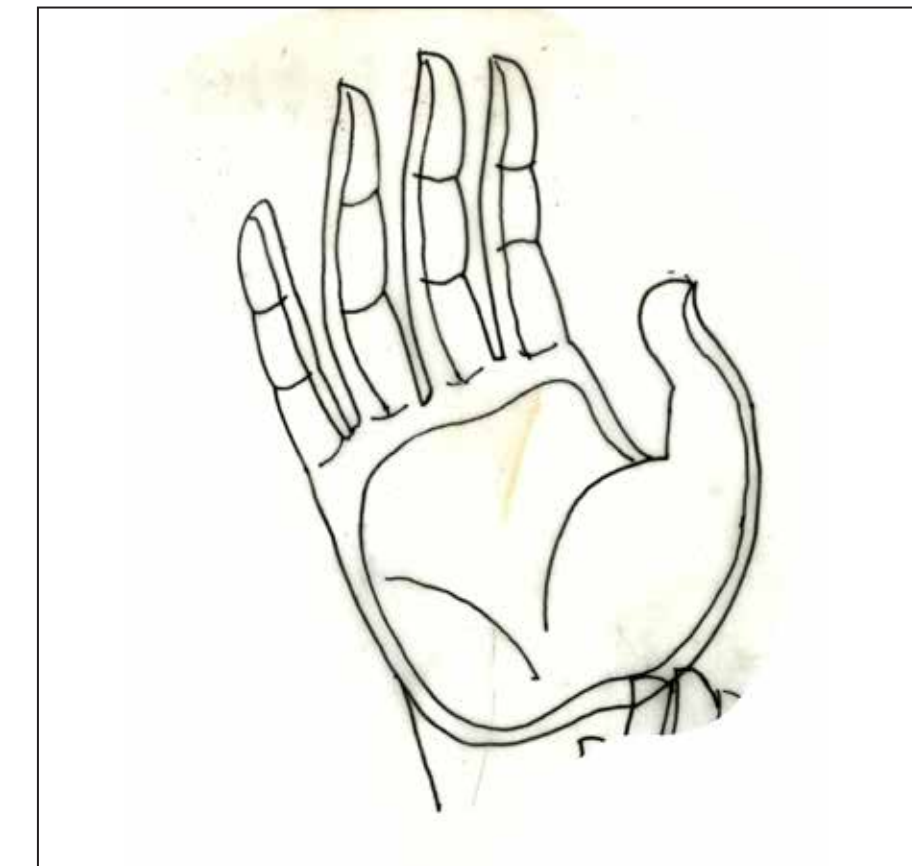
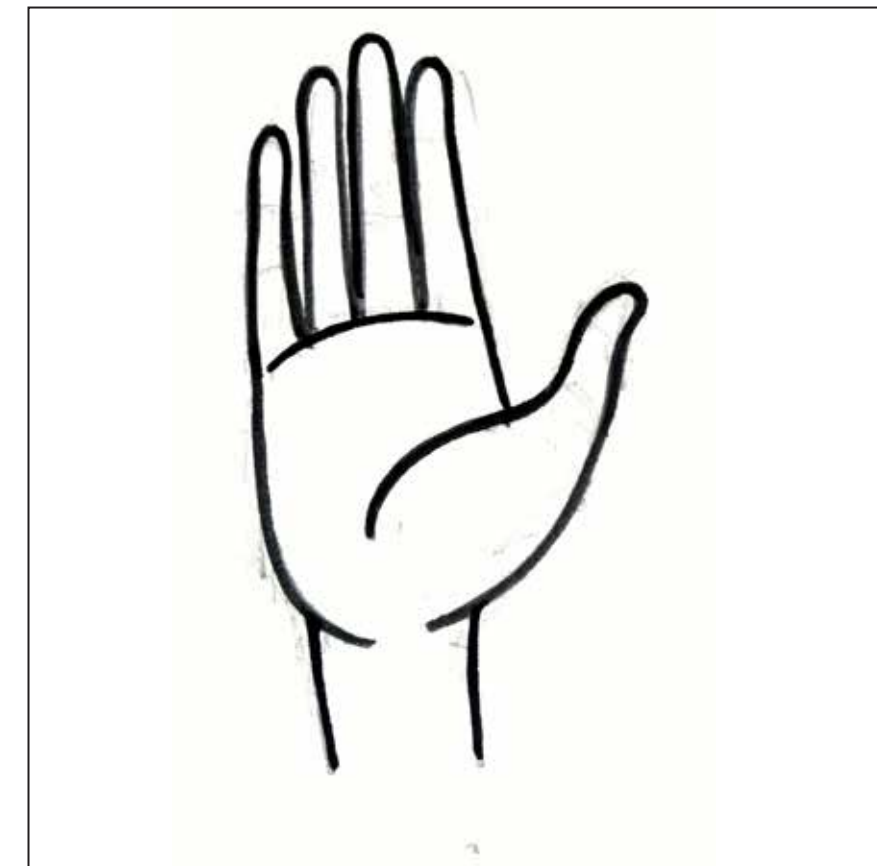
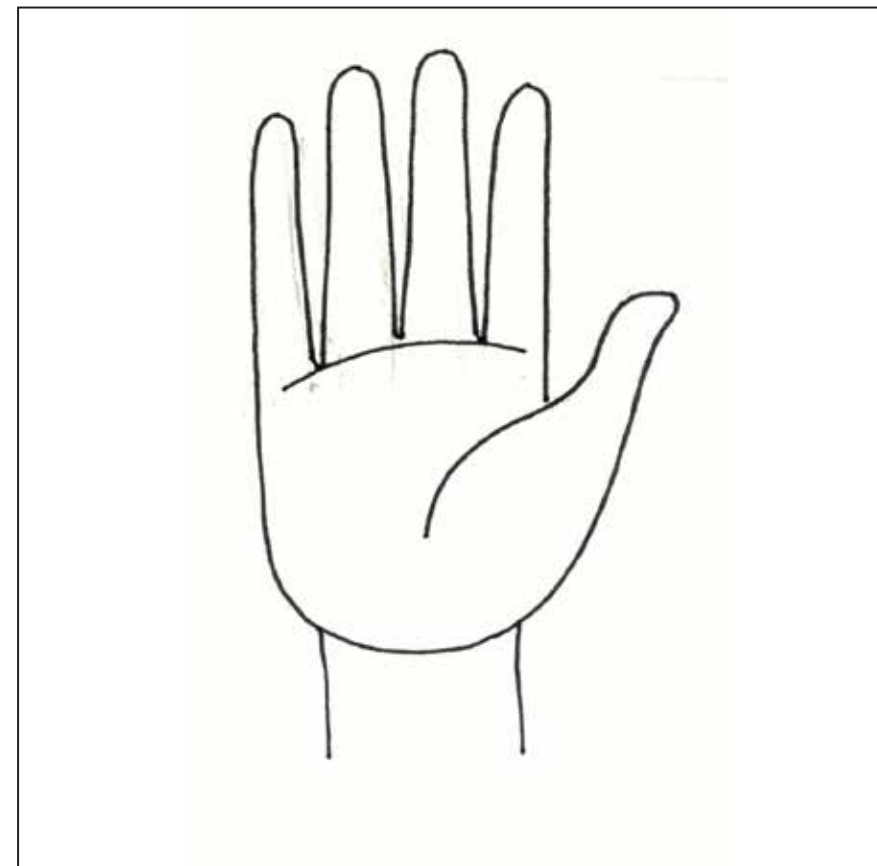
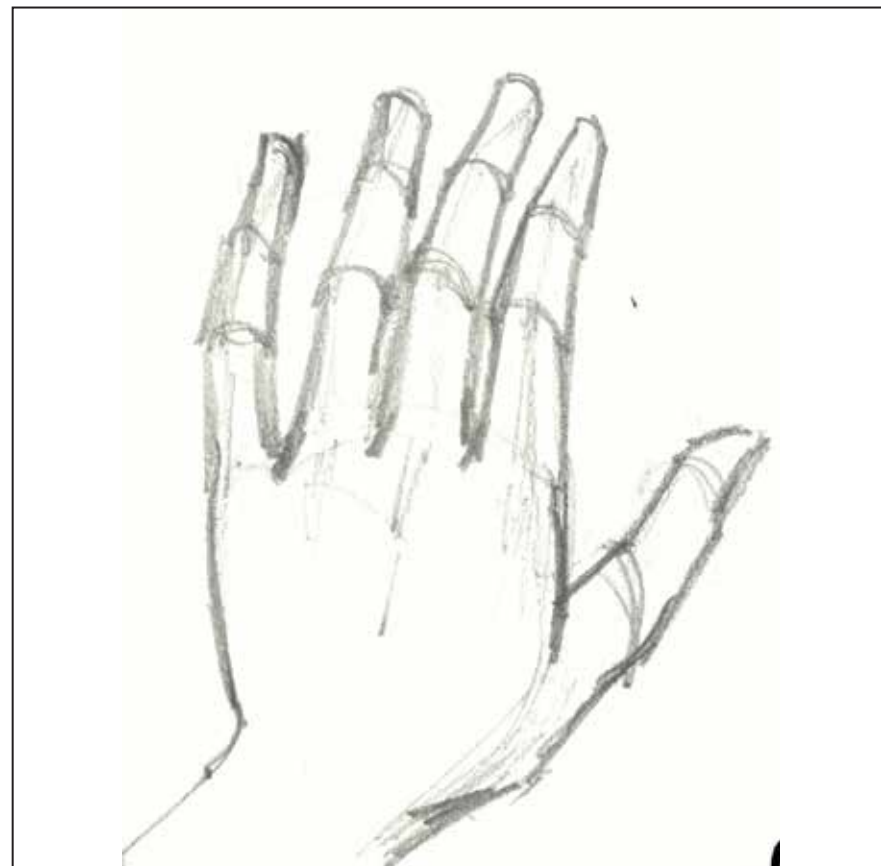
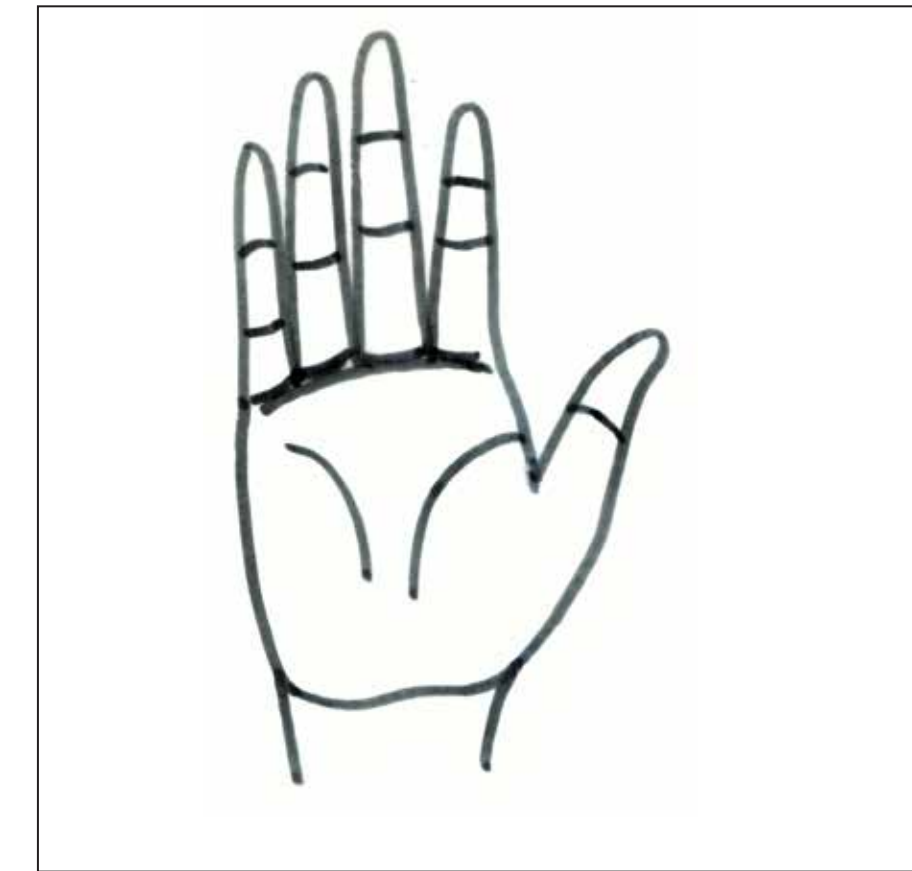
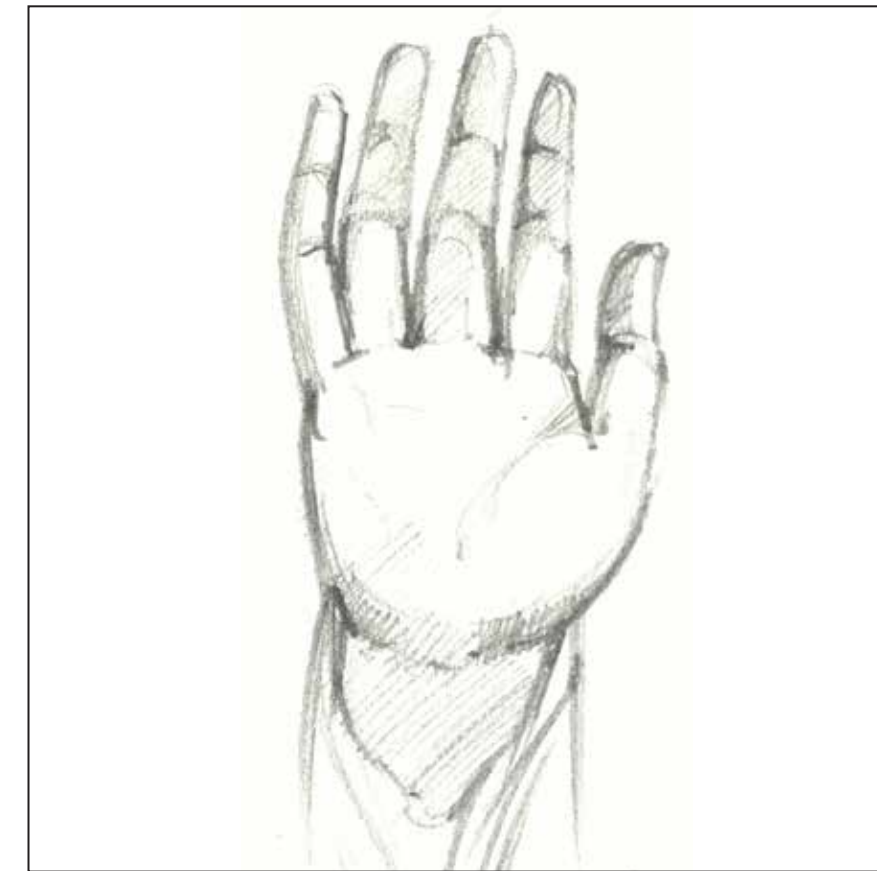
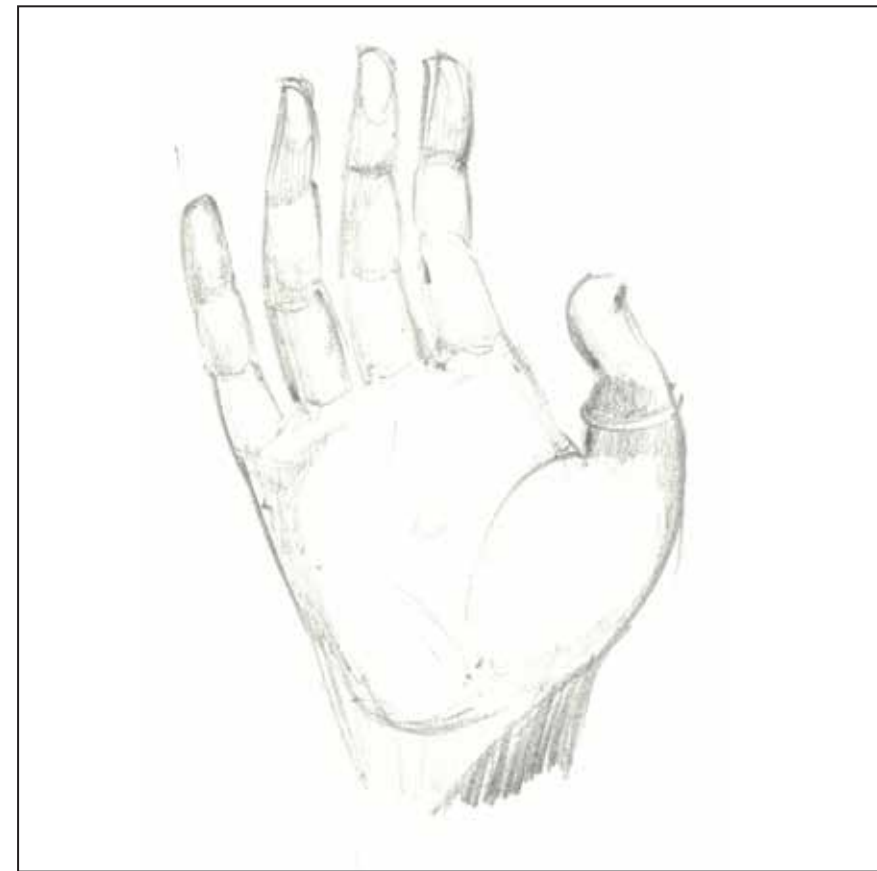
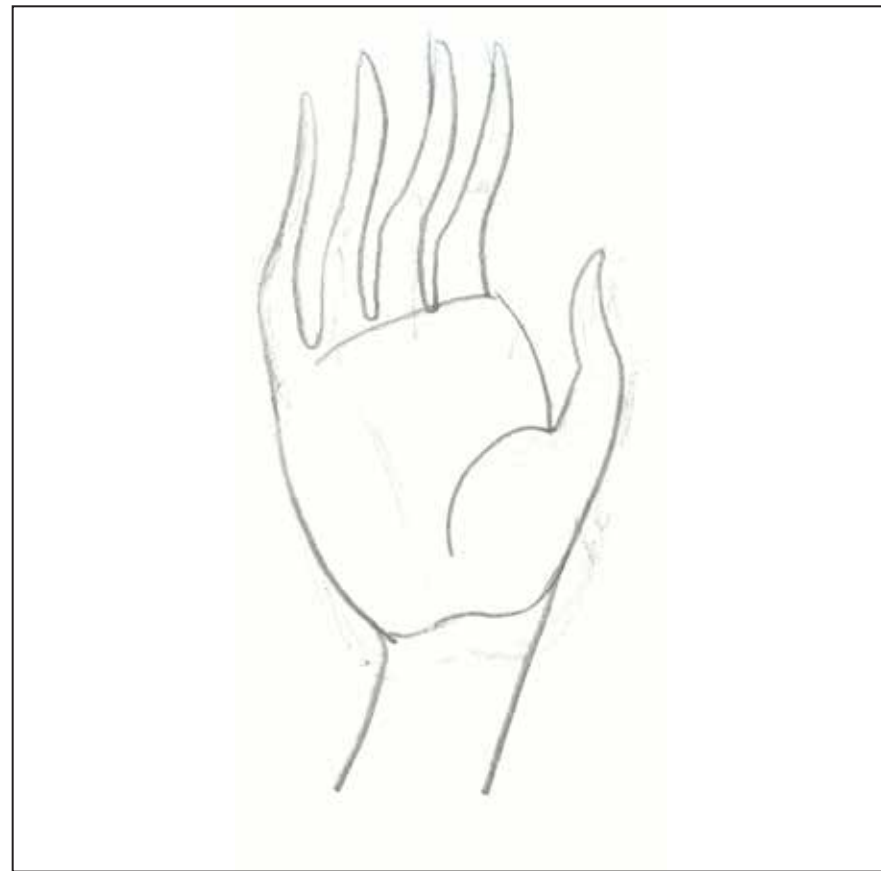


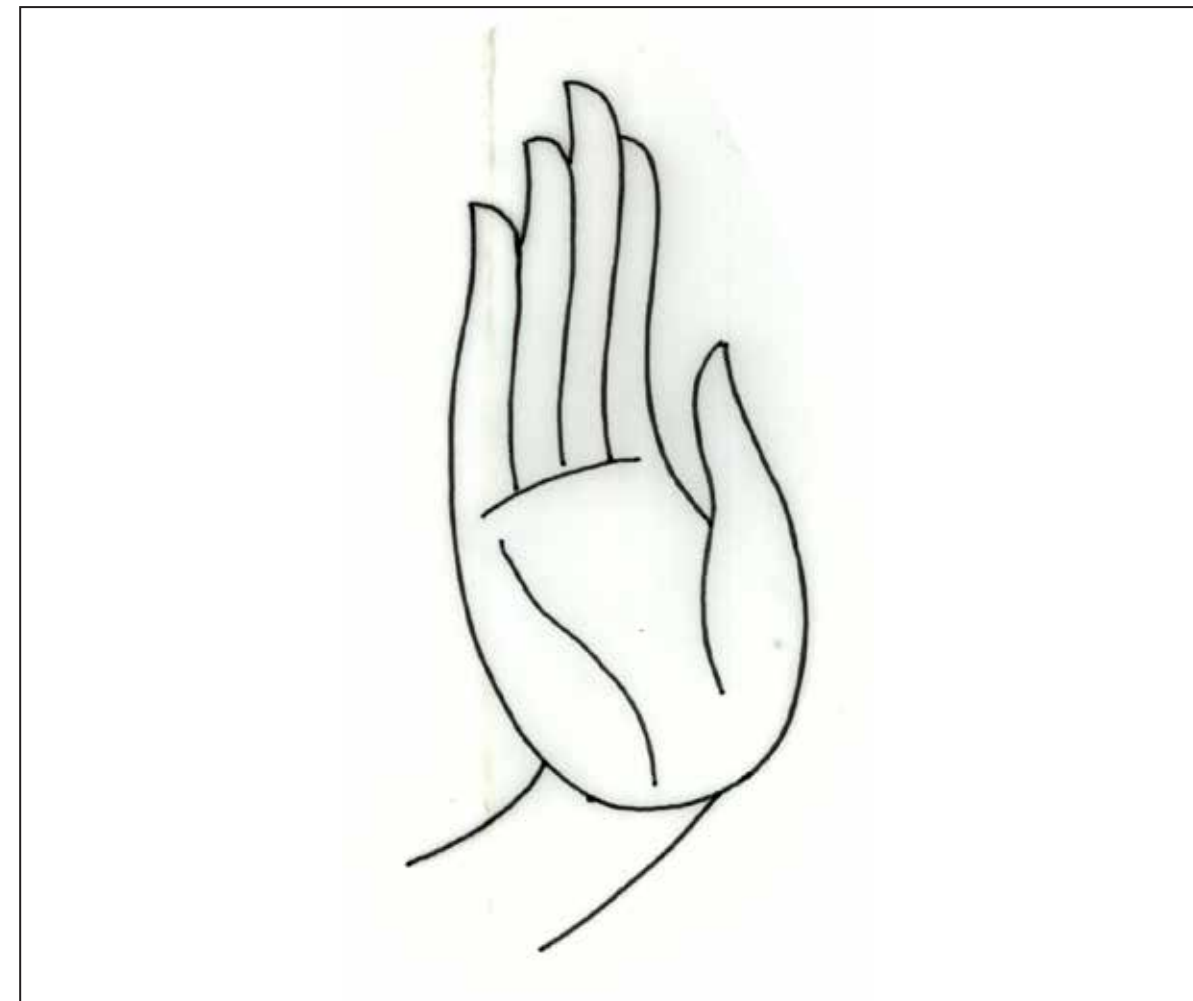
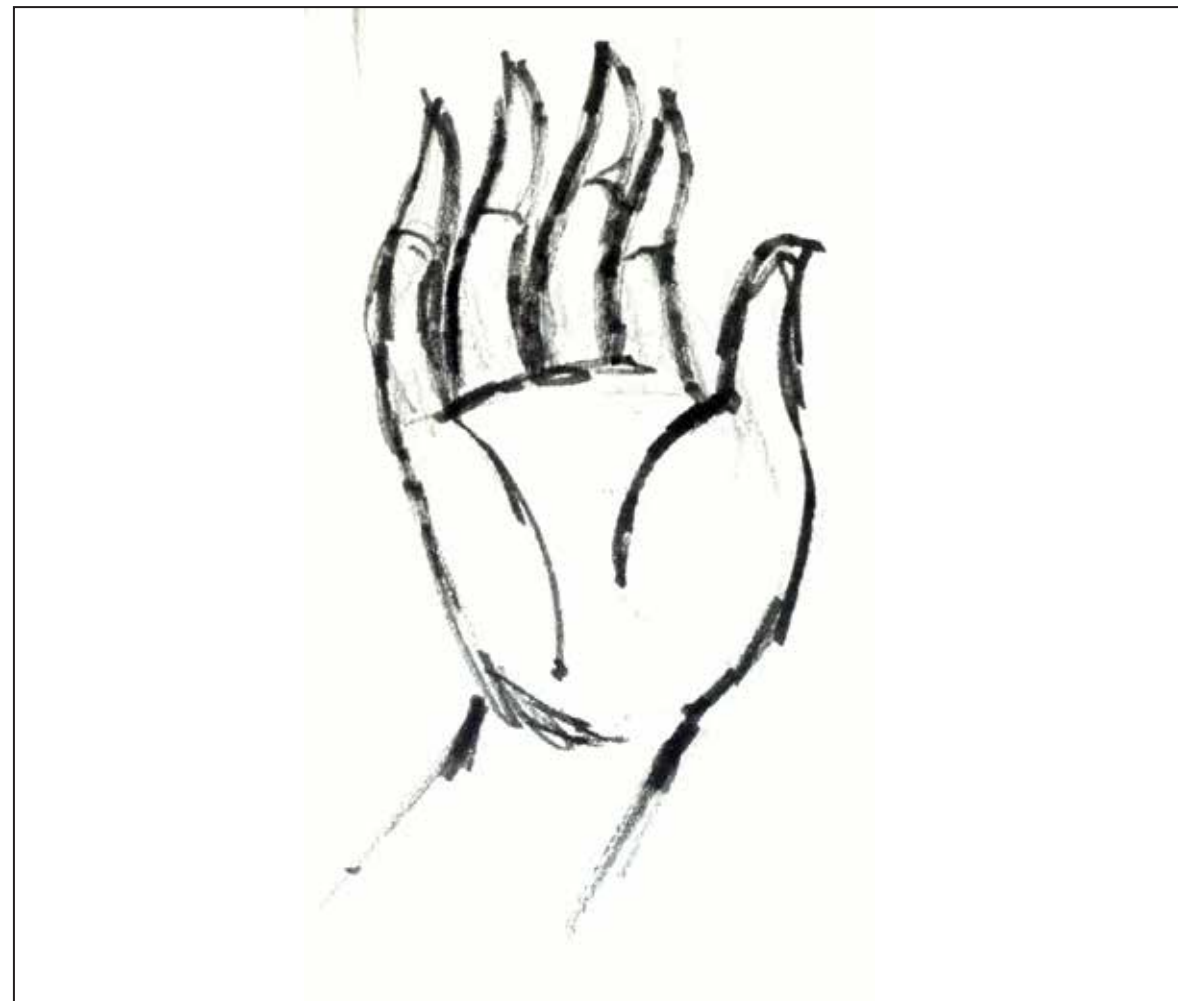
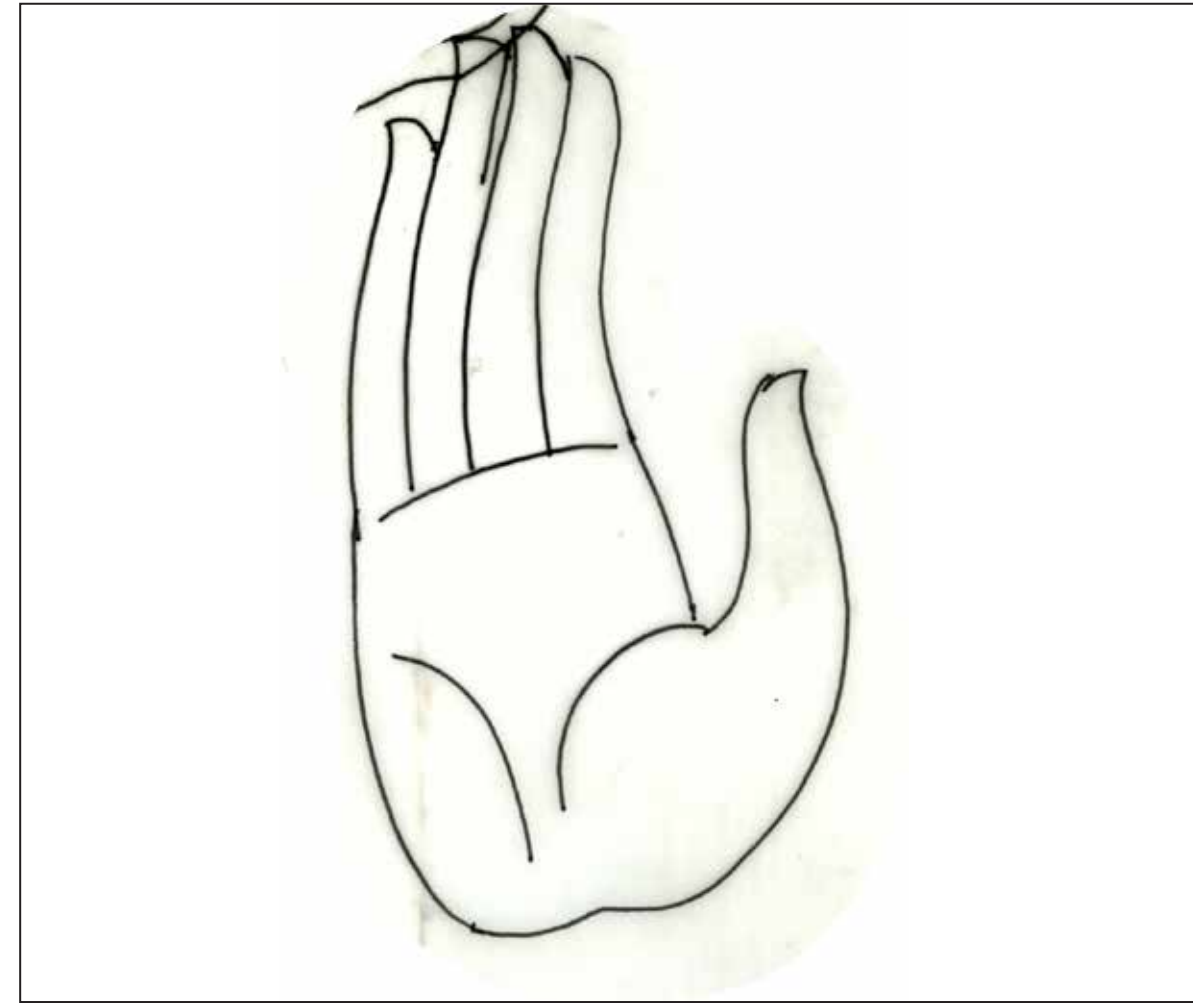
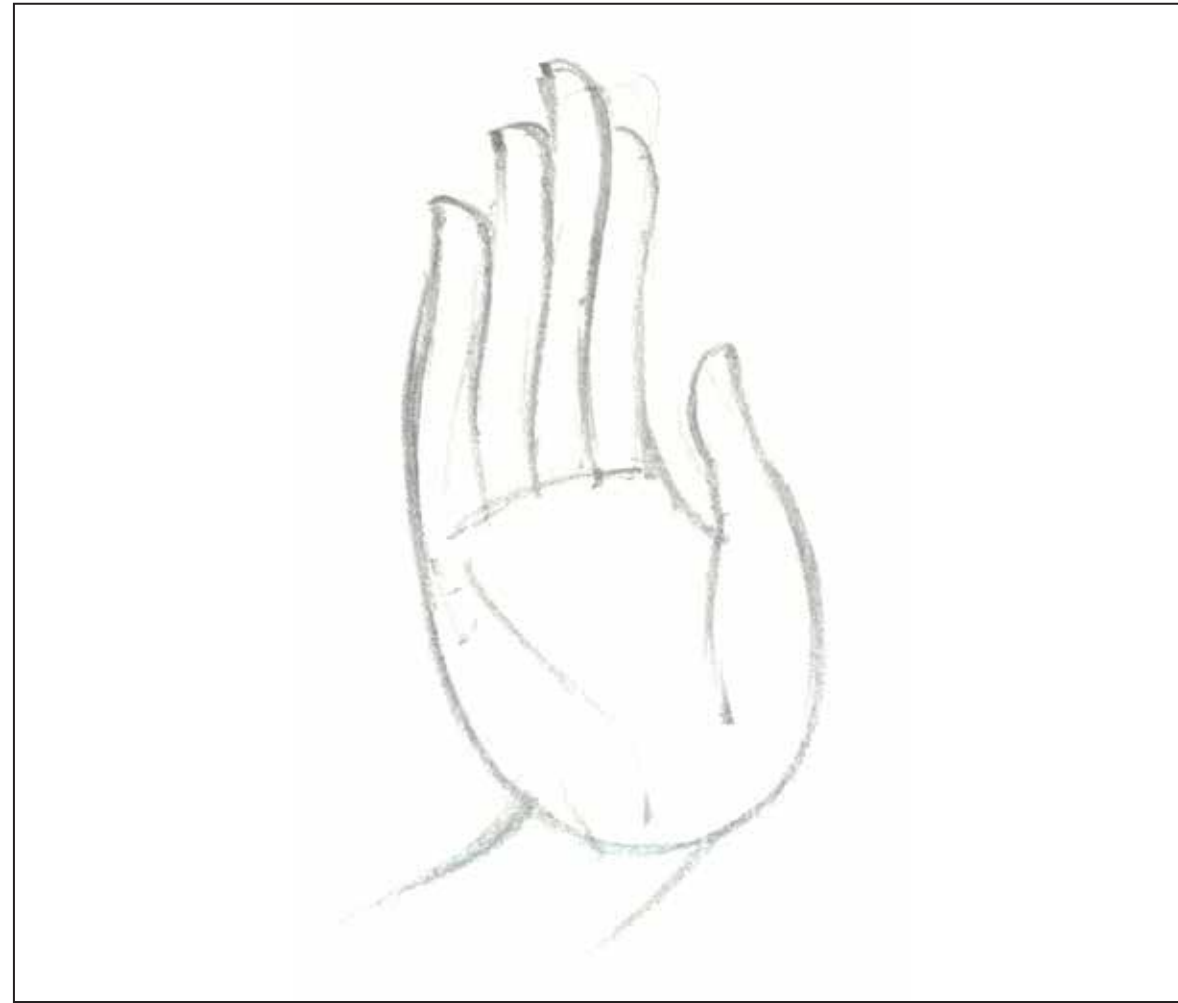
Illustrative

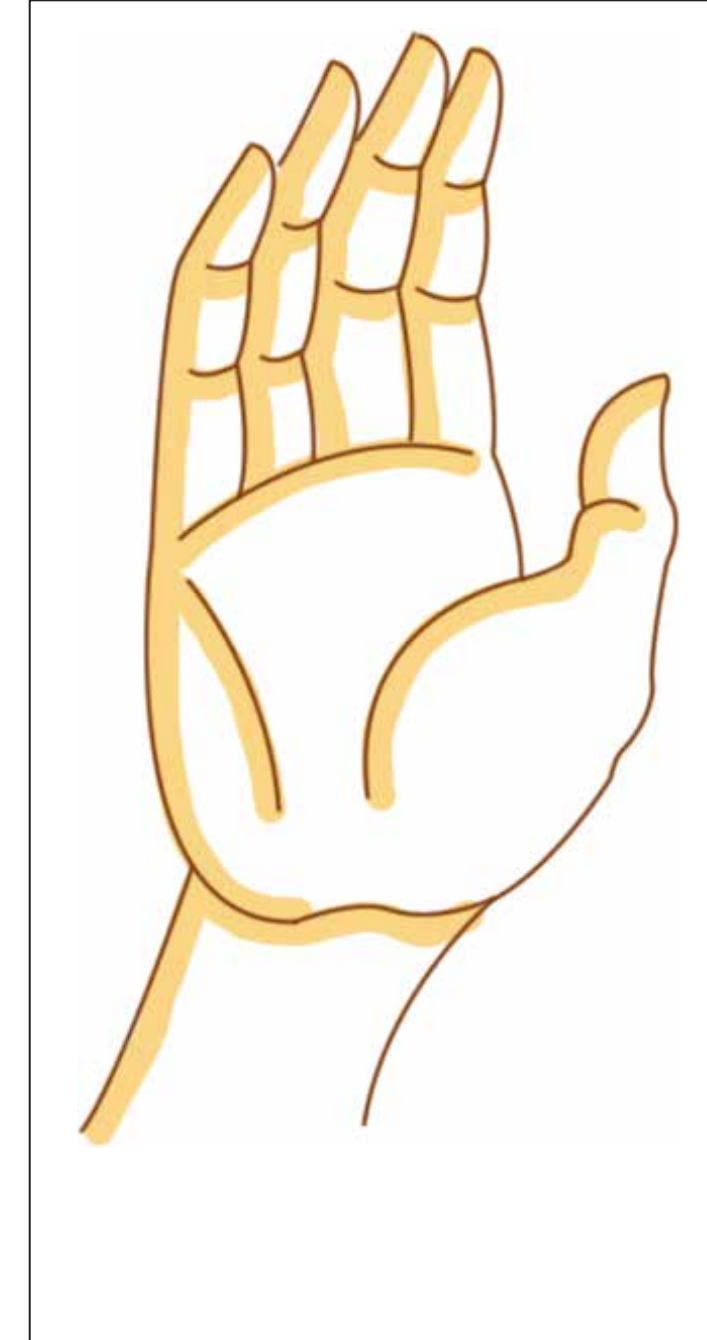
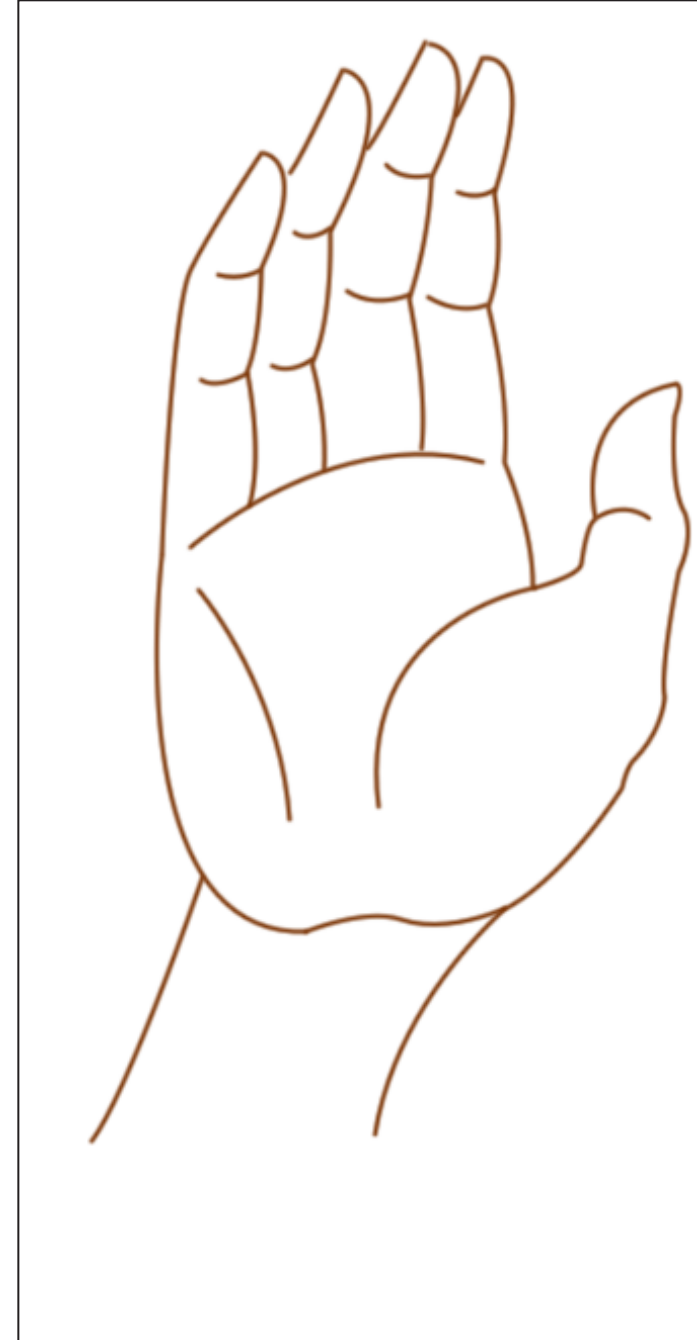


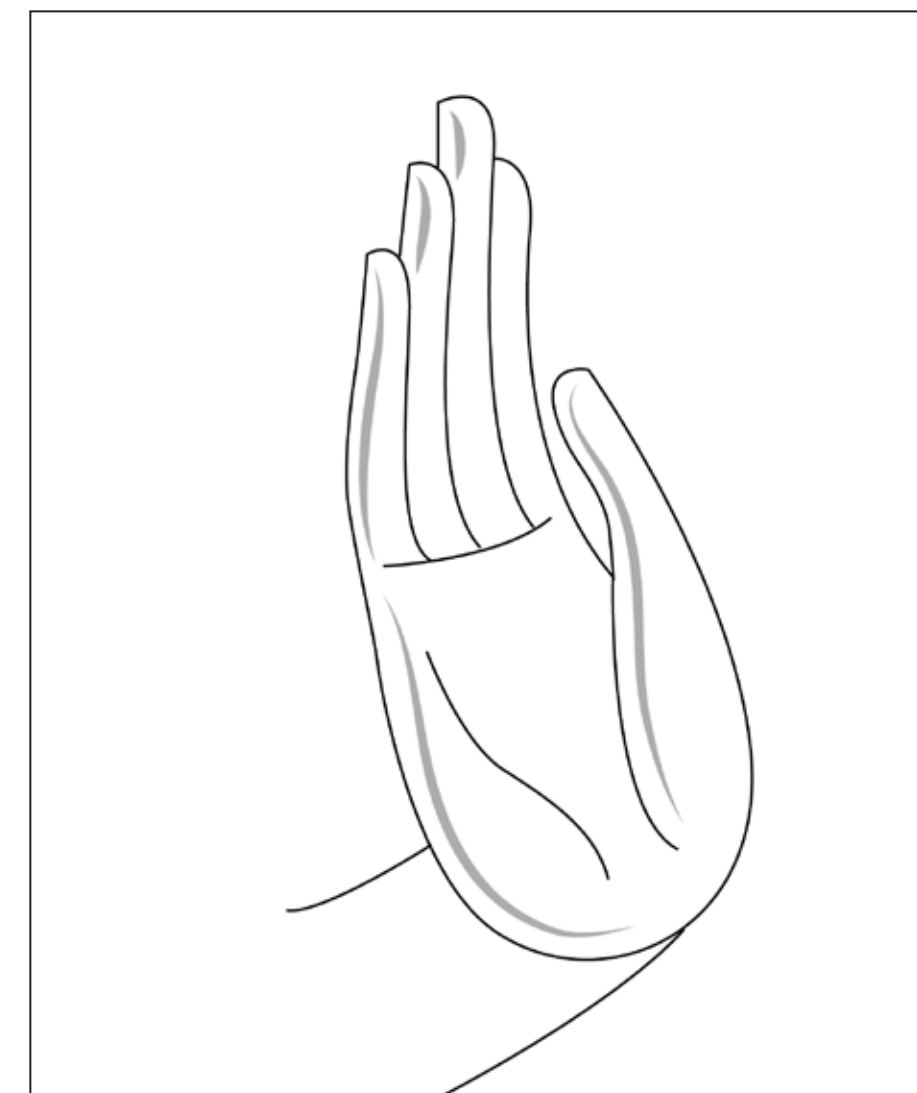
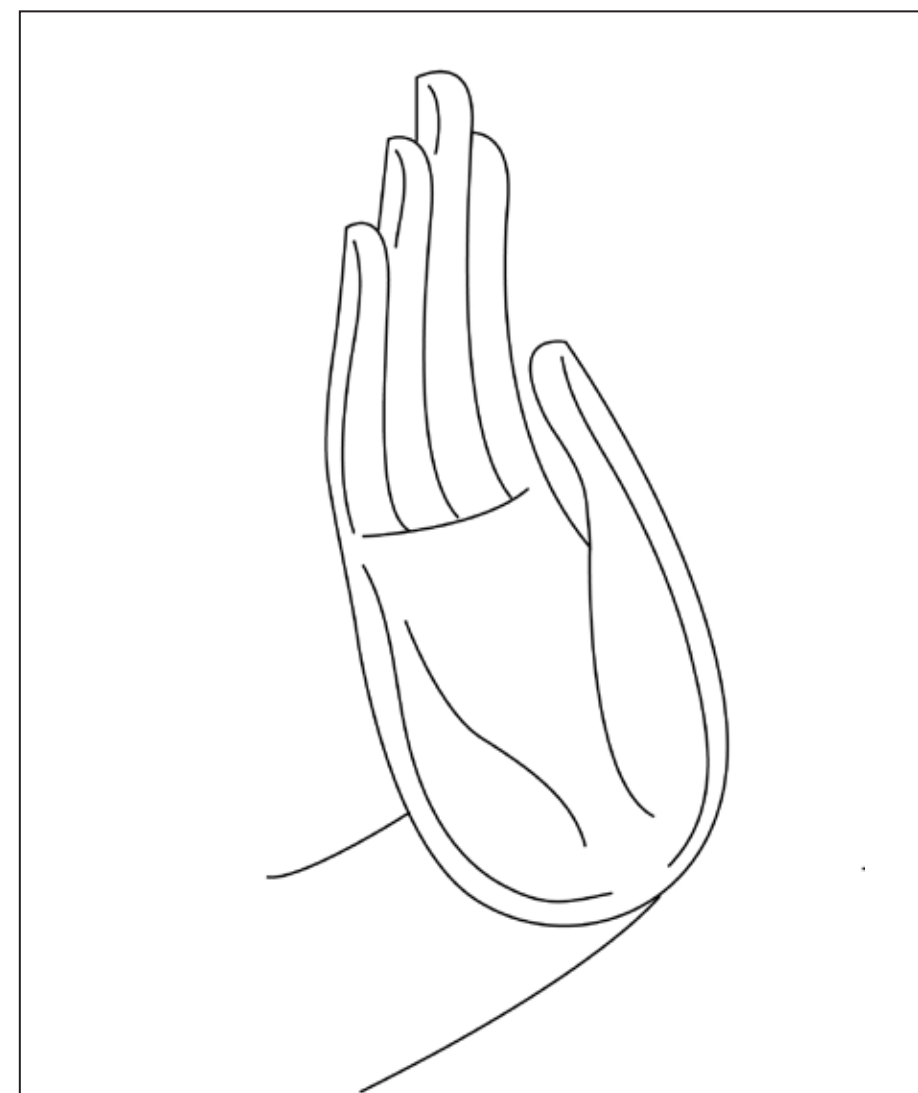
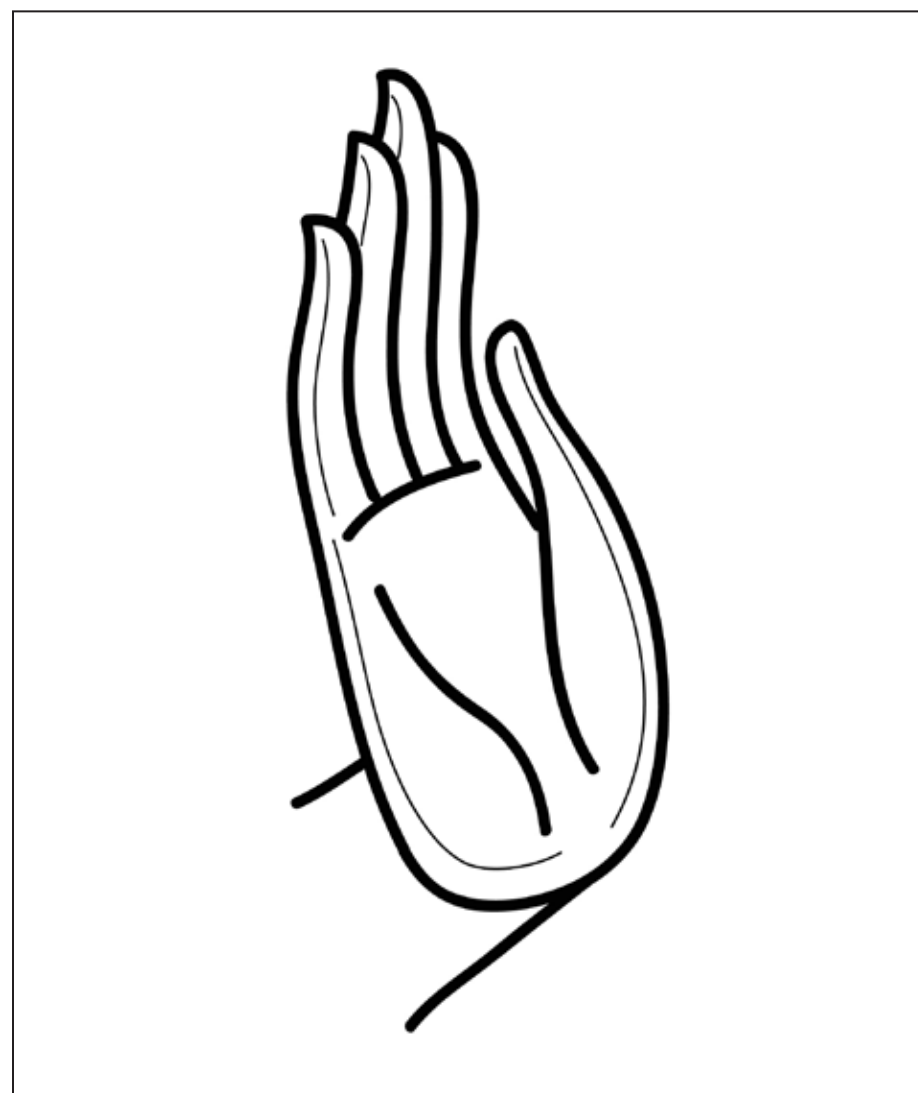
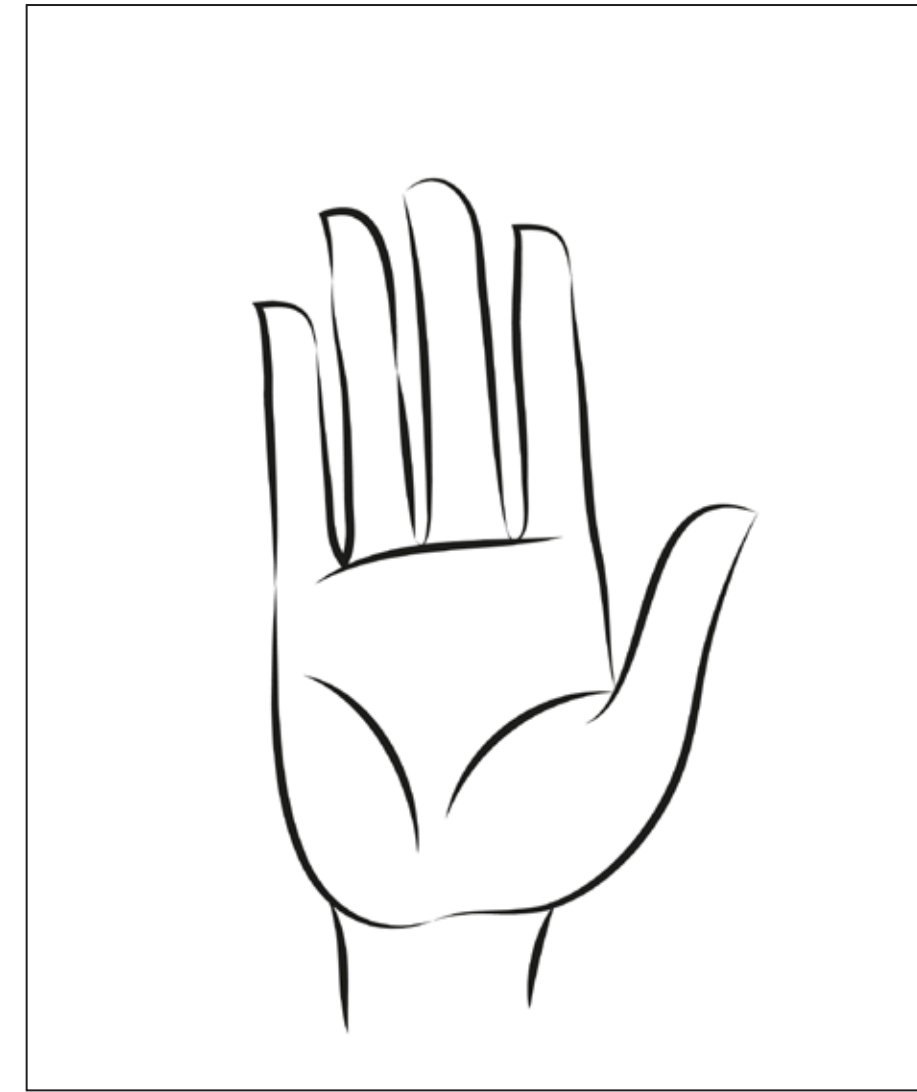
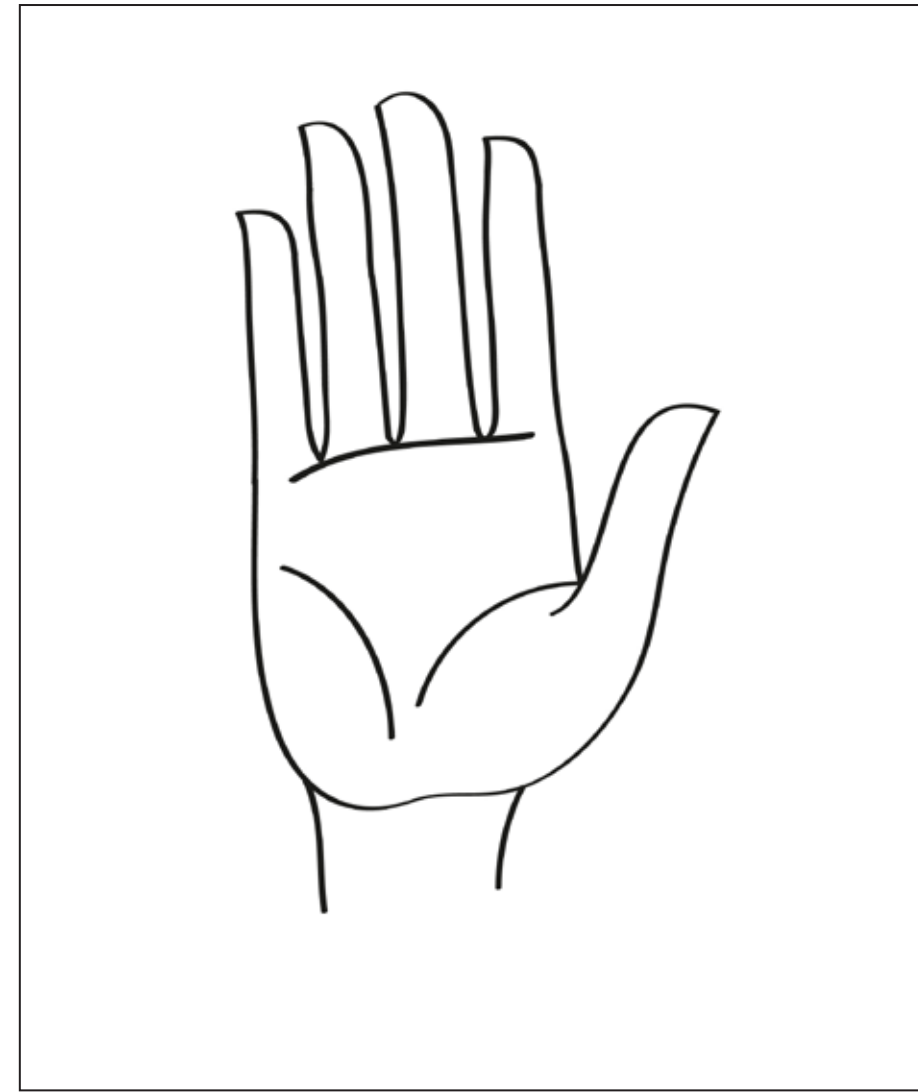
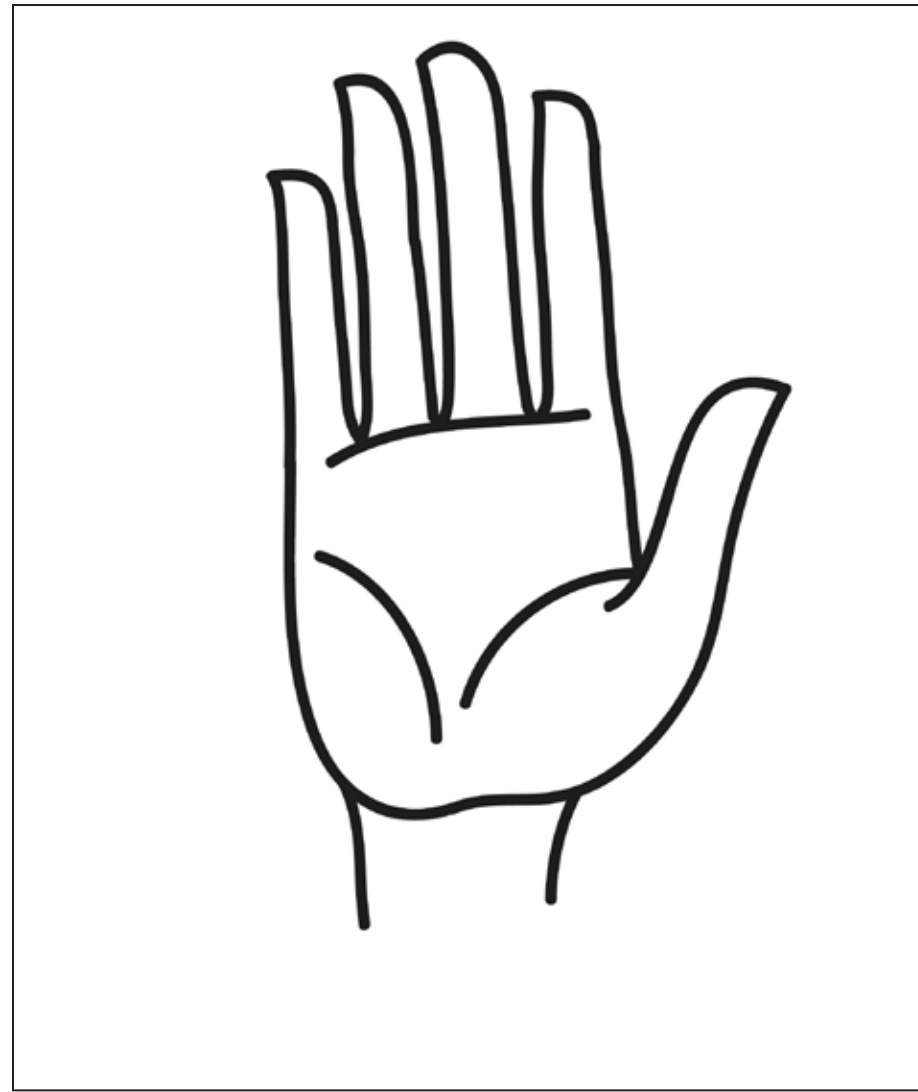
Graphical

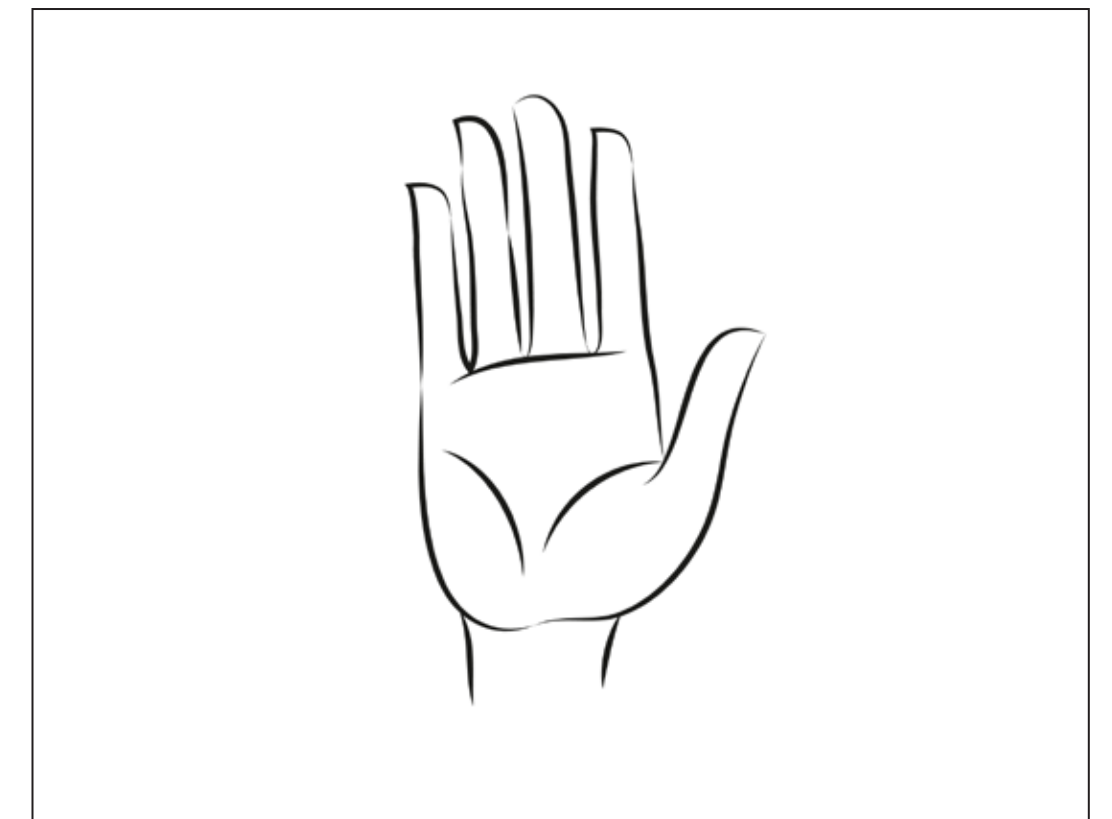
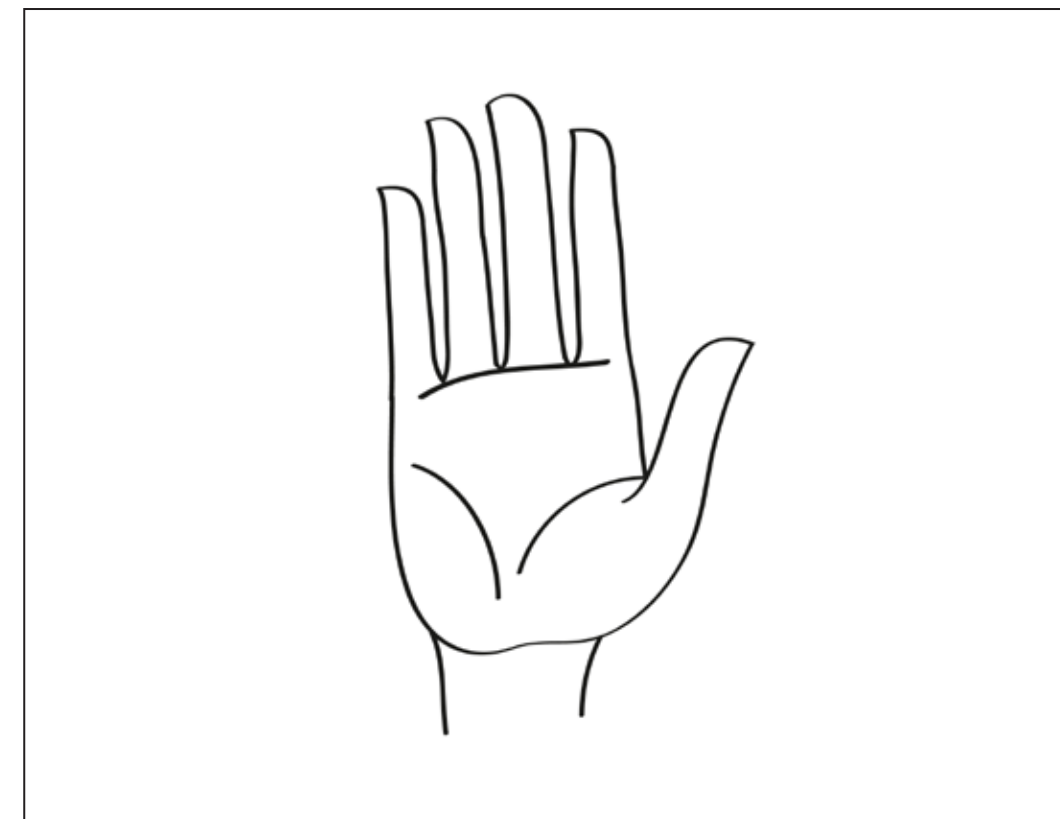
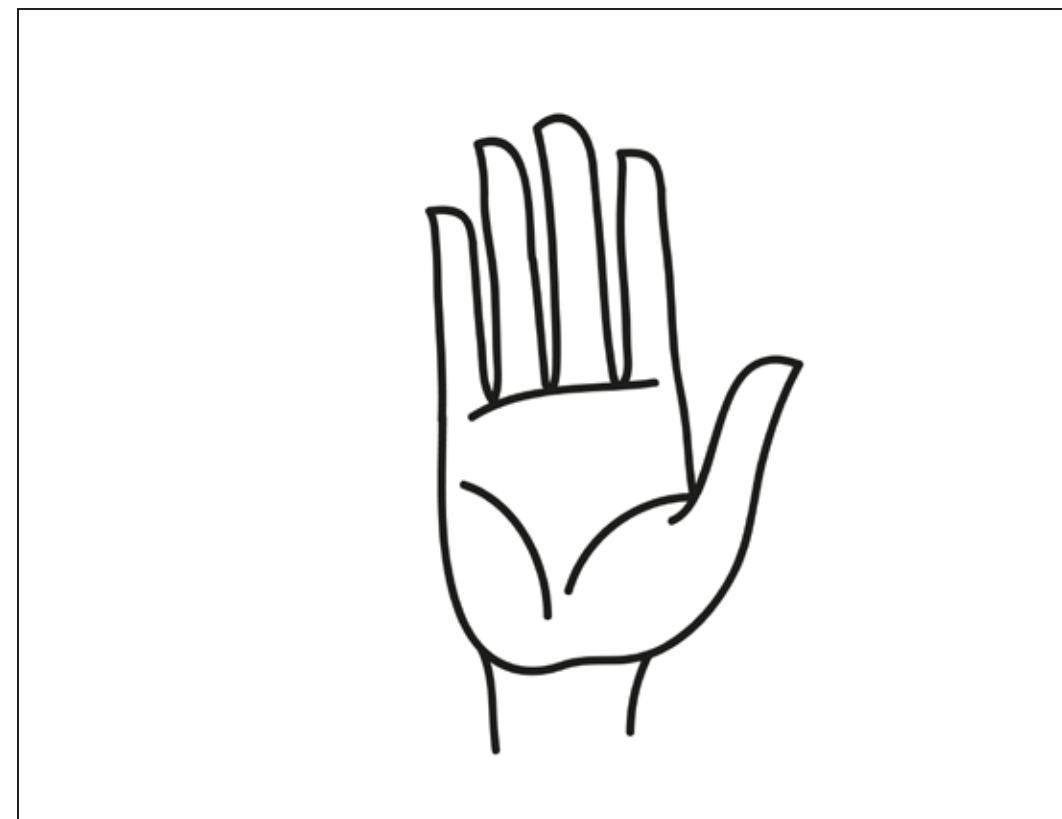
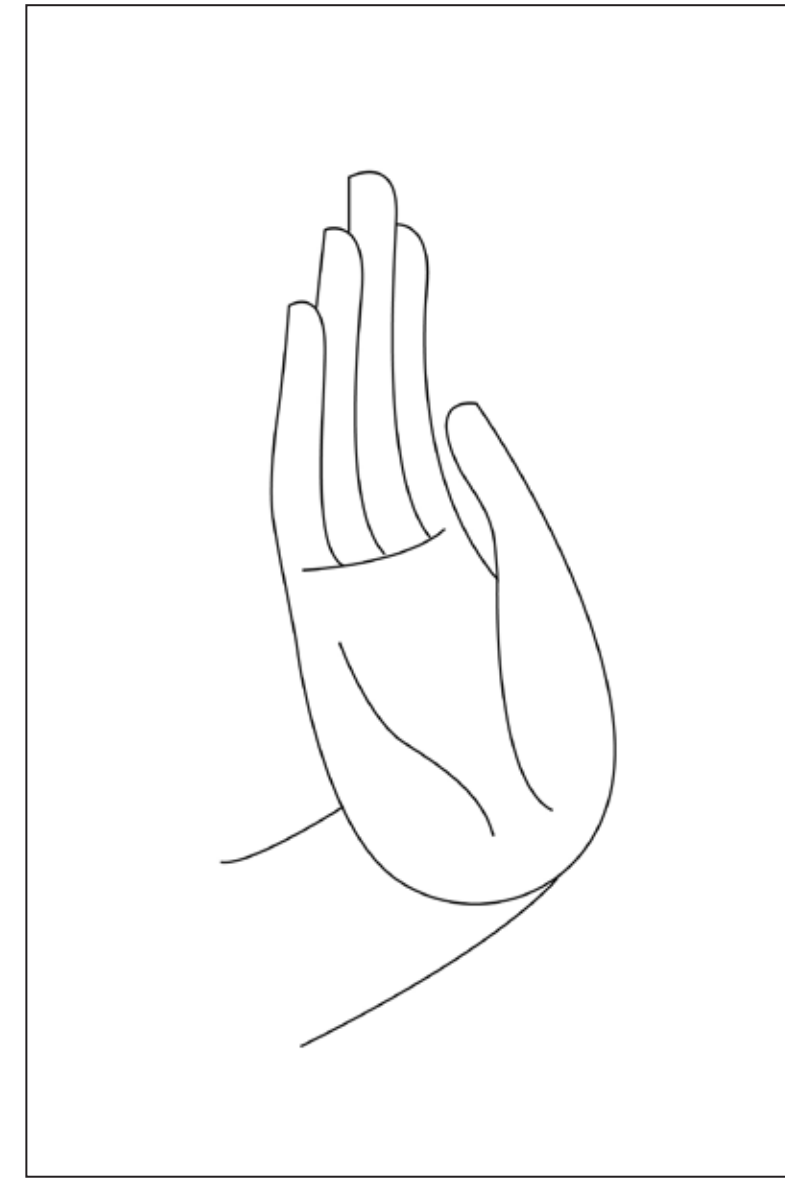
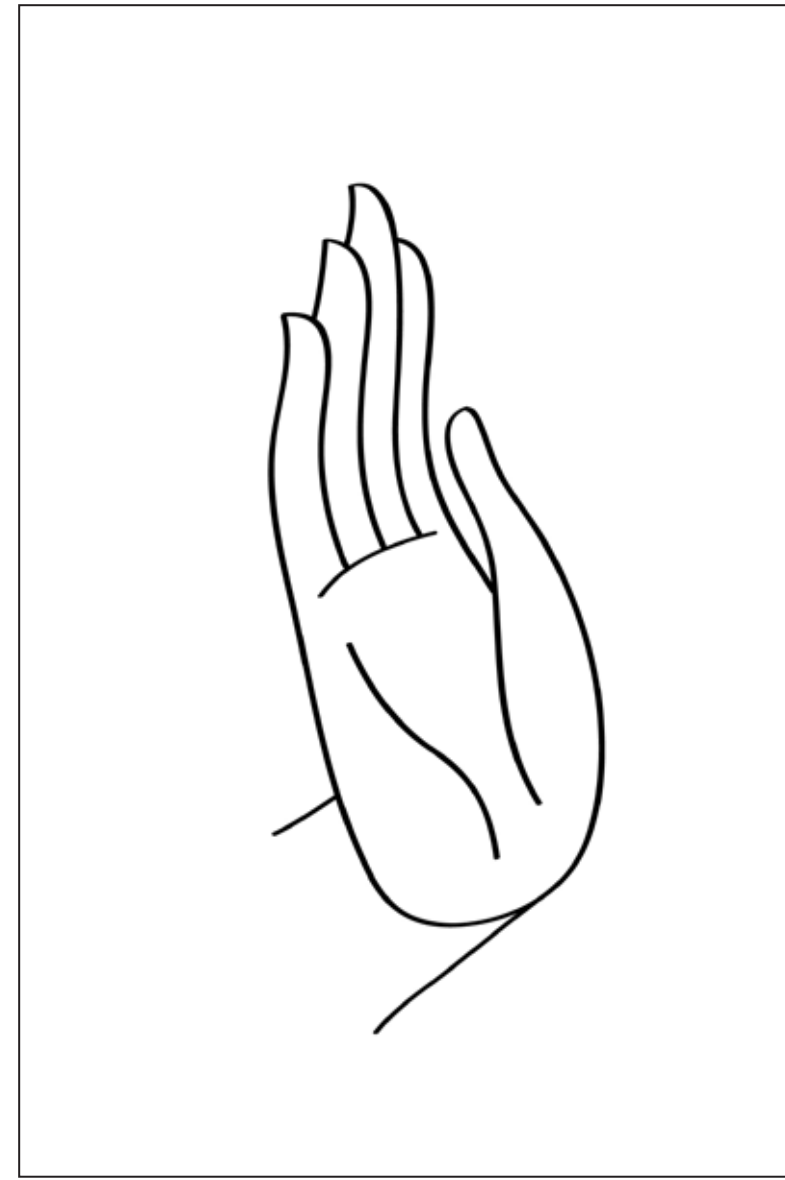
Abhay Mudra | Explorations



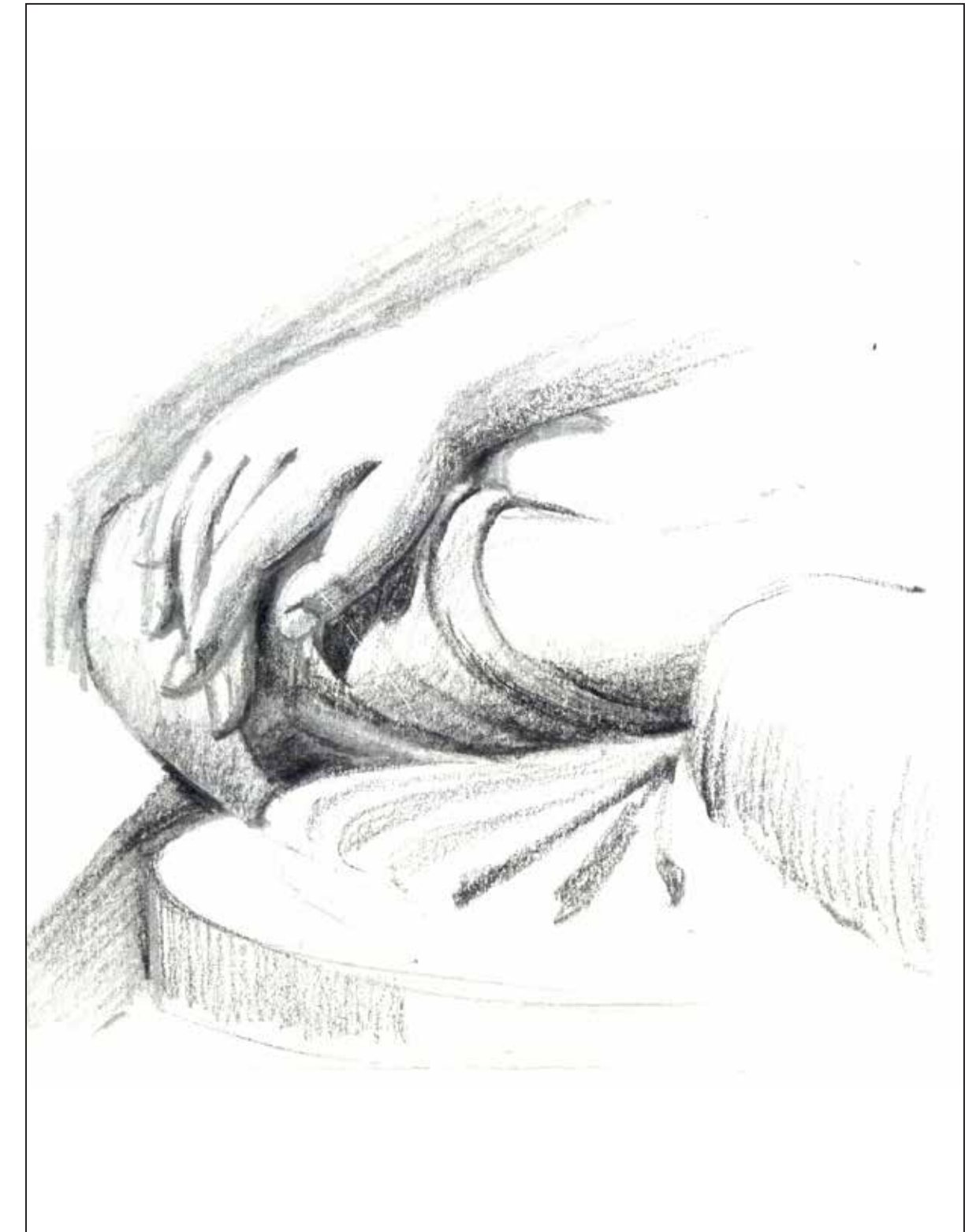


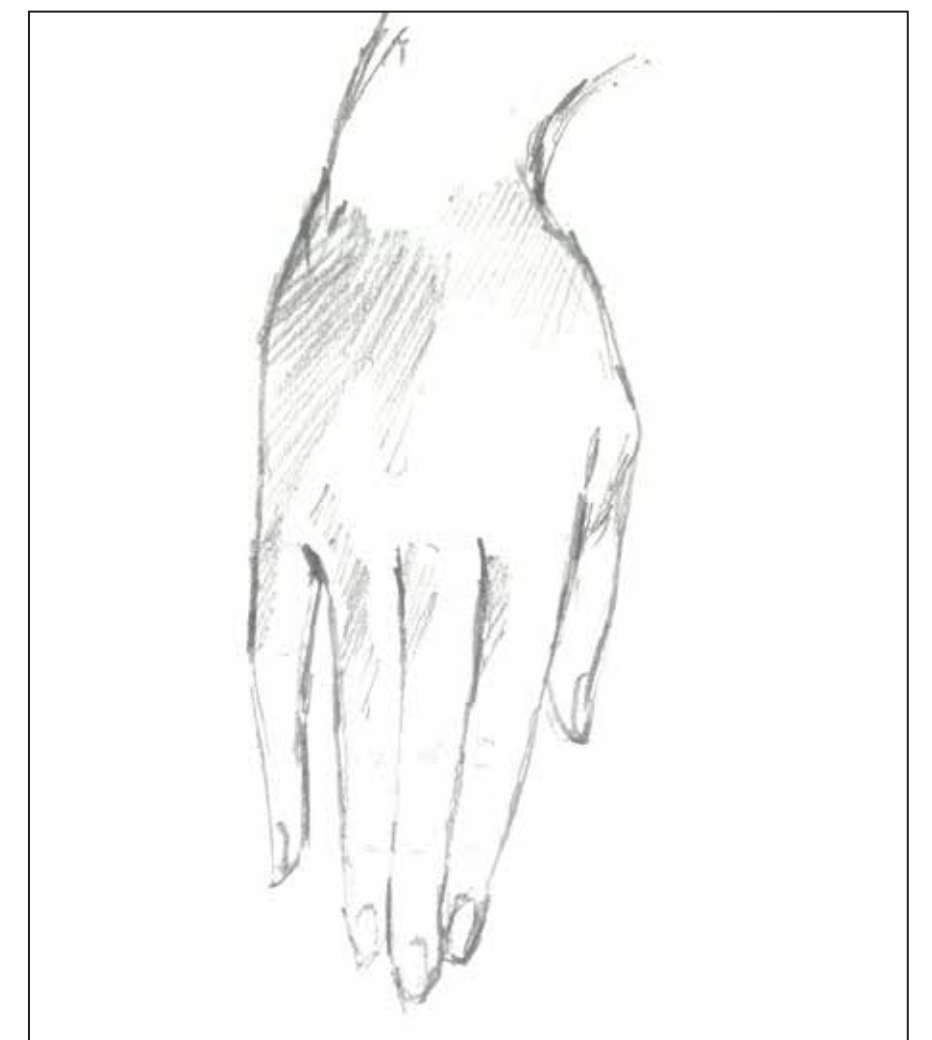
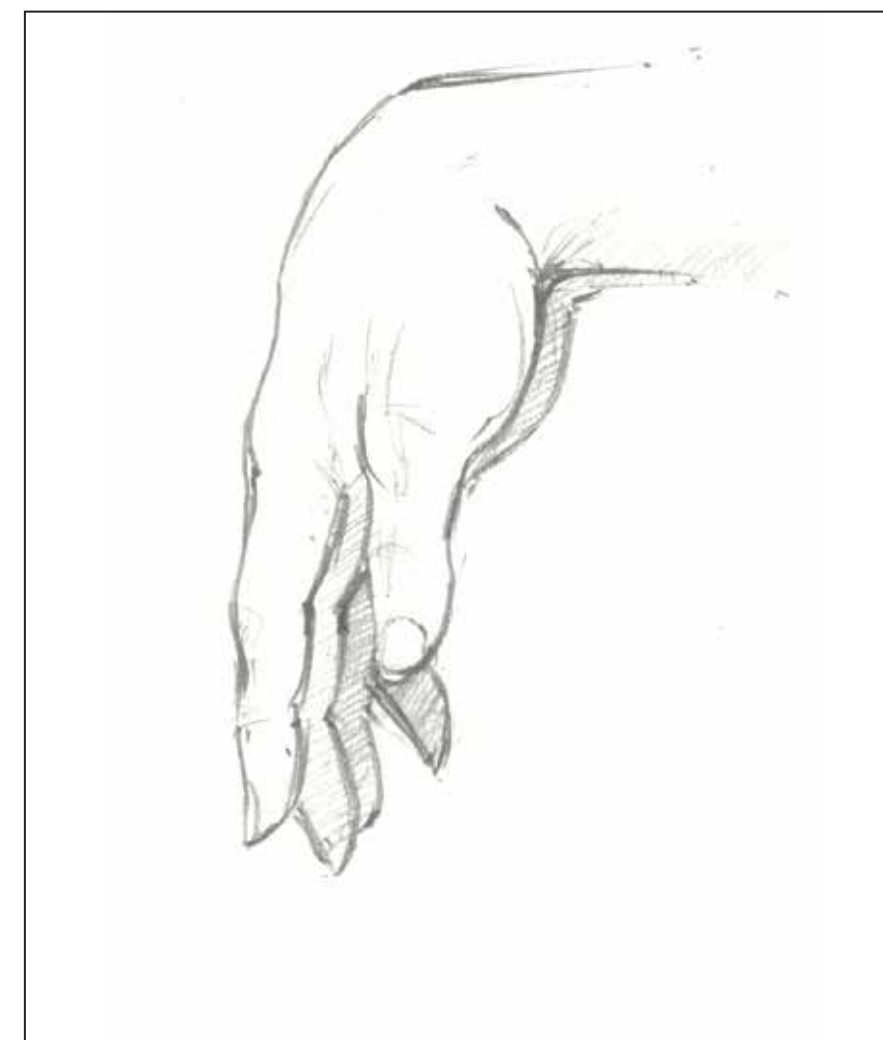
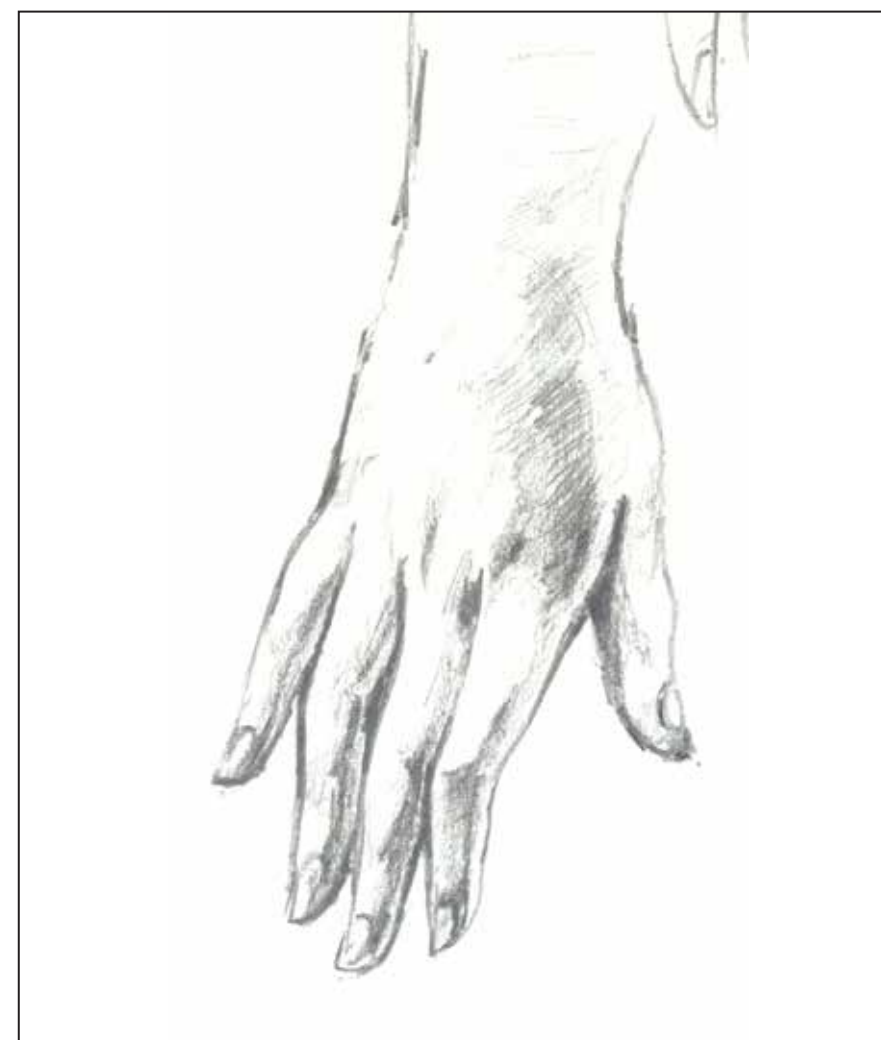
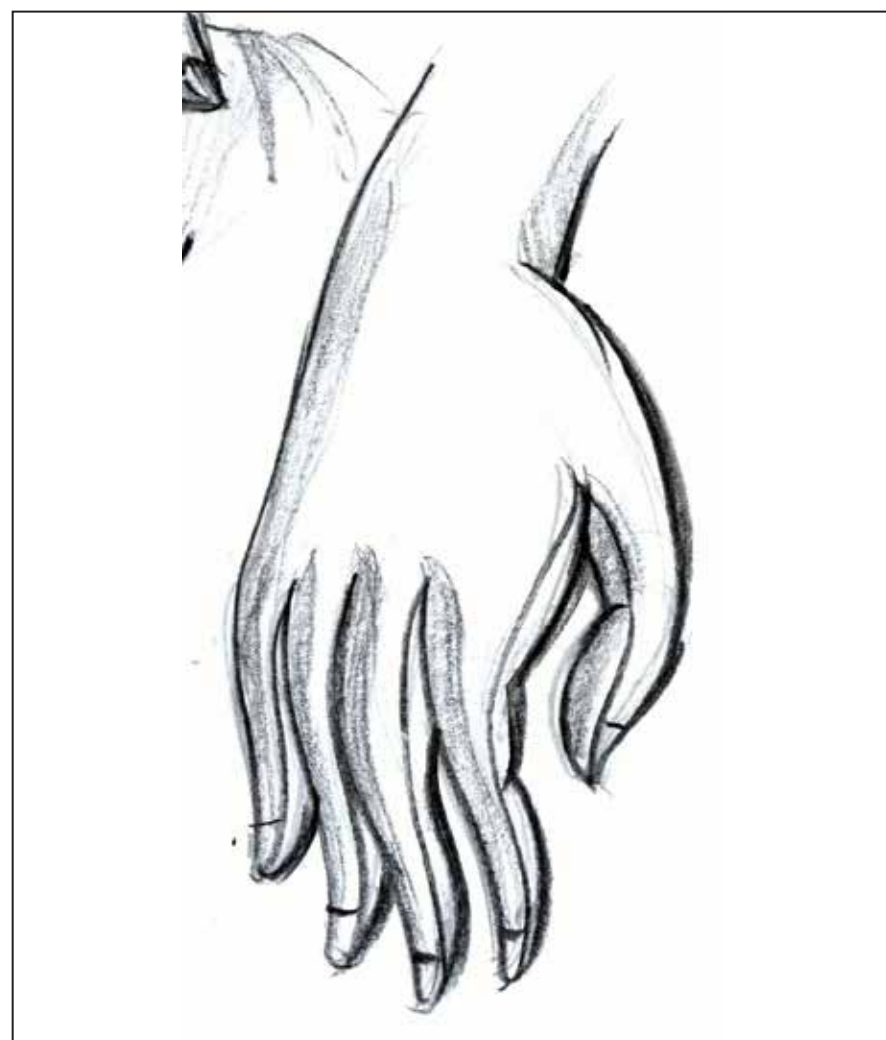
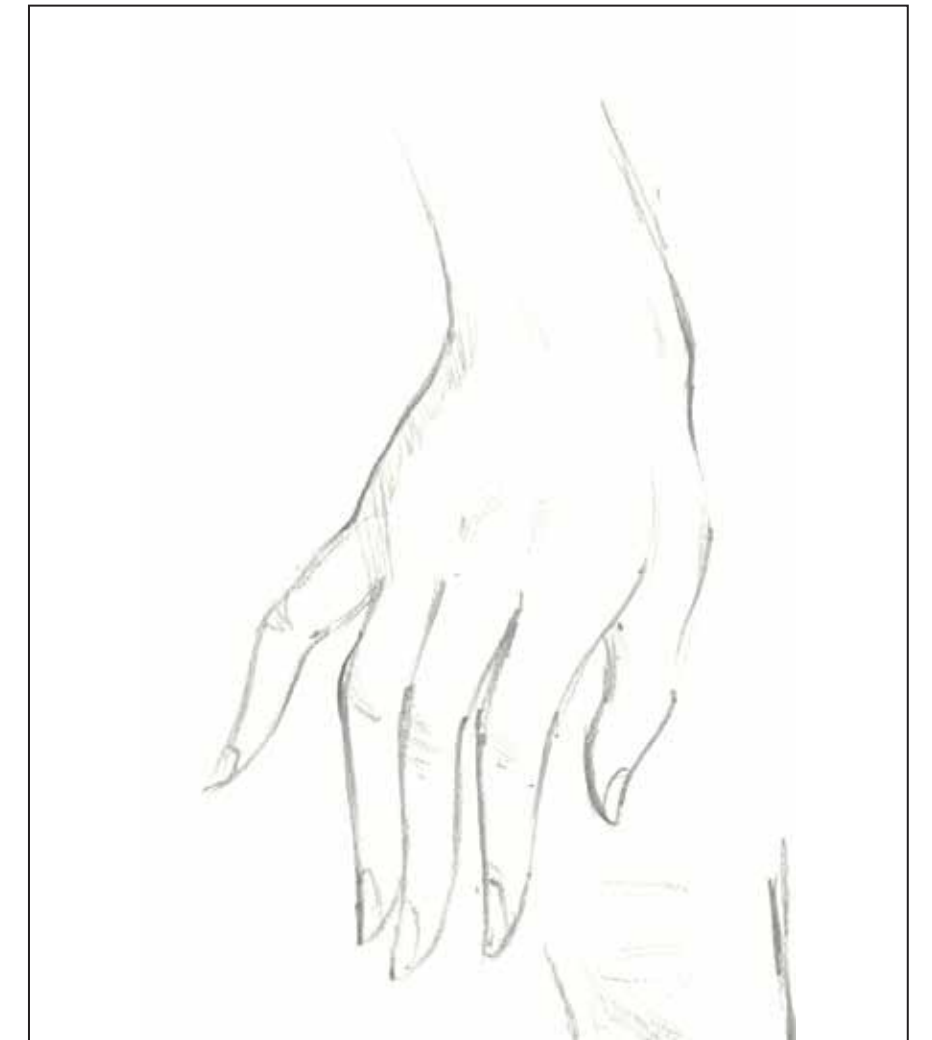
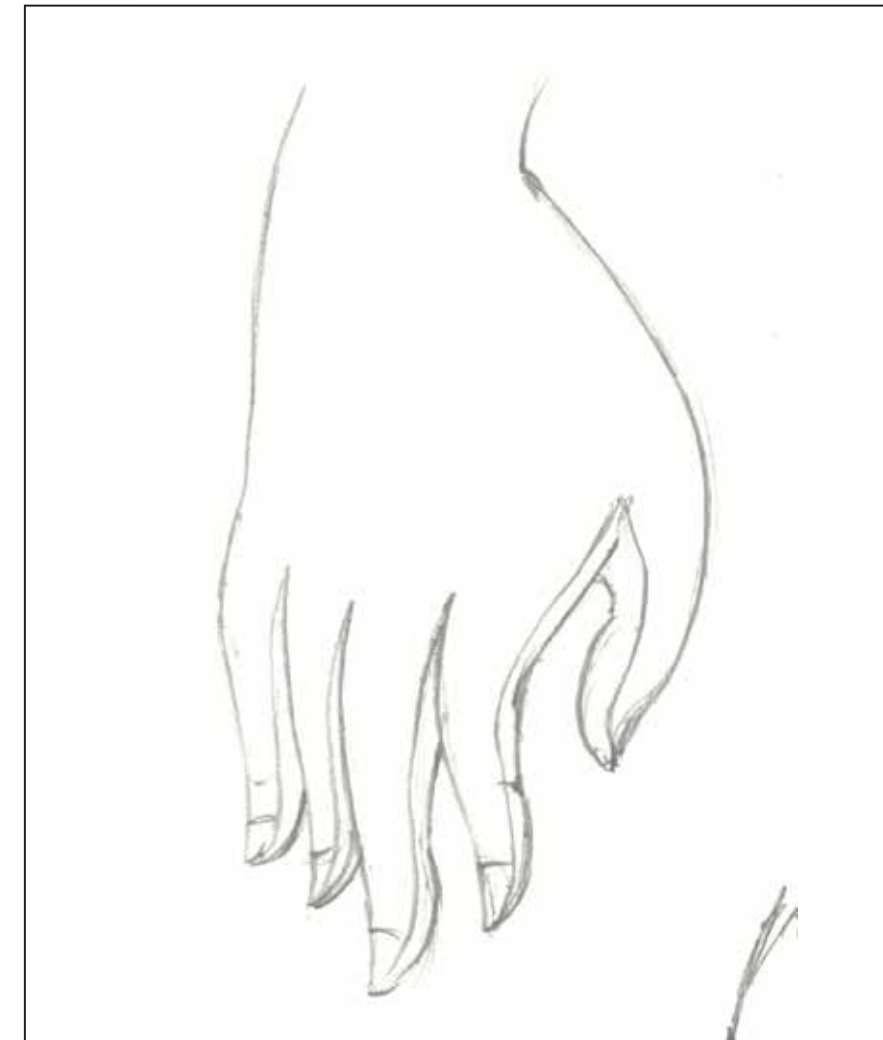
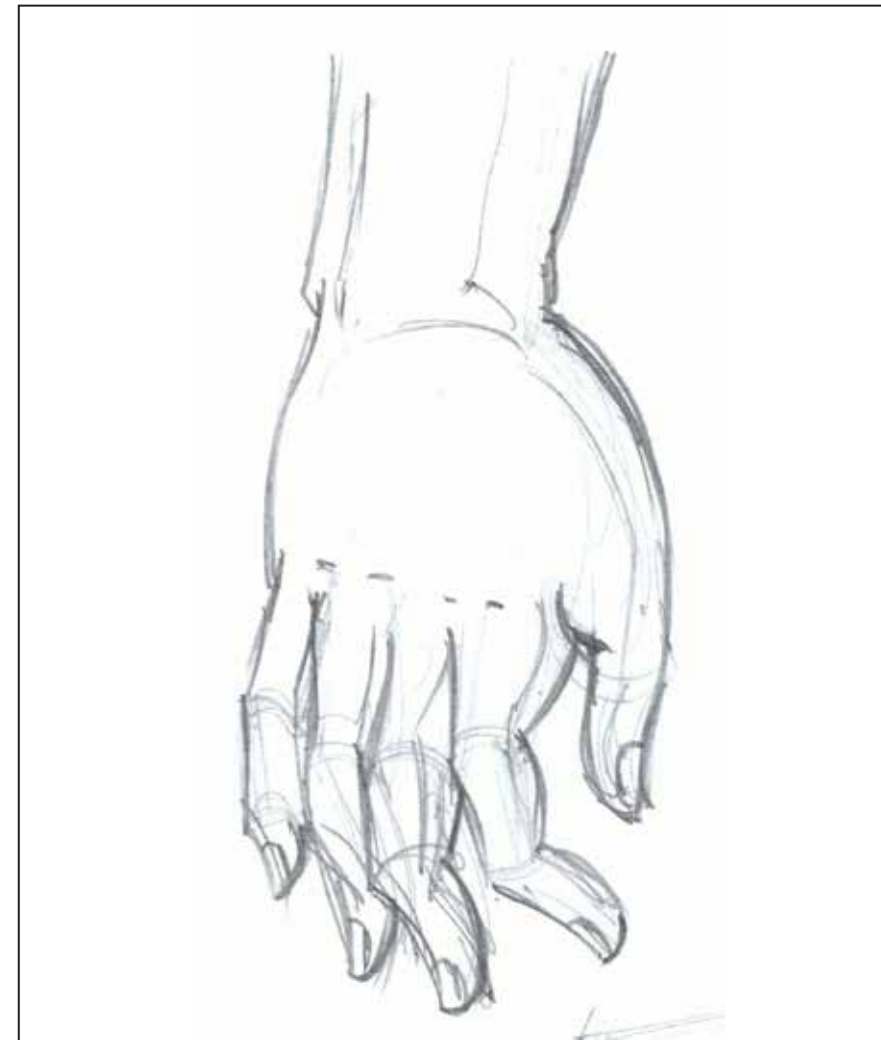
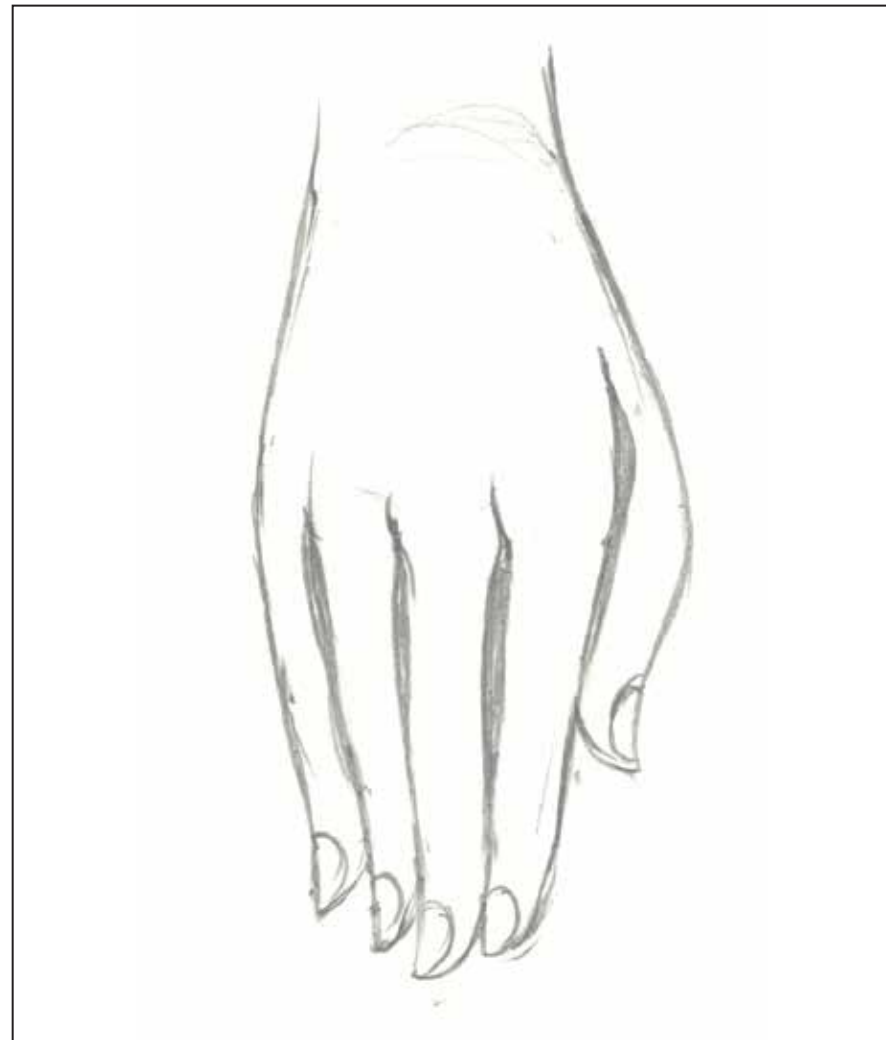


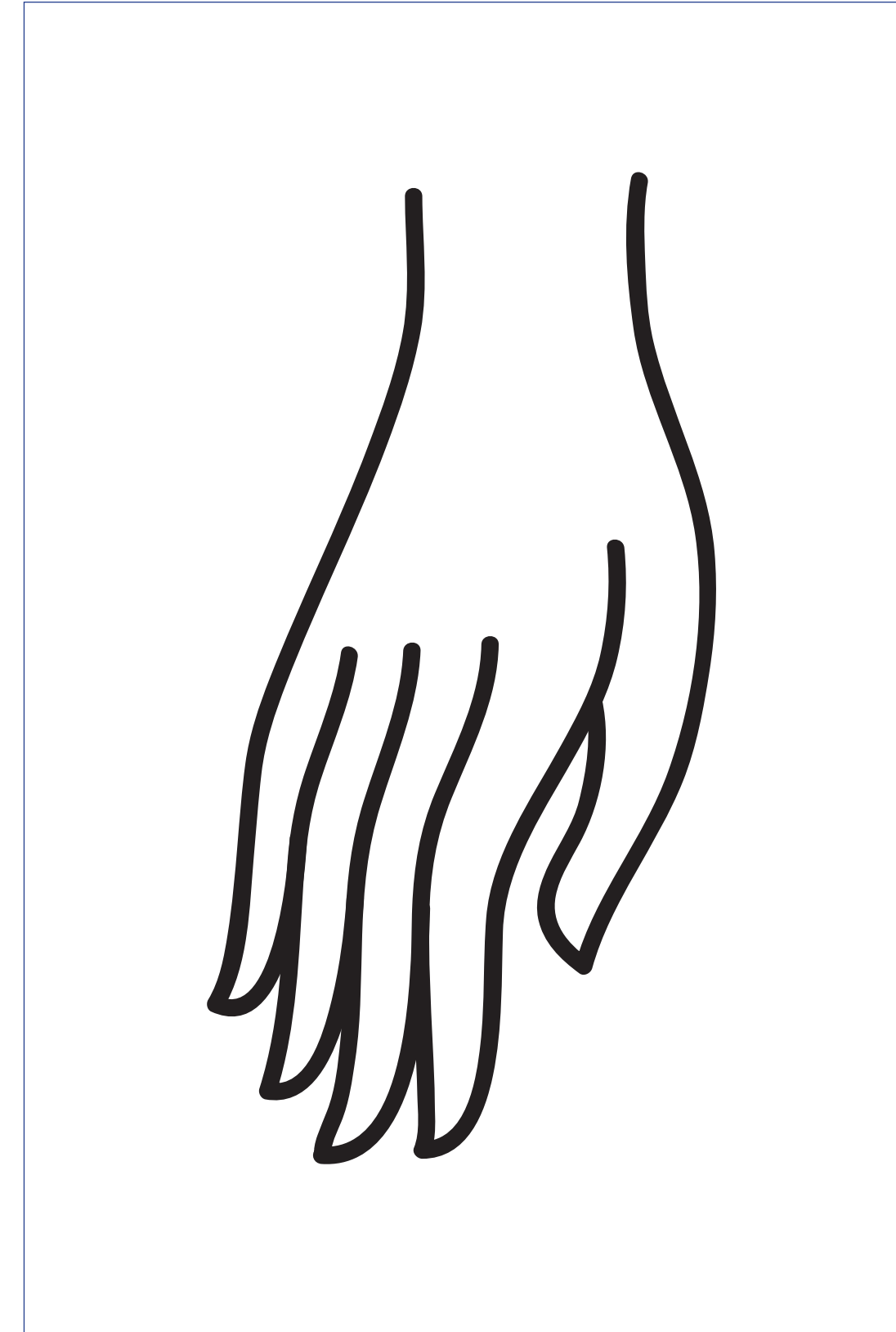
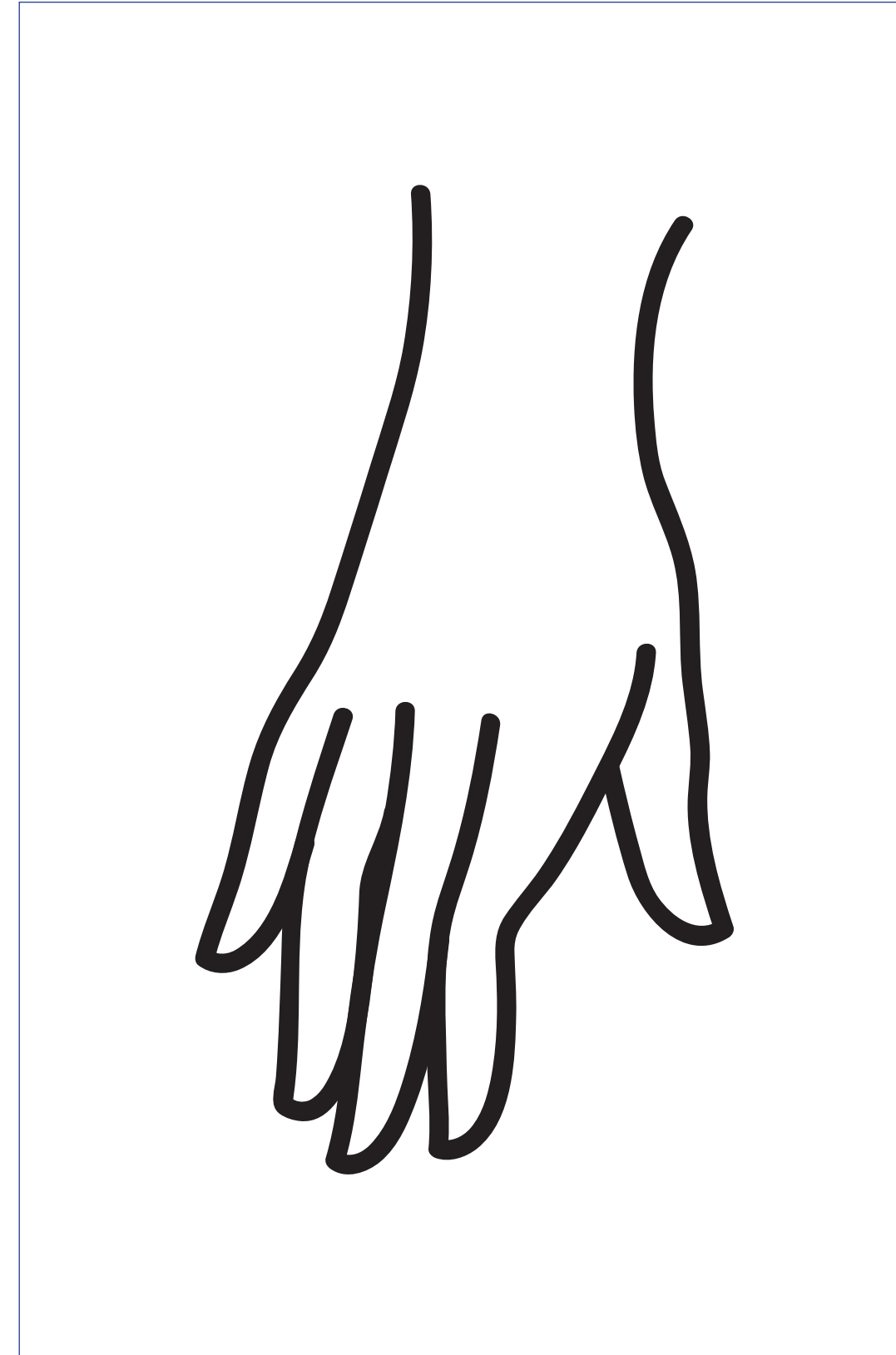
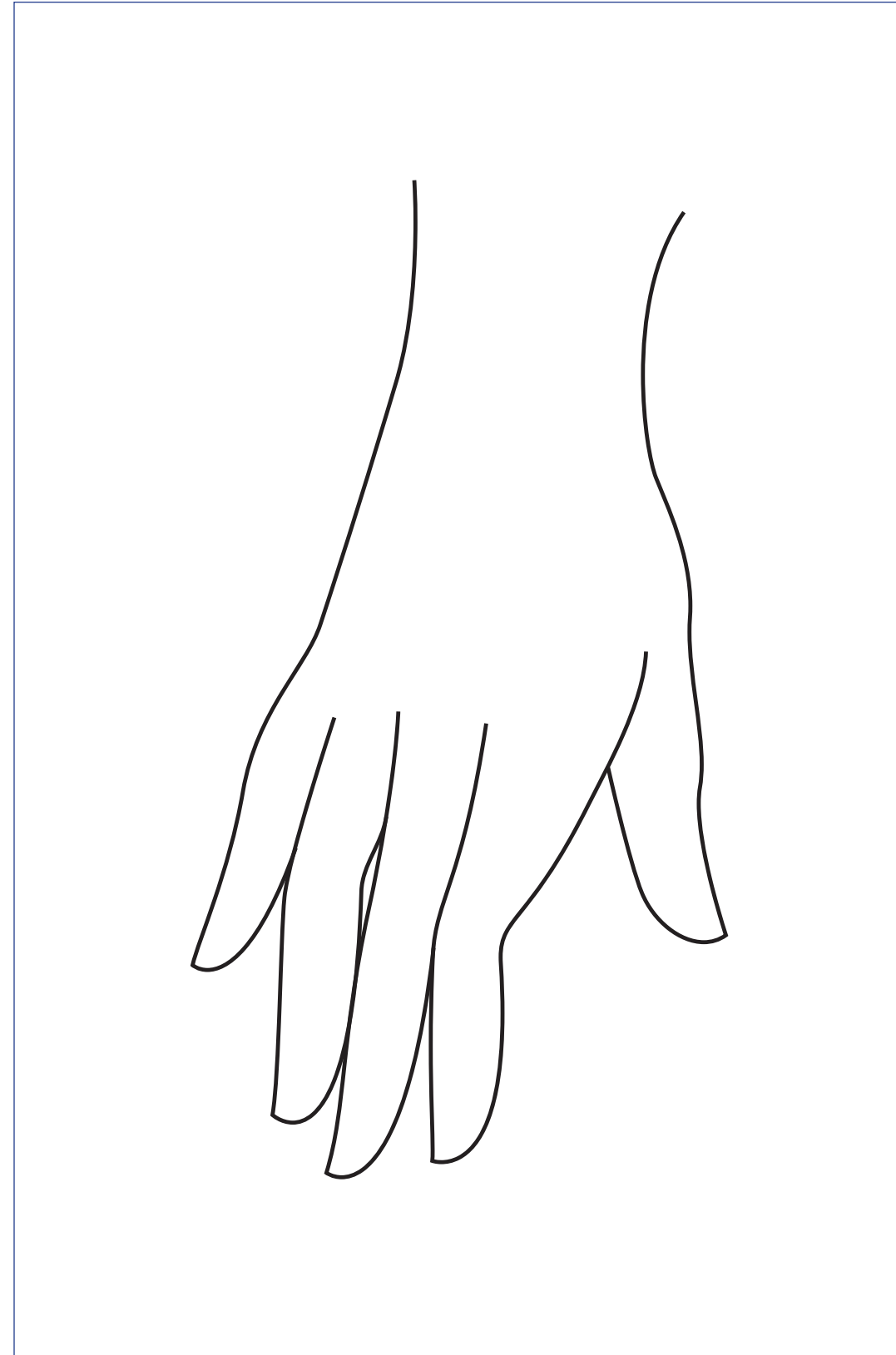




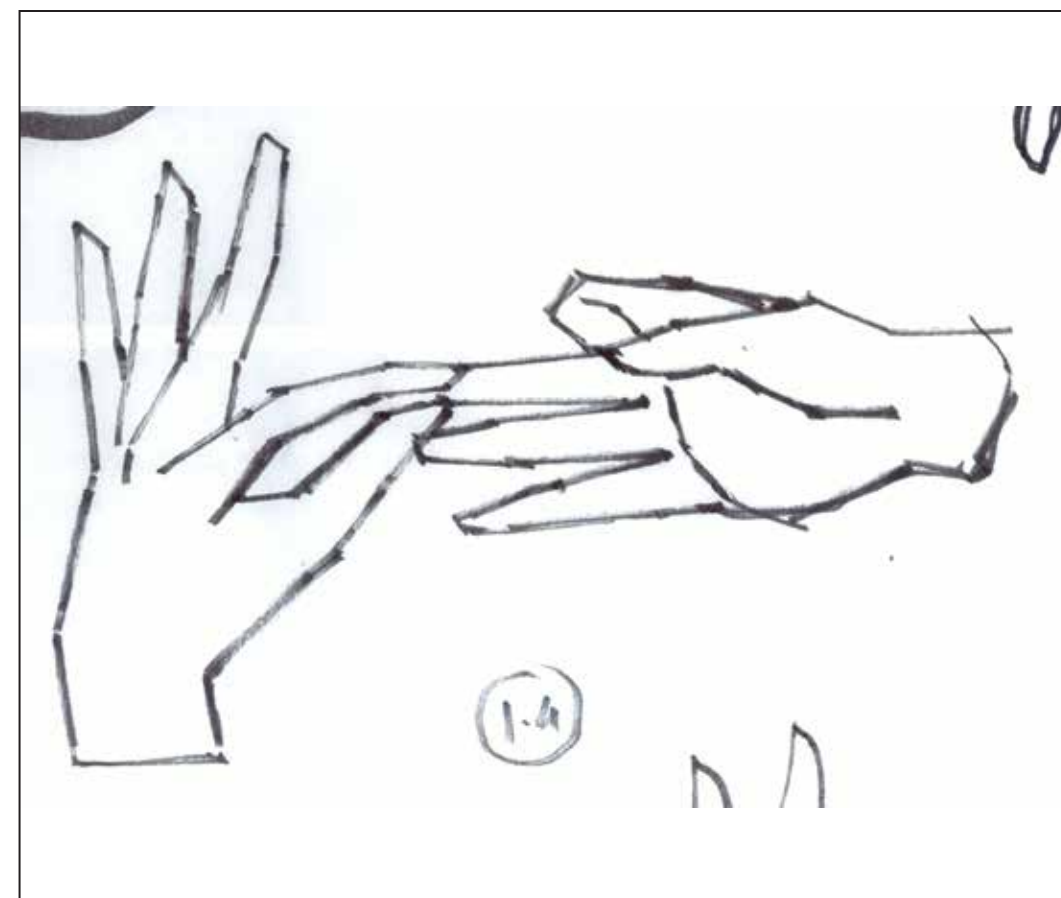
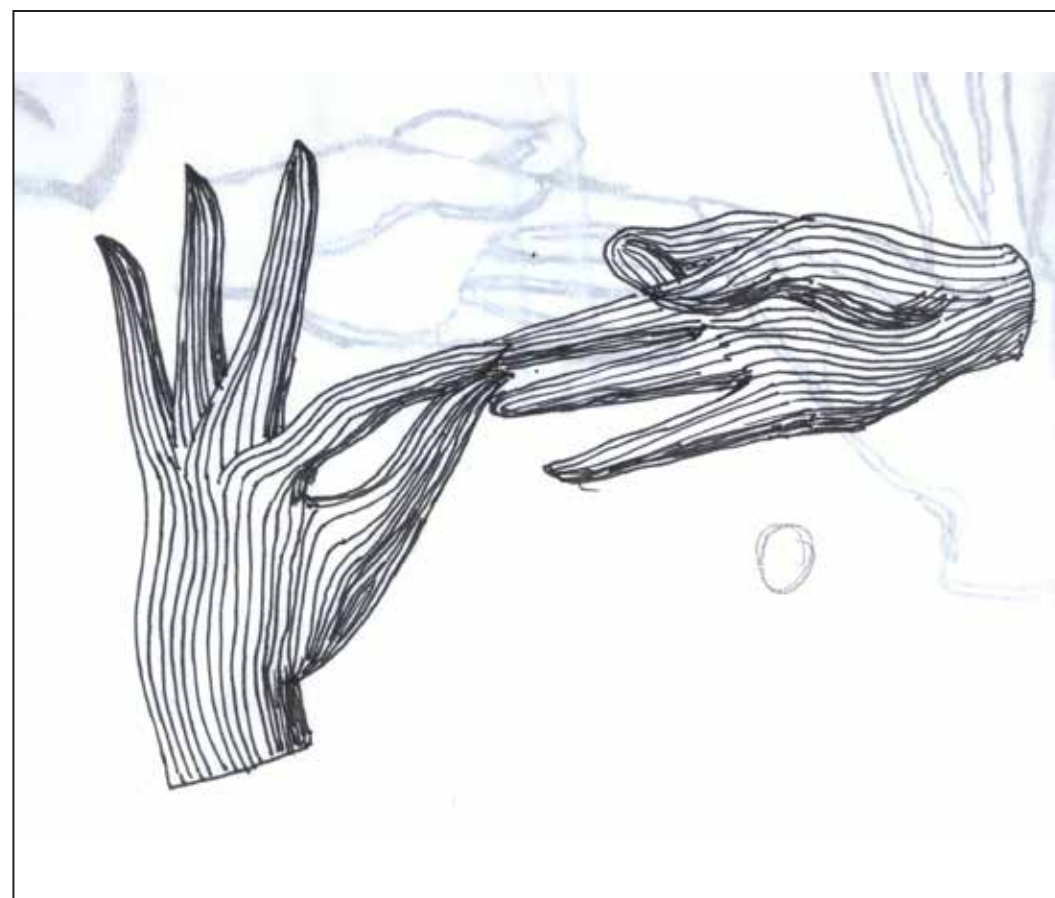
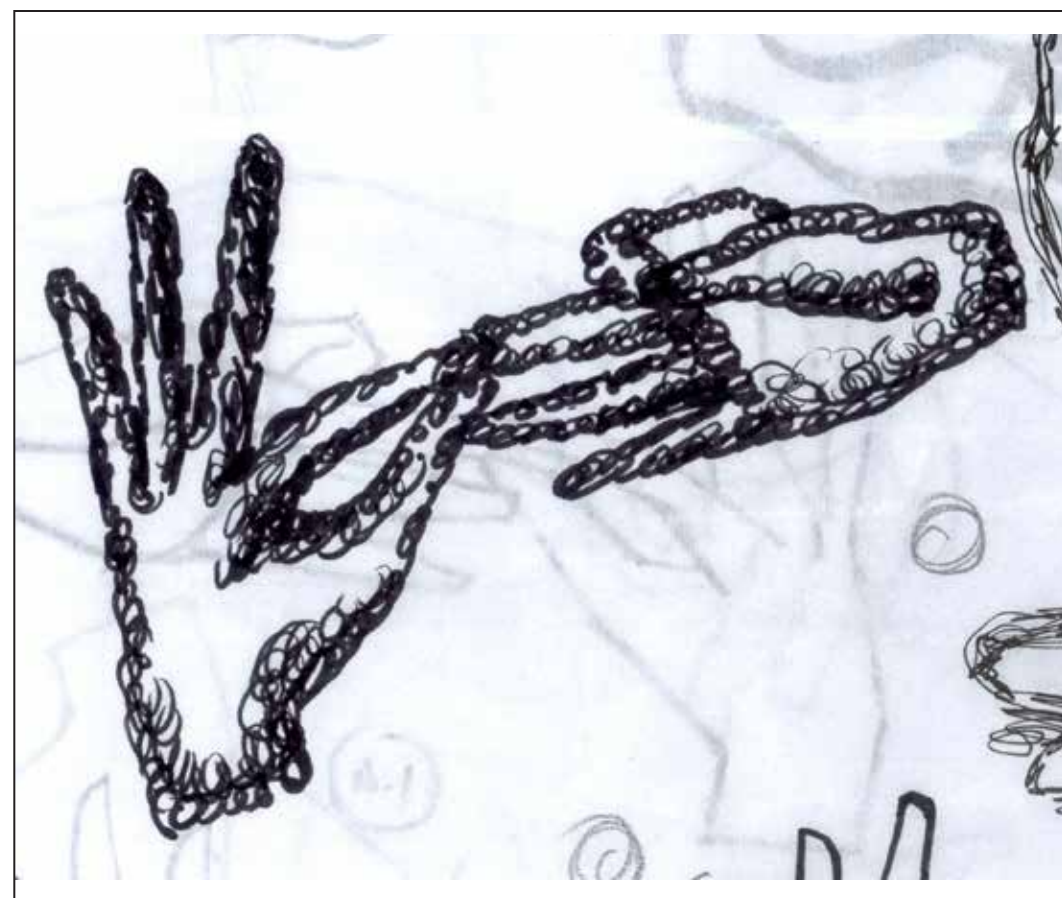
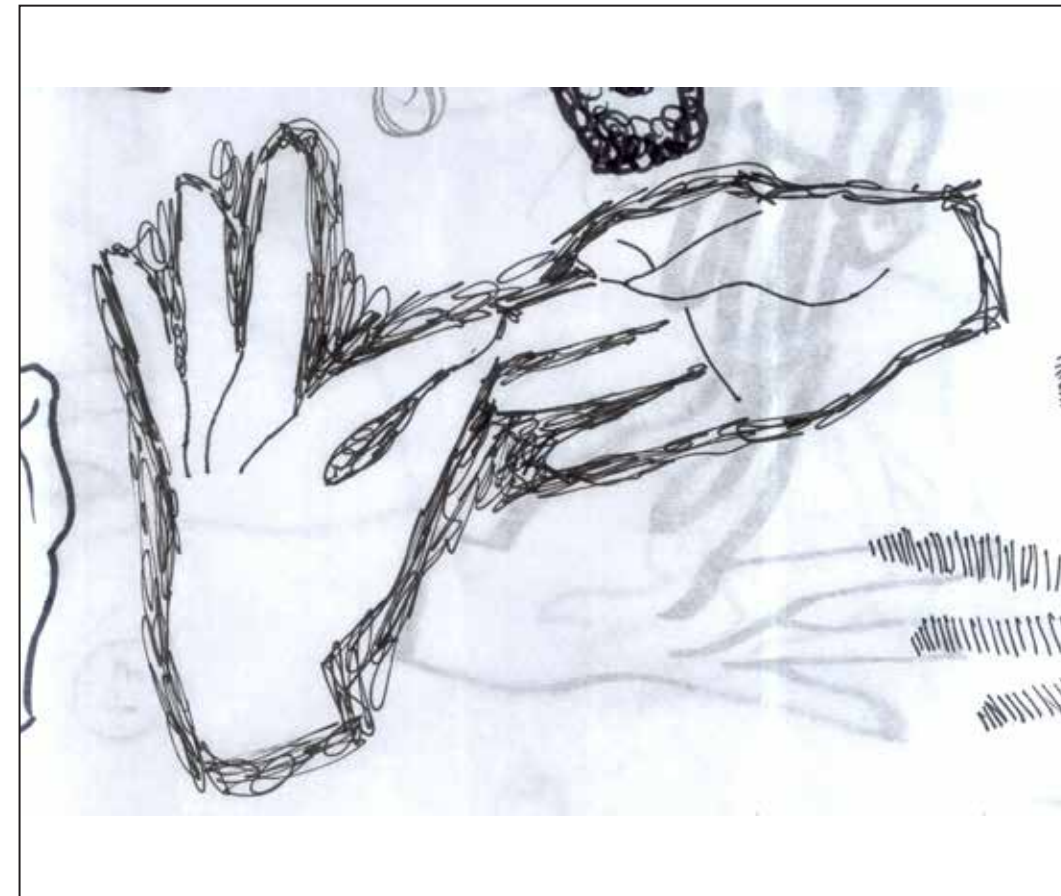
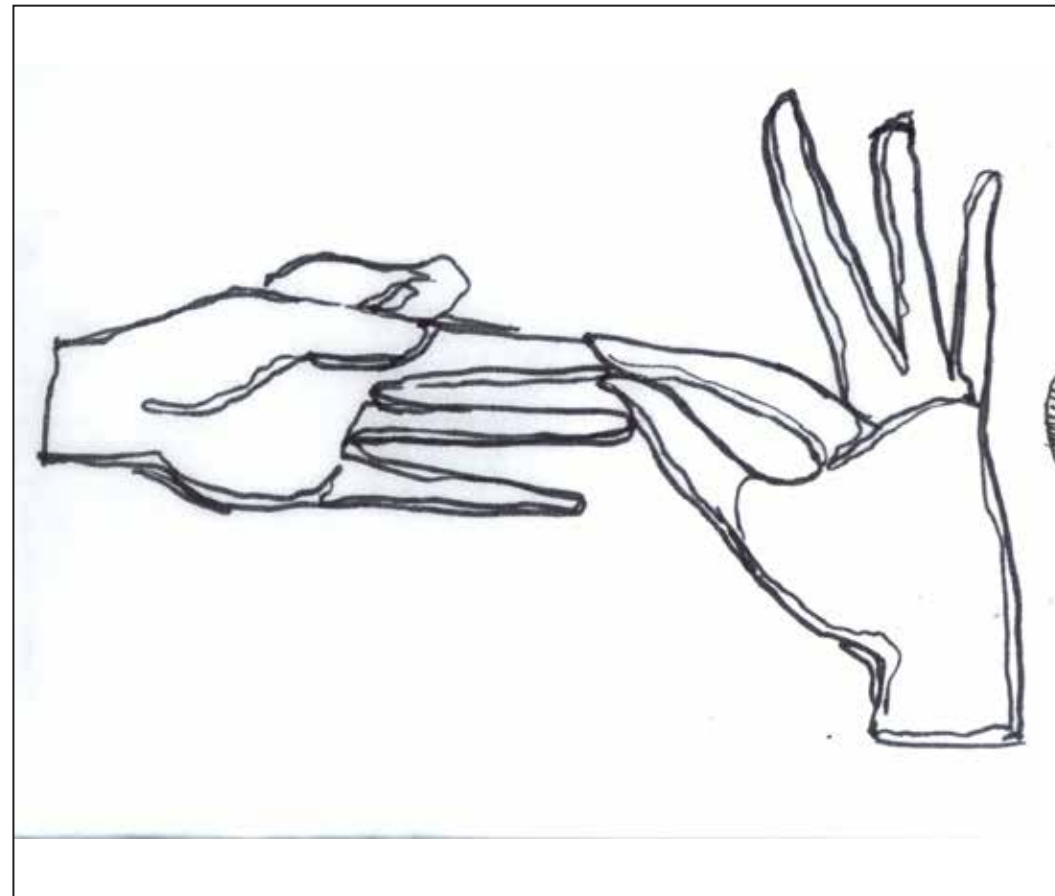
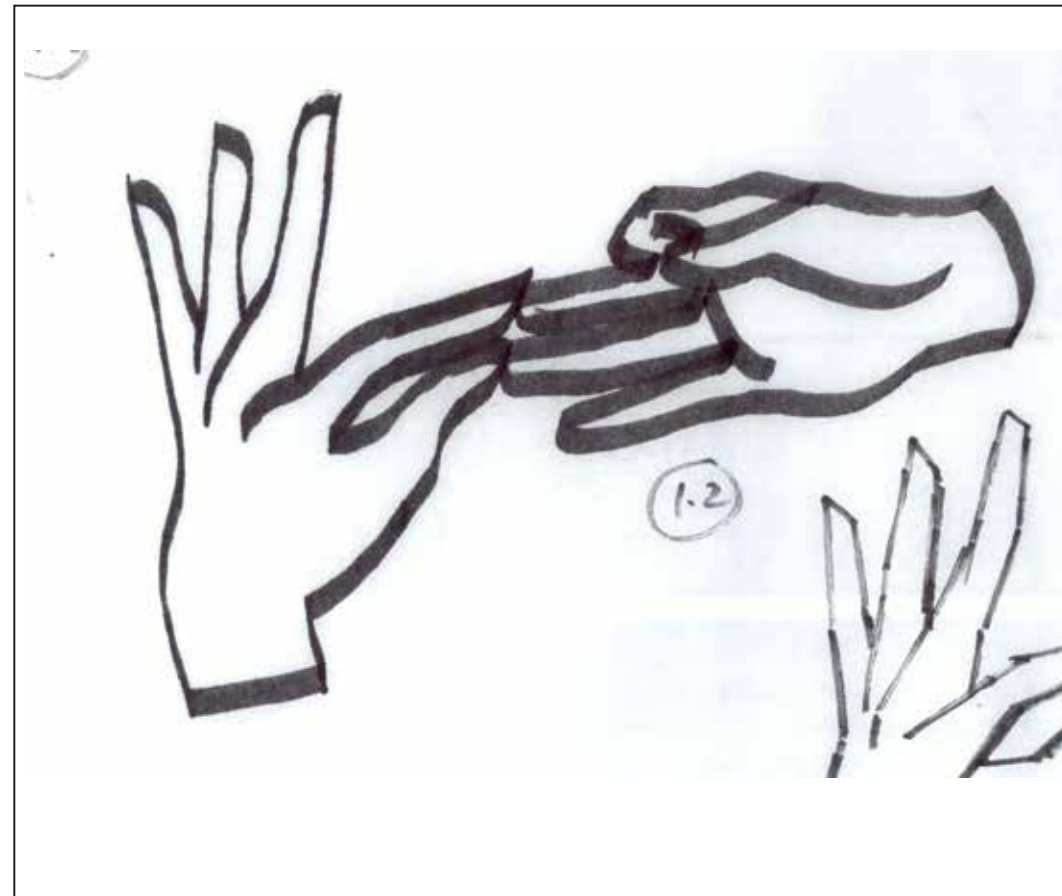
Bhumisparsha Mudra | Explorations

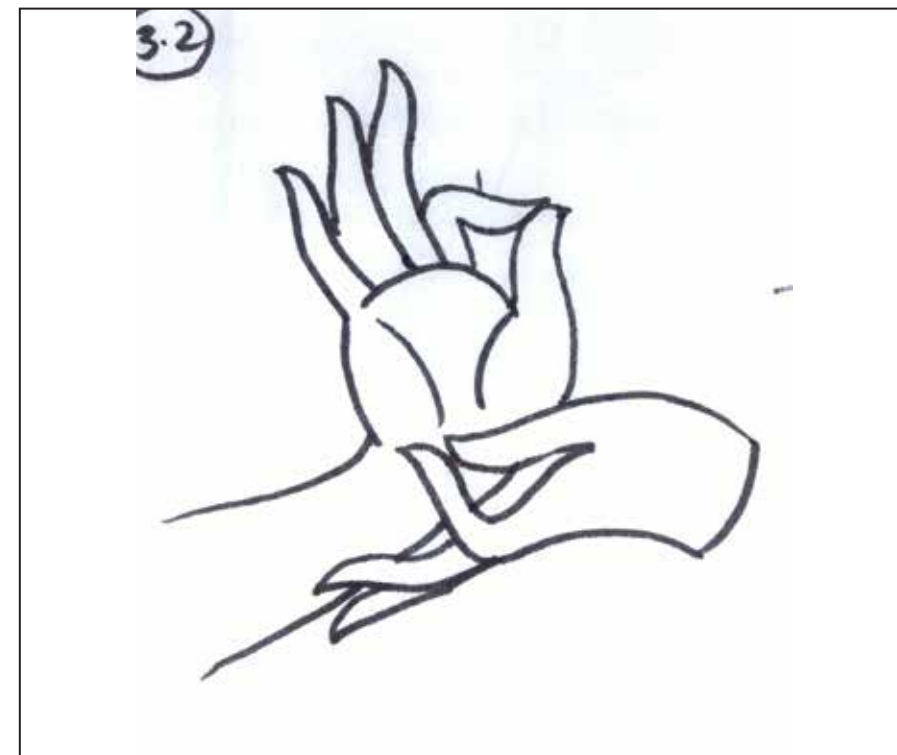
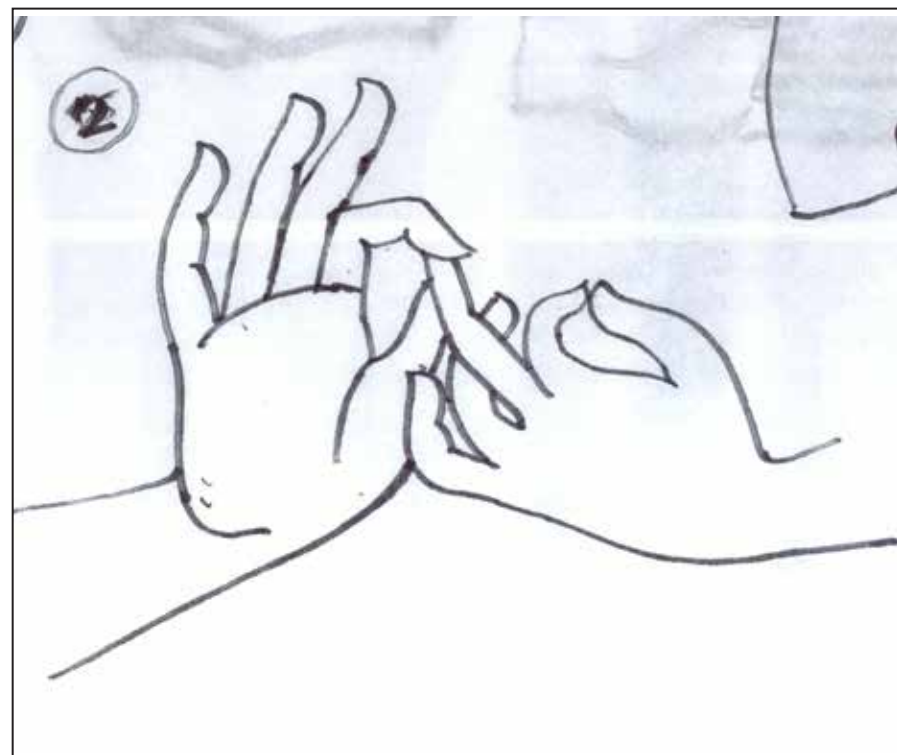
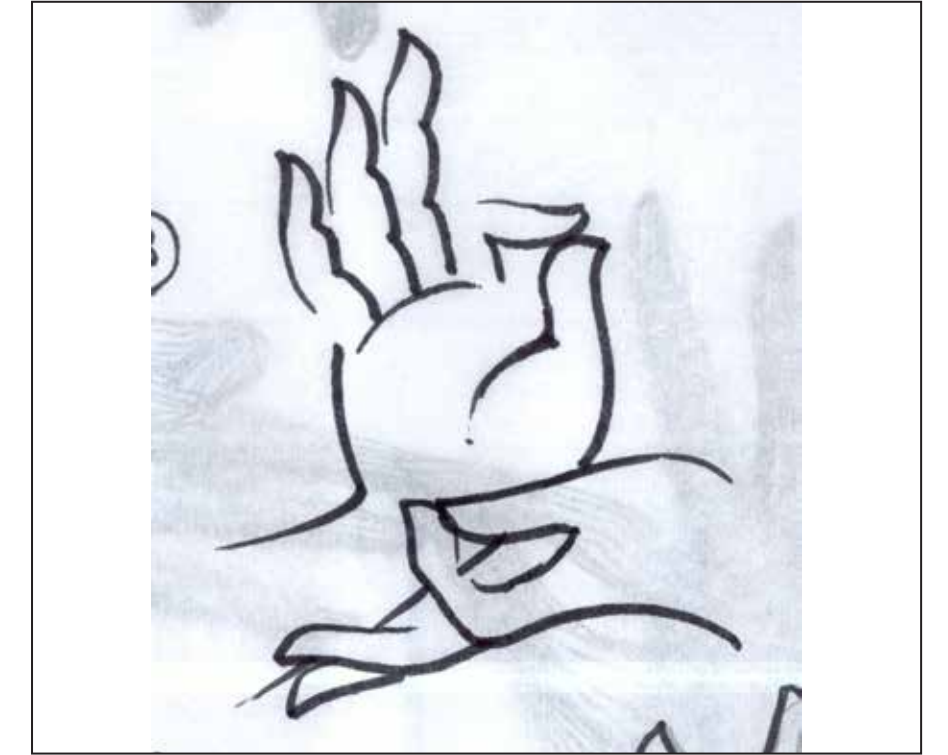
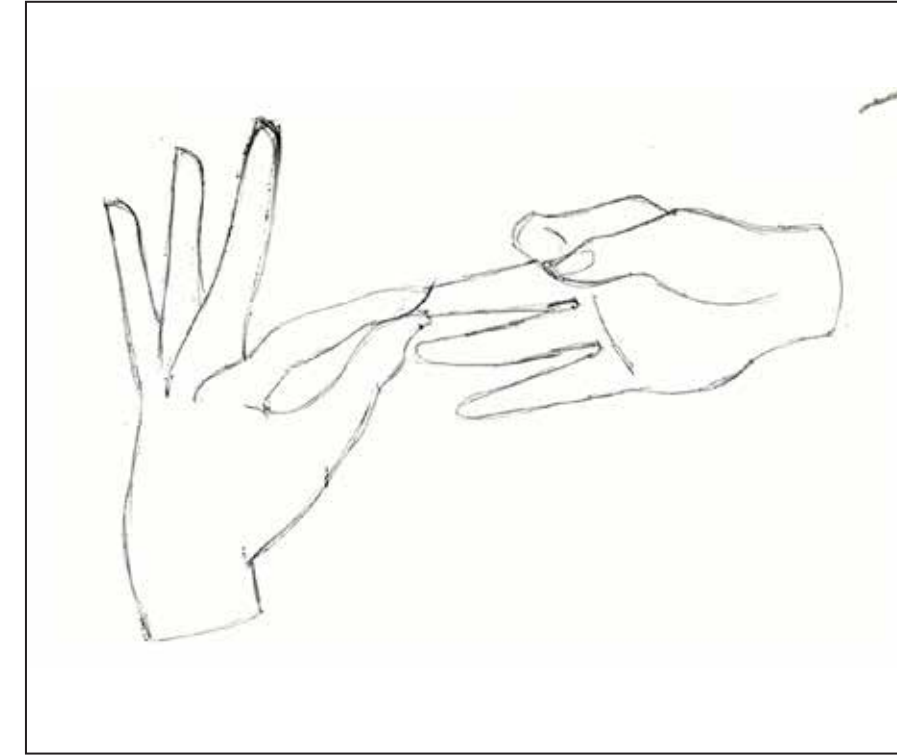
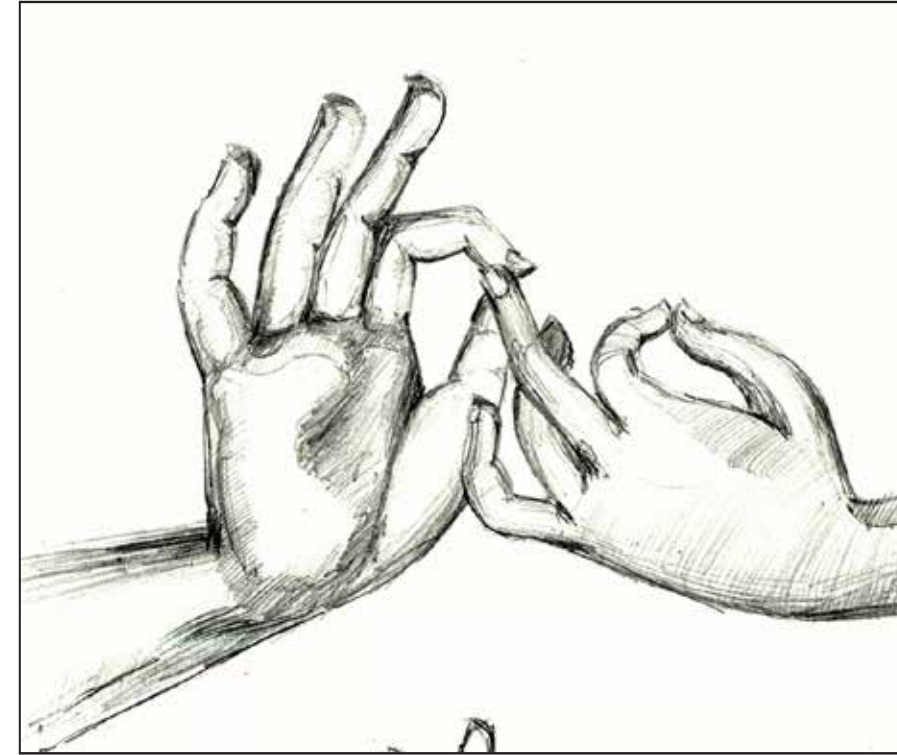
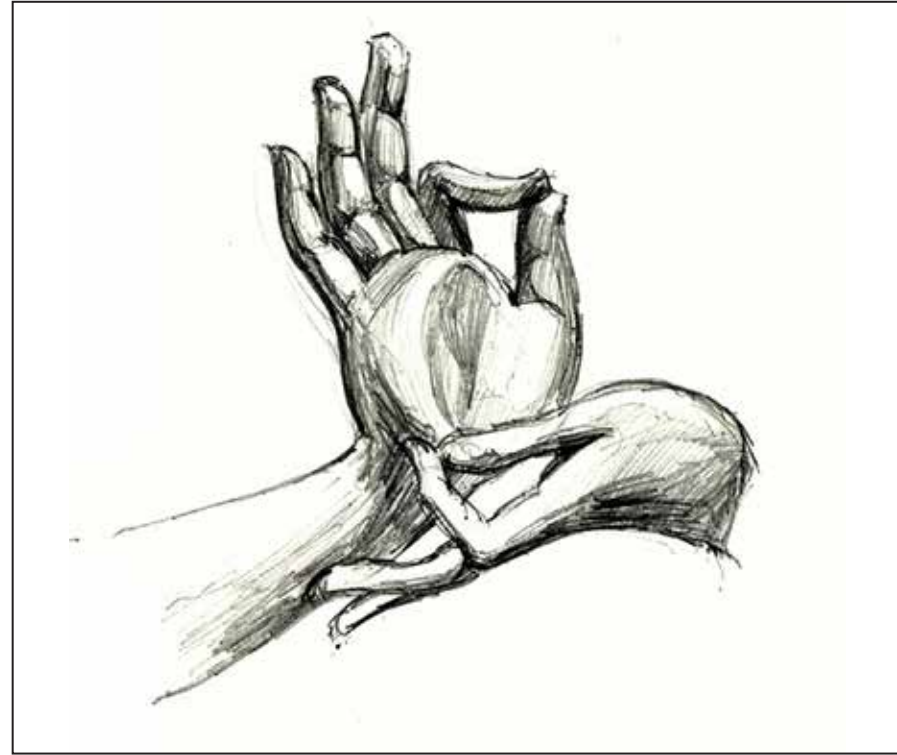




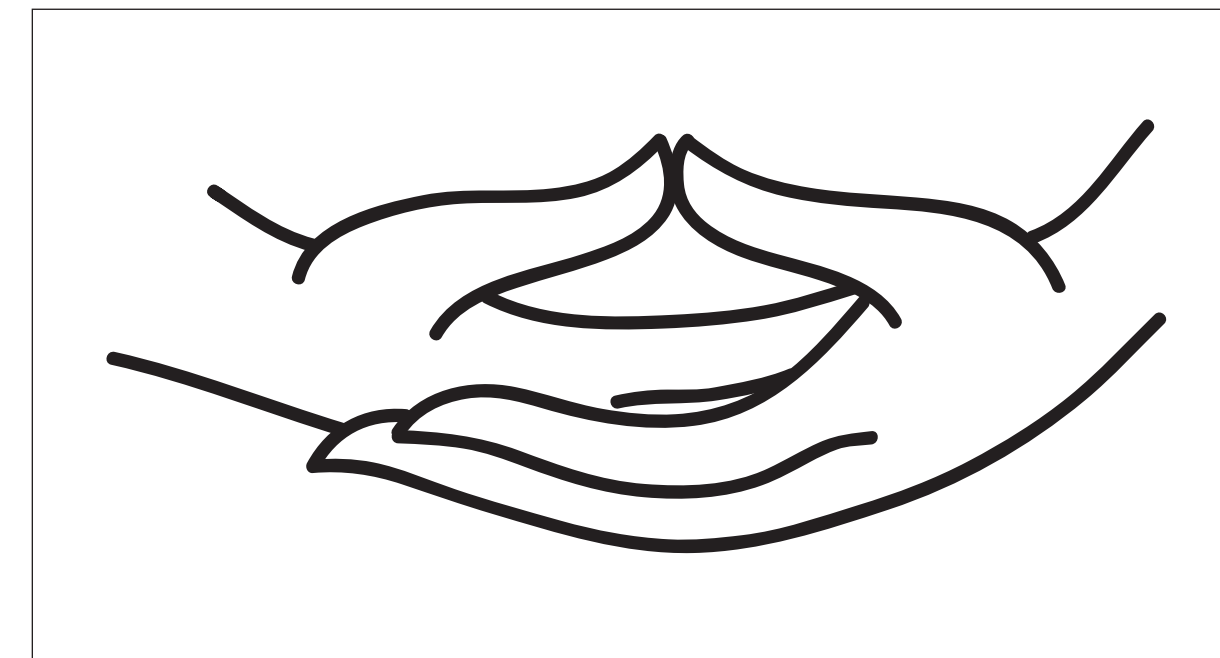
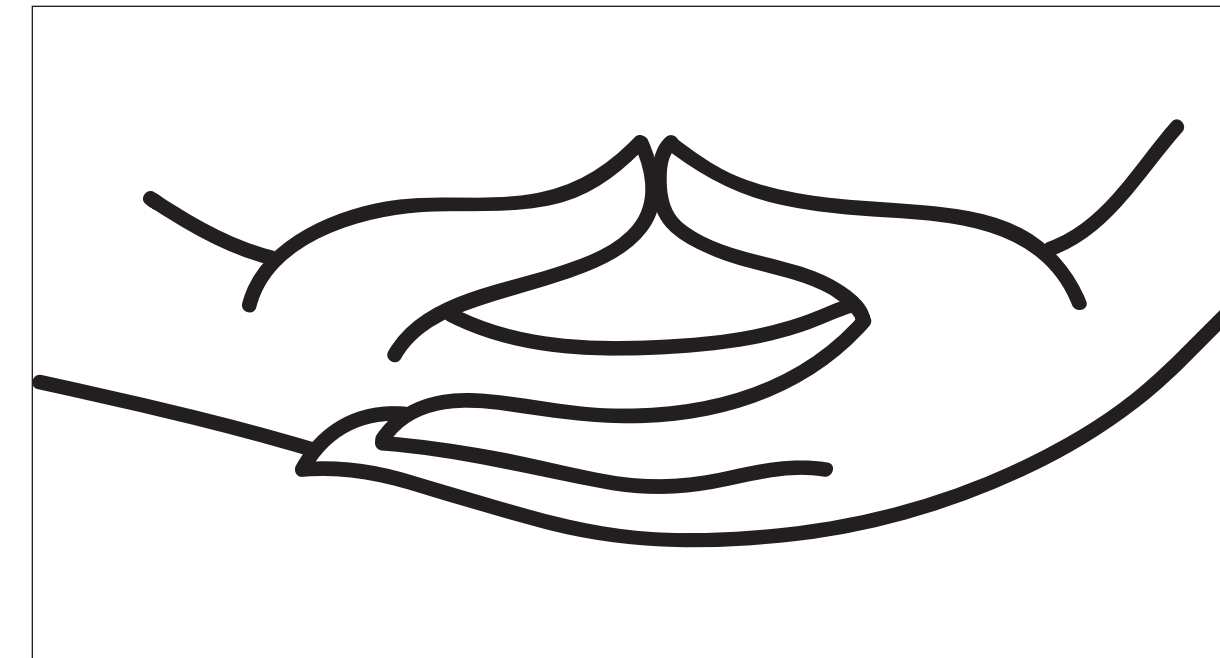


Dharmachakra Mudra | Explorations





Dhyana Mudra | Explorations



Vajra and the Bell | Explorations



Abhaya Mudra

Personality (Context)

The abhaya mudra is the gesture of the fifth Dhyani Buddha, Amoghasiddhi

Meaning

Fearlessness

Connected Events

- Forbidding the relatives to fight (left hand raised)
- Calming the ocean (both hands raised).
- The taming of the elephant Nalagiri
- After gaining enlightenment.
- Protection from beasts (Lion, Elephant, Snake)

Benefits

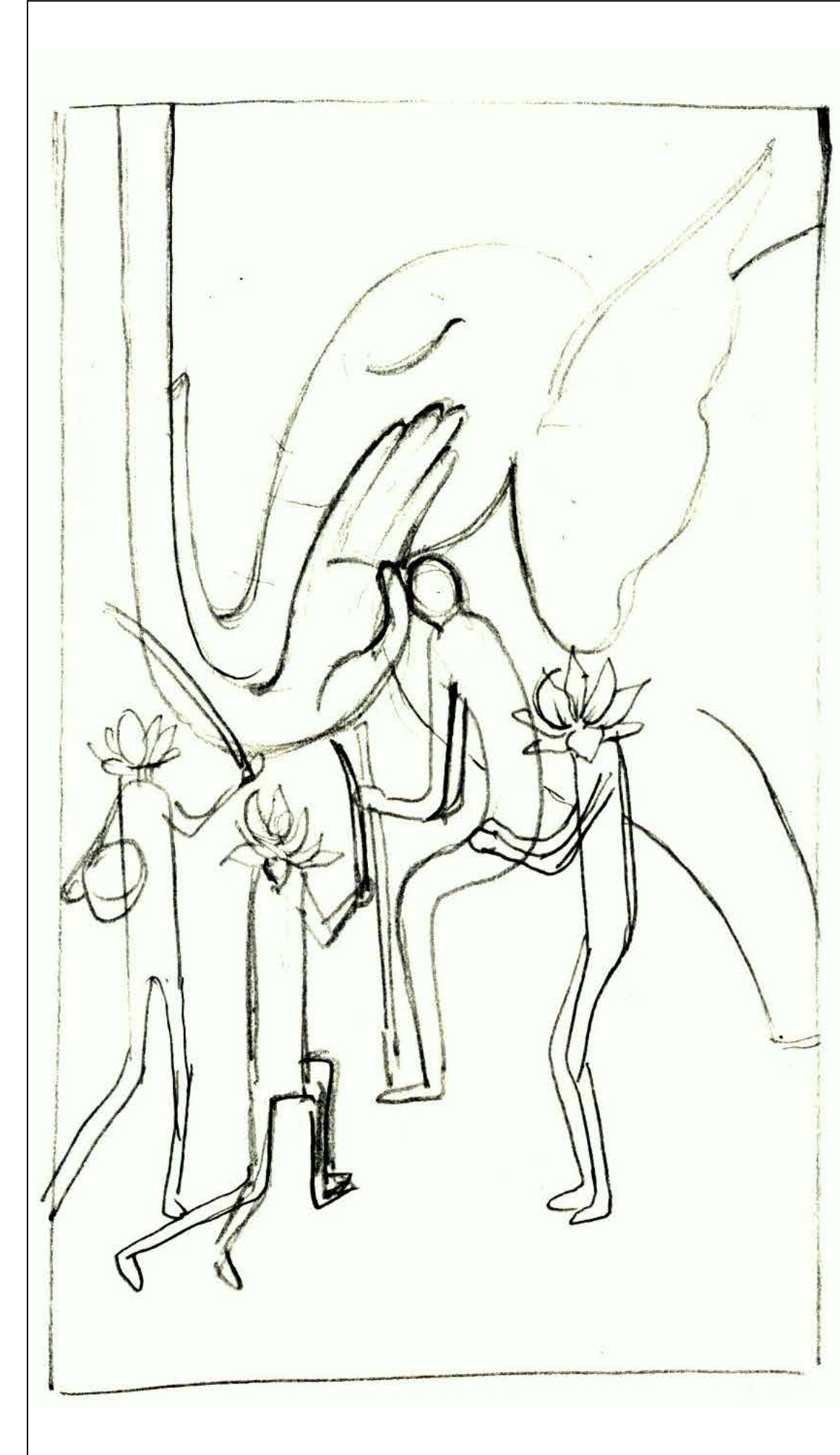
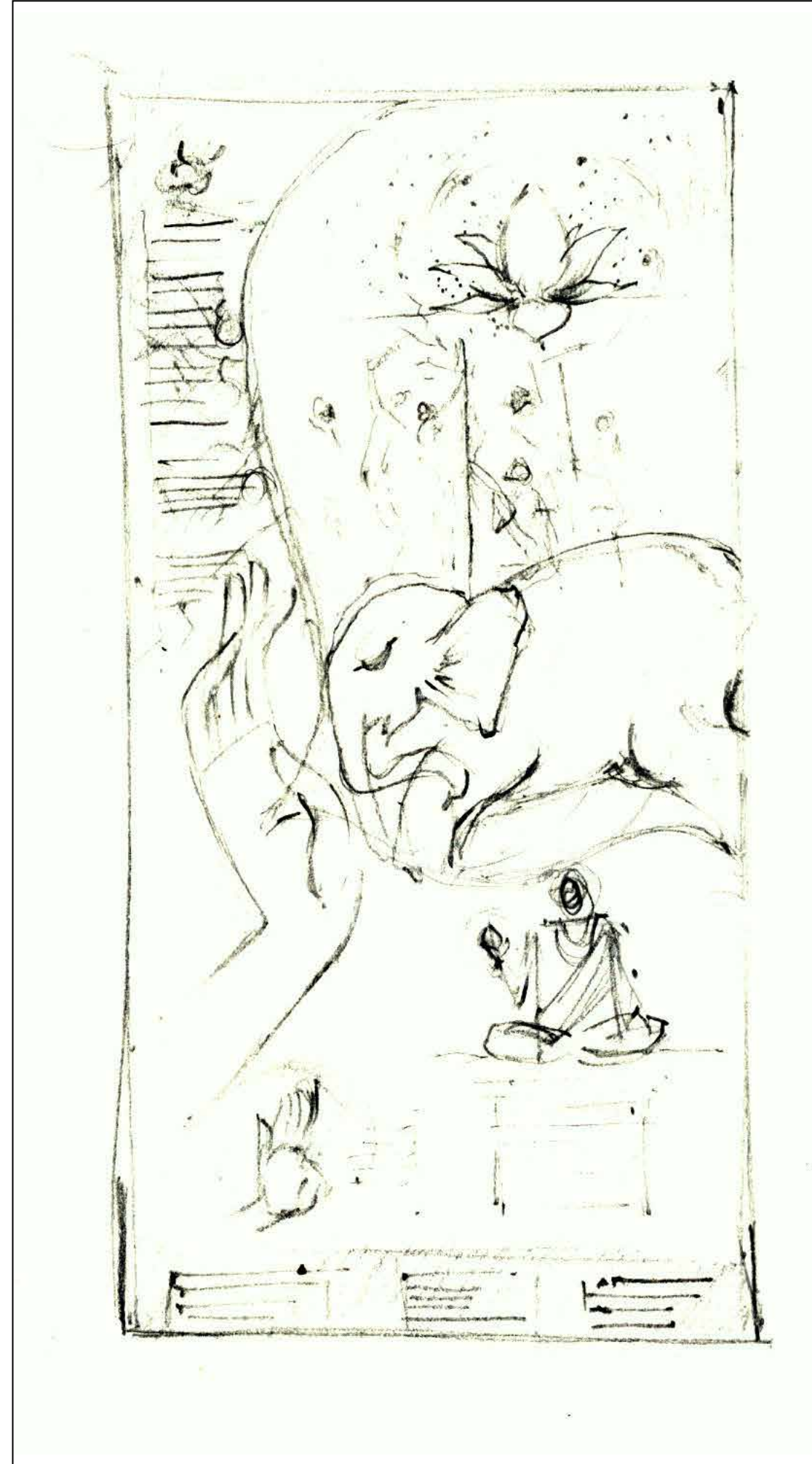
This Mudra gives us the energy to stand strong.
Amoghasiddhi helps in overcoming the delusion of jealousy (type of fear) and transforming it into the wisdom of accomplishment.

Symbolizes

Protection, peace, reassurance, friendship (empty of weapons),
The dispelling of fear, stop, spiritual power—of the Buddha or Bodhisattva

Purpose

To stop the flow of negative energy (fear).







Connected Events

1. Mara's summon to all his forces to attack Sakyamuni; Mara with thousand arms riding on his elephant Girimekhala.
2. Flying away of Devas, Nagas, and others.
3. 10 parmis defeated 10 divisions of Mara's army.
4. Chakkavudha (disc) stood over the Bodhisatta's head like a canopy of flowers.
5. Mara falsely claim the Gotama's seat as his own.
6. Buddha calling the Earth as his witness.
7. Roaring of the Earth - "I stand his witness".
8. Celebration of Buddha's Victory over Mara.

Purpose

To bear the witness to the earth goddess, Sthavara, to Buddha's attainment of enlightenment.

Benefits

Transform the delusion of anger into mirror-like wisdom.

Meaning

Touching the Earth.

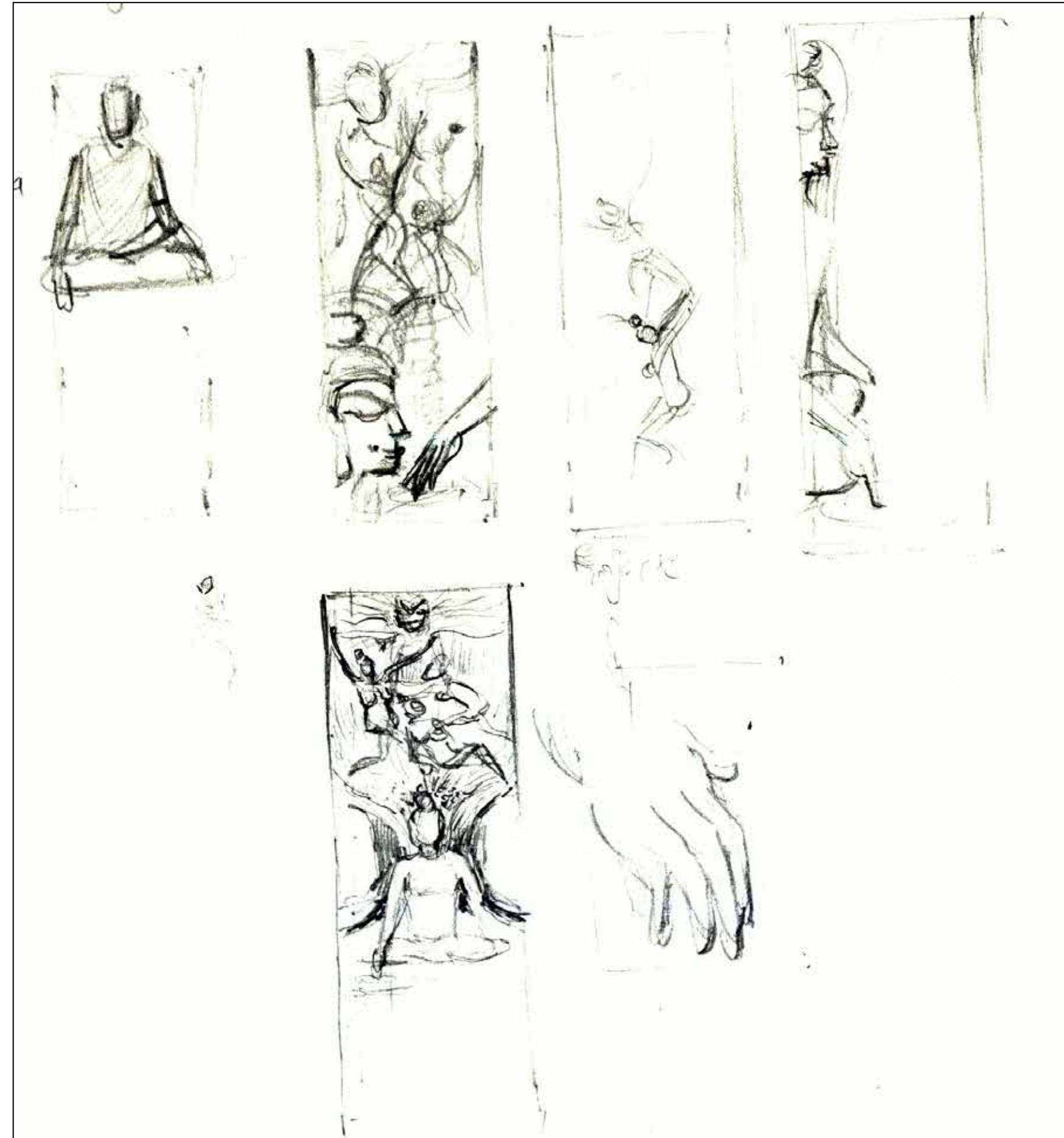
Bhumisparsh Mudra

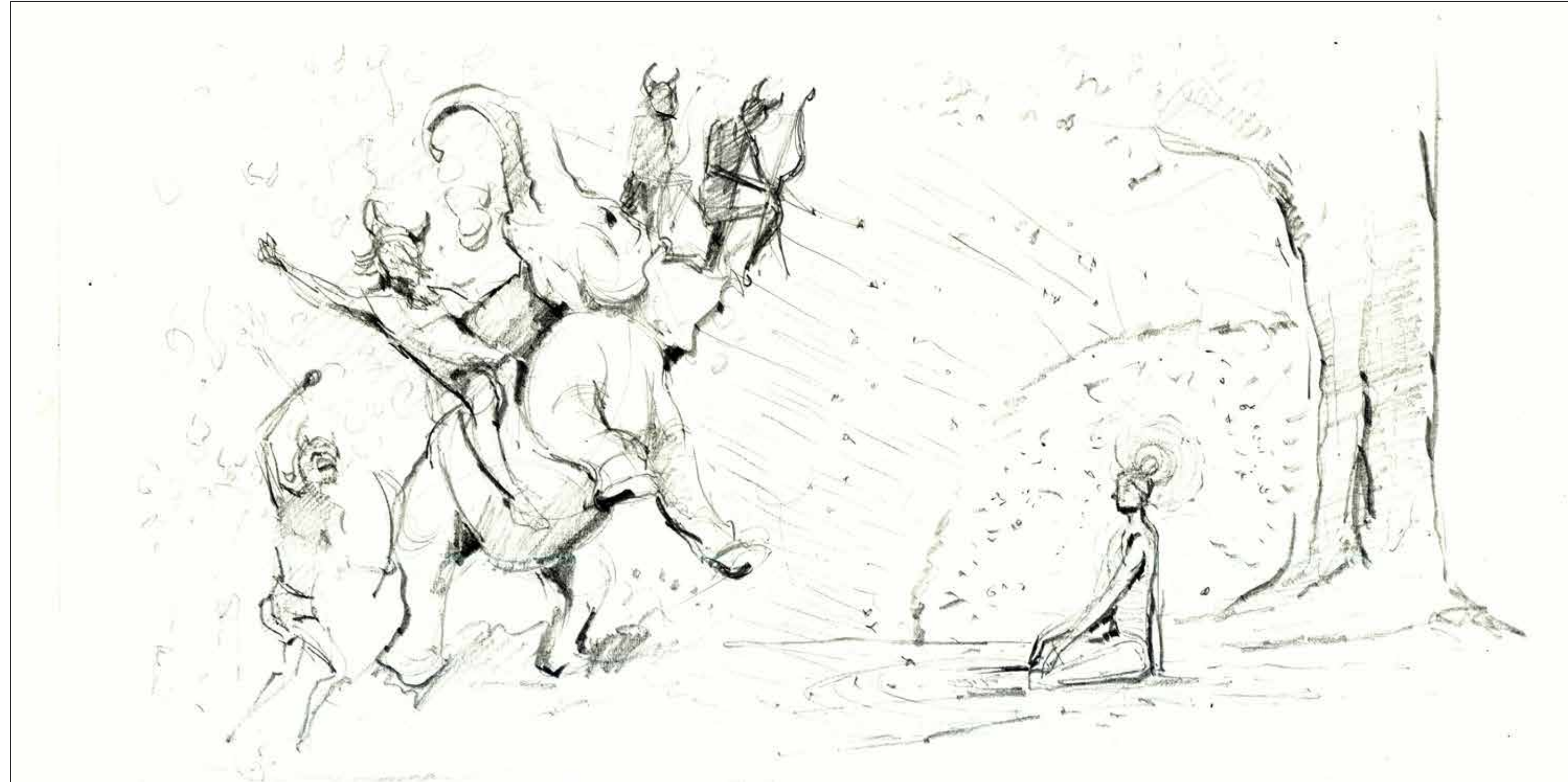
Personality (Context)

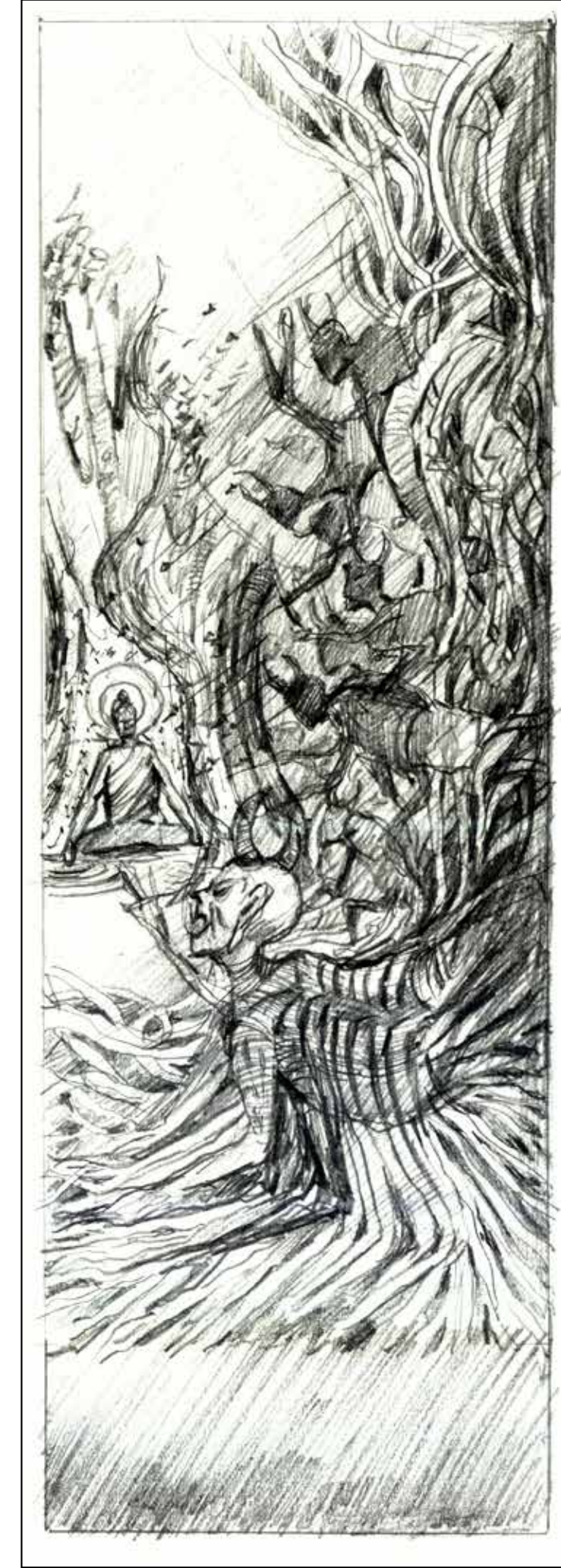
The second Dhyani Buddha **Akshobhya** is depicted in this Mudra. He is believed to transform the delusion of anger into mirror-like wisdom.

Symbolizes

The Buddha's enlightenment under bodhi tree.







Connected Events

1. After the attainment of Enlightenment and becoming a Buddha, Gautama Buddha thought of delivering his first sermon to some receptive ascetics.
2. Thought of revealing his doctrine first to Alara Kalama; first guru then to Uddaka Ramaputta; other guru. But both were died.
4. So, he looked for his five companions by his divine eye wandering at Deer Park, in Sarnath.
5. Soon he reached there to deliver his first sermon (called the Dhamma-chakka-pavattana-katha because that sets the wheel of the dhamma into motion).
6. Five ascetics noticed his bright countenance and acknowledged his superiority.
7. Buddha then delivered his first sermon in the Isipatana Migadaya.

Purpose

To preach his companions the first sermon after his Enlightenment in the Deer Park at Sarnath.

Benefits

Vairocana is believed to transform the **delusion of ignorance** into the **wisdom of reality**.

Meaning

-Turning the Wheel of the Dharma or Law.
-**Circle** formed by the Mudra represents **Wheel of Dharma**.

Dharmachakra Mudra

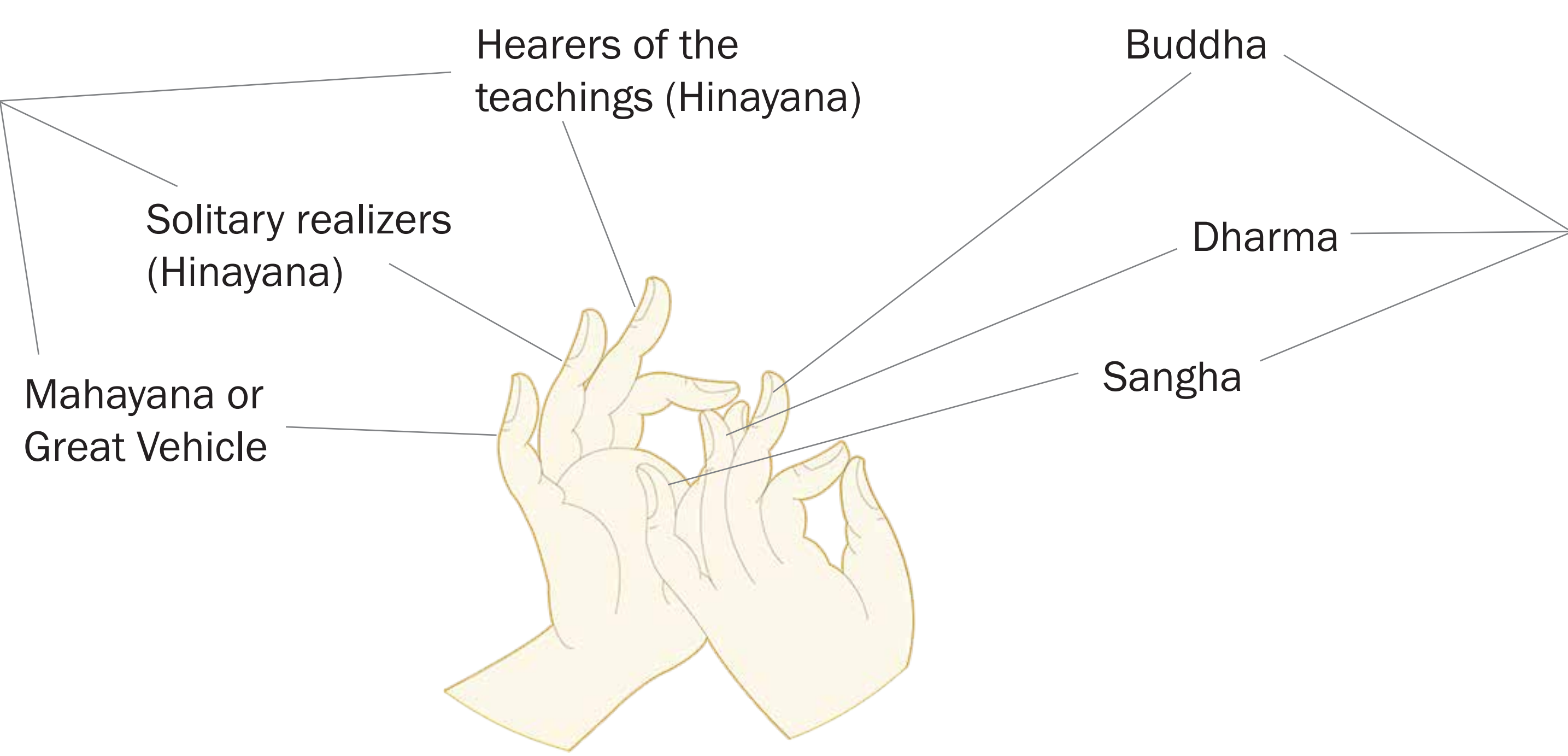
Personality (Context)

Mudra of Gautama, the Dhyani Buddha Vairocana and the future Buddha Maitreya.

Symbolizes

- The setting into motion of the Wheel of the teaching of the Dharma.
- As hands are held in front of the heart, symbolizes teachings are straight from the Buddha's heart.

**Three Vehicles of
Buddha's Teaching**



Dharmachakra Mudra



Shri Ganesha Prudhan



Connected Meaning

1. Thumbs of two hands touch at the tips which forms **mystic triangle**. It is an identification of mystic fire that consumes all impurities.
2. This triangle also represent the **Three Jewels of Buddhism** (Triratna), namely the Buddha himself, the Good Law and the Sangha.
3. It represents the natural relationship between emptiness and form, and is considered one of the purest expressions of our Original Nature.

Purpose

Help to get perfect balance of thought, rest of the senses, and tanquility.

Benefits

Help mortals to achieve the transformation of 'delusion of attachment' into the 'wisdom of discernment.'

Person get unmoved by the surrounding,
immersed in infinite space.

Meaning

Meditation or Samadhi
or Yoga Mudra
Gesture of absolute
balance.

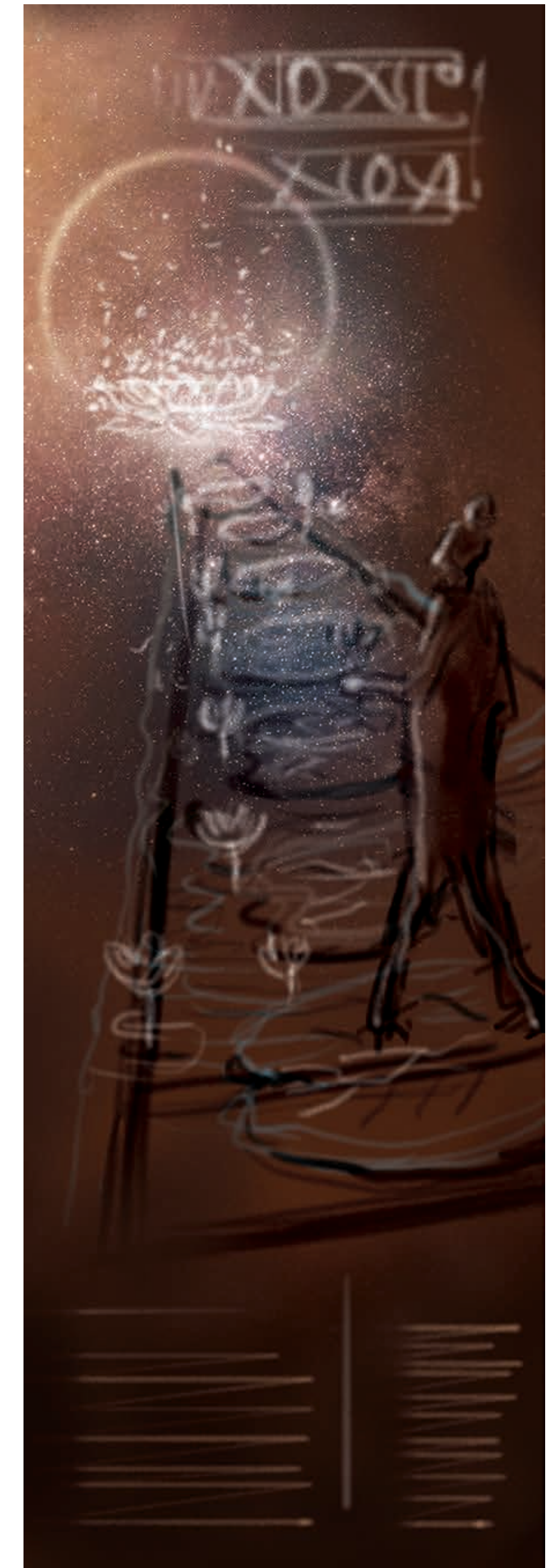
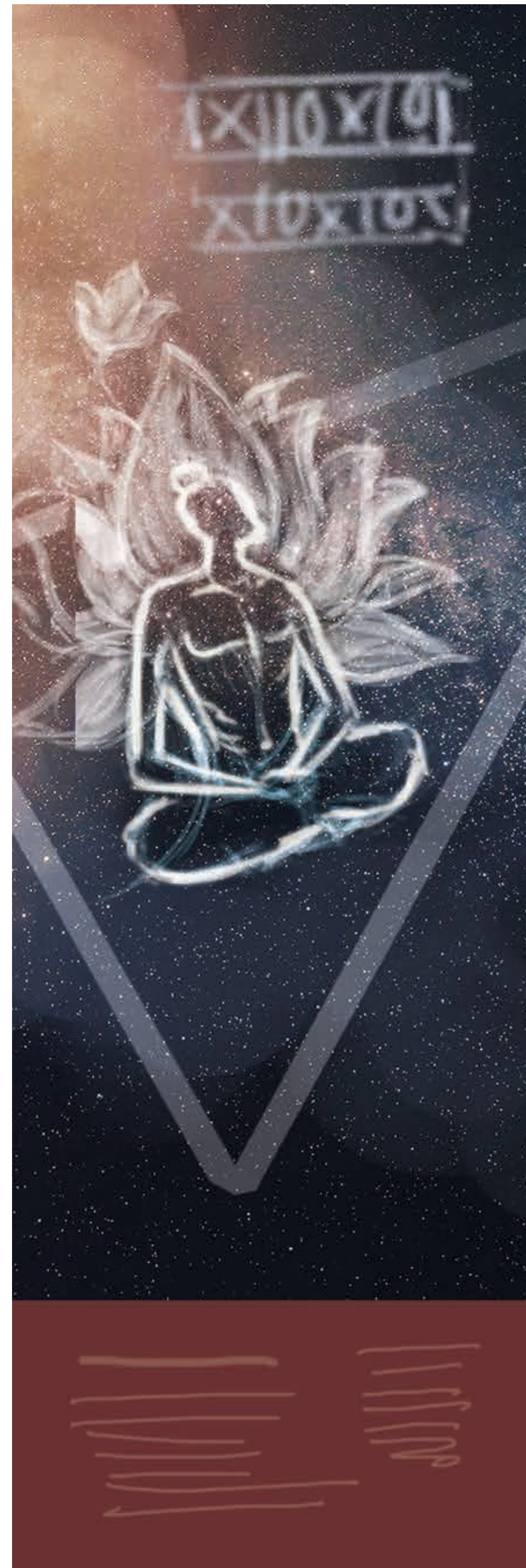
Personality (Context)

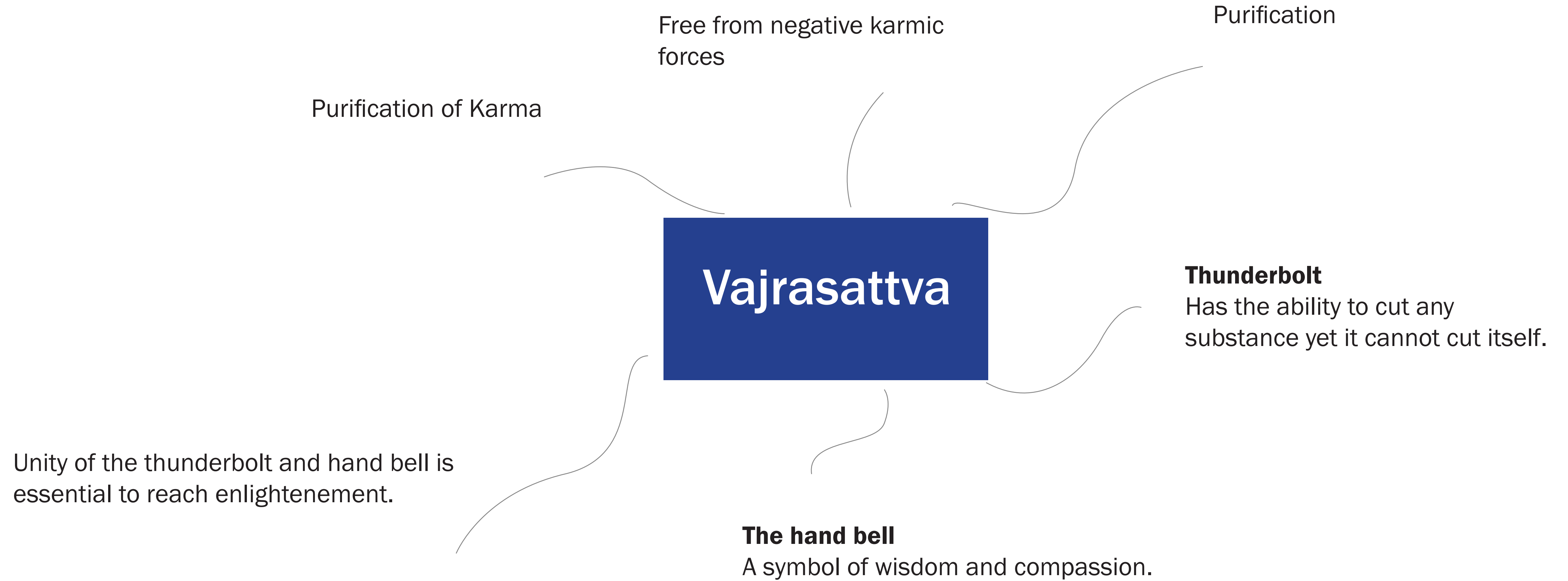
This Mudra is displayed by the fourth Dhyani Buddha **Amitabha**, also known as Amitayus.

Dhyana Mudra

Symbolizes

It is the gesture of Meditation and symbolizes concentration on the Good Law, and the attainment of spiritual perfection.







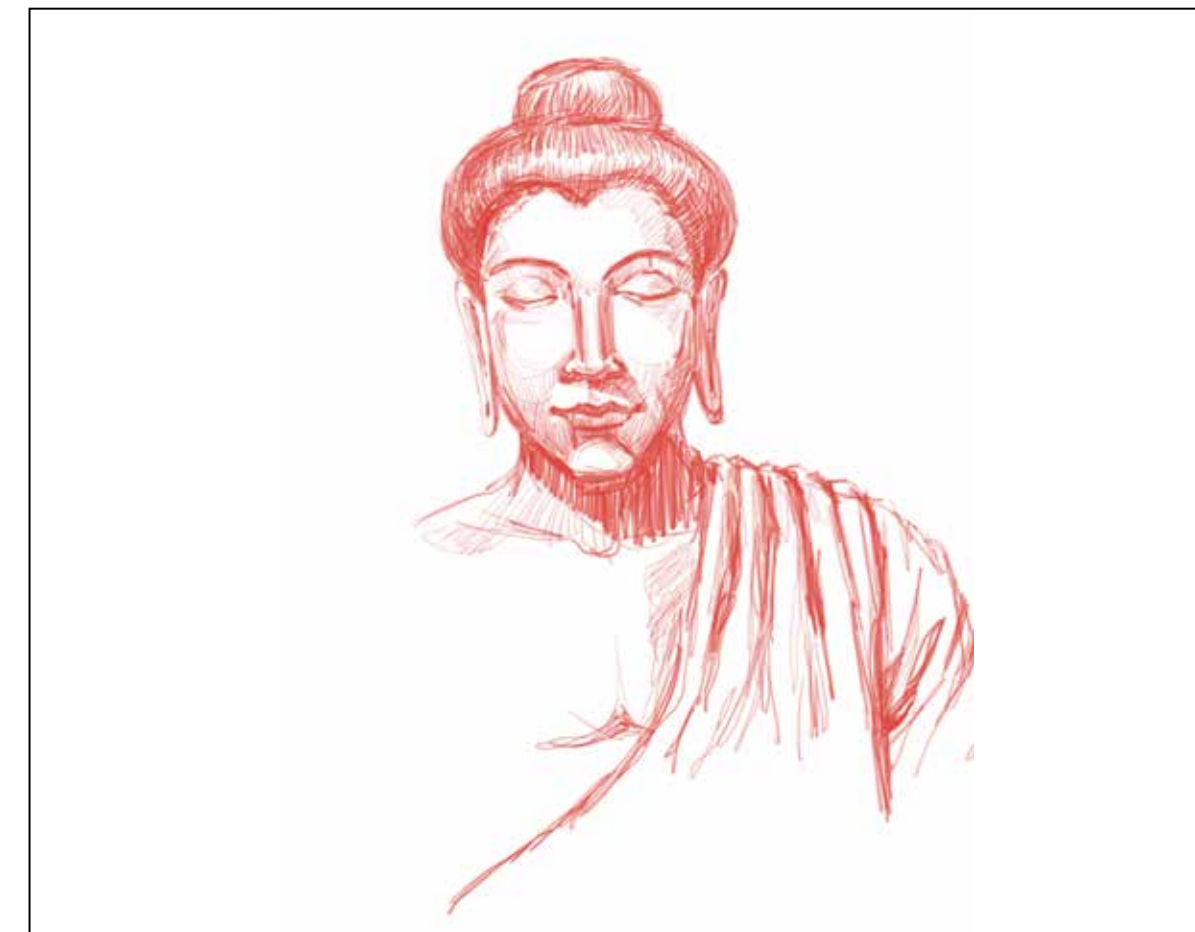
Outcome Possibility

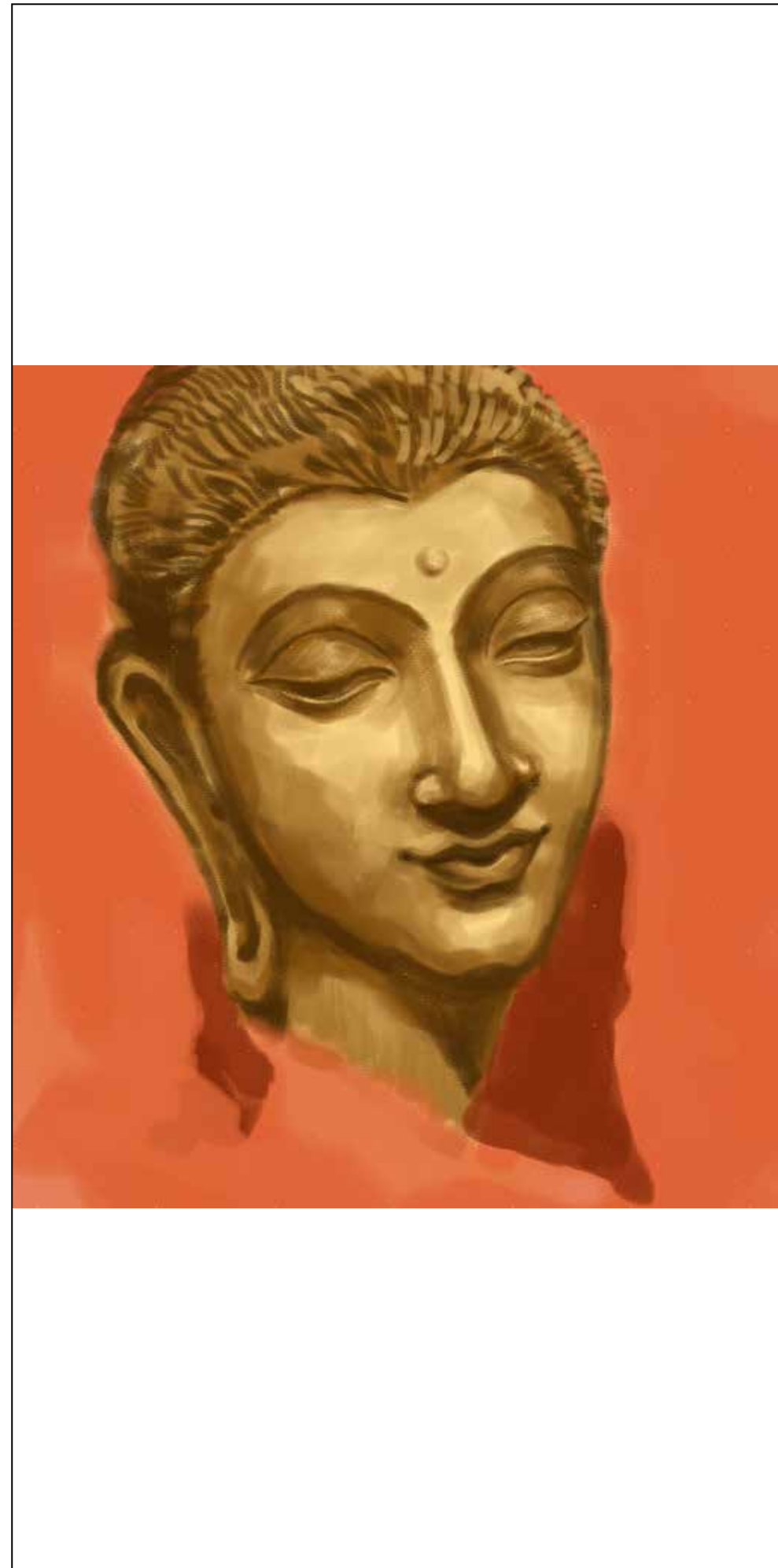
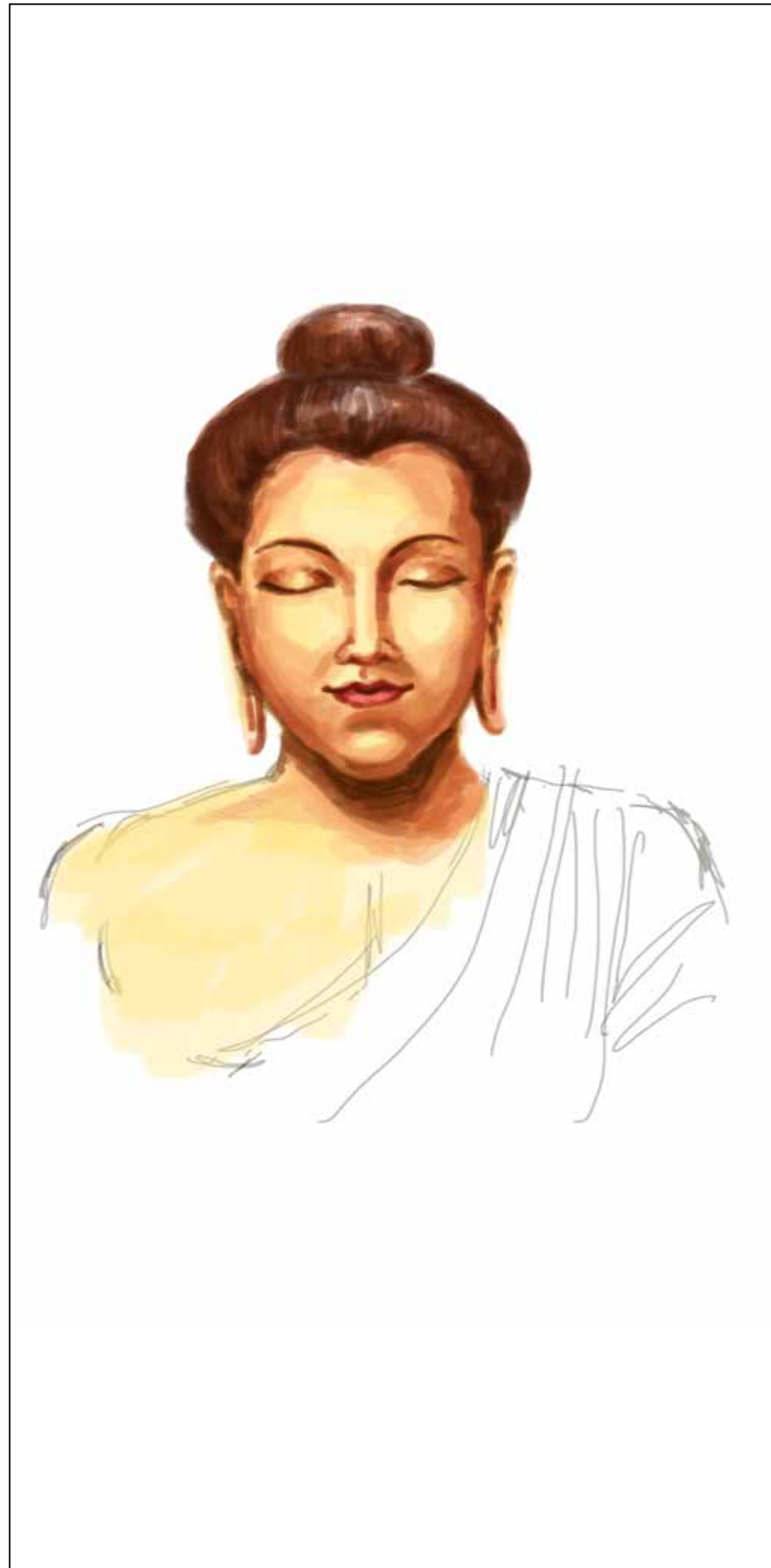
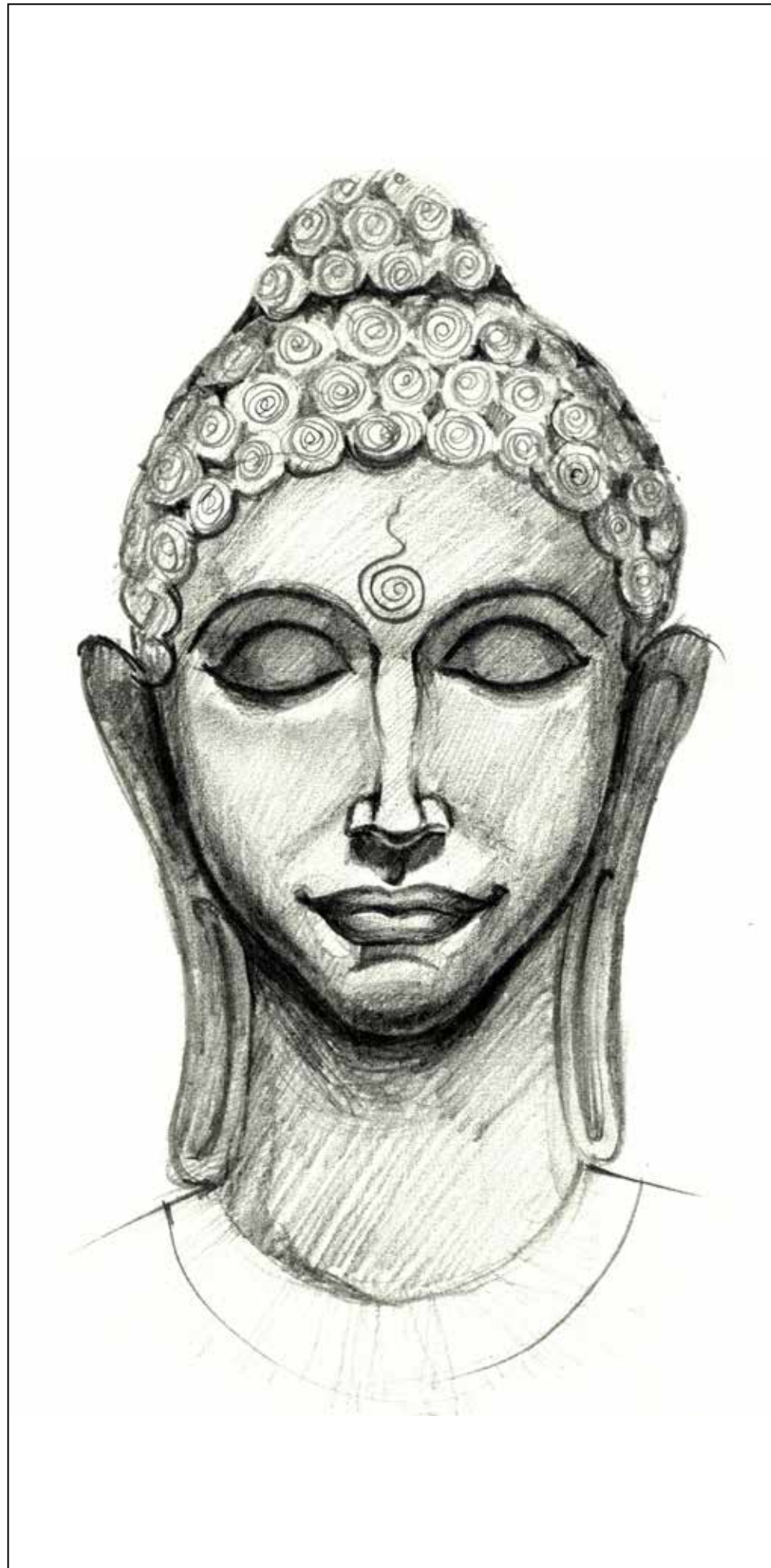
1. Graphic Novel
2. Poster Exhibition

Outcome Possibility

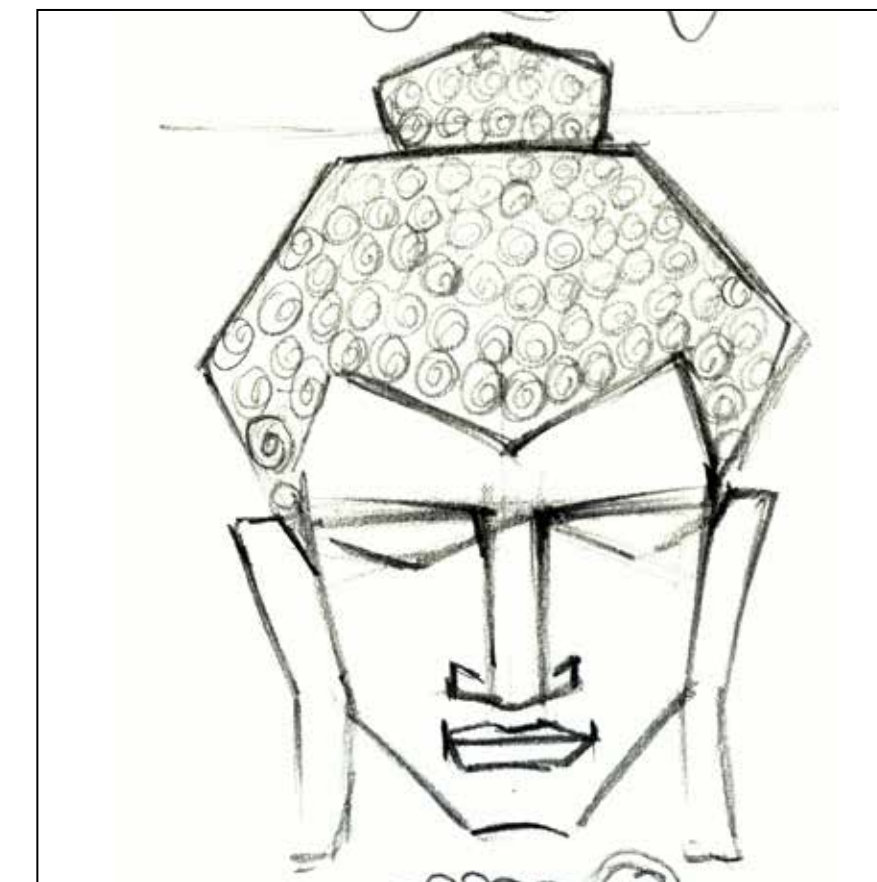
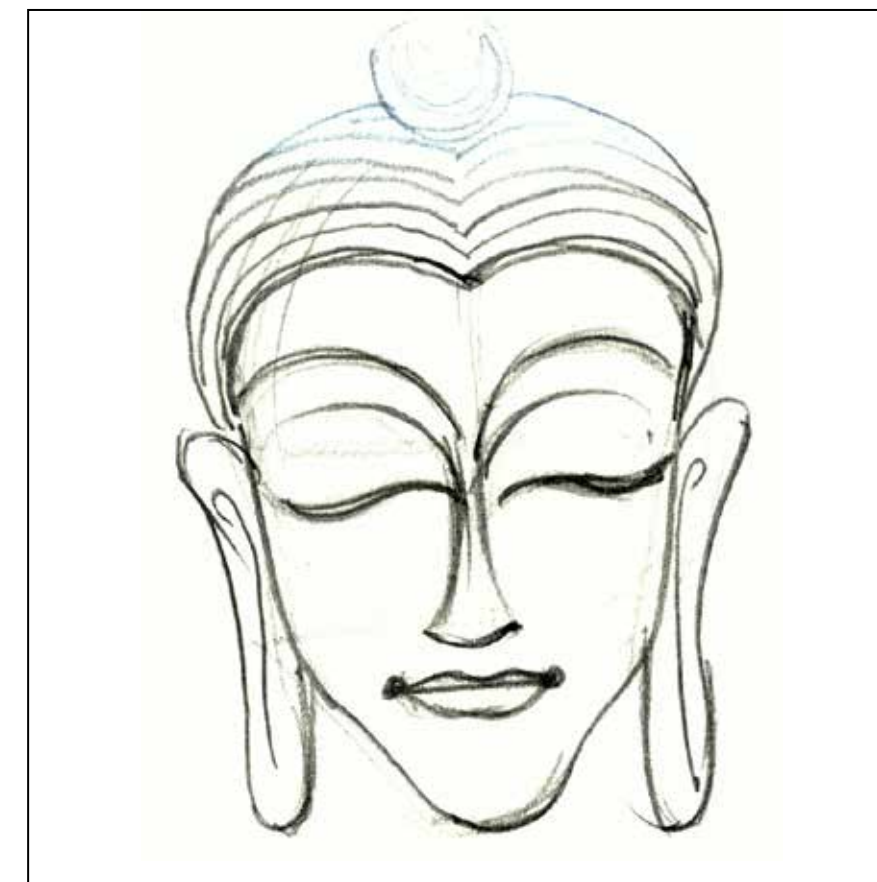
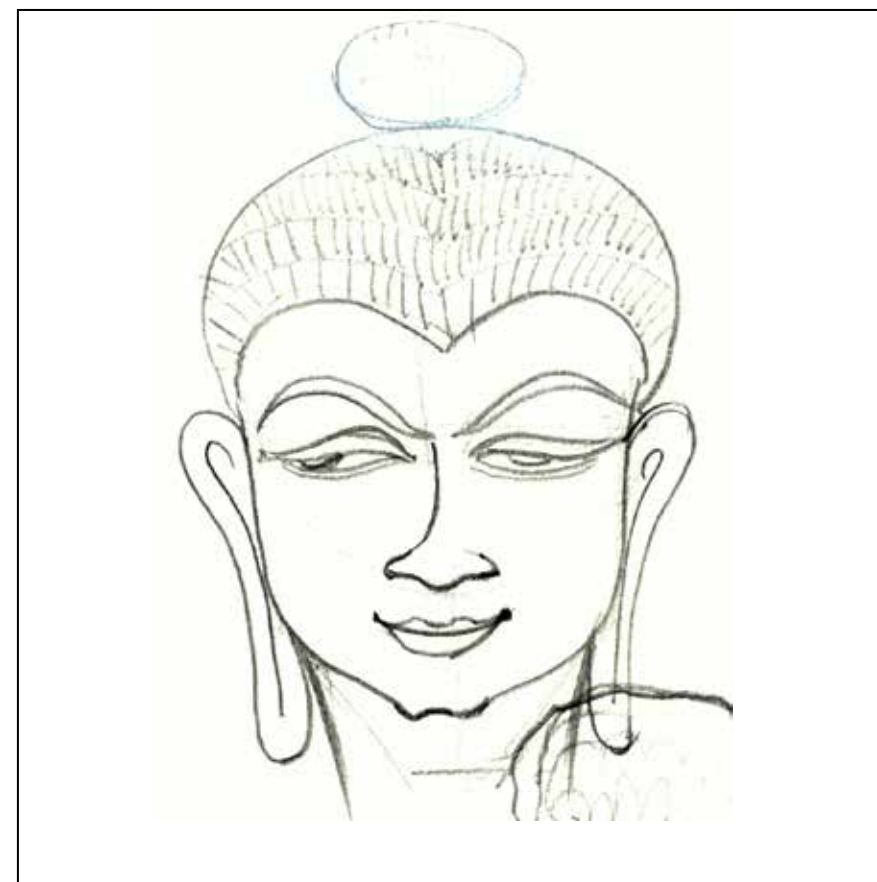
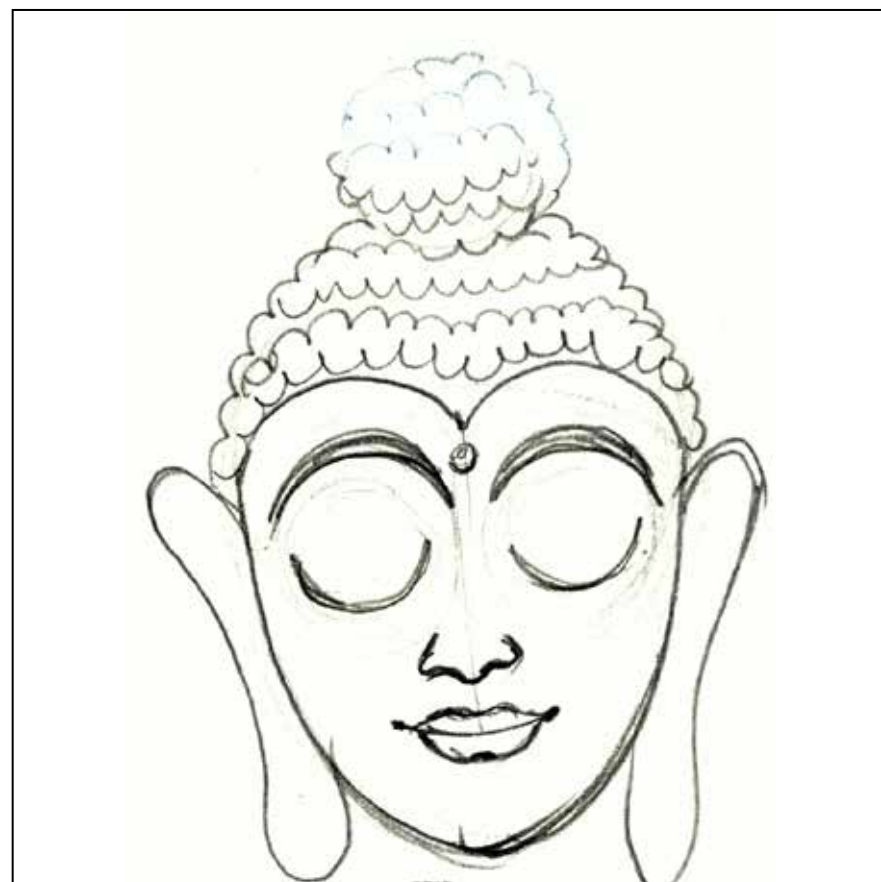
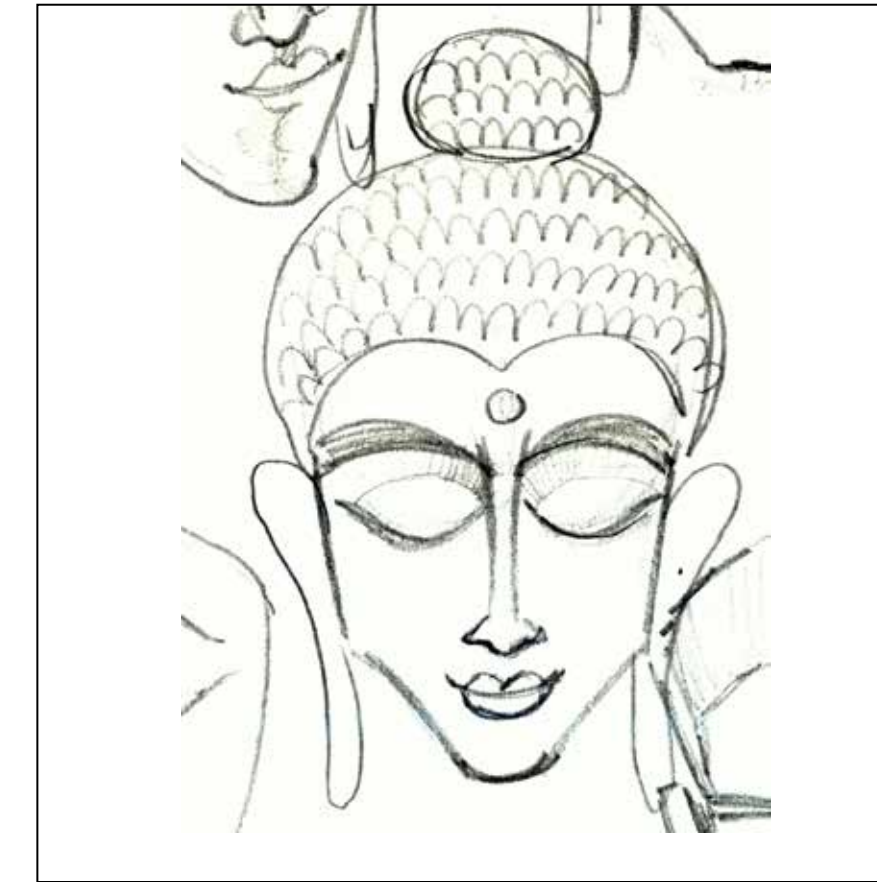
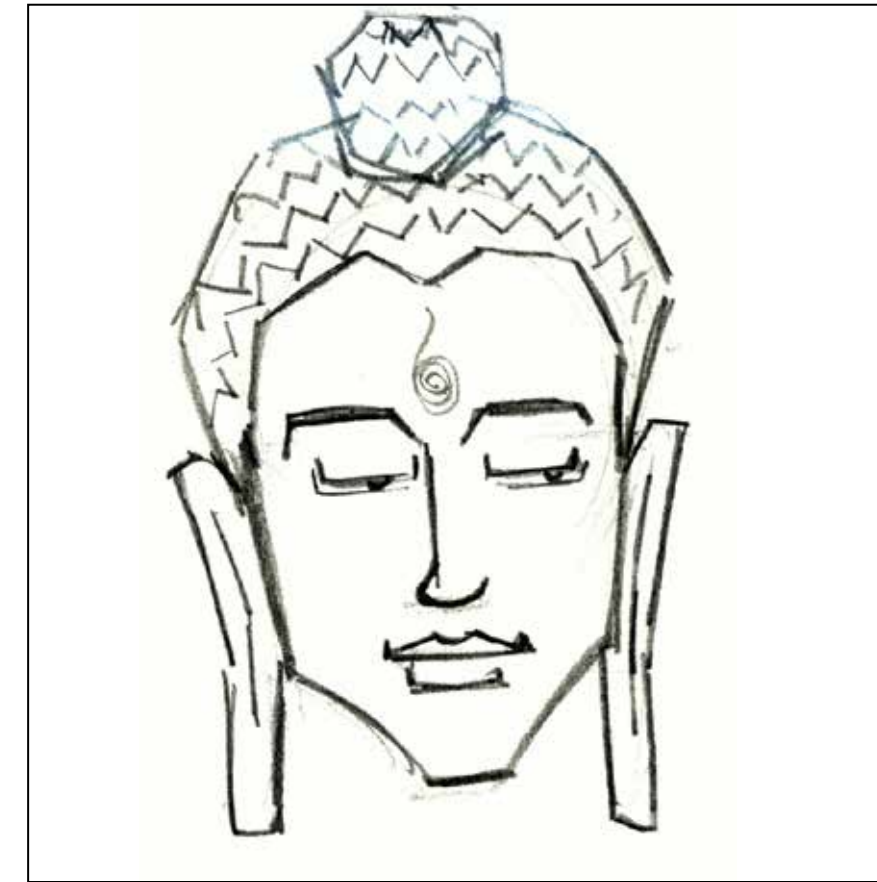
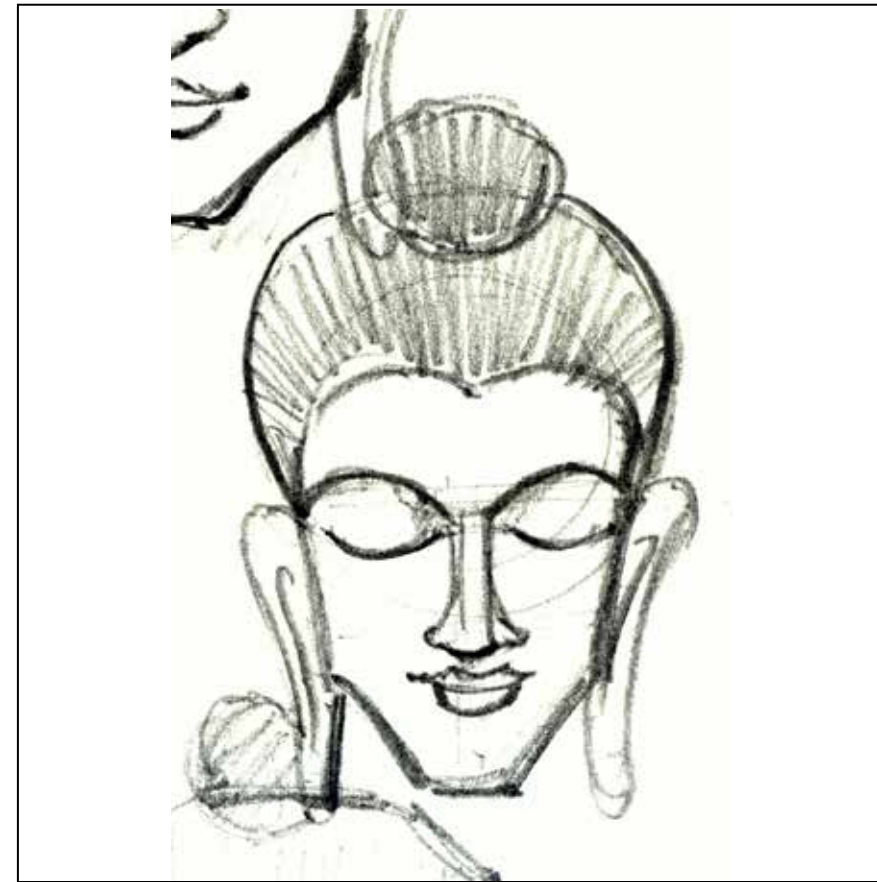
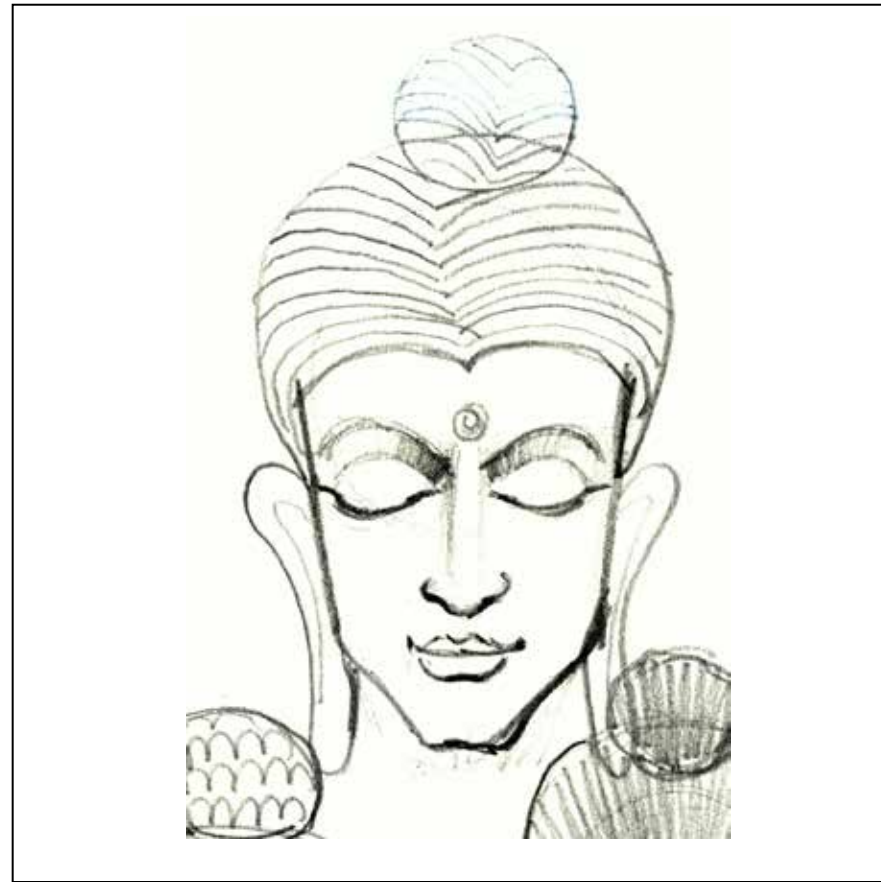
1. Graphic Novel
2. Poster Exhibition

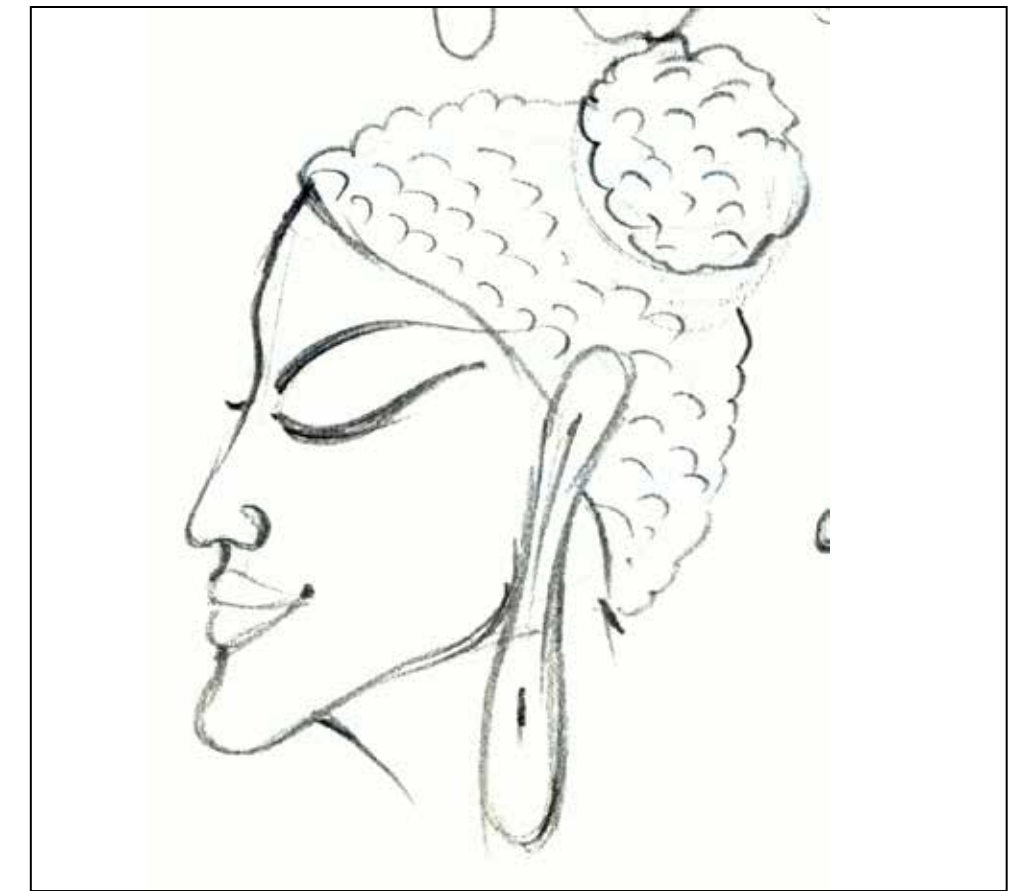
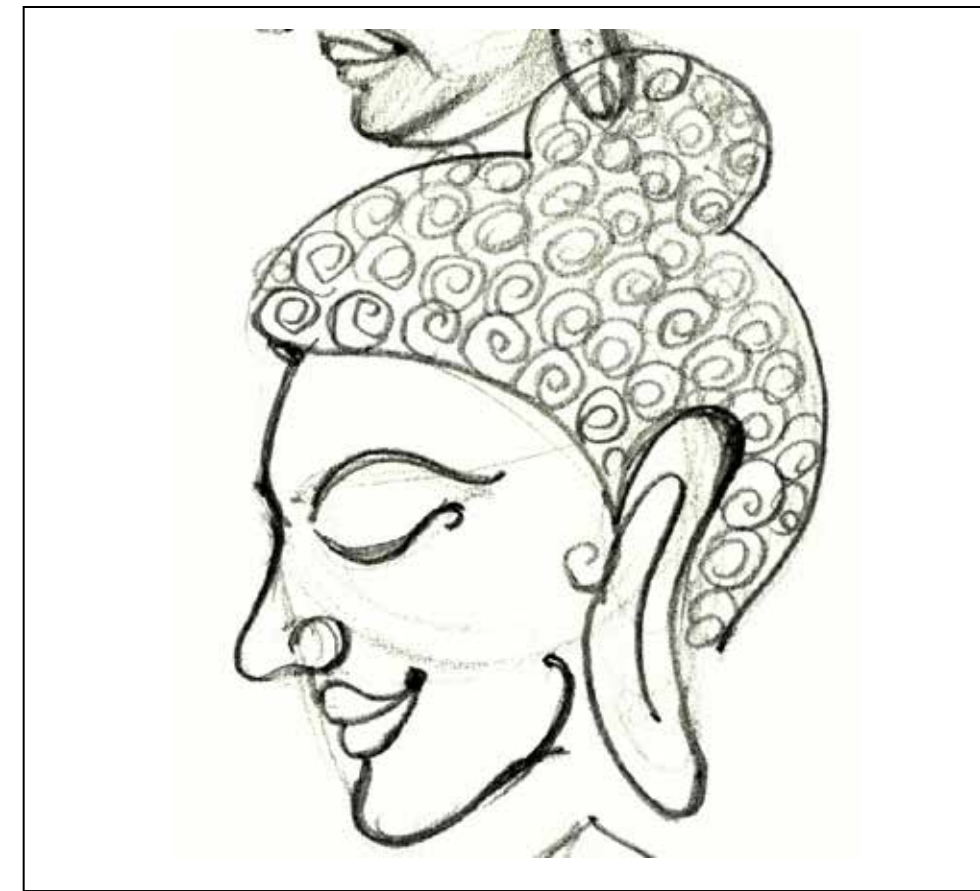
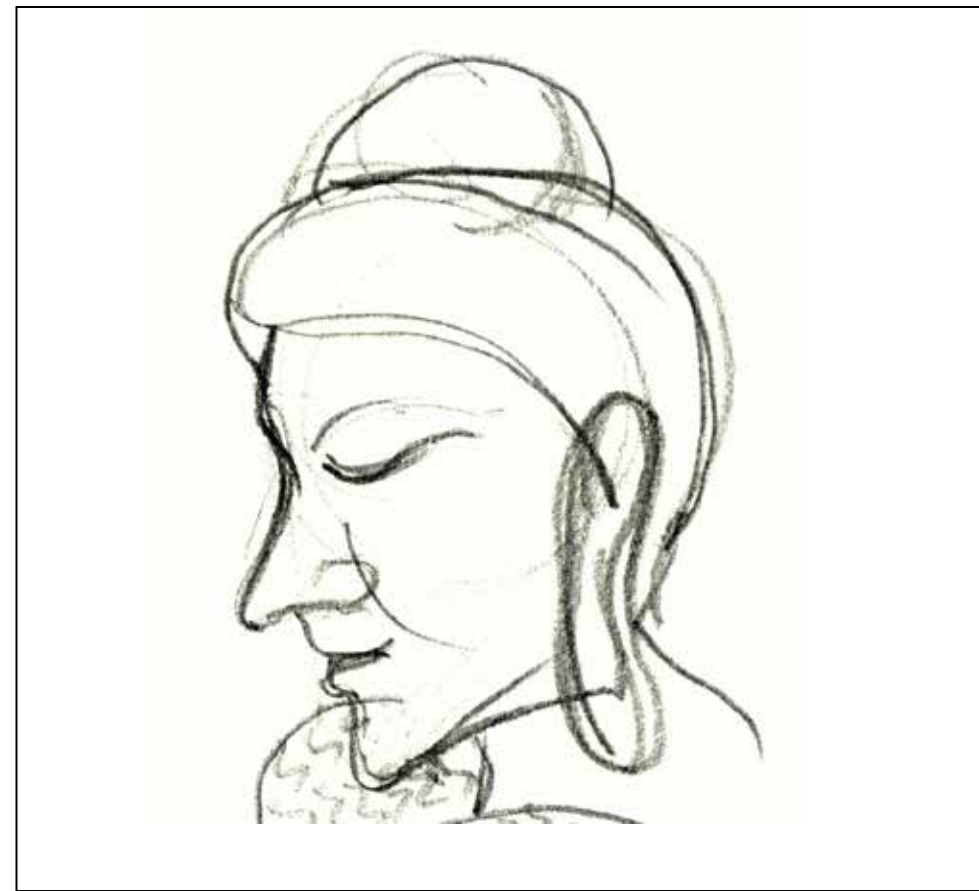
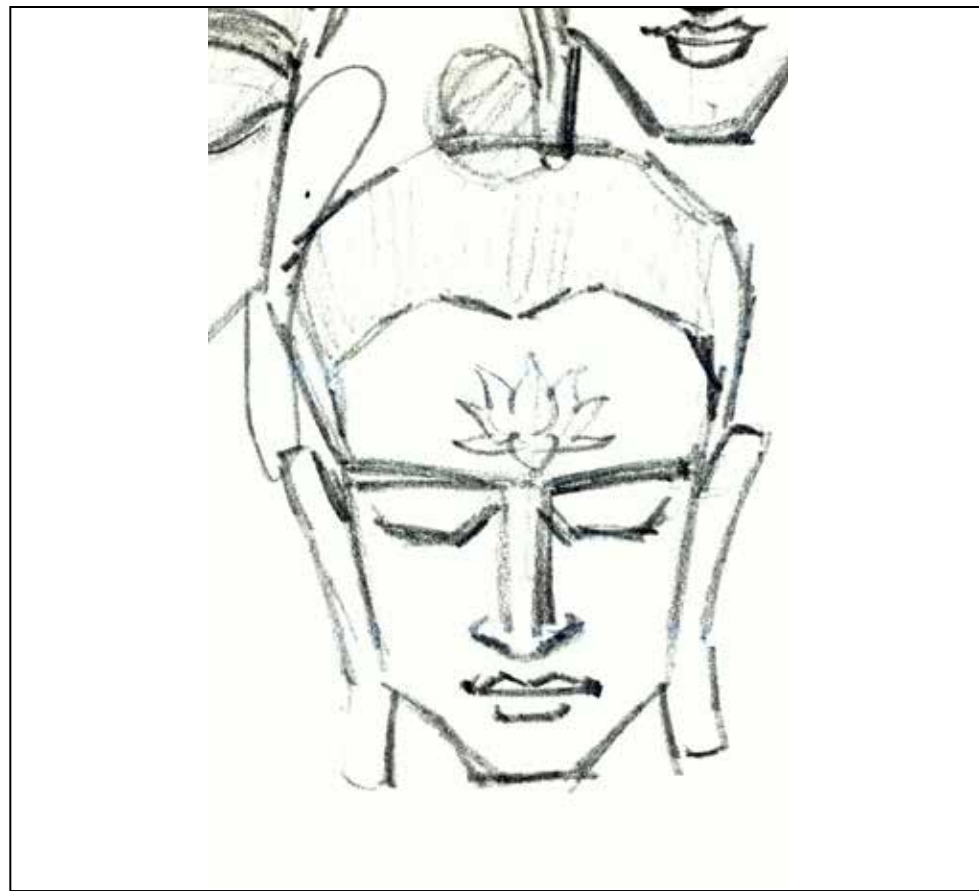
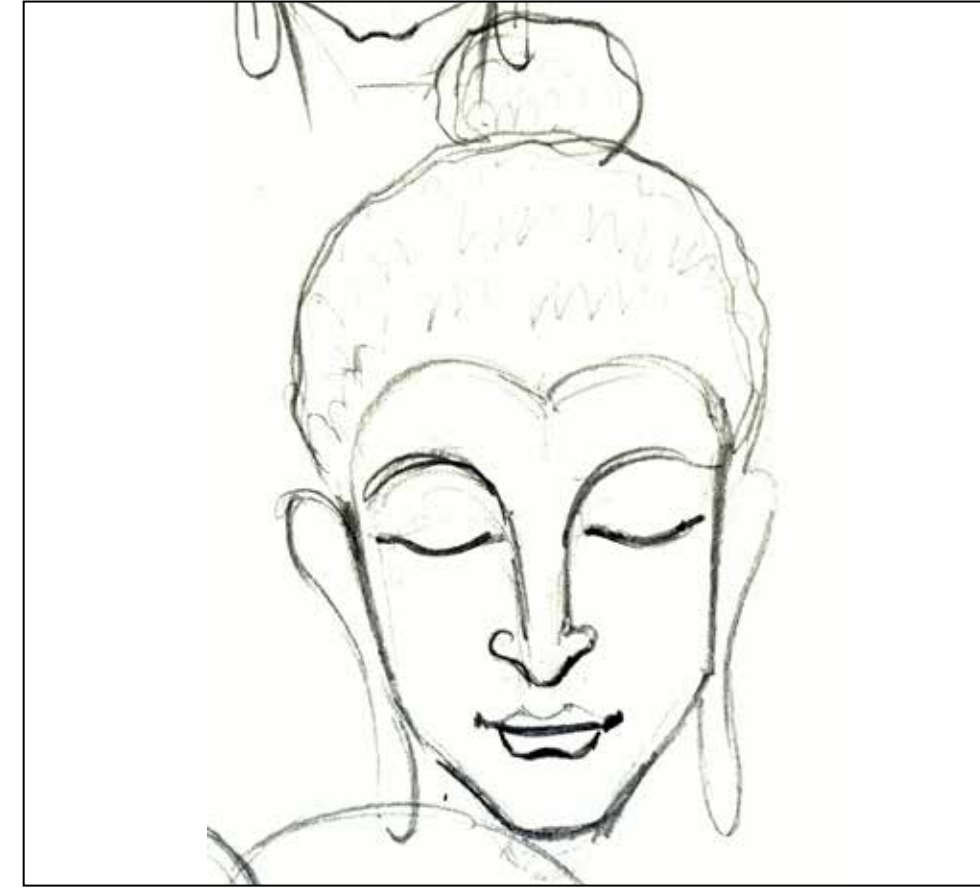
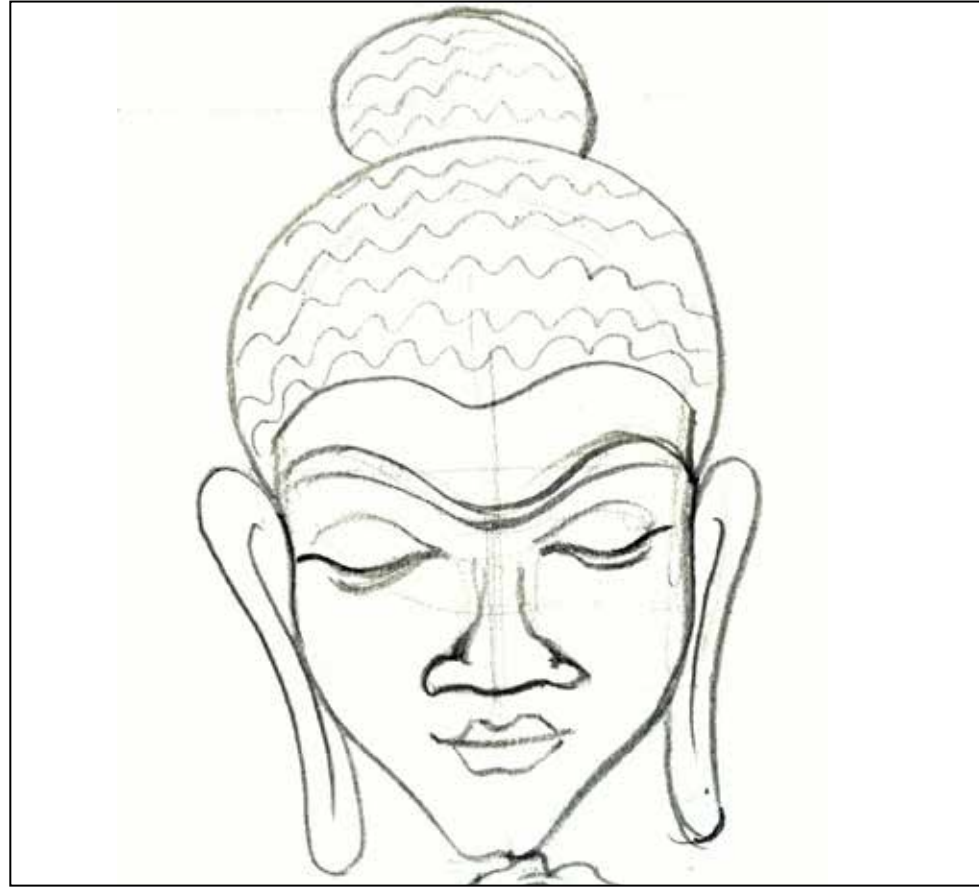
Face Study

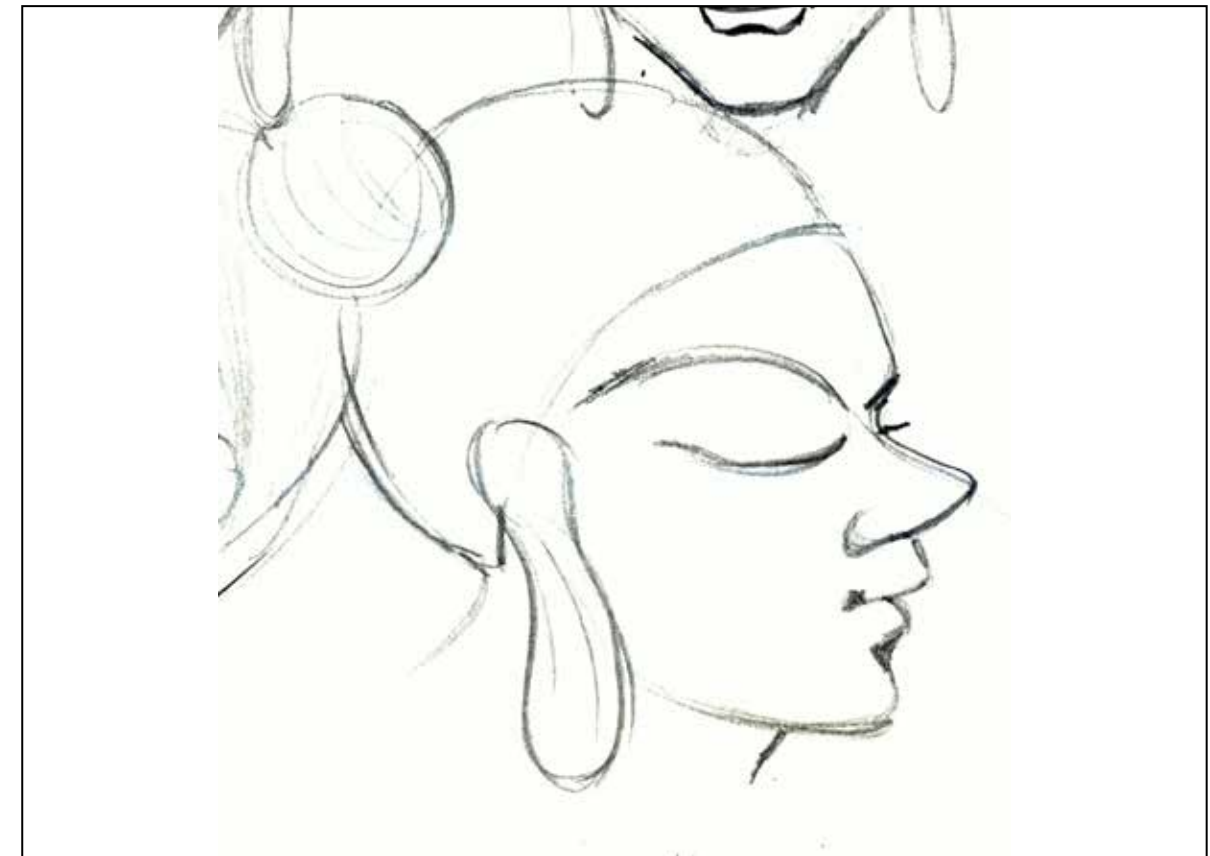
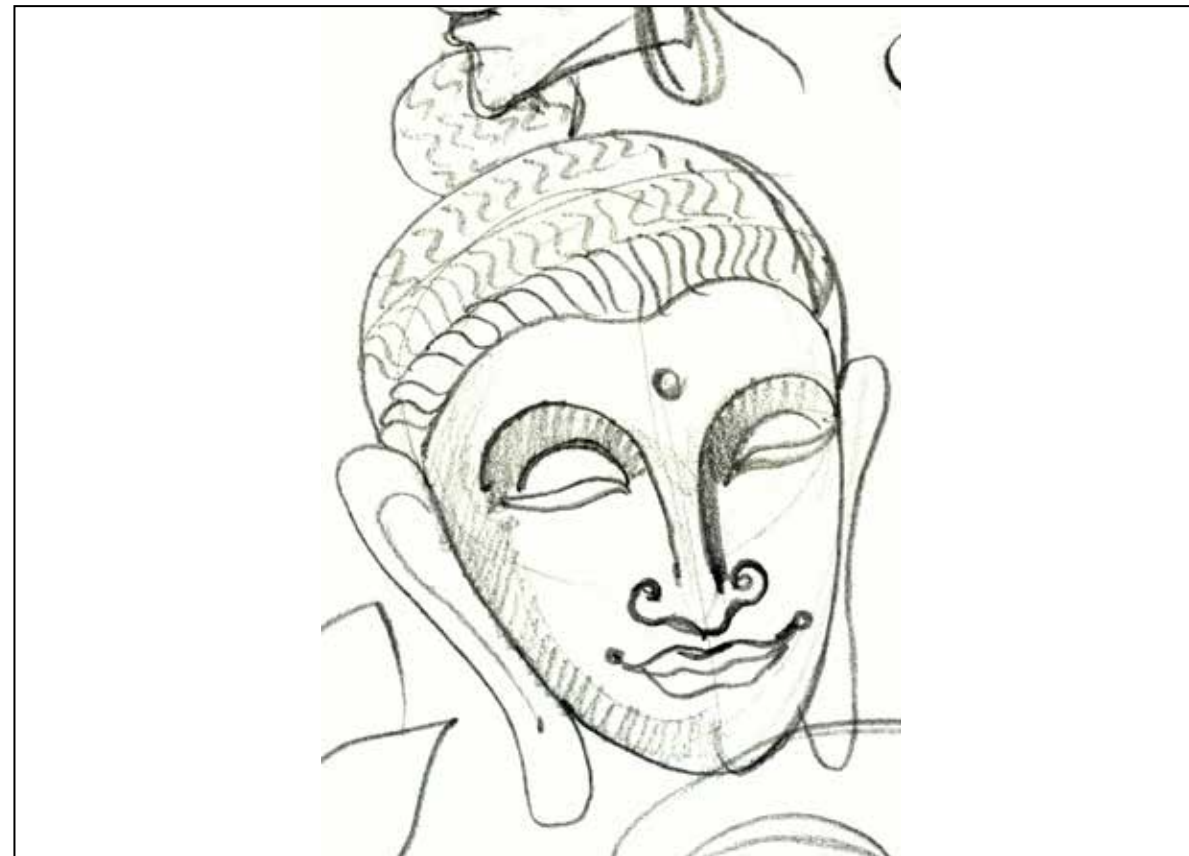
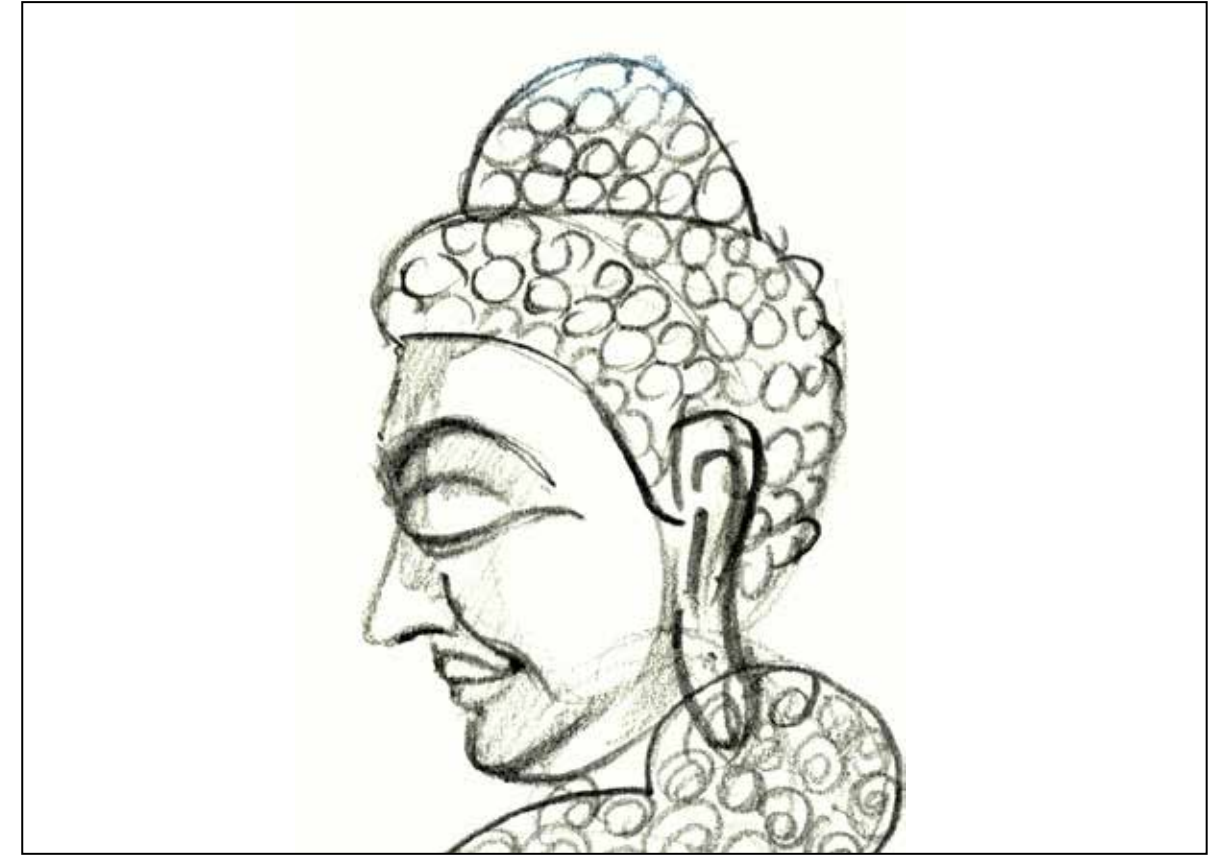
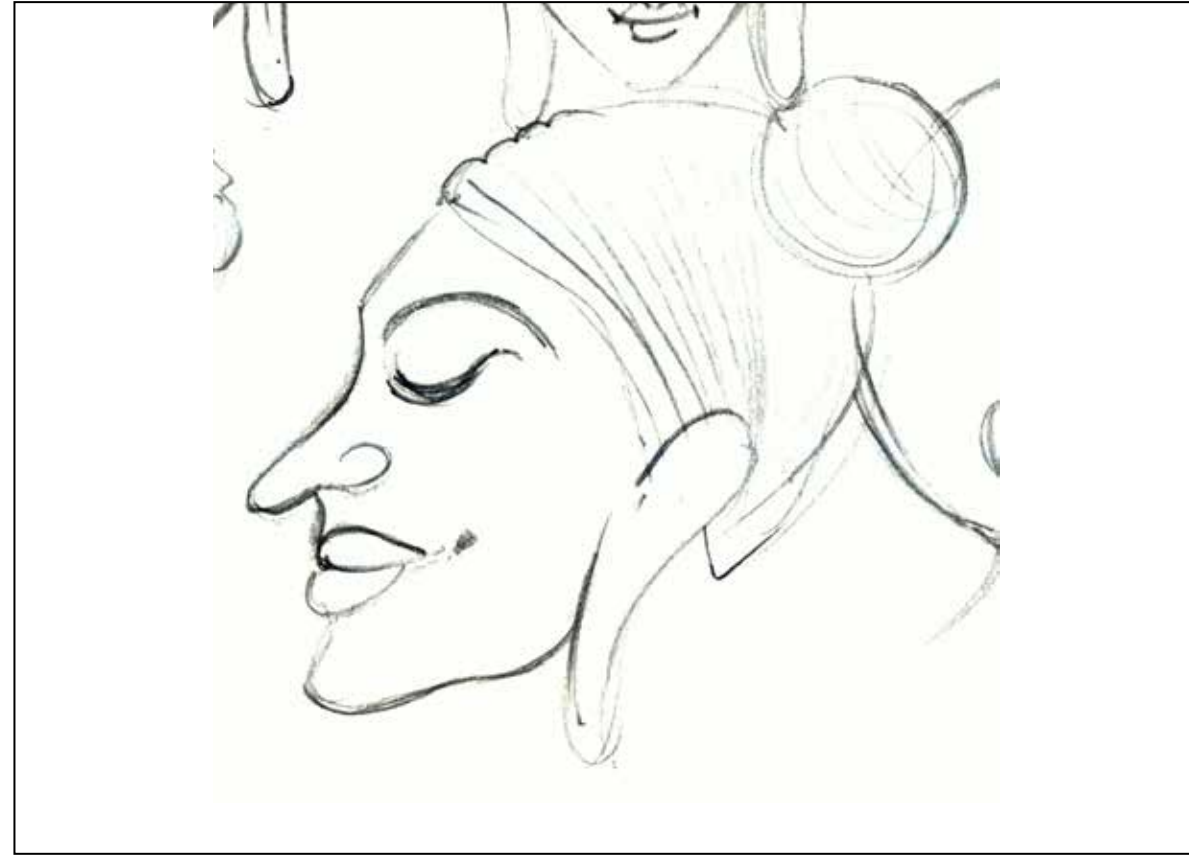




Face Explorations







Anatomy Study



Photograph



Study



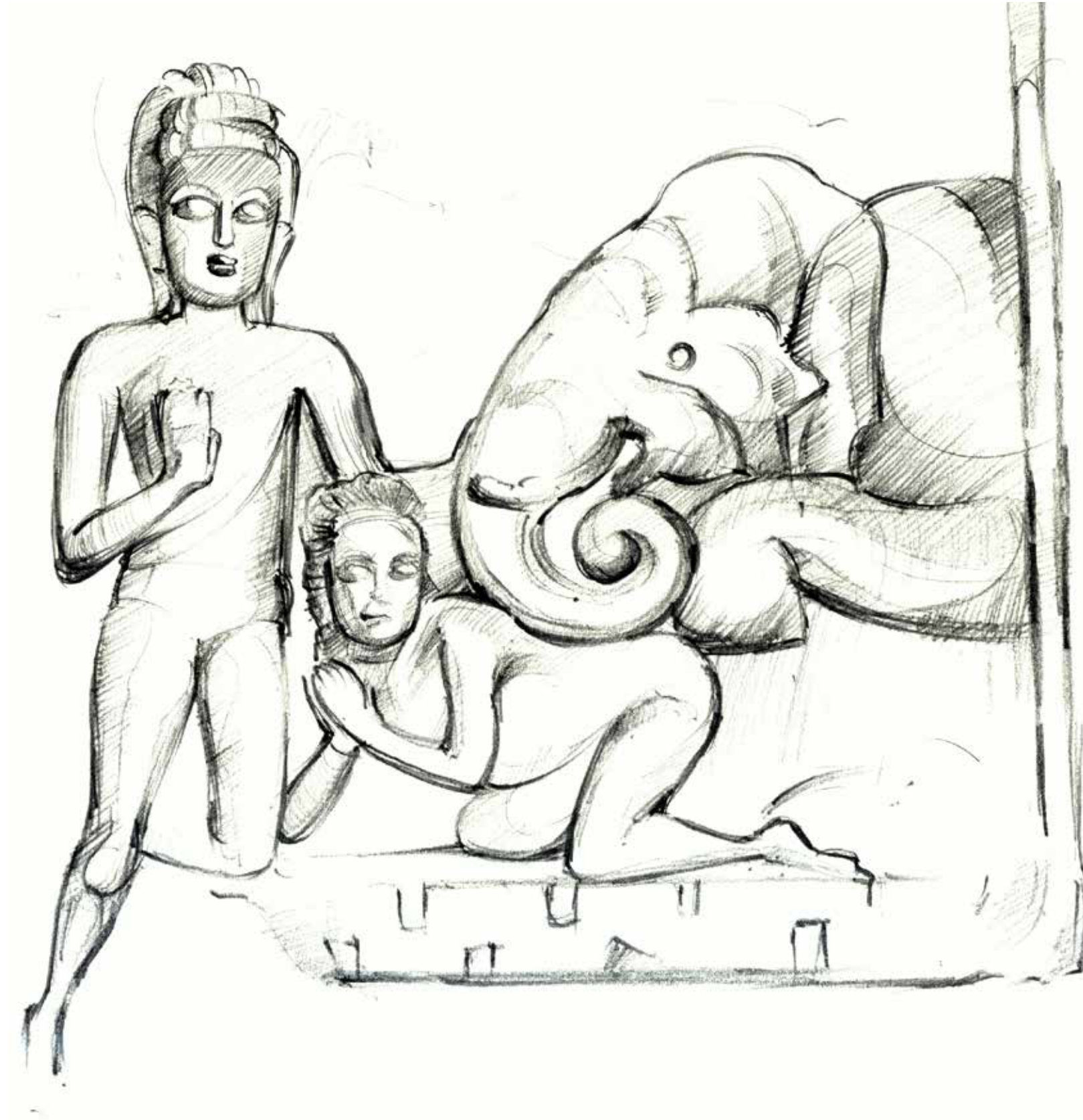
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Study



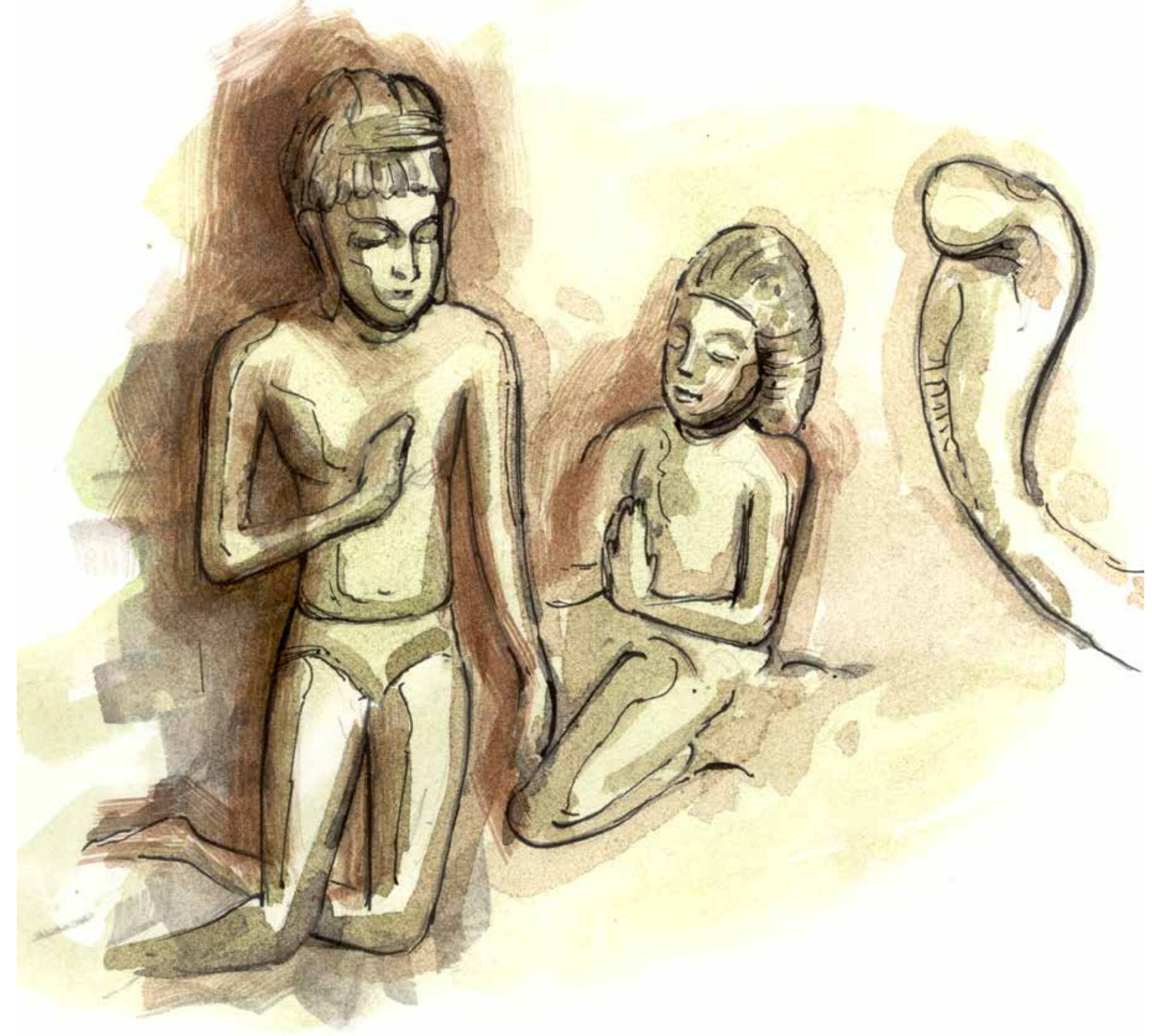
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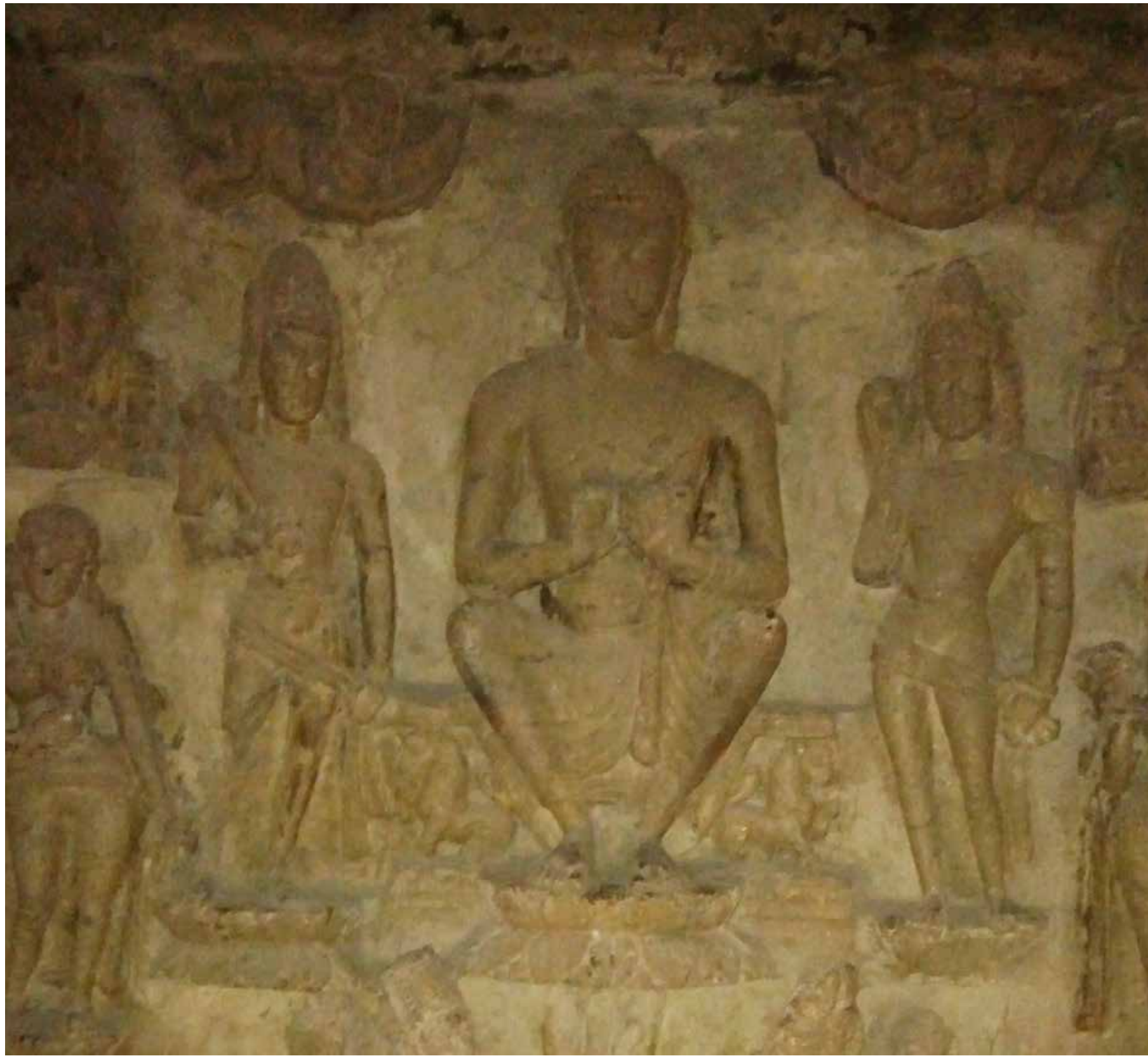
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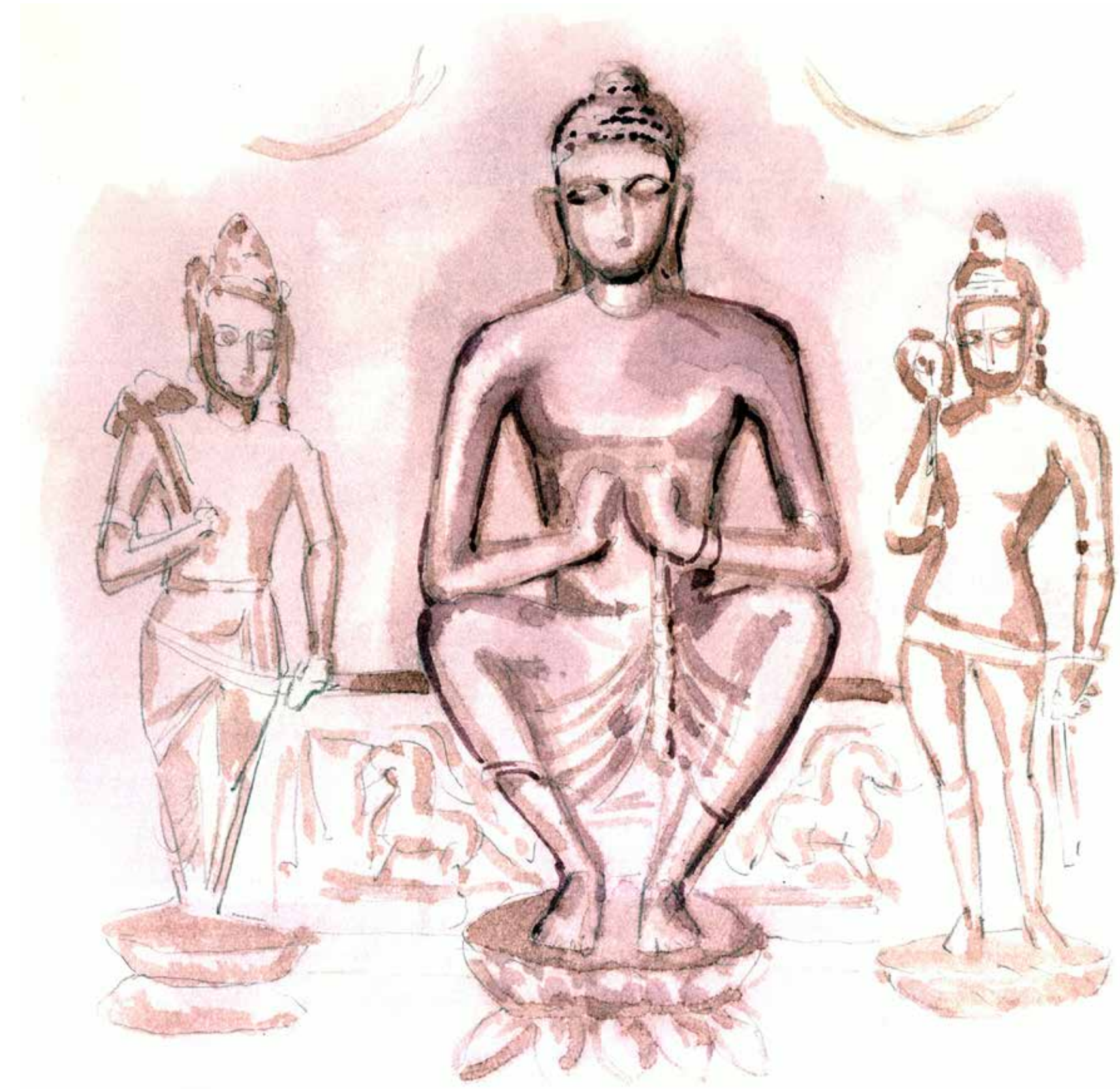
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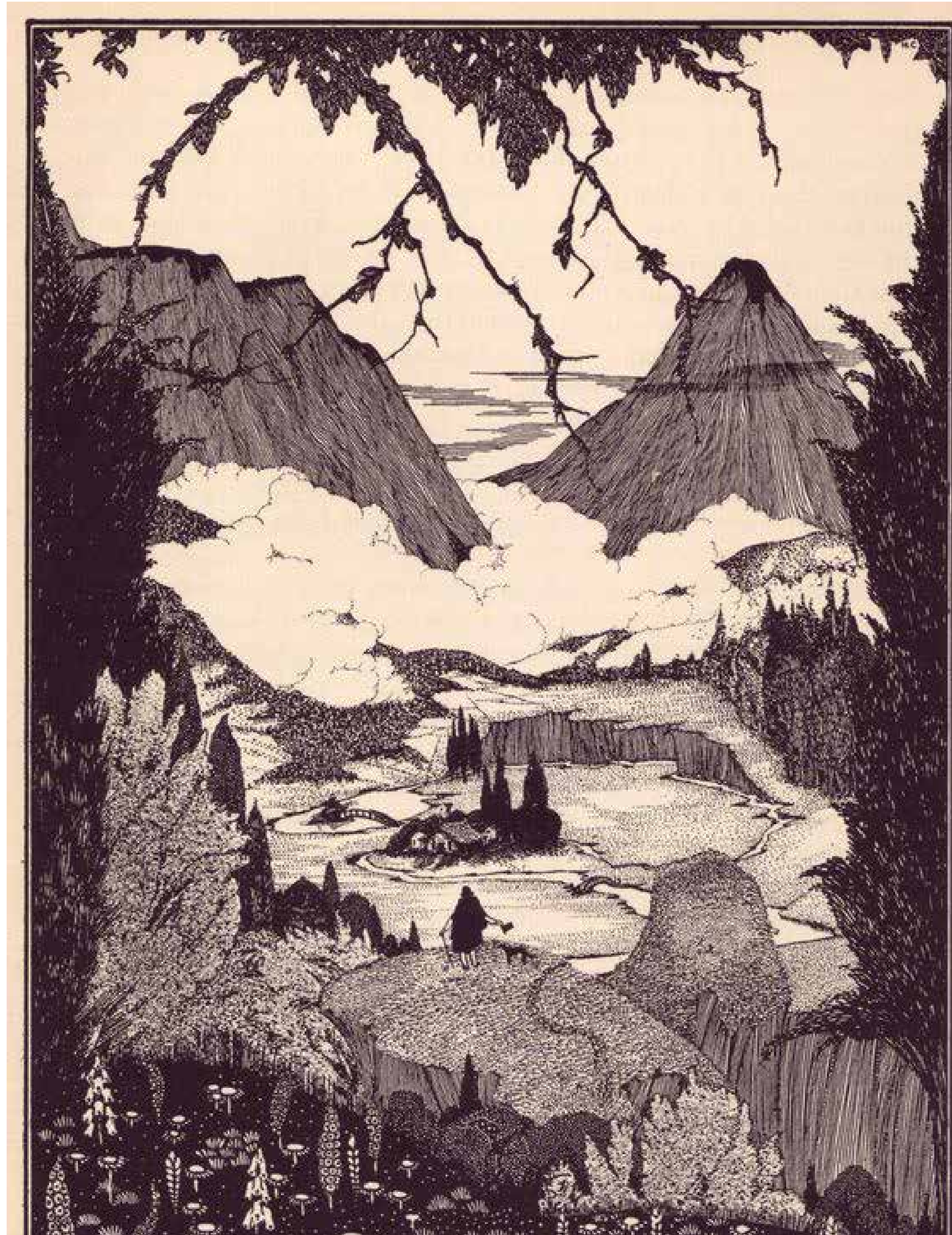
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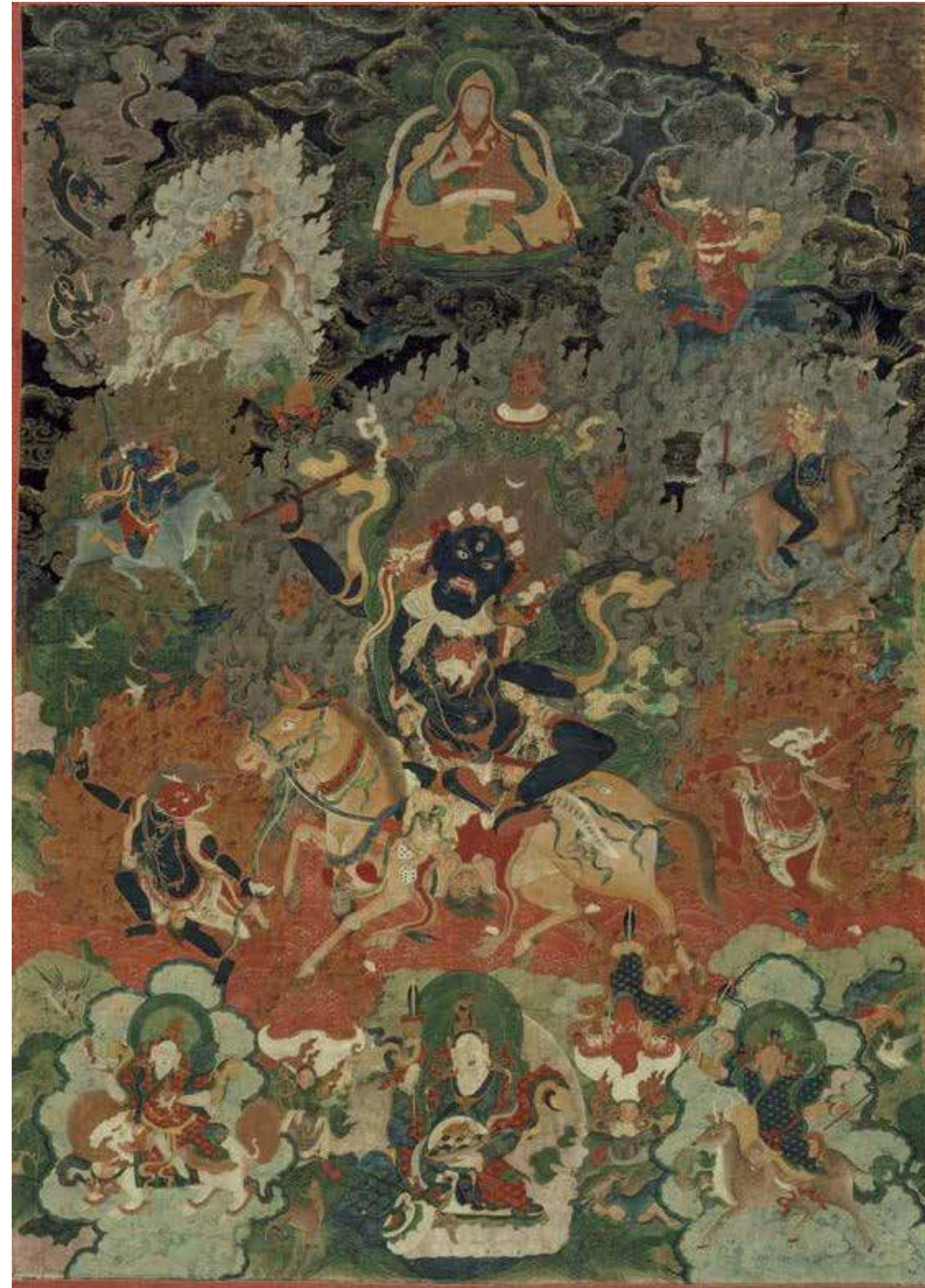
Photograph



Study







Background

Work Process

Final Output

BHUMISPARSHA
MUDRA



DHARMACHAKRA
MUDRA



DHYANA MUDRA



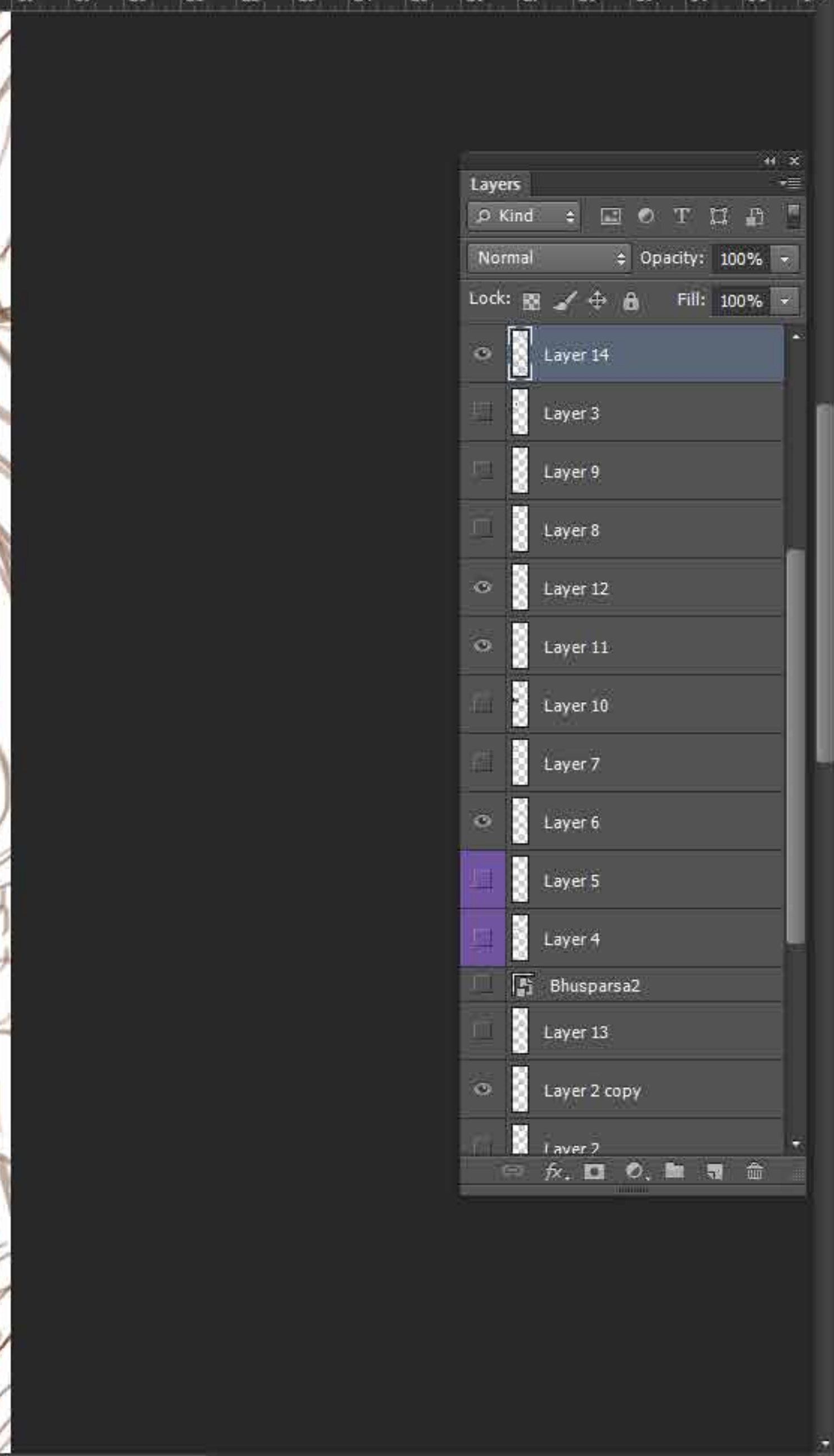
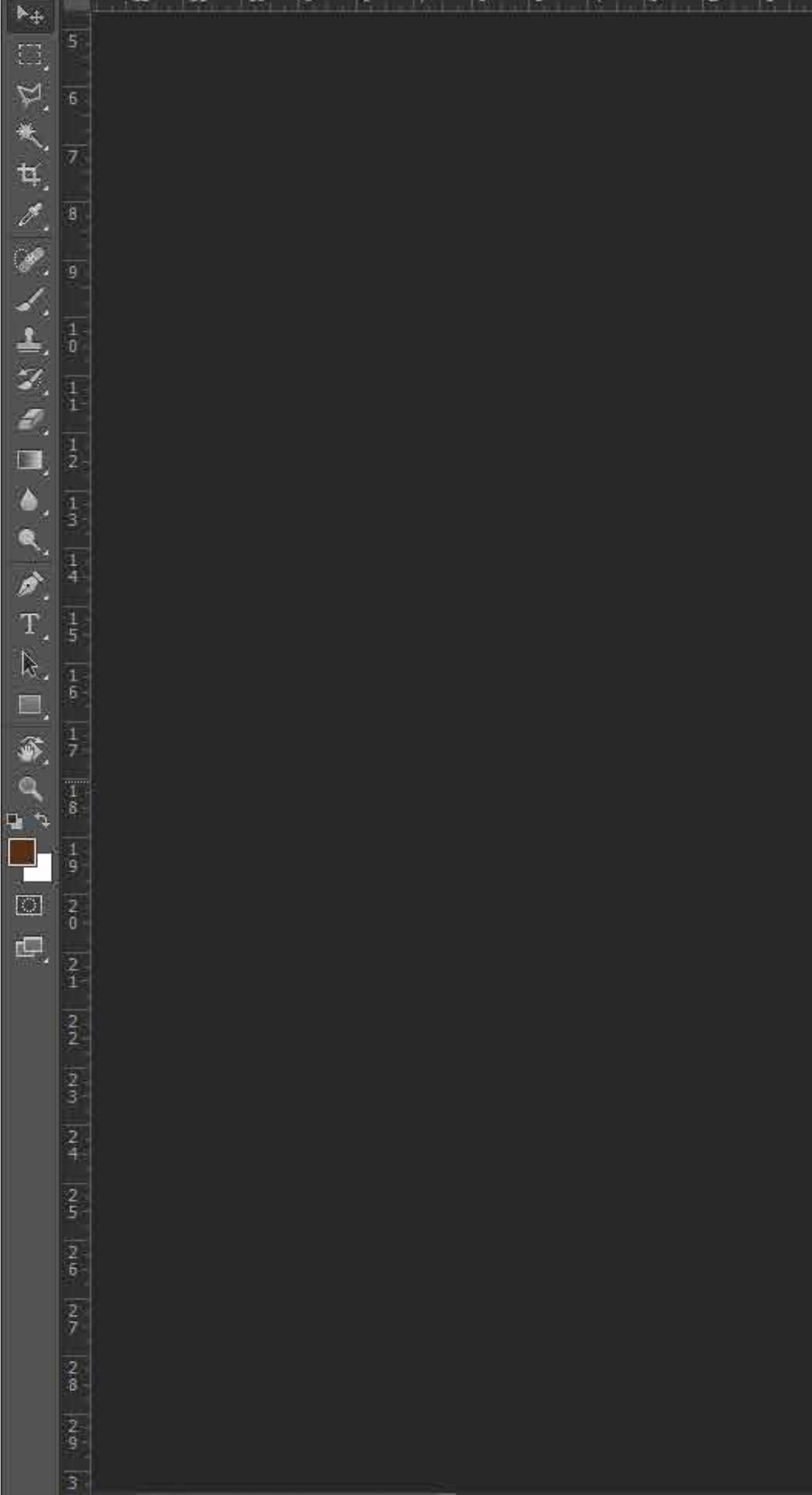
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VAJRASATTVA



VAJRASATTVA



Layers

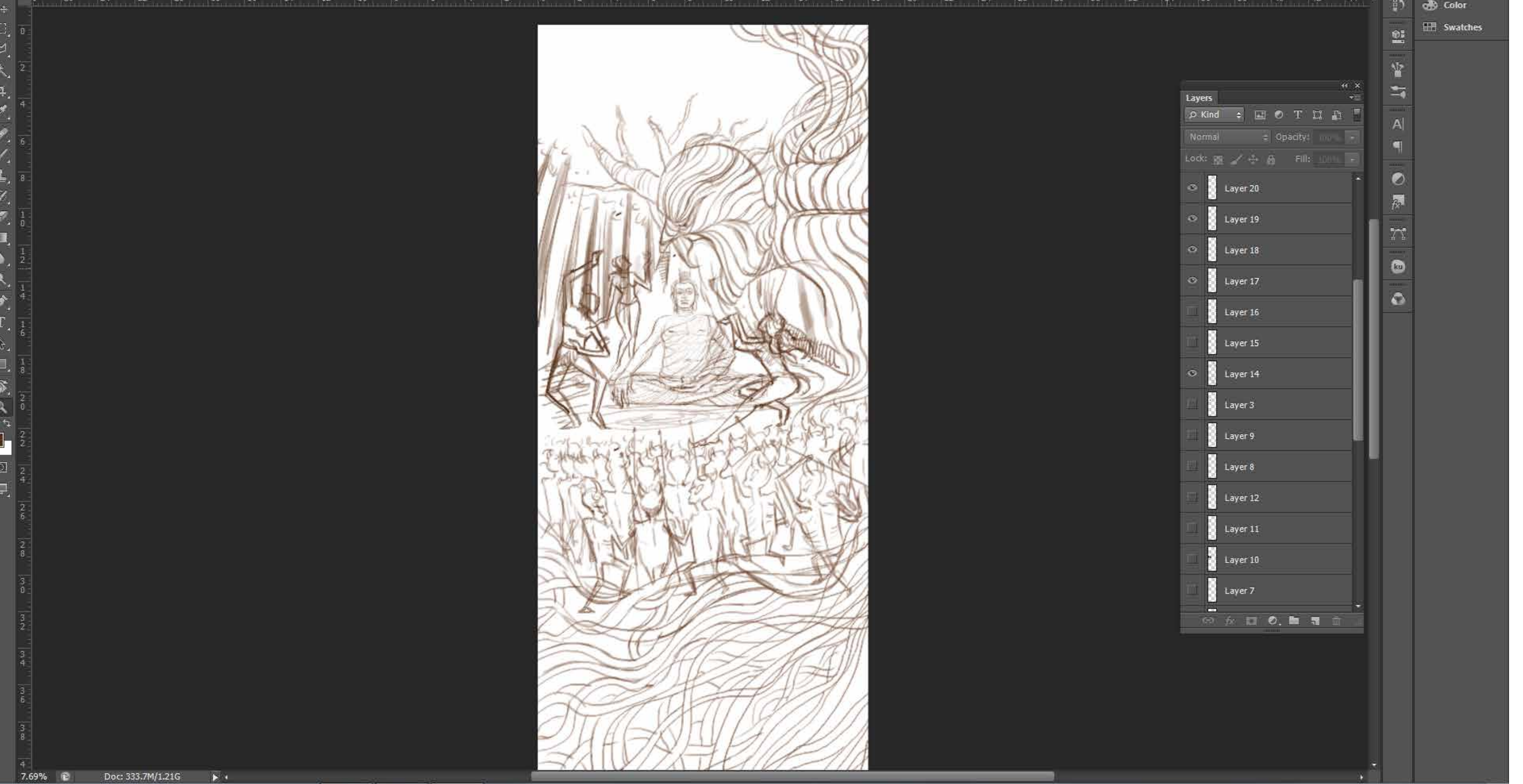
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Lock: [icon] [icon] [icon] [icon] Fill: 100%

- Layer 14
- Layer 3
- Layer 9
- Layer 8
- Layer 12
- Layer 11
- Layer 10
- Layer 7
- Layer 6
- Layer 5
- Layer 4
- Bhusparsa2
- Layer 13
- Layer 2 copy
- Layer 2

fx. [icon] [icon] [icon] [icon] [icon]



Layers

Kind Opacity

Normal 100%

Lock: Fill: 100%

- Layer 20
- Layer 19
- Layer 18
- Layer 17
- Layer 16
- Layer 15
- Layer 14
- Layer 3
- Layer 9
- Layer 8
- Layer 12
- Layer 11
- Layer 10
- Layer 7

References

Links

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gautama_Buddha_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gautama_Buddha_(film))https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Little_Buddha
<https://owlcation.com/humanities/Buddha-Statue-Mudras>
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Gestures of Yoga and Indian Dance - Expanded Edition by Cain Caroll and Revital Caroll
Mudras of the Great Buddha Symbolic Gestures and Postures by Exotic India Art
Mudra In Pan-Asian Buddhism Part 1: Primary Mudras of the Major Buddhas by John C. Huntington

Thank You