



VISUAL NARRATIVE OF THE COACHING CAPITAL OF INDIA - KOTA

VISUAL COMMUNICATION PROJECT II
VCPR-352

BY

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**INDUSTRIAL DESIGN CENTRE
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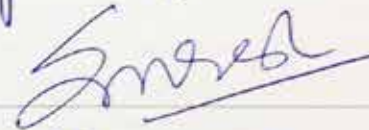
Approval Sheet

The project titled 'Visual Narrative of the coaching capital of India -Kota' by Abhey Singh, is approved for partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of 'Masters of Design' in Visual Communication Design.

Guide



Chairperson



Internal examiner



External examiner



27.11.14

Declaration

I declare that this written submission represents my ideas in my own words and where others' ideas or words have been included, I have adequately cited and referenced the original sources. I also declare that I have adhered to all principles of academic honesty and integrity and have not misrepresented or fabricated or falsified any idea/ data/ fact/ source in my submission.

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Signature:



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Abstract

Every year more than lakhs of students appear for entrance exams for engineering and medical institutions. Education system which should nurture aptitude of students for diverse fields is a complete failure. This gap between deliverables of educational system and the demands of entrance exams combined with middle class definition of success which is becoming a doctor or an engineer, has fueled development of entrance exam factories at Kota.

Kota, a name now synonymous with coaching institutes was once known for reasons not even minutely related to coaching. It has now risen to become coaching capital of India with more than 200,000 students residing in this small city. Undergoing emotional transitions of teenage life, these students work hard day and night to achieve a humble dream, a dream to enter into a prestigious engineering or medical institute, a dream to become a doctor or an engineer, a dream to leave behind financially constrained life, a dream which is the product of simple Indian mentality. Amidst such emotional and lifestyle challenges, a few of them succeed to get into the premiere institutes. In fact one fourth of people who make into IITs are a product of one or the other Kota coaching institutes. But this training to become the poster boy/girl does not completely shut their dreams. These dreams which may or may not be aligned with their duty to clear the entrance are expressed in the form of scribbles here and there.

Through this project, I aim to explore the life of students in Kota. I do not intend to show the “successful” or “unsuccessful” stories. I aspire to show the transformations a student undergoes while being factory trained to explore their dreams through the metaphor ‘The Last Page of Notebook’. I do not wish to take position of a judge and justify or criticize the coaching business. Rather I wish to create sensitivity towards these emotional changes in an unbiased manner.

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I would like to thank IDC, IIT Bombay for giving me the opportunity to work on this project.

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This project is dedicated to my parents for always trusting in my abilities and Anjali for always being there for me.

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Introduction

In India children first become engineers and then they think what they want to do in life

In Rabindranath tagore's poem, 'Alice in Wonderland': Alice soaks beauty of the nature while merrily wandering. She abruptly stops at some distance, since there are two pathways in two different directions. She is confused to choose the correct path. Suddenly a cat arrives. She asks the cat the query she has, 'Which way you want to lead?' the cat asks. Alice says, 'I haven't yet decided'. The cat reply's 'then follow my way, it doesn't make any difference'.

- an advertisement by a coaching institute in national newspaper

I went to Delhi for coaching dropping one year after twelfth / I got AIR 731 in the IIT-JEE exam / I did my B.tech in Aerospace Engineering from IIT Bombay / I taught at a coaching institute for one year in Mumbai / I am currently doing my M.Des. at IIT Bombay in Visual Communication

My relation to IIT and coaching

Getting into IIT

I belong to a lower middle class family of India staying at a small town in the outskirts of Delhi. After my 10th I wanted to take arts and go for IAS exam but according to my parents only 'weak students study arts/commerce'. So I took Science. Now the next criteria for being intelligent was getting selecting into IITs. After failing in it for the first time I took the risk of dropping a year going against my parents and somehow managed to go to Delhi to study in a coaching class. That one year in Delhi changed my entire life. The only thing I did for one year was studying for IIT-JEE.

Going back to coaching days

After getting my bachelors from IITB, I started teaching at a coaching institute in Mumbai. Teaching there I again realized the immense pressure students go through while preparing for IITs. When thinking of the topic for project2 at IDC I decided to go to Kota, popularly known as the coaching capital of India and document the life of the students there.

I had seen the phenomenon of IITs from every possible way and therefore had a deep understanding of the subject. I often wondered what would have been my life if I had not cleared the IIT-JEE exam. In addition to documenting and telling the story of a big social experiment this project is in some way myself trying to make sense of what actually happened with me.

The story of Kota

Kota formerly known as Kotah, is one of the largest city in Rajasthan. Until the late 1980s, Kota had chemical factories, Kota stone, textiles and that was about it. Not trivial, but perhaps without too much growth potential—and in any case, some of it was dying. As the factories were closing down one of the employees starting teaching a student at his dining table. One thing led to another and in the next 10 years the entire city was transformed.

The birth of Bansals' classes

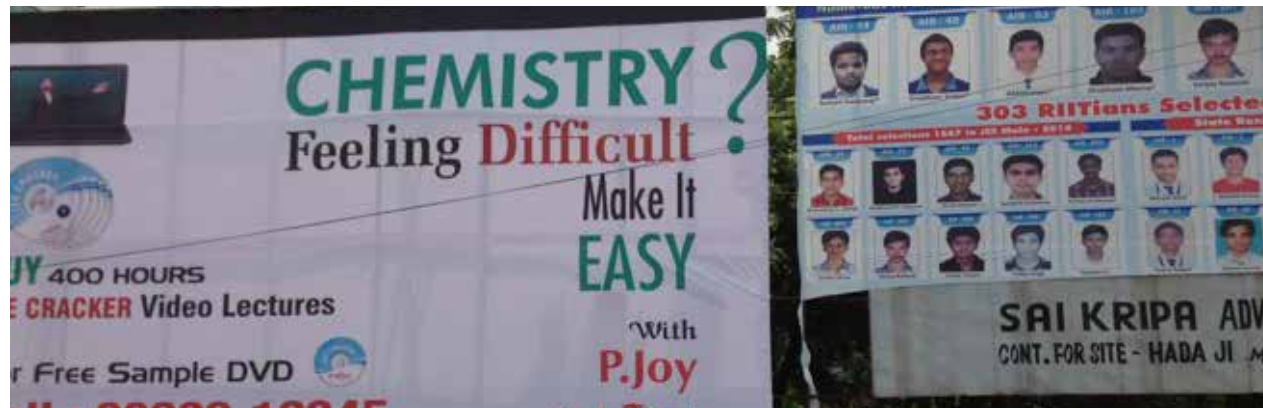
It all started when V.K.Bansal began helping a seventh standard student from his area with his schoolwork at his dining table. As Sachin Jha writes in *It All Adds Up*, his biography of Bansal, the boy “had broken into the stratified ranks of the top ten” in his final exams that year. “This was no ordinary feat.” Neighbors noticed. The next year, two more boys joined Bansal’s fledgling effort. The year after that, there were 15 kids. At that stage, Bansal was teaching for free—and yes, sitting at his dining table. But the parents persuaded him to accept fees.

One thing led to another, and before long Bansal was giving tuitions to IIT aspirants. In 1986, the first of these made it through the IIT-JEE and went on to attend IIT Kanpur. This too was no ordinary feat. The JEE has always been one of the most competitive exams in the world: in 2011, nearly 5,00,000 students took the test. Less than 10,000 got through.

By the mid-1990s, Bansal was teaching 150 students. Dozens were getting through the JEE, so clearly he was doing something right. In 1998, he upgraded from his dining table, Jha writes, “and started to take his lectures in packed classrooms”—first in his refurbished garage, and eventually in the flashy Gaurav Tower on Road No 1.¹

1. Get to the Top

By Dilip D'souza, www.caravanmagazine.in



Economy

Kota's economy is now totally dependent on the coaching industry. Hostels, mess, transport, marketing agents, cycle shops, lodging are some major fields which flourished in addition to people directly working in a coaching institute. Nearly 2,00,000 students stay in Kota at any point of time. On an average each student spends 2,00,000 per annum (80,000 on coaching fees + 60,000 on accommodation + 30,000 on food + 30,000 other expenses). If we multiply it by the number of students we get the figure of 40 billion.

Competitors

Other engineers whose future became uncertain due to closing of factories started following Bansal. Allen, one of the largest coaching in the field of Medical started taking informal tuitions in 1988. Career Point started in 1993. Resonance, now the biggest player in coaching was started by a ex-Bansal HOD in 2002. In 2009, another 7 of Bansals faculty broke away and started Vibrant Academy. In 2011, a Korean company Etoos started their own coaching by poaching several teachers from Allen and Resonance.

Performance

Kota is roughly responsible of one-fourth of total selections in IITs. In 2014 nearly 25,000 students qualified in the IIT-JEE exam. Out of them more than 7,000 are from Kota. Resonance is the leader with 4105 students followed by vibrant: 1178, Allen: 1010, Bansal: 1057 and Career Point: 573.

The Dark side of Kota

“My first month in Kota was marked by the overwhelming scream from the neighboring hostel, where someone gave up in the race, while I had just put my feet on the start line.”

Bijaya Bansal

Allenite for a year.

Quality of students

Kota has turned into this site where coaching factories are constantly churning out IITians. The students are just taught how to solve problems. They are turned into some kind of problem solving robots. This has led to the decline of general awareness and aptitude towards science. Most of the students are so tired after 2 years of rigorous training solving problems that they lose their curiosity for knowledge.

Depression, Pressure and Loneliness

Kota thrives on the principle of competition which leaves a negative impact on the students who are unable to keep up in the race. Staying away from family, secluded from the entire world in a place where everyone has come just to study adds to the pressure leaving a lot of students in depression.

Suicides

Nearly one student commits suicide every month in Kota giving up to the pressure and expectations of the parents and society. According to Kota police record in 2010 eight students committed suicides, 6 in 2011, 11 in 2012 and 4 suicides (2 boys, 2 girls) up to April 2014

Design Process

Approach

I already had basic information about the coaching industry but the coaching classes in Kota are different to those in rest of India. I therefore started by talking to my friends in IIT who came here through Kota and started reading articles about Kota. After having the factual information I headed to Kota to get the first-hand information. I focused on students and came up with the concept of telling the story through 'the last page of notebook'. I then researched on how other photographers have used photography to tell stories. Having the idea about what I wanted to shoot I returned back to Kota and took detailed interviews of students while visually documenting the last pages of their notebooks. Later, I combined everything to present it in the form of a story.

Learning objectives

Through this project I wanted to achieve conceptual as well as physical growth. Conceptually I wanted to develop an understanding about: the education scenario in India, the psychology of senior secondary students and the role of parents in making or breaking a child. Physically I wanted to develop my knowledge and understanding about using photography as a medium to tell stories, presentation modes and the understanding of design process.

Deliverables

An exhibition/book which will tell the story of Kota in a personal and effective way.

Secondary Research

1.

Revealed: Inside Kota's Rs. 300 crore coaching industry, where 1.5 lakh students brave cut-throat competition to crack IIT-JEE.

by Sudhanshu Mishra, dailymail.co.uk, 23 April 2013

One can guess the popularity of a coaching institute by looking at the number of bicycles used by students.

1. Parents coming to kota to stay with their children and help them in studies.
2. Official website of Kota: 129 big and small coaching institutes.
3. Founder V.K. Bansal and 200 crore industry.
4. Annual pay package of teachers range from 15 lakhs to 50 lakhs and up to 2 crore if it is a star teacher.
5. New campuses at Kota's Indraprasth Industrial Area developed by Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO)
6. Outside investments:
 - + CLSA, Hong kong- 100 crore into Resonance Eduventures
 - + Milestone Religare- 60 crore into Resonance Eduventures
 - + Franklin templeton- 50 crores into Career Point
 - + Nadathur group- 54 crores into Career Point
7. Non-reliability of teachers shifting to other coaching classes.
8. 10,000 and 16,000 seats at IITs and NITs respectively, tremendous competition and suicides. Every month one student commits suicides according to Kota's police record.
 - + 2010- 8 suicides
 - + 2011- 6 suicides
 - + 2012- 11 suicides
 - + Up to April 2013- 4 suicides (2 boys, 2 girls)
9. Local people using the employment opportunities

2.

Get to the Top

by Dilip D'Souza, Caravanmagazine.in, 1 April 2012

“Girls are too much trouble. Every month the drains get clogged, you know what I mean?”;and “I don’t take nonsense. Boy makes trouble, I give him his balance rent, tell him I want him out in fifteen minutes”

1. Leaflets floating around, woman picking to make a living.
2. Short names: “SK Sir”, “MC Sir”, “PJ Sir”, “DJ Sir”, “AG Sir”, “NA Sir”
3. Five big: Bansals, Allen, Resonance, Career point, Vibrant
4. Value of being ex-bansalite teacher
5. Rent available in every house. Girls too much trouble
6. Frustration of natives over Allen moving one of the branches outside
7. Moral corruption, girls not attending classes and going to boys room, girls running away with boys. Bihar boys too much trouble
8. Consultant guardians as a job
9. Business opportunities
 - + Roadside stalls selling “bread omlet”, “chaumeen”, “maggie noodles” and minuscule plastic cups of tea.
 - + Rickshaws with “daily up-down service to Allens, Bansals etc.”
 - + Book stalls, notebooks etc.
 - + Hostels and paying guest places
 - + Messes (Aunty mess, Caliber Mess)
 - + Textbook stores
 - + Sign-making

In 1998, Bansal upgraded from his dining table, Jha writes, “and started to take his lectures in packed classrooms”—first in his refurbished garage, and eventually in the flashy Gaurav Tower on Road No 1

10. To let signs on nearly all buildings
 - + Superior MRI clinic
 - + Karishma beauty parlor
 - + Universal Mart
 - + R K sharma’s clinic
 - + Huge Talwandi mansion with semi-circular balustrades and multi-colored mosaic facades
 - + At city cyber cafe
 - + Sk Ramchandani orthopaedic Hospital
 - + Mall
 11. Biography of V.K. Bansal ‘It all adds up’
 - + Single student in top 10
 - + 2 students next year, 15 more next year
 - + 1986, first selections went to IIT Kanpur
 - + Mid 1990s, Bansal had 150 students
 - + 1998 he upgraded from dining table to packed classrooms
 - + Finally Gaurav tower on Road no. 1
- Competitors
- + Allen, informal tuitions- 1988
 - + Career point, 1993
 - + Resonance, 2002
 - + Vibrant, 2009
12. Poaching of Faculty
 13. Faculty of highest caliber (IITians and BITSians)

“we are so far from home and we miss our families.”
The third girl interjected: “we have no time to miss our families, we are so busy with work!”
Rushika said: “But I miss my family!”

14. In Rabindranath tagore’s poem, ‘Alice in Wonderland’: Alice soaks beauty of the nature while merrily wandering. She abruptly stops at some distance, since there are two pathways in two different directions. She is confused to choose the correct path. Suddenly a cat arrives. She asks the cat the query she has, ‘Which way you want to lead?’ the cat asks. Alice says, ‘ I haven’t yet decided.’ The cat reply’s ‘then follow my way, it doesn’t make any difference.’
15. Schedule
 - + Classes 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, six-seven hours homework
 - + DPP (Daily Practice papers), an invention of Bansal sir
 - + 10-20 problems each day
16. Sixteen years old and in the 11th at Vibrant, all three were busy working on that day’s physics DPP sheet, involving waves, when I interrupted. “The load is such that we have to work most of the day on our problems”, said Sonali, the most talkative of the three, who was wearing pink pajamas. “But it’s OK, because we know what we’re here for.” Rushika had a way of assuming I knew things- “we are so far from home and we miss our families.” The third girl interjected: “we have no time to miss our families, we are so busy with work!” Rushika said: “But I miss my family!”
17. Batch system, monthly tests to move up and down, best teachers for best batches. “The batch system made us feel terrible about ourselves.” he said. Some teachers would say: “Q5 main ho to kisi kaaran ke liye ho”, and “IIT har kisi ki bas ki nahin hai.”

Of a friend in his 13th who is addicted to computer games, another friend observes “His parents forcibly sent him because they had a lot of expectations from him.... what we are watching now is his rebellious self.”

18. The competition, the relentless hours, the taunts, the homework, the pressure, not to forget the veneration lavished on the few who pass the exam: all this hangs in the air, perceptible even to a visitor wandering around Kota.
19. “Life in a Nutshell” book on kota by students Harsh Agarwal and Nitish Rajpurohit.
20. DPP sheets, the batches, the review tests, the long hours, the homework, the pressures.
21. The kota institutes, protagonist Kshitij observes are “rank-factories”. What Kota itself offers, above all, are “problems”. Of a friend in his 13th who is addicted to computer games, another friend observes “His parents forcibly sent him because they had a lot of expectations from him.... what we are watching now is his rebellious self.” And so Kshitij notes: “A new face of Kota was unveiled to me... how parents send their unwilling children in their expectations and their lives become hollow from inside.”
22. Place for claims made on publicity brochures. Vibrant got 672 students into IIT in 2010, 822 in 2011. Allen had 276 in 2010, 218 in 2011. Resonance 1672 in 2010, 1816 in 2011.
23. Buying of toppers: Shubham Mehta (AIR2, 2011) (Allen + Resonance)
24. Dummy schools and dummy students
25. Coaching good or bad?

3.

Kota, Rajasthan, India: What is your Kota story?

quora.com

The loneliness I felt was unbearable. The people around me kept themselves too immersed in noise to hear their voices within, while the voice within me never stopped echoing by my ears.

'Allenite for a year,' Bijaya Bansal,

1. Teenage Suicides

My first month in Kota was marked by the overwhelming scream from the neighboring hostel, where someone gave up in the race, while I had just put my feet on the start line.

2. Relationships

I saw long term relationships breaking, and resultantly people giving up in the race because they were too fed up of handling themselves. I saw daughters screaming at their mothers over phones while their mothers sat miles away waiting for the sun to go down and rise again only to bring Diwali closer, and with it, their daughters back to home again.

3. Loneliness

The loneliness I felt was unbearable. The people around me kept themselves too immersed in noise to hear their voices within, while the voice within me never stopped echoing by my ears.

People getting 95% marks in Boards stuck in the lower batches of Z series, all confidence in their own ability gone, crying over a pillow unable to accept their latest test scores.

'I not only survived but also enjoyed parts of it', Manas J Saloi

1. "Cockroacho.... chapar ganjuo... tum logo ka kuch nahi ho sakta... Punjabi Dhaba main khate rahoge... laundi baazi karte rahoge... aur baad main kahi private college main ghusoge.... bas maa baap ka paisa uda rahe ho." ~ Sodium Sir (Physical chemistry HOD), first class at Y10, Bansals
2. During my time I also read about a few suicides in the local newspaper. But such is life in Kota that you have really no time to become sad for others when you have your own shit to take care of. We acted like it was nothing and carried on with our lives, i.e. preparation for JEE.
3. People getting 95% marks in Boards stuck in the lower batches of Z series, all confidence in their own ability gone, crying over a pillow unable to accept their latest test scores.
4. If you are good at slogging hours, solving sheets, sleeping 5 hours at night, Bansal is a good place to be. Else you would be back to your home town within the first week unable to cope up with all the pressure.
5. People lying about their preparation to parents, spending their hard earned money on booze, ciggs and internet gaming while their parents would be blissfully ignorant about what their kids were doing in Kota.
6. A autorickshaw driver from Patna who had spent all his life savings to send his son to Bansal knowing that this might be the last chance for a salvation- a shot at a good life after his son entered some IIT.

Anyways, the first lesson that I learned here was Humility. I came to know that almost everybody was bright. Some were brighter and some were the brightest. And I became a small fish in that big pond.

‘3 years. JEE Bansal classes. Studies.Friends.Stress.Tests’,

Manas Gupta,

1. Homesick
2. Bad scores at first
3. Movies at Om Cineplex
4. Breakfast at Jai Shiv Bakery (Masala patties), Poha Centre, Tina tea stall, Brijwasi Misthan Bhandar (Pyaz Kachori)
5. Failed. Ambitious. Repeater
6. Full dedication. Help from family & friends
7. Rank 1890

‘and even if you don’t get it.... you get it’,

Sankarshan Verma

1. Bansalite
2. Fell in Love
3. Got good rank chasing her

‘a dreamer, a wannabe soldier’,

Vikram Raj Singh

1. 90+ percentage in 10th from Patna.
2. Took coaching from Garg Classes to get into Resonance/ Bansal
3. Started good but fell into bad company, chatting with friends all night, playing cricket, watching movies, alcohol, cigarettes, night outs at gepar nath, Kota barrage, Kota dam, Bundi Dhaba, fights with locals, infatuation.
4. Parents realized and took him back

4.

Herculean labour: The great IIT myth and the entrance exam

by Shiv Visvanathan, firstpost.com

IIT is one such mythical symbol, created by a Nehruvian era India which needed an icon more powerful than the laboratory or the dam

1. Civilizational myths and their corresponding symbols
 - ✦ Taj Mahal- Ultimate love story
 - ✦ Gandhi- Stirring tale of non-violence
 - ✦ IITs- Technocratic excellence with middle class striving.
2. Halo of excellence is not created by content, but constructed through scarcity.
3. Success in the IIT exam makes you a bona-fide superhero; the winner in the most Darwinian struggle of all.
4. Narayan Murthy's son found it easier to get into Cornell than IIT.
5. IIT + IIM = Twice reborn
6. People feeling proud in associating themselves with IIT in any possible way.

5.

Kota, Rajasthan, India: What is your best moment in Kota life?

quora.com

My chemistry teacher at Career Point, Mr. Pankaj Talwar, gifted me his own pen because I could solve a question orally which the entire class couldn't comprehend.

1. Banging the tables of the classroom instead of clapping.
2. Screaming "Sir Ganaaa. Sir partyyy" for no reason
3. The time after finishing the Sunday mock test (it was such a relief for a few hours though) followed by a "special lunch" in the tiffin.
4. My chemistry teacher at career point, Mr. Pankaj Talwar, gifted me his pen because I could solve a question orally which the entire class couldn't comprehend.
5. The yummy patties and pyaaz ki kachori
6. The last meal of Kota at McDonald's with my mom.
7. When I saw the "Kota Junction" board on the railway tracks for the last time.
8. Apart from these, I hate that place. It still gives me nightmares of how I used to sleep walk and literally couldn't swallow food when my parents went away.

6.

So Who wants to do JEE-Huzoori?

by Anuradha Raman, www.outlookindia.com, June 2012

“Built as centers of excellence, IITs were an elitist concept. But then Cambridge, Oxford or Harvard, all are elitist.”

Sandipan Deb, Alumnus,
IIT-Kharagpur

1. Brand IIT versus Govt. of India.
2. The story and positive and negative points about having a common exam for engineering.
3. Kapil sibal's efforts to decrease stress and remove coaching classes.
4. As this system has already been implemented and we know that it is a complete failure either in reducing stress or removing coaching.
5. It takes more than changing the exam pattern to accomplish these goals.
6. Meanwhile the rat race is on, sacrificing the dreams and individuality of millions of students.

Output of secondary research

Based on the study of newspaper and magazine articles, 'Revolution 2020'- novel by Chetan bhagat and by talking to people who have been to Kota for coaching I shortlisted the areas I will need to focus during my visit to Kota.

Areas identified from secondary research

Places

- Radha-Krishna temple
- Vigyan Nagar
- City Mall and Om cineplex
- Chambal garden

Lifestyle of students

- Cycle as a mode of transport/cycle parkings
- Cyber cafes/ Movie watching
- Mess culture
- Bihar Tigers and Allen force
- Pledge and honors given monthly
- Bandi/opposite sex attraction
- Morning pohe and kachoris

Psychology of students

- How they knew about Kota?
- Why IIT-JEE exam? Why engineering?
- What if they don't get admission to IIT?
- What is that they want to accomplish in their lives?

Students and Kota

- How do they feel about so many students in the same place?
- Pressure of performance
- How do they keep themselves motivated?
- Do they feel lonely?
- How native people behave with them?

Teachers

- How do they motivate students?
- How do they handle the weak students?
- How do they feel when a student commits suicide?
- About Kapil Sibbal's views.
- Why have they joined a coaching institute?

Primary Research



The Father visiting his son

After a brief conversation about his relation to Kota, I had this urge to follow him and see how real or close to reality his story was. I asked him if I could go with him to meet his son.

The moment I stepped on the train to Kota I had this feeling that the story of Kota will not just start from Kota, it will start from the train itself. Upon entering my berth my eye was scanning for possible candidates for students, parents and other Kota offerings. I did pinned down some youngsters for the students' role. I was not right but I was not entirely wrong also.

In the morning I got introduced to a parent who was going to Kota to meet his son. This fellow had that habit of bringing something of his own in every topic you mention. When I mentioned to him that I am from IIT, Aerospace Engineering, he gave the reference of someone someplace who is also in aerospace. He was working in the tickets department of Western Railways. After a brief conversation about his relation to Kota, I had this urge to follow him and see how real or close to reality his story was. I asked him if I could go with him to meet his son. He replied in affirmative which seemed more as an obligation.



TALENT HUNT EXAM
2014

For Class X Studying Students

Date of Examination: 23rd November, 2014 (Sunday)

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP WORTH **₹ 19 CRORES** Also Win Total Cash Awards*
Worth **₹ 64 Lakhs**



Aakash

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7821007826 / 1800-180-2727, 1800-102-2727 | All India Magazine Number: 79450243



Reality/Surreality

After reading about Kota I had made this picture in my mind that Kota will be all about coaching. The train will stop at a station which will be full of hoardings and people dragging you to different coaching institutes.

After reading about Kota I had made this picture in my mind that Kota will be all about coaching. The train will stop at a station which will be full of hoardings and people dragging you to different coaching institutes. To my surprise, it was nothing like that. Just outside the station there were small hoardings of Aakash coaching institute, leaving that the station was just like any other station of India. We have more advertisements related to coaching on Mumbai stations.

I later realized that it is due to the different kind of marketing strategy at place in Kota. The journey from station to Indira colony was another shock as it shattered my expectations of a surreal world of coaching, everything looked quite normal.



Welcome to Vigyan Nagar

The network of Kota has already been laid widely across country and you don't have to put advertisements anymore.

Meeting his son, I felt sympathetic as he was that kind of character who does everything according to rules but still would not get selected. Uncle soon asked me to leave as I was encroaching the privacy of a parent meeting his son after 2 months. He even accompanied me to the door to make sure I did not come back.

I walked to Vigyan Nagar which was not that far from his place. There sitting at a tea-shop I met this interesting fellow from Gwalior (down to earth, easy-going, talkative). He told me about his relatives who had been to Kota and others who still are. The network of Kota has already been laid widely across country and you don't have to put advertisements anymore.

While I was talking to him, 3 Marketing people from a newly opened coaching institute (another of Bansal breakup) came and showed interest in our talks. They gave a lot of inputs about how they catch students, the various professions built around coaching, the new role of Bansal as a faculty training institute and about the usual hang-outs of students.



Handwritten notes on the left wall.



Handwritten notes on the right wall.

Handwritten notes on the right wall, including the text "NEET 2013 Selection".

Handwritten notes on the right wall, including the text "Plz me".

Handwritten notes on the right wall, including the text "Se clear h".

Handwritten notes on the right wall, including the text "and Sam to".

Handwritten notes on the right wall, including the text "for days".

Radha-Krishna Temple

Even though I had read about the graffiti on its walls, I was startled when I actually witnessed it first hand. I realized that this city is crazy to consider it normal for young kids to write these prayers.

After some roaming around the grand new buildings built by all the coaching institutes on Road no. 1, I decided to call the person I was supposed to stay with. With him I went to a mess to eat. This is where the surreal feeling actually struck me. Seeing so many students eating at a place, nobody talking to each-other. Coming back to the room I took a bath and slept. Long train journeys sure are hectic and tiring.

Waking up in the evening, I was wondering where to go. The guy I was staying with literally had no clue about the surroundings even after living there for 2 years. I guess it was same for me while taking coaching in Delhi for JEE. Taking into account the setting sun, I decided to go to the Radha-Krishna temple. Even though I had read about the graffiti on its walls, I was startled when I actually witnessed it first hand. I realized that this city is crazy to consider it normal for young kids to write these prayers.

TAMMY GET THE
SIBBY BOSS!



Mental jail

Late night, thinking while laying down on the bed I realized that Kota is like a mental jail for them. Just like how a inmate scratch the walls to tell his stories, they write on their rooms' walls, temple walls and any place they can get hold of.

After coming back I talked to other residents (students) of the house. Most of them were searching for some sort of means to motivate them. Motivation is a rare commodity in Kota even though all the leaflets, brochures and quarterly publications are full of the quotes of success. They were caught in a web. Late night, thinking while laying down on the bed I realized that Kota is like a mental jail for them. Just like how a inmate scratch the walls to tell his stories, they write on their rooms' walls, temple walls and any place they can get hold of.



RUDRAKSH

DIGITAL PHOTO

RESTAURANT

Call : 166

tomorrow

the sun

The curiosity

I left with him for the coaching institute he was enrolled in. On the way we ate the famous breakfast of Kota 'pohe', without whom your coaching life remains incomplete.

Woke up at 6:30 am by his alarm. After struggling with sleep for 15-20 minutes I decided to get up. I took his photographs preparing for the morning coaching class. Quite nervous he was in front of the camera but did not say anything. Just like the way he did not say anything when his parents sent him to Kota or ask him to prepare for IIT. We were the only people who were awake in that in-house hostel of 7 people.

After he got ready and I had photographed him from each and every view I went to take a bath. Coming back I found him reading my notebook. He must have noticed me writing stuff in it the previous night and must have been quite anxious to know what I had written about him. I left with him for the coaching institute he was enrolled in. On the way we ate the famous breakfast of Kota 'pohe', without whom your coaching life remains incomplete.



Inside the temple of coaching

For nearly half-an-hour I was sitting there listening to the army sort of boot thumping. It quieted down slowly with entering of some nicely clad people, I guessed they were the Gods of that temple-the Professors.

Just entering the coaching institute I realized the vast extent of its impact. To gather the true picture of Kota you have to come to Vigyan Nagar. Students from every single house of Kota come out to assemble here, at these postmodernist Gurukuls (which quite resemble the office of any big Multi-national firm). Enter the lobby and all you can hear is footsteps of hundreds of students climbing up the stairs. A student told me that only faculty and girl-students are allowed to use the lifts. The classes were medium in size with some standard classroom furniture.

After Vishnu settled in his class I came back and sat in the lobby. For nearly half-an-hour I was sitting there listening to the army sort of boot thumping. It quieted down slowly with entering of some nicely clad people, I guessed they were the Gods of that temple-the Professors. Soon the halls started echoing with the voices of different teachers who had started their lectures. I wanted to meet some faculty members but I started feeling suffocated in there and went out to get some some fresh air.



Tea-shop

Sitting at a tea-shop in India has a lot of other advantages than just the tea. Specially for a storyteller it serves virtually the same thing as the 'Chaupal' of old days. You can meet a variety of people and even if you are unfortunate then at least you will hear a lot of stories about variety of people from the tea-seller.



Meeting Kamil

He had boycotted Mcdonalds, KFC (which otherwise he would go twice a day) because they make their food in Israel and he was not supporting a terrorist nation by doing that.

Sitting at one of these tea-shops I met Kamil. A dropper year res student from Chattisgarh. At the looks of him I thought of him as the average 'masti' kind of guy belonging to a middle class. He was not at all from the middle class. He had studied from in his words " Top ten schools of India" with a fee of 3 lakhs per year. He had boycotted Mcdonalds, KFC (which otherwise he would go twice a day) because they make their food in Israel and he was not supporting a terrorist nation by doing that. He was awfully rich but that kind of rich who have been raised in a manner that richness is only natural to him.

Other contrasting feature proving this was his knowledge and belief in Quran. It is not that easy to meet someone who is both rich and religious. He was quite impressed by my IIT T-shirt. While I was trying to engage him in a conversation to reveal more about himself, he was more curious to know about me. He was a malleable kind of fellow who has ideas that can keep changing and without any firm conviction. He wanted to become a musician, fulfill his 'Papa ka sapna' of IIT and still boycotting Israeli goods. In our conversation I could have made him believe in literally anything. I realized that he is one of those who have no idea about why he want to do what he does and is dependent on society for most of his decisions.



The rich Chattisgarhi Gang

It was like my just being there had given him something to be happy and proud of. He introduced me to his friends and soon it was the situation of 4 devotees and a preacher.

I asked him to show me his hostel which he happily obliged. I was not surprised when he took me to a hostel with a 14,000 per month rent. As I had started recording the signs and graffiti in the rooms of students the previous night, I continued doing the same with him. His room was relatively clean, mostly because he was not allowed to do graffiti on the walls of the room with a 14K rent. He had this tremendous excitement. It was like my just being there had given him something to be happy and proud of. He introduced me to his friends and soon it was the situation of 4 devotees and a preacher. Deep down they all wanted my T-shirt without actually realizing what it will be helpful in.

The interesting observation about this group in contrast to the group I met last night (most of them droppers) was the reason they couldn't clear the JEE. In this case of 14,000 per month hostel it was 'a girl' and in the 3,000 per month hostel it was the lack of motivation, focus and concentration. I had quite an interesting conversation with them.



Meeting the Gods

Mr. Amitabh was very careful in answering the questions and appeared more of like a marketing executive who did not want to be wrong.

I left the hostel to meet a couple who teaches Chemistry at Resonance (one of the leading coaching institute). As I entered the house, I felt a chill around me perhaps because of the formal environment. The atmosphere somehow made me nervous. I am not a question/answer sort of fellow. I believe in stories coming out of a conversation. When I introduced myself and asked them directly to tell me something about Kota and coaching, they boomeranged it back with want of a more clarity in the question. It was clear that the situation was not going to be a conversation with these people who spent half of their time solving problems.

Mr. Amitabh was very careful in answering the questions and appeared more of like a marketing executive who did not want to be wrong. He had this world in which he had justified everything he did. He had mastered the social structure and knew how to be socially correct. All questions had a very cold passive answers. Mrs. Srivastava was a little more sensitive but was very obviously overpowered by her husband. In that atmosphere of constant sound of carpenter (they just moved into this new house), the distractions due to the small cute kid and the awkward pauses, I somehow carried the conversation and got at least the very basic information from a teacher's point of view.

The last page of
notebook

From “A visual narrative about the coaching capital of India-Kota” to “The Last Page of Notebook”

The idea was to look for places where a student pours his heart out. By this you can get a real picture of what is in their mind. Where else do students write? In their notebooks? Yes!..... On the last page of notebook.

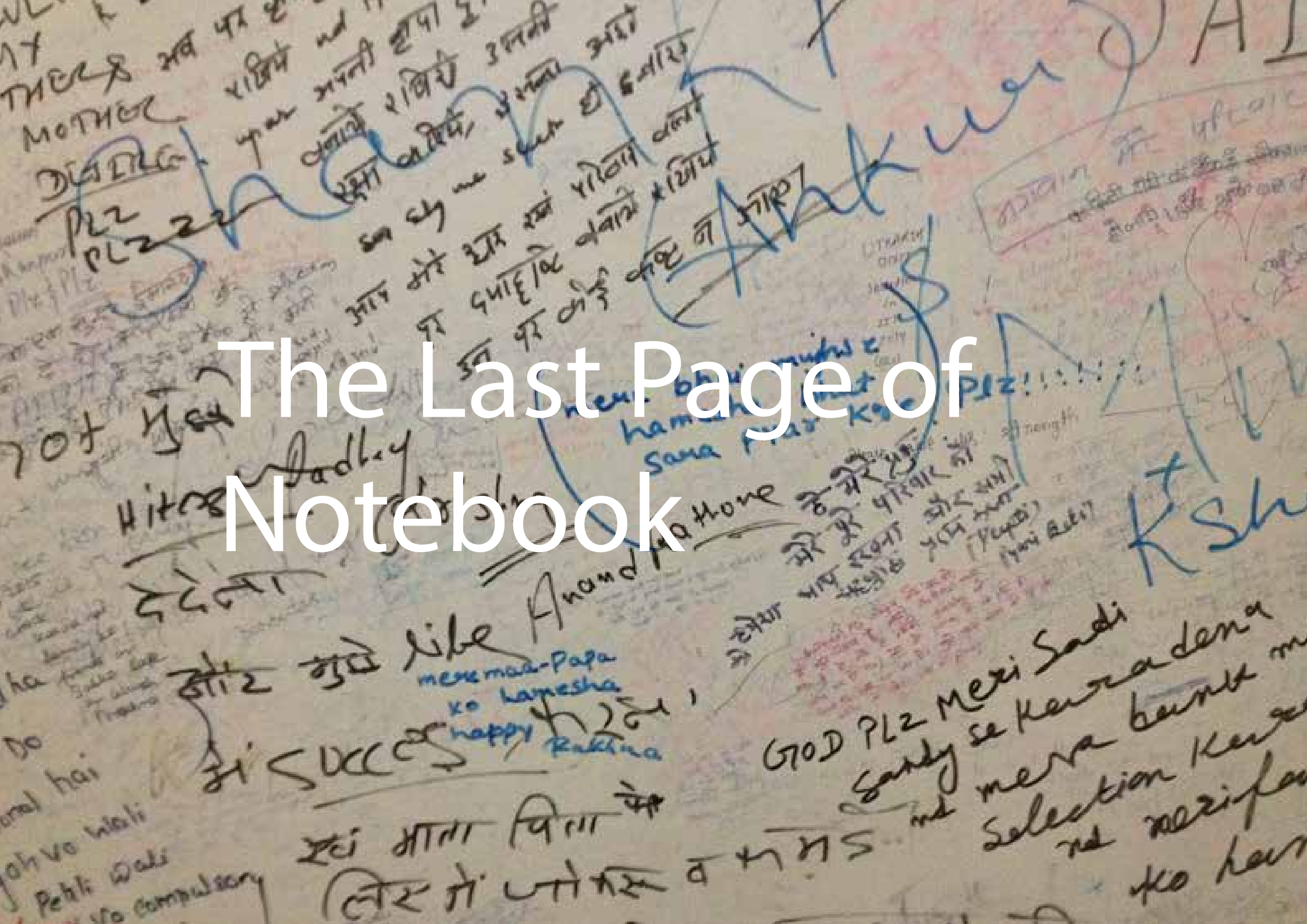
The visuals of the graffiti on the walls of Radha-Krishna temple were deeply etched in my heart. After spending some time in Kota I started linking the wishes written in the temple with the graffiti in the rooms of students. The idea was to look for places where a student pours his heart out. By this you can get a real picture of what is in their mind. Where else do students write? In their notebooks? Yes!..... On the last page of notebook.

The re-framing of project helped in focusing on the emotions of students. It gave me a way to tell the story of Kota through the eyes of the students in a relative impartial way.

Ideas

1. Telling the story indirectly through showing the atmosphere- the graffiti on room-walls, prayers written in temples, etchings on trees in Chambal garden, papers in their wallets, notes written on the last page of the notebook.
2. A series of portraits of students, teachers, parents, tenets and everybody else involved with text highlighting the entanglement of dreams and expectations in the city.
3. Documenting the daily life of a single person taking intimate portraits showing the boredom, loneliness and all such emotions experienced by a student.
4. Creating portraits of students showing their feelings as seen in the last pages of notebooks.

The Last Page of Notebook



Here they are poured into the cauldron of competition cooked by specialized cooks who are more than Gods to them, burnt with balanced flames of admiration and taunts, mixed with the right spices in the form of DPPs, test series, pledges, rewards and dreams.

*Remember, life is a race.
if you don't run fast, you will get trampled.*

This dialogue from '3 idiots' more or less summarizes what most teachers in schools, coaching classes and even in colleges tell their students. It is not only the teachers but parents and even the unknown neighbors who constantly compares you with 'Sharma ji ka beta' or 'Mehta ji ki beti', the results of it can be seen in the form of a city built entirely around this idea- Kota.

As soon as a kid is born in India be it 7:00pm or 7:01pm in the next 5 minutes his/her fate is sealed. He/she is either going to be an engineer or a doctor, if it's a boy- engineer, if it's a girl-doctor. On growing up they are sent to these rank-producing factories in Kota. Here they are poured into the cauldron of competition cooked by specialized cooks who are more than Gods to them, burnt with balanced flames of admiration and taunts, mixed with the right spices in the form of DPPs, test series, pledges, rewards and dreams.

While their notebook is full of the dreams of their parents, aspirations of the society and business of the coaching institutes there is still one page which they keep for themselves. It is the page which gives them a unique identity, not just rats running in the race for success. This page is their prayers on the temple walls, the graffiti on the walls of their rooms, the scribbles, time-table and quotes written on the last page of their notebook. Scared from what society will say, it is this page where they secretly hide that child within themselves while running in the never ending race to IITs, AIIMS.

Exhibition



Text block below the first photograph, containing several lines of small text, likely a caption or description.

Text block below the second photograph, containing several lines of small text, likely a caption or description.



Process

Selected powerful photographs / Arranged them like a story / Edited to make a visual theme / Put relevant captions / Searched for space / Arranged in a linear manner / Music to add to the experience

Selection

- ✦ Selected photographs which were powerful to convey at least one key point.
- ✦ Arranged the photographs making it a depiction of student life from morning to evening. Re-selected photographs to suit this purpose.

Editing

- ✦ I liked the formal aesthetics of one of the photographs, I took that photograph as a reference for editing others.
- ✦ Learned the method of copying the look of a photograph.
- ✦ Added grains to make the photographs taken from DSLR look the same as from Iphone.

Captions

Merged primary and secondary research to come out with the relevant captions

Arrangement

- ✦ Separated the main pages from the last pages.
- ✦ The exhibition to be viewed in a particular sequence.
- ✦ Space which require a person to move as he progresses in the story
- ✦ Printing of flexes and arranging them such that one feel more closer to the actual environment of Kota.
- ✦ Background music to make it multi-sensory experience.

Storytelling through photographs

1.

Dancers among us

by Jordan Matter



balletnews.co.uk

BE passionate joyful euphoric intense angry present ALIVE

The inspiration for this book came to me one afternoon as I watched my son, Hudson, playing with his toy bus. I was trying to keep pace with his three-year-old mind as he got deeper and deeper into a fantasy involving nothing more than a yellow plastic box and armless figurines. At least that's what I saw. He saw frantic commuters rushing to catch the 77 local bus to Australia. He jumped in place, mouth open and slapping his knees, joyously reacting to a world I couldn't see, but one powerfully present for him.

What happens to this enthusiasm, this ability to be wholly present in the moment? Why are these pure moments of passion so often replaced with cynicism, boredom, and indifference? As I played with my son, I thought about creating photographs that would show the world as if through his eyes. The people in the images would be alive and in the moment, celebrating all aspects and emotions of everyday life.

Dancers are storytellers. They're trained to capture passion with their bodies. They often create a fantasy world or offer us a deeper look into familiar settings. They bring to life what we feel but what most of us, lacking their artistry and athleticism, are unable to express physically.

Shortly after playing "bus", I attended an extraordinary dance performance, and I knew I had found my collaborators. Dancers are storytellers. They're trained to capture passion with their bodies. They often create a fantasy world or offer us a deeper look into familiar settings. They bring to life what we feel but what most of us, lacking their artistry and athleticism, are unable to express physically. I spent three years shooting dancers around the country, and I was humbled by their enthusiasm for their craft. I would tweet and Facebook when I would arrive in a city, and dancers would volunteer their time to pose for me, often traveling several hours to participate.

I've created these images for Hudson and his little sister, Salish. My children are everything to me; my dreams for them are enormous. I hope they have long and healthy lives, find loving partners and fulfilling careers, and, if it suits them, experience the joys of parenthood. Most important, I want them to be free from self-consciousness, to discover the deep happiness that comes from a life filled with passion, and to find the serenity necessary to be truly present. These photographs communicate my dreams for them more powerfully than words: Relish moments large and small, recognize the beauty around you, and be alive!











Observations

Everybody get the ideas but few people implement them / Even simple ideas have the potential to communicate powerfully

Start

Coming up with the idea after observing his child playing, his going to a dance performance and getting a commission from a dance company to shoot head-shots, everything happened in a perfect sequence for Jordan matter.

This re-stressed 'keeping your mind and eye open for ideas everywhere.'

Execution

- Everything fell in place once his earlier photographs became famous. After that he used to tweet or facebook whenever he went to a city and people volunteered. An important note on how to get models.
- On the spot Thinking: He did not plan most of his shots. He used to roam around in the streets with models, searching for potential photographs.
- Persistence: He shot 2 years in Manhattan and then for 1.5 years outside New York in USA.

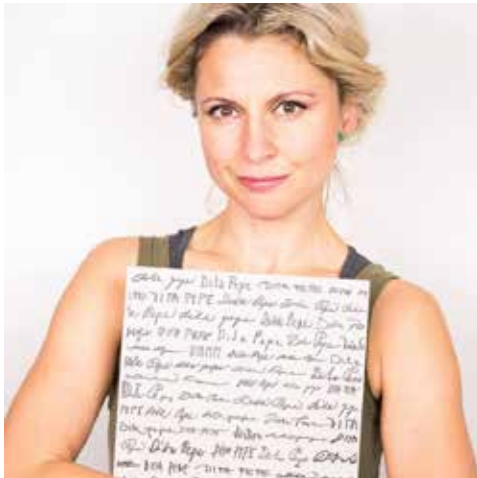
Output and Marketing

Jordan Matter met publishers when he had shot several people in New York. The publisher was not happy about the fact that the photographs were shot only in Manhattan. Jordan then told the publishers that he is planning to go outside and take photographs(although he did not plan it originally). He decided to make a book instead of exhibition which led to the wide outreach.

2.

Self-Portraits with Men

by Dita Pepe



Czech photographer Dita Pepe uses self-portrait photography to explore ideas of how personal identity can seem to change dramatically in relationship to the other people in our lives, and the surrounding circumstances.

In this series, she stages “what-if” scenarios, where she portrays herself in various guises while posing as a wife or partner of men from many different walks of life. Each photograph is made in each man’s typical real-life surroundings, and often with his children (sometimes including her own real-life daughter in the mix).

We’ve seen this kind of self transformation in the work of Cindy Sherman, of course, but this is less polished, with a snapshot aesthetic that makes each feel casual and funky and somehow more believable.

Not surprisingly, her university thesis was titled, “Photography as a form of therapy”.

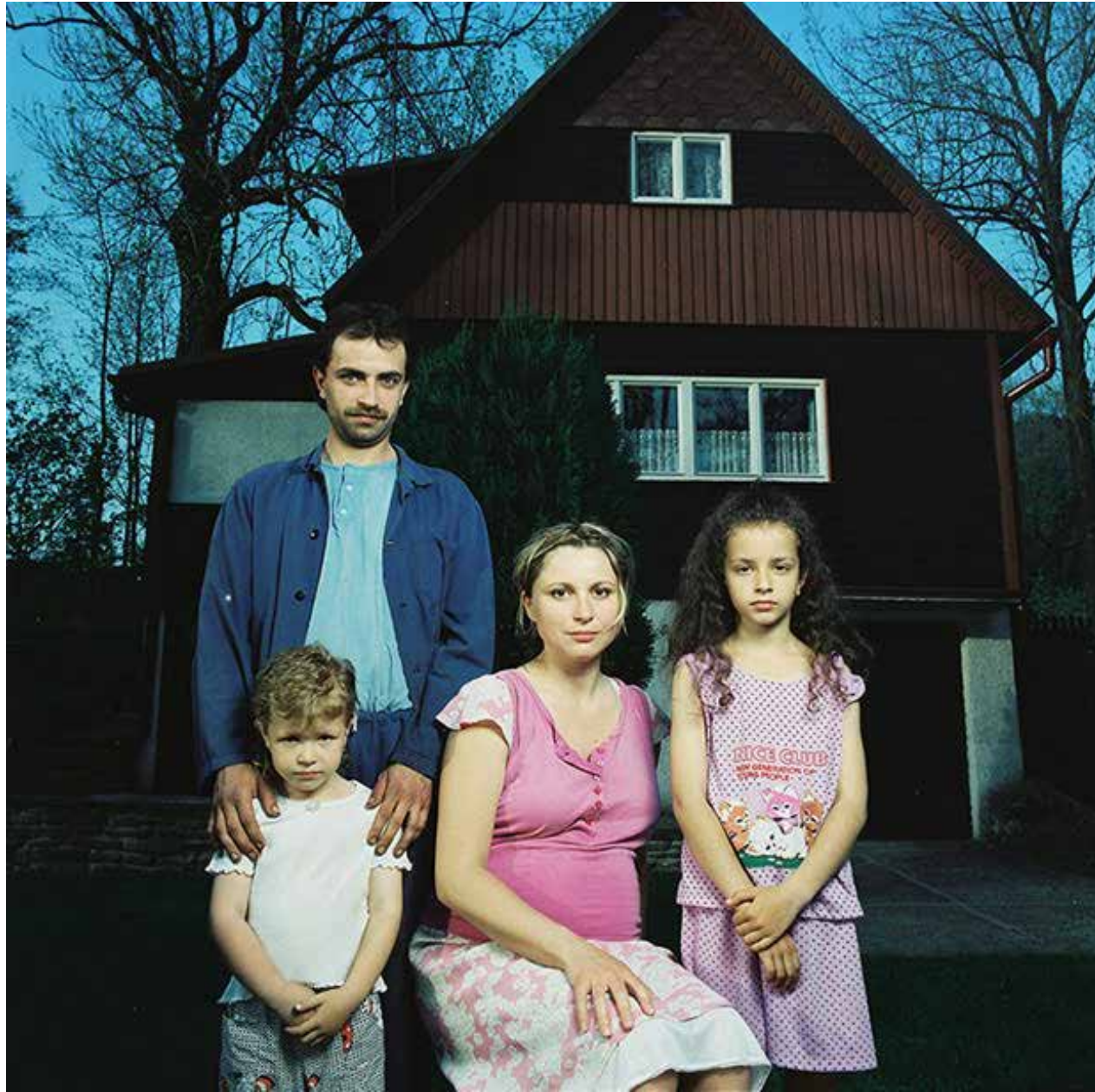
— Jim Casper













Observations

Patience and persistence to keep exploring a single idea for a long time

Start

Dita Pepe started the project in 1999 in a much different form as it is now. Earlier she took self-portraits with women she admired which later transformed in self-portraits with Men and family. She is still photographing the project. Although as she is quite famous now she has started other projects also.

Execution

- ✦ Like 'Dancers among us' the entire weight of project lies in the simplicity of the idea and the perfection in execution.
- ✦ Looking inside and trying to make sense of it. Use your craft as a medium to understand it. She was going through the phase where she got a lot sensitive to the idea of "What if". The project kept changing as she got pregnant and had kids.

Output

Initially she got published in magazines and such places which was followed by exhibitions and finally in a photo-book.

Others

- ✦ She has done graduation and post-graduation in photography and currently teaches at the secondary school of arts.
- ✦ Personal expression and autobiographical in nature
- ✦ Being compared to Cindy sherman

3.

Homework

by Sean Lee

I used to think I knew what I was doing with the making of these images, but as time passed I became less certain.



Flickr: artituteart

I have been routinely choreographing performances and situations between my father, my mother, and me, since 2010. I used to think I knew what I was doing with the making of these images, but as time passed I became less certain. At times they seem to speak to me about the dreams and nightmares of childhood. Most of the time, however, they make me wonder about the strangeness of being a human organism and the mystery of being a family, of being a part of a lineage. I continue to photograph my parents because they are the only people who occur to me without my own choosing

<http://www.chanhampegalleries.com/homework-beyond-the-laughter/>



For artist and photographer Sean Lee, photography is a weapon against the dullness of mundane living. He creates opportunities for his subjects that they do not have in reality, letting them experience physical contact and humor within the home.

In this exhibition, Lee shows images that express photography's capacity for comedy. He believes in the therapeutic effect of silliness and the absurd, and most of all in the therapy of laughter. In the words of Milton Berle, laughter is an instant vacation. One of the most magical aspects of producing *Homework* has been the times when he manages to make his parents crack up during the process of photographing them. For Lee, there is something magical about making comedy with the camera.

Most of Lee's images are created in his bedroom, which he has come to think of as a kind of theatre, a place where he plays the role of a comedian, trying to make his parents laugh by getting them into humorous situations. Fittingly, he uses cheap props that he makes mostly from ordinary things he finds at home.

Photography is to some degree an excuse to create shared experiences between Lee and his family. Although all of his work is staged, the experience of the process is real – that to him is what is most important. These experiences become memories, and Lee hopes that the memories relived continually through his photography will become part of his family's history.











Observations

A great lesson on going inwards and creating for your own self

Start

Sean lee started the project in 2010 after finishing his earlier project 'Method' in which he lived in Cambodia as a transsexual. After that he started taking his family portraits in black & white which later developed in a full fledged project.

Execution

He was sort of playing around with his family and by doing that he was exploring their relationships. The subjects, being the parents were easily available and their home was the shooting space. Being in a comfortable space, it gave him space and time to experiment and filter out his thoughts and ideas. Having fixed the constraints regarding model and shooting space he could focus and submerge himself entirely in the project.

Output

He won an award at Angkor Wat photography festival and exhibited his work there. From there he picked it up and went on exhibiting his work overseas and won several awards.

Others

I like his personal involvement and down to earth attitude. After hearing his interview I noticed the fact that most of the great work done by artists involves them personally. Either you work on the project which is personal or if it is commissioned you find something personal in the project to get attached to.

4.

7 Days of Garbage

by Gregg Segal

By asking us to look at ourselves, I've found that some are considering the issue more deeply. many have said the process of saving their garbage and then laying in it reconciled them to need for change. Others have commented how powerless they feel.

Ever since I was a kid, I've wondered about garbage-where does it go and what happens when we run out of places to put it? The average American generates 4 pounds of garbage a day. As a nation, we generate 4 million tons of waste, weekly. I'm concerned not only by how much we throw away, but by how blithe we are to the problem.

In January, I set out to create pictures that make the trash problem impossible to ignore. I asked family, friends, neighbors and other acquaintances to save their trash and recyclables for a week and then to lie down and be photographed in it.

I've created three environments for the pictures, all in my yard in Altadena, CA: water, forest and beach. I photograph participants directly from above, camera centered over the subject, tethered to my computer below. I will continue the series, creating other environments (or shooting on location): snowy tundra, rocky outcropping, field of wildflowers, etc. my aim is to illustrate how pervasive garbage is.

By asking us to look at ourselves, I've found that some are considering the issue more deeply. many have said the process of saving their garbage and then laying in it reconciled them to need for change. Others have commented how powerless they feel. What can any one of us do? It isn't our fault that the products we buy come with excessive packaging and have brief life spans. Our economic model and its necessity for growth fuels the waste epidemic- and makes conservation seem untenable.

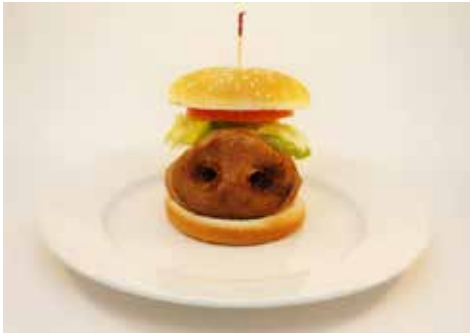


<http://www.phmuseum.com/greggsegal/series/7-days-of-garbage>

5.

Mystery Meat

by Peter Augustus



It's time to face your food. Texas-born Peter Augustus confronts our disconnect with the origins of our dinner and the reality of what it looks like before being cleaned, processed and packaged into a visually acceptable substance.

Moving to Hong Kong two years ago, Augustus was struck by the traditional meat shops all over the city, every part of the animals for sale and gruesomely displayed in the store windows and streets. Though at first a bit jarring, the relationship non-Western countries have with their food at least feels a bit more honest than our dyed, fried and breaded meals. It is this disassociation that Augustus' Mystery Meat challenges, the unappetizing truth in a full array of classic American delights. The series intends to neither nauseate or condemn, but simply bring about awareness and a reminder of food production in the States and elsewhere. If we are to eat that tasty burger, let's at least keep in mind where it came from.



Visual Ideation

1. The rat race



The initial idea I got was very much influenced by the work of photographers I had studied. I thought of creating a portrait style which will maintain a visual theme and is still interesting because of the diversity it shows. Much like the projects of Dita Pepe and Jordan Matter. The idea had a huge visual potential, the only limitation was to show the life of a student whose condition is really serious as this might go towards a non-serious look.

- Create a series of portraits showing students taking part in a race for clearing the exams.
- The background will be made of the doodles and text written on the last pages of their notebook.
- The choice of vehicle will show the economic status
- The speed at which a student is going will show how much efforts he is putting into the preparations. There might be some visuals where students are not even running.
- The vehicle can be used to communicate other factual information like which state they belong to or their current rank in their respective institutes.
- Their jersey will show the coaching institute they belong as each institute has its own brand color.

Stream & rock, the stream always wins, Not through strength,

Out of perseverance

इस पर इस Project में काम
करा करते हो मैंने बल तो
एसा कोई Achievement भी
नहीं है कि बच्चा पढ़कर
aspire हो

बिना Selection के कोटा के
बाहर कहीं भी चले जाना पुरा
दिल्ली नहीं कर सकते हो

शर्मात अपने मन का नहीं
कर पाओगे

मेरे अजिब दोस्तों
मस्केटो में बदला
लेकर रहना
Best नहीं है पढ़ना
100%

इस साल अच्छे पढ़ाई चल
रही है पापा आ जाय थ
क्या तो बोल दो कि सपना
क्या बन रही है

पापा का
सपना और
मेरा लक्ष्य

Delhi AIMS जल्दी
पापा का सपना
मेरा लक्ष्य
मिमीजी
मैंने जो
आनसात
करना
सोचा



अपने को कभी
Down feel
होता नहीं
ना Durga
ने इतनी शक्ति
है और बजरा
बनी तो है ही

It is not important
what I am today imp
is where I will reach
Tomorrow

⇒ 12 PM started stud
of plant Kingdom
(Salvinia (aquatic form))

Life में First Dream
Choose किया अब नहीं
कर पाये तो Life में
रह गया

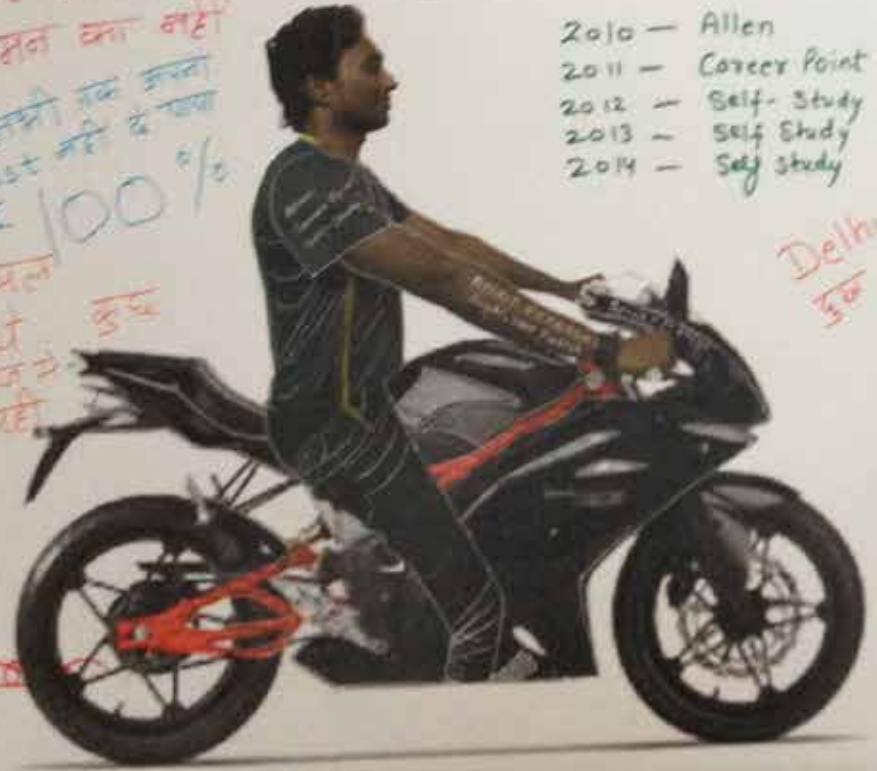
- 2010 - Allen
- 2011 - Career Point
- 2012 - Self-Study
- 2013 - Self Study
- 2014 - Self Study

अपने बचपन को सात
देना है तो अजिब
उठते हुए हम ही
के साथ उठे बचना
होगा



Delhi पहुँच गया तो इन
उठे नहीं हुए कि में
पापा का भी Statement
गरी है
दर आना पर दूरस्त
जाना

Room ⇒ No friends
Room पर कोई Friend Allow
नहीं है। बाहर किमी भी
मकरी कर तो पर Room
पर कोई Allow नहीं है



कोटा का माहौल तो
Perfect है, पढ़ना चाहिए
पढ़ो, बिगलना चाहें तो वि

2. The Last Page



- Create a series of portraits showing students in their real environment giving more authenticity to the final visual.
- Background will be made of last pages. If someone has not written much, create it for him by listening to his interview.
- The layout can be experimented with, using the principles of visual grammar a separate feel can be created for each student.
- The last pages can be creatively merged with the photograph.
- The challenges would be creating the last pages of students, merging the photograph with the background and making it look visually interesting.

सबसे अच्छी लड़की को खोजो

सबसे अच्छी लड़की को खोजो

Enter training 20

Handwritten notes on a piece of paper, possibly a letter or a page from a book.

एलेन प्रविष्टा
Handwritten text on a piece of paper, possibly a letter or a page from a book.



मोदी का माहौल तो perfect है, पटना-भारत तो परी बिगटना-भारत तो बिगडो



Handwritten notes on a piece of paper, possibly a letter or a page from a book.

भाषाजान में Trust
जन्म में भाषा को fast करता है

जन्म में भाषा को fast करता है
जन्म में भाषा को fast करता है

एक साठ अठ्ठी पचास चतुर्दश हैं - पापा

जन्म में image
कौन सी है

Handwritten notes on a piece of paper, possibly a letter or a page from a book.



Handwritten notes on a piece of paper, possibly a letter or a page from a book.

अलमारी के अंदर

लडकी पसंद भाई
सब कुछ होता ही
लेकिन finally
जही बनता

Life में First
Choose किया कर
नहीं कर पाता तो
में क्या रह जा

दिल्ली पहुँचने का
दुख नहीं होता कि
दुख नहीं होता कि

MS New Delhi की
कौन सी Substitue

AMAIT PRAKASH YADAV
Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
2010 में

Handwritten notes on a piece of paper, possibly a letter or a page from a book.

अभी तक अपना Best
जही दें पाता हूँ

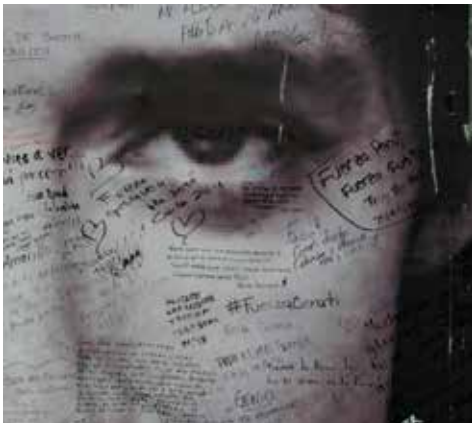
Handwritten notes on a piece of paper, possibly a letter or a page from a book.

पापा का भी Statement
देर आना पर दुरुस्त आना

Handwritten notes on a piece of paper, possibly a letter or a page from a book.

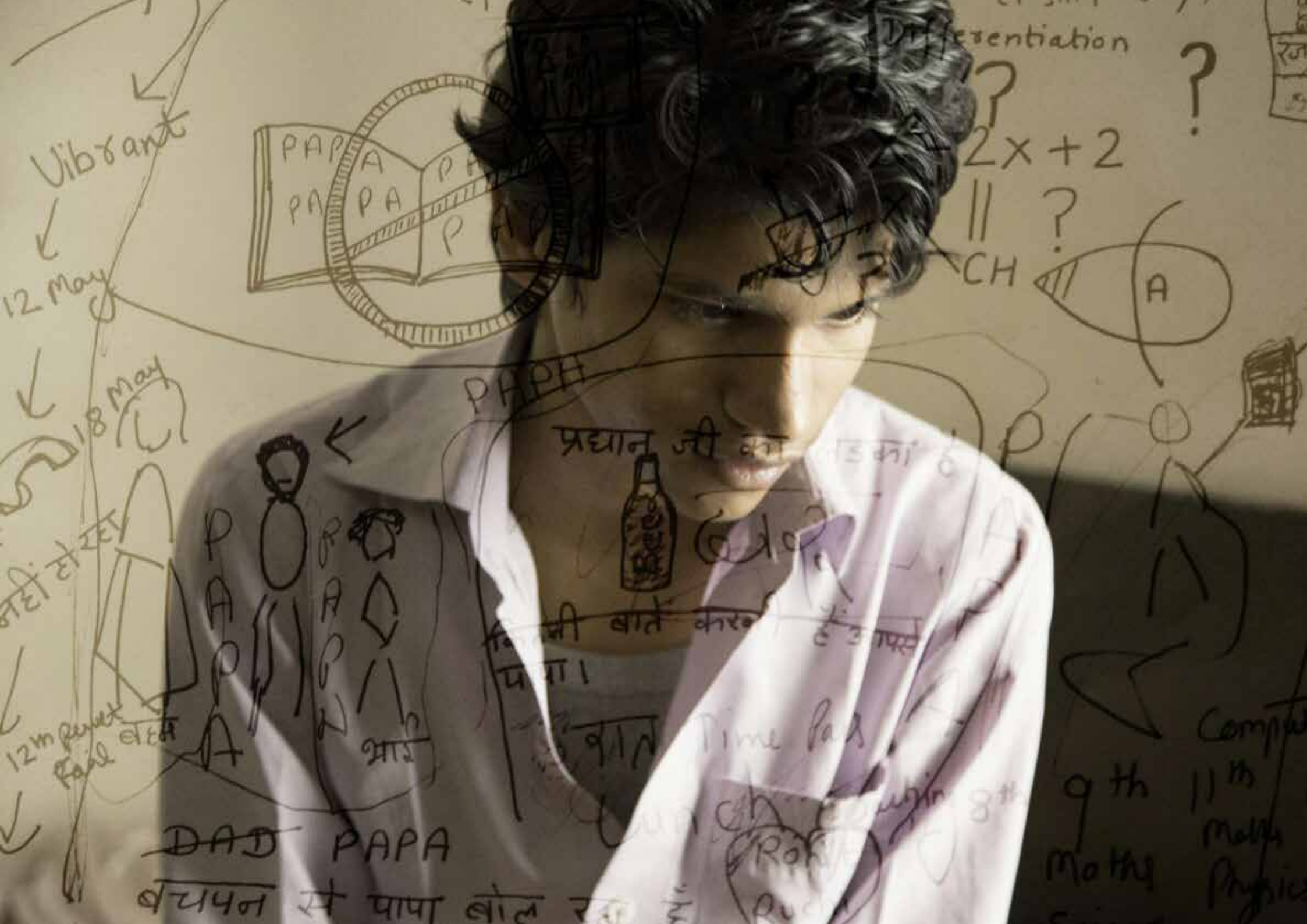
Handwritten notes on a piece of paper, possibly a letter or a page from a book.

3. The Last Page (2)



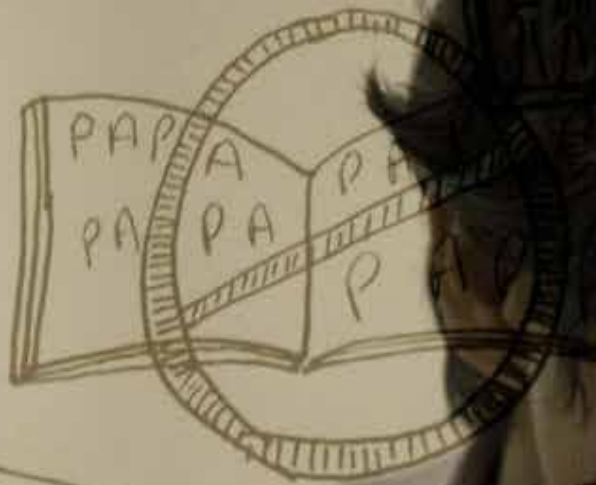
- + Create a series of portraits merging portraits of students with the last pages.
- + It would look kind of like the double exposure photographs.
- + A lot of scope for creating visually interesting compositions.
- + Downside is again losing the authentication a documentary style photograph imparts.

<http://www.lavanguardia.com/musica/20140905/54414690299/gustavo-cerati.html>



Vibrant

12 May

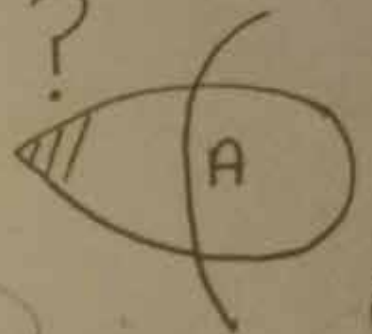


Differentiation

?
 $2x + 2$

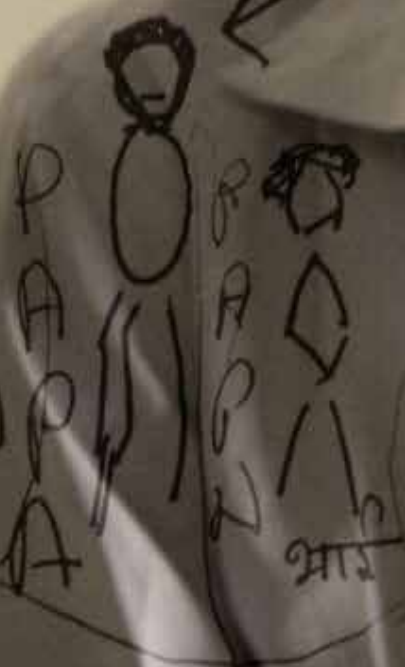
|| ?

CH



18 May

जदी से रेल



PAPA

प्रधान जी का डाका



मिनी बातें करती हैं आपसे
पपा।

Time Pass

12th June
Fail

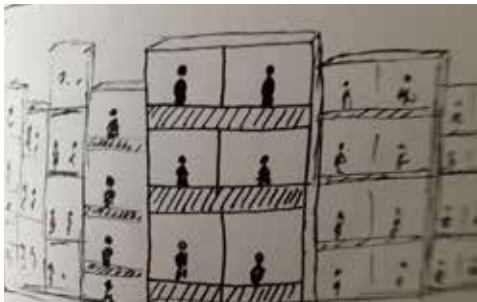
~~DAD~~ PAPA

बचपन से पापा बोल रहा था

9th
Mummy
Physics

Computer

4. A shared loneliness



While in Kota, one day while wandering on the roof trying to make sense of which direction to head in the project I noticed that just like me a lot of students were wandering or just standing on other roofs. They all looked like they are in this self-imposed cage where they can roam around in their confined space but can't reach out to another roof and share. As one of my friend commented on the painting it is like "living in tiny capsules of hope and loneliness"

- Black and white paintings showing the loneliness and pressure on students studying at Kota.
- It would be more expressive and direct as compared to my other ideas in which I purposefully have tried to keep it neutral.



Final idea and
feedback

पितामह का जो माता का एक नाम
होकर लकी जो माता का एक नाम
होकर जो माता का एक नाम

इस विषय पर सबसे अच्छी लाइन यही लगी
मुझे

Entertaining भी

किसी भी व्यक्ति को नहीं जानना चाहिए
जिसके बारे में आप कुछ भी नहीं जानते

एलेन प्रीक्षा
मेरी प्रतीक्षा करने में है
किसी भी व्यक्ति को नहीं जानना चाहिए
जिसके बारे में आप कुछ भी नहीं जानते



जोरा का 'माही' तो perfect हैं, पदम चर्चा तो
सारे विचित्रता भरे तो विचित्र



किसी भी व्यक्ति को नहीं जानना चाहिए
जिसके बारे में आप कुछ भी नहीं जानते

भागवान में Fast
ज्योती को Fast आता है
अपना जो नहीं होता
जो नहीं होता जो कुछ में
ज्योती ज्योती है मोर बगला बनी तो है ही

किसी भी व्यक्ति को नहीं जानना चाहिए
जिसके बारे में आप कुछ भी नहीं जानते

उपरोक्त प्रमाणों से स्पष्ट है
जो आपका जन्म हुआ है
जो आपका जन्म हुआ है
जो आपका जन्म हुआ है

अलमारी के अंदर

लडकी पसंद करती
सब कुछ होता ही
हेमिन्ग Finaly Box
नहीं बनता

Life में first Decree
Choose किस प्रकार
नहीं कर पाते तो
में क्या यह था

इस तरह अच्छी पहचान रखनी है... पापा
का नाम है... उसे जगह ही बोल दिया कि

मान में Image
तब ही रही है

किसी भी व्यक्ति को नहीं जानना चाहिए
जिसके बारे में आप कुछ भी नहीं जानते



दिल्ली पहुंचा जहां तो इस बात का
इंग्रज नहीं होगा कि कर ले जहां

IMS New Delhi की
तब ही कुछ और है
कोई Substitute

धूमन का बहुत जोर है

AMRIT PRAKASH YADAV
Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
2000 में

किसी भी व्यक्ति को नहीं जानना चाहिए
जिसके बारे में आप कुछ भी नहीं जानते

अभी तक अपना Best
नहीं दे पाया है

किसी भी व्यक्ति को नहीं जानना चाहिए
जिसके बारे में आप कुछ भी नहीं जानते

पापा का भी Statement अभी है
देर आना पर दूरस्त आना

किसी भी व्यक्ति को नहीं जानना चाहिए
जिसके बारे में आप कुछ भी नहीं जानते

किसी भी व्यक्ति को नहीं जानना चाहिए
जिसके बारे में आप कुछ भी नहीं जानते

Feedback

After getting the feedback on all the ideas this one was selected to work further on. The inclusion of the photograph of a student in its own environment weighed heavily in favor of this idea.

Need to work on aesthetics

It doesn't fall in the category of traditional aesthetics and therefore was not appealing to everybody.

Too much text (cognitive load)

As a single visual it contains too much of information and that too in written form. In the present form it requires too much efforts from the viewer to understand.

No viewpoint

It doesn't present a single viewpoint about what a viewer should understand from the visual. Too open for interpretations.

Collage making

How the meaning changes when two images are put together as compared to when they are alone? Can we use this knowledge to control the message we want to deliver through a image?

Re-imagining the collage

My eyes were moving from his sad face to fumbling hands to the wrinkles on his shirt and the shadows casted by his shoes. I knew at the time of shooting that I have to put all of these images together to create at least 1% of what I felt at that moment

After getting feedback for the selected final visual I started to experiment again. The photographs with lots of text were tough ones to crack so I started to explore the ones in which there was no text.

Rohit Yadav

- Out of all the students I interviewed he affected me the most. I talked to him continuously for 3 hours. Into the talks, after a certain time he became completely comfortable in the conversation as well as photography. This gave me an opportunity to let myself loose and getting carried away with the conversation. While shooting I became very sensitive to the light, lines and body language. My eyes were moving from his sad face to fumbling hands to the wrinkles on his shirt and the shadows casted by his shoes.
- I knew at the time of shooting that I have to put all of these images together to create at least 1% of what I felt at that moment. He had not written anything so I only had visuals to create the impact.
- I started by horizontally putting together four of the images. It was obviously more impactful than one image but the frame became too long which made it almost impossible for the eye to see all of them at once.







While working on the collage of Rohit I remembered Kat Irlin, a NY based photographer who does these kind of composites. I looked at her collage photographs and tried to find out how it works.



On the left page you can see the single photograph of a building in NY which changes its meaning when combined with different photographs



Even a normal photograph becomes much more effective once placed with moody photographs.



Even a normal visual is composed of many photographs put over each other.



Putting sun and snow imparts a strong message to the visuals.



More visual weight for one photograph highlighting the hierarchy and emphasis / Eyes try to see the entire thing in one glance which become almost impossible in this arrangement



The vertical arrangement of the photographs solves all the problems

Collage with text

The information that was in one place earlier is now divided linearly making the structure simple. It helps in giving more stress on individual pages.

Arranged all of them horizontally with the portrait of student being very large as compared to the photograph of last pages.

- Looks better aesthetically. Simple arrangement avoiding any cognitive load of understanding the structure
- The content is divided into parts presenting only one part at a time as compared to previous arrangement in which everything was there together in one frame.
- The portrait would be very large so that even when you are reading the last pages you can still glance at the portrait from a distance.

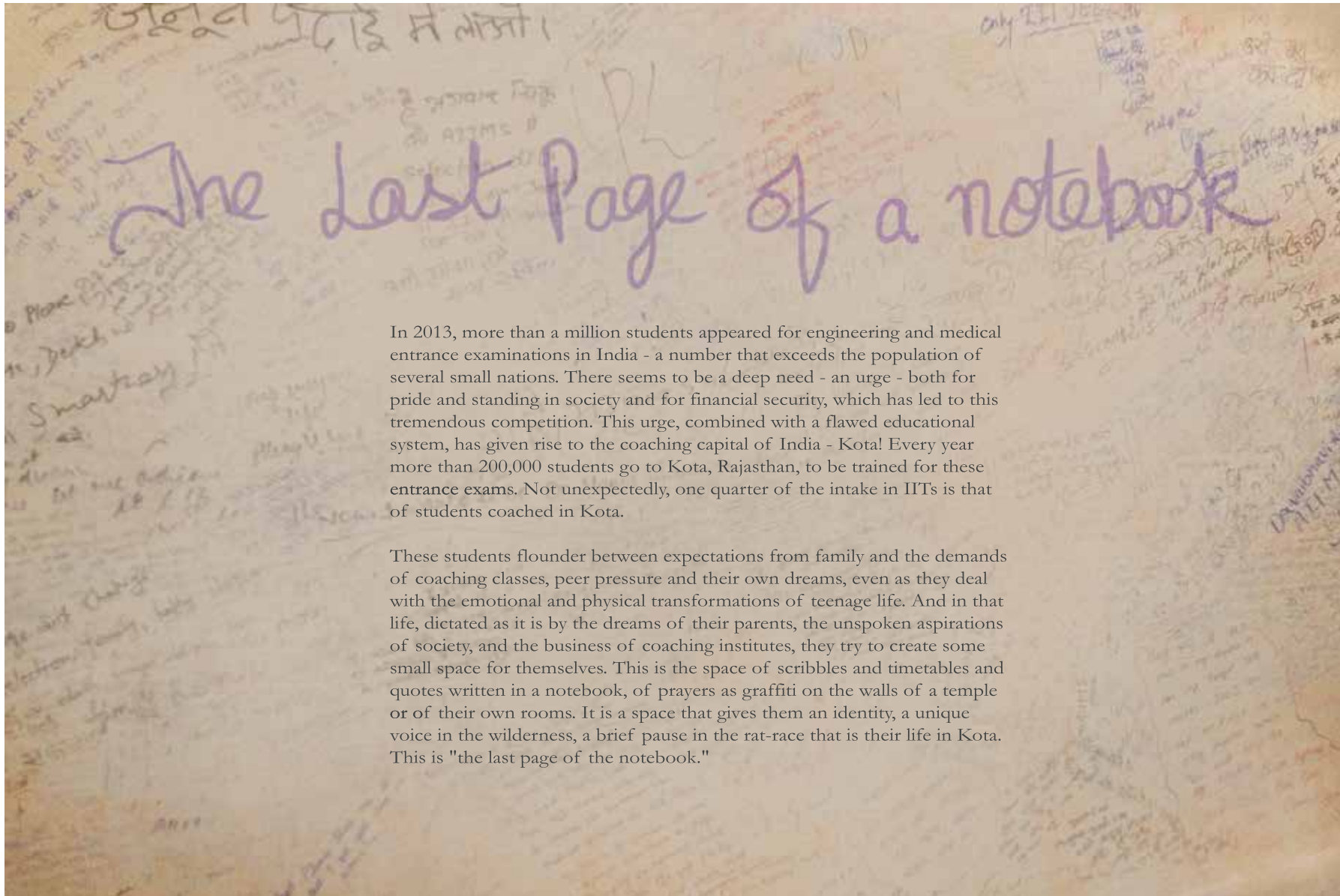


As there was already lots of information in the last pages, the structure was kept simple to not add any further load. This category of photographs are content heavy while photographs without last pages are made visual heavy to keep the balance

Final Exhibition







In 2013, more than a million students appeared for engineering and medical entrance examinations in India - a number that exceeds the population of several small nations. There seems to be a deep need - an urge - both for pride and standing in society and for financial security, which has led to this tremendous competition. This urge, combined with a flawed educational system, has given rise to the coaching capital of India - Kota! Every year more than 200,000 students go to Kota, Rajasthan, to be trained for these entrance exams. Not unexpectedly, one quarter of the intake in IITs is that of students coached in Kota.

These students flounder between expectations from family and the demands of coaching classes, peer pressure and their own dreams, even as they deal with the emotional and physical transformations of teenage life. And in that life, dictated as it is by the dreams of their parents, the unspoken aspirations of society, and the business of coaching institutes, they try to create some small space for themselves. This is the space of scribbles and timetables and quotes written in a notebook, of prayers as graffiti on the walls of a temple or of their own rooms. It is a space that gives them an identity, a unique voice in the wilderness, a brief pause in the rat-race that is their life in Kota. This is "the last page of the notebook."



A typical day of his begins at 5:45 in the morning with a loud thud on the door signaling that it is time for the machine within him to start. "They give us 15 minutes for our daily routines and by stroke of 6 we are supposed to be at a classroom for the 1st study hour of the day- 6:00 to 7:30" she says.



However you dice it, coaching is now big business. Plenty of folks in Kota do the math like it is on their fingertips, which perhaps it is. About 2,00,000 students come to this town every year to nurture their IIT and related dreams. Each spends Rs. 80,000 on course fees, and a similar amount on room and board. Toss in some cash for incidentals, and we are up to Rs. 2,00,000 per student per year. Multiply that by the number of students, and now we are talking real money. Real to the tune of 40 billion.



“My parents decided to send me to Bansal or Resonance. Shubham Tiwari got 2nd rank in the last year’s IIT, who was a Bansalite; so Bansal it is. I entered Kota, to make my future. Let’s see, students everywhere, such competition, oghh! I hope I don’t break down here.”



“Cockroacho..... chapar ganjuo... tum logo ka kuch nahi ho sakta... Punjabi dhaba main khate rahoge..... laundi baazi karte rahoge.... aur baad main kahi private college main ghusoge.... bas maa-baap ka paisa uda rahe ho.”
Me sitting at the back wondering if my Dad was right after all. Maybe I am just useless.



In 'Alice in Wonderland': Alice soaks beauty of the nature while merrily wondering. She abruptly stops at some distance, since there are two pathways in two different directions. She is confused to choose the correct path. Suddenly a cat arrives. She asks the cat the query she has 'Which way you want to lead?' the cat asks. Alice says, 'I haven't yet decided.' The cat replies 'Then follow any way, it doesn't make any difference.' Same is the case with most of the students.

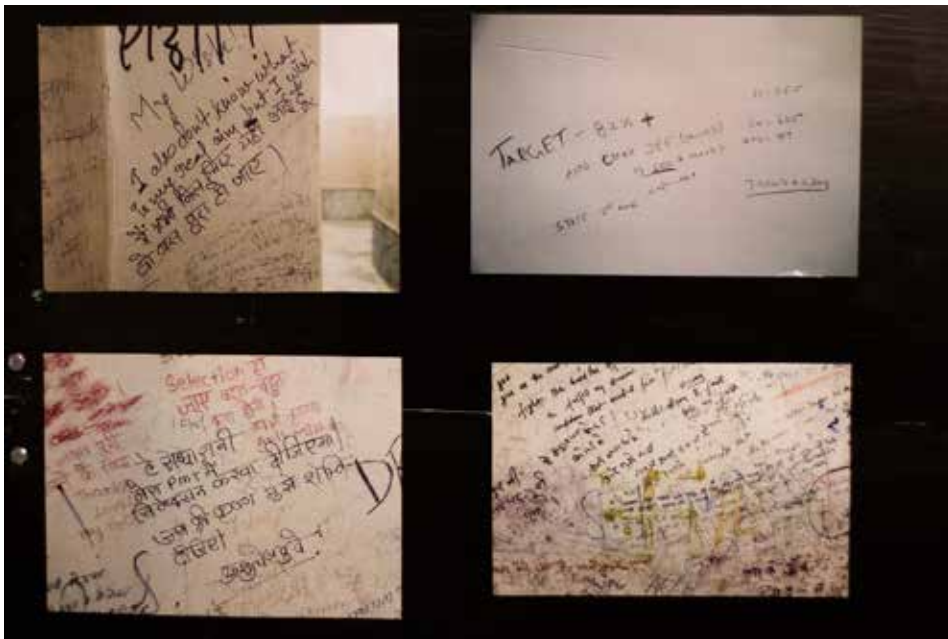
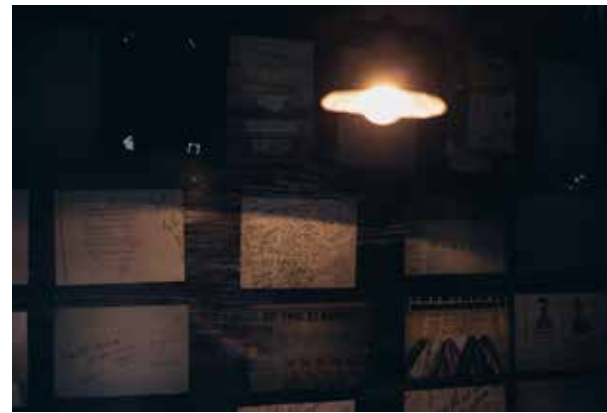
(An advertisement from a coaching institute)



“The loneliness I felt was unbearable. The people around me kept themselves too immersed in noise to hear the voices within, while the voice within me never stopped echoing in my ears. I knew I had dreams and I had to get over the procrastination.”



As a cafe attendant spooned a pile of rice with peas onto his plate, Romil piped up with “but we get six to seven hours of homework every day too.” The homework is the famous Bansal Sir innovation, Daily Practice Problems (DPP) sheets in each subject: some 10-20 problems to be solved for the next day. Aniket showed me the previous day’s DPP. Trying to solve it, he had been up till past midnight. “Its mental torture,” Romil went on, and as if this was a double act, Aniket piped up with: “We don’t even get any time for sports!” As if on cue, they rose and excused themselves. “Class!” said Romil, smiling apologetically as they rushed off. He had not finished his rice.



Arise Awake And Stop Not,
Till The goal is Reached!

Don't not to become a man of success. Rather
become a man of value.

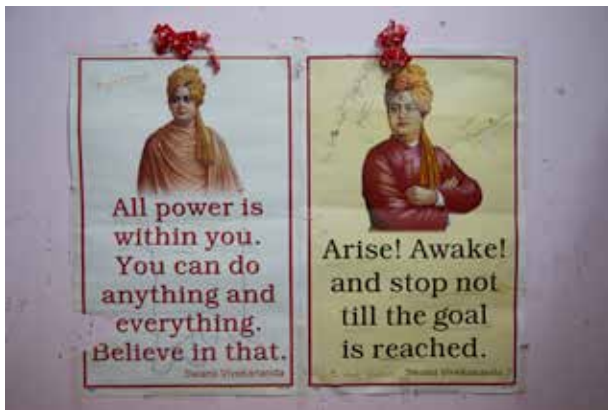
हे भगवान को बेटे की शादी इस
लड़की से जरूर करा देना
जिसे देखना रहा है ।
for my brother



मेरे सारे पैपर
बहुत-बहुत अच्छे
जायें। मेरी इच्छा है
I Range जाने। मेरे
बाल लंबे हो जायें।
हे भगवान मैं USA जाऊँ।
Exam में I
Range मिले।
भाग्य
Select
आपके
परन

Bs ISRO
Pahunchne
Ki Khayish
hai
Sath dena
Bhagwan.

Keep me continue
Honest
labouring
I know you
will give
me my
DREAMS
I, JHAPANI



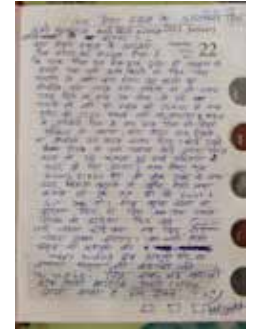
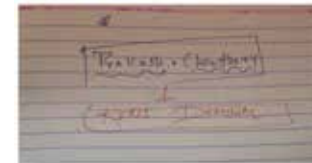
Plz is box help kx Do
Dobara kuch nbi mangunga.
Bs IIT me C.S. Diwado.
Mein Confusions Dux kro...
-Sj

मुझे इसकी Power लेनी है
सबकी वाट लगा सकूँ।
This only
इसकी Power लेनी है

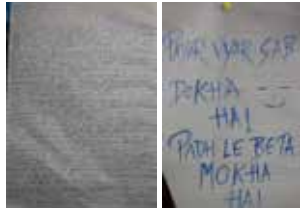






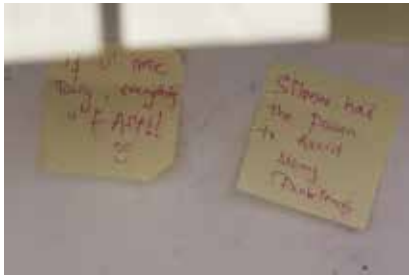














My first month in Kota was marked by the overwhelming scream from the neighboring hostel, where someone gave up in the race, while I had just put my feet on the start line. But such is life in Kota that you have really no time to become sad for others when you have your own shit to take care of. We acted like it was nothing and carried on with our lives, i.e. preparation for JEE.



Alright, already the show goes on
Alright, till the morning we dream so long
Anybody ever wonder,
when they would see the sun up
Just remember when you come up
The show goes on..

Revised version















































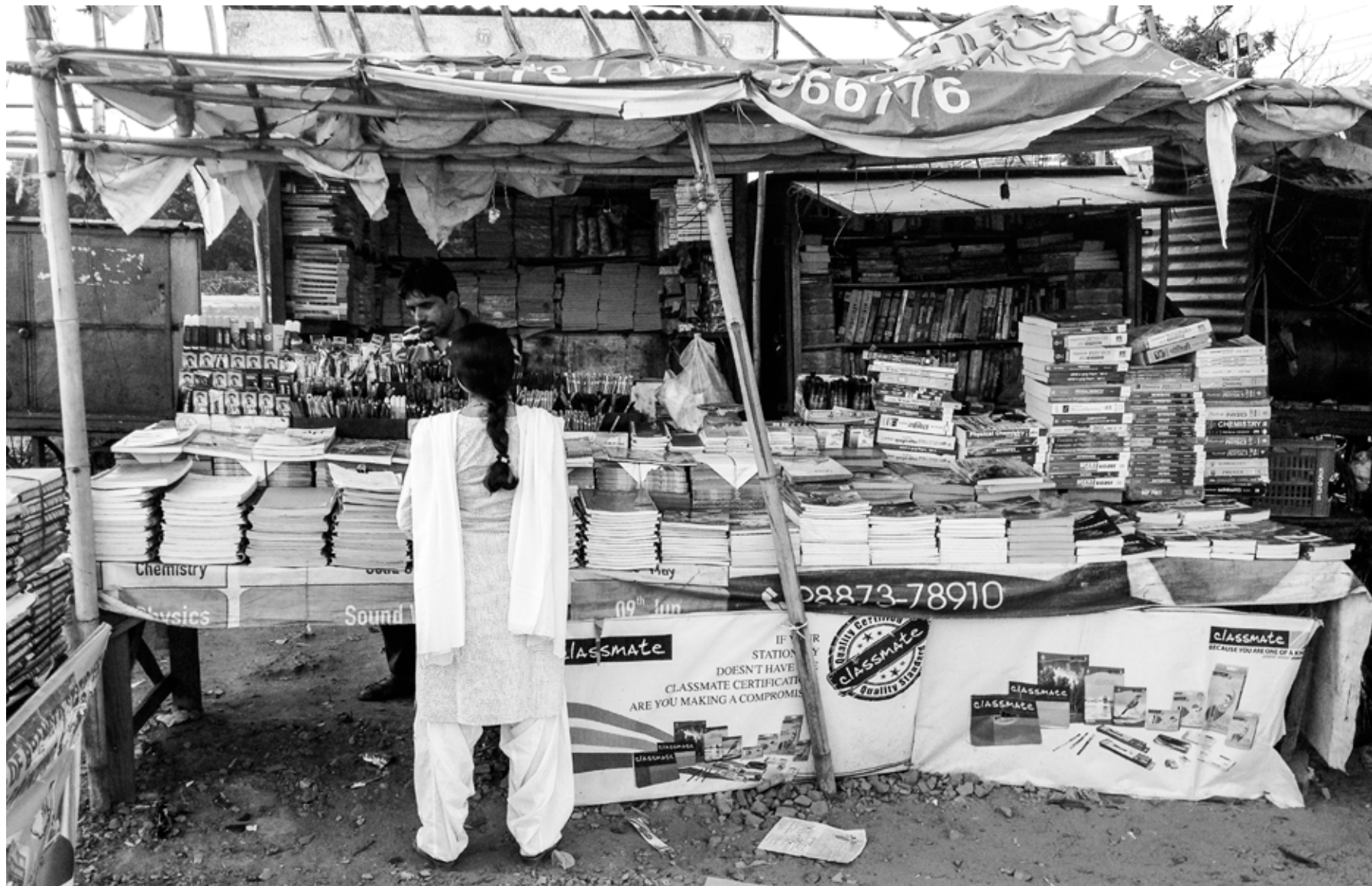






















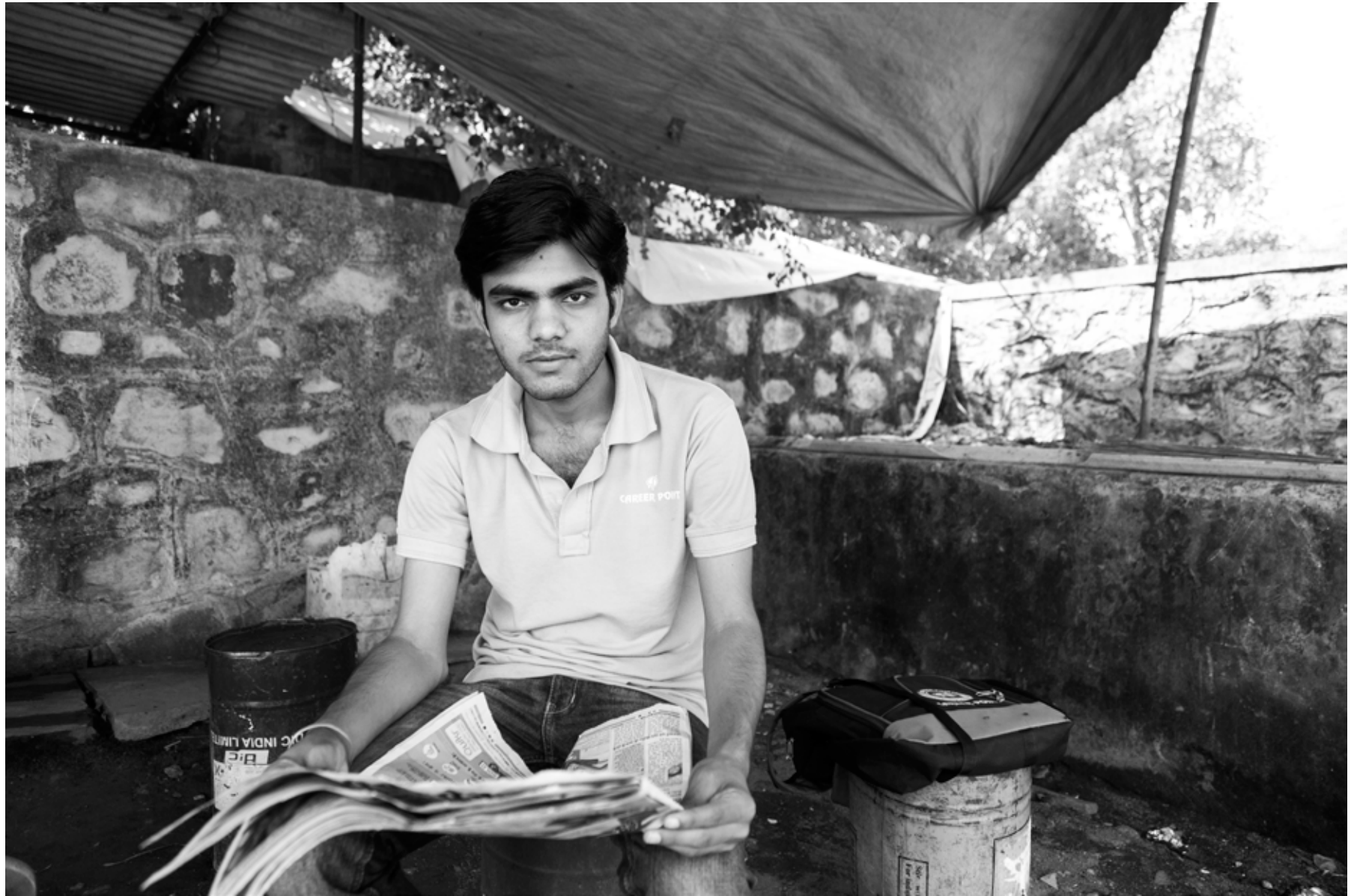
























in IIT JEE 2013 with best possible rank. Fulfill everybody's wishes including all my friends, parents & my jaye (god)

He bhai meri mah sister. hmise khush rakhne aur mere bhai ko koi unke hr sapna pura karna. Thanks Snigdha.

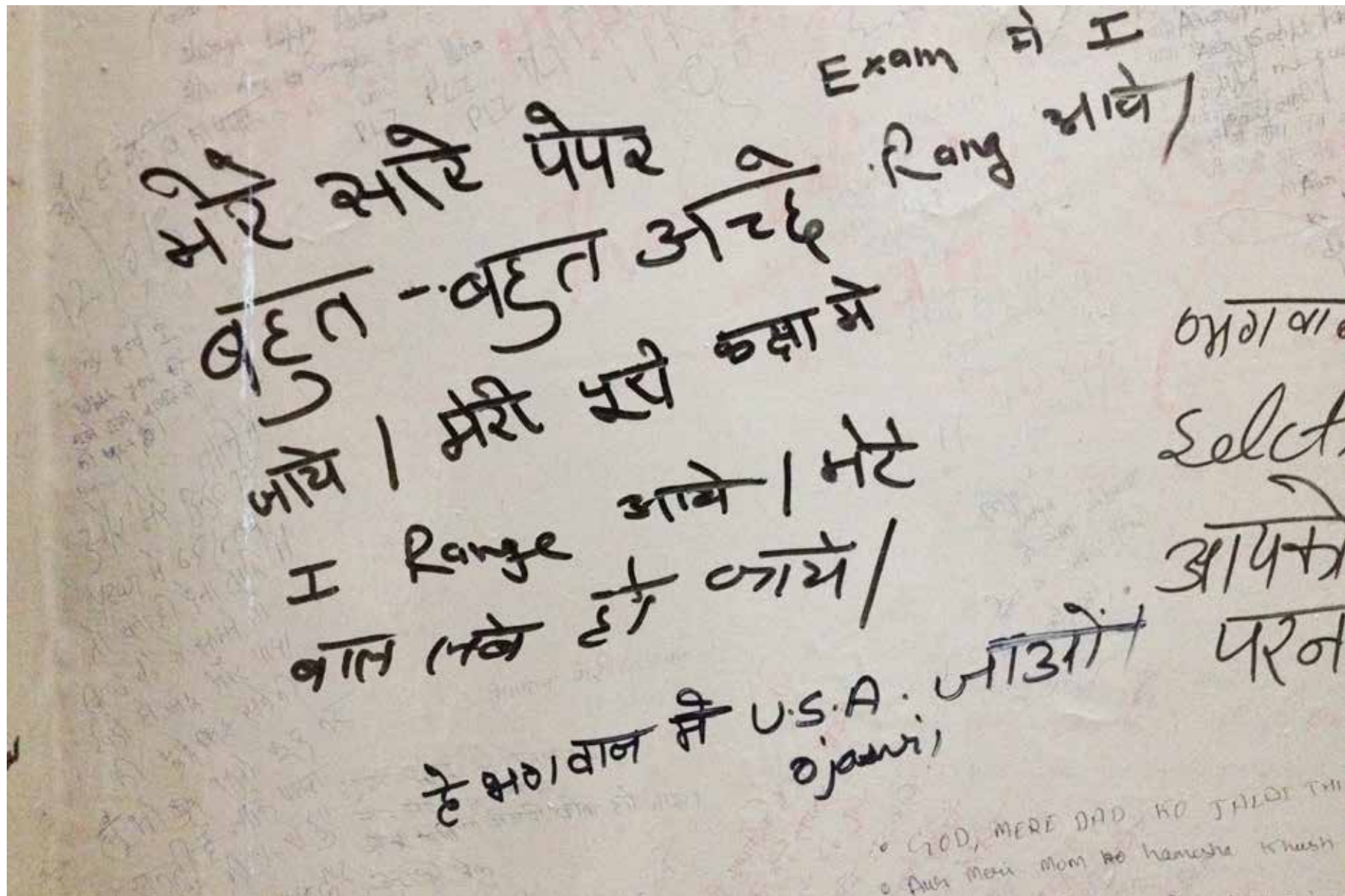
हे भगवान मैं इस साल (2012-13) में आपके आशीर्वाद के साथ एक Successful I.I.T IAN बनूँ।
 वरून अपने मम्मी-पापा से मुझा रखव भवें।

GOD PLEASE help me to achieve my dreams. I will never go on promise the negative sides of my family always safe and happy. And keep my friends.

Please God mya 2013 Neet-Jee mai selection karwa dena... Concentration ko padhai karne ke liye dena jese mujhe khat jarurat hai. Meri problems ko solve kar dena. mera bhayat thik ho jaye... Mujhe mere family ke ek kaam ki chahat dena... hamare school ke chahat dena... hamare school ke chahat dena... hamare school ke chahat dena...

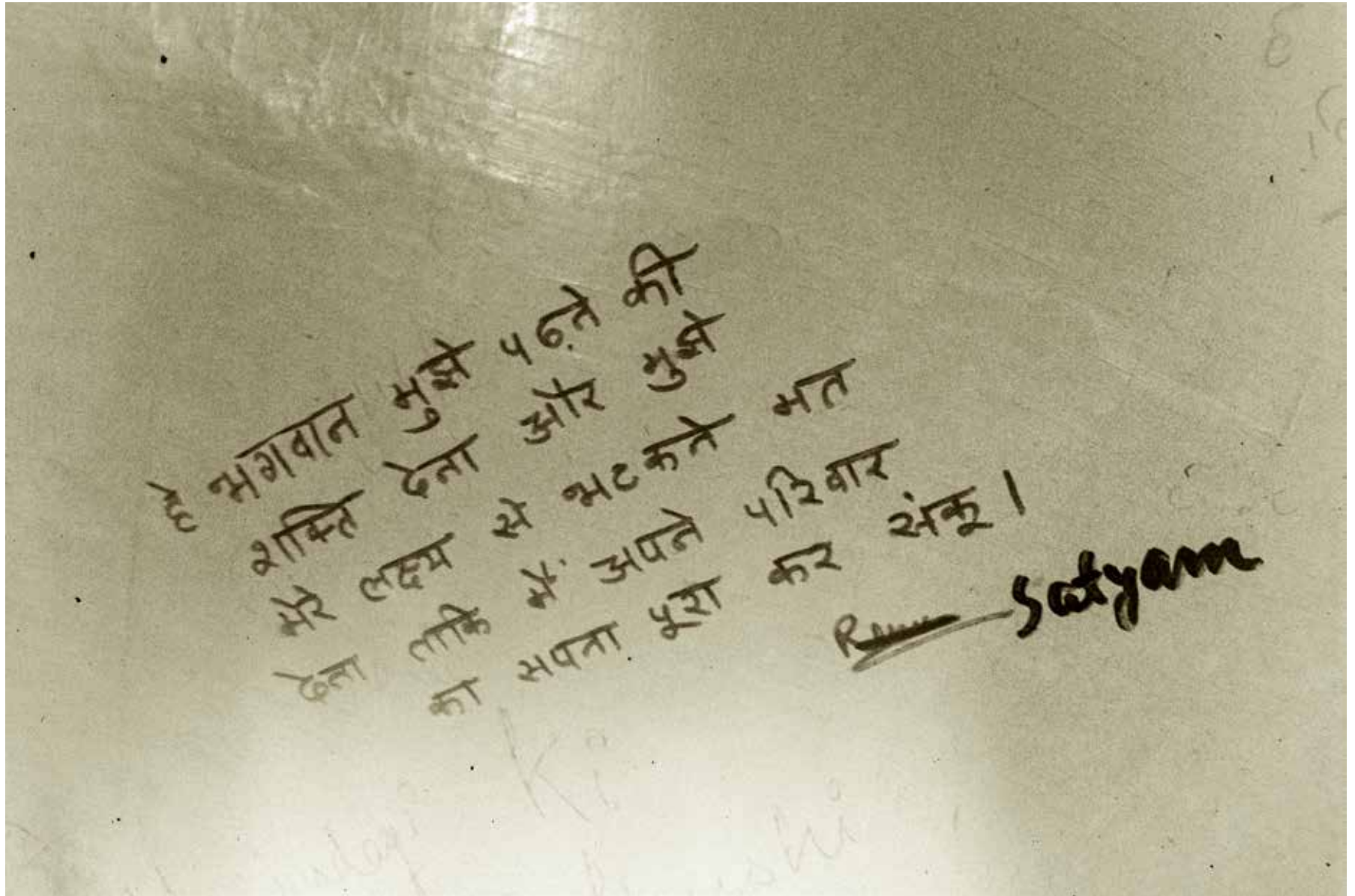
मेरे पापा मेरा पापा की मेरे पापा की हो जाऊँ। जन्मी हो।

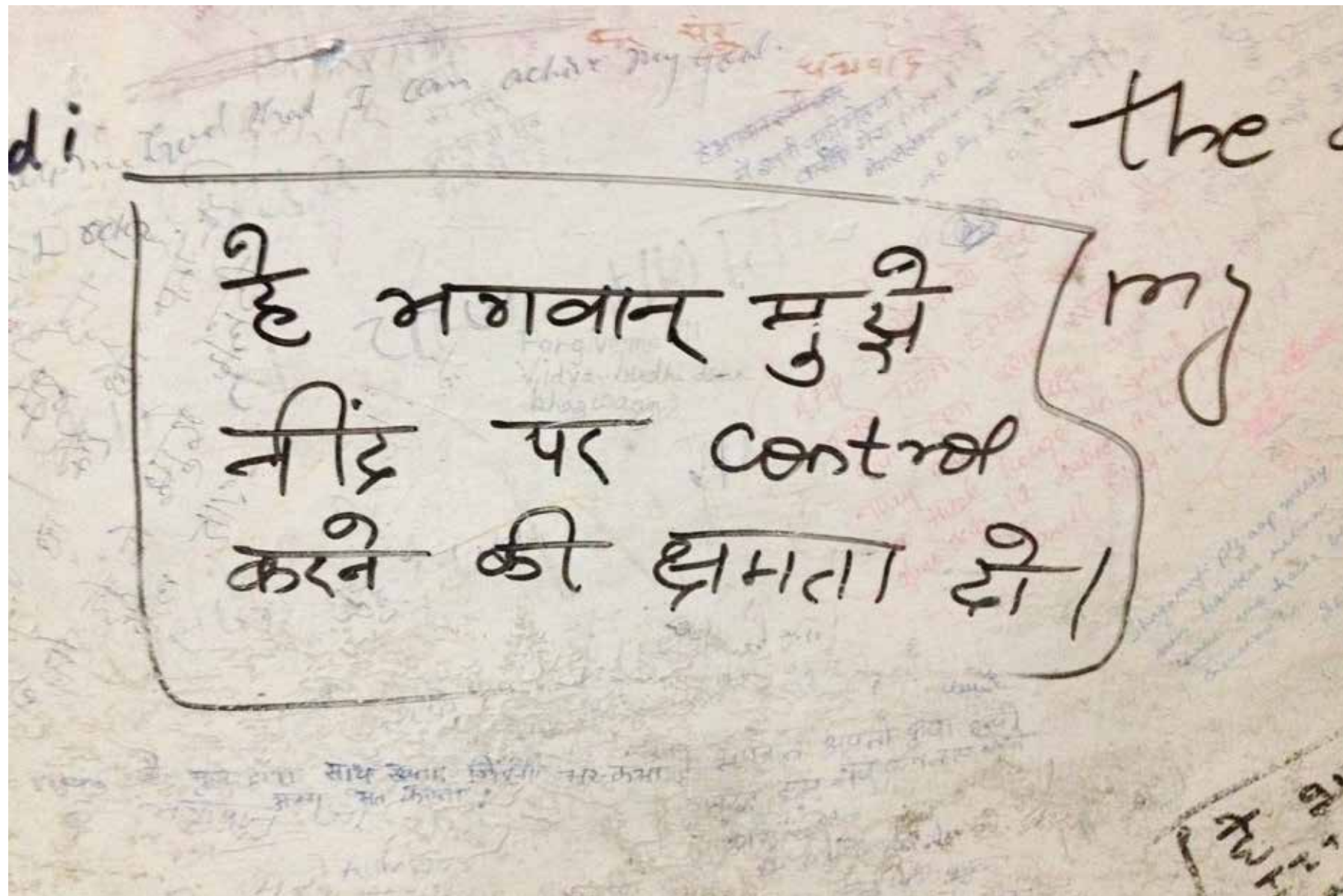
मेरी 7th class में अजय प्रिय Love you God you

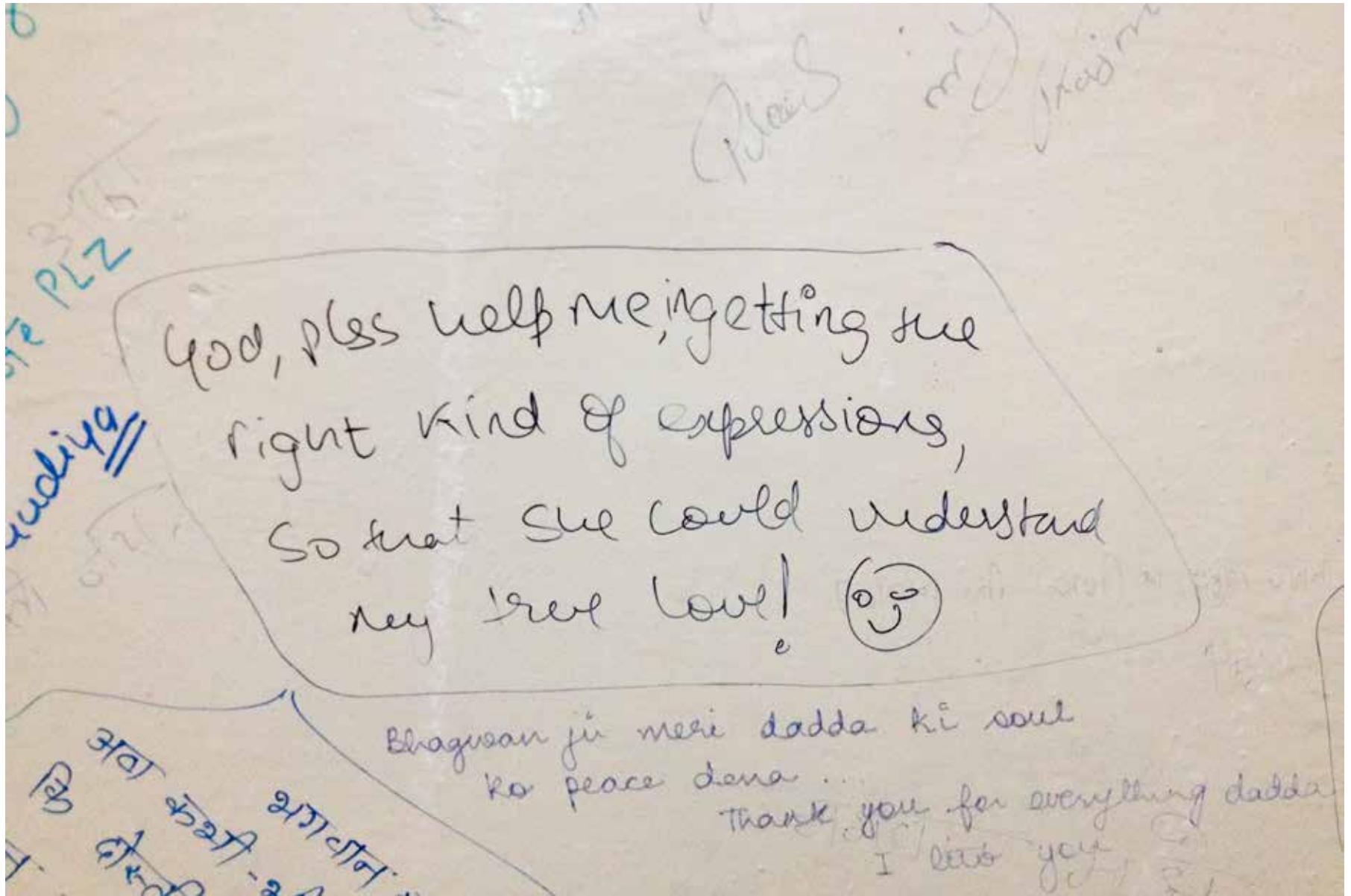


Gudiya
 So that
 my
 Bhagwan ji mere
 to place some
 Bhagwan
 Saluti
 Saluti
 God. I will
 to Khush
 Rema
 Oh god
 you for
 long
 of
 pres
 etc.

भगवान मुझे घरवालों की नज़रों में से कभी मत गिराना
 अब कभी-भी मैं ऐसी गलती नहीं करूंगी। हे ईश्वर मेरी और परिवार
 कि दोस्ती घरकरार रखना हमें दुनिया की हर खुशी देना।
 भगवान हम दोनों को शक्ति देना कि हम अपना कर्तव्य पूरा करें
 और अपने मां-पापा का नाम जैशान करें।
 भगवान PLZ मेरे भैया का II ग्रेड में सलेक्शन करवा देना।

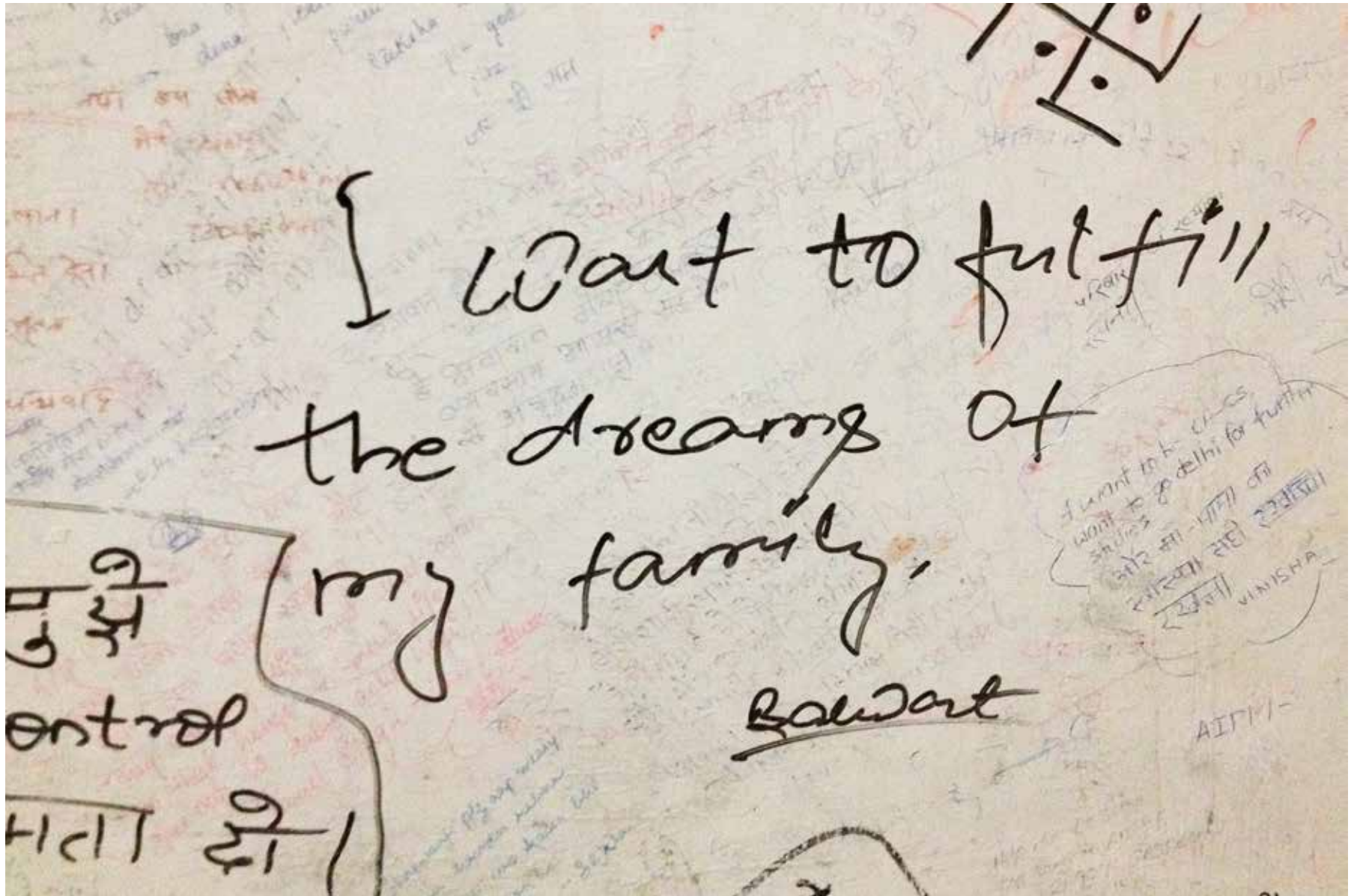






2 मज्जे
दिलकरा रडेवा

मुरे
इतनी Power ले की में
सबकी वाट अजा सके।



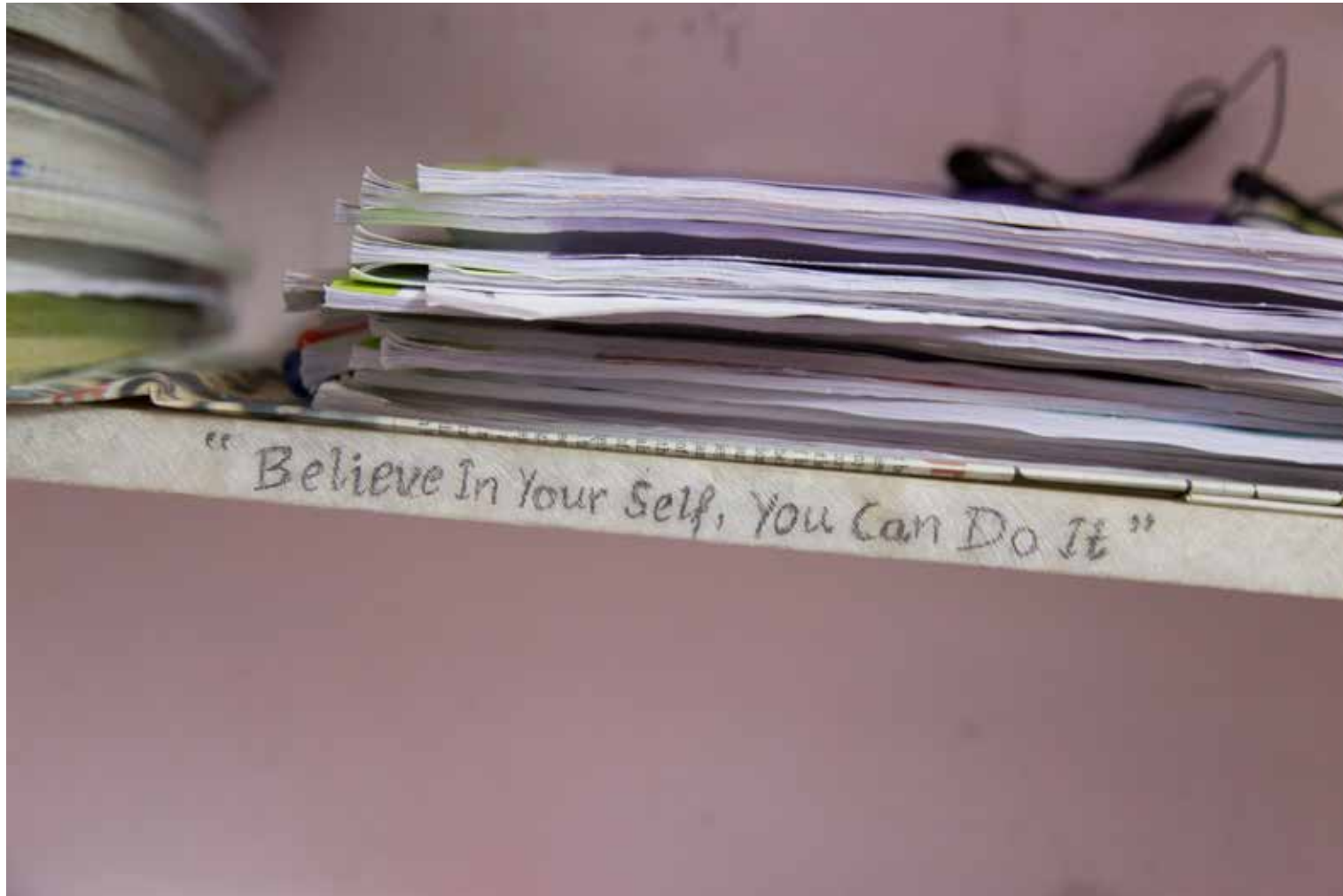
God please make above 90
in 10th Board Exams (2013)
Pushpendra
&
Jaswant.

















खुदी को करके बुलंद इतना चढ़ाओ जैसे जैसे
 खुदा ने बंदे से प्रह्ला अंबे उतरोगे कैसे

ERN PERIODIC CHART OF THE ELEMENTS LONG FORM

METALS				NONMETALS				
Alkali Metals	Alkali Earth Metals	Inner-Transition Lanthanides Actinides	Transition Metals	Metals	Metalloids	Nonmetals	Halogens	Noble Gases
Transactinides								

MOST COMMON STRUCTURES GIVEN:

CUBIC	<input type="checkbox"/>	DIAMOND	<input type="checkbox"/>
CUBIC, face centered	<input type="checkbox"/>	MONOCLINC	<input type="checkbox"/>
CUBIC, body centered	<input type="checkbox"/>	TETRAGONAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
HEXAGONAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	ORTHORHOMBIC	<input type="checkbox"/>

SOLIDS ARE SHOWN IN	BLACK
GASES ARE SHOWN IN	RED
LIQUIDS ARE SHOWN IN	BLUE
SYNTHETIC ELEMENTS ARE SHOWN IN	ORANGE

ELECTRONEGATIVITY	↑
FIRST IONIZATION POTENTIAL ENER	↑
REDUCTION	↓
OXIDATION	↓
ATOMIC RADIUS	↓

इस के आगे जीत है

IIIA 13	IVA 14	VA 15	VIA 16	VIIA 17
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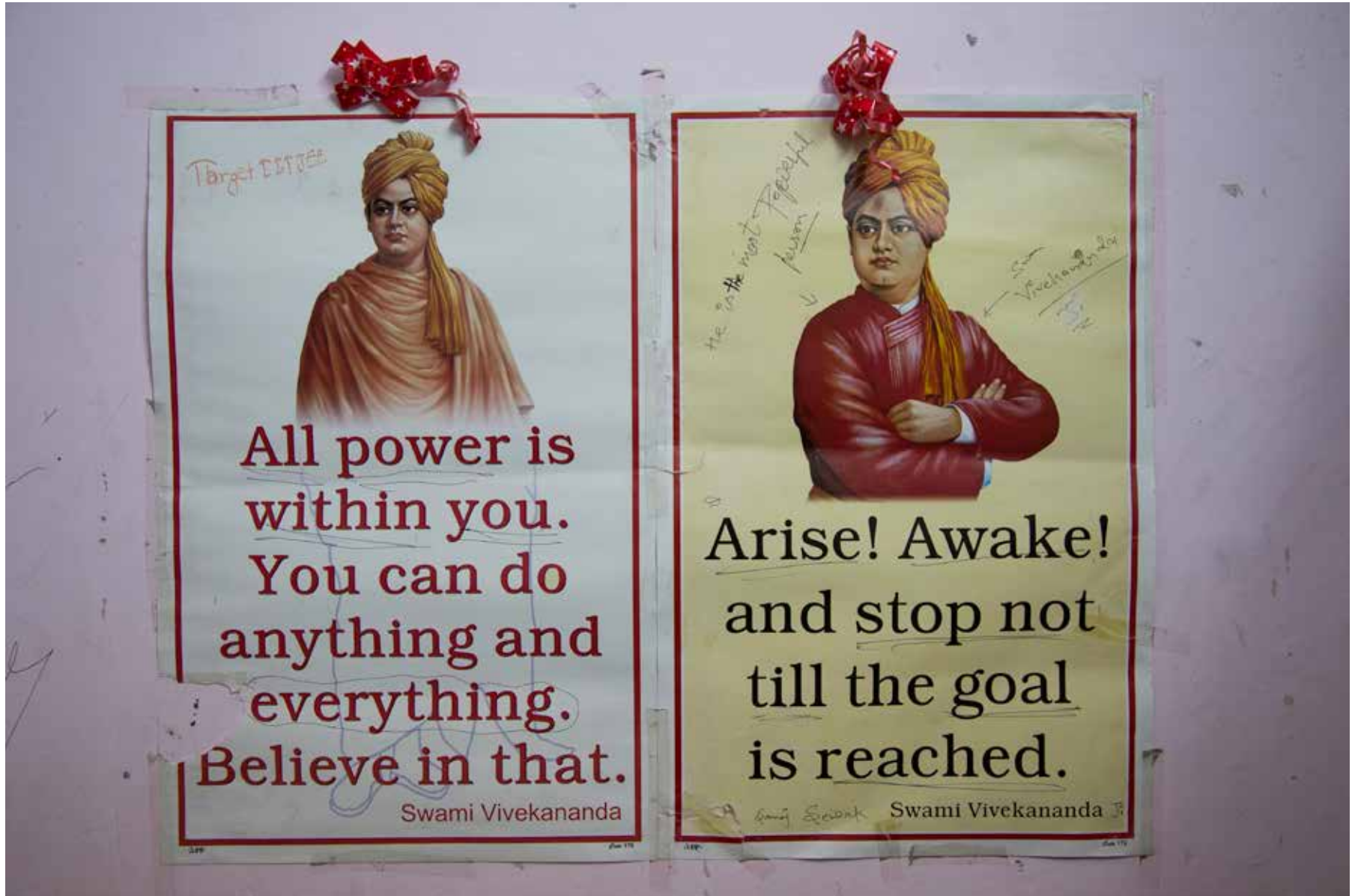














PLE DGE

PAGE NO. _____
DATE: ____/____/____

- * Attend classes. Youer miss class as I have said to far just for clases.
- * Pay full attention during the class because I will nowhere get teachers like in Kota.
- * Come home asap & do homework & revise what ever taught & do extra question from class books
- * Two hours of extra study daily to revise older & left part.
- * Just 3 things to do! Eat! sleep! study! Repeat!!!
- * Don't waste much time with friends just be with them for some time for refreshment
- * attend doubt classes when ever possible
- * You are paying the teacher to clear your doubts so ask them from without any fear
- * Try to avoid friends which are distracting you or taking you to the wrong path as much as possible.
- Always keep your room & specially study table clean.
- Use a sheets all the way to IIT + surrounding study center

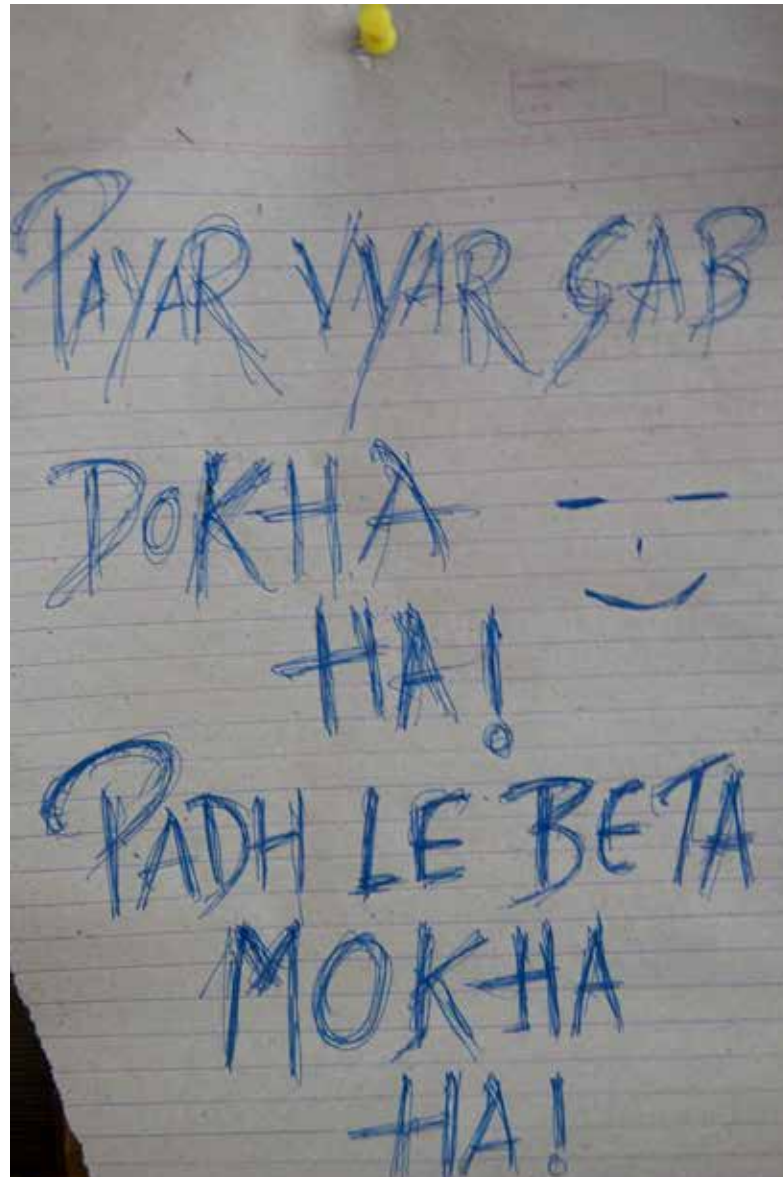
PAGE NO. _____
DATE: ____/____/____

- * Have a normal diet of 2 roti & half plate rice & always go for breakfast.
- * Avoid eating outside and junk food.
- * Don't waste money on unnecessary things.
- * Most important thing which is taking most of your money & time is "STOP SMOKING"
- * Don't waste bym time on phone, phone is only for internet usage & music & TV
- * I have come to Kota to make my life & achieve the goal of life more hard & be successful

IIT BOMBAY
SK
13
COACHING

[Signature]
SK
Ajay Singh







Follows: 21 Aug 2024

"PADH LE BETA

PADH LE LAST CHANCE
IS YOUR"

"DONT WASTE OF TIME"

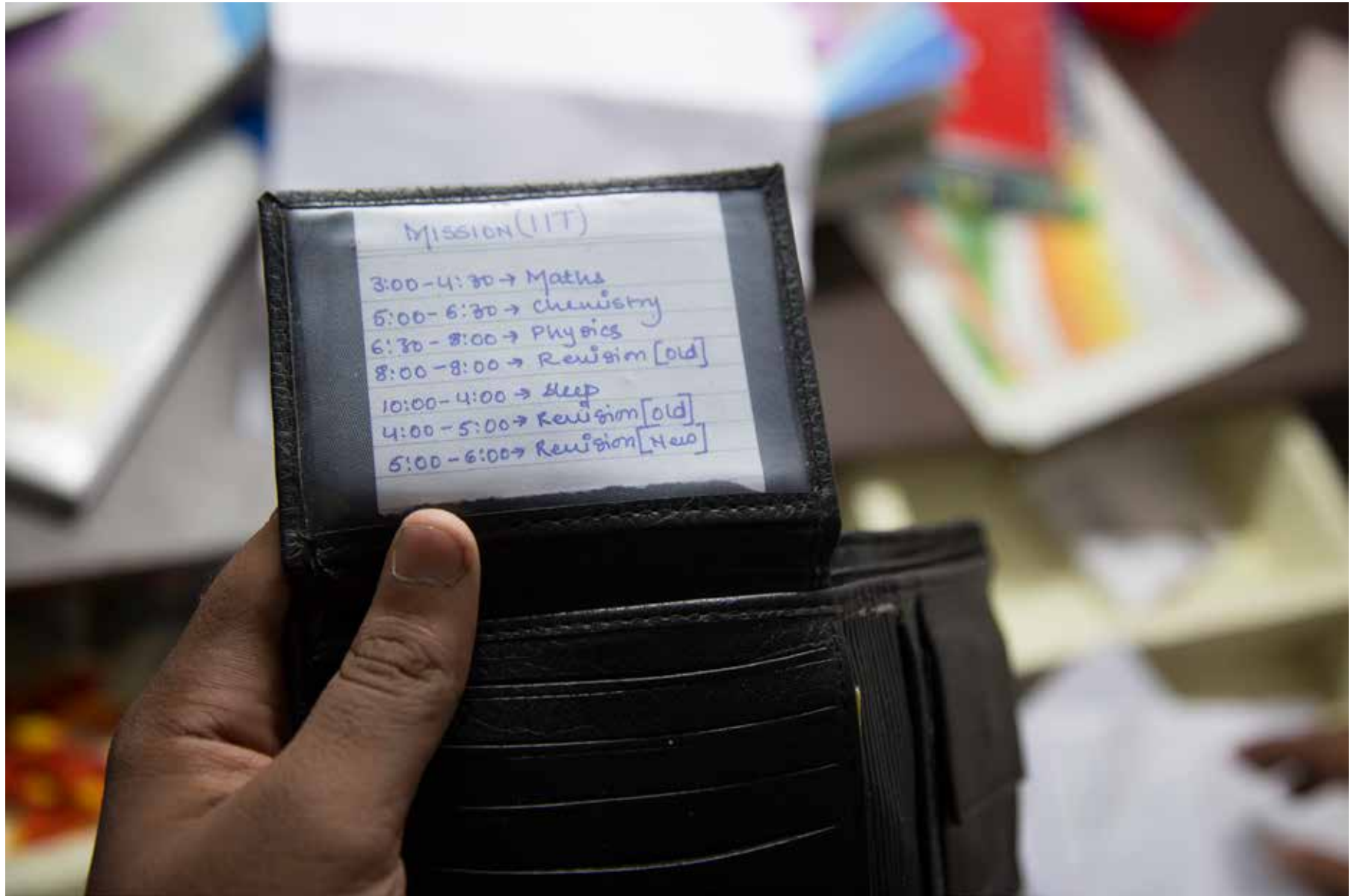
TARGET TO CLEAR

JEE MAINS With 95%+

Time Table

Wake up - 5:00	Break - 6:30 to 7:20
Study - 5:30 to 6:45	Study - 7:40 to 9:00
Study for reading - 6:45 to 8:00	Dance - 9:00 to 10:00
PT. reading - 8:00 to 9:30	Study - 10:00 to 11:00
Dance - 9:30 to 10:00	Sleep - 11:00 to 5:00
Take bath - 10:00 to 10:30	
Study - 10:30 to 11:30	





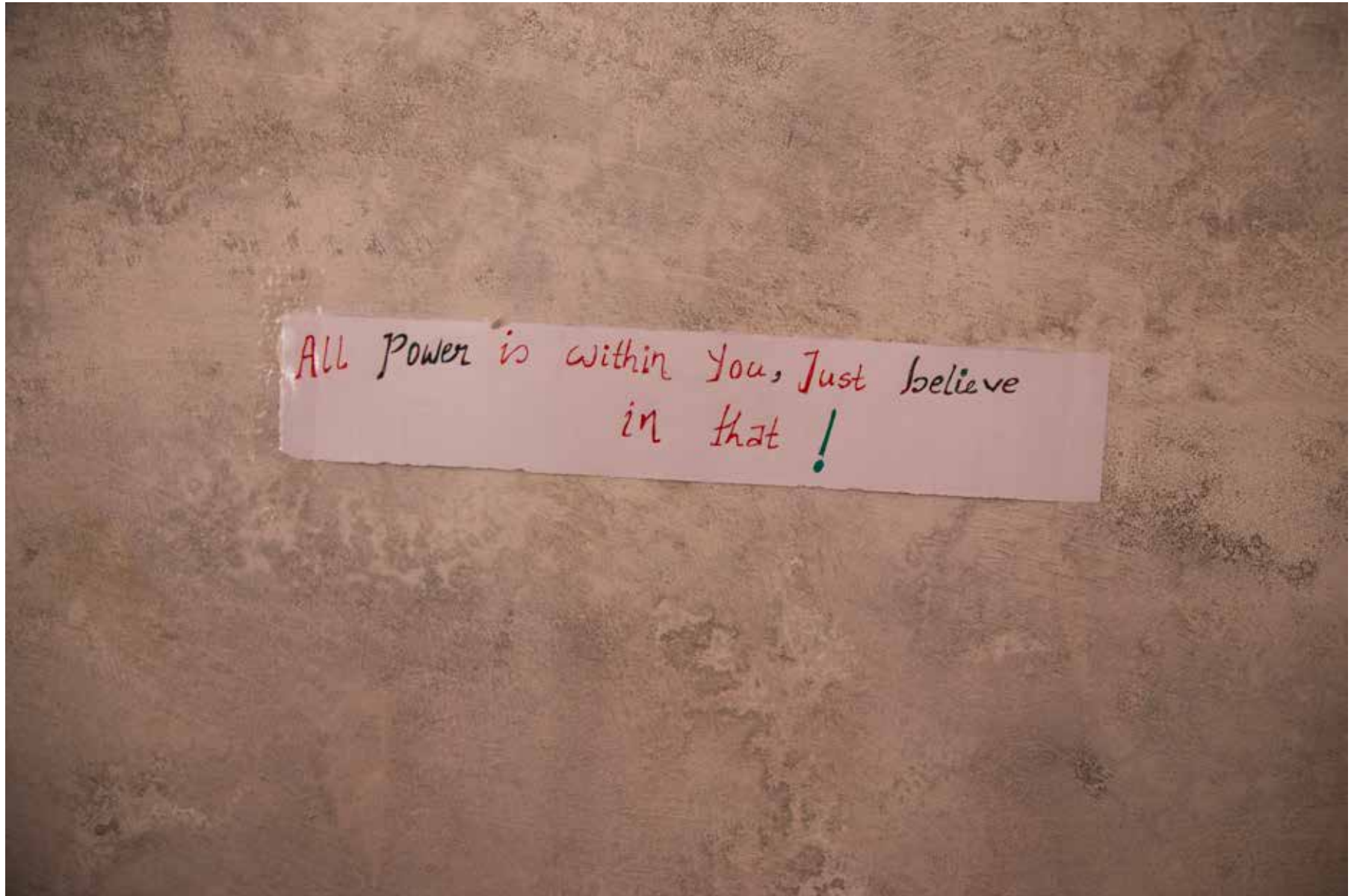








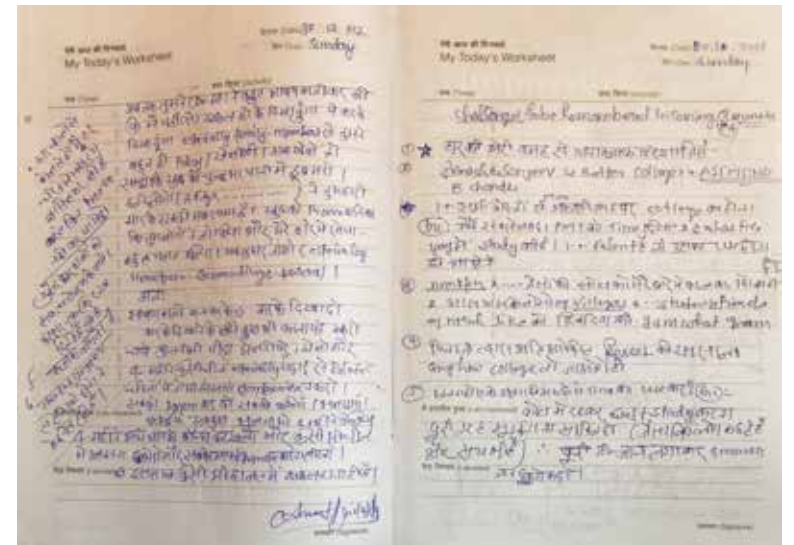
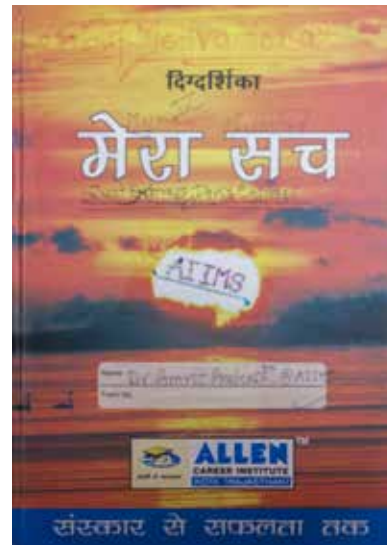
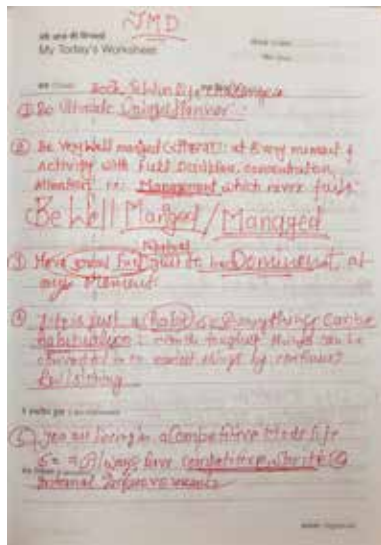


















बना होगा स्कूल के आखिरी दिन

कभी मुस्काना कभी किसी शरमान 2011 January

Saturday 22

बना होगा स्कूल के आखिरी दिन सोच कर तज्जुब होता है कि एक दिन हम सब एक दूसरे से अलग हो जाएंगे पता नहीं कभी किसी से फिर मिल पाएंगे के नहीं? बना होगा उन बच्चों को सीटों में गुड़ अर्थात् सगे भाईजों से भी ज्यादा प्यार दिया जा सके उन तीन जी भी ~~का~~ पाएंगे के नहीं तो स्कूल की CLAS में क्या दूसरे को chalk मारना वहीं रह जाएगा? स्कूल के आखिरी दिन के बाद एक दिन भी जीवा मुस्कान को जरूरत। बना होगा उन दोस्तों का जो बचपन भर कदम साथ होगा। कोई दुखी होगा तो उससे मताना कोई ज्यादा मरिच करता तो उसे खताता इन सभी मस्तिशा की तबद ही मित जाएगा। बना होगा उन FLYING BIRDS का जो एक दूसरे के साथ तबत बिताया करते थे और गंभीर कहा करते थे कि तुम ही मेरे first & last रहेगे। सब कुछ खत्म हो जाएगा फिर ये दिन ~~अ~~ उन सबसे मिलने को तड़पेगा फिर जब Sunday 23 नहीं चलेगा कोई घर तब किपू से चेहरा मुस्कान जाएगा। जब नहीं होगी बकुल की कहानी की ~~द~~ ~~कहानी~~ ~~की~~ ~~द~~ ~~कहानी~~ ~~की~~ happy ending तब आशुष ही यह जाएगा स्कूल की कहानी की the ending. फिर स्कूल तब कहानी शुरू होगा सागामि अभी collage जाना बाकी है मेरे दोस्त :-)

☐ ☐ ☐ keep smiling











OATH

I will complete my work regularly leaving nothing for tomorrow.

I will study for 6 hours apart from institute hours (minimum)

Parth
6-6-13







[They expect so much from you.]

AVOID

[WILL
REGRET LATER

SAKSHI! IF YOU

Otherwise no IIT, no NIT, no good
and hear everyone's taunts colleges.

SLEPT TO THIS
MUCH EXTEND]

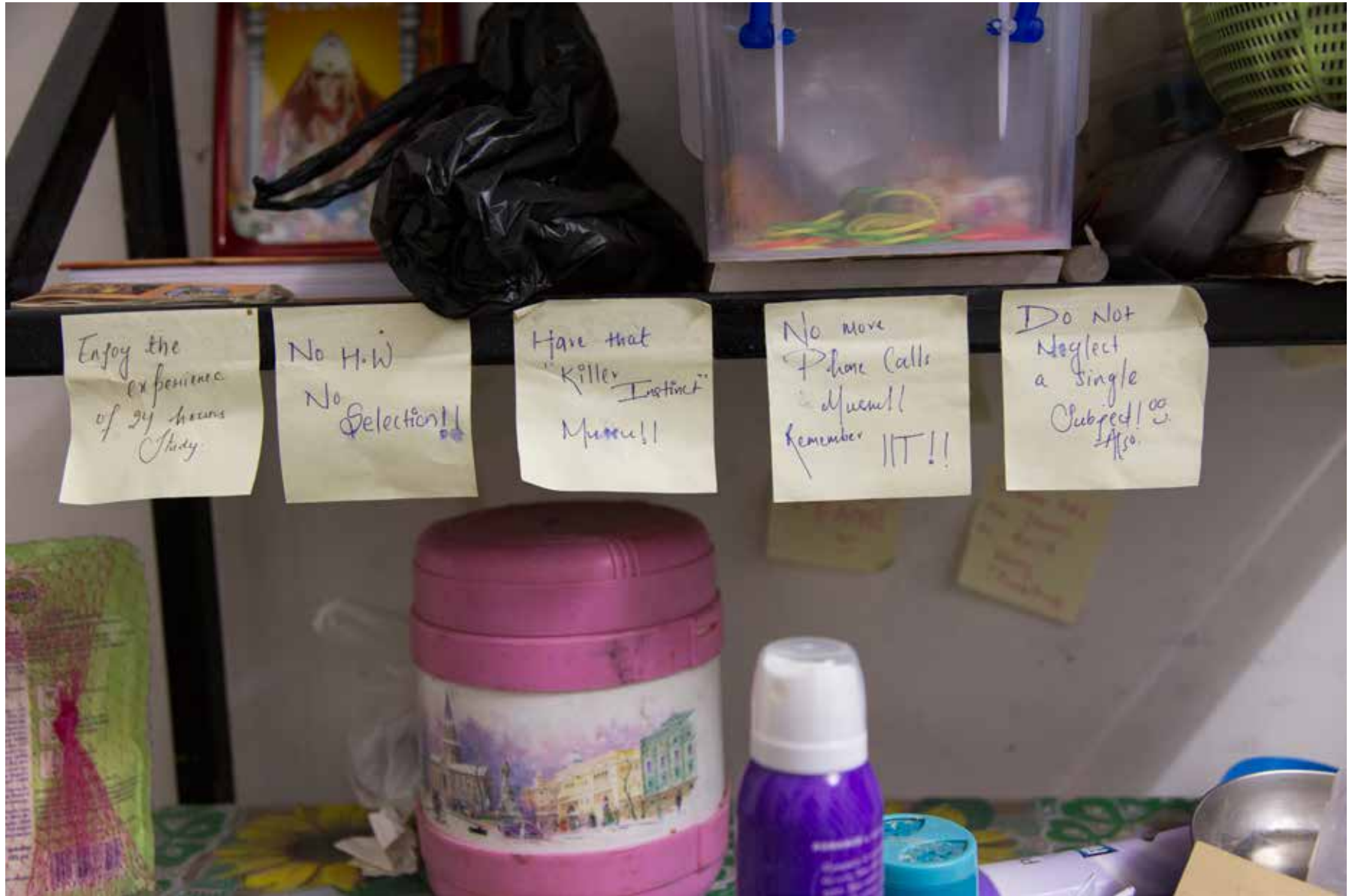
SLEEPING

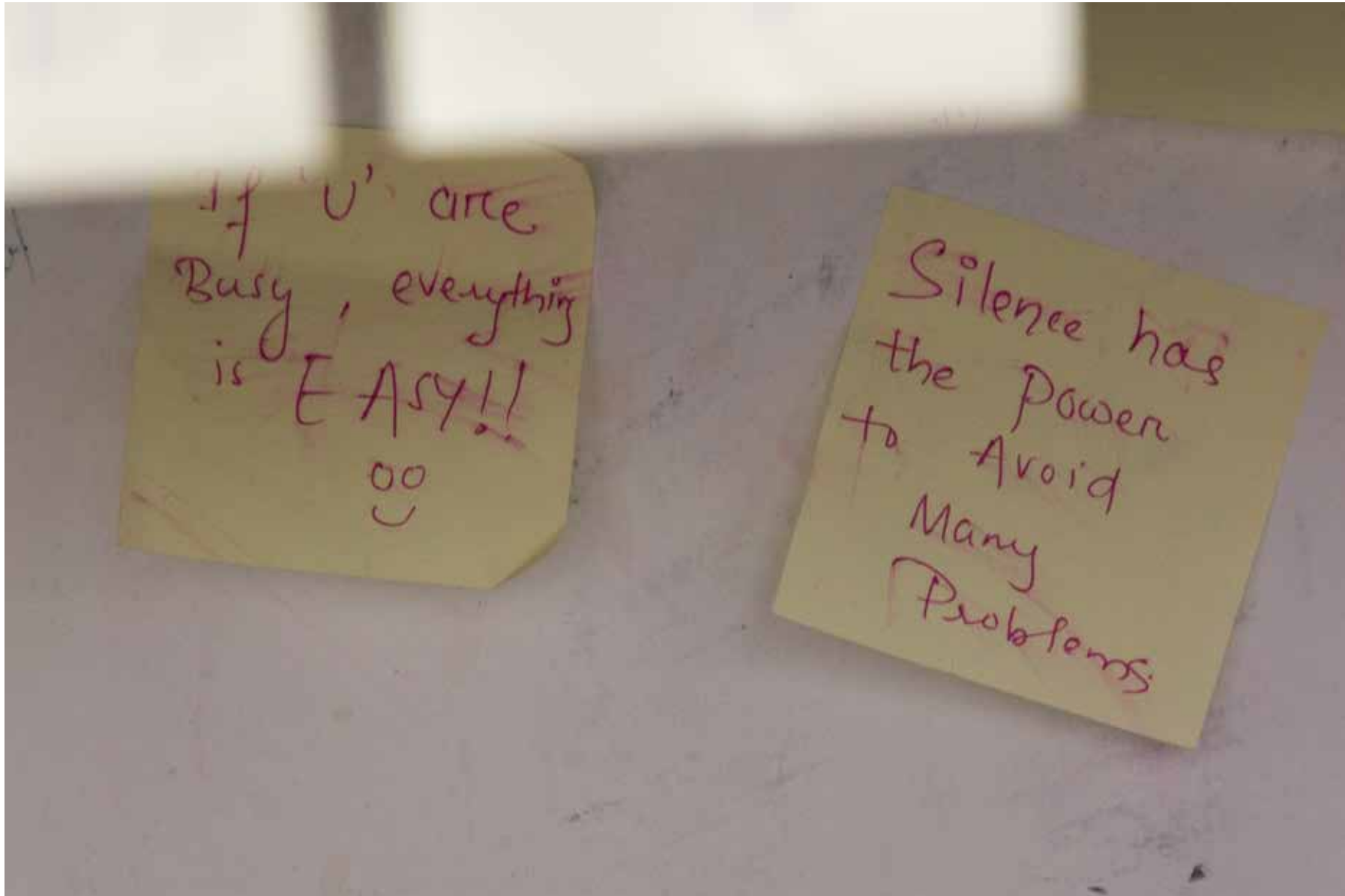
[L~~Y~~ING AND BREAKING YOUR PARENTS TRUST











17 August, 2014

No one values me. I am just
 useless. Nothing to say yaar!!
 Why? He just... he can
 never understand me, my feelings,
 my love... morning mera ~~roohashi~~
 man chuka hai. It hurts like
 hell yaar. My life. hell man!!
 (Scribble)

Bullshit!
 I hate this yaar!

Why? why??

My feelings are just nothing for
 me. How? he takes all
 my emotions so casually hmmm!
 Just fed up
 my life sucks!!

Badhai, family, so many responsibilities
 and I am not able to do
 anything also. WTF

Kyun nahi samjhta hai wo. Ptni
 simple si chiz, why he is making
 everything so complicated??
 I love him, why don't
 he but don't why not he
 but why don't he loves me
 back??

Ussu!!
 U such a despo.

I am so alone, you know...
 No one understands me.
 jisse chahati hai wo mujhe
 samjhe, wo toh kahi samjhta
 hi nahi. Aur kitna hurt yaar
 ho gaya yaar...
 its NOT TOLERABLE

Ussu!! Ussu!!
 My tears are nothing for him,
 just few drops of water that
 too useless (one).

I don't wanna love him, bikhri
 nahi yaar, ke

have panna cry loudly
 My feelings, my tears are so
 them. VALUELESS for
 why??

Why?? I need the answer.
 P12: Answer
 me!!

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