Gond Art & narratives

Project -1

Presentation

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A Presentation of Summer Internship completed under

Gond Pardhan Artist Mr. Venkat Raman Singh Shyam.

INTRODUCTION

- The summer internship focused on the Pardhan Gond Art and tribal narratives, and I ended up with a primary research of a vast culture of a Tribal community.

- I got to know about Gond History , the storytellers ,their societal structures, their stories which provided a better understanding for the visual arts they practise.

- Explored Forms and Patterns through drawings, from where I evolved new forms (Flora-fauna,Human beings) which are identical in Gond paintings.

- Explored stories under tribal narratives.

History

- Pardhan Gond Art or Jangarh Kalam can be considered as tribal contemporary art which emerged in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh in late 20th century by indigenous Gond tribes of the respective state.

- Jangarh Singh Shyam was the torch bearer, who got trained under J.Swaminathan.

- Birth of a New Art form to secure the culture of Gonds.

The Creators- Pardhan Gonds

- Gond art is an expanded form of storytelling, practised by Pardhan Gonds, who were known as the priest, scholars, storytellers or singers of the Gond Community.

- Being genealogist, they are the carriers of collective memory of society.

- Purpose of reciting stories:
- Collective memory
- Rituals
- To know the who and how

- Patronization of Arts

- The word Pardhan is composed of two different words:
- **Par + *Dhan* = Pardhan**
- Where ‘par’ means others and ‘dhan’means fund.Hence Pardhan are those priests who are funded by other gond tribes for their ritual practices and other scholarly works.

Gond Pantheon

"हगुिआ जीवे नेम के बल में, आदविासी जीवे देव के बल में।"

- *"Hindus live under the verve of rules and adivasi (tribes) live under the base of Dev.''*
- Why is it important to understand their Gods.
- Gonds primitive souls and attachement reside in Gond devlok.
- Building of whole narratives rest upon their deities.

Transformation of Orality into Visual Reality

- ‘संगीत’ का ‘ रूप’ में अंतरण
- Transformation of ‘song’ in ‘form’

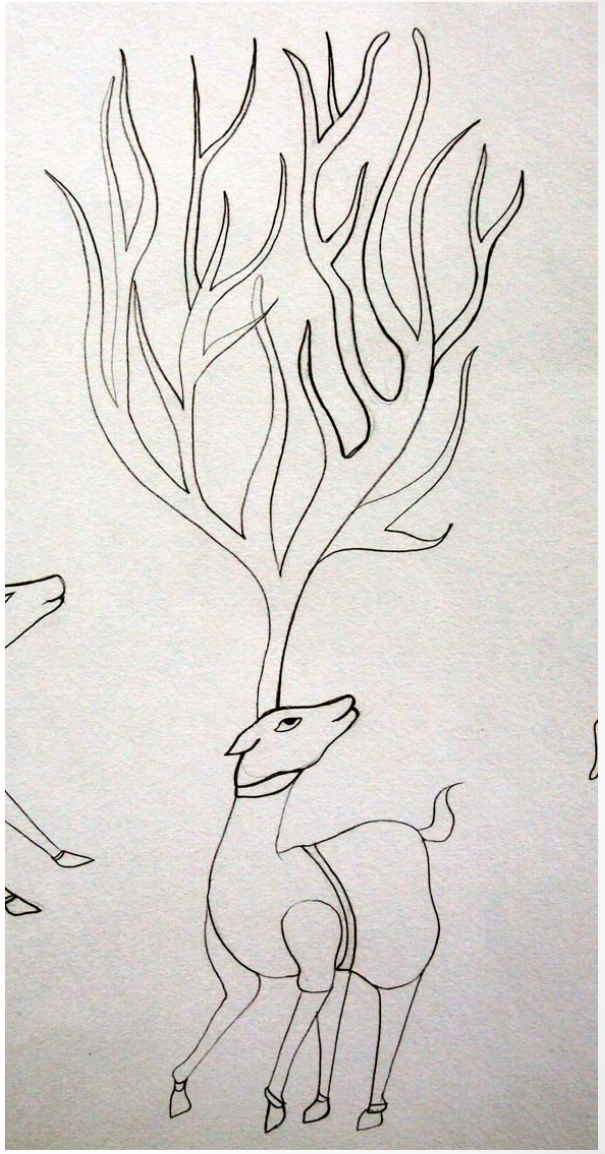
- The interdependence of Art : .The enunciation of words shaped dialects and with prior modifications words got transformed into songs.

- Words have travelled generations now to communicate the stories visually through paintings.

Painting Themes

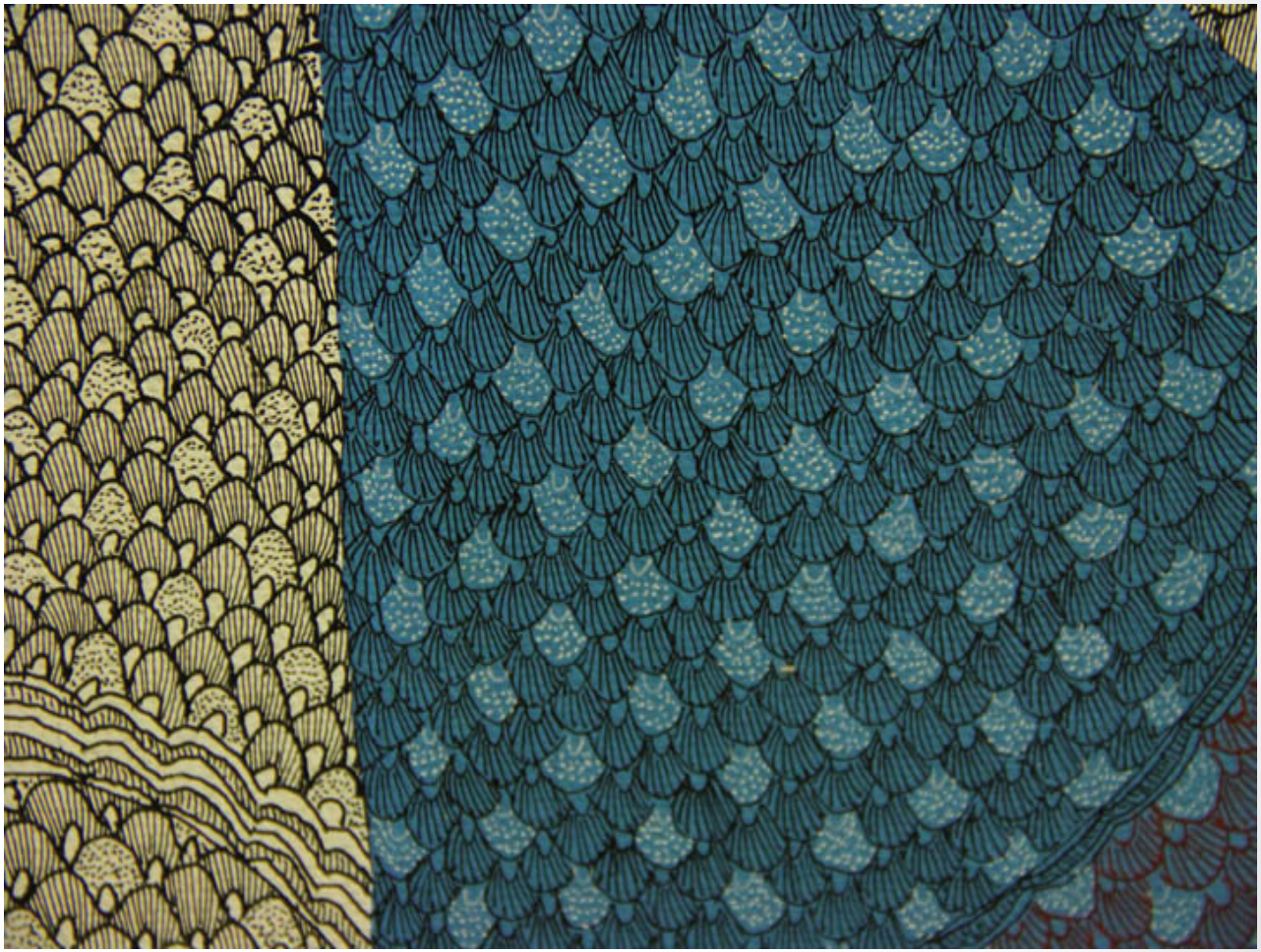
- For a conventional tribe there are several options to opt for,truth is not the only way out.In there realm they create their own truths which they may or may not abide by.Thus we can experience totally different and mysterious stories which occupy their canvas. Subject comprises of :
- **Flora-Fauna**
- **Pourquoi stories**(how and why stories)
- **Ritual songs**
- **Mythological contexts**
- **Paintings related to Gond kings**

- **Presence and importance of Trees**
- In gond paintings Trees stand as dominating element. Gonds are inhabitants of forests and trees are part and parcel of their life, the respect they shower over trees in real life sustains even in their canvas.



Characteristics of Paintings

- Rhythm
- Forms
- Colors
- Patterns



Stories and Narratives

- Basically oral in nature

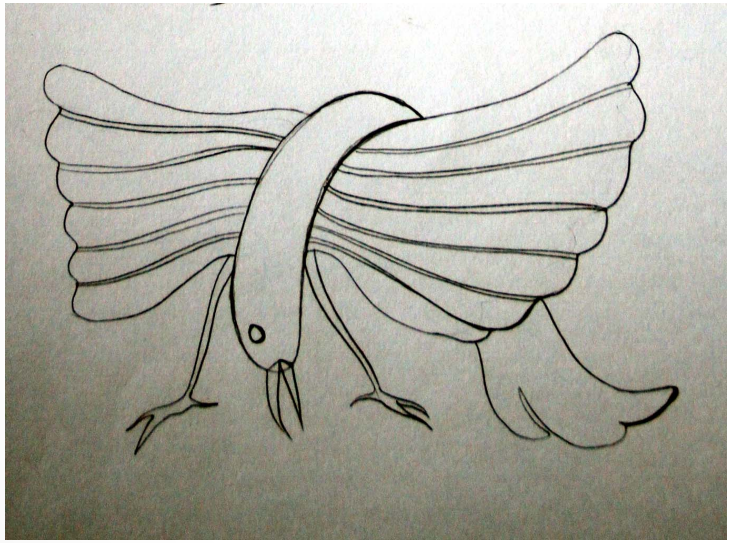
- Creators of Tribal stories are mostly anonymous
- No institution hold any right to formulate rules and regulations over their stories. This is the only rule that it posses no rule.

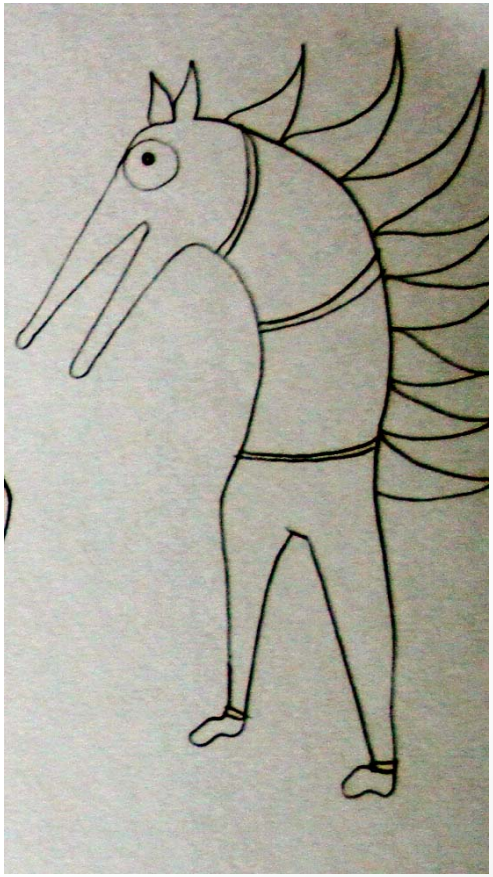
- they remain impersonal and open to everyone
- Counted under Tribal/Folk narratives.

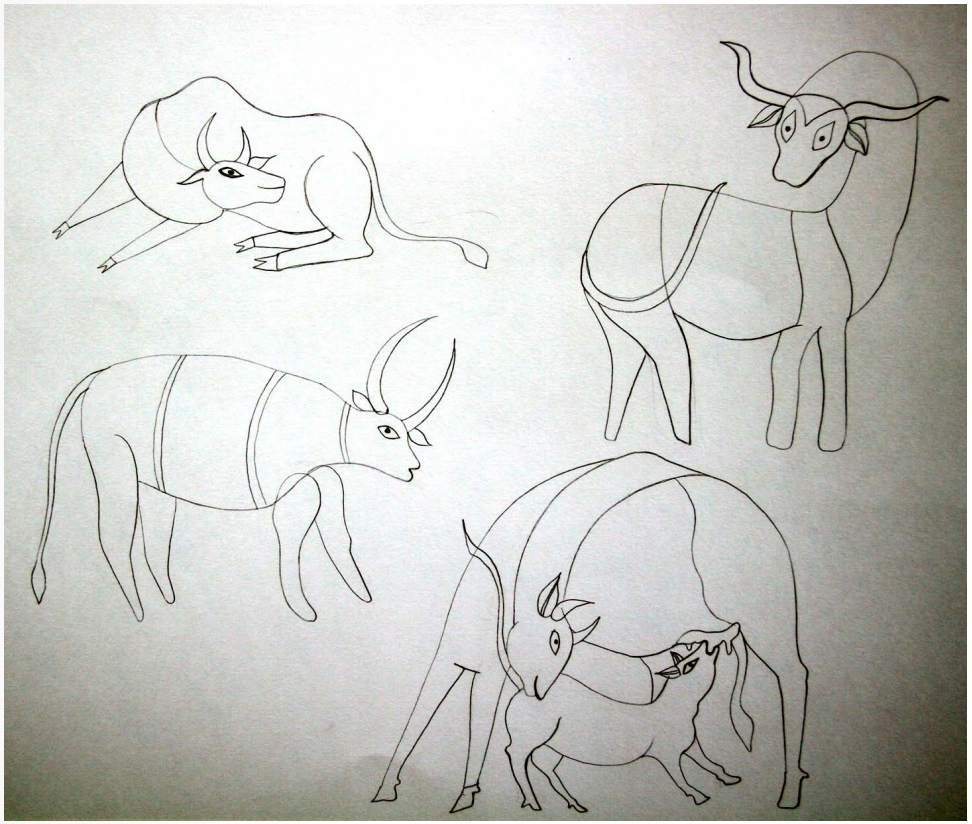
- **Types of Stories**
- **Legendary Tales**
- **Pourquoi stories**(how and why stories)
- **Tales of talking animals**
- **Tales showering morals**
- **Mythological stories or ritual songs**

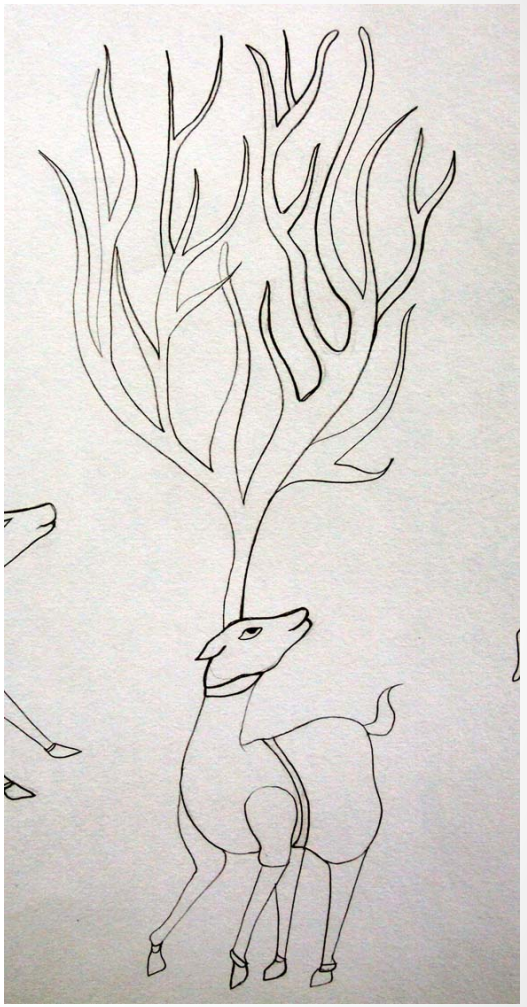
- Animals and birds have capability to think and suggest ,in such stories its full of words like : फरि उसने सोचा (then he thought).

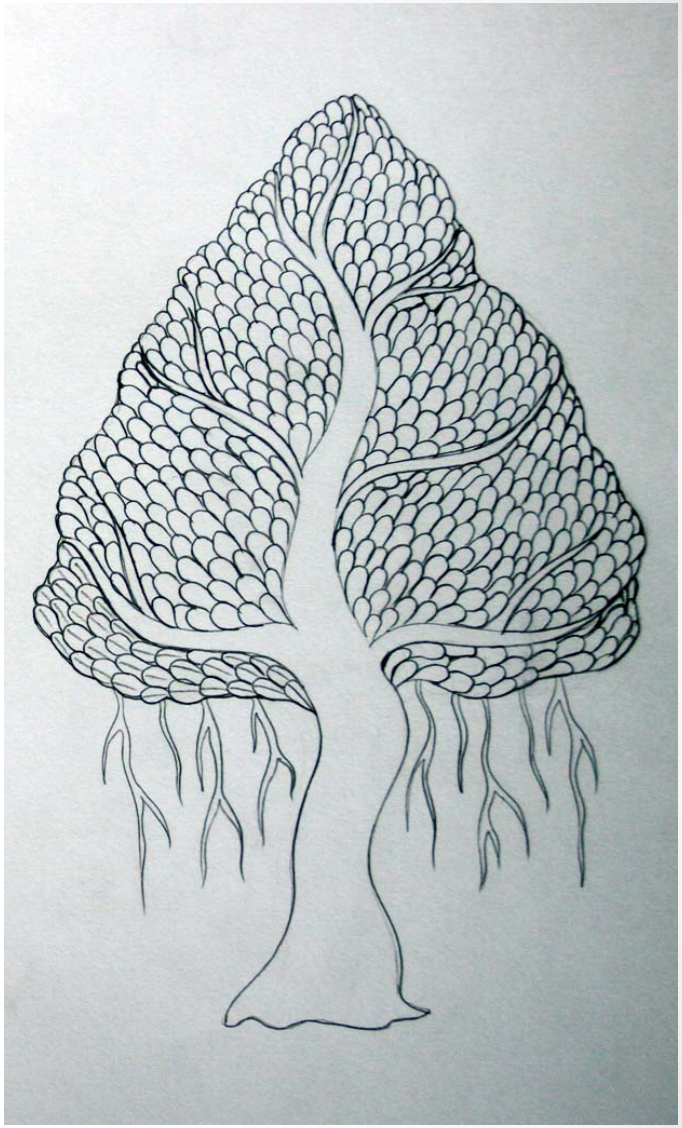
Form Studies

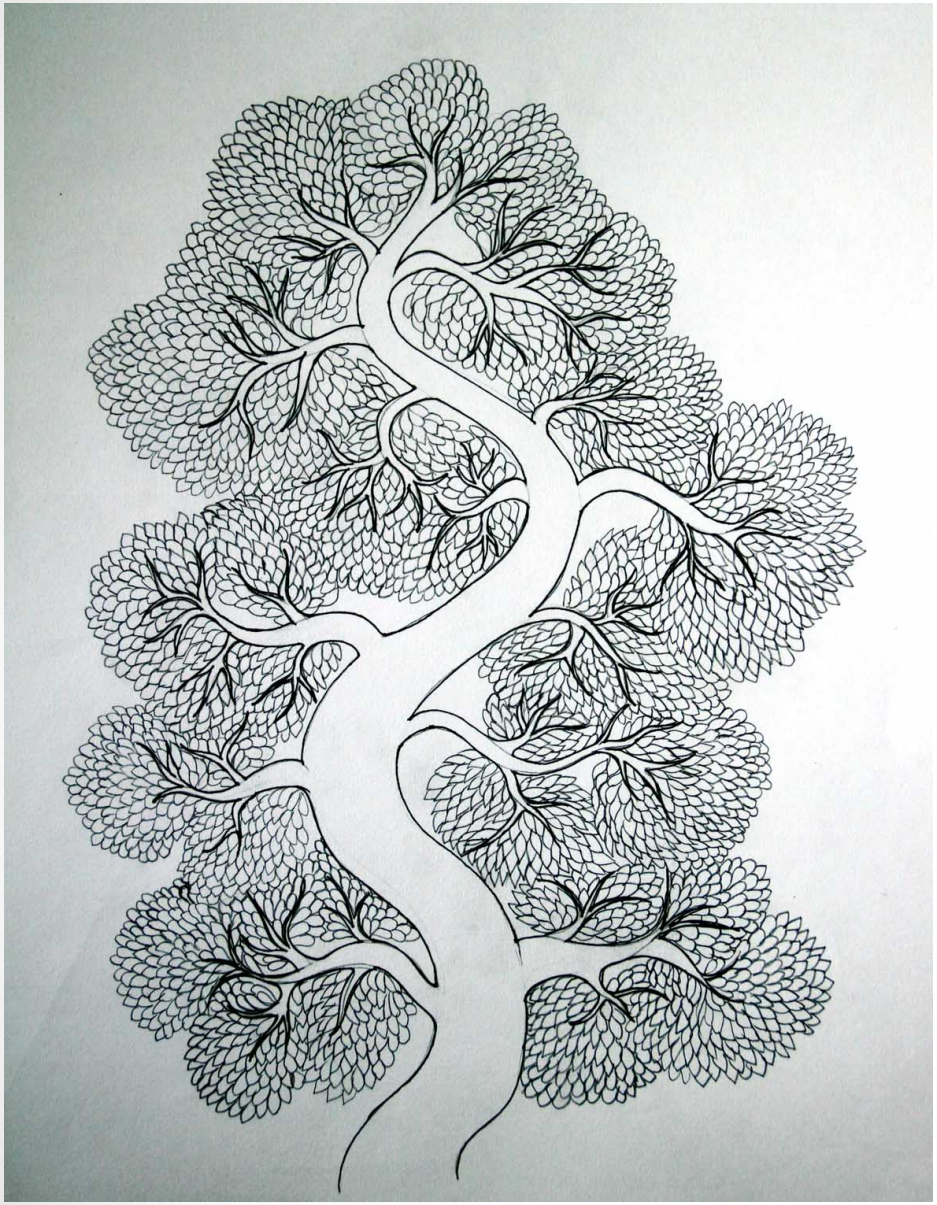


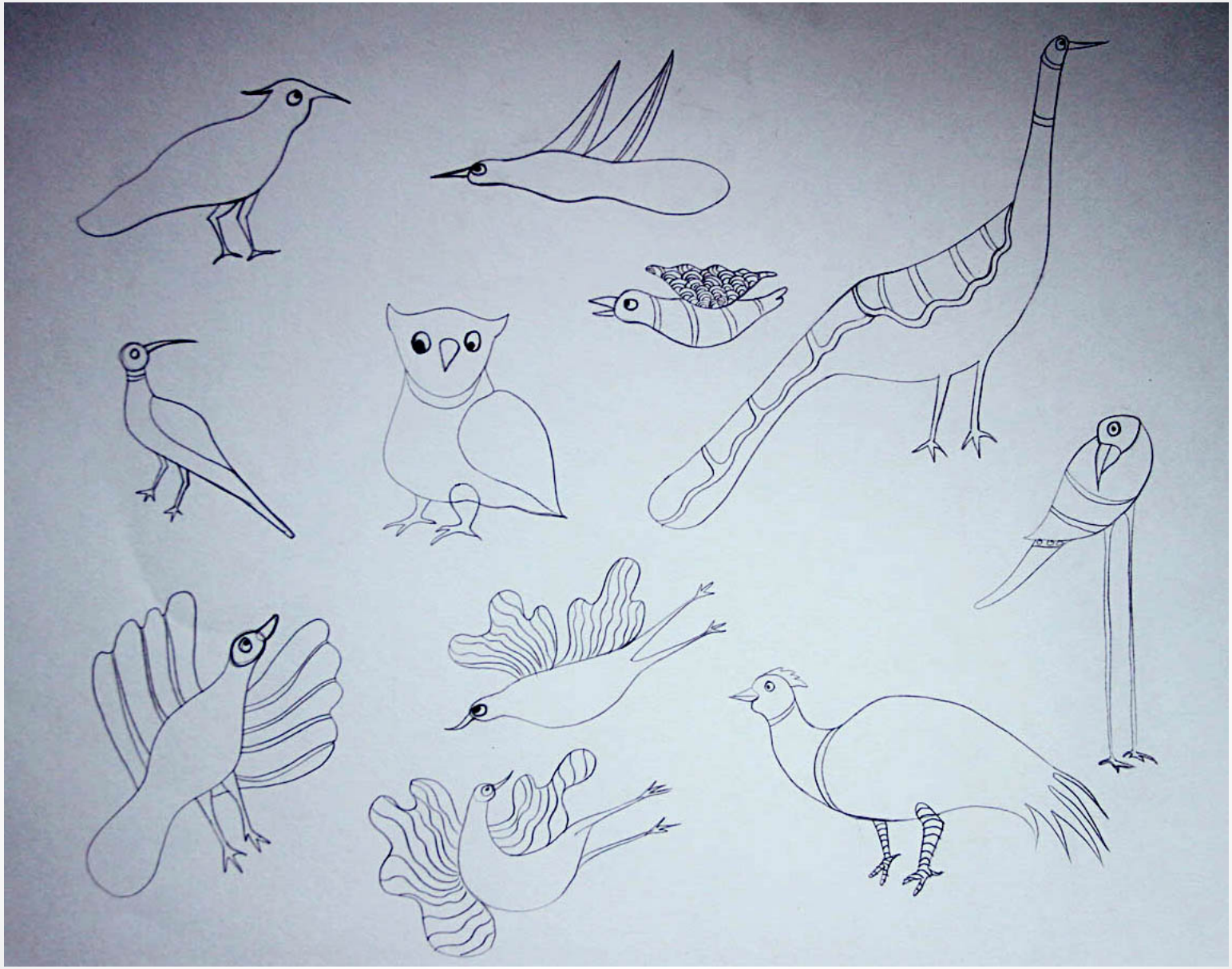


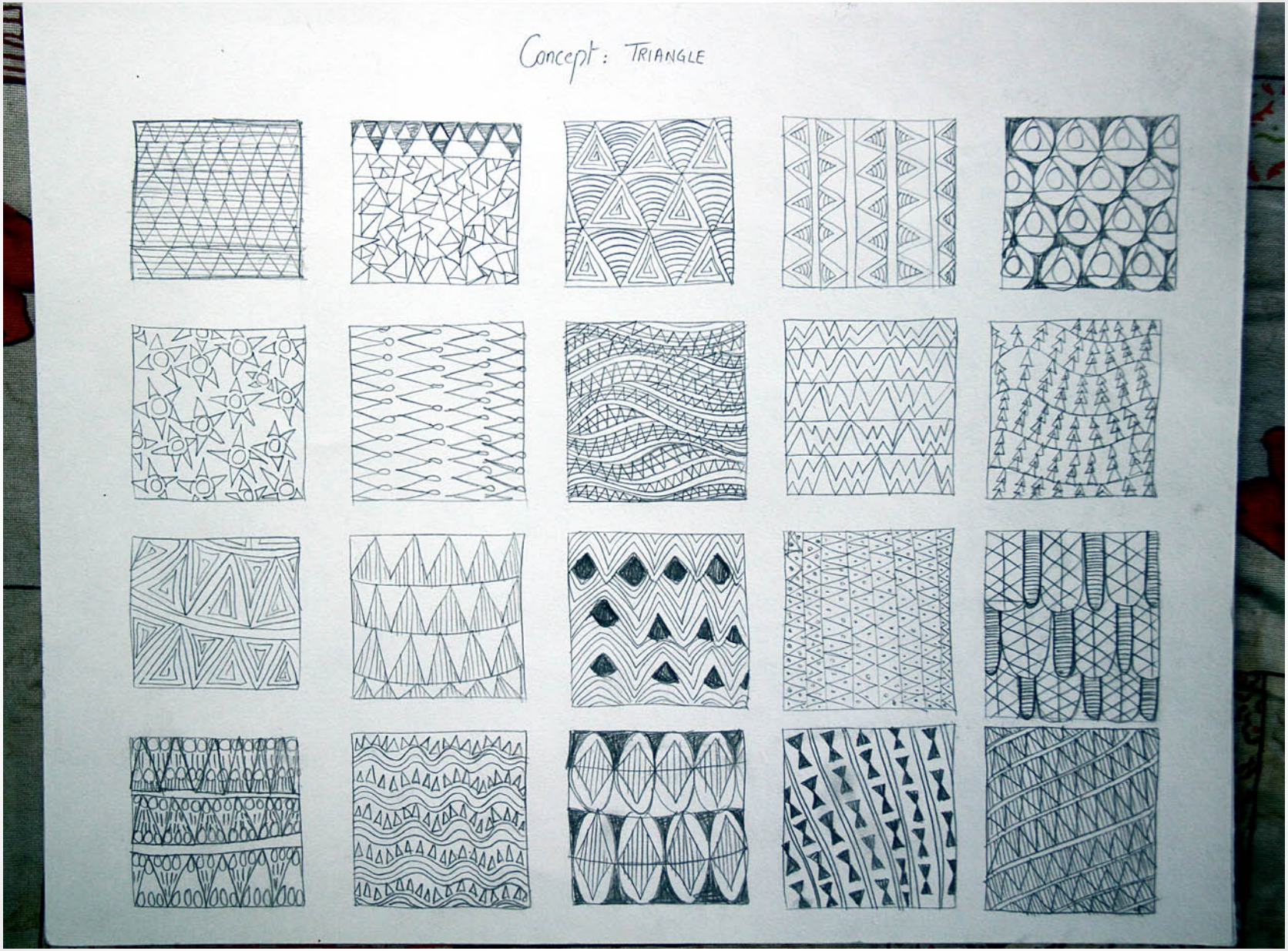











Concept : TRIANGLE

Thank You