

Growing Lexicon

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B

Berhujara

Is a word that is made combining two words berh and Ujrana both are words of Bhojpuri. Berh means a method of storing seeds of the rabi crop which is no more and was made from dried bran of husk and mustard. And Ujra means to be destroyed.

Bio Contrivance

noun | *'biōkən'trɪvəns*



The subtle entanglement between bios and artifice, such that it becomes hard to tell in the overlapping buzz where exactly life-force blurs into machinic efficacy, or vice-versa. Nano-mechanical lenses fitted into the panopticon-house fly's compound eye were a bio-contrivance that preempted the hardening of the human eye by seducing it with exuberant vividness.

Boatness

Boatness is a state of being in which your experience of the world is inseparable from your knowledge of the world. It is a non-dualistic entanglement between the vessel and what contains it. Boatness is the thin place in which theory can be practiced, intuition can be a method and love can be a robust form of critique. The part has a feminine energy that integrates it into the whole. When you are adrift or when you are dispirited or have been silenced, boatness can be the wind that assures you of the movement even in stillness.

Border - Sowing

“धुरा पेरणी” (Marathi)



Nowadays, farms are losing borders because of pressure on land. This means no area for uncultivated wilderness to grow. So we started the practice of leaving some areas in our farm free of human intervention. And to add the lost diversity as well as to protect these areas by creating bio-fencing, we started sowing in these areas without tillage just before monsoons. These newly added species are then left to grow on their own without any additional intervention from our side, i.e., no special care for these newly re/introduced species by weeding out the other or watering it or applying fertilizers or insecticide spraying, etc.

Boulder

Monolith: a boulder, a rock, something that has a uniform, massive, redoubtable, or inflexible quality or character.

C

Chimaera

A composite being made from distinguishable parts. Like a fruit salad, while Hybrids are smoothies. What holds it together? Why does it dissolve if you get hold of it?

**[Co]Becoming,
A Fact Not a
Fabulation**

Humans are a collage of microbial construction so are the non-humans of the living ecosystems. Evolution of the different microbial organisms is cobbled together to create sustainable ecosystems on the earth. as soon as we understand [Co] becoming in our intuitive understanding, our existence will be understood on a slowly fracturing planet.

**Contaminated
Crossings**

We are at risk with each other. We are less individual and more intertwined and co-dependent multitudes. Our 'Becoming' is a porous endeavor, an entangled biome of (Un)foreseen contaminations.

D

Daavlaa

दावला (Marathi)



Daavlaa is a perennial herb that grows in the Mangrove forest, earlier, it was the daily life food of Son Koli (fisherfolk) tribes, but now because of polluted waters and encroachment, it is rarely found in Mangrove forest.

Devara Kanu

ದೇವರ ಕಾನು (Kannada)



Devara Kanu is a local name for rich forest land in the name of spirit or god. It may be different to the 'sacred grove' concept. Devara Kanu is usually a much bigger forest with rich biodiversity that belongs to the entire village, where the villagers have limited entry. Therefore, that particular patch of forest is protected with biodiversity.

E

Eraka



Eraka forest near the shore has become toxic due to the rubbing of Iron bolts in Prabhas sagar. And now it proved to be deadly for Yadavas. Deadly but beautiful teeming with life – the entire forest operates as purifying organism – the trees absorb the poisons from the ocean, and soil, crystallize and neutralize them, before eventually fades in our collective memory. Like a myth, like the mercury of Minamata Bay, where the fish stock adjusted to the un congenial environment by learning how to absorb the poison and continued to reproduce. The Minamata fishes are the real life correlatives of the immensely and ingeniously adaptable fictional plant of 'Eraka'. Eraka forest symbolizes 'Nature' taking revenge and being the source of life.

G

Géxìng

貉性



A Chinese neologism for non-speciesist personhood that includes both human and more-than-human or other-than-human beings, that does not problematically re-centre the human as does the extensional concept of "nonhuman personhood.

Ghamahiya

घमहिया (Bhojpuri)



A type of mahua tree which releases its flowers after the sunlight. Sunlight in Bhojpuri is called Gham and that is why the mahua tree which releases its flower after sunlight is called "Ghamahiya" in Bhojpuri.

H

Half Day King



Farmers are the kings of days; at night they leave their work ground for other species. In the darkness some other species occupy the farmers kingdom and sometimes they break the sweet dreams of the king as well.

Hiraeth (Cymraeg) / Saudade (Portuguese)

/ˈhɪəθ /

/saw'da:ðə/



Untranslatable, yet meaning many things in their distance, Hiraeth (Cymraeg)/ Saudade (Portuguese) is nostalgia, longing and a seething desire; sometimes a sense of regret. A yearning for a home and land that cannot be returned to or one that no longer exists; a deep and irrational bond felt with a time, ecology, and place, irretrievably; the desire for a beloved, made painful by absence.

I

Interdependence

Connectedness of all life on earth, Recognition of inter-dependence inherent in multi-species, or the interdependent relationship between nature and humanity.

J

Jeeva Jaala

ಜೀವ ಜಾಲ (Kannada)



This intricate tapestry of the animate / inanimate, the visible / invisible

I search for equilibrium in the forest of termite mounds

*A term used by 12th century reformist Basavanna to describe the web of life

K

Kal

कल (Hindi)



The many tongues of the Indian subcontinent, utter the words 'yesterday' and 'tomorrow' in a single pronouncement, one that awaits us, a day away from now.

L

Learning The Language Of Listening Again

Humbly seeking sanctuary in the community of co-creative conspirators, those we breathe within, with and in. Prioritizing place against space, living beings in defiance of de-meaning and the materialist dead.

Line

Why this fence?
Why this division?
If we break this fence.
So, what cannot become the best in the world?
If there is no difference between us.
The soil will become one for us.

M

Maamim

The indigenous Tibeto-Burman Lisu from Arunachal Pradesh believe that 'a parallel invisible world coexists in the same time-space continuum. They call it Maamim, and the invisible human-like living beings living in Maamin— Musi. For each Lisu, they believe, there is a similar looking Musi in Maamim, and should one suffer or die, the same fate meets the other, alluding to the 'bush soul' concept—interconnectedness with nature and its myriad nonhuman living and nonliving elements. Invisible portals connect both worlds and stories of interactions with the Musi exist in the Lisu world, though not common. Their relationship with the forests and its innumerable elements makes them conscious and respectful of a multi-species ecology.

Multi-Life-Systems



The planet Earth is an abode of a vastness of species where human beings are a beautifully co-existing species. Human existence is a triangular experience of Human + Planet + Species, the existence of one without the other is meaningless.

N

Nirbhara

निर्भर (Hindī)



Nirbhara is a sort of word which means dependence on oneself or on the other. Like domestics and pet animals depends on the human. In a similar way, there was an old pond in Gyanwant Yadav's village Chandpur. During the rainy season, the water used to accumulate in the pond and by virtue of which water level used to be maintained. In that pond, different kinds of animals and birds drank water with freedom any time and hence depended on that pond. But now the pond has disappeared due to which animals and birds have to face the problems of drinking water.

P

Protect



A woman created a forest and made sure that her daughter protected it till her death.

R

Rattling Knot



It is a journey that we tread for the need of departing on such an endeavor without having to question its intent but confident that we shall discover it on the way.

Recreation



Noun: activity

done for enjoyment when one is not working.

transitive verb re-create/recreate from *recreate* 'create again, renew, restore, revive', especially : to form anew in the imagination.

S

Shadows On Arrival



Dystopia, the new world.

Soppina Betta

ಸೊಪ್ಪಿನ ಬೆಟ್ಟ (Kannada)



The English translation of Soppina Betta means 'FOLIAGE hillock'. Vital forest land next to the farmland in the Western Ghats of Karnataka. It's an old concept, farmers having access to a forest next to the farmland to meet all the farming household needs like diverse tree foliage for rich compost, grazing the animals etc.

**Strange-Ing:
Between Wonder
& The Uncanny**



Strange-ing is a strategy for encountering, observing, recording and engaging with environments and experiences. Walking the fine line between wonder and horror/ the uncanny; strange-ing asks us to look anew at the deeply weird and entangled relationships that make up the world.

T

Termite



A glint of glossy exoskeleton flowing into some tunnel. A symbiont collectively constitutes "one". An unheralded brigade chemotaxis the hardest of woods.

V

Veerani

ویرانی (Urdu)



Veerani is a fine Urdu word which Tanmoy Samanta learnt from a writing by Ranjit Hoskote. It means desolation. We are turning the world into a state of desolation by destroying its inclusive nature.

WE INVITE

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CONTRIBUTE

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ONGOING

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*Instructions
for contribution*



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