

چکرا view

Osama Manzar



ChakraView - AI's Loss of the Human Loop

Curated by Osama Manzar as part of the Museum of Digital Society (MoDS)

ChakraView is an artistic exploration of how data extracted from human beings is manipulated within algorithmic systems, often without human oversight. Featured as part of the **Museum of Digital Society (MoDS)**, this exhibition investigates the transformation of personal data, drawn from human behaviors, choices, and existence into algorithmic outputs that can perpetuate biases, inaccuracies, and discrimination.

Inspired by the concept of "chakras," **ChakraView** reflects on the evolution of data in the digital age, where the data extracted from individuals is used to control, categorize, and reshape human lives. Through immersive artwork and installations, the exhibition exposes how algorithms manipulate this data, often amplifying harmful traits in AI such as **prejudice, exclusion, inequality, profiling, & fabrication**.

Through the lens of the continuous cycle of data extraction and algorithmic manipulation, ChakraView challenges us to critically examine a future where the very data used to control human behavior also reinforces societal inequities. The exhibition explores how data mining, algorithmic manipulation, and "data fiction" shape the digital landscape, urging reflection on the ethical and social consequences of **AI's growing autonomy**.

ChakraView advocates for a future in which AI is guided by human values, transparency, and **ethical accountability**, ensuring that technology serves humanity rather than perpetuates harm through the very data extracted from it.

Acknowledgements

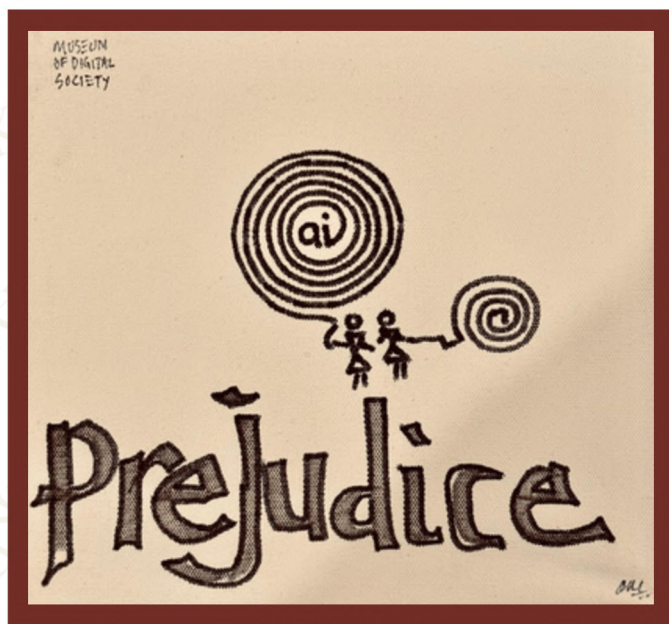
The presentation and display of the art work in this handout is designed by the Museum of Digital Society team: Sulaxna Toppo, Nikita Lakkaraju and Rifa Mariyam.

Osama Manzar, who is founder and director of Digital Empowerment Foundation, is curating the Museum of Digital Society as a traditional means to representing how digital could play a instrumental role in poverty alleviation through the lens of DEF's journey since 2002 which has run parallel to the story of digital development in India.

Virtues of AI

Artificial Intelligence is often celebrated for its efficiency, scalability, and analytical precision, yet its 'virtues' demand critical scrutiny. While AI enhances productivity and supports **data-driven decision-making**, its design risks over-reliance on algorithmic systems that may embed bias, opacity, and structural inequalities. The promise of objectivity is contingent on the quality and diversity of training data; flawed datasets can **perpetuate discrimination** at scale.

Although AI augments human capability, it can simultaneously displace labor and concentrate technological power in a few institutions. Predictive systems may improve planning and risk assessment, but they also raise concerns regarding surveillance, privacy erosion, and accountability gaps. **Thus, making the 'virtues' of AI not inherent but conditional.**



Prejudice



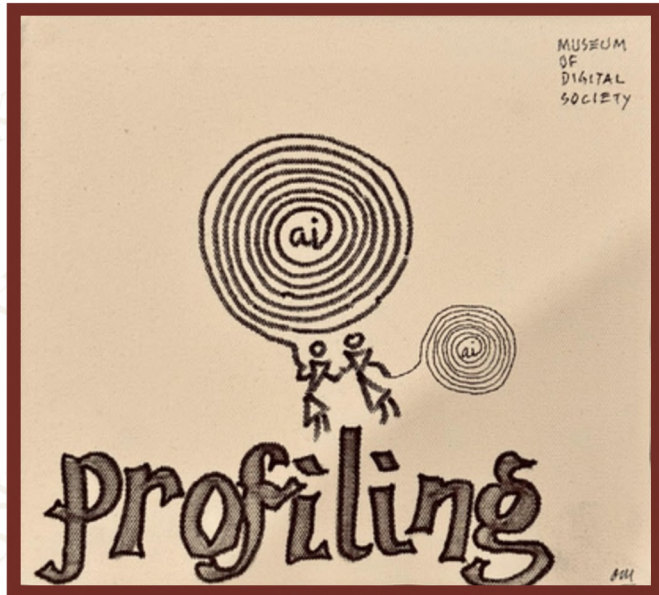
Exclusion



Hallucinations



Discrimination



Profiling



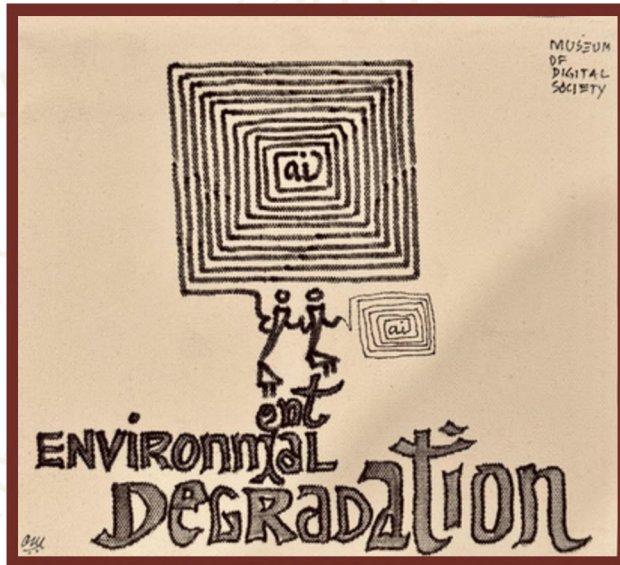
Data-mining



Algorithmic Manipulation



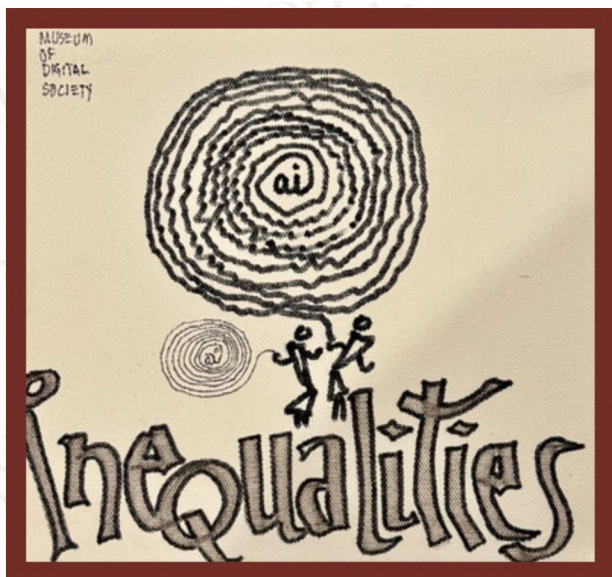
Virtues of AI



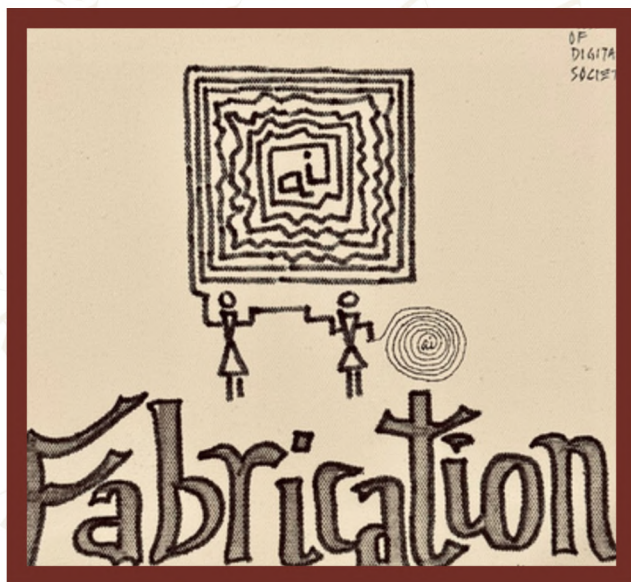
Environmental Degradation



Bias



Inequalities



Fabrication



Safety & Security

AI has been increasingly integrated into everyday applications, operating seemingly invisibly, yet pervasive. This **digital ecosystem** functions by constantly accumulating vast quantities of user data often without users' explicit awareness or informed consent. Information and data shared casually becomes permanently archived, analysed, and repurposed in ways that frequently exceed the original context of disclosure.

In this environment, **'privacy' becomes increasingly illusory**. This data regime potentially enables continuous surveillance that can fundamentally alter human behaviour and autonomy. When individuals recognise they are being observed, self-censorship emerges—not from explicit coercion, but from the internalised awareness of constant monitoring.

To these systems, we exist as **data points, patterns, and algorithmic inputs** rather than autonomous individuals.



Eye and AI



Always Being Studied



Always Being Tracked



Where is the Data?



Who Is Gathering Data?



AI for Humans or Humans for AI?

Digital Exclusion

Connectivity ≠ Access

Digital exclusion refers to restricted access to digital technologies and the inability to meaningfully participate in the digital ecosystem. It extends far beyond internet connectivity. **Essential services have migrated online:** employment applications require digital submission, educational scholarships demand internet-based research, healthcare consultations occur through telehealth platforms, and banking services accessible only on smartphones.

Digital exclusion therefore represents exclusion from comprehensive socio-economic infrastructure, not merely a lack of access to technologies.

When individuals or communities cannot participate in this newly transformed digital economy, the consequences are profound. Access to education, healthcare, employment, and civic rights becomes contingent upon digital participation. Digital exclusion does not generate new forms of inequality—it amplifies pre-existing **socioeconomic disparities** while introducing additional dimensions of marginalization. **The limited digital access correlates with reduced opportunities, traps the marginalized in a circle.**



Digital Dance of Democracy



Haq: Right to Digital Access



Right to Being Online

Digital Justice

Digital justice ensures equitable access, participation, and benefits within the digital ecosystem. It extends beyond merely connecting people to the internet; it ensures that once online, **citizens are empowered participants rather than passive consumers.**

Digital justice means communities share their knowledge and wisdom, and contribute meaningful input in how technology shapes their lives; agency, autonomy and privacy are recognized as **fundamental rights** rather than a privilege.

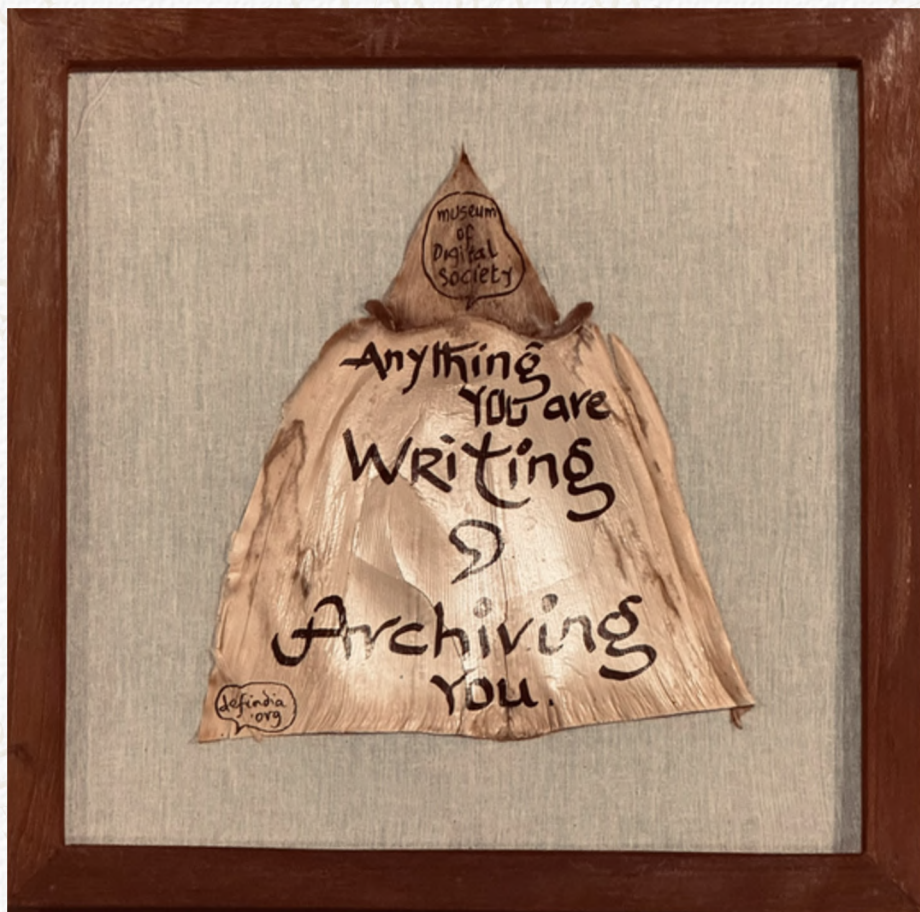
Beyond bridging the digital divide, digital justice aims to **redistribute digital power** itself. It ensures that marginalized communities are not only consumers of technology but **active stakeholders in shaping digital policies and infrastructure.**



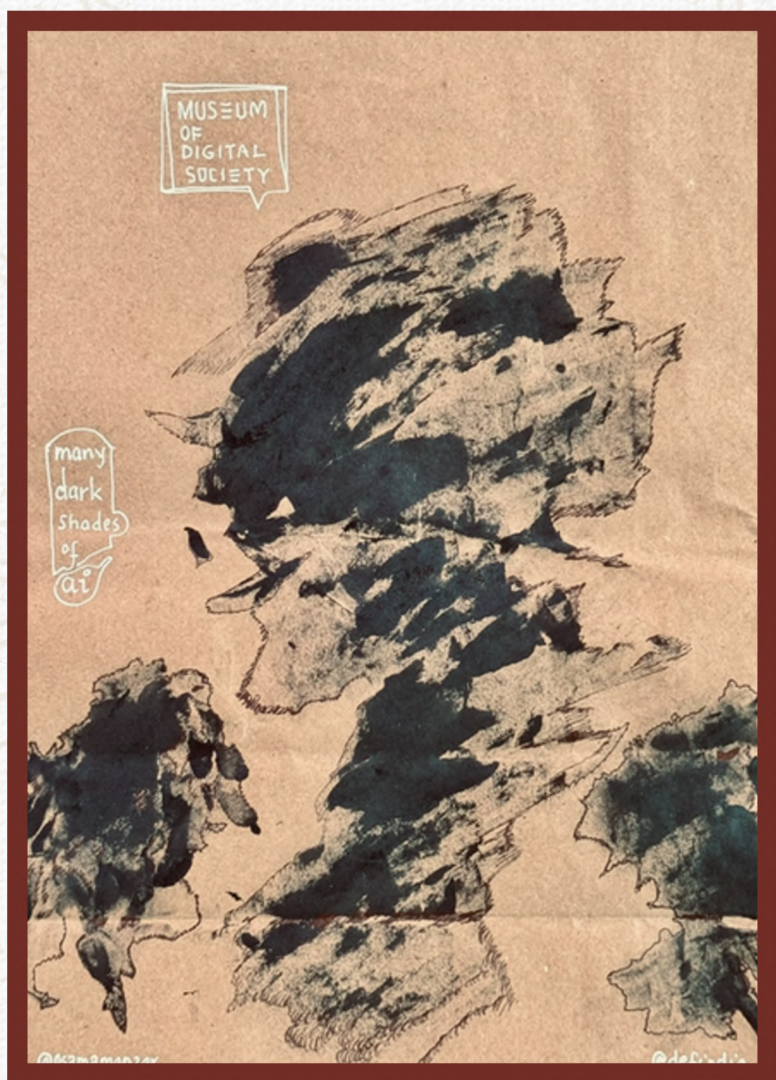
Will AI
Kill Creativity?



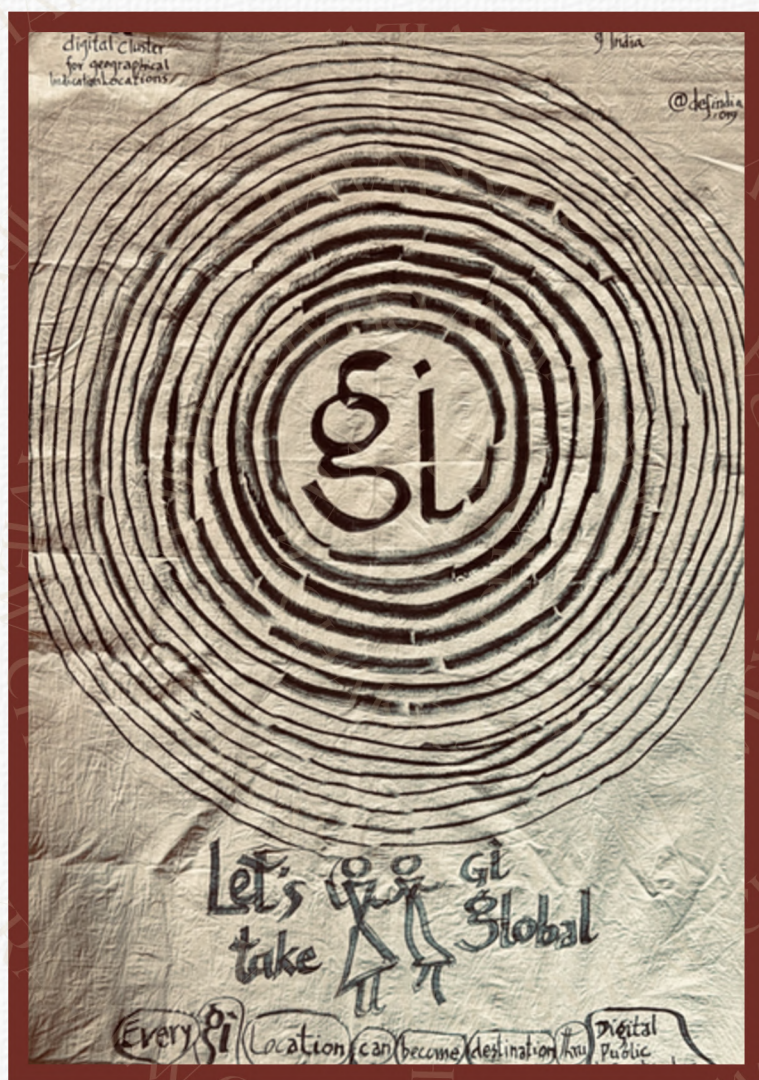
Digital Rights



Is Data Safe in AI?



Shades of AI



Artisans with Global Reach

Colophon

All the artworks have been done on natural materials like bamboo leaves, betel nut bark, used and recycled paper, used bags, old clothes and tote bags. The framing was done using 100-year old teak wood by a group of artisans. The reason for using these traditional materials is to focus on the importance of natural brick and mortar and circular economy by virtue of repurposing.



