

Unit 2 - Brief 5 / Week 2

Positions Through Triangulating

A New Map (نیا نقشه)

A Quick Recap?

Enquiry

Updated?

Old

**How maps can be reimagined as a decolonial tool
through the lens of my Pakistani Identity?**

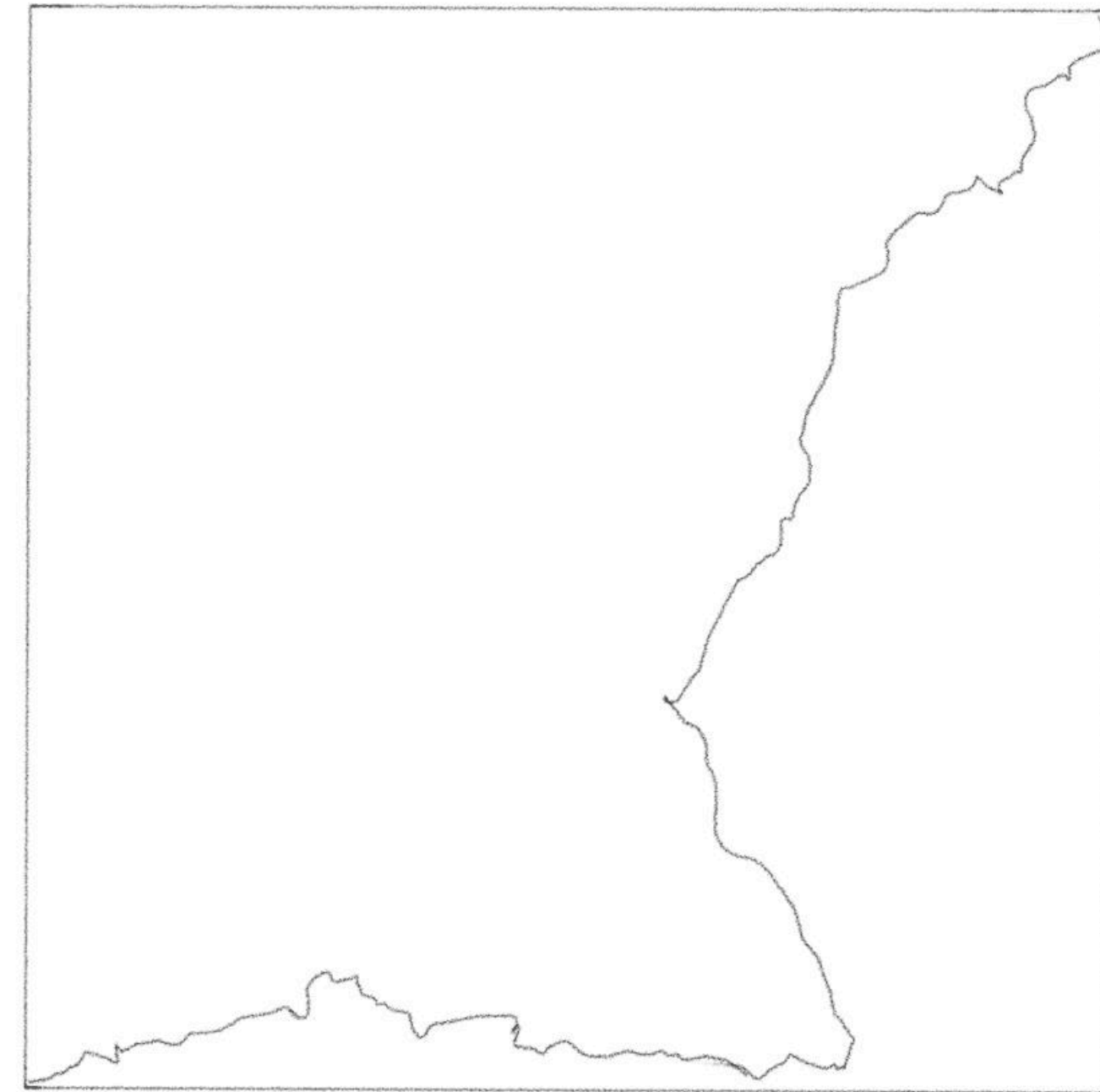
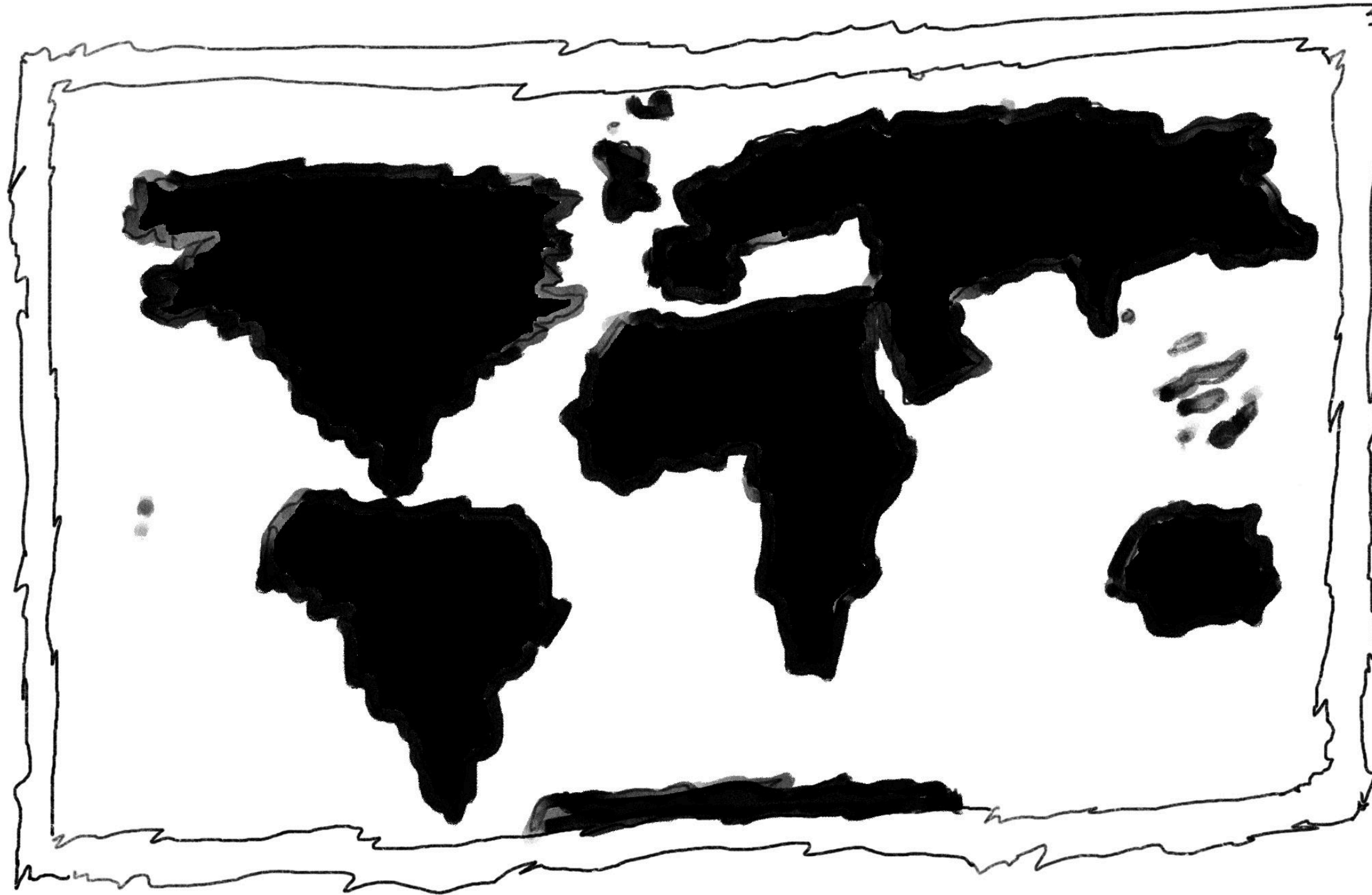
New

**I want to broaden the scope of it. And not just look at
one border, but multiple borders.
Starting with Pakistan and my identity and perhaps
to a more global version of it?**

But that maybe a little too ambitious?

Making

100 Iterations of the World Map / Indo-Pak border



Making

Anti-War Stickers



Fuck off War (L to R: Urdu, English, Hindi)



Love



I h8 war



vry nic deer



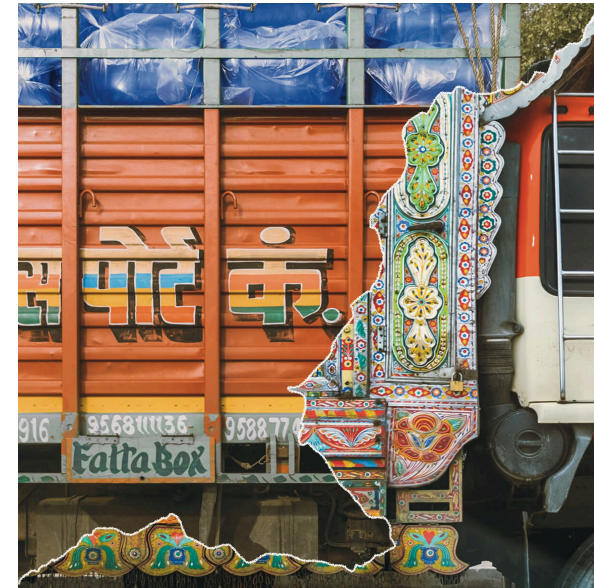
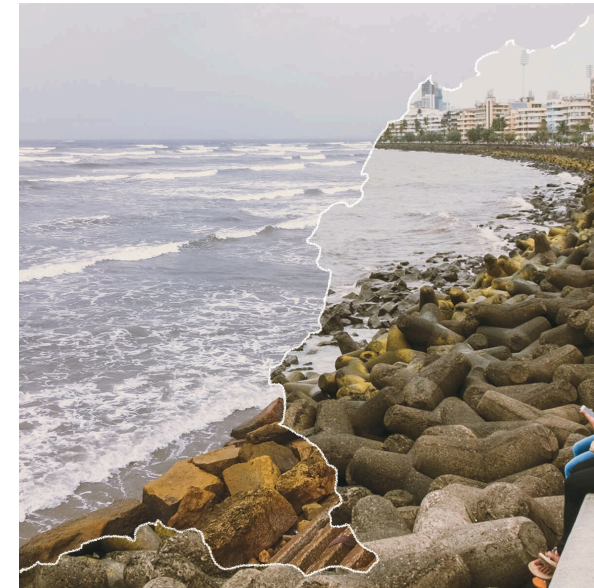
Water Wars
"India please give me water, i have soap in my eyes"



War postponed due to bad weather
"Who even has a war in this terrible summer?"

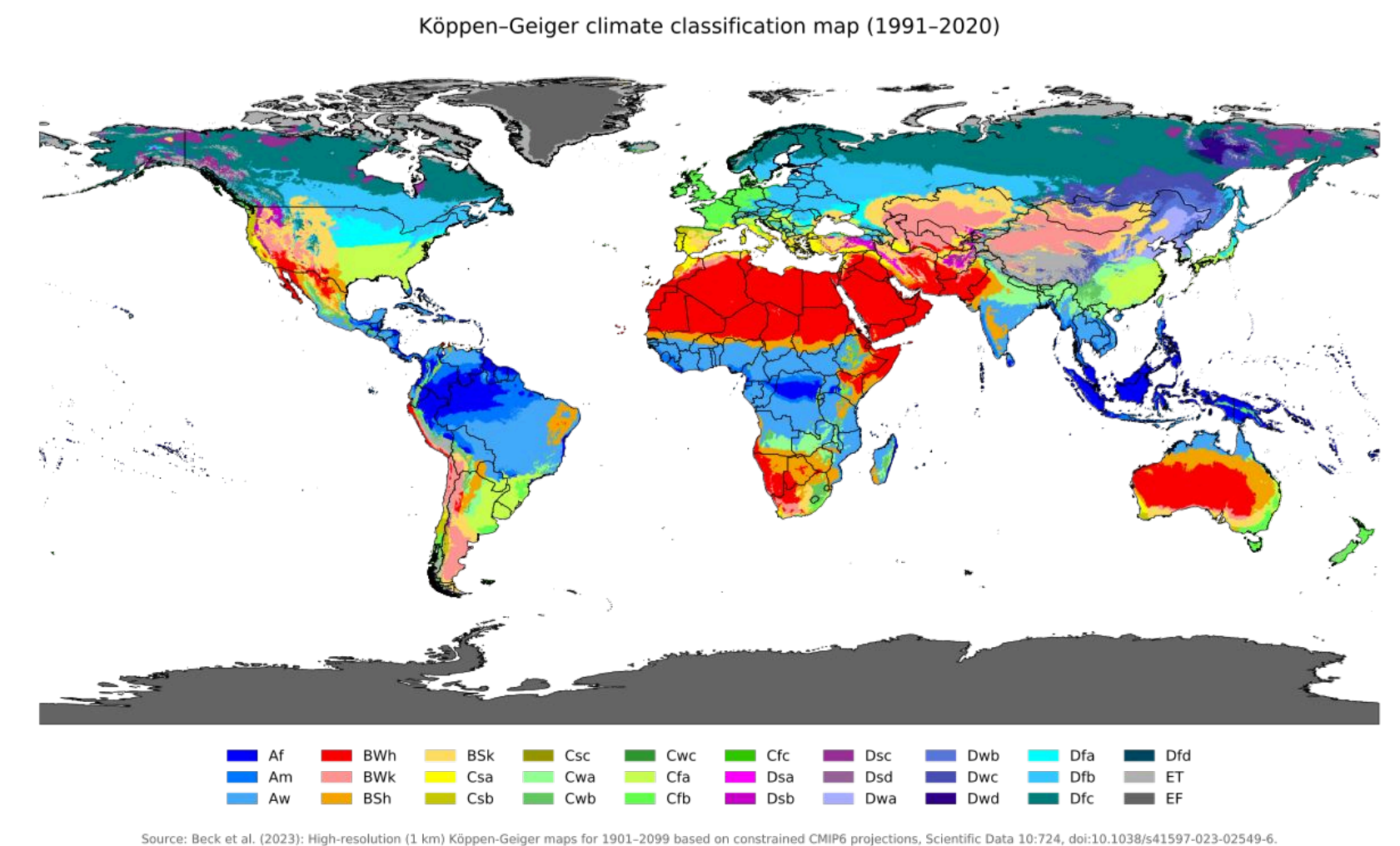
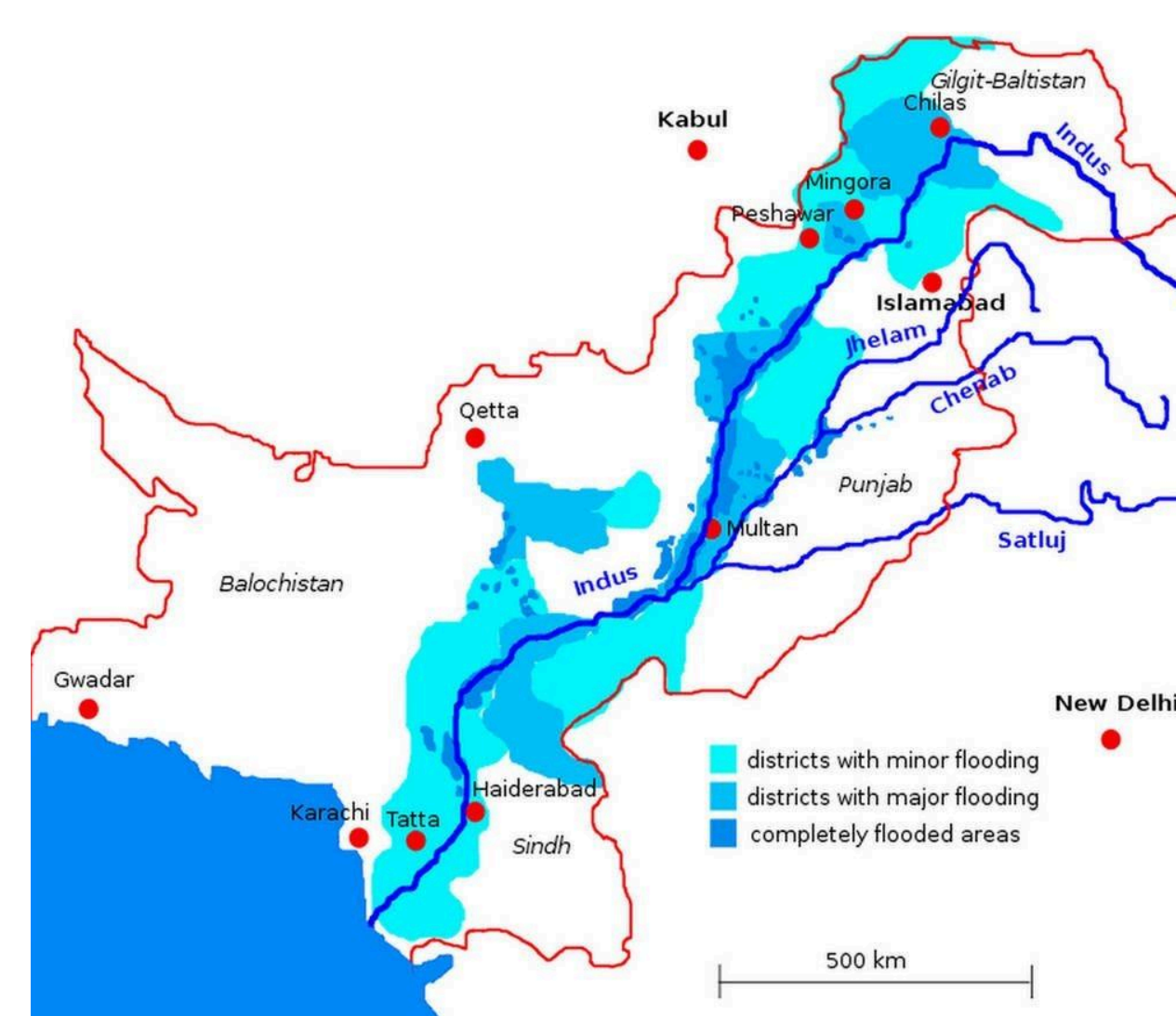
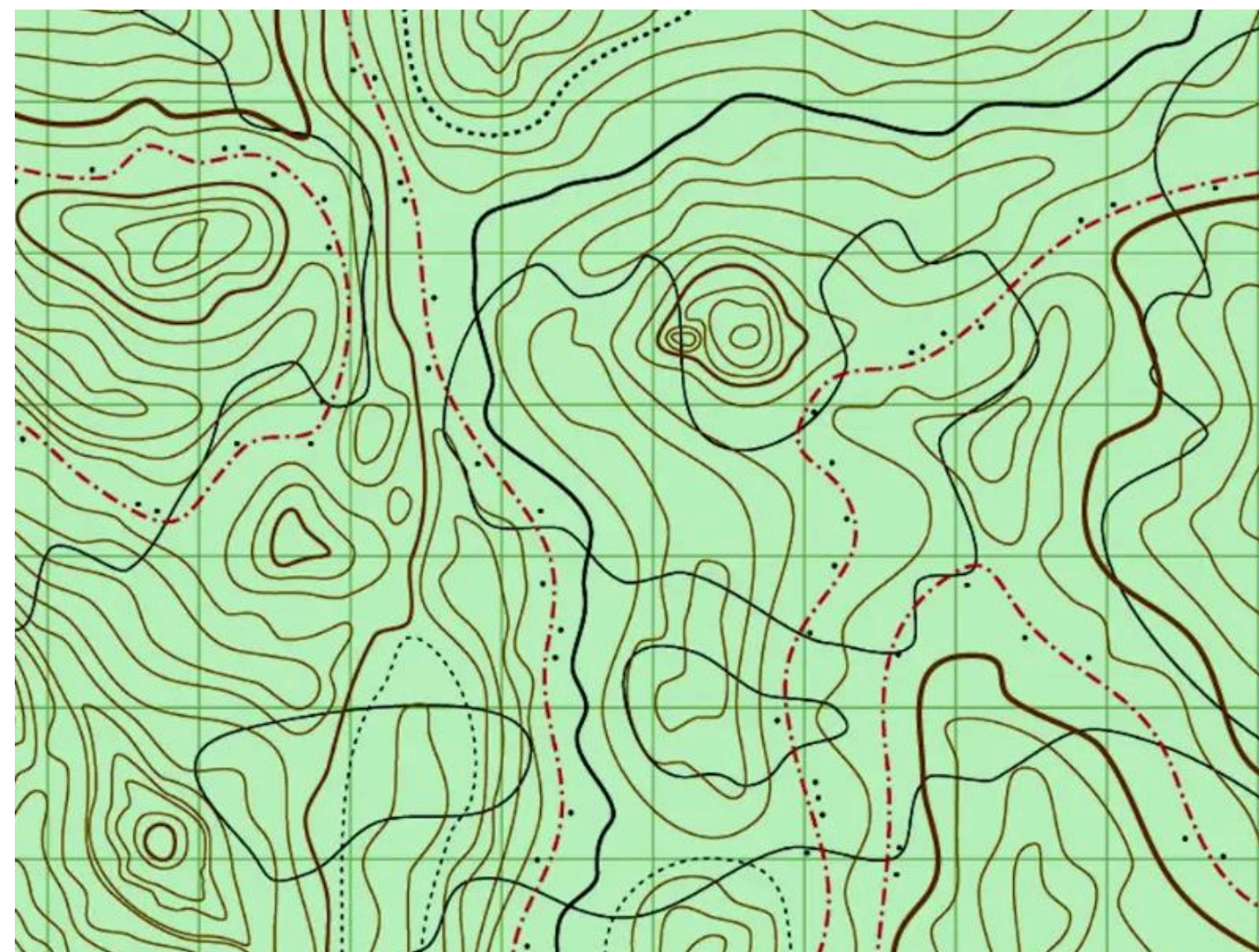
Making

A New Border



General Direction

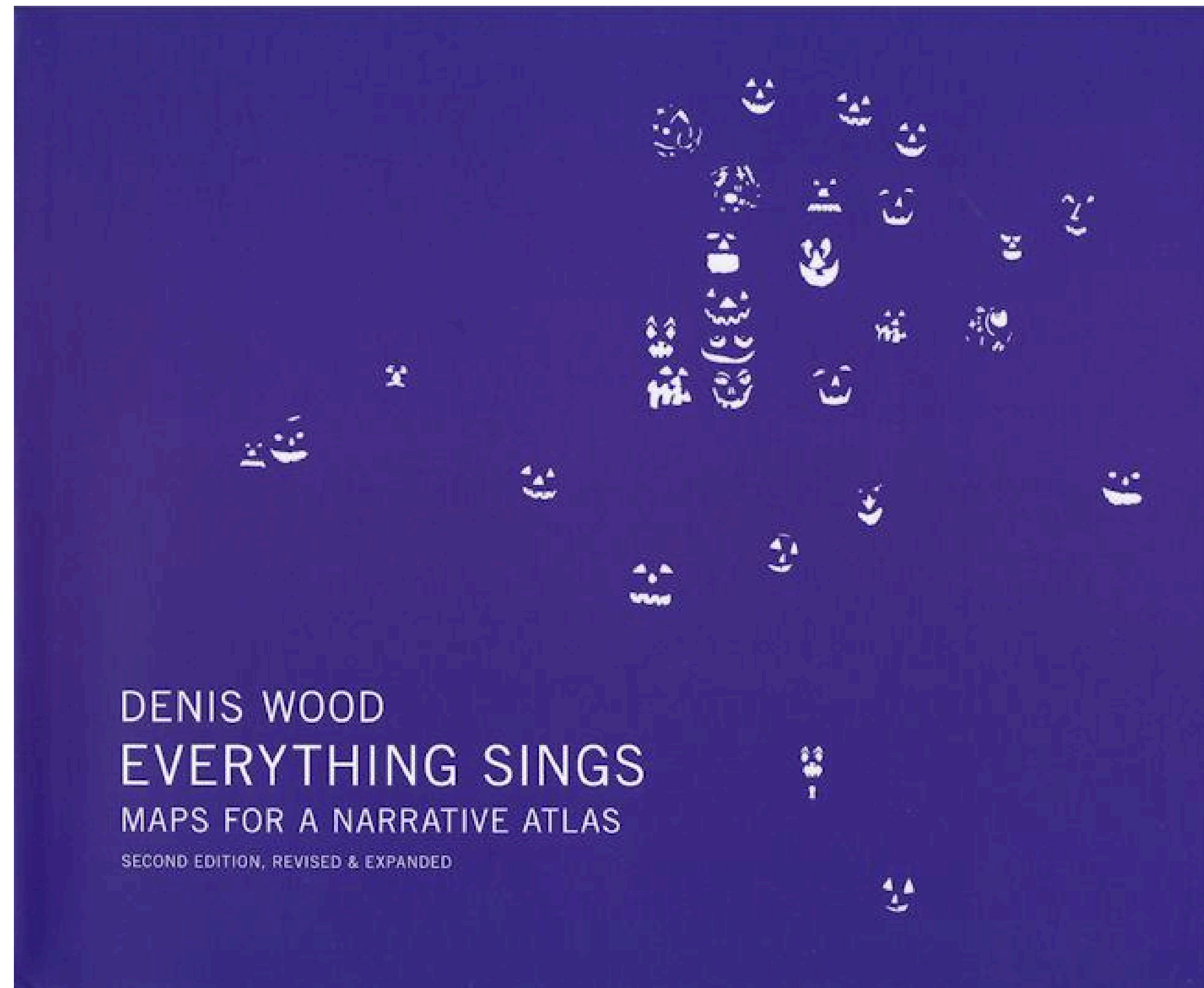
- Shift to qualitative mapping: **stories, memories, lived routes**
- **Incorporate climate/topographic flows** that cross nations
- **Visualise permeability & in-between spaces** instead of fixed nations



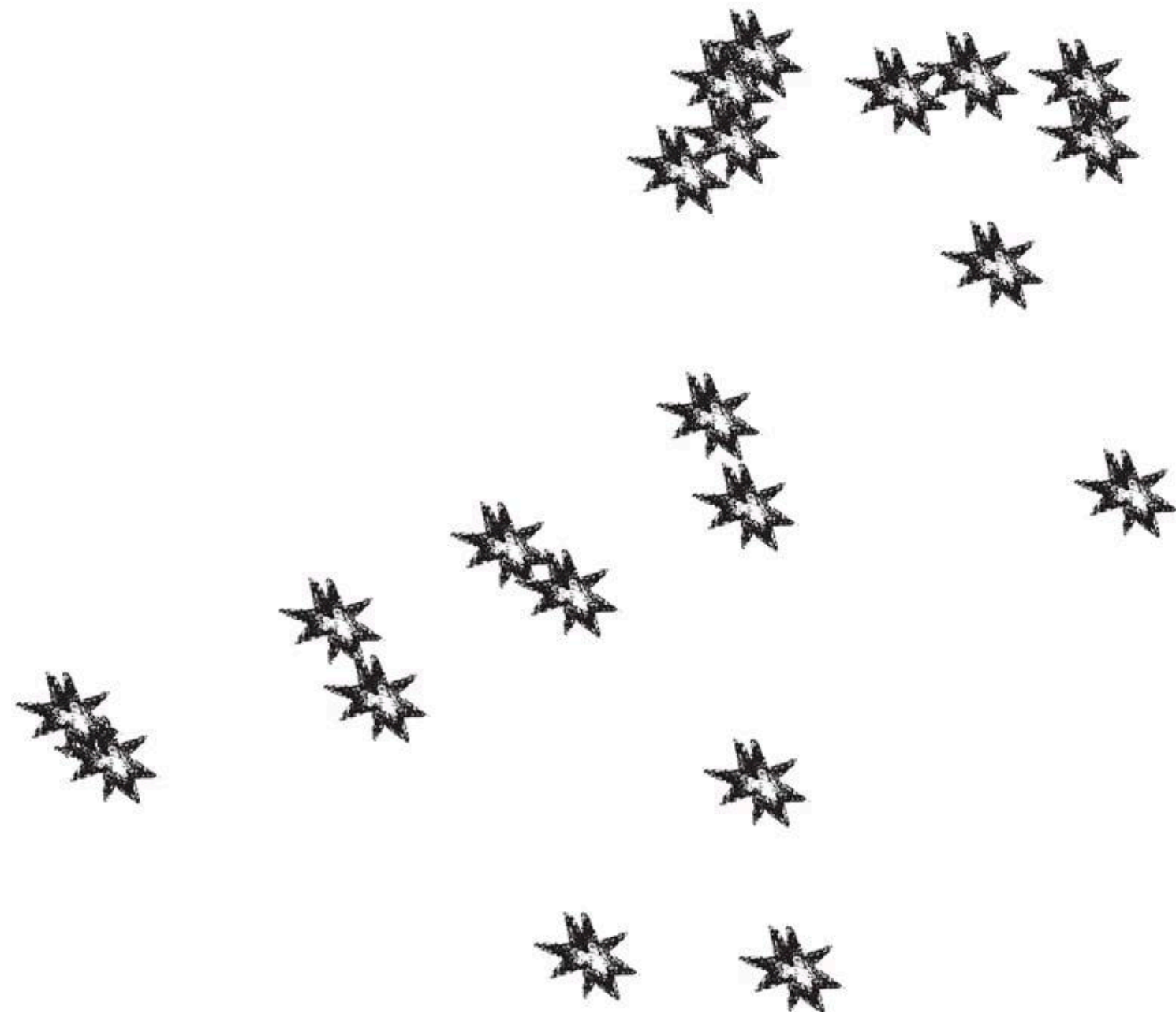
“What if maps could capture not just streets and landmarks, but smells, lamplight, and memories?”

Denis Wood

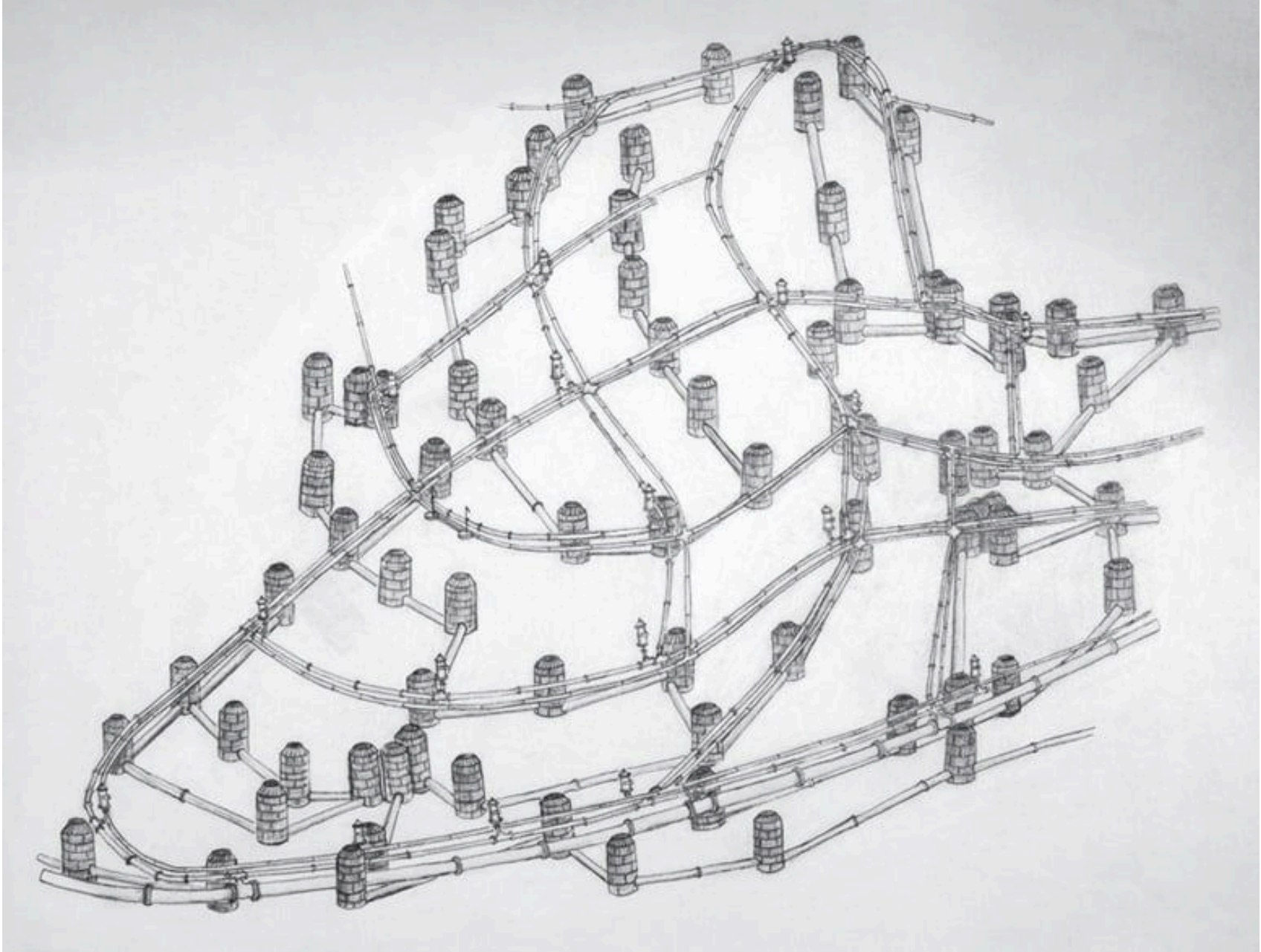
Everything Sings - Maps for a Narrative Atlas



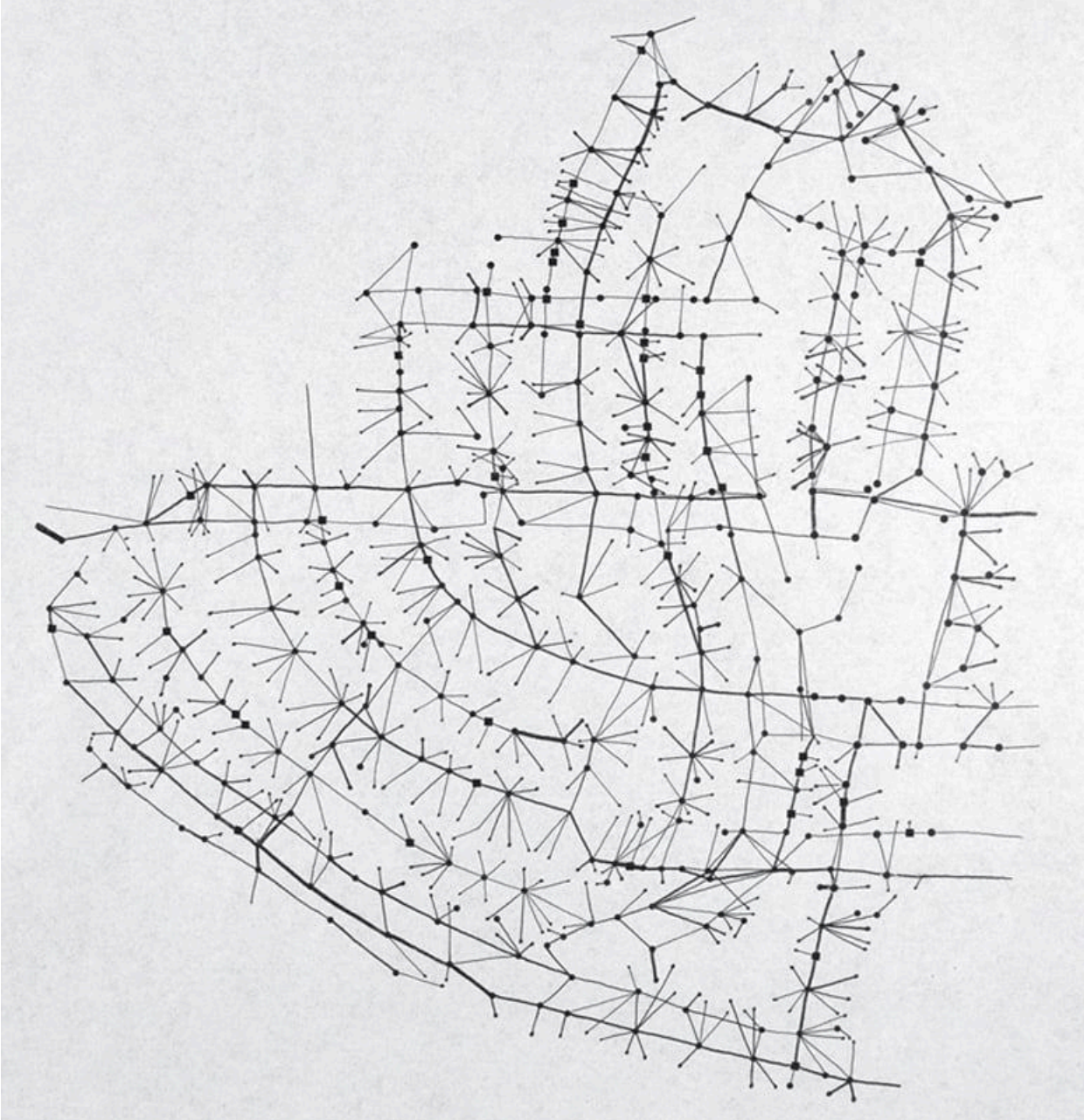
- **Boylan Heights**
He used mapping with design students to notice what usually gets overlooked: smells, sounds, twilight, textures.
- Maps don't have to be about precision or utility; they can be expressive, imaginative, even emotional.
- He removed streets, legends, scales, north arrows, until what remained was not geography but experience (e.g., pools of lamplight instead of lamp posts).



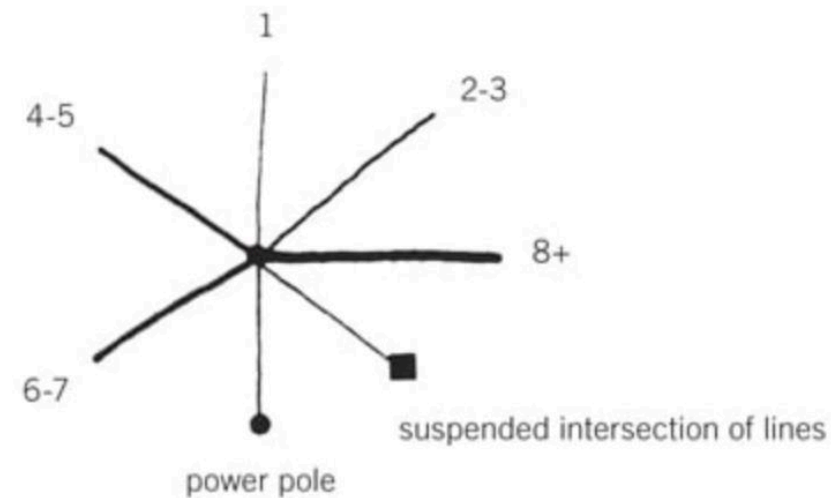
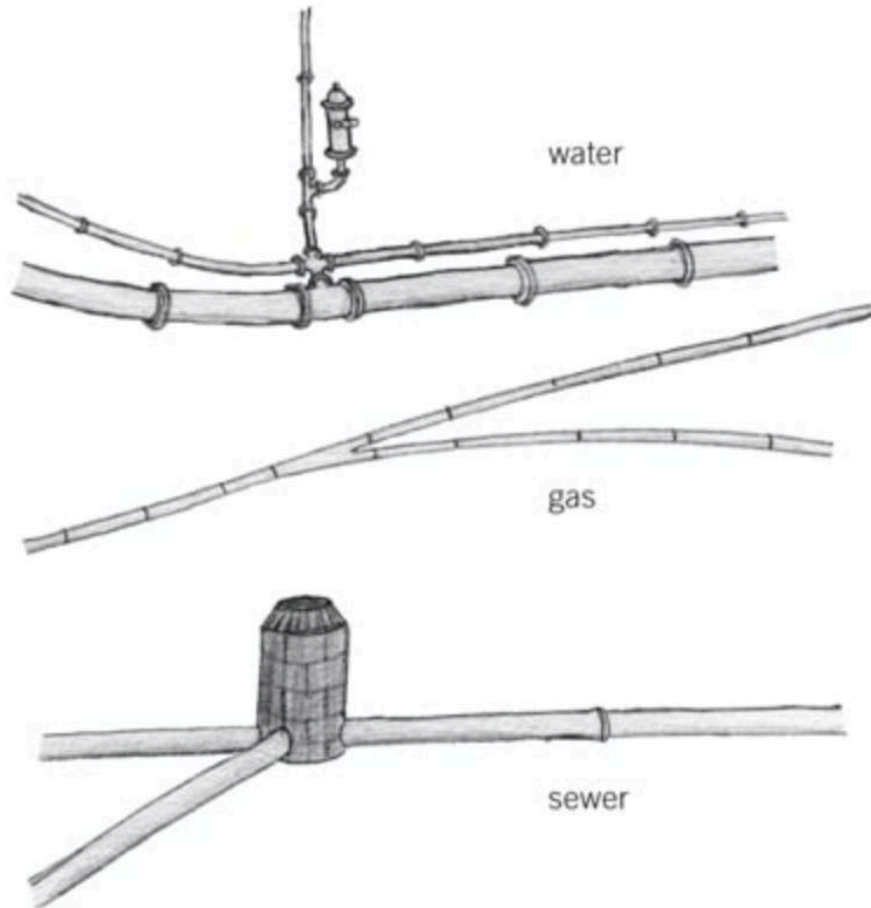
Barking Dogs.



Intrusions Under the Hill



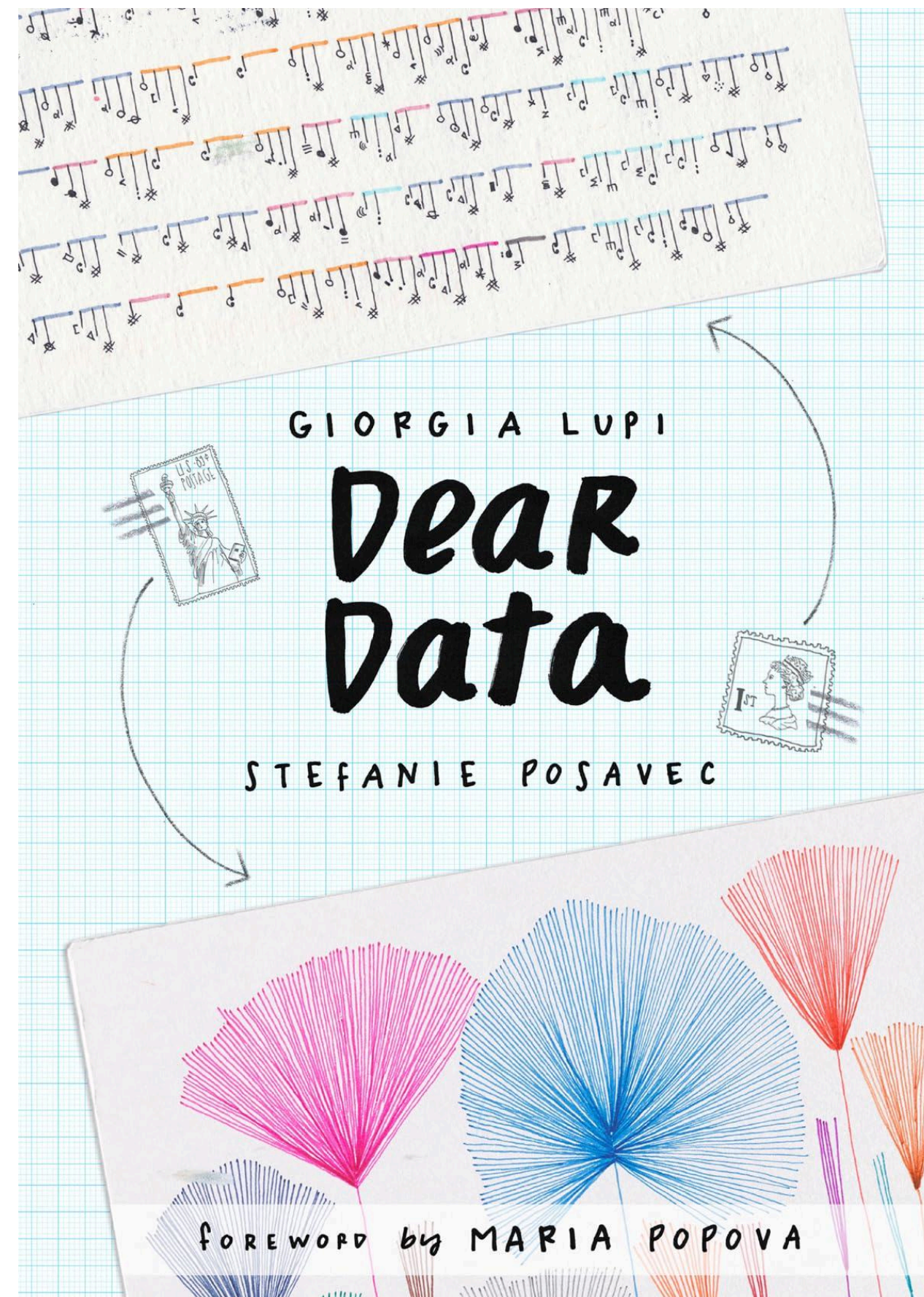
Squirrel Highways



- 1 → a dead-end branch (just one line ending).
- 2-3 → a small intersection (two or three connecting branches).
- 4-5 → a bigger junction.
- 6-7 → even more connections.
- 8+ → a major hub of squirrel movement.

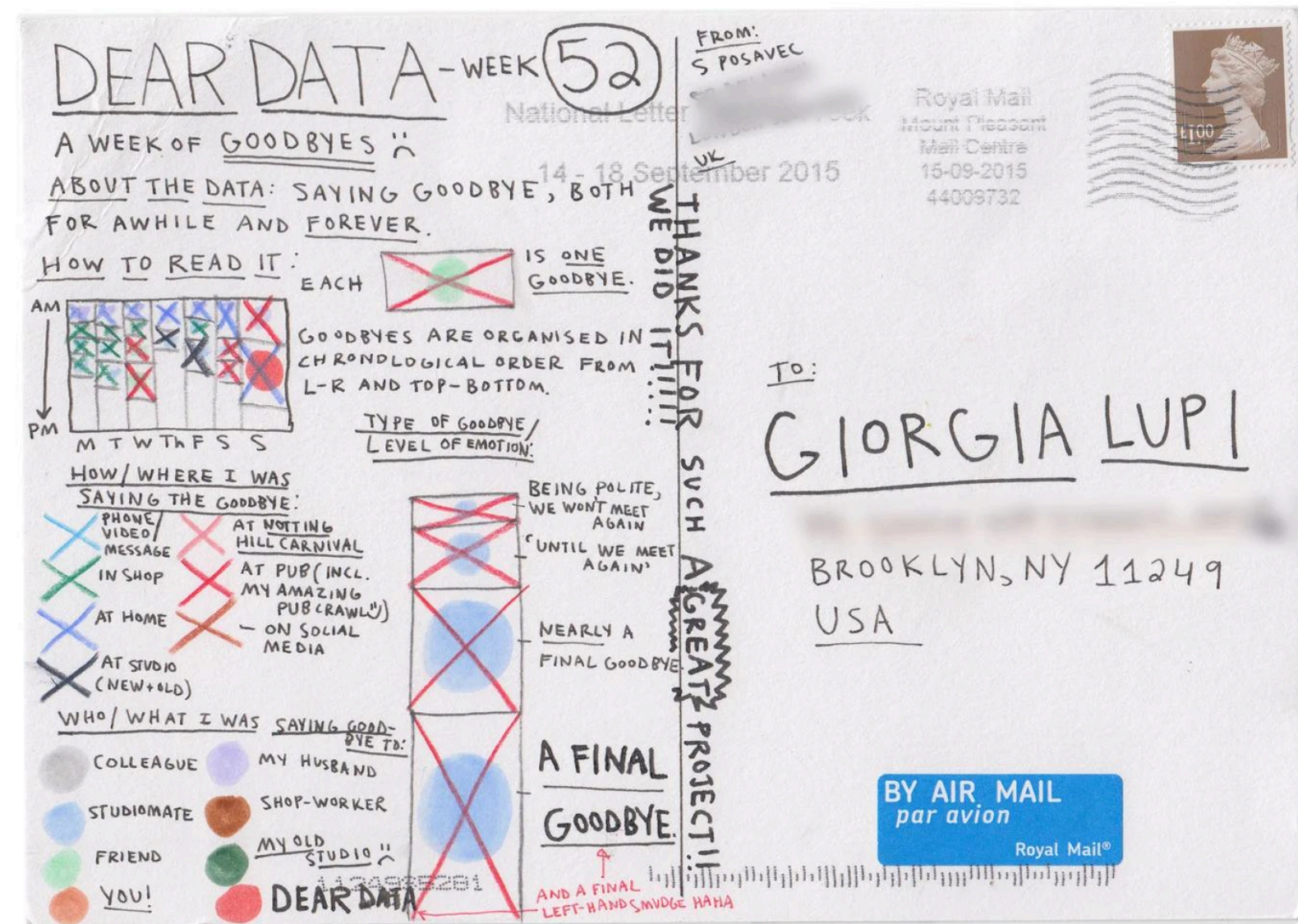
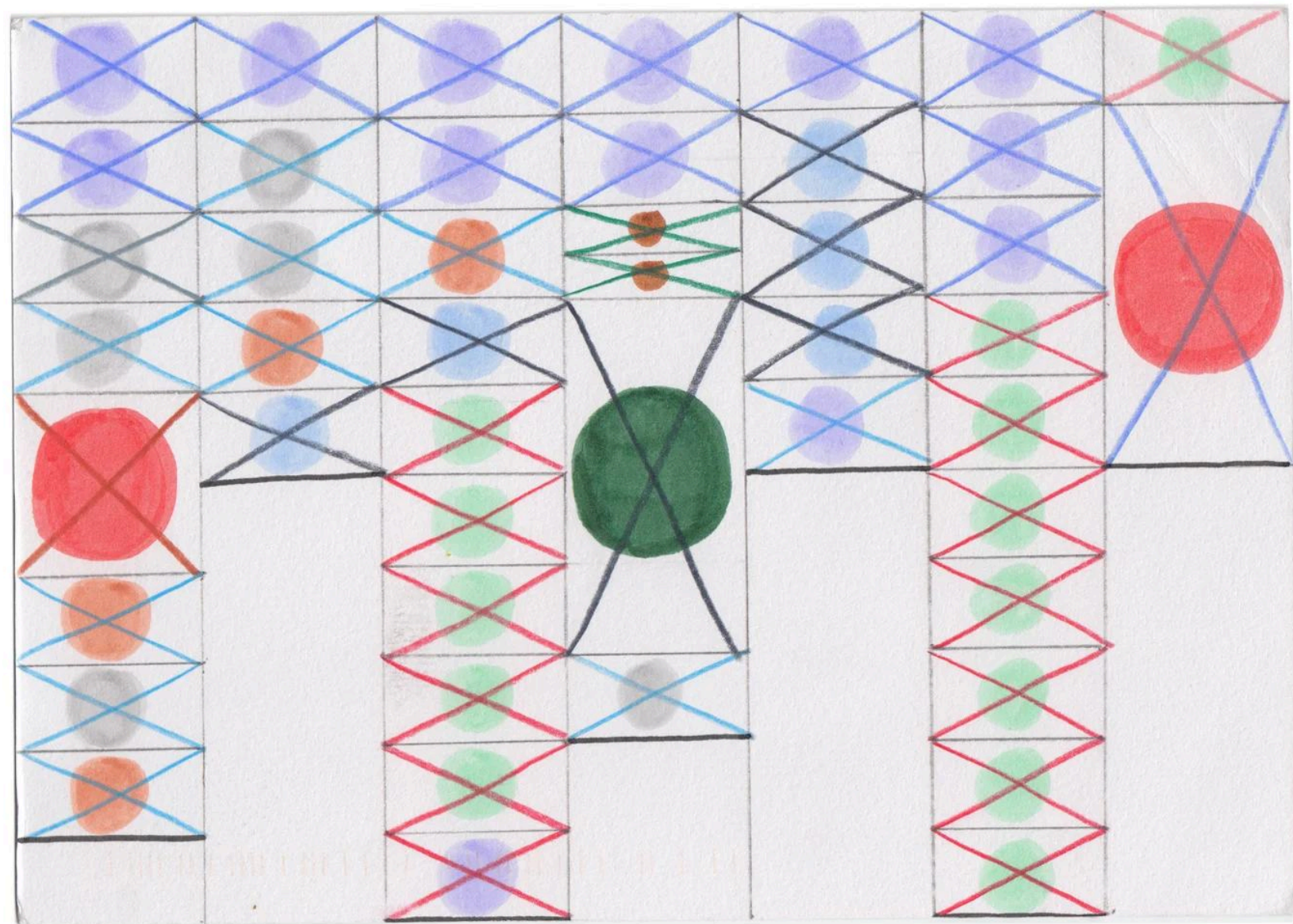
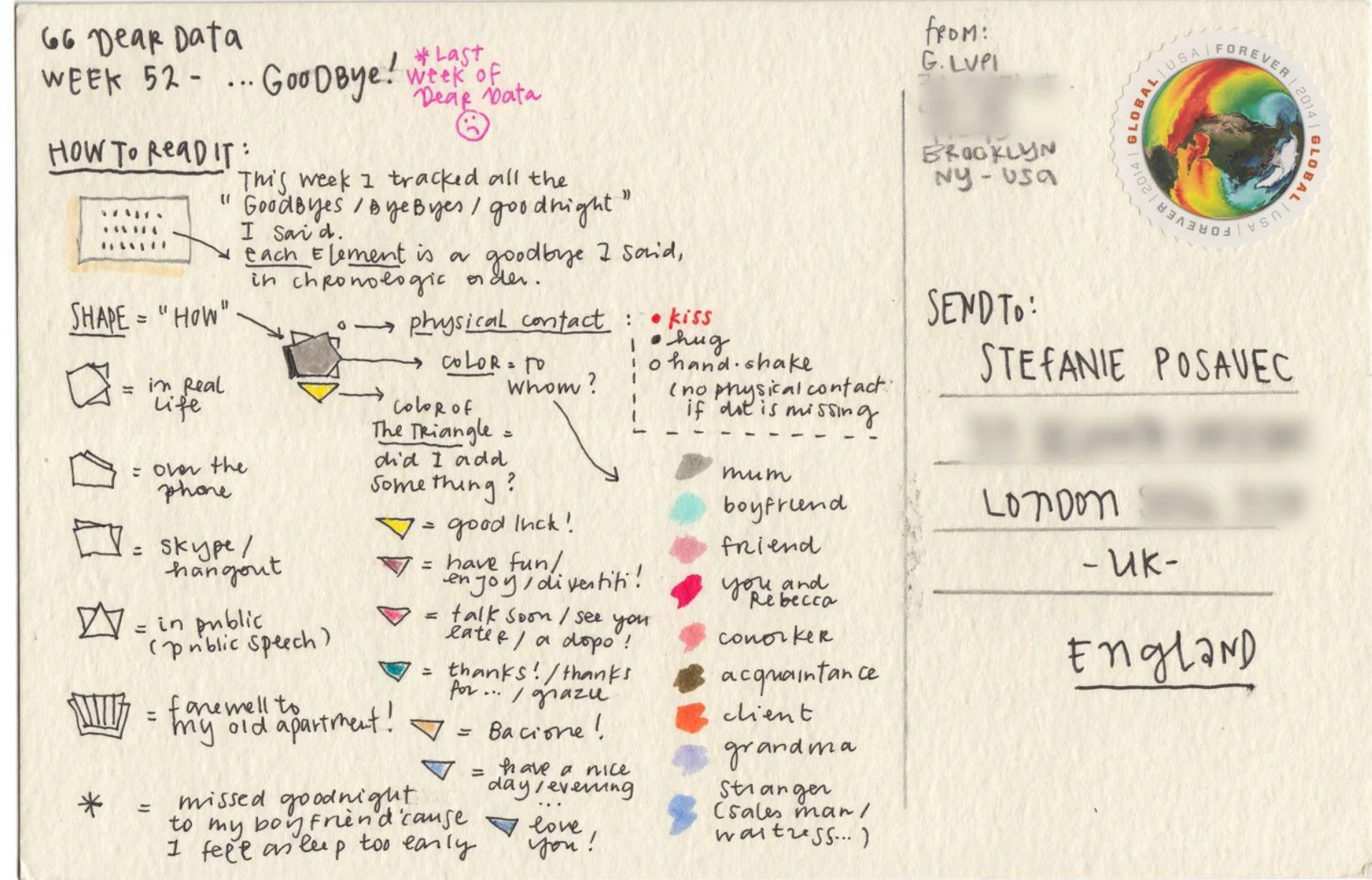
Dear Data

Georgia Lupi



Dear Data is a year-long analog data drawing project (2014–2015) by Georgia Lupi (Italy/USA) and Stefanie Posavec (UK).

- Instead of seeing “data” as just numbers, I want to treat letters, songs, marriages, birds, smuggling, radio signals as data points that can be visualized. Lupi’s philosophy is:
- Every small detail counts → even “1 letter sent across the border this month” is data.
- Personalized visual language → invent symbols for different exchanges (a spiral for pirated Bollywood DVDs, triangles for migratory birds, dashed lines for smuggling routes).
- Hand-drawn intimacy → maps feel human, not GIS-cold.

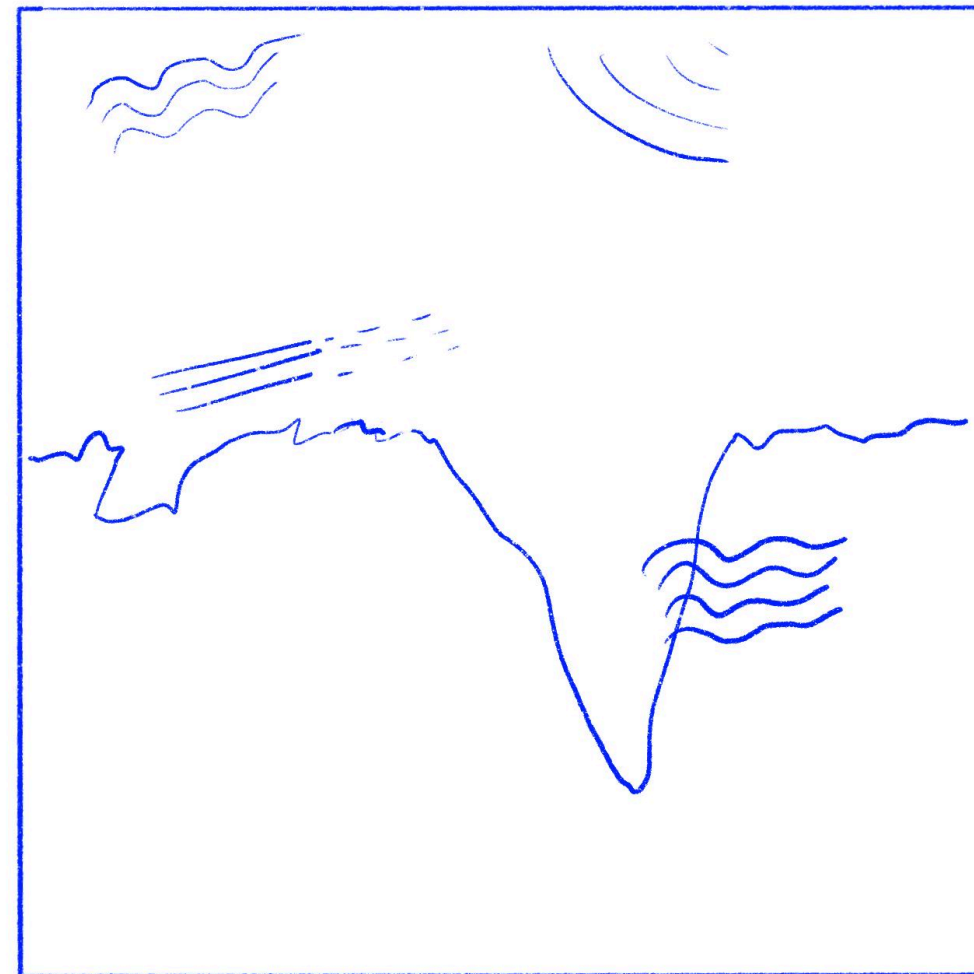




Bird Migrations

Reports that in Sindh province, the number of migratory birds dropped from ~1.2 million in 2023 to ~545,000 in 2025, due to climate change, habitat degradation, etc. Ties into the Indus Flyway, birds moving across borders (e.g. from Siberia → India/Pakistan).

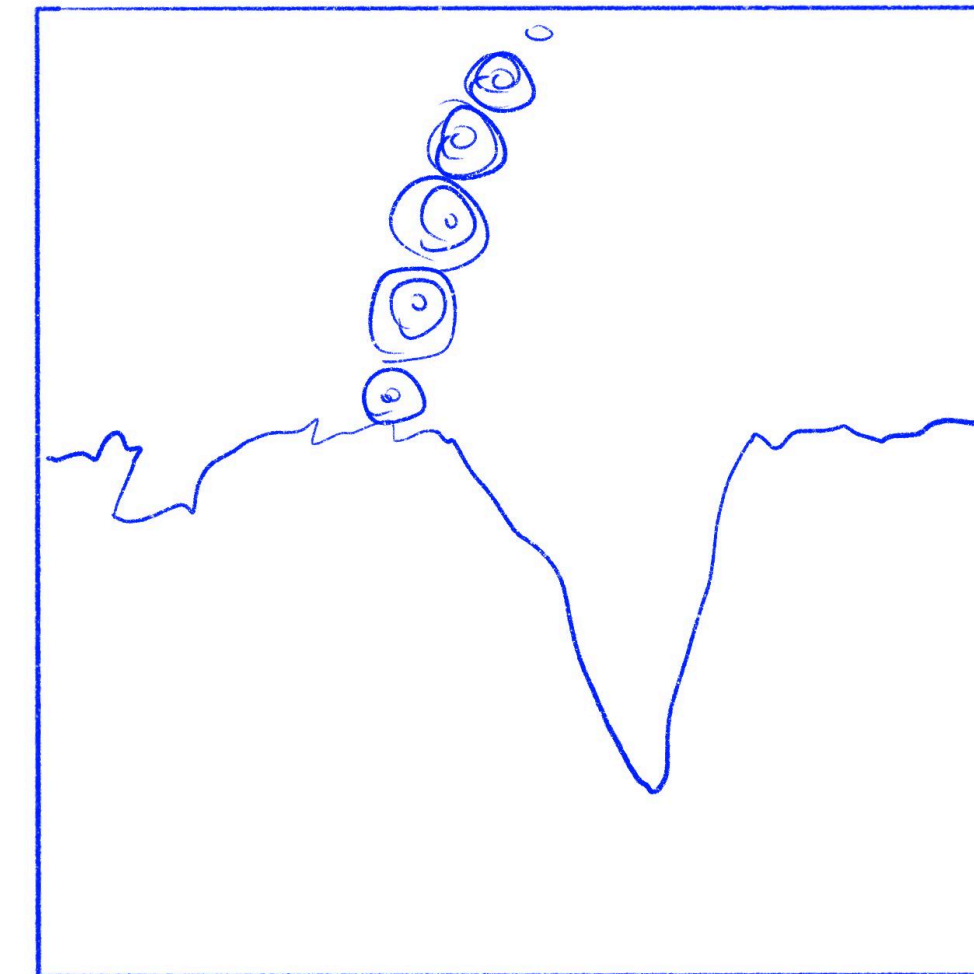
- Data source: WWF counts, Sindh Wildlife census, BirdLife maps.
- Mapping idea: Constellation-like patterns where each dot = a bird species, color = origin (Siberia, Central Asia), line = flight path into Pakistan wetlands.
- Personalization: Replace dots with hand-drawn birds, each carrying a pattern.
- Using winds as patterns for representing birds that migrate with certain winds



Radio Spillovers

A village in Ferozepur (Punjab, India) where farmers have “for more than three decades” tuned into Pakistani FM broadcasts, because of signal strength and lack of local FM stations.

- Data source: Times of India, ThePrint reports on villagers tuning into Pakistan FM.
- Mapping idea: Concentric circles radiating from Lahore and Amritsar; waves overlap.
- Personalization: Draw sound waves like ripples in water, with annotations of what songs/programs people reported hearing.



Punjab border farmers still tune into Pak FM

Rohan Dua / TNN / Aug 14, 2011, 03:30 IST

 SHARE



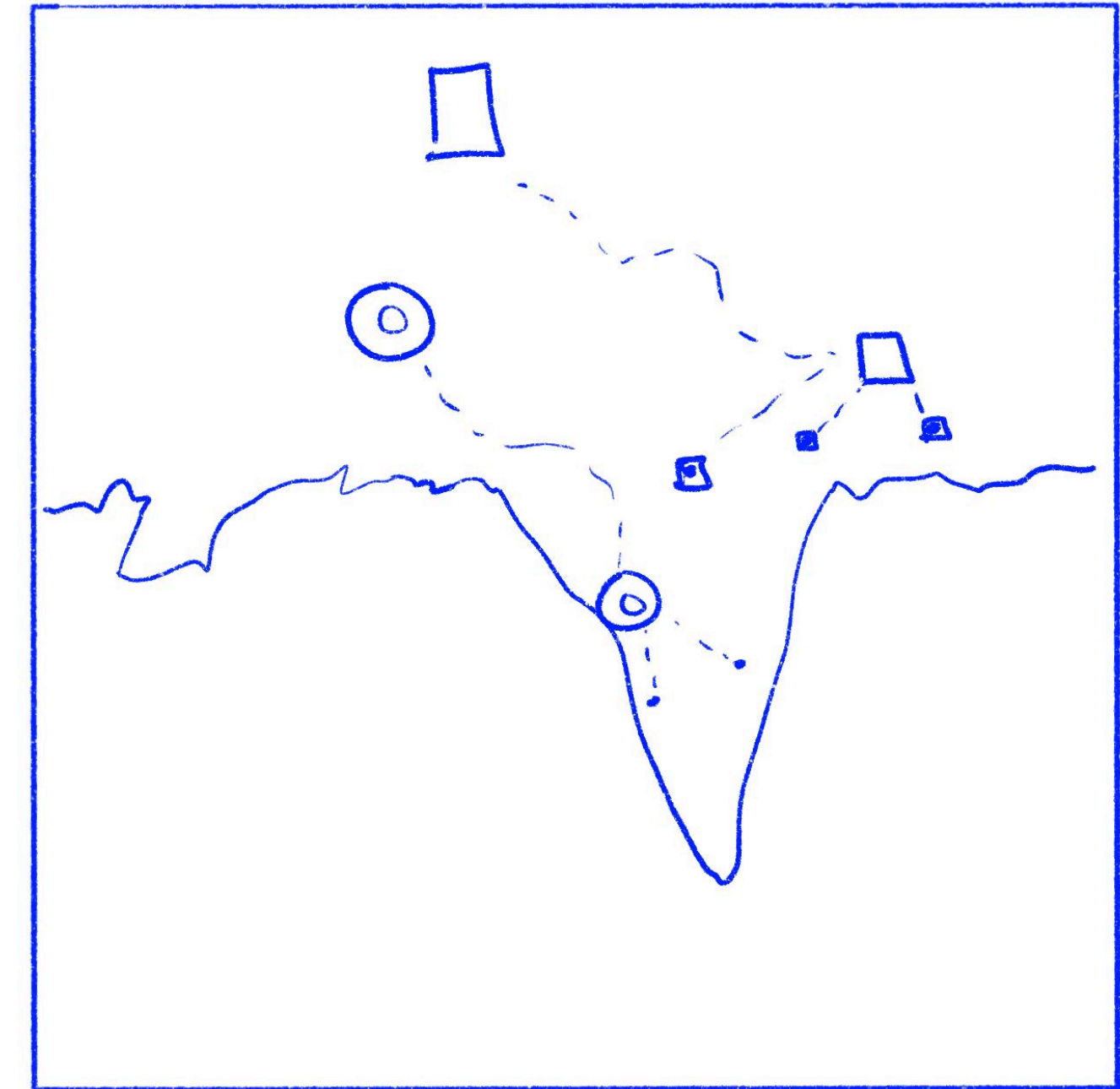
AA

FOLLOW US 

For more than three decades now Puran Singh Madhre's paddy farm has resonated with soulful melodies broadcast from a township located 70-odd km across the tall barbed fences on Hussainiwala border.

Smuggling Routes (Contraband)

- Data source: Afghan Transit Trade reports, UNODC drug smuggling maps.
- Mapping idea: Flow-map style — dotted lines across Khyber Pass, Gwadar, Taftan.
- Personalization: Each commodity gets a pattern (dates = circles, drugs = jagged lines, fuel = shaded blocks).



Cross-border Marriages

- Data source: Media reports (Pakistan–China marriage trafficking; India–Pakistan marriages post-partition).
- Mapping idea: Each couple = a line crossing the border, with different shapes for voluntary, arranged, or trafficking.
- Personalization: Little hand-drawn icons of brides/grooms instead of data points.

Cricket Diplomacy Memorabilia

- Fans smuggled banners, jerseys, and even soil from stadiums across borders during Indo-Pak cricket matches. Some archives keep these tokens.

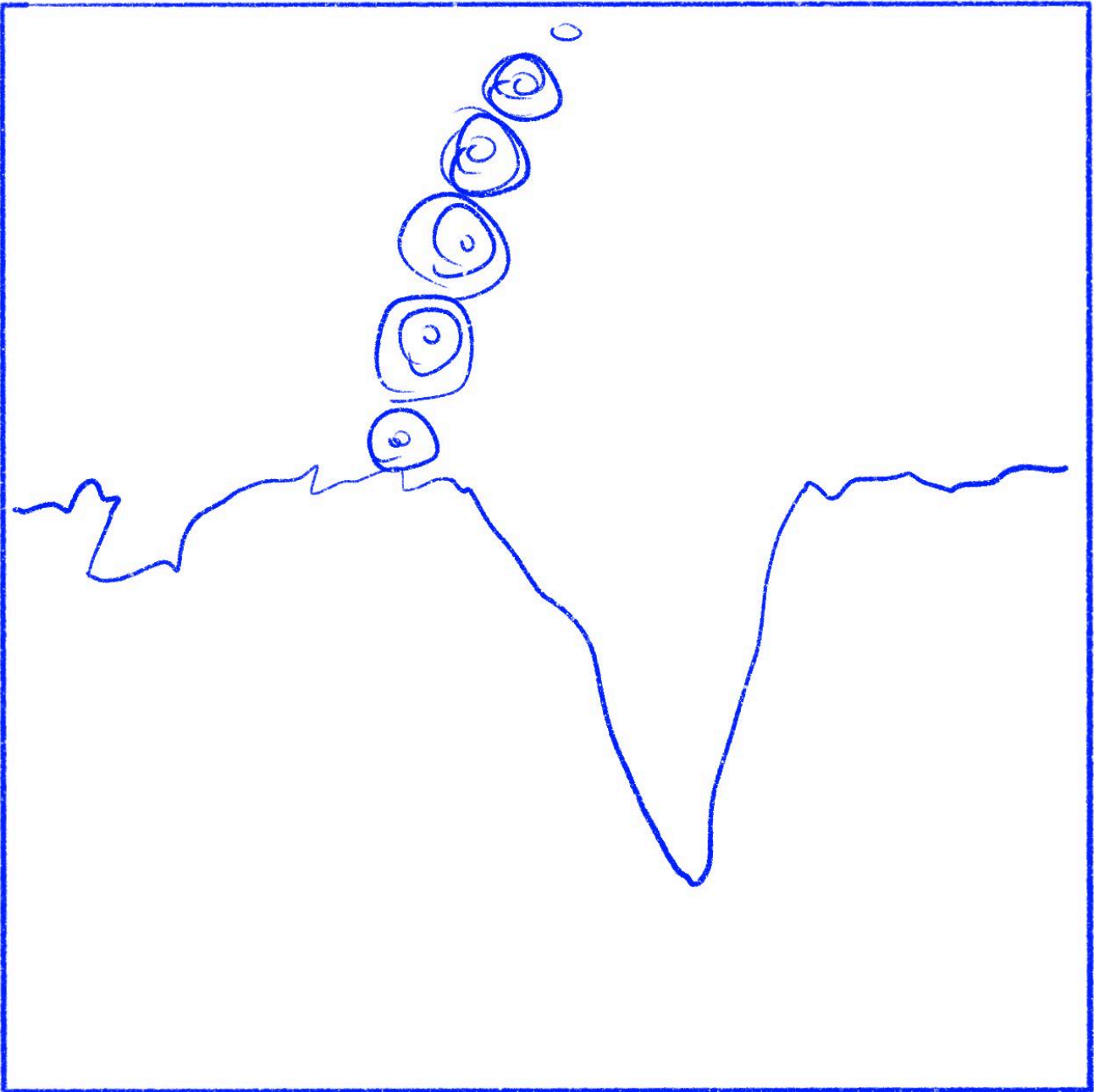
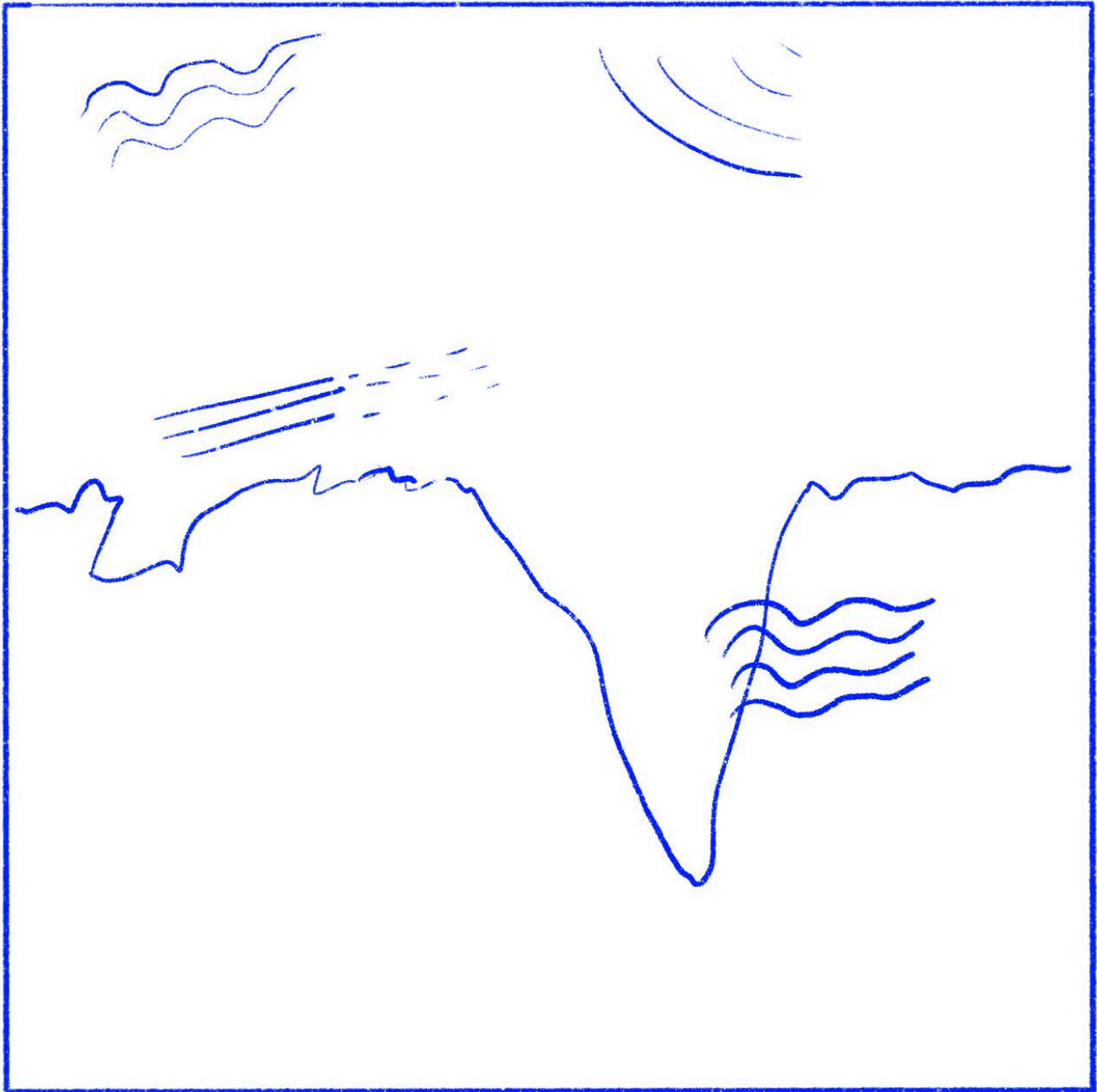
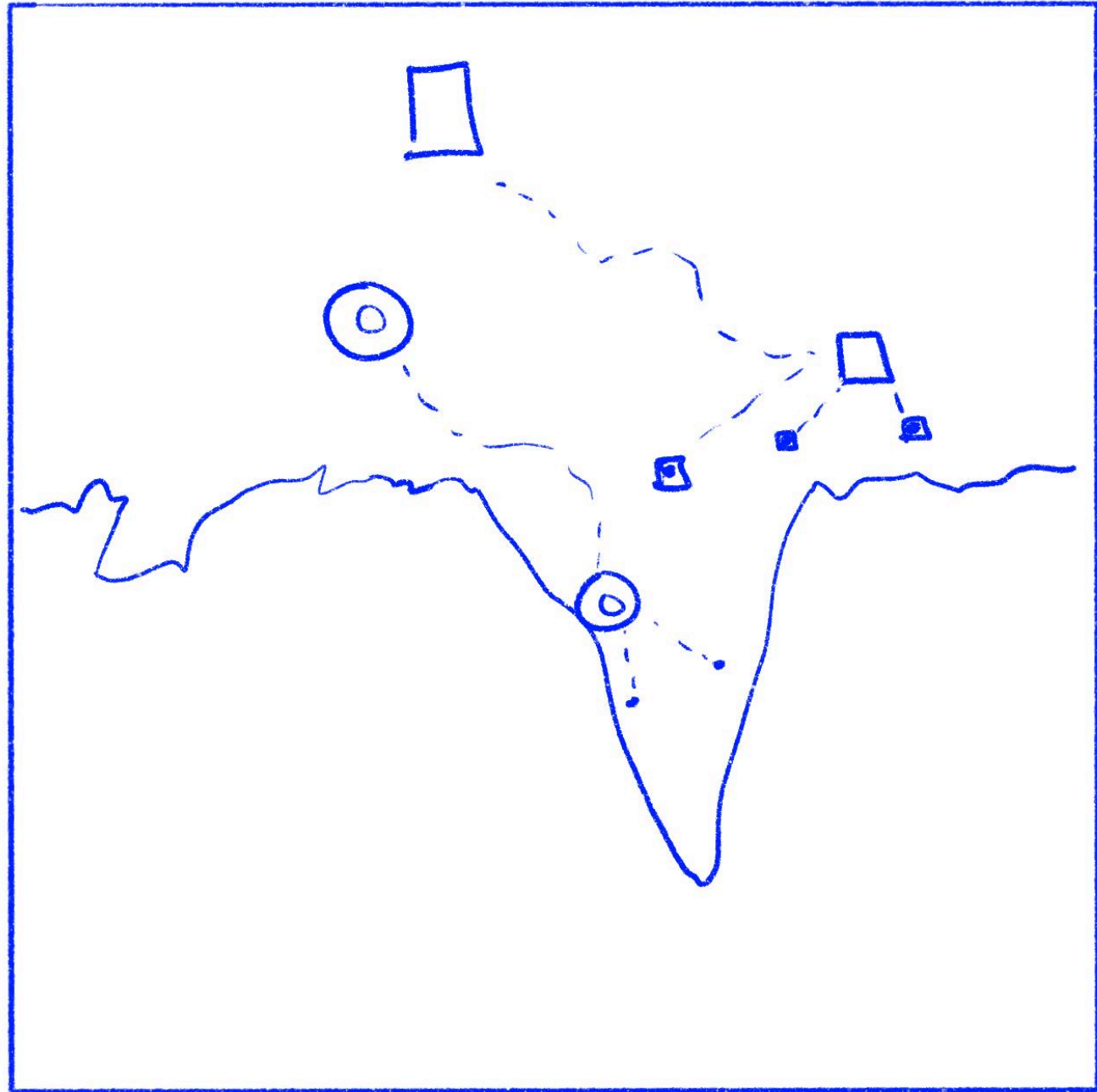


Smuggled Media & Pop Culture

- Bollywood films, music cassettes, and even pirated DVDs traveled across the border unofficially, shaping cultural tastes in Pakistan despite bans.
- Likewise, Pakistani TV dramas (like Humsafar) circulate in India unofficially..



Rough Sketches



Addendum

Remnants of Partition: 21 Objects from a Continent Divided



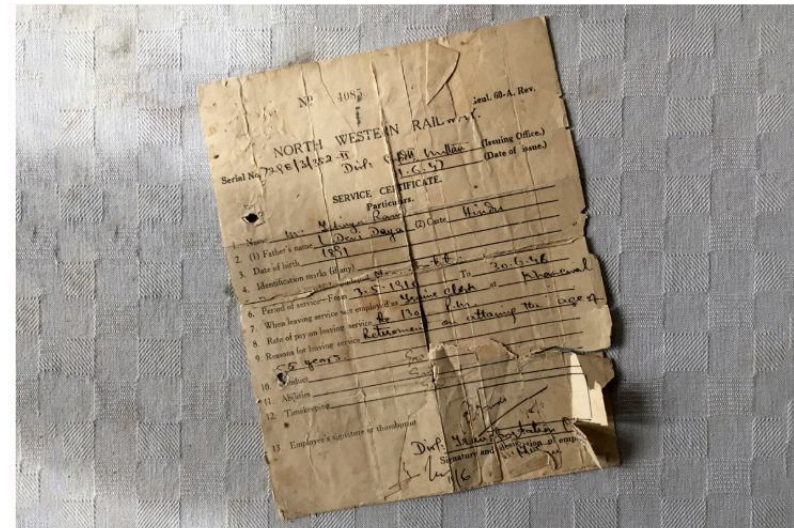
The collection of one rupee coins belonging to Bhag Malhotra carried from D.I Khan, NWFP to Delhi in 1947. [Read more](#)



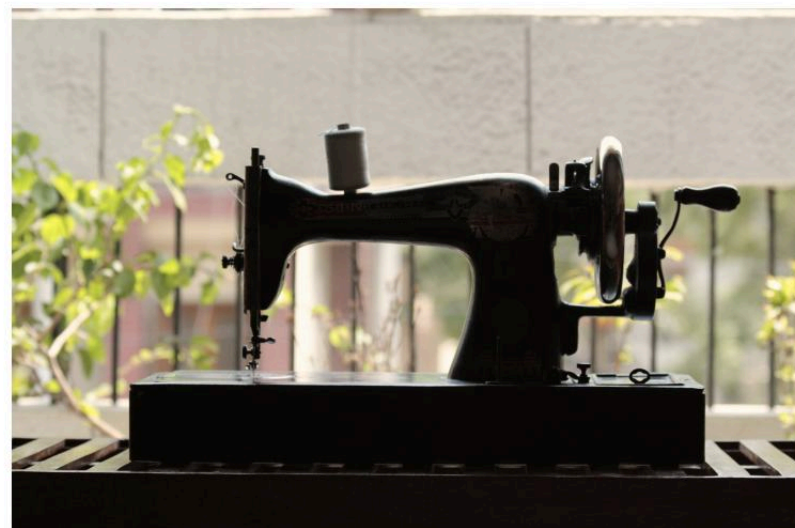
A peacock bracelet belonging to Rajni Malhotra, bought by Narain Das Bery in Lahore in 1930, and carried to Delhi



A fern-shaped brooch, belonging to Jiwan Vohra, bought by Narain Das Bery in Lahore in 1930, carried to Toronto



Certificate of North Western Railways, belonging to Malik Tikaya Ram Khanna, carried from Multan to Lucknow



Singer Sewing machine belonging to Bhag Gulyani, bought in 1948 while living at Kingsway Refugee Camp, Delhi



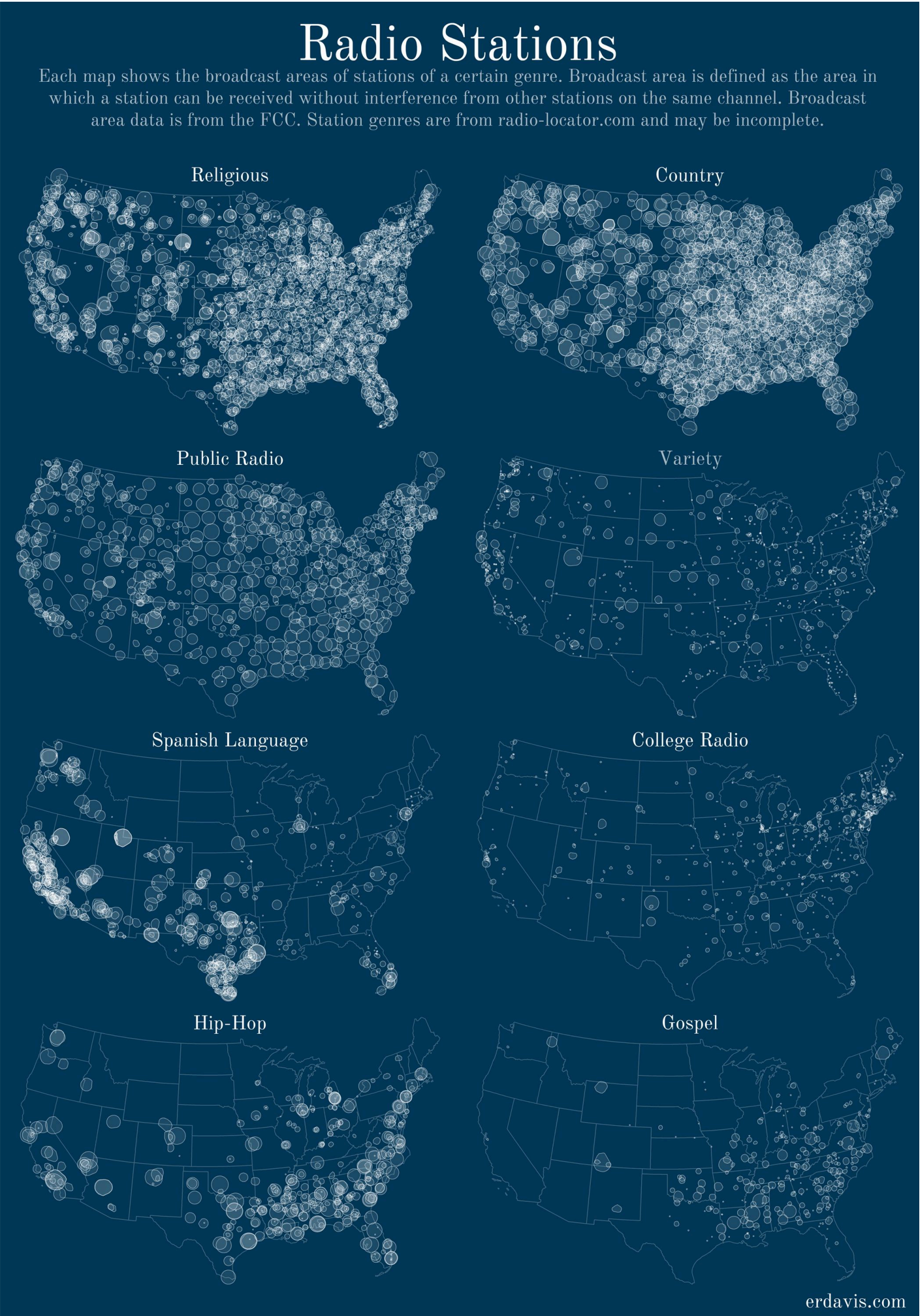
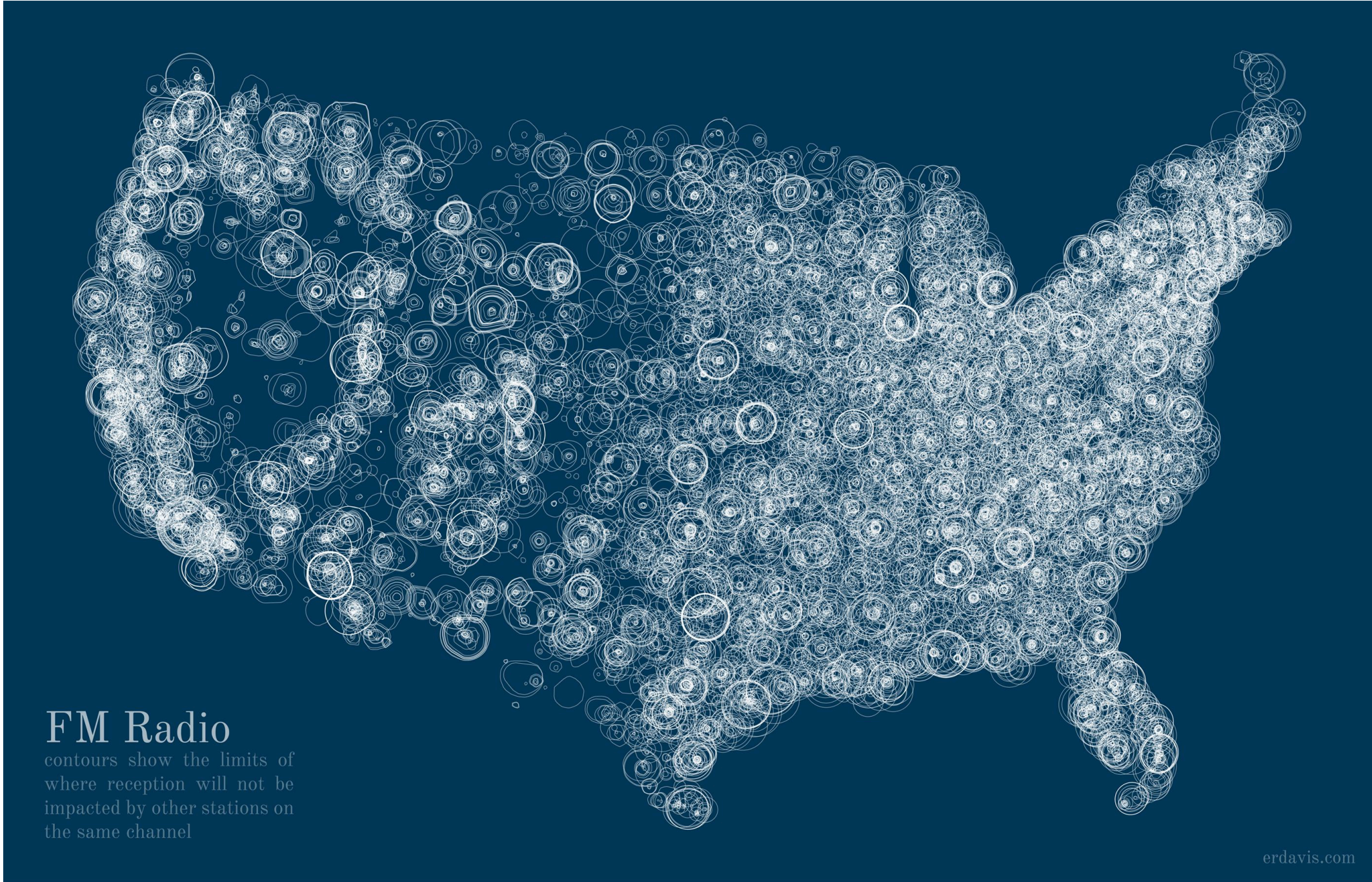
Plaques from Justice Bakhshi Tek Chand's home in Lahore, returned to the family in Delhi, decades after Partition



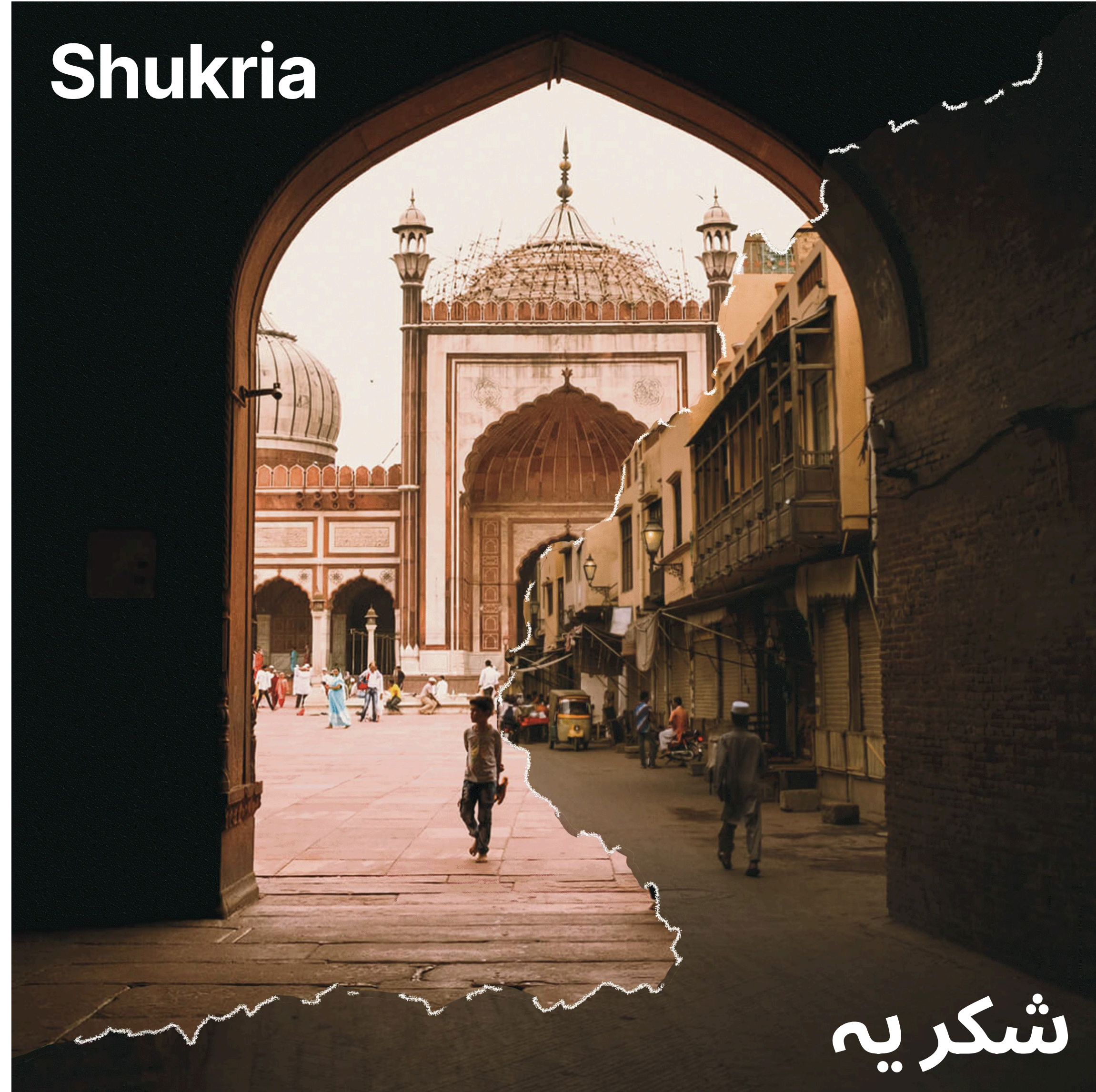
A lock belonging to Om Prakash Khanna, carried by his family from Multan to Lucknow

Addendum

Existing Maps



Shukria



شکریہ

“Thank you” in Urdu