



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

# YOUTH VISION

AHARENVESMEE EKAKU

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*A group show  
by youth across Maldives  
about their present and future*

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



# YOUTH VISION

AHARENVESMEE EKAKU

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9<sup>TH</sup> - 10<sup>TH</sup> DEC 2018 NATIONAL ART GALLERY OF MALDIVES

***By bringing together participants from four regions across the Maldives, the Youth Vision art workshops created a unique space for the youth to discover their own stories, inspirations, concerns within their individual lived experiences, and convert these into tangible art pieces.***

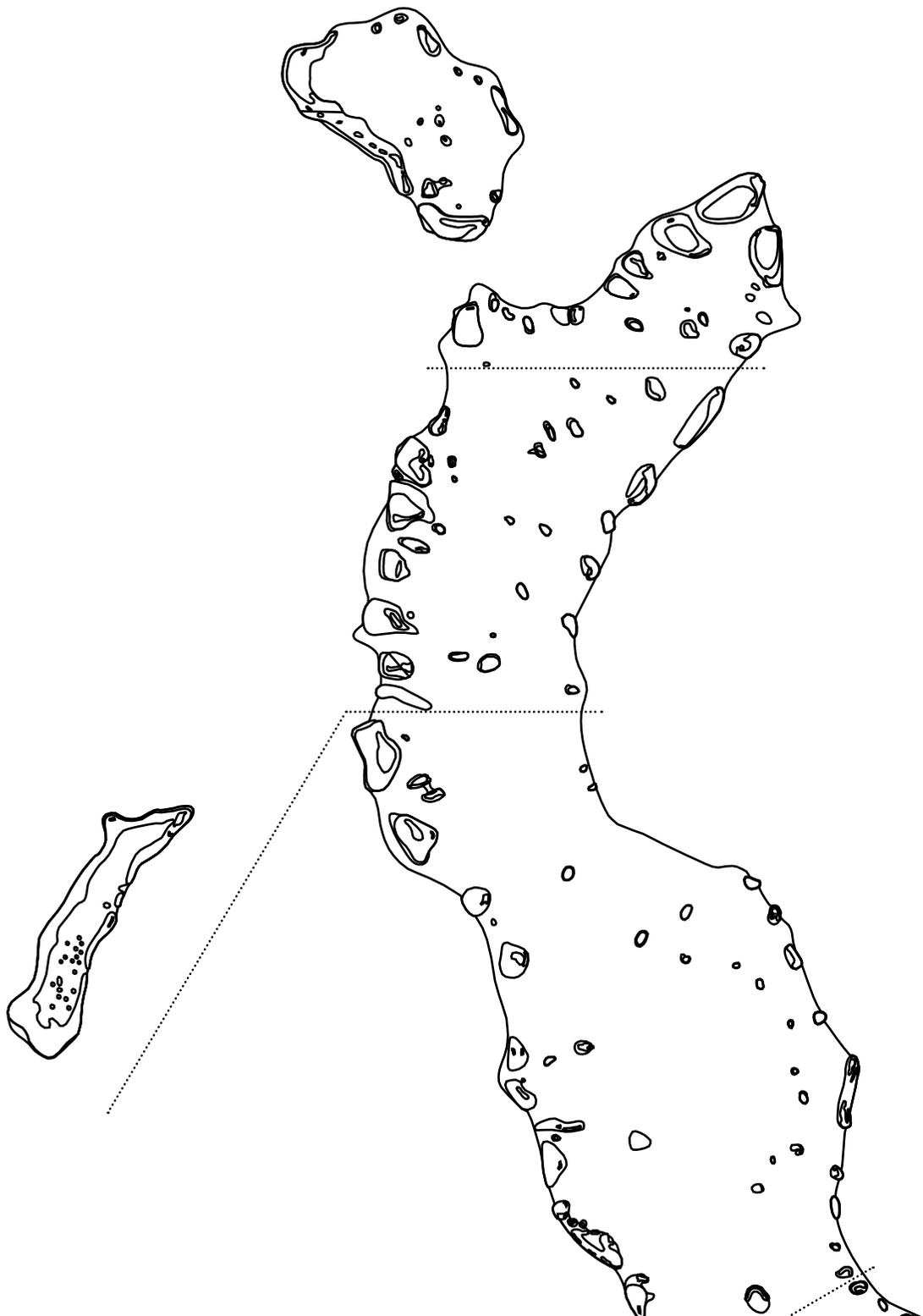
***A vision of the future cannot be grasped without a dialogue of our present and lived experiences. The here and now of our youth.***

***Each personal narrative tells a tiny piece of the self, collectively they show the story of our nation. While many of these pieces explore personal challenges and institutional gaps, each artist took the time and effort to express and share their story; a brave and courageous act. A sign of confidence and a vision to move beyond.***

**HAA  
ALIFU**

**HAA  
DHAALU**

**SHAVIYANI**



**ABDULLA ILHAM  
HA. UTHEEM**

**FOOTBALL, 2018  
Radius 21", Length 25"**

BIO

My name is Abdulla (Maldivian born on September 06, 1996). I am a football player and I studied at Madharusathul Sultan Mohamed Thakurufaanul Auzam. My art statement is based on my football carrier and how it changed with the new generation.

STATEMENT

The piece represents how my generation of friends are influenced by technology and are losing social interactivity. It shows 8 black parts on the ball as total years which I played football and the radius of the football is 21" which actually is my age. I just want the physical activities and technology to be balanced.



**ASIF AHMED\***  
**HDH. KULHUDHUFFUSHI**

**AVAAMENDHURU, 2018**

BIO

I am Asif Ahmed, born on 28th November 1997. I am inspired by digital art, self-taught myself to use computer application to do editing at a very young age, probably when I was 13 years old. I try to visualize my thoughts that are inspired by life situations, songs and mythological stuff. I would like to tell my viewers many stories as possible by an image.

STATEMENT

I created this art piece to tell about a dream. I usually dream with dull colors. My dream is to become a pilot. In this work you'd see me sitting on a runway that was newly built in my island. Sitting in the middle of a runway for a photo is nearly impossible for most. I used the location and this fact to cement the surrealism of dreams and the grandeur therein. I titled this piece "Avaamendhuru" which means mirage in English, because this piece depicts unreal scenarios. Airplane as a shooting star represents wishing and how badly I want that wish. I made an animation so it would neither be a still image nor a video, to further push how unreal and intangible dreams are. Yet, all of us still dream.

*\* Not real name.*



**ARHAN IBRAHIM\***  
**SH. FUNADHOO**

***ONE MISTAKE, 2018***  
**Wood; 43 x 9 x 4.8**

BIO

I am from Sh. Funadhoo. I used to work in Maldives Police Services. That was my dream job.

STATEMENT

We all make mistakes. Carelessness and mistakes have made me very sad and sometimes I've learned important lessons from it all. If I hit a nail with a baton it may break the baton. It broke me down. It ended my career. It was only just "ONE MISTAKE".

*\* Not real name.*



**REHAN HARIS\***  
**HA. UTHEEM**

**WORK LIFE, 2018**  
**Hourglass**  
**8 x 4 x 4**

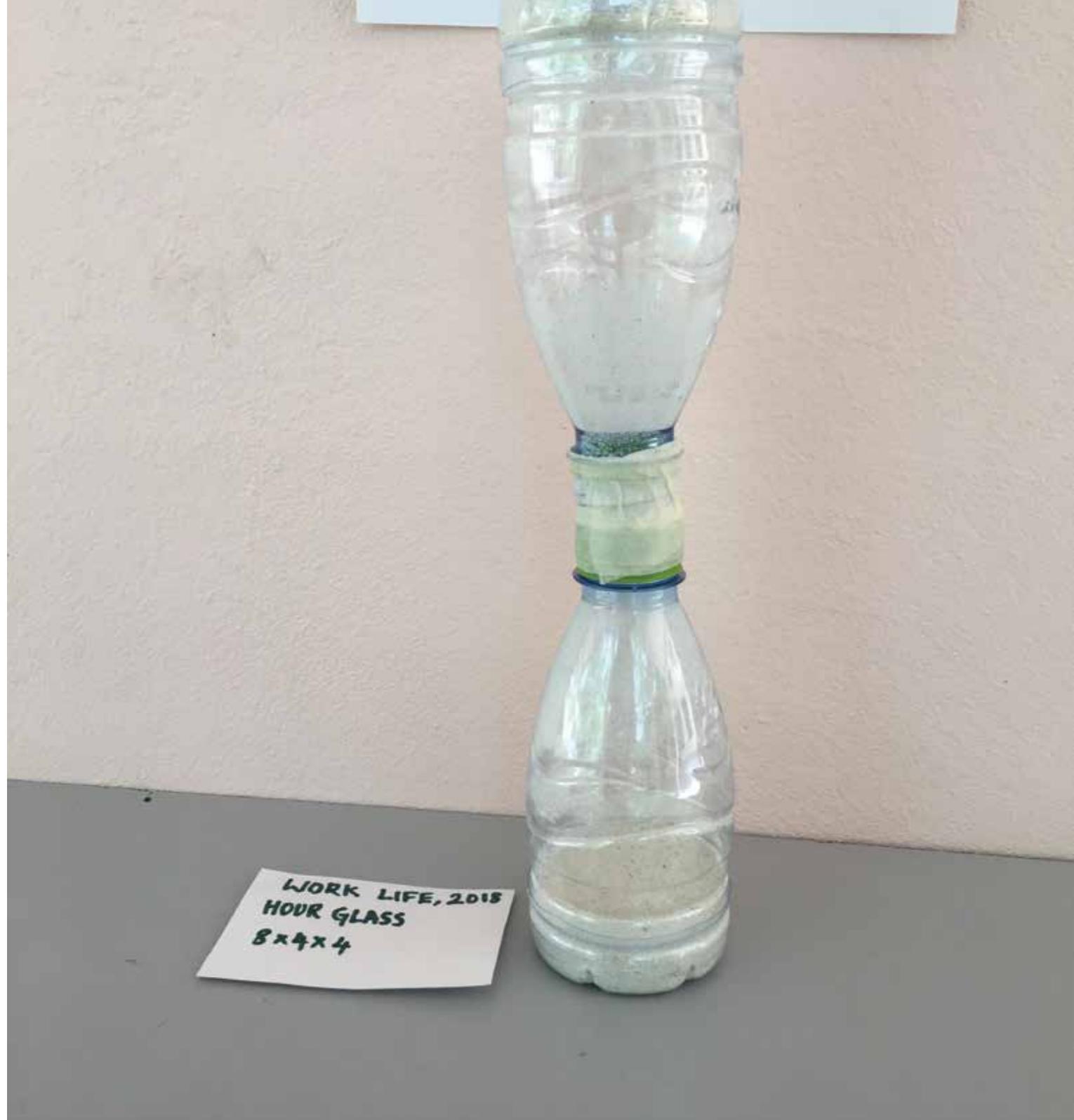
BIO

Rehan Haris, born 1st January 1994. I completed secondary education from Utheem School and later went to Malé for further studies from MNU. I studied IT, front office & reservation. After that I started working with Executive Reservations at Banyan Tree Hotels and Resorts. Three years later I quit my work for further studies and currently I am a student of Bachelor of Business HR.

STATEMENT

This art work represent the busy work life at resorts and my emotions that are associated with living away from family and home. I used an hourglass to represent the distance and time between seeing my family and having to say goodbye.

*\* Not real name.*



**HAMDHAN USMAN\***  
**HA. UTHEEM**

**THE DARK WAVES, 2018**  
**Ink on kitchen paper**  
**18 x 16**

BIO

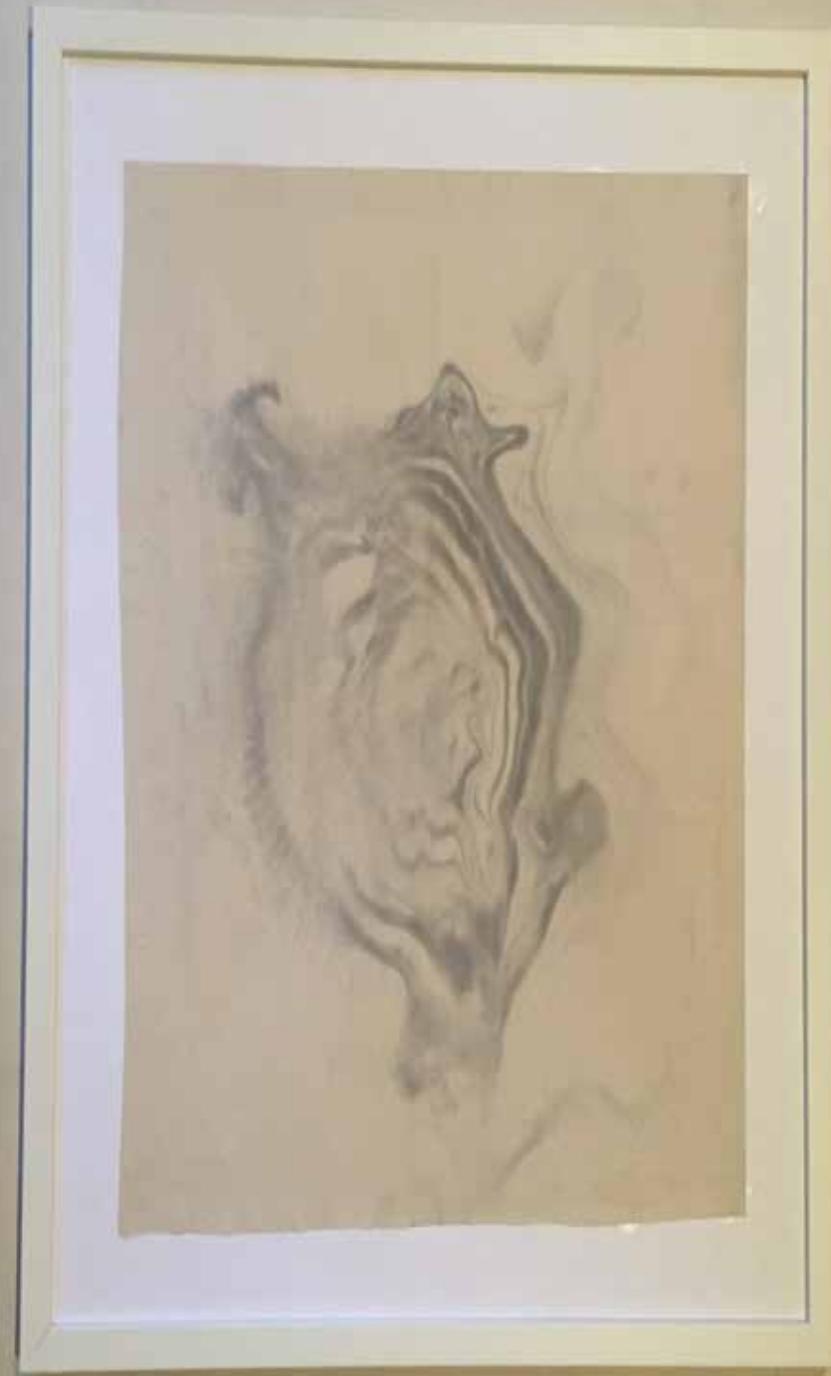
Hamdhan Usman, Maldivian born on 24th December 1995. I was previously employed as an office assistant in Mevidis Dive & Relax. My hobby is photography.

STATEMENT

I have attempted to explore and share my experience of a disastrous boat accident which almost took our life. The technique of suminagashi with its use of water and floating is used as an analogy to our experience.

The black patterns appearing on my work represent large waves. I have used black patterns to represent darkness and fear I felt. The appearance of slits on the outline of ink in the particular piece represents the channel that our boat was washed onto.

*\* Not real name.*



**AFAN JUNAID\***  
**SH. NOOMARAA**

**MY ARM**  
**White board marker on paper**  
**30.5"**

مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا

مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا

30.5"

BIO

مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا 17 مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا  
مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا  
مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا  
مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا

I was born in Sh. Noomara, and I am 17 years old. As a student I faced certain significant challenges. My art piece describes these challenges.

STATEMENT

مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا مَدِينَةُ نُوْمَارَا  
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When I was a student, I faced certain challenges. The worst of those challenges is the way my teachers treated me. During session, the teachers will attend to the needs of other students while ignoring me.

\* Not real name.







**AISHATH ZEENA\***  
**HA. UTHEEM**

**FORCE, 2018**  
**Mixed medium with clay and wire**  
**9"**

#### BIO

Aishath Zeena (Maldivian) born on 12th December 1997. She finished school life in M.T.M School, HA. Utheem. She lives in HA. Utheem and loves to draw and listen to music.

#### STATEMENT

I (Aishath Zeena) created my art piece to express my feelings that couldn't be told by words and also to open society's and communities' eyes about judging people by their past. The hand in this piece is me, and those wires represent those intolerable words people used to say to me, and the pain I have gone through in my past. I was just 17 years old when I was forced and blackmailed to do something wrong. And still now people judge me on my past. At that time I was alone and depressed. But now those things have made me strong & I have learned not to depend on anyone. So, just wanted to tell everyone not to judge someone based on their past and also to listen both sides of the story, because those words can kill a life.

*\* Not real name.*



**FATHIMATH RISHFA  
SH. FUNADHOO**

**ABUSE, 2018**

**Clay  
9" x 9" x 9"**

**BIO**

Fathimath Rishfa (Funadhoo, born February 27, 1996). I started doodling and mandala art in 2012. I always believe the quote "Creativity takes Courage". I create art to overcome sadness. At a very young age I faced "ABUSE". Because of it, I went through breakdowns, trust issues, family problems and many more. As a result I lost great educational opportunities.

**STATEMENT**

She decided to let the public know about the crime and save others from abuse and sexual harassment. The piece wants to reach out and tell her story. The plastic box represents a plastic bottle which was given to her by a stranger, and the glowing pieces (sequin) shows opportunities she lost.



**ARIF AHMED\***  
**HDH. KULHUDHUFFUSHI**

**1065/18**  
**Video**  
**18 minutes**

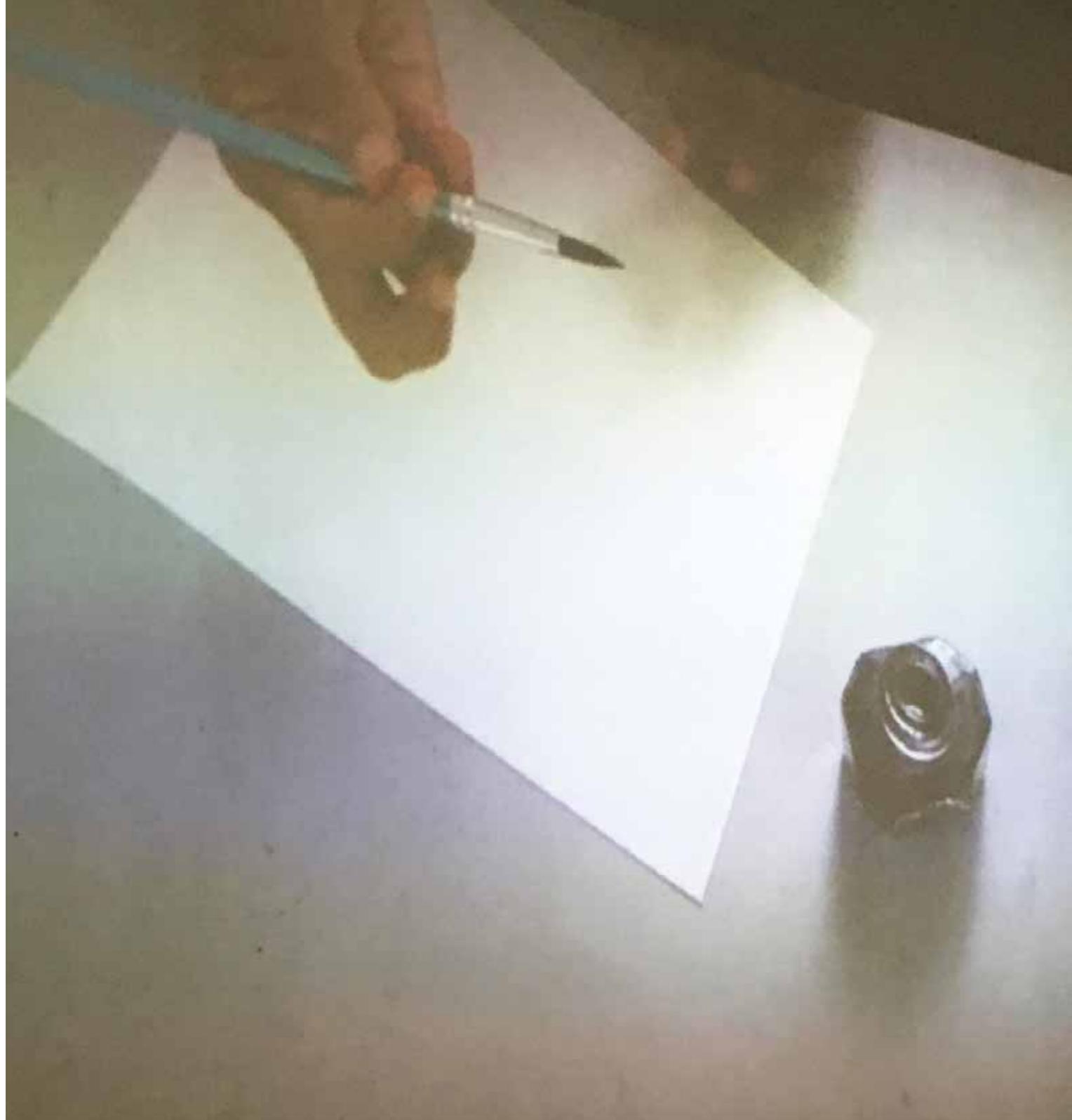
BIO

Arif Ahmed (20, HDh. Kulhudhuffushi, Maldivian). I grew around art and used art as a medium to escape the day to day. Art for me, is a language that transcends the boundaries of conventional language. I am inspired by music, social practices, the sky and the passage of time.

STATEMENT

I am someone who grew up around and identified with art all my life. The runtime of this piece represents the 18 years spent learning, exploring and expressing via my art. Inspired by a cousin who taught me most of what I know regarding different media and techniques, art was a form of escapism from an otherwise chaotic life. That was until and unfortunate incident around the age of 18 that saw my right index finger being shattered. A year of surgeries and rehabilitation followed. Left with chronic pain and limited mobility in my hand, art was for the time beyond me. That was until I discovered ink, the choice of medium for this piece. The repetitive straight strokes represent how an artist practices mastery of a craft. The piece is composed of 1065 strokes. A stroke for each day since the initial cast was removed till the day the piece was created. 1065 days of relearning how to use my hands. 1065 days of pain and perseverance. 1065 days of relearning what I learnt in 18 years.

*\* Not real name.*



**IBRAHIM UMAIR\***  
**HDH. NOLHIVARAM**

**HAPPINESS IS PAIN, 2018**  
**Acrylic on paper**  
**17" x 23"**

BIO

Ibrahim Umair, HDh. Nolvivaram, born on 15th August 1990. My hobby is playing football. I had a knee injury in 2008 and after that I am afraid to play football.

STATEMENT

Since childhood, my hobby and favourite thing to do is playing football, and the fear of injection (needles) is what I am most afraid of.

I had ever thought these two things could come together. My favourite thing (football) and most feared thing (needles) happened to me when I broke my knee and had to go for surgery.

*\* Not real name.*





**SALMAN IBRAHIM\***  
**HDH. KULHUDHUFFUSHI**

**DUALITY, 2018**

BIO

My name is Salman Ibrahim, born on the 10th of July 2001. I was born and raised in the heart of the North, HDh. Kulhudhuffishi. Education started with pre-school and is now almost over with one more year left. Life was slow at first, but gained momentum when I started meeting new people and traveling. I gained a keen interest in the art of photography and tinkering with photoshop on my computer. And now here I am, a wanderlust.

STATEMENT

This artwork, which I named DUALITY, represents the uncertainty I have in myself. Uncertainty in making decisions. The two paths any person may have to take when making crucial decisions in their lives. The heart and the mind, the essence of man. When the two entities don't work in harmony, it is often extremely difficult for a person to make a choice. When it comes to me, I find myself in this very situation almost every turning point and while taking decisions in my life. And more often than not and for some reason, I always choose my heart. Hence, the point of attention of this piece, a heart for a head. I made a choice and it is who I am. This is my story.

*\* Not real name.*



**AISHATH NIHA\***  
**HDH. NOLHIVARAM**

**STORY OF MY LIFE, 2018**

**Audio**  
**35 seconds**

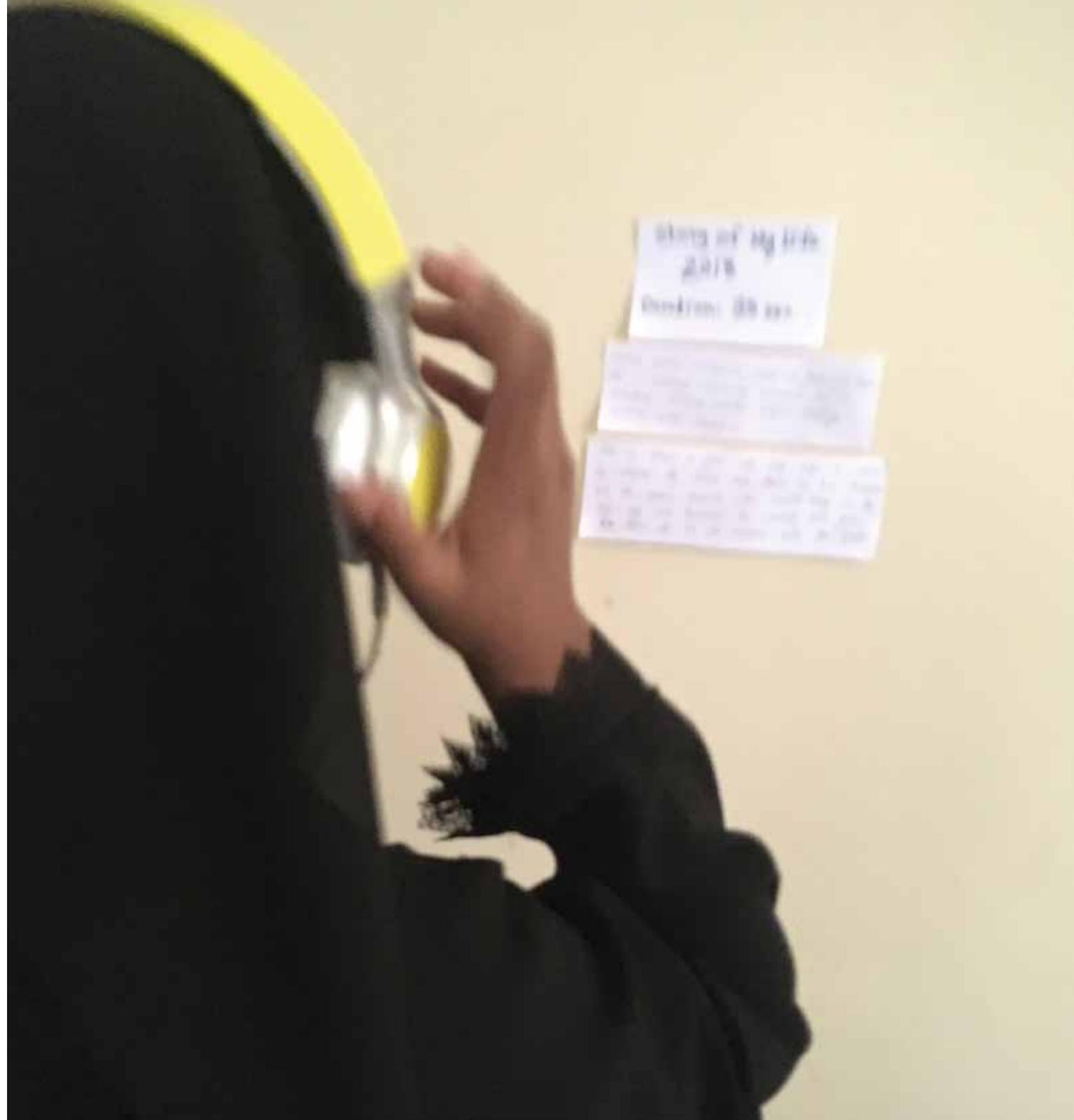
BIO

Aishath Niha, Maldivian, born on June 26, 2000. She is currently working as a primary tuition teacher and is studying Gaaree course Level 3.

STATEMENT

This is about a girl who was kept in the dark by someone, who she didn't even think in her dreams would keep her there. But she isn't someone who would hang on to the past and hurt herself over. She wanted them gone. After all, it all vanishes into the dark.

*\* Not real name.*



**SAMHA ADAM NASEER  
HA. UTHEEM**

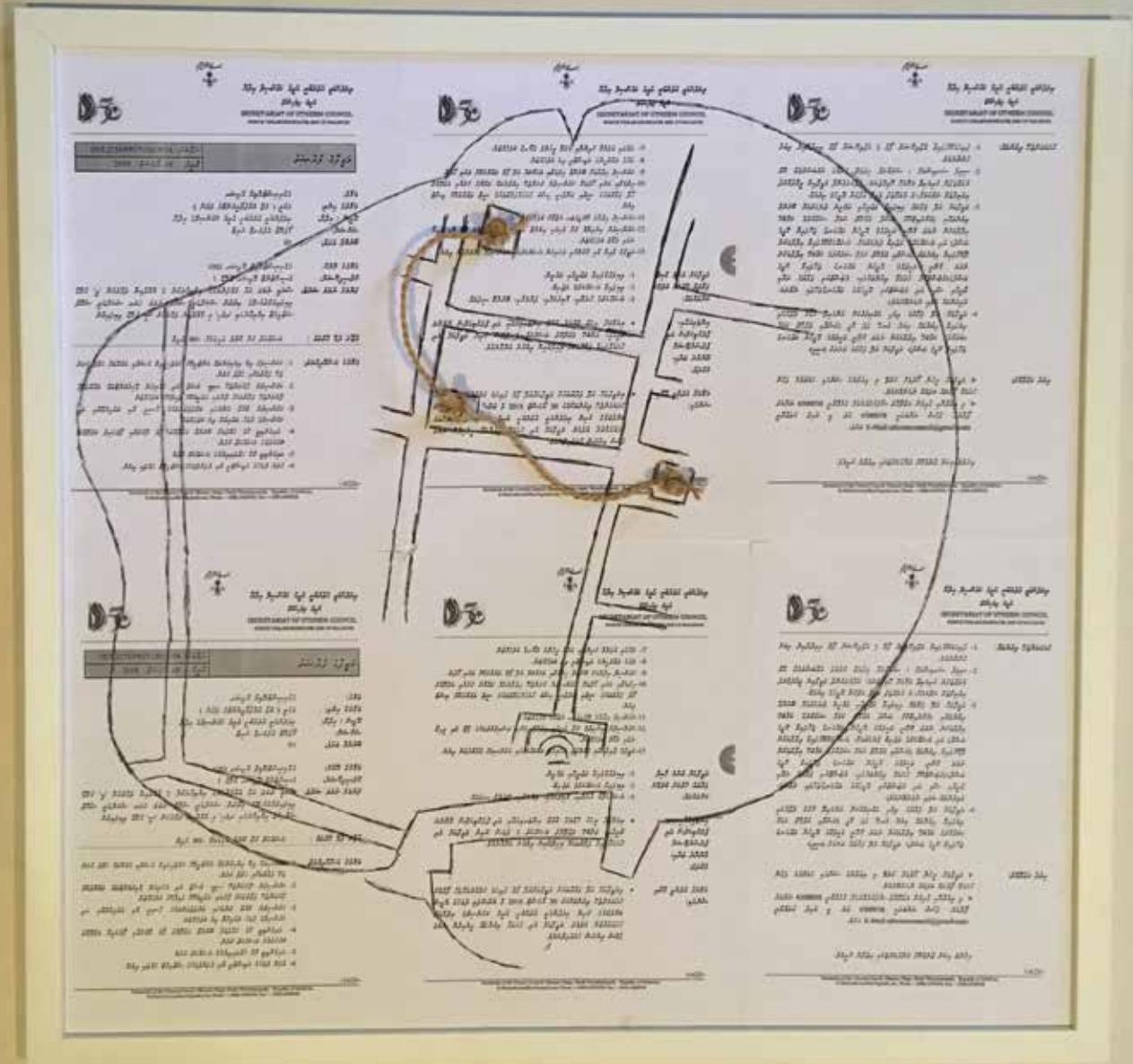
**HURDLE, 2018**  
**Mixed medium paper and rope**  
**17.6 x 16.4**

BIO

My name is Samha Naseer (Maldivian, born September 1, 1999) and I am a student. My biggest dream is to be a very successful and an independent person. But, there is a lot of barriers while fulfilling my dreams. So I wanted to convey those challenges to paper through this art work.

STATEMENT

There are only two institutions where jobs are available in my island. I have connected those two institutions with my home using coir rope. Through this artwork I wanted to represent what I have gone through in searching for a job. There was only six jobs available in the island. These knots were represented through the six job postings released by the island council. The purpose of using coir rope is because, my mother used to make coir rope in order to make money to pay my college fees.



**AMINATH FARAHA\*  
HDH. NOLHIVARAM**

**DISPUTES, 2018  
Quran, Foiy Gondi  
13' x 7" x 6"**

BIO

Alhugandaky Aminath Faraha from HDh. Nolhivaram. Alhugandah 19 years. Alhugandu work kuranee Quran class ehga Quran teacher akah. Alhugandu mi work mi hadhane alhugandu life ga dhimaavi kamakaa behe gothun. Job ga ulhey iru. And alhugandu mi work ga beynun koffa hunnaany quran class ga dhimaavi masala yaa gulhey quran ge aayatheh hathim eh through koh.

I am Aminath Faraha from Hdh. Nolhivaram. I am 19 years old. I work at a Quran class as a teacher. This Art piece is about an incident in my life, while at work at the Quran class. In this Art piece, I present a verse from the Quran, in regards to the incident that happened in the Quran class.

STATEMENT

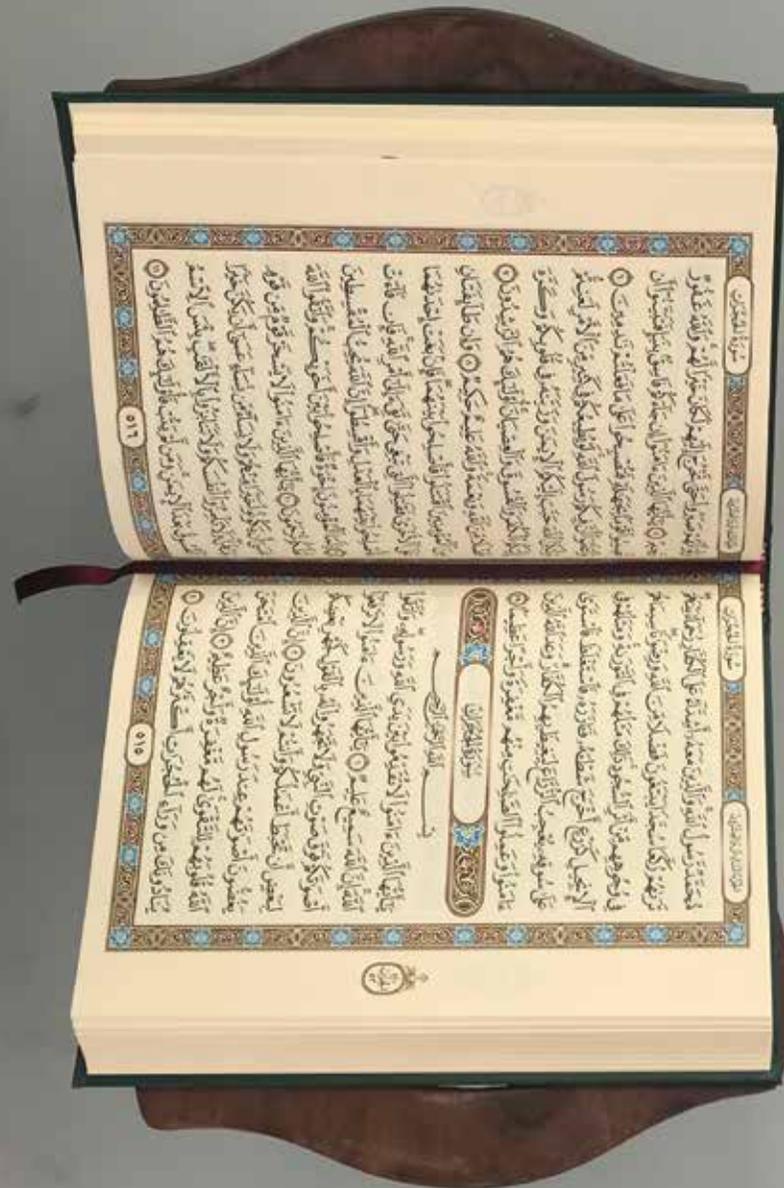
“Ey eeman vejje meesthakunney! Thiyabai meehun gaathah faasigaku khabarakaign athuwejje nama, eyge dhogu thedubalai hageegaiy hoadhaasheve! Eiee neyngi thibe thiyabai meehun bayakah gellun dhevidhaanethee eve. Fahe ehen vejje nama thiyabai meehun kuri kanthakuge machchah hithaama kuraa bayaku kamugai thiyabai meehun vedhaanethe!”.

Alhugandaky Quran teacher eh. Alhugandu mi piece hedhee Quran class ga alhugandaa parents aa dheythere dhimaavi misunderstanding eh.

“O you who have believed, if there comes to you a disobedient one with information, investigate, lest you harm a people out of ignorance and become, over what you have done, regretful.” - Surat Hujurat, verse 6.

I am a Quran teacher, this art piece is about a misunderstanding that happened between me and the parents.

\* Not real name.



Handwritten notes on a piece of paper, partially visible at the top right of the image. The text is in Tamil and appears to be a list or index of names and titles.

Handwritten notes on a piece of paper, partially visible at the bottom right of the image. The text is in Tamil and appears to be a list or index of names and titles.

**ZAAHIRA MOHAMED**  
**HDH. KULHUDHUFFUSHI**

**KAMANA, 2018**  
**17" x 12"**

**BIO**

I am Zaahira Mohamed (HDh. Kulhudhuffushi, 16 years old, born 17th December 2001). I am passionate about helping people and volunteer with an NGO on a regular basis. I love crafting and travelling. I am inspired by music, nature and people. How both of them relate to people and enhance the social aspects of life.

**STATEMENT**

My art piece explores my relationship with my loving brother (Dawood Mohamed). He was born on 10th April 1984 and passed away on 17th February 2013 in a speed boat accident. I was only 12 at the time. I spent 12 years with him and it has been 5 years without him. The height of this artwork (17") represents both the day he passed away, and the day of my birthday (17th), and width of this artwork (12") represents the number of years I spent with him (12). The door shown in this art piece leads to the place he lived with his wife and 2 children (Yoonus and Yoosuf). The time that my brother was with us was the happiest and most tranquil days for our family. And now I am living in that room. The room to which so many memories are tied to. The room in which we had countless hours of fun. Where his life blood still seems to linger. The title, "KAMANA" was an endearment my brother used to refer to me. A name that resonates still.



**SHAIHA MOHAMED\***  
**SH. MILANDHOO**

**IRREGULAR PERIOD, 2018**

**Tissue paper**

**1 min 31 sec**

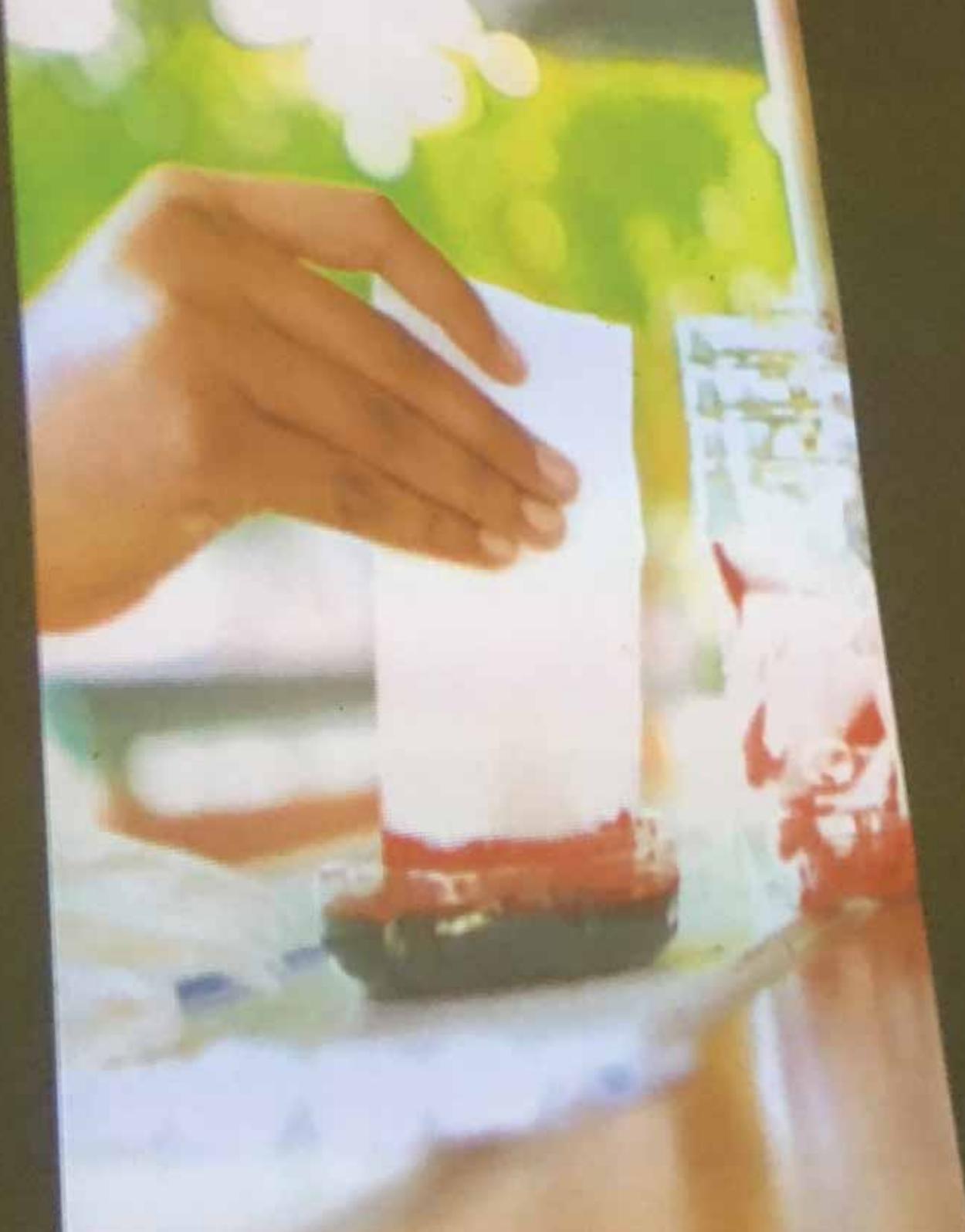
BIO

Shaiha Mohamed, Maldivian born June 10th 1997. I completed secondary school from Milandhoo School. I am a self-employed person. My source of income is providing tuition classes to lower grade students. I love gardening and creative arts.

STATEMENT

The society does not understand the complication of having irregular periods. I use tissue paper as a visual representation of my irregular periods. I want to show how it sometimes go on non-stop through a visual representation of a repetitive action.

*\* Not real name.*



**FAISAL ADNAN\***  
**SH. FUNADHOO**

**THE SURVIVAL, 2018**

**Foam board, clay, marker, sticks,**  
**rope**

**24" x 18" x 1"**

BIO

My name is Faisal Adnan. I'm from Sh. Funadhoo. I work at Shaviyani Atoll Hospital.

Apart from that I work in an NGO and also a portrait photographer.

STATEMENT

It's always been my passion to help people and unite every one of the society I live in.

Shaviyani Funadhoo was an uninhabited island 50 years ago. The Government started to migrate people to that island after making it the capital of the Atoll. The Government of the Maldives migrated people from 6 different nearby islands to Funadhoo.

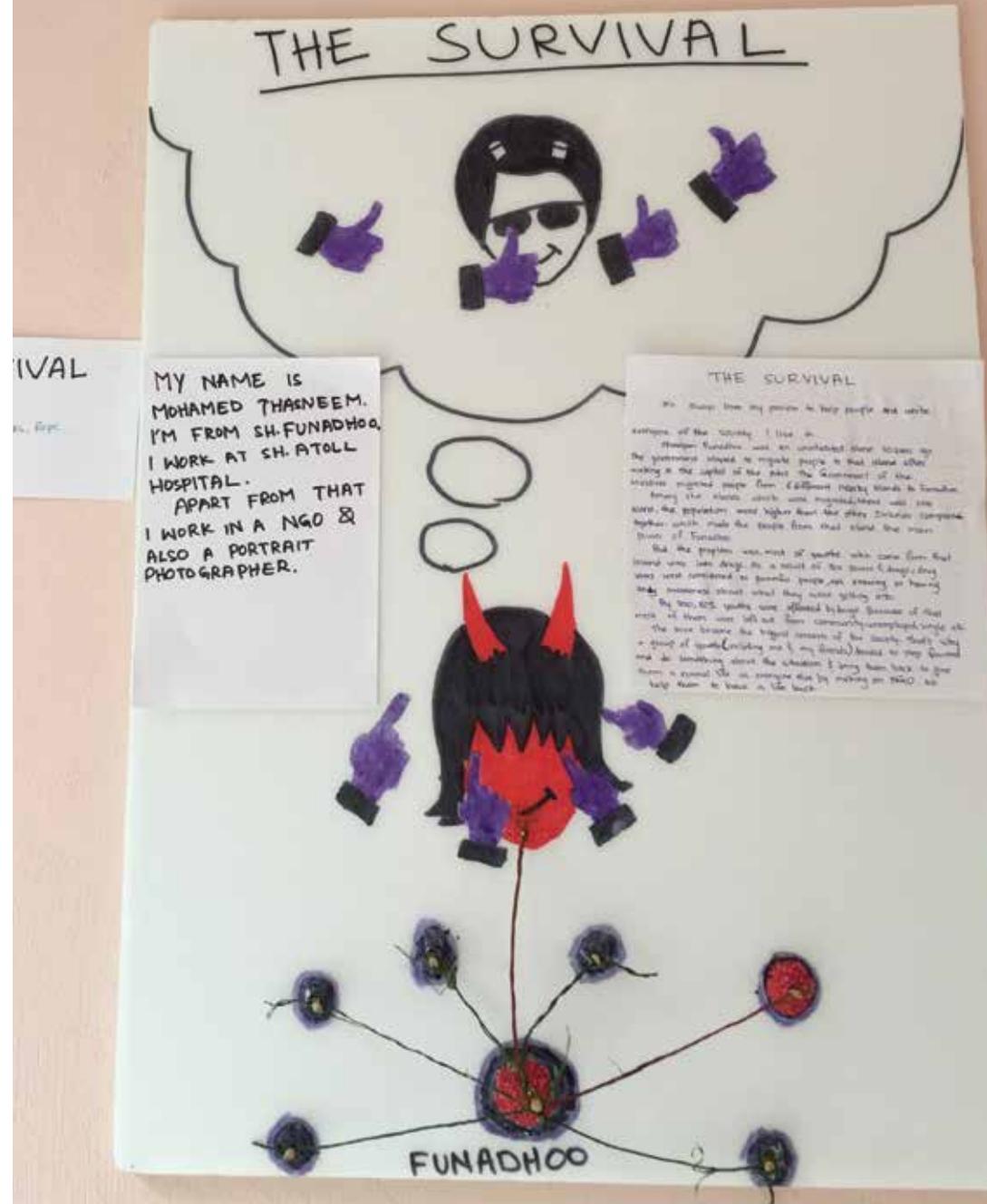
Among those islands, there was one island that had a population higher than the other 5 islands compared together. Which made the people from that island more powerful in Funadhoo.

But the problem was, most of the youth who came from that island were into drugs. As the result of the power and drugs, drug users were considered as powerful people, not knowing or having any awareness about what they were getting into.

By 2010, 50% youth were affected by drugs. Because of that most of them were left out from community, unemployed, single etc.

The issue became the biggest concern of the society. That's why a group of youth (including me and my friends) decided to step forward and do something about the situation and bring them back to society, to give them a normal life as everyone else by making an NGO to help them to have a life back.

*\* Not real name.*



**FATHMATH MEENA\***  
**SH. MILANDHOO**

***Pain***

BIO

My name is Fathmath Meena (Milandhoo, born March 25, 1999). I was born in Maakandoodhoo and later moved to Milandhoo. My art is based on my own life experiences.

STATEMENT

I want to explore the pain and emotions around the thoughts of suicide.

*\* Not real name.*



**HAWWA AMIR\***  
**SH. FUNADHOO**

**SELF FIGHTING, 2018**

BIO

Hawwa Amir (Born on 1st March 1989), is a civil servant interested in fashion designing. Completed school education from Sh. Funadhoo School in 2005. Earned Bachelor's Degree in HRM from Villa College in 2017.

I'm inspired by music, colors and success of others, especially persons with disabilities.

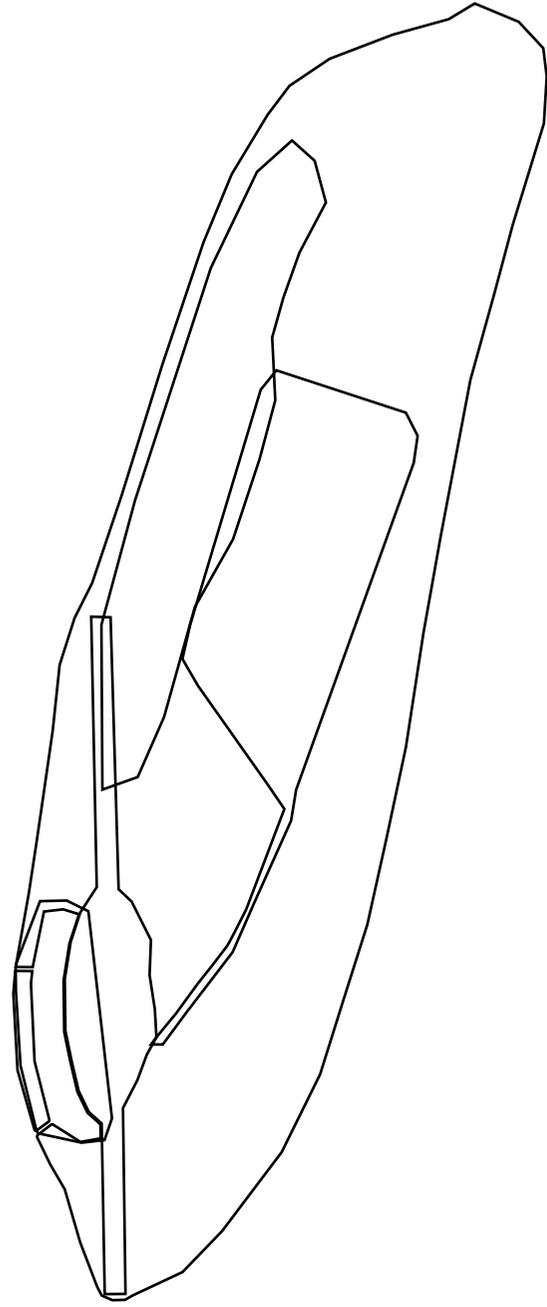
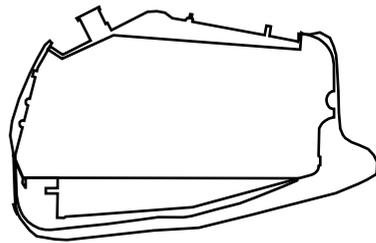
STATEMENT

Balancing the life in every way leads to a successful life. Balancing multiple pieces of rocks represents the emotional balancing of my being. Rocks are heavy and the weight of each piece differs like our feelings. Dark and bright colors of the rocks represents the negative and positive emotions I face throughout life. A mixed balance of these pieces represents how I manage to live with this chaos and beat the dark shadows of life.

*\* Not real name.*



**GREATER  
MALE  
AREA**



**RAUSHAN ALI FIRAQ**  
**K. MALÉ**

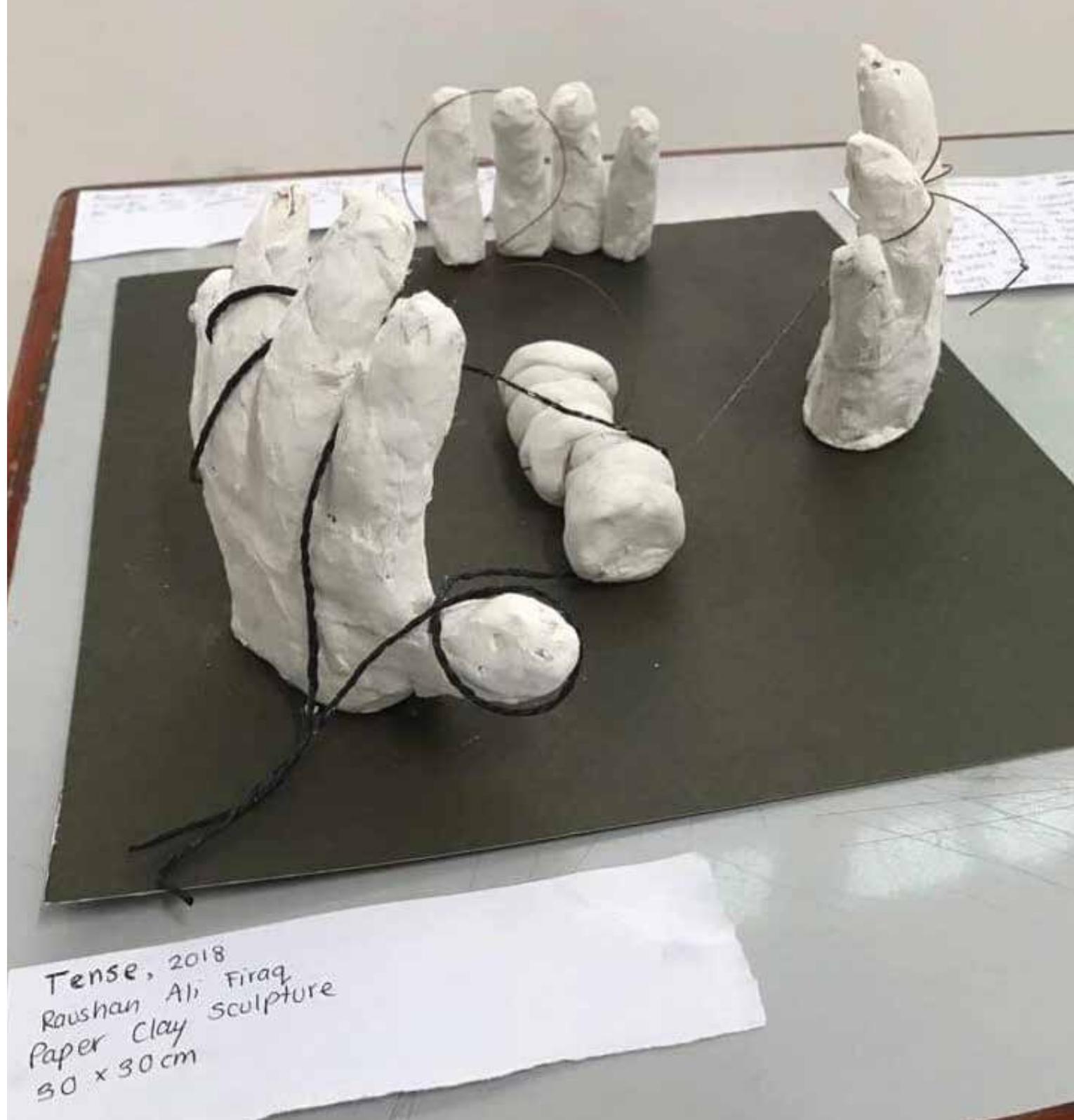
**TENSE, 2018**  
**Paper clay sculpture**  
**30 cm x 30 cm**

BIO

Raushan Ali Firaq (K. Malé, born 1996) is a photographer and sculptor. Born in the Maldives but living abroad half her life, she explores the concept of identity through her artwork.

STATEMENT

This piece aims to capture the experience of a young Maldivian, with visual elements symbolizing the struggles. The hands represent the factors that influence our lives, whether it be family, friends, society, religion or education. The stones represent the various elements that make up a person, and the strings are the influences represented, some more than others. This piece also explores the concept of suffocating as a result, and being torn between various influences, and working out who you are.



Tense, 2018  
Raushan Ali Firaq  
Paper Clay sculpture  
30 x 30 cm

## **MUAWIYATH MOHAMED DIDI**

**HANDS, 2018**  
**Cardboard, clay, ropes**

### BIO

Muawiyath Mohamed Didi, is on a journey in search for acceptance and success. Diagnosed with cerebral palsy, soon after birth he has been beating the odds and going beyond his limitations to achieve and live a normal life. He loves travelling around the world and appreciates making art.

### STATEMENT

I am inspired by the lifecycle of a bird. Every bird starts its life as an egg, then eventually learns to fly. Those eggs that fail to hatch might get left behind to rot. I am faced with cerebral palsy. Through this piece, I wanted to represent this condition as a super power rather than a limitation. I want to celebrate the struggles and challenges I face and overcome in everyday life both mentally and physically.

I do not want to be left behind and try hard to go beyond my limitations. I have difficulties controlling and coordinating my hands. Scalping a small object like this represents the challenges.



**NISHA ABDULLA\***

**BIG BRAIN, 2018**

**Masking tape, paper rope, wire,  
hardboard box**

BIO

Nisha is a therapist or counsellor working in a National Drug Agency. For her, art is a way to express her thoughts and feelings regarding experiences. Her art work is about the issues and concern regarding mental health and societal issues. From the very beginning in her professional she has worked as a special education educator where she learnt the challenges of various people. She continues to do art regarding issues that come across in her work as a mental health worker.

STATEMENT

The central idea of this art piece is exploring the societal issues that has an impact on mental health. Concentration of this brain work is to describe the influence that people go through in every milestones in their life. This piece represent human brain by a wire mesh. This artwork explains the major issues where everyone experiences in day to day life. Focus on how brain get tired and exhausted due to people and environment influences.

*\* Not real name.*



## **HANNAH ILHAM**

### **CANVAS OF ESOTERICS, 2018**

#### BIO

Growing up in the tropical islands of the Maldives, Hannah Ilham has always found herself fond of associating colors to everyday situations, people, feeling and music. She has the tendency to feel and judge in colors. After discovering herself as a synesthete, she has dabbled in art forms, exploring to sync her inner artistic soul.

Titling her work as the “Canvas of Esoterics” she seeks to illustrate abstract portraits.

#### STATEMENT

Every individual is a part of a masterpiece. Celebrate individuality. This is an abstract portraiture of a French actress “AUDREY TOUTOU”. In preparing the painting, I recorded the colors absorbed while watching one of her interviews; Behind the Beauty: Channel no: 5 Audrey Toutou’s interview.

**HANAN SAEED**

***BENEATH THE SURFACE, 2018***  
***Clay, acrylic paint, hot glue, rope***  
***on paper***

STATEMENT

Main concept behind this piece of art is how a person who initially is a product of nature, (one might say pure at heart and soul) is affected by the pressures and negative influences from the society (nature). Mainly mental health issues faced by a person.

What shows on surface is clouded by these negative impacts. Whereas the real image is hidden beneath the surface.

The colors on the face of the girl is inspired from the colors of a sunset. And the waves and shades of blue on her hair represents the sea.

Overall it resembles nature.

The threads resemble the issues one might face. The more the issues, the more the image is covered. It depicts that you can slowly untangle the strings and still see what's beneath.

Same way we humans can and should be treated with love and care to unveil the beauty beneath the surface.



## **MINHATH MOHAMED**

**FLIP, 2018**

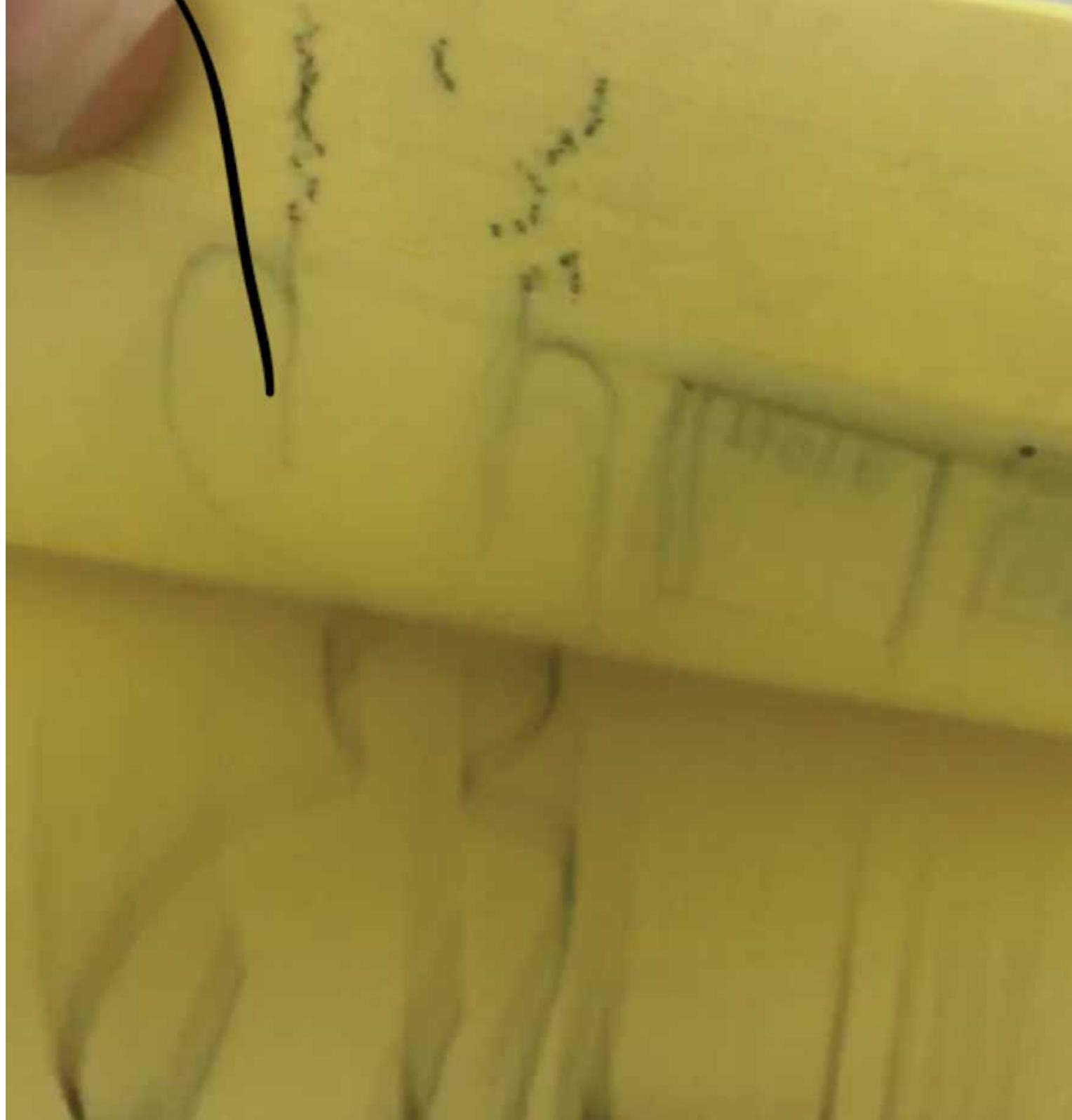
### BIO

Minhath Mohamed is a student, doing her A' Levels in Ahmadhiyya International School. In the year 2008 she participated in Mitsubishi art competition and achieved second place. And in the year 2011, she took part in Sunfront home design art competition and her artwork was selected as one of the best five pieces. In addition to that, she participated in CMDA art competition in the year 2013 and 2015. She achieved 2nd place in 2013 and 3rd place in 2015. Her artworks are mostly inspired by imaginary characters (cartoon characters).

### STATEMENT

I am an extremely curious person who wants to explore ideas, crafts, science and sports. Like most people, I too have obstacles and challenges in life that I am faced at times, including lack of time, travel distance, and loved ones.

In this piece, I want to represent the challenges I am facing due to time limitations. I have used the technique of "flip book animations" where the viewer is able to control the 'time' in which the story unfolds. The use of post-it notes represent sticky notes for the viewer as a reminder of my story.



**LEENA RAFEEU\***

**DIGNITY, 2018**  
**Glass vial, rope**

BIO

Leena Rafeeu is a 19 year old girl who started to do sketches since preschool. She started art as doing sketches and presently she does more art crafts and other mediums. Currently she is a student nurse and continues to make art in her spare time.

STATEMENT

Since childhood all I saw was hatred and harm. It had a very profound impact on me. I grew up to be a very angry person. As I got older opportunities were opening for me. Though I'm scared to set myself free. I collect empty vial from patients I administer the medicine to. The vial in this piece, with the remaining residue of medicine represents my forced career as a nurse. I continue to hang on to my dreams and opportunities which are not too far off being achieved.

*\* Not real name.*





**GAAFU**  
**ALIE**

**GAAF**  
**DHAALU**



**AMEERA USMAN\***  
**GDH. MADAVELI**

***VIOLENCE, 2018***  
***Crayon on paper***  
***21" x 18"***

BIO

Simple, passionate, humble, good hearted. Becoming a lawyer is her dream. She loves making deals, negotiating and putting things together. She loves dealing with never-ending problems caused by ignorance and spite. She likes to engage with people especially helping them solve complicated issues.

STATEMENT

My work exploring abusive relationship, emotional distress, through life. I found that it is vital to get support and learn to set limits. Sometimes, the threat of violence is all abuser needs to control me, like a terrorist. I found the best time to abort violence is in the build-up stage. For me, art therapy is an important method to express the emotional pain. Making this artwork has helped me to explore the feelings of rejection and negligence through color and balance.

“You have to be super careful and accountable for everything you say and you do”.

*\* Not real name.*



**AMINATH SHIUNY\***  
**GA. VILLINGILI**

**ART PIECE**  
**BLOODY LIES, 2018**  
**Clay and water color**  
**70 x 50 cm**

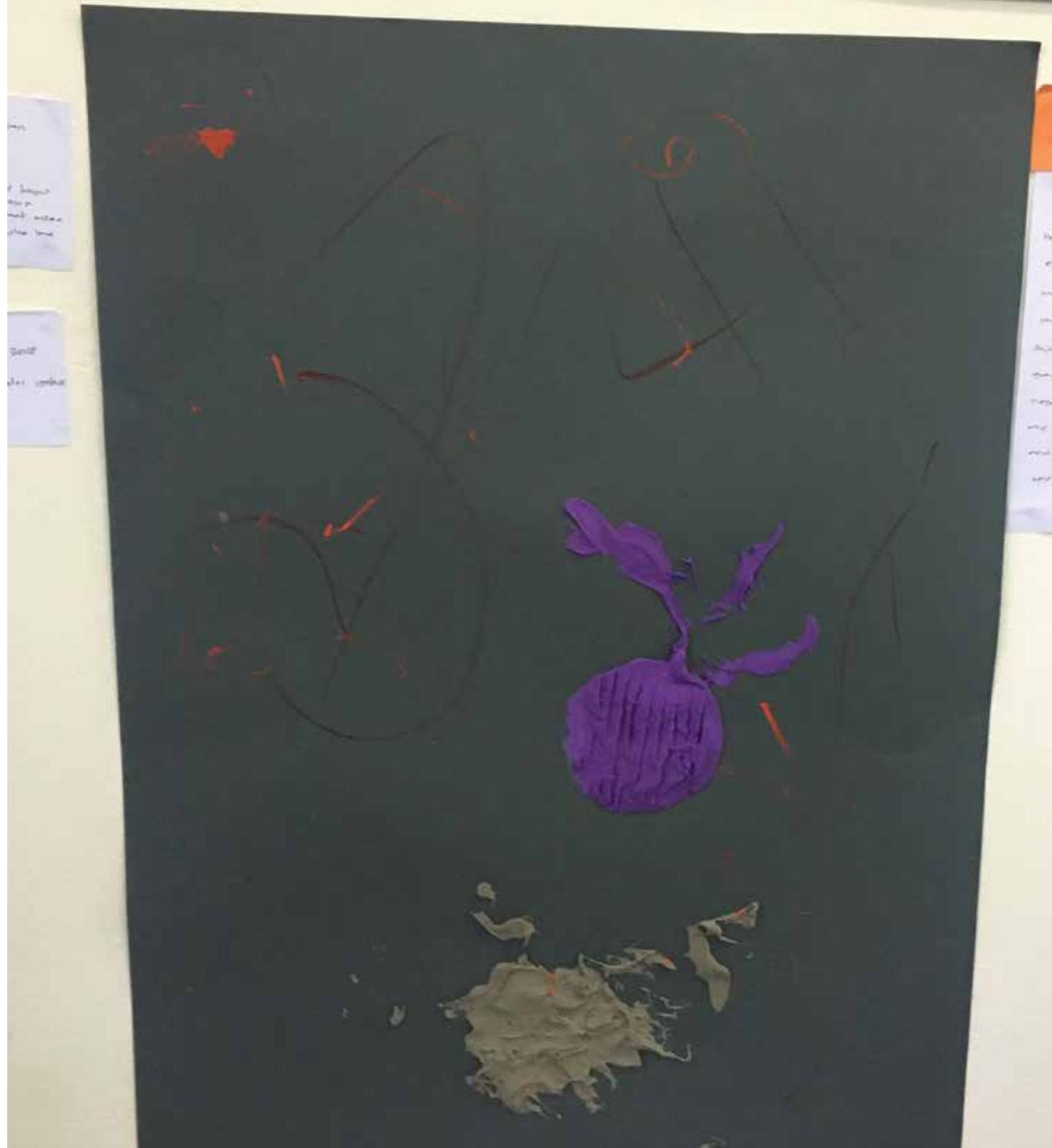
BIO

I'm not an artist. I don't know if what I have drawn represents what I want it to mean – I'm a simple girl who loves K-pop.

STATEMENT

Expressing my feeling through these images represent how cheating turn people into heartless and uncaring humans. This at times leads to depression eventually suicidal thoughts. I want viewer to know that how cheating may lead people to kill them. I have experienced my friends going through those situations and I myself have also gone through this many times. The technique I have used is clay with purple and gray colors. Purple color represents fading positivity and the gray represents negative feeling. The red water color represents blood and self-harm. My work shows the transformation of feeling through color and elements with the line showing the attempt of self-harm.

*\* Not real name.*



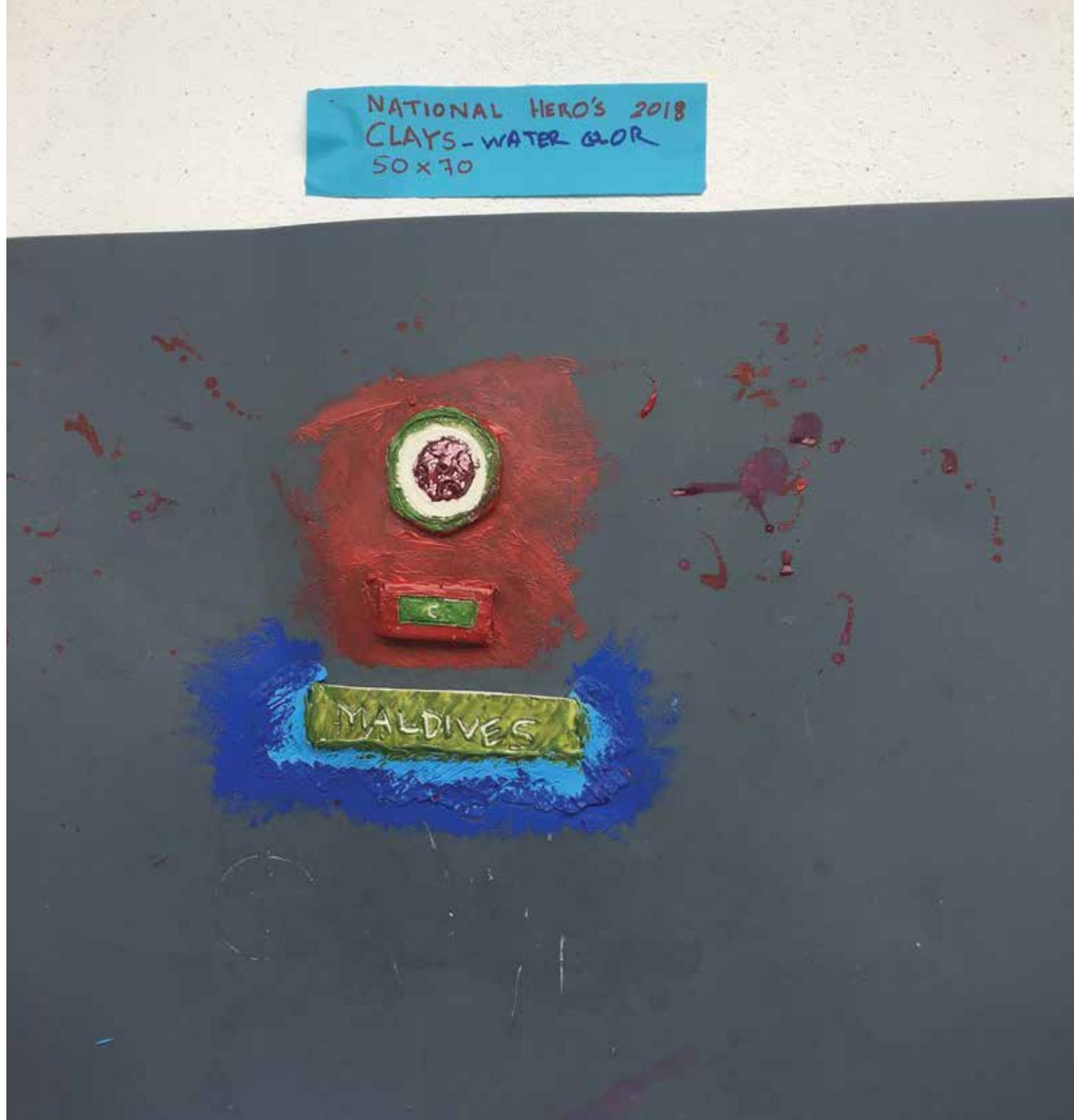
**THASMEEN IBRAHIM\***  
**G.D.H. HOADEDHOO**

**NATIONAL HEROES, 2018**  
*Clay, water color*  
**50 x 70**

STATEMENT

November 3rd 1988. Ever wondered about the date? If you are Maldivian you may never forget two and a half decade since the date.

\*Not real name.



**FATHMATH SUHA\***  
**GA. VILLINGILI**

**JOURNALISM, 2018**  
**Videography**

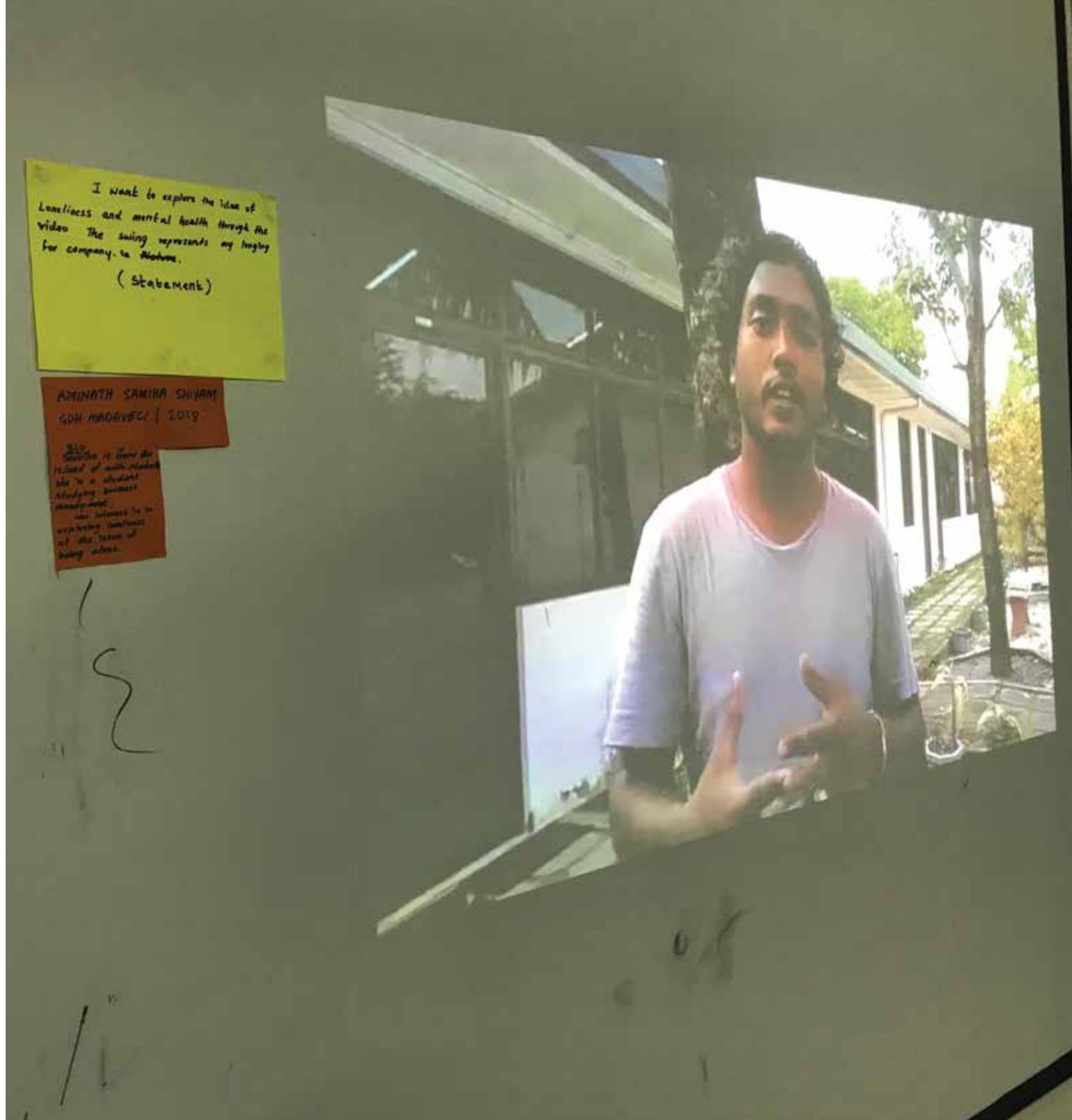
#### STATEMENT

Since childhood I have always inspired to become a successful journalist in future.

As I am interested to hear and learn about stories of other people.

In this piece I have attempted to capture a video clip by a participant Hussain Shifaau.

*\* Not real name.*



**ZAMEEMA WAHEED  
GDH. MADAVELI**

**WE NEED YOU, 2018  
Crayon Pastel  
50 x 70**

STATEMENT

You have no idea of how much you have invested when you spend time with your family and kids.

The painting shows a lovely picture that I have saved in my mind since I was a child.

Family is important. Spend time with families. Balance your work and personal life. It is investing for life. Time that is not wasted in this world and 'Aakhirah'. Raise your kids well. Our country needs good youth.



**NAAIL JAMEEL**  
**GDH. HOADEDHDHOO**

**OCEAN OF PLASTIC SOUP, 2018**  
**Clay, water color on paper**  
**50 x 70**

#### BIO

Naail Jameel (born 22nd November 1997) is a photographer who loves to capture the beauty of nature through his camera lens. He is passionate, fun loving, friendly personality.

His aim is to make people aware about the fragile, beautiful islands of Maldives and the climate changes. He wants everyone to work together to protect our environment.

#### STATEMENT

I am interested in nature. As a photographer I feel responsible to address the subject matters in our society, which tends to be neglected or denied such as adverse environmental impacts.

Modern society is becoming increasingly disconnected from natural world.

My artwork is showing how our oceans are turning into plastic soup.



**AMINATH SAMIHA SHIYAM  
GDH. MADAVELI**

**Video**

**BIO**

Samiha is from the island of GDh. Madaveli. She is a student studying business management. Her interest is in exploring loneliness and the issue of being alone.

**STATEMENT**

I want to explore the idea of loneliness and mental health through the video. The swing represents my longing for company.



**MOOSA SIRAJ\***  
**G.D.H. MADAVELI**

**BIO**

He was born on 5th October 1996. He was interested in travelling and exploring the beautiful islands when he was a kid. He started travelling and exploring the islands in 2015.

**STATEMENT**

My work attempts to show various entity spots of the Maldives that I have been to. I am lucky to have the chance to visit many places of the Maldives.

It is in my desire to visit all the islands of the Maldives and discover the different life's at islands.

*\* Not real name.*



**HASAN ZIYAD\***  
**GA. VILLINGILI**

**MAKE GREEN, KEEP GREEN, LIVE  
GREEN, 2018**

**Air dry clay, clay  
8" x 1" x 13"**

BIO

Hasan Ziyad, GA. Villingili, Maldives was born on 5th May 1994. He is a member of the Island Development and Environment Association (IDEA). He has been participating on environment programs such as planting trees in schools. He is very concerned about the environment and conservation of nature, especially after the tsunami in 2004.

STATEMENT

Working in the NGO, Island Development and Environment Association (IDEA)

In my island, I have a strong concern for the production of environment and nature. The 2004 tsunami resulted in the loss and damage of many mango trees, which were abundant on my island before. In addition the remaining mango trees are being lost to infrastructure development.

I have sculpted a mango seed depicting my concern for this loss. A mango seed also inspire me in that it in a tree that has a very fast growth rate and has a very long natural life span.

*\* Not real name.*



**AISHATH RAUFA ABDUL  
RAZZAQ  
GA. NILANDHOO**

**PAPER ROSE, 2018  
Color paper on card board  
76" x 7"**

BIO

Raufa was born on 23rd March 2000. She is a craft artist whose creations has a quality of beauty. She was born on the island of GA. Nilandhoo. To make her artwork she mostly uses paper and found materials. She is a person who makes her art at her home.

STATEMENT

I am a person who creates beautiful things for me using different materials. When I start to make it I first create various pieces of all the finished pieces separately and I finally join them together. In this piece I have attempted to show all the process of making a finished piece.

What interest me is how the beauty is defined when all the elements are put together as a whole.



**SHIUZ RASHEED  
GA. DHEVVADHOO**

**140 mmHg, 2018  
Syringes on paper  
17" x 23"**

BIO

Shiuz Rasheed (Maldivian born on 30th October 1999) is a cashier at GA. Dhevvadhoo Health Centre. He was born and raised in GA. Dhevvadhoo and attended GA. Dhevvadhoo School. Later he moved to Malé and joined MI College to study Diploma in Accounting.

He spend more time at Health Centre and he likes to help patients and take care of them. After finishing his duty he goes to play football or he goes for fishing.

STATEMENT

Working in the hospital, I notice that most of the islanders visit the hospital just to check their BP. About 3/4th of the population of my island suffers from hypertension. A huge proportion of them are women above 45 age categories. It is despairing to know that such a huge proportion of my islanders suffer from the condition resulting in a huge financial burden. I have attempted to represent this by placing fourteen 10ml syringes in the shape of my island representing the safe BP value of 140 mmHg for humans.



**ZUHAIRA ISMAIL\***  
**GA. DHEVVADHOO**

**DOOR, 2018**  
**Crayons on paper**  
**11" x 15"**

BIO

Zuhaira Ismail is a 23 year old woman. She is from Ga. Dhevvadhoo.

Most of her work revolves around the memories of her brother who was taken away. When not working as an administrative officer at the only school on the island, she spent time watching Korean television series.

STATEMENT

My loving brother, I know it has been almost 7 years since you have been taken away. Everyday I feel your presence in the house. I feel like you are here around us. I clearly remember those days when you used to take me into home whenever mom throws me out of the house. I clearly remember how you wait until our mother goes into the house after keeping me outside of our home. You sneak me back in to the house from the main door. Whenever I enter the house I remember our specific memories. I hope to see you soon my beloved brother. I miss you and the beautiful memories of us.

This piece is a depiction of the front door, created from my memory.

*\* Not real name.*



**ALI SUHAIL\***  
**GA. DHEVVADHOO**

**HEART, 2018**  
**Clay**  
**10" x 3"**

BIO

Ali Suhail (Maldivian born on 11th June 1991) is a technical at GA. Dhevvadhoo Fenaka Cooperation, powerhouse. He was born and raised in GA. Dhevvadhoo and attended GA. Dhevvadhoo School.

He divided his work between his work at the powerhouse and his two children.

STATEMENT

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Working as a technician in a powerhouse, I often think about how similar human life is to the maintenance of a powerhouse. Human body also develops with food and because all the organs work in harmony.

I believe that human organs are similar to the parts of an engine: Diesel is the food for an engine; water keeps it cool, engine oil ensures smooth functioning, and engine functions fully with the pistons are harmonized. Electricity is the end product of this.

Our life is similar to this. Engine has its piston. We have our heart.

\* Not real name.



**INASHA ABDUL WAHHAB  
GA. DHEVVADHOO**

**BALANCE IN NUMBERS, 2018**  
**Ink on paper**  
**11" x 15"**

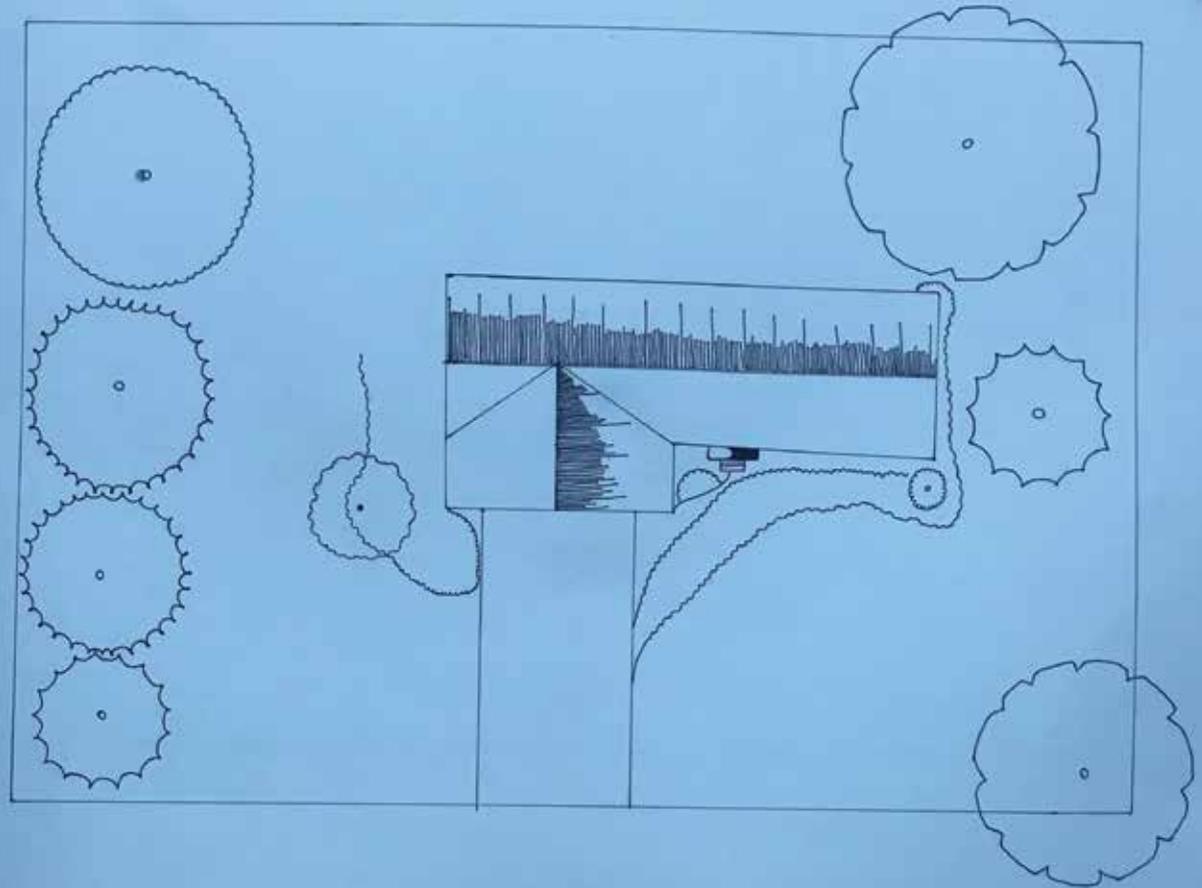
BIO

Inasha Abdul Wahhab works as an assistant financial officer, at the GA. Dhevadhoo Council. She is very interested in numbers and balance. She spends her free time watching Korean series and reading novels.

STATEMENT

Working as Finance Officer, or best known as an account or number lover. I have attempted to represent my hard work by drawing a weighing scale and gears.

In this drawing number of gears shows number of years I have spent in this field. The weighing scales represent balance.



Statement

Working as a finance officer, or best known as an account or number lover. I have attempted to represent my hard work by drawing a weighing scale and gears.

In this drawing number of gears shows numbers of years I have spent in this field. The choice of depicting a weighing scales represent balance.

Balance in Numbers, 2018

Ink on paper

11 x 15 inches

Inasha Abdul Wahhab works as an...

**IBRAHIM SAEED\***  
**GA. VILLINGILI**

**DULL WITHOUT YOU, 2018**  
**Wire and wool on paper**  
**70 cm x 50 cm**

BIO

Ibrahim Saeed was born in 1994, on the island of GA. Villingili. From a very young age he has had a very strong interest in electronics mostly inspired by his father. He has very little interest or experience in making art. However, he tries to show the working of his electronic experiments in various forms.

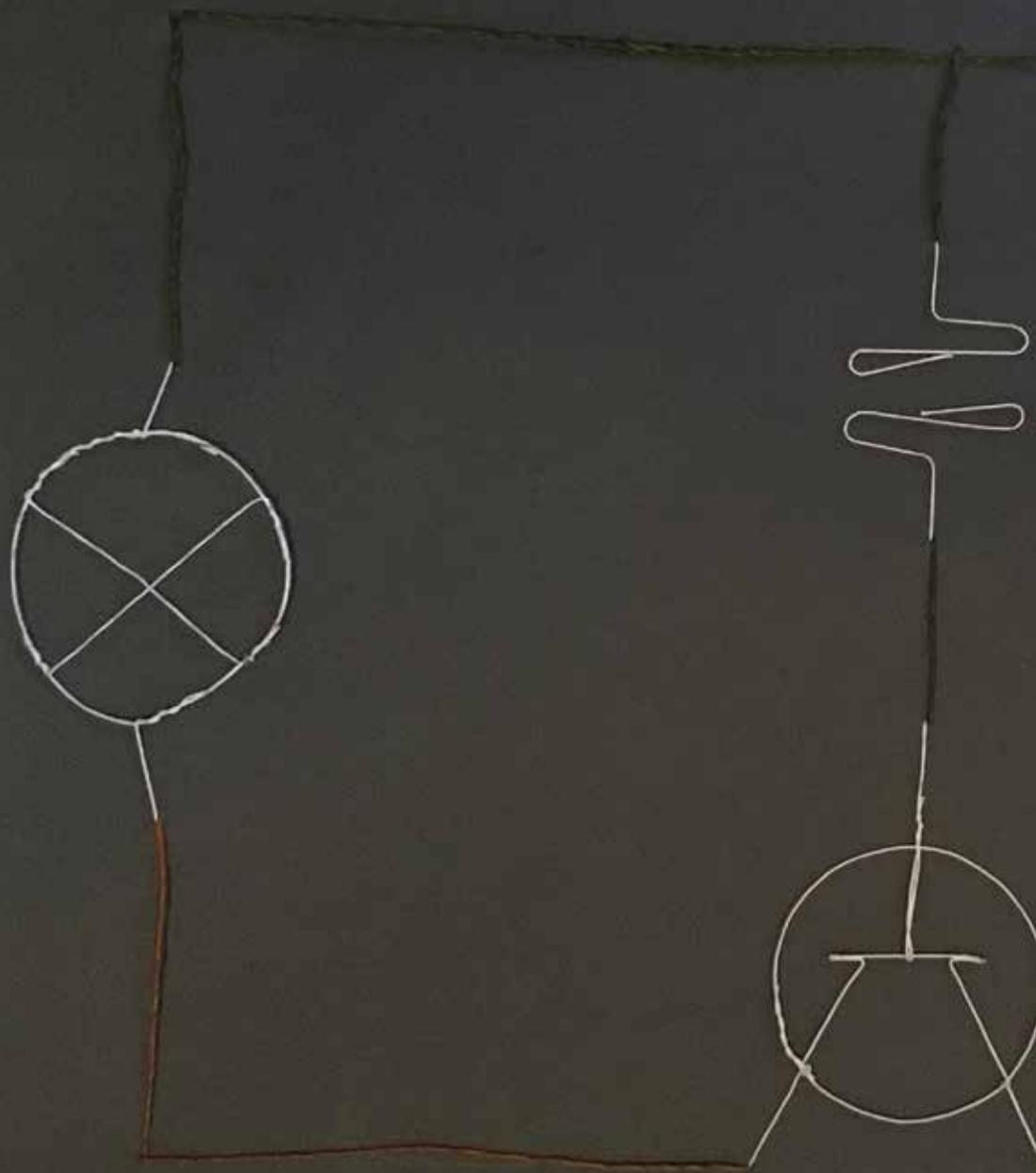
STATEMENT

I have an immense interest in electronics and also making various circuits. I am fascinated by the possibility of human interaction with electronics.

In this piece I have represented a circuit diagram that I have created. This circuit uses a transistor to activate the circuit from a human touch, resulting in a yellowing bulb.

The transistor is a fascinating component for me because it can be activated through a minute amount of current. This electronic phenomena has a similarity to how humans interact with each other.

*\* Not real name.*



**MOHAMED ZAYAAN ASIF  
GA. NILANDHOO**

**THE CHALLENGE, 2018**  
**Pencil color and ink on paper**  
**14.5" x 21.5"**

**BIO**

Mohamed Zayaan Asif was born on the island of GA. Nilandhoo. He started drawing fictional characters at a very young age.

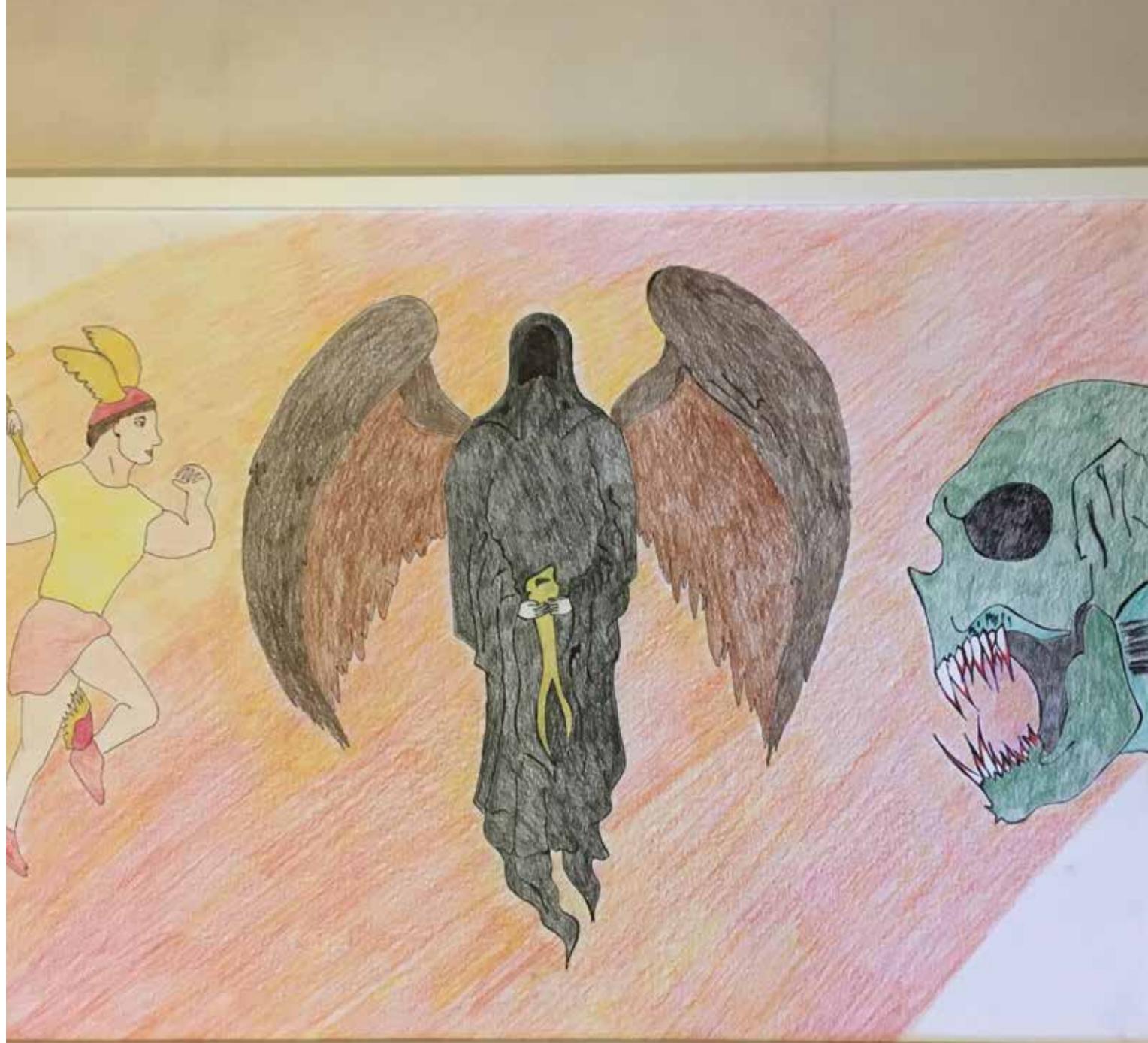
Most of his drawings are fictional characters in a fight scene. Also he shows a lot of interest in depicting the conflicts between demons and heroes. Most of his work is based on his own imaginative stories.

**STATEMENT**

I loved drawing comic art and graffiti art since I was in grade 5. Mostly I drew portrait sketches. But the thing that I concentrate most on is drawing fictional things like Gods, demons, super heroes etc

Moreover, all these fictional things became interesting when I started watching marvel movies, avengers all those stories inspired me and since then I had the passion to draw these things. Also I do love to draw war scenes, two Gods clashing and demonic appearances.

My drawing is based on a fictional story where a God tries to overtake a world and the story goes on with challenges and battles for the throne.





**WAZNEEN WAHEED**  
**GA. VILLINGILI**

**REACHING LIMITS**  
*Water color on paper*  
**14.5" x 21.5"**

BIO

Wazneen Waheed was born in 1994 on the island of GA. Villingili. He loved to go on adventures. He got knowledge of how to survive in uninhabited islands and on sea by his grandfather. He always had piece of his heart for the ocean, that's why he created this piece.

STATEMENT

As a free diver reaching limits exceeding the capability of what you can be doing above and beyond. As I dive deeper and spend more time underneath, the suffocation and the struggle get harder and harder. I feel this connection with the reefs and corals, as they are fighting a battle against time. I have seen corals whitening in a tremendous rate. They are living creatures too. I connect my experience to their suffocation.



**MOHAMED MUBEEN\***  
**G.D.H. FARESMAATHODA**

***LEG FIRST, RUNNING SECOND,***  
**2018**

***Pencil sketch of leg stored in***  
***bottle with olive oil***  
**6"**

BIO

Mubeen is an IAAF certified coach  
His passions are coaching in the  
field of athletics, sports across  
the Maldives, in the sprints long  
distance, jumps and throws.

STATEMENT

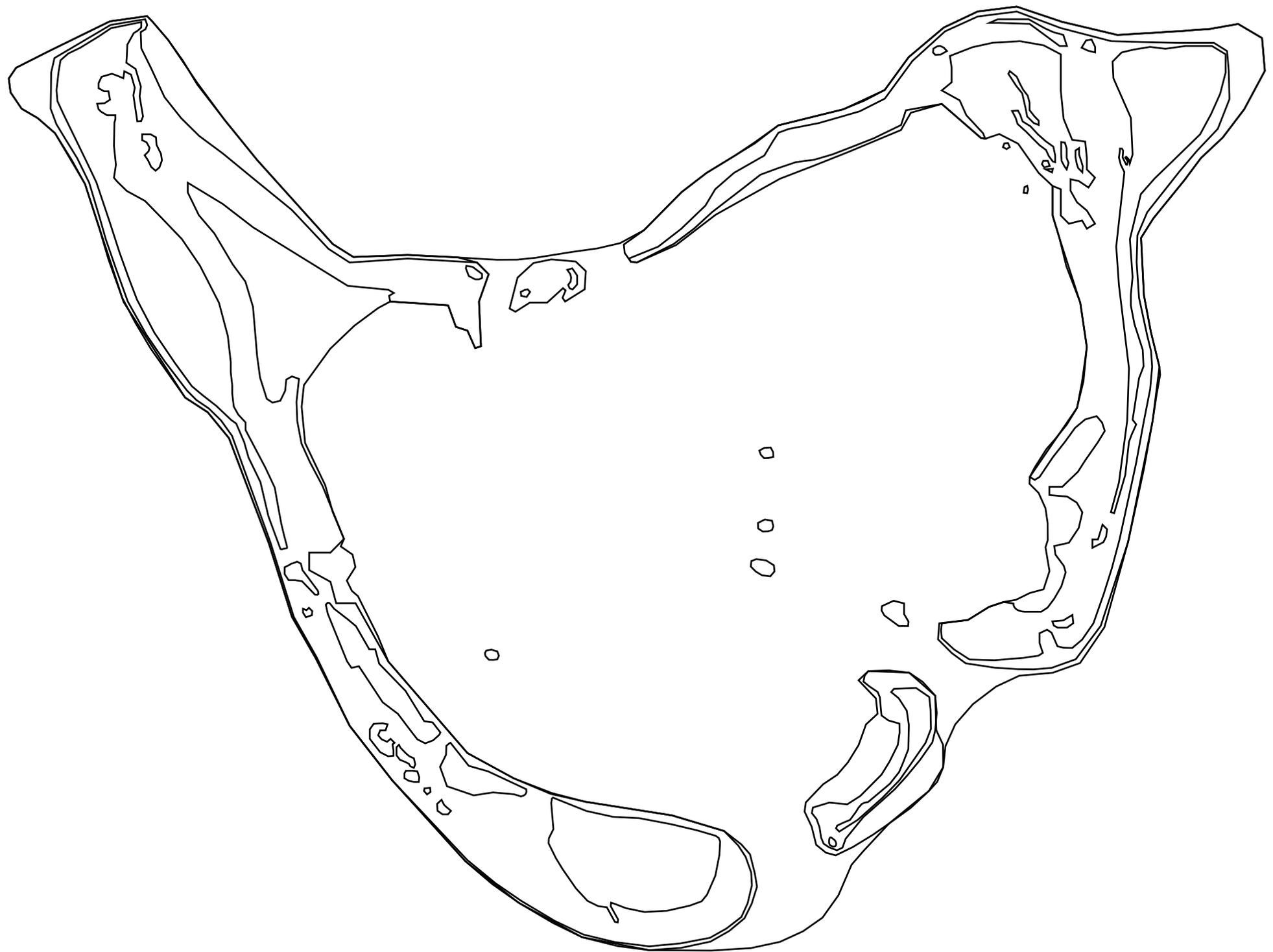
As a child, I faced challenges of  
representing myself in fast running.  
The working medium is a sketch of  
a legs stored in a glass bottle, where  
the legs show the importance in  
running without getting injury. It  
can be said that "leg first, running  
second". In this example the effect  
is to create lively demonstration of  
human leg muscles and importance  
of fitness needed for running  
and also to emphasize spraining  
knees and stretching to max in fast  
running.

*\* Not real name.*





**ADDU  
CITY**



**ALI ANIM MUFEED  
HITHADHOO; ADDU CITY**

**CHAOTIC MIND, 2018**  
**Coffee on paper**  
**41cm x 58.5 cm**

**BIO**

Ali Anim Mufeed, born and raised in the Maldives, Addu City. He had finished his education in a Government school and progressed to higher education in a private school in Malé, Maldives.

Anim is an individual who is greatly interested in music. Technology and the beauty of life as a whole.

He considers himself as a thinker and he express his thinking by painting illustration of all that he thinks about.

**STATEMENT**

My work is an illustration of a snapshot of a chaotic mind. It shows the thoughts of good, pleasant and bad spiraling around an infinite loop of a void.

Inside a calm looking exterior, is difficult to imagine such thoughts of mixed emotions and death.



Born and  
was Addu  
had his  
government  
used to  
in a private  
school  
at which he  
is there  
he beauty  
a  
said no  
express  
mind  
-that

snapshot of a chaotic mind  
pleasant and bad  
p. of a void  
difficult to imagine such  
death.

A. A. Mufeed  
Chaotic Mind  
Coffee on paper  
41cm x 58.5cm

**AHMED JAILAM**  
**MARADHOO FEYDHOO; ADDU**  
**CITY**

**DANTE, 2018**  
**Acrylic painting**  
**41cm x 58.5 cm**

BIO

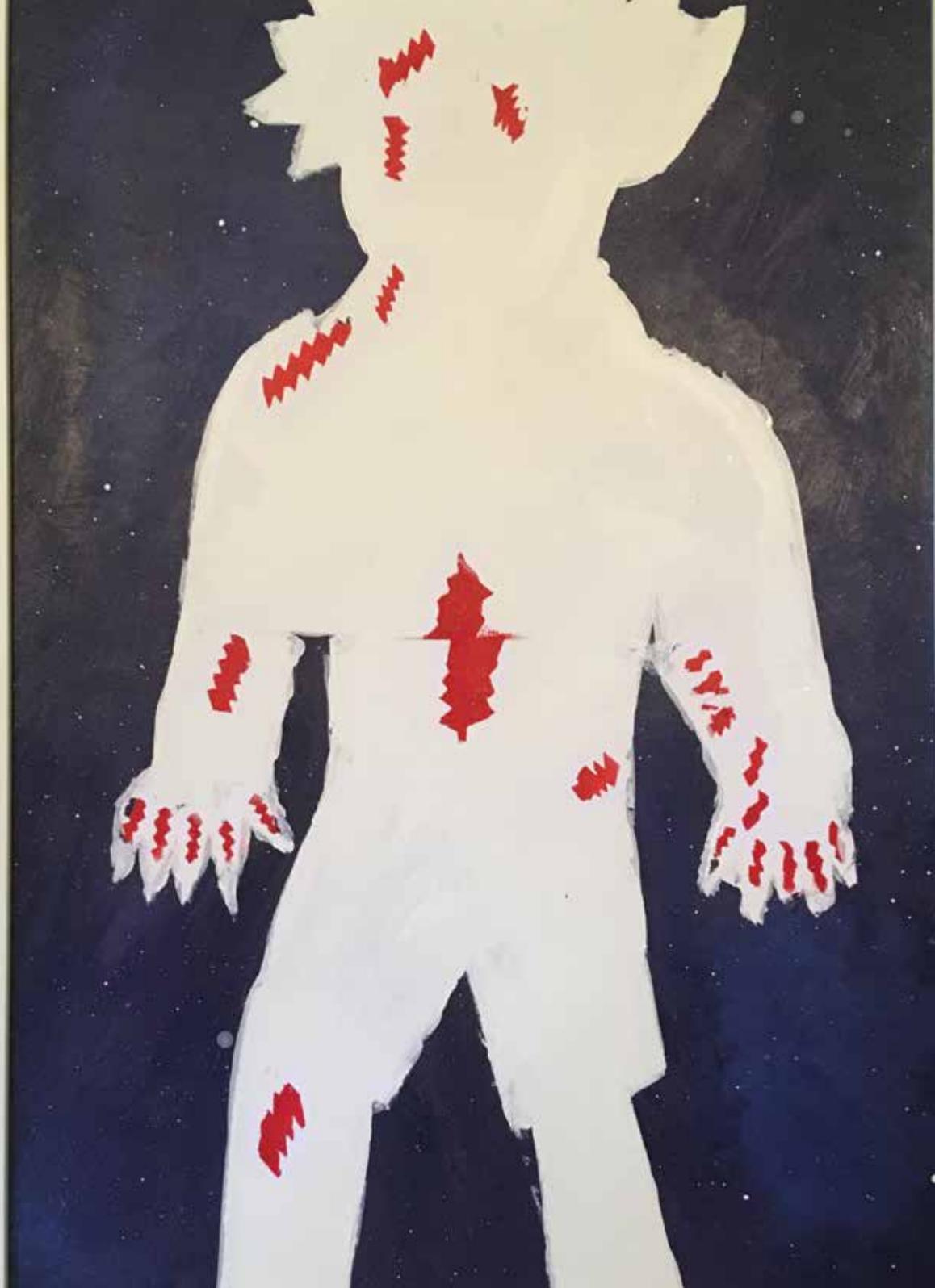
Ahmed Jailam most commonly known as "DANTE" Maldivian born on April 13 1994 is a Maldivian Electrical Engineer, Photographer, Musician and a Painter. He was born in Addu City, Maldives. He wants to do advocacy about the problems he faced as a child through art, sketch, music, sculptures, and give a message to the world.

STATEMENT

This piece represents my own history of struggle overcoming the tragedies and hardship of life. The 25 individual marks on the figure body is a story that I have lived

I have a keen interest in stars and galaxy, for me stars are a testimony to better days ahead. I have placed wounded figures in the backdrop of a galaxy of stars represented by white in paint.

Like creating 'art' in life, you have to keep going no matter what.



**HAMMADH RASHEED  
HITHADHOO; ADDU CITY**

***TWO HANDS, 2018***  
***Abstract plastic carving***  
***34 cm x 32 cm***

BIO

Hammadh Rasheed (Maldivian, born 30 August 1999) is a videographer, volunteer, youtuber and a plastic carver, in other words, plastic calligraphy.

He completed his O' Level and A' Level in 2015 and 2018 respectively. He is interested in gaming and anime. He likes to listen to songs, and even sings songs. He is very open to explore his limits. He is mostly inspired by little incidents that take place in his life.

STATEMENT

I learned how to carve out on plastic while watching my father do it. He would do cycle boards, nameplates and even calligraphy. My piece symbolizes my experience of being ambidextrous. I was never allowed to be dominant using my left hand due to the old beliefs. Growing up, despite my parents advice, I use my left hand in secrecy.

In this piece, I have used my right hand to carve the left side of the plastic and left hand to carve out the right side, to explore and reflect the negotiation of switching hands during my childhood. These are both my hands and they are beautiful and can create whatever I want.



**MISHKA MOHAMED**  
**HITHADHOO; ADDU CITY**

***EMPTY SPACE, 2018***  
***Acrylic paint, paper clay on***  
***paper***  
***12" x 14"***

#### BIO

Mishka Mohamed (Maldivian, born August 9, 1998) is an artist who mostly does pencil sketches. She studied art as an optional subject when she was in grade 9. She completed BTEC diploma in business 2017. She always loved drawing sketches of the beauty of human body like hands, legs, and neck. She is still waiting for an opportunity to explore and learn more about art as art is not only about drawing.

#### STATEMENT

There is always an empty space that never seem to be filled. Humans need to trust each other for survival. But it is more important to trust ourselves before one can trust others. I have always had a conflict with my own self in matters that needed fast action. I seek self confidence and trust through the work I have done. Clay is a medium that I have not explored before. Creating my own self portrait gave me confidence and expression of my worth.



**RAYA RASHEED\***  
**FEYDHOO; ADDU CITY**

**LOCKED, 2018**  
**Metal Key**  
**5.5 cm x 2 cm**

BIO

Raya Rasheed (Maldivian, born February 8, 1998) is an artist who is working on pencil drawings. In 2017 Raya earned her diploma from Addu High School.

Raya is influenced and inspired mostly by the things that surround her. She is working to improve more on her drawing skills.

STATEMENT

Home is where we feel the safest. The outer walls, the doors and locks are supposed to protect you from the outside chaos. The key on the wall is the key to my room, where I experienced trauma when my mother used to call me a little girl. I have placed this in the gallery hoping that someone will keep the key protected.

*\* Not real name.*



**MARYAM SAMA\***  
**MARADHOO; ADDU CITY**

**DEPRESSION, 2018**  
**Pencil color and gouache on paper**  
**33 cm x 42 cm**

BIO

Maryam Sama (Hulhudhoo born February 27, 2000) is a girl currently studying management. She moved to Maradhoo in 2016 for her course after grade 10. She is not employed at the moment and she is trying to get a job. She is very fond of travelling and exploring places especially small islands in Maldives rather than places like Malaysia and Singapore. She has always dreamed of staying in her homeland and what she always said is that she won't leave her homeland for a job or she would rather stay unemployed till she gets a job from her homeland.

STATEMENT

You're not qualified to talk about depression unless you have had it!  
"says my depression".

*\* Not real name.*



**AMINATH SHAZA\***  
**HITHADHOO; ADDU CITY**

**BOX, 2018**  
**A4 size card paper, acrylic paint,**  
**foam board**  
**29.2 x 38.1 x 41.1**

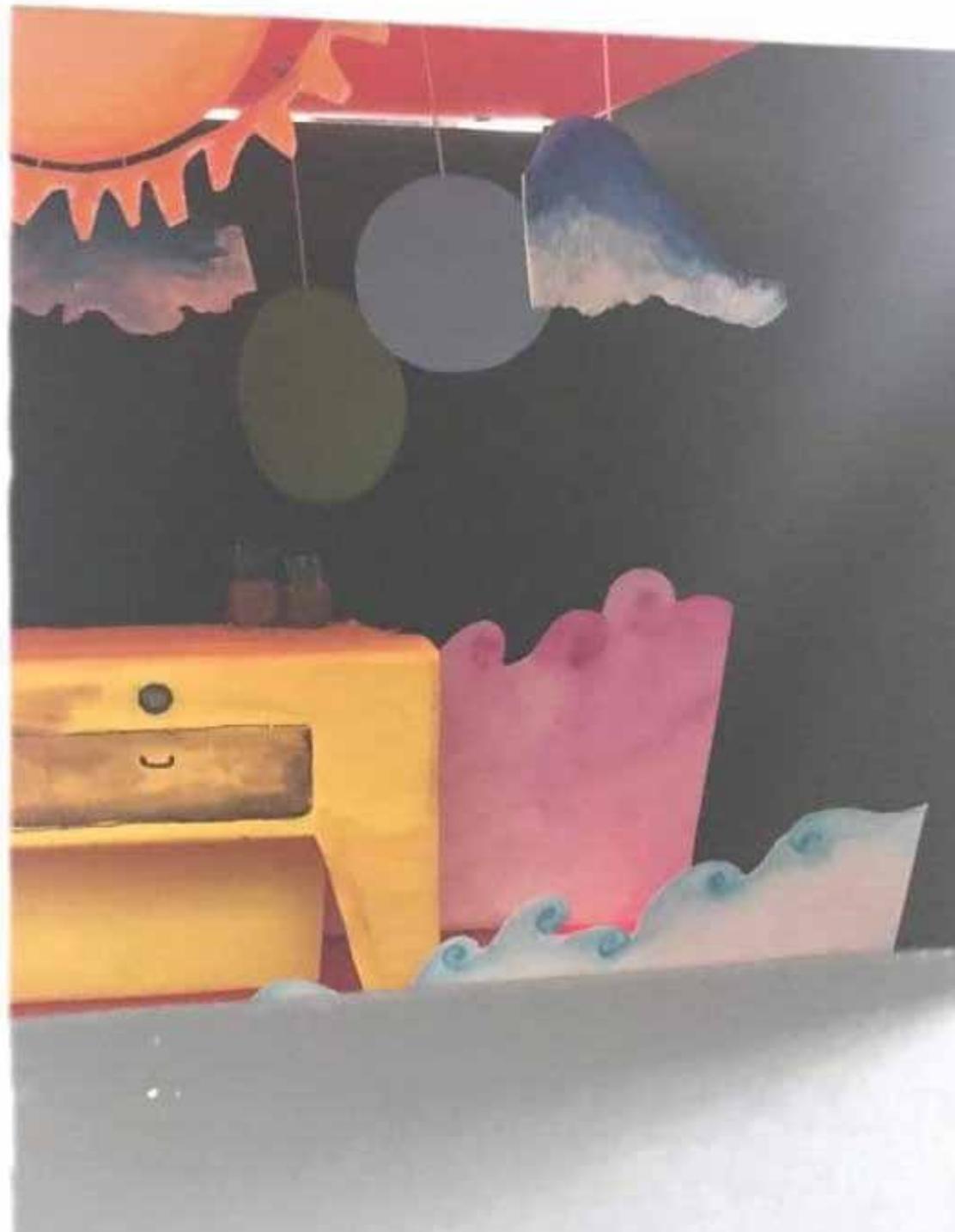
BIO

Aminath Shaza (Maldivian, born March 27, 1998) is a painter and illustrator artist. She was born in S. Hithadhoo, Maldives and has lived there since her birth. She finished her studies in 2018 and is focusing more on her art now. She is interested in sketching and painting. Her paintings are about her mental ideas and imagination.

STATEMENT

Create opportunities for us to open our ideas. This piece represent my ideas that are only seen in my room. My art focuses more on nature and scenarios.

*\* Not real name.*



**MOHAMED ZAYAAN WAHEED  
HITHADHOO; ADDU CITY**

BIO

Maldivian, born November 18th 1999, is a graphic designer, photographer, 3D artist and animator. He was born in Hithadhoo, the capital district in Addu City from the southernmost region of Maldives. He attended Seenu Atoll Education Centre from 2006 – 2012 till the school expanded to Sharafuddin School, where he studied from 2012 – 2015. Being self-taught via youtube and a lot of practice, he kept improving his skills as a graphic designer and 3D artist over the years.

STATEMENT

You fortify yourself with these fragile fences

Hiding your own true self from

Yourself

To please others, we put on this mask and

Play this illusion thinking that

We could someday maybe learn

To love yourself for

Who you really are.....



**Youth Vision Workshop 2018**

*UNDP Maldives in association with Emmenge*

**Curator**

Fazail Lutfi

**Co-Curators**

Fathimath Zeena Ali

Ismail Ashwad

**Workshop Facilitators**

Farhad Mohamed

Fathimath Zeena Ali

Ismail Ashwad

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