Malayalam Calligraphy

NARAYANA BHATTATHIRI

2020 JUNE

MALAYALAM CALLIGRAPHY

NARAYANA BHATTATHIRI

SAYAHNA FOUNDATION
TRIVANDRUM, INDIA 695014

Kacaṭathapa
Narayana Bhattathiri
(Malayalam: Calligraphy)

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The electronic versions were generated from sources marked up in LaTeX in a computer running GNU/LINUX operating system. PDF was typeset using LuaTeX from TeXLive 2021 in the cloud framework, Ithal. The base font used for Latin script was Cormorant Garamond developed by Christian Thalman. The title page makes use of CormorantSC Regular developed by the same font designer.

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Cover: is a collage created with LuaLaTeX by making use of a Malayalam calligraphic image provided by N Bhattathiri, an English calligraphic title with Ballet Regular font designed by Maximiliano Sproviero and developed by Eduardo Tunni and an ornamental border with *pgfornament*, a LaTeX library from TeXLive 2021.

Sayahna Foundation
JWRA 34, Jagathy, Trivandrum, India 695014
URL: www.sayahna.org

Narayana Bhattathiri

Narayana Bhattathiri was born in Edappon, a sleepy little village near Pandalam in Kerala, India. He had his graduate studies at the College of Fine Arts, Trivandrum India, in painting. In 1982, he joined Kalakaumudi group of publications as an artist—the first person in Kerala to be designated as a (Malayalam) calligrapher. Kerala never had a history of calligraphy—still no equivalent word for calligraphy in the language. He played with Malayalam alphabets, 'lettering' the titles of stories and poems for more than four decades.

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Bhattathiri conductted several exhibitions at art galleries and educational institutions in different parts of India. He is also the receipient of the Jikji Excellence Award in International Calligraphy for 2017 and 2018.

His works have been selected to the Calligraphers in Conversation (5th Annual International Calligraphy Exhibition, Sanfrancisco). His calligraphy work is also exhibited at the Calligraphy Stone Park in Herbin, China among the best of the world.

He is a regular participant at the International TypoDay Conferences for the past couple of years, and has been part of various upcoming calligraphy workshops around the country.

Exhibitions organized at: New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Thrissur, Kochi, Trivandrum.

Workshops organized:

- Trivandrum, Kochi, Thrissur, Kozhikode.
- Kochi Biennale 2016-17.
- NIFT, Kannur.
- Callifest 2018, Navi Mumbai.
- Kalakshar, Banarus Hindu University, Varanasi.

Festival Director, First National calligraphy Festival of Kerala 2019.

(Pics: courtesy of the author.)

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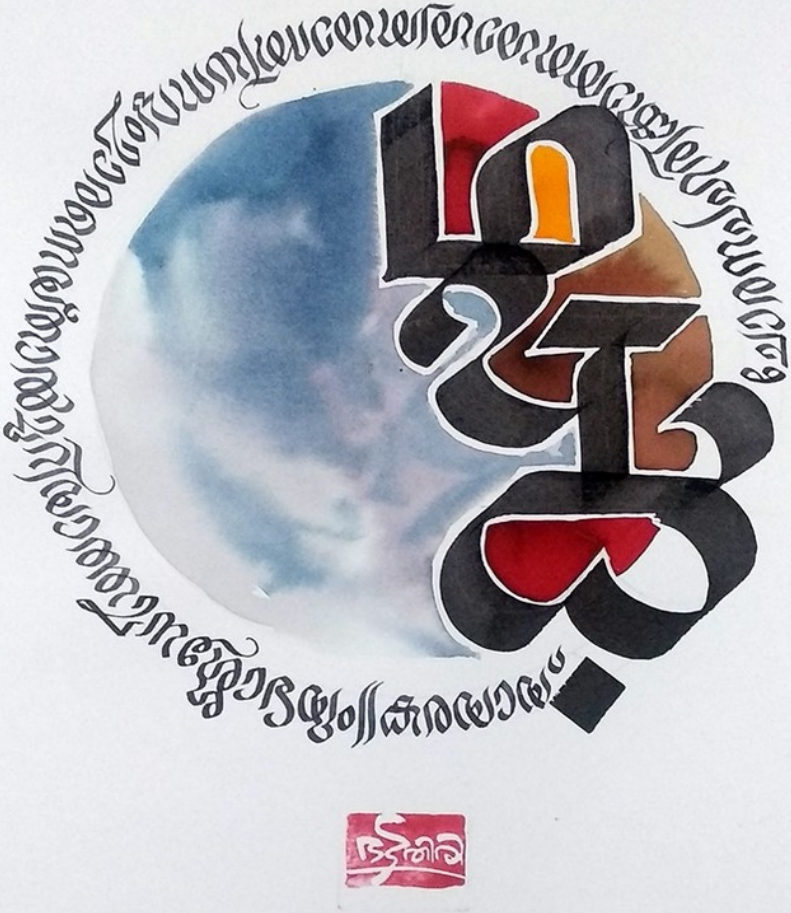
SAYAHNA FOUNDATION • 2020-06-01



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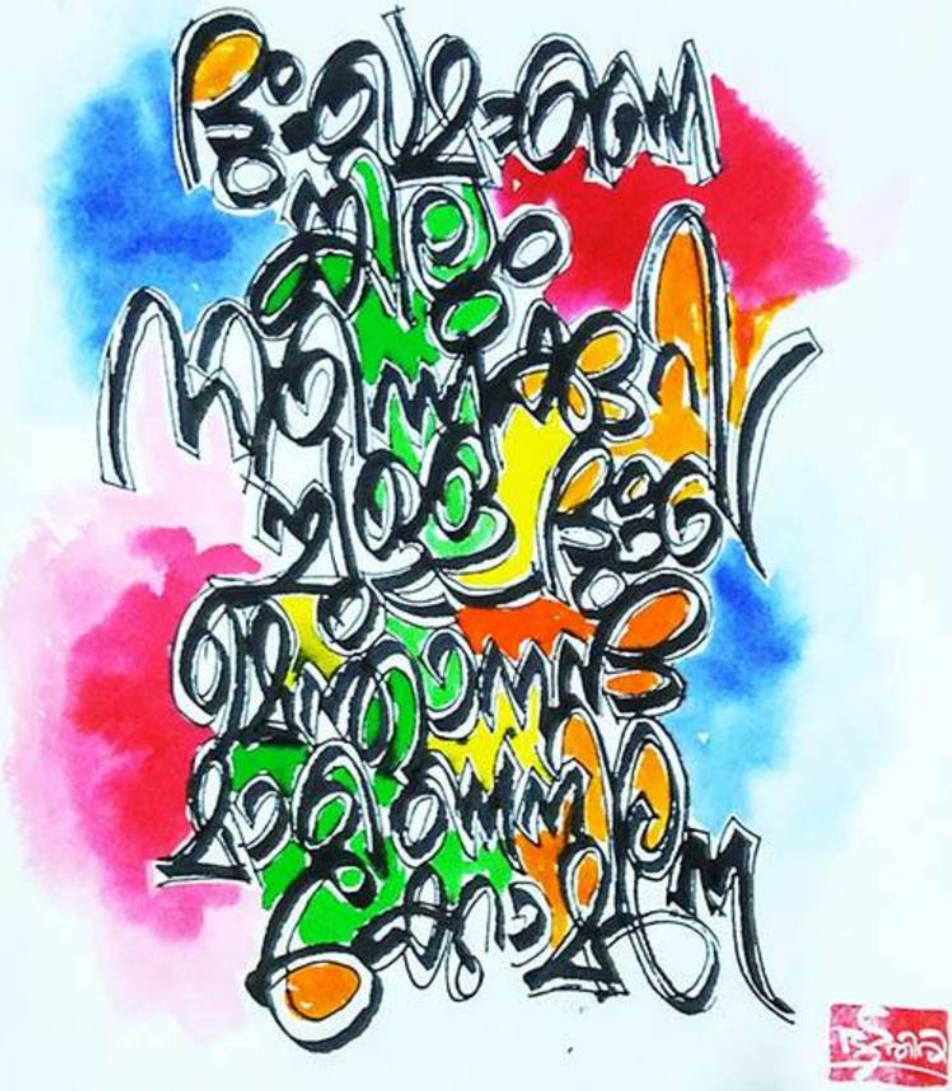

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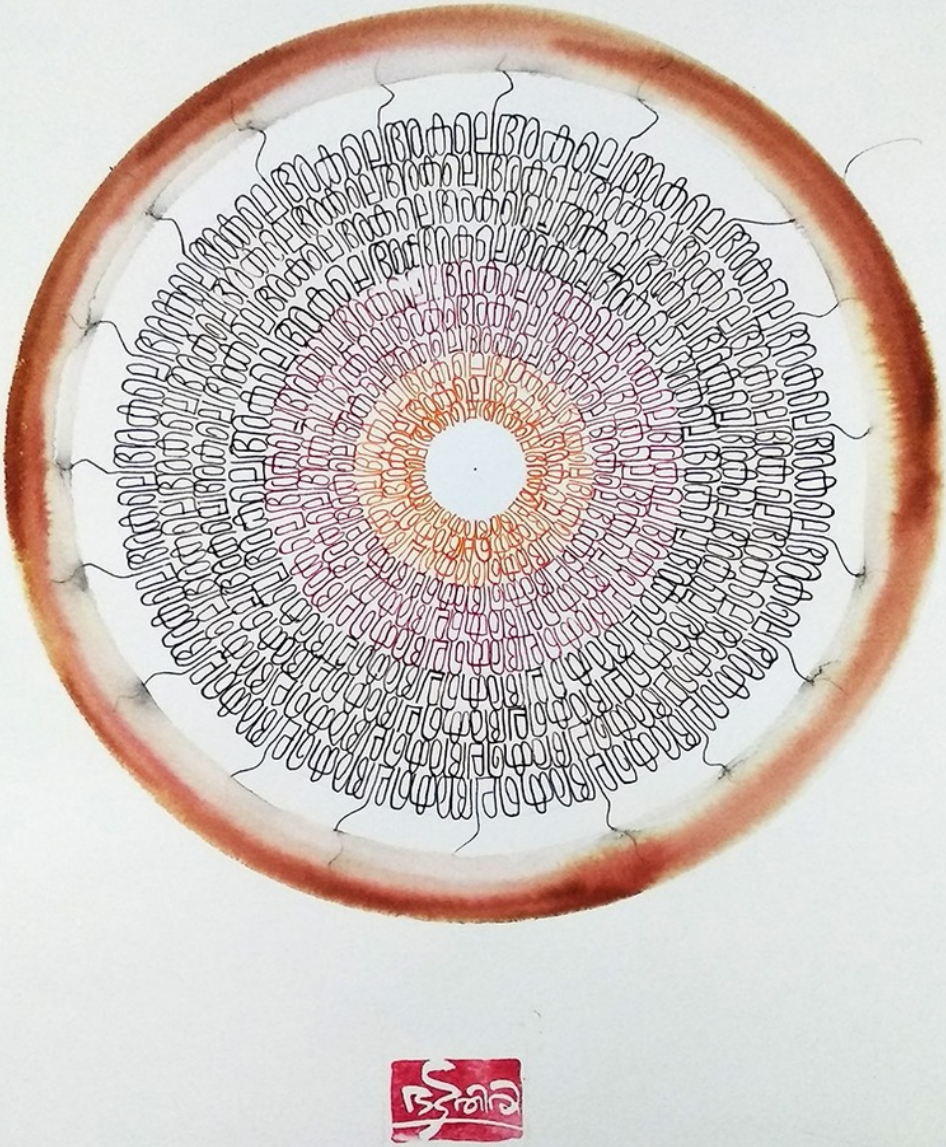

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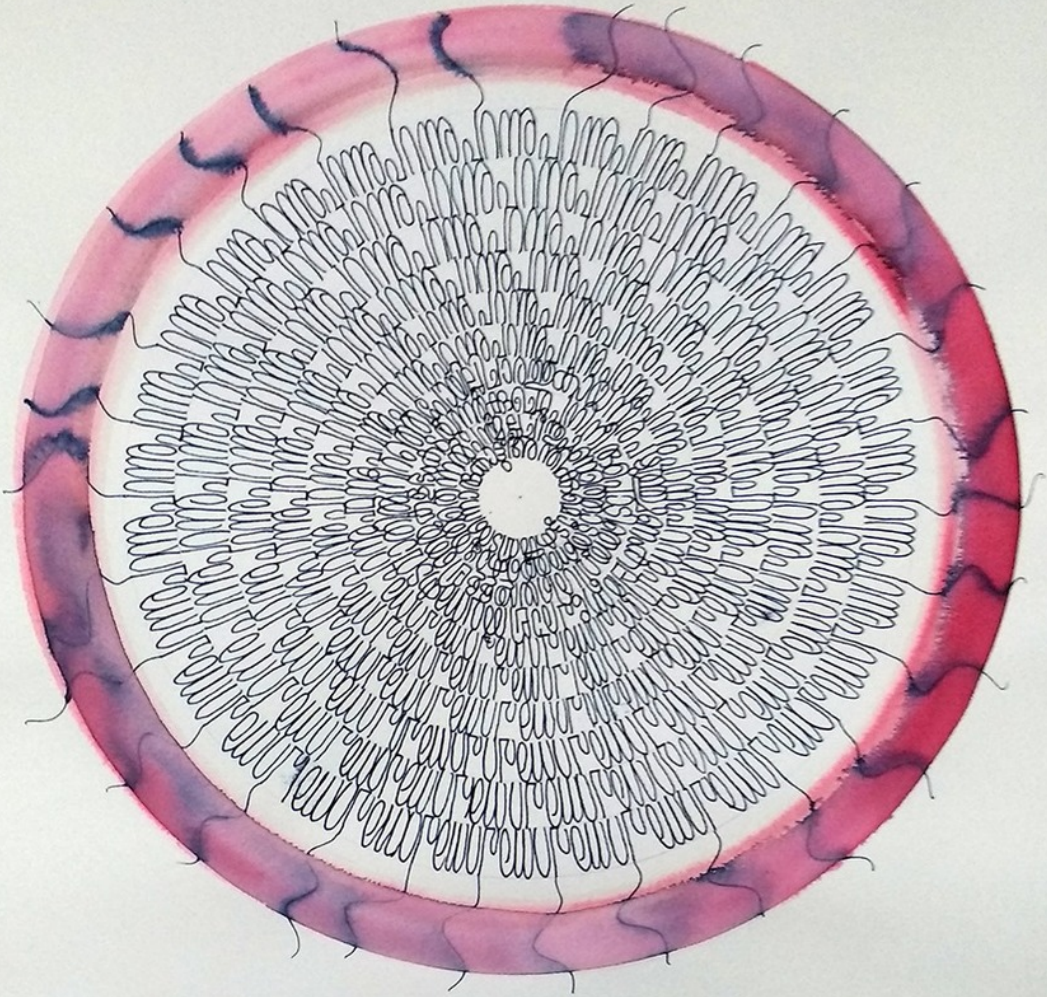

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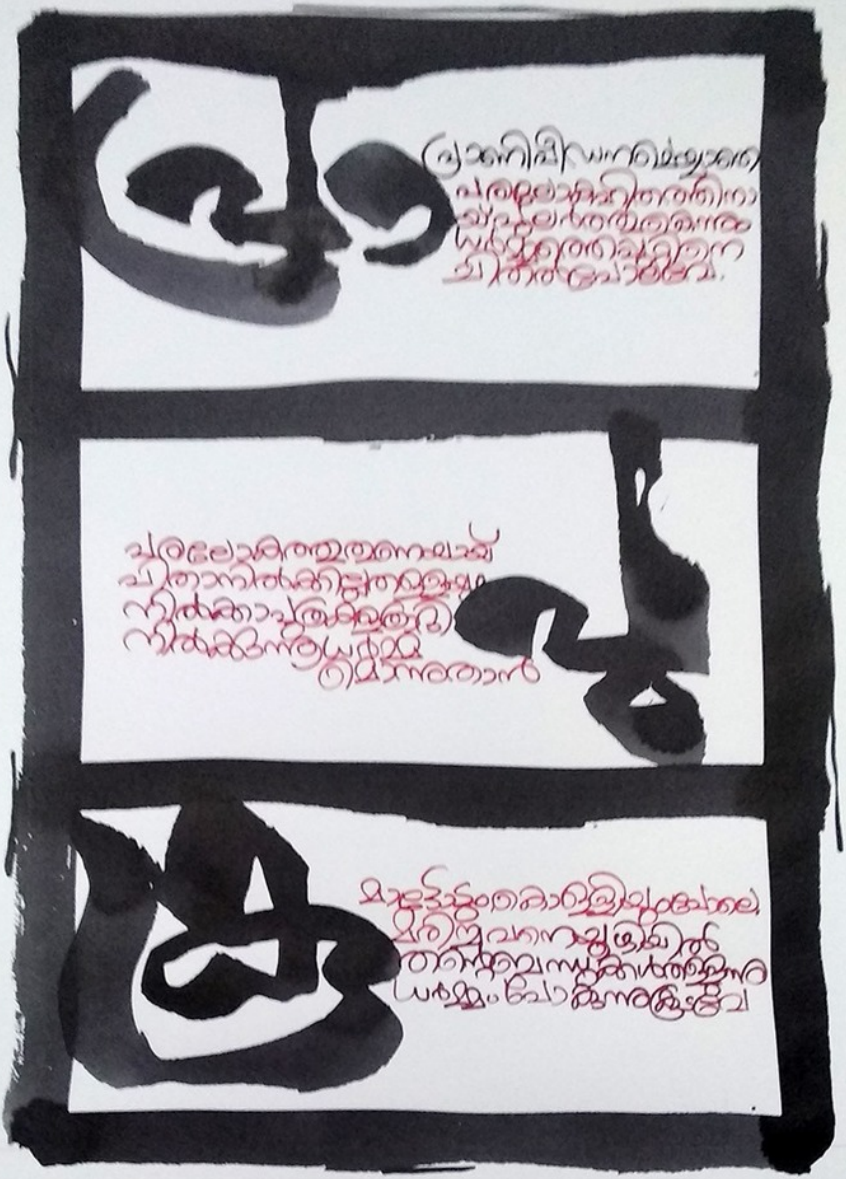

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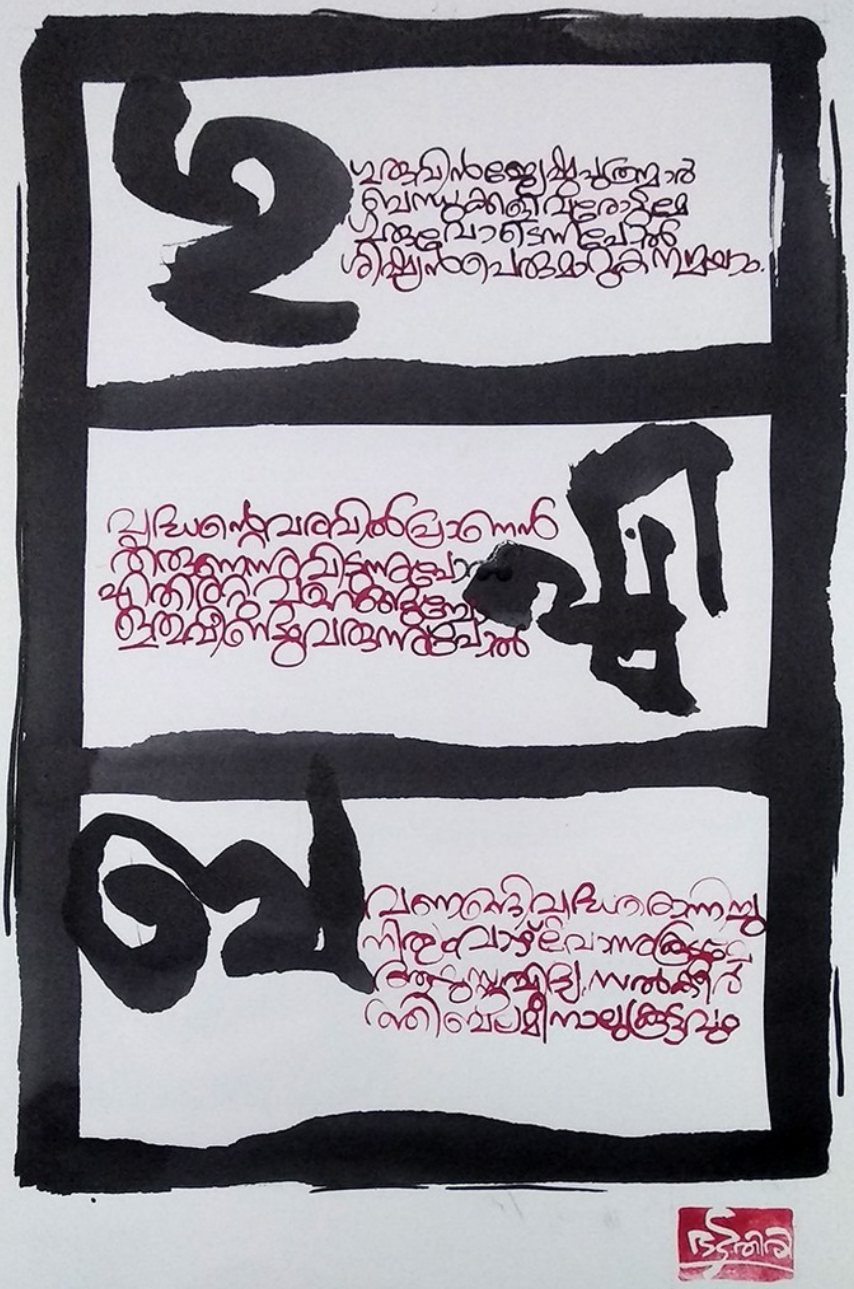

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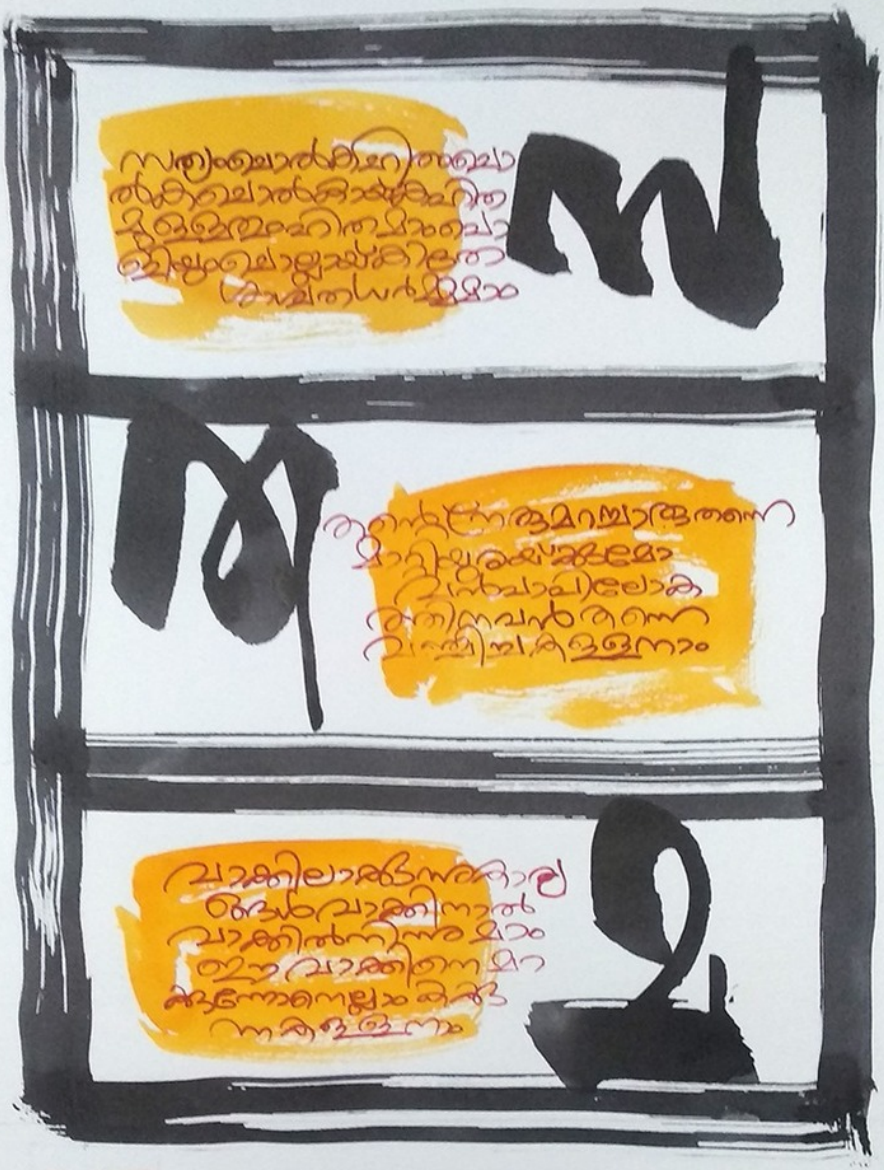

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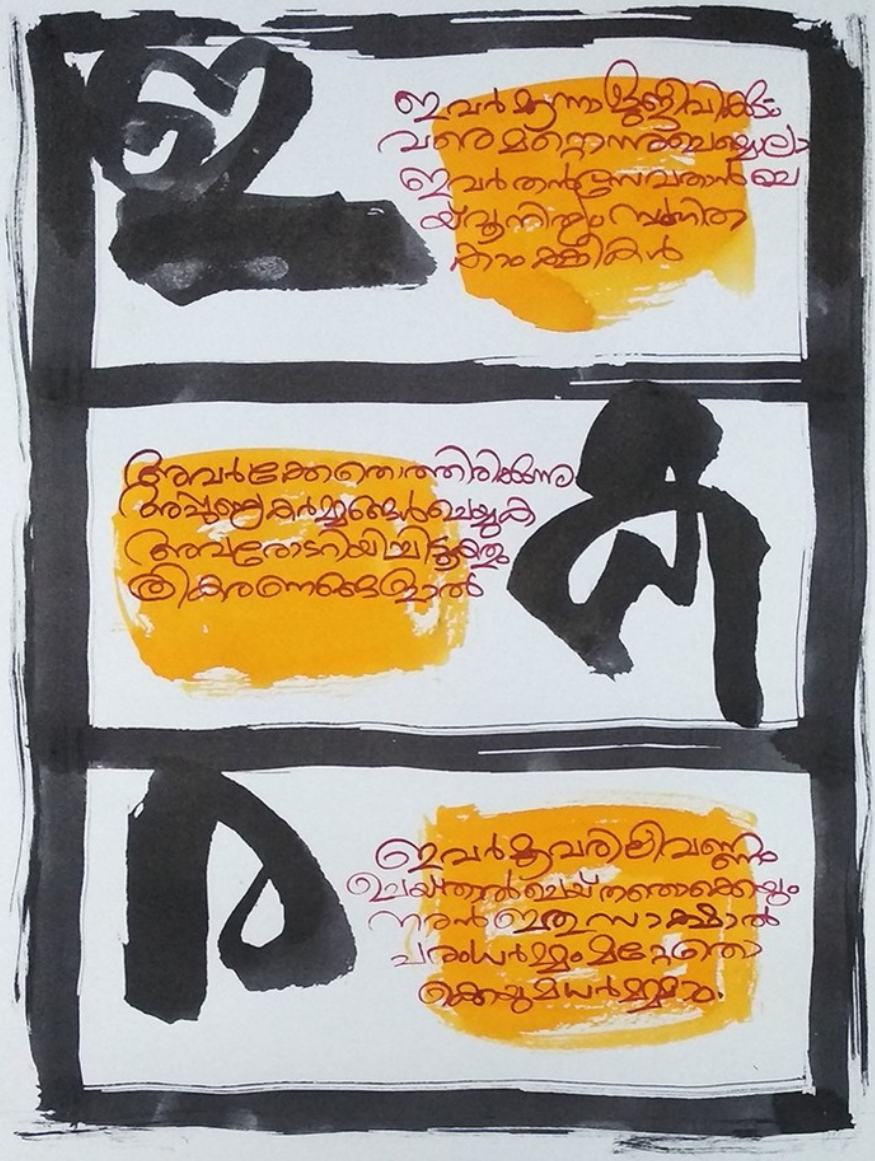

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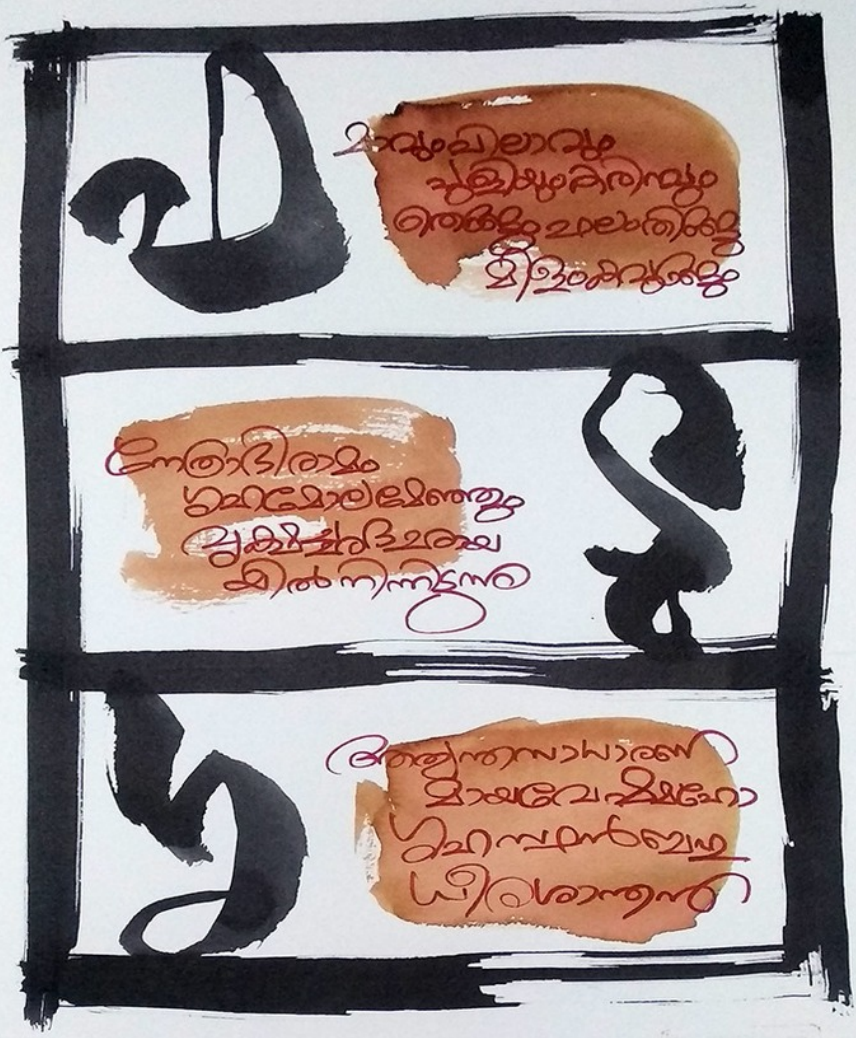

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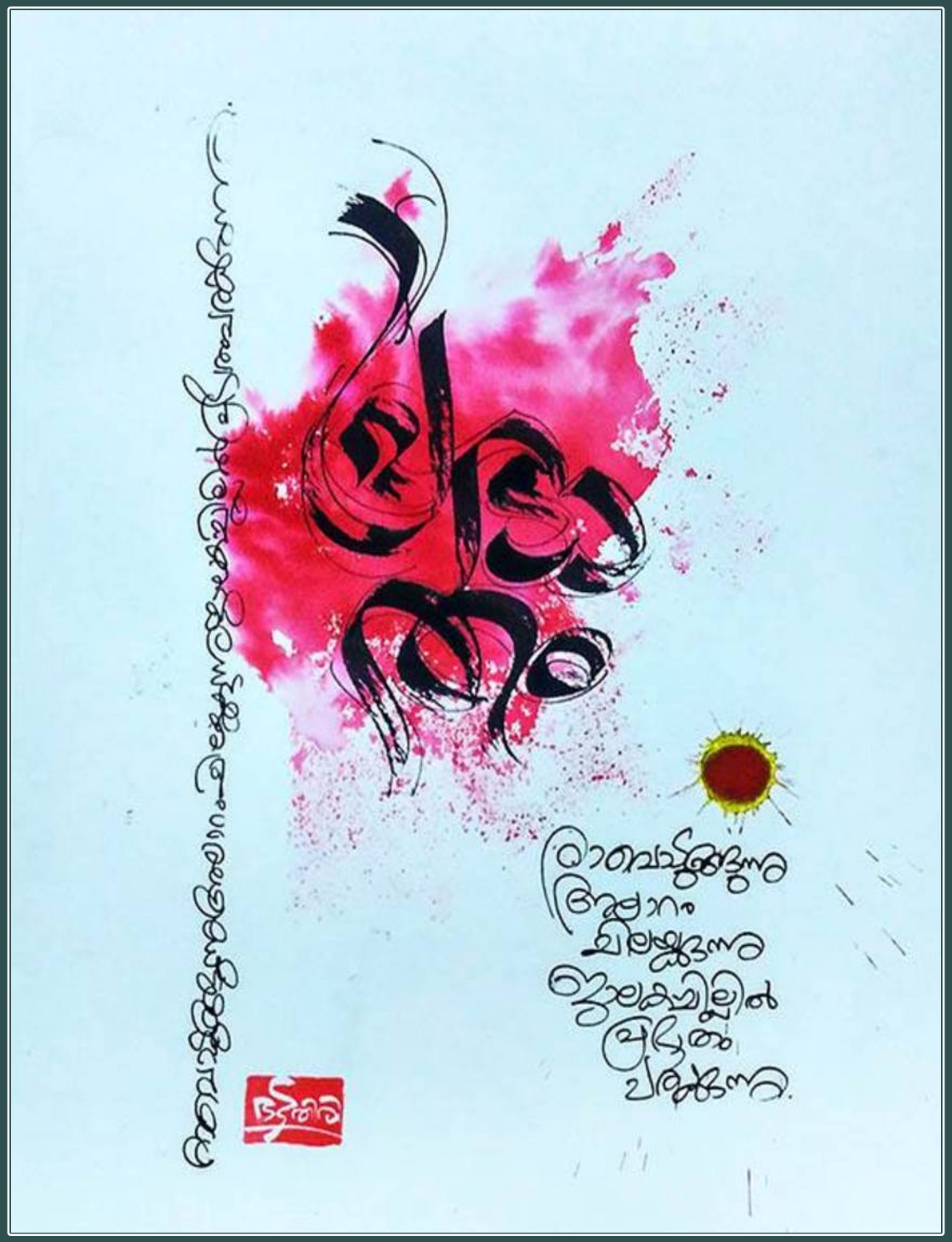

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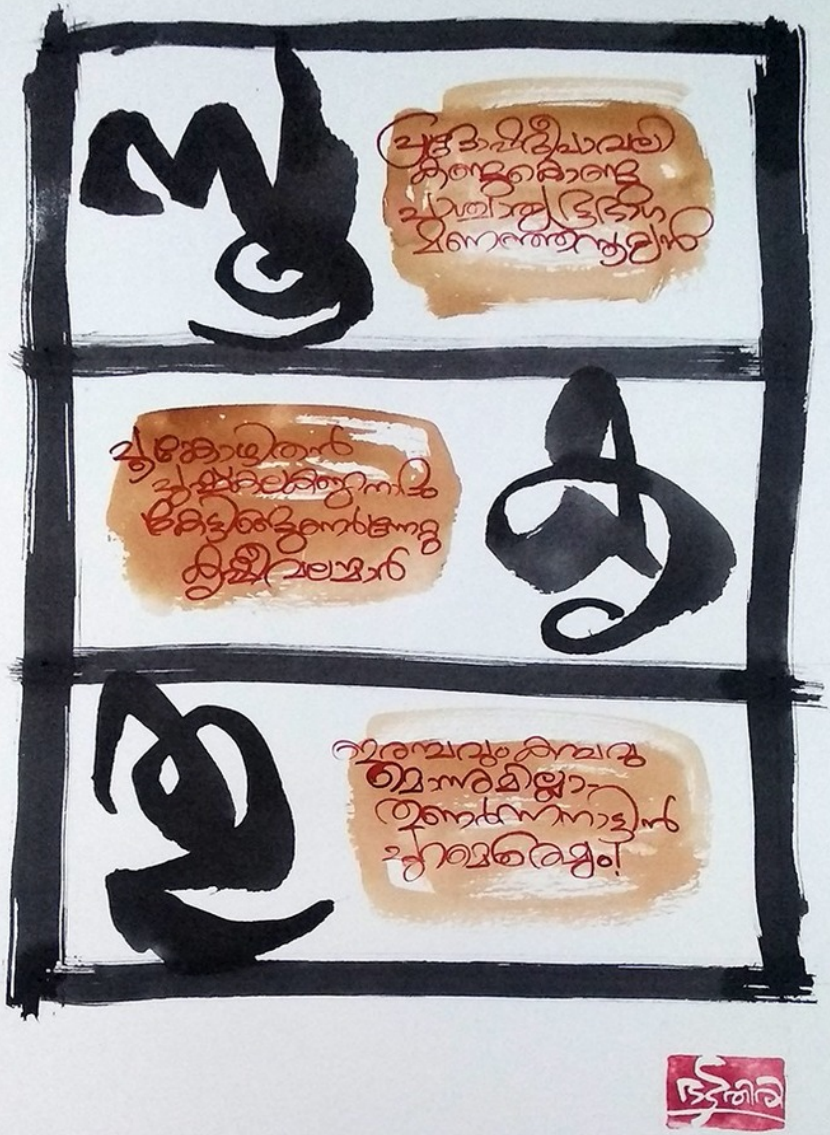

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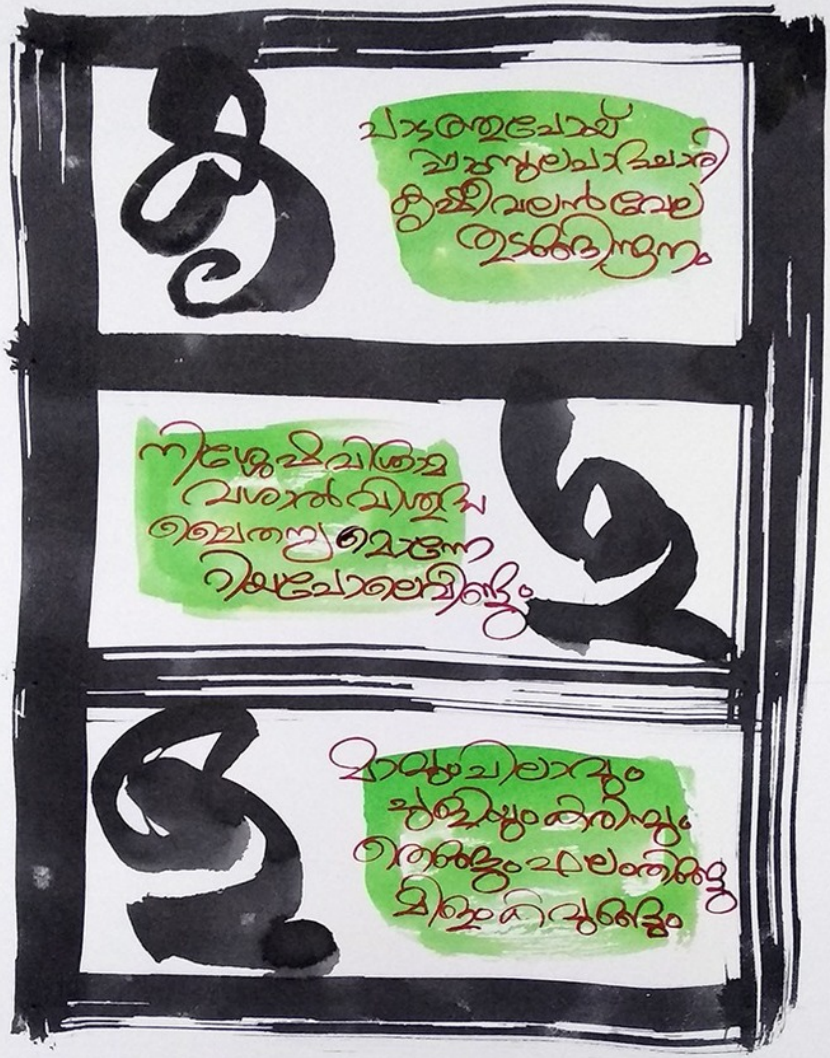

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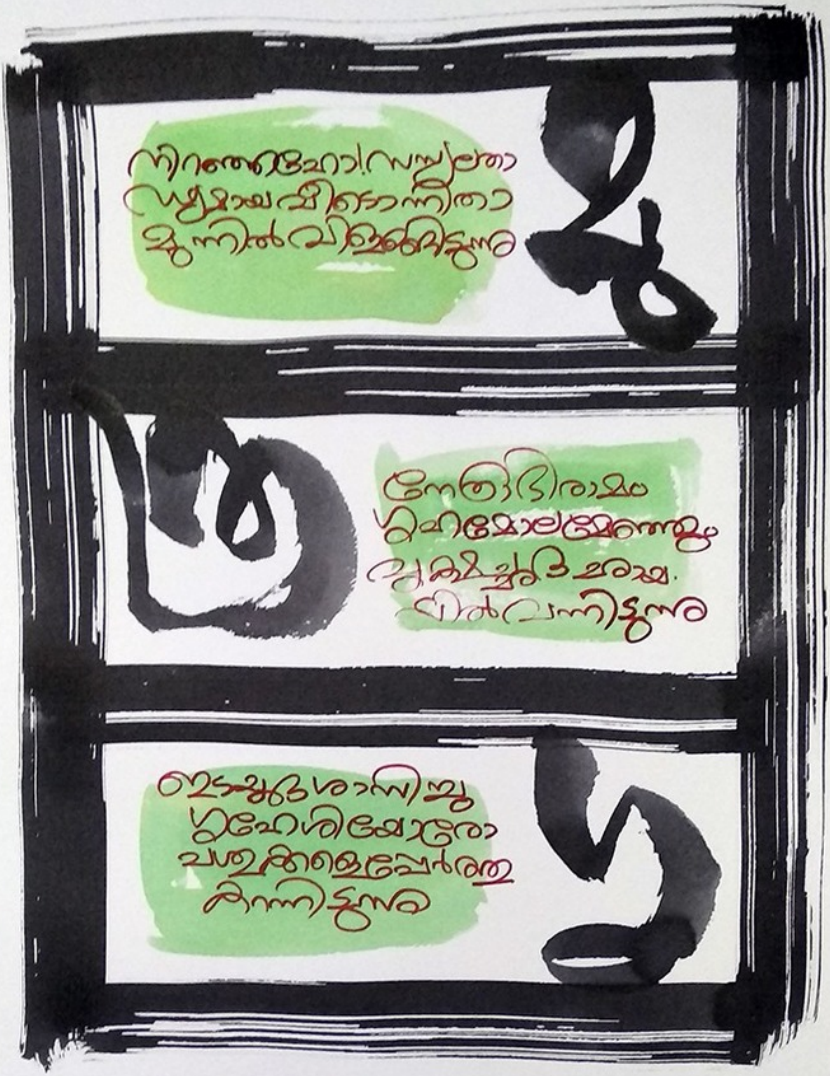

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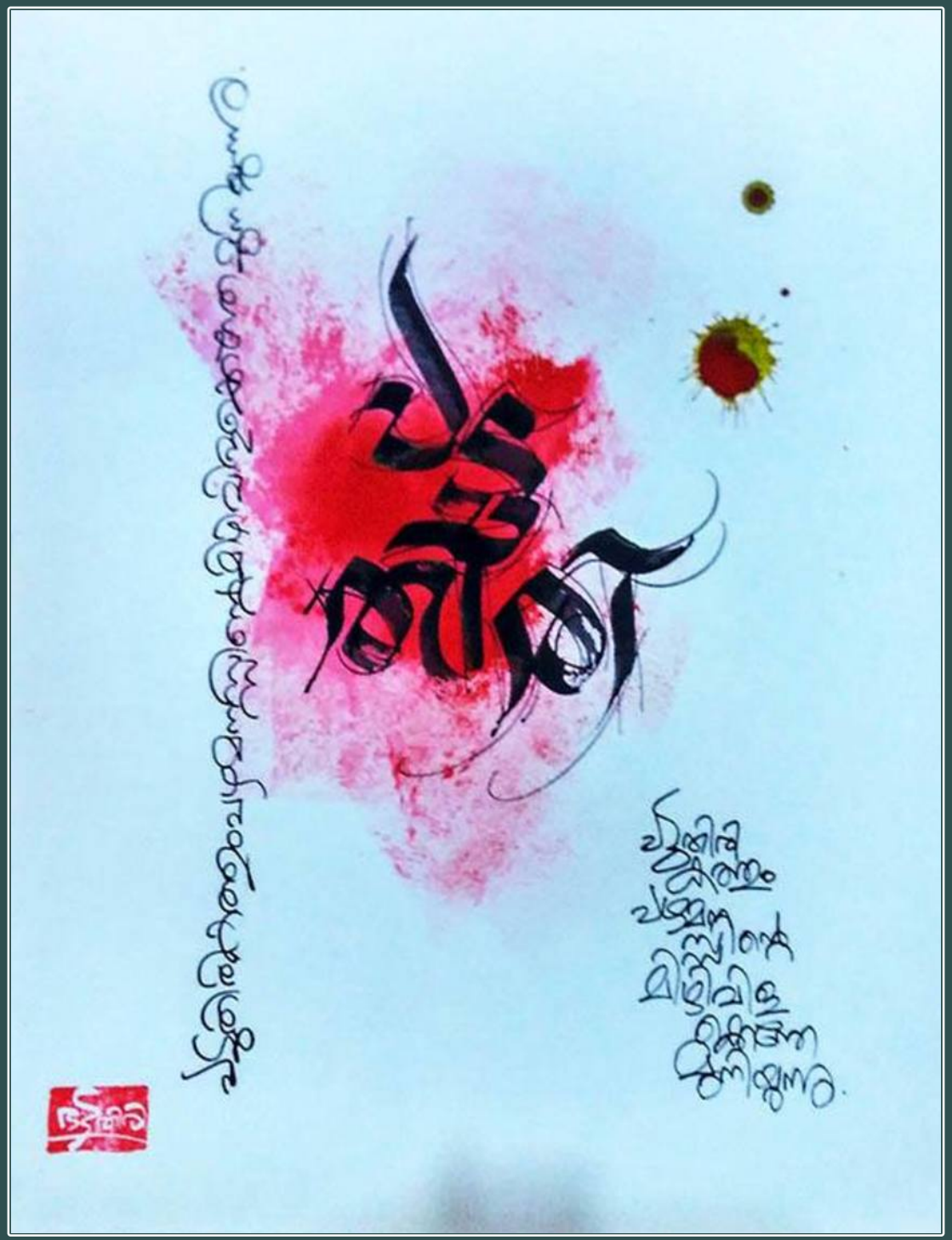

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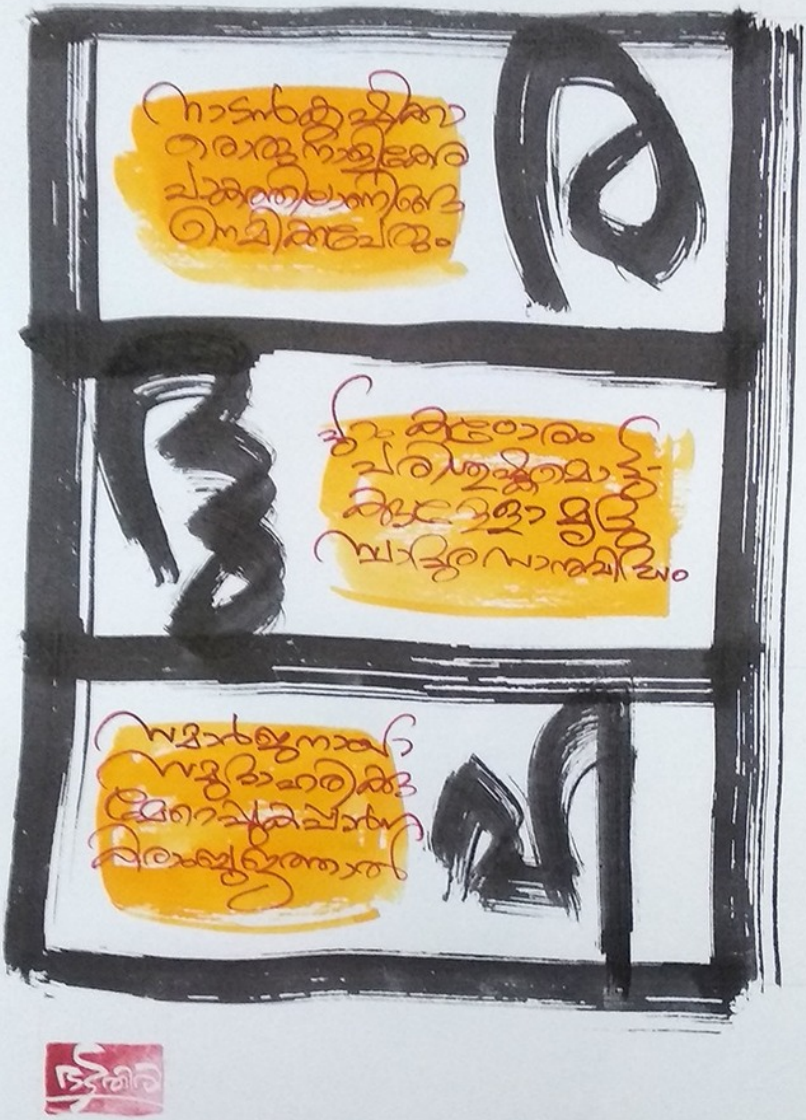

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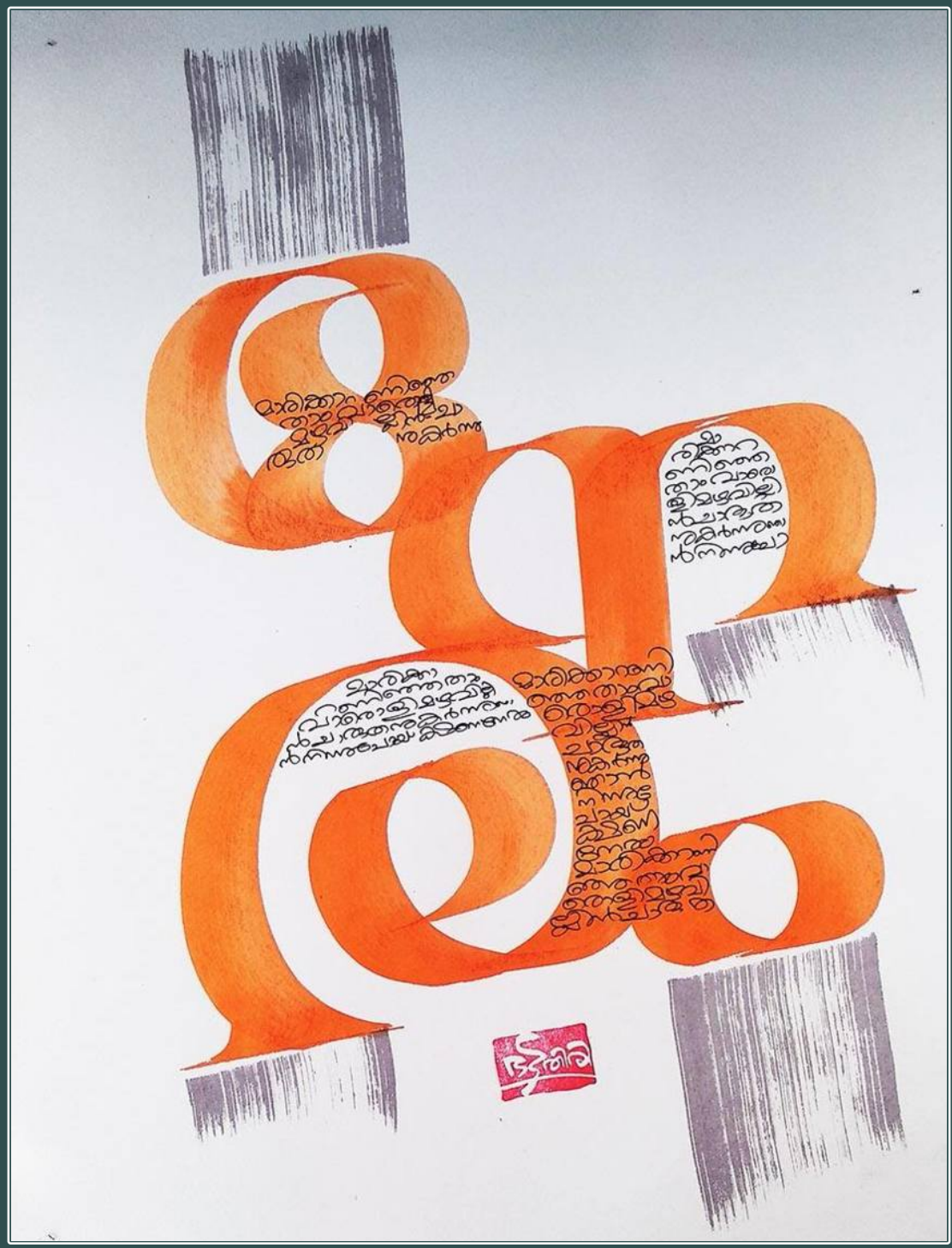

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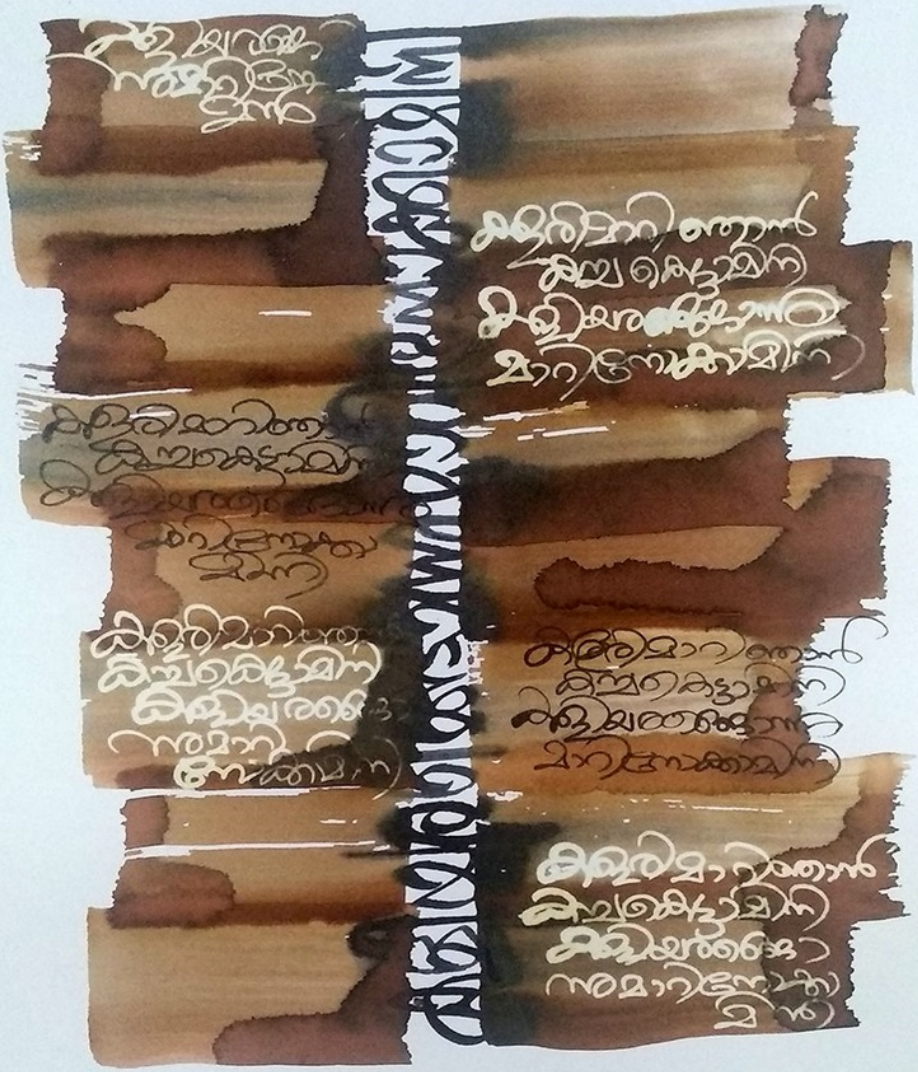

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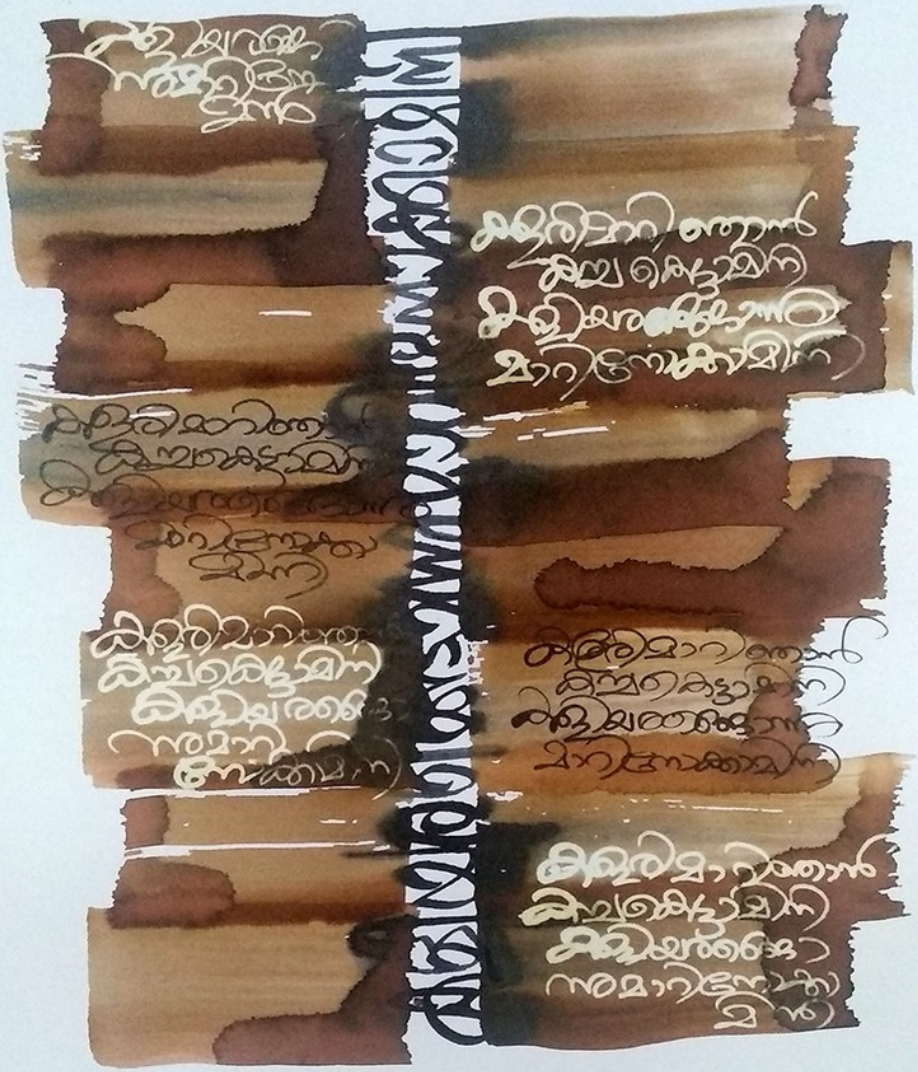

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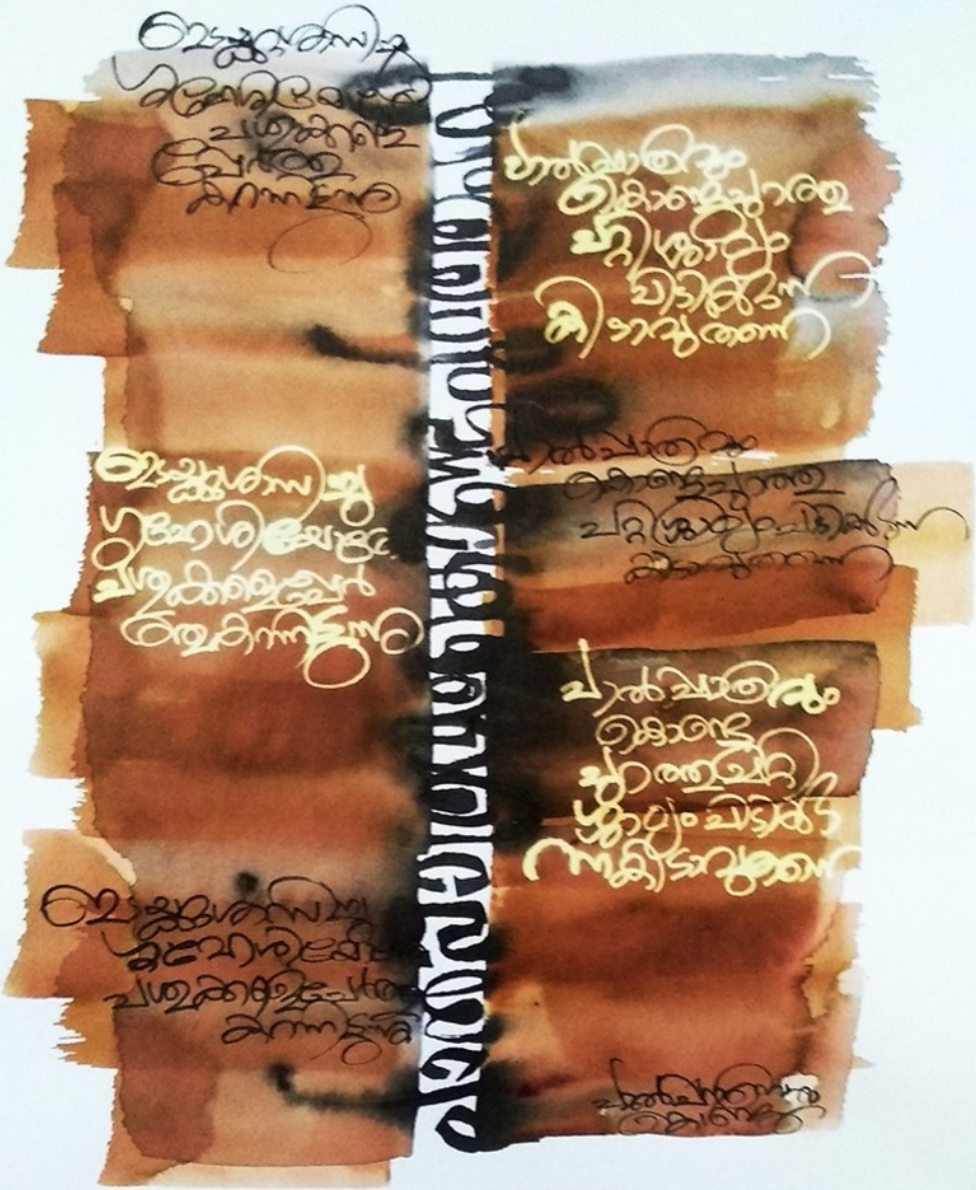

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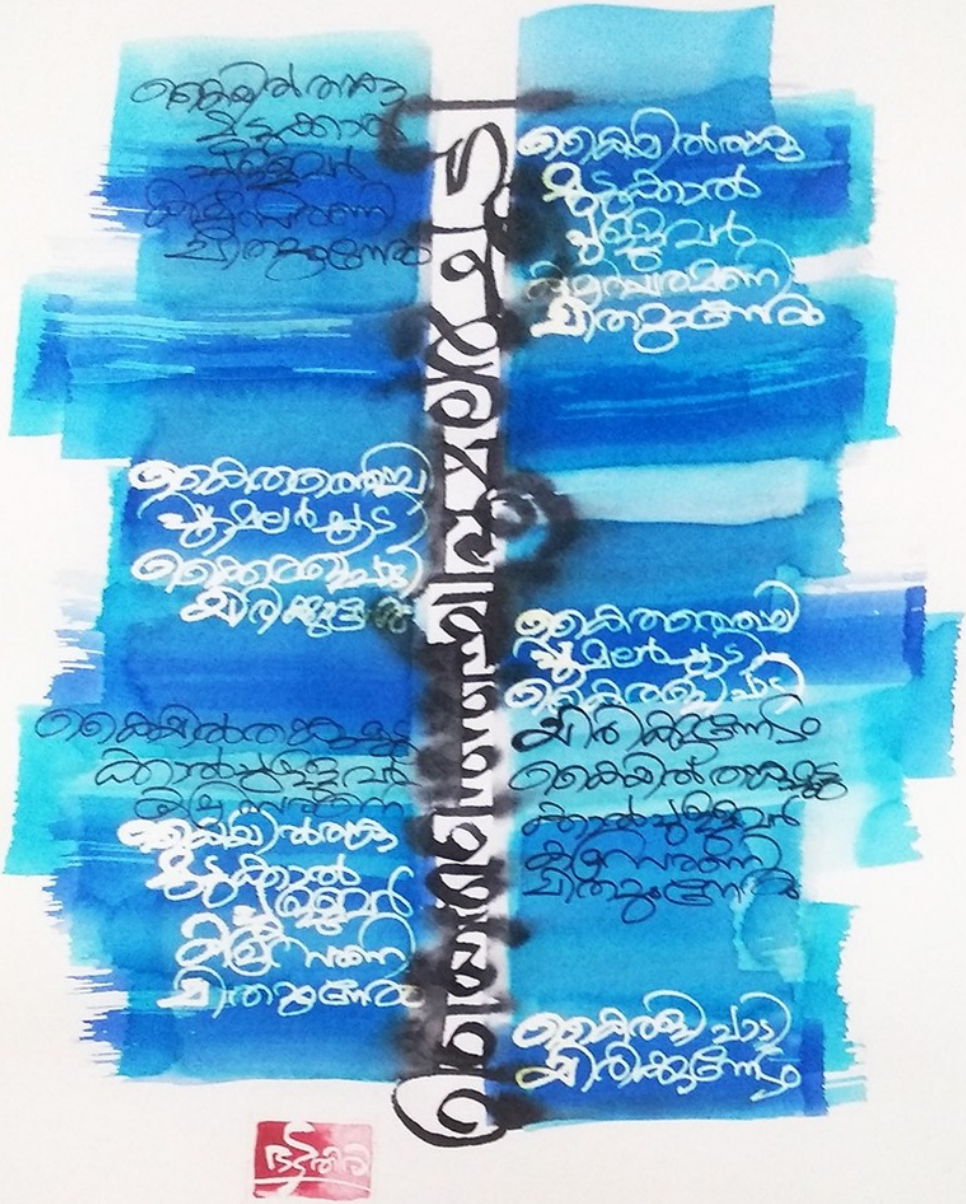

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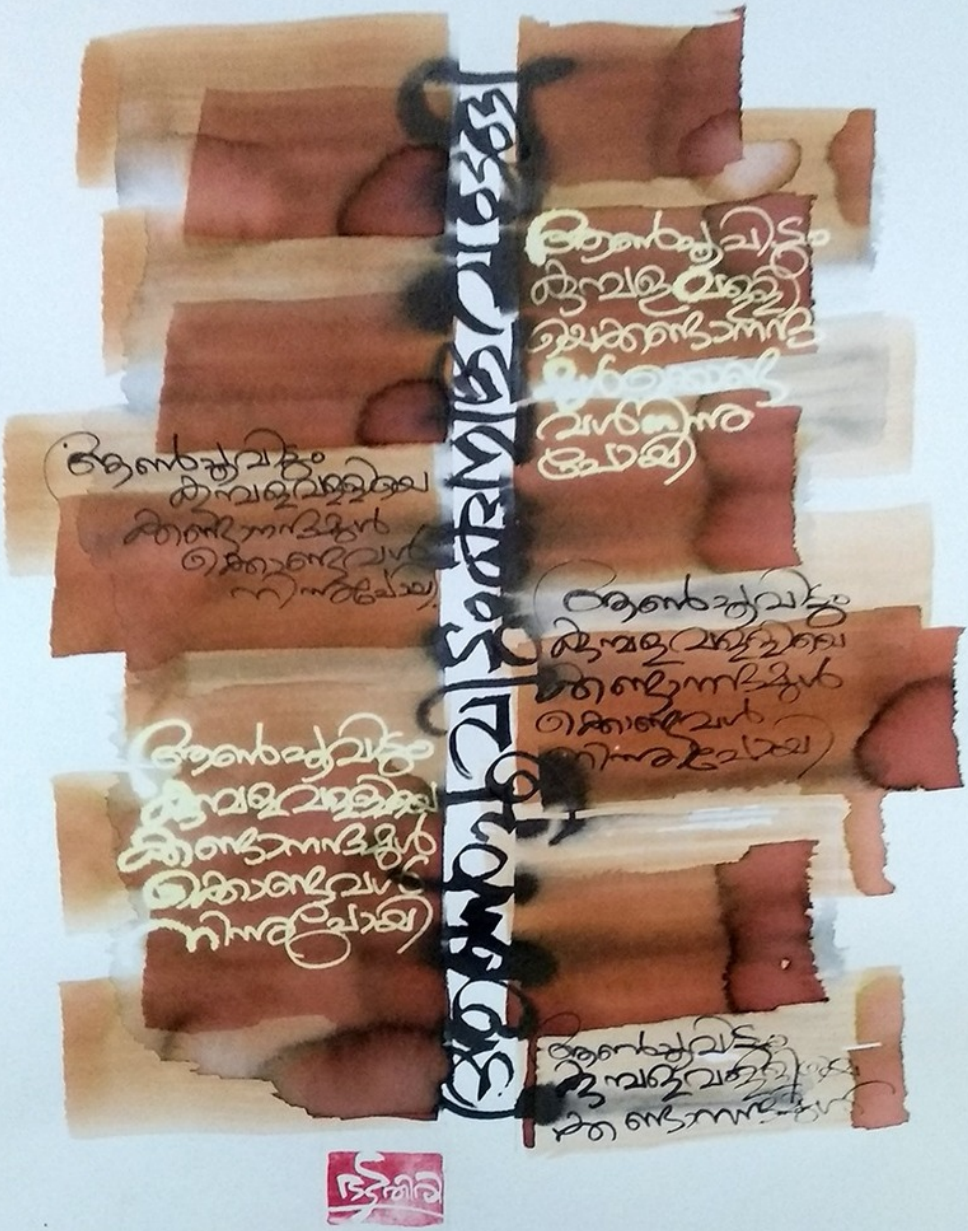

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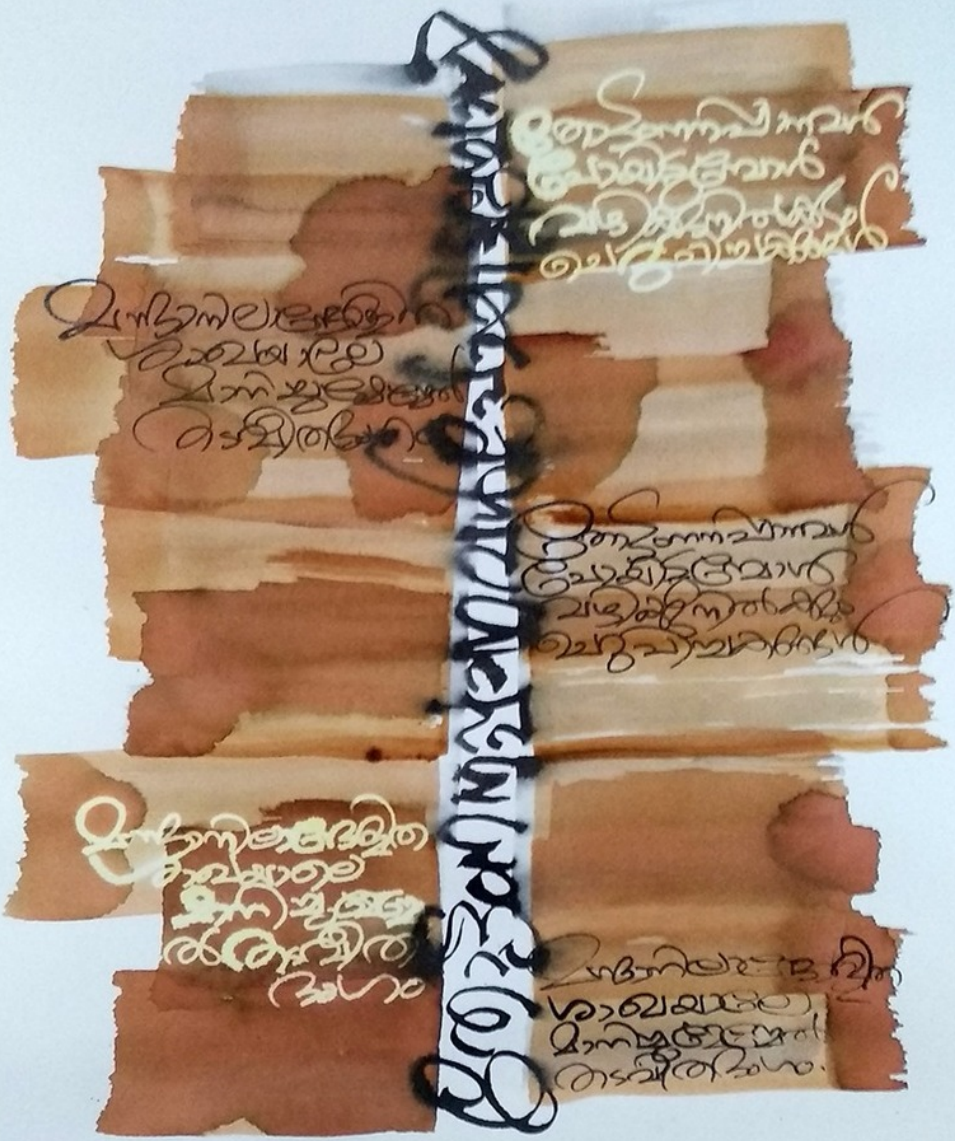

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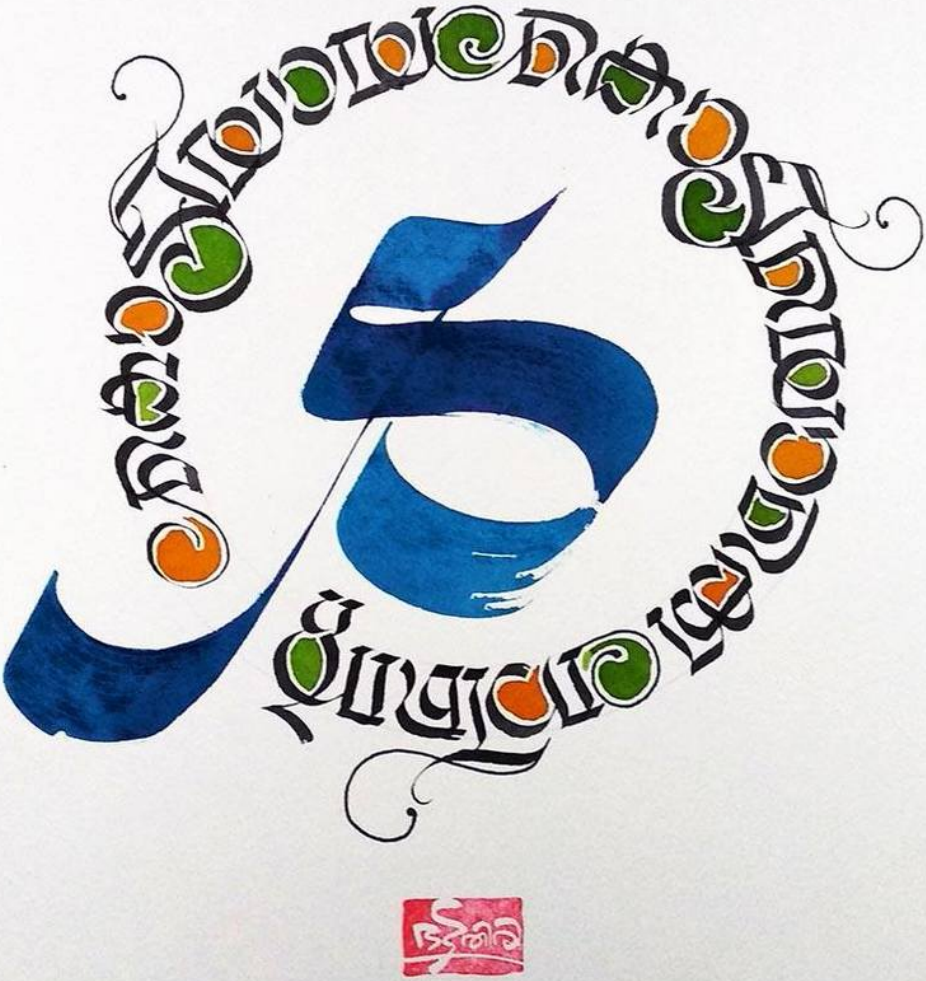

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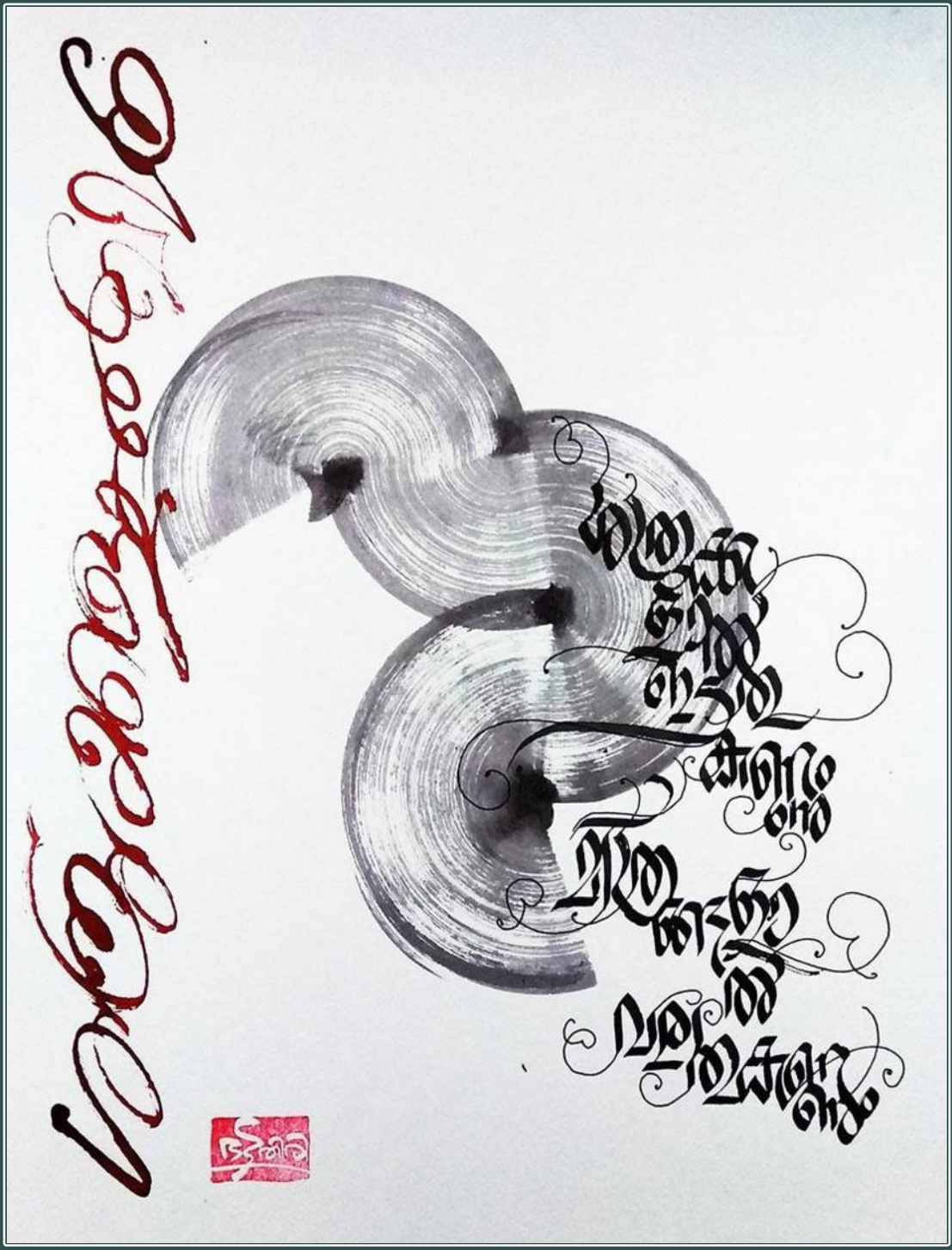

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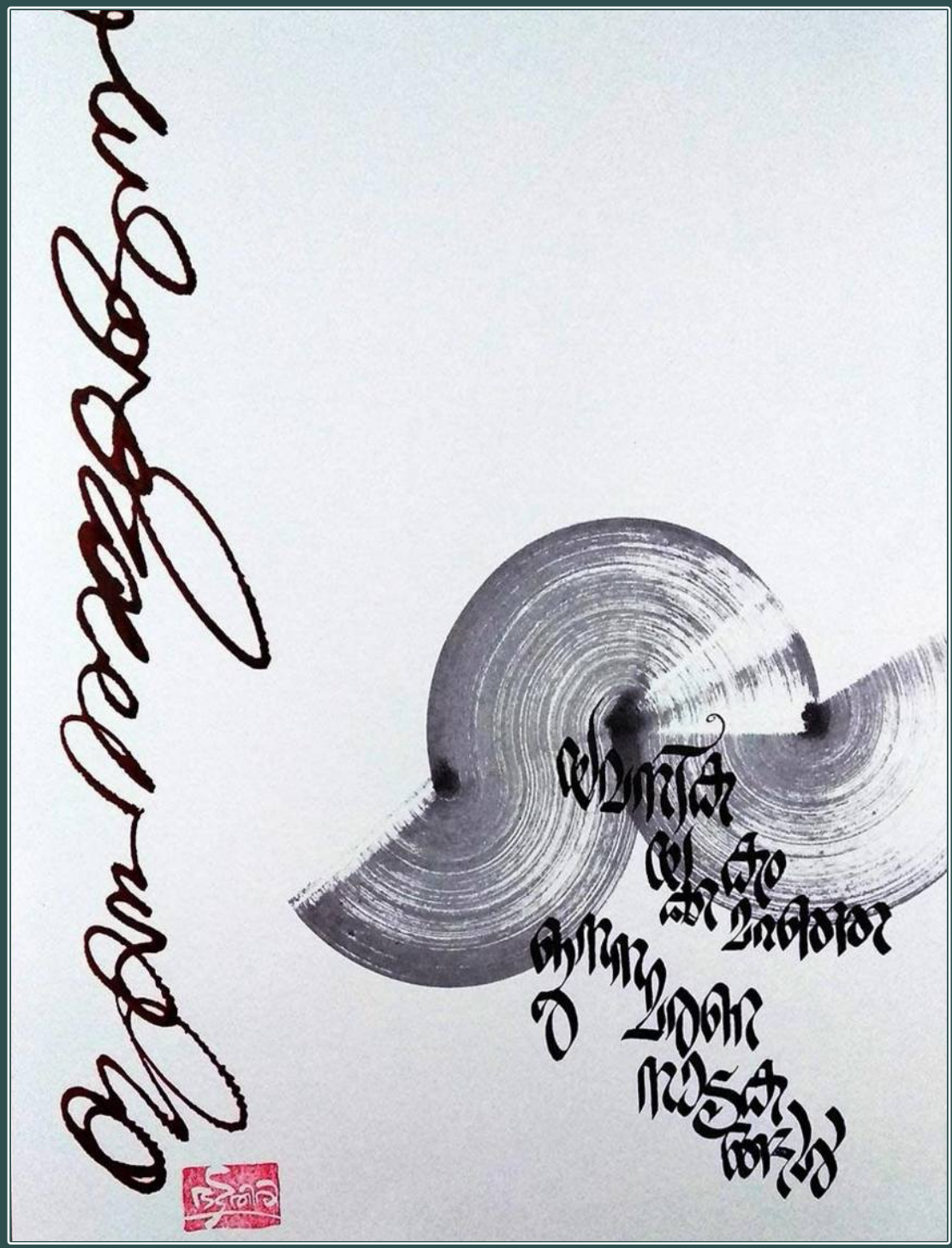

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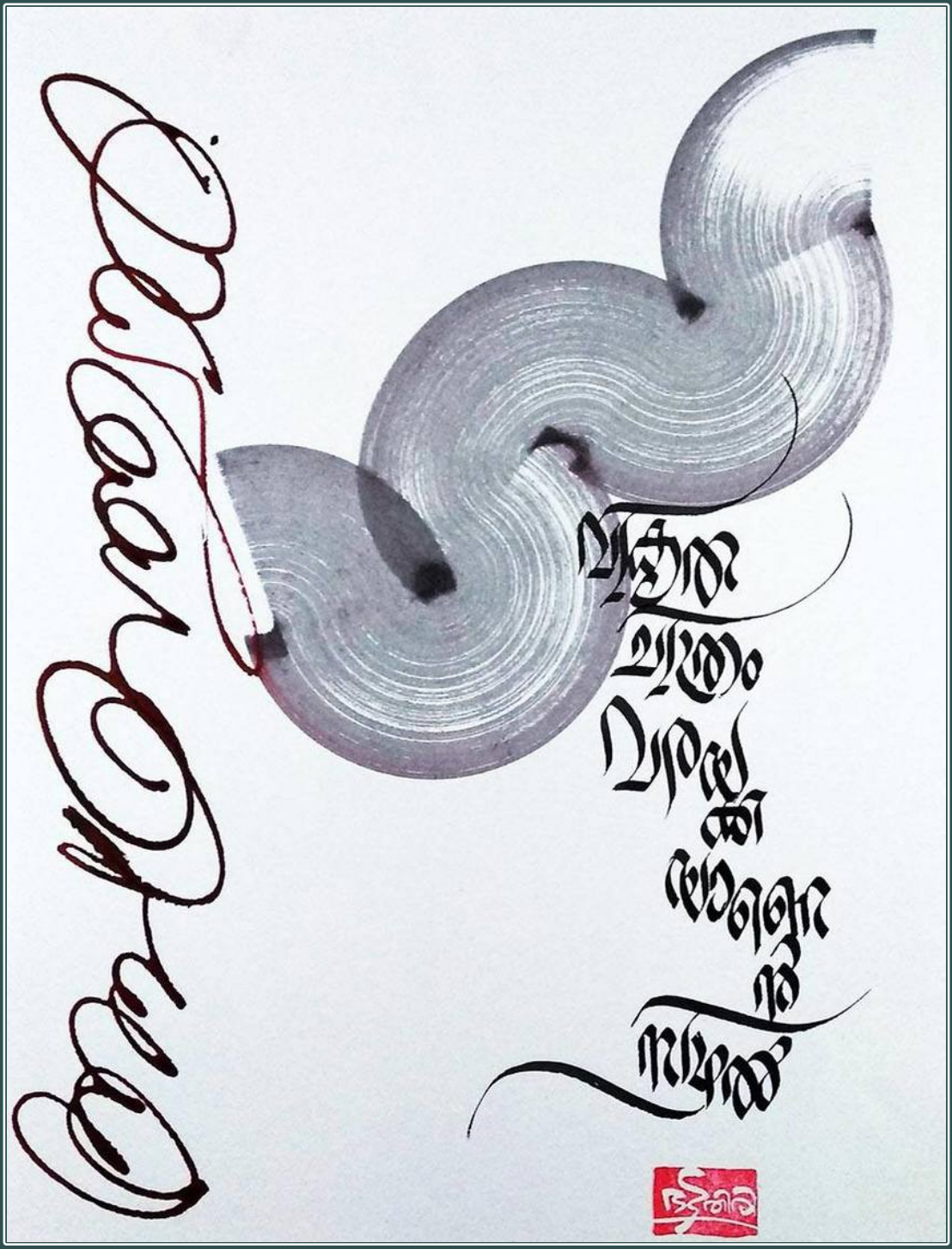

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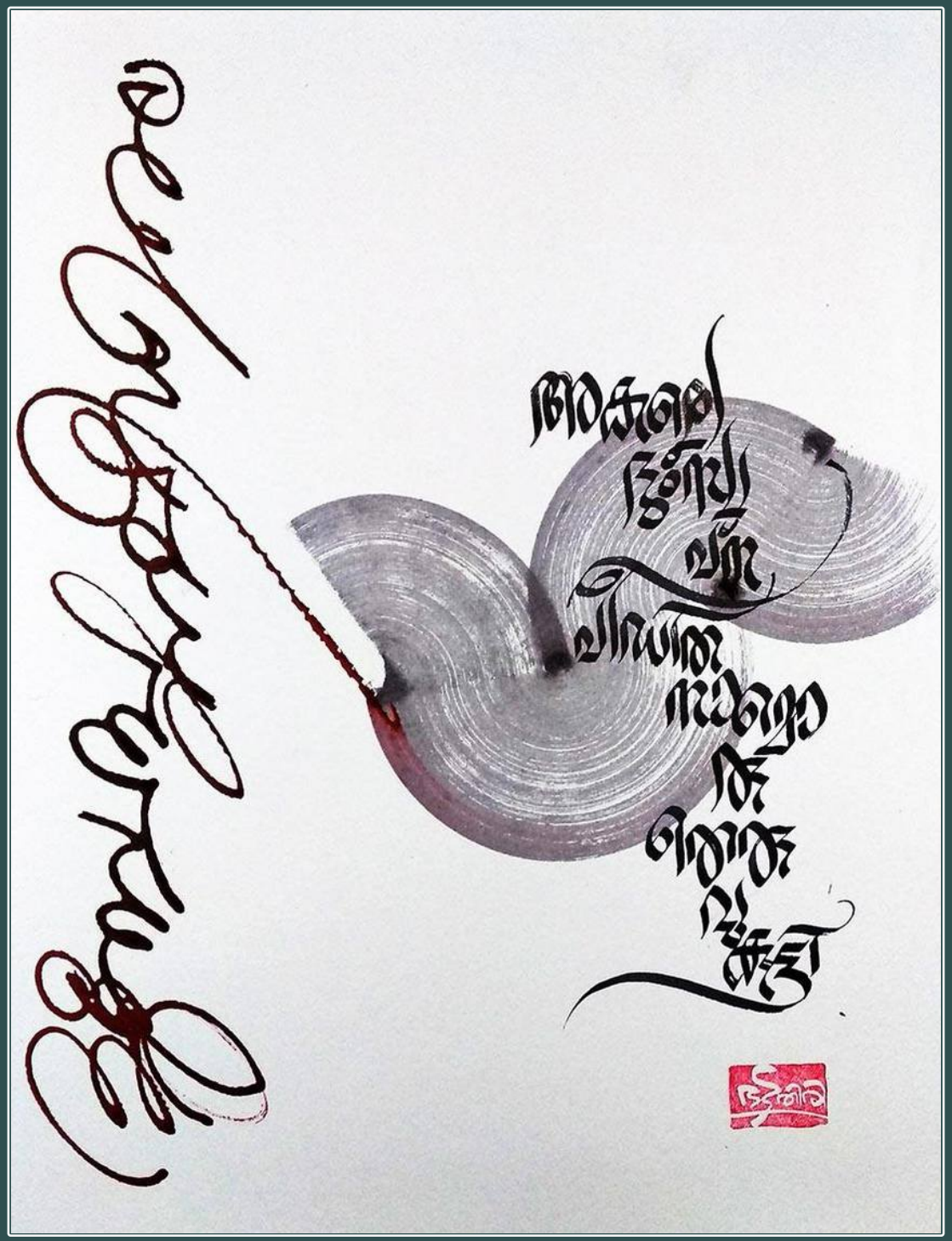

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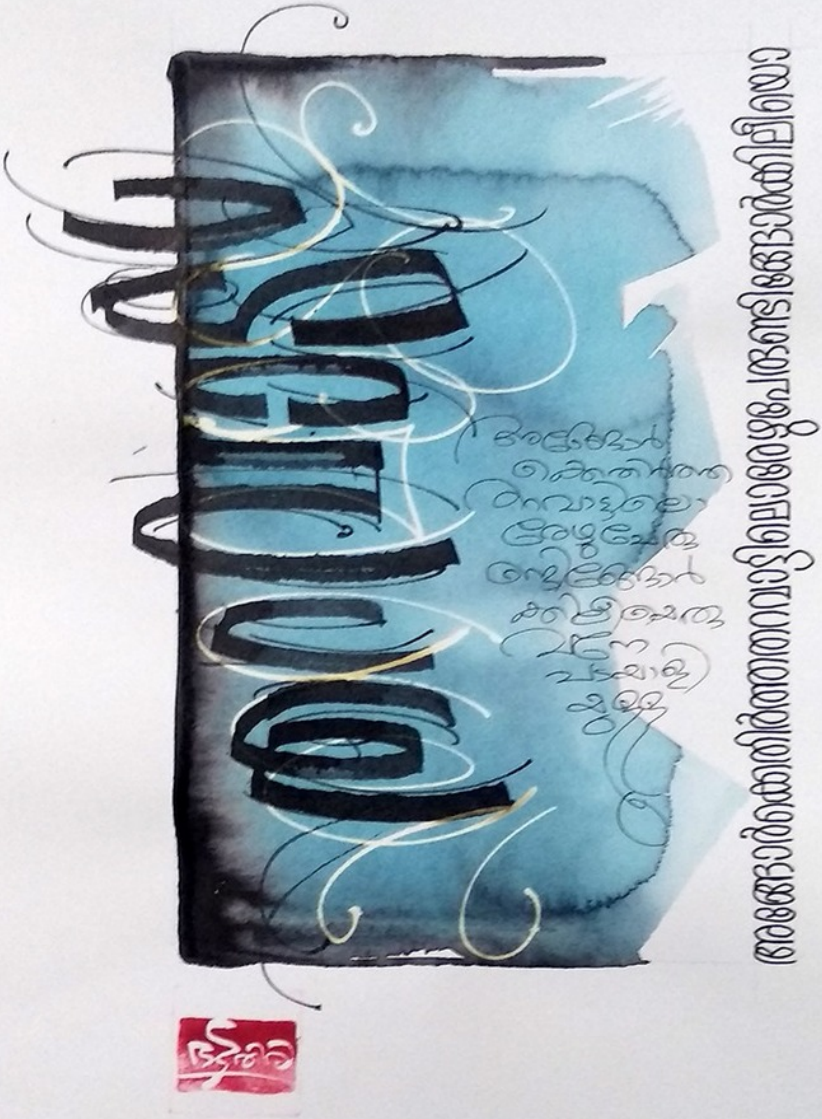

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