

Afternoon

A photographic journey in Jhara, Kashmir and Tsunami coast

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At the Tasveer arts gallery, there is an exhibition of photographs by Srikant Kolari. It will continue till August 2. Kolari's collection "Thereafter" is an inspiration from the stories narrated to him by People who

are in distress. He says: "Amidst the stygian spread, life creates an illusion in the photographs. It shows it has an uncanny knack of moving on. The fitful light through the doors and windows, the open blast of the skies and the

shimmer of washed coal are its symbols. They try to euphasise that the tragic events are all in the past – they are now history and by the time of the revisitation, emotion has undergone a sedimentary process. The stars have struck such deep roots that they are only seeing a fresh bloom now."

Thereafter, Kolari uses light not as a symbol of hope but to highlight this festering of the wounds. The pervasive fogginess in the images makes it difficult to envision a future.

Kolari: "I am not the kind who struts around with my camera in hand. I don't really take it out until I have heard the story – a story that is in need of a messenger."

My collection is inspired by the stories narrated to people who have been suffering from AIDS, poverty, exploitation, rape etc.



Most of my pictures seldom stand independently."

When the Kashmir pictures were shot by Kolari, he was in a rented house for five months – close to Juma Masjid. No picture happened for 4 ½ months. Until then, he kept listening. He is a photographer who "listens to shoot". The camera is often insensitive, loud and selfish. It stirs silences, intruders privacy and vi-

olates the sanctity of every grave moment. But in Kolari's hands, it becomes an instrument of compassion.

The Tasveer arts gallery which is presenting Srikant Kolari's exhibition, has created a network of galleries between Bangalore, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai.

The exhibition will continue till August 2. Contact: Antony 22048138/39.

