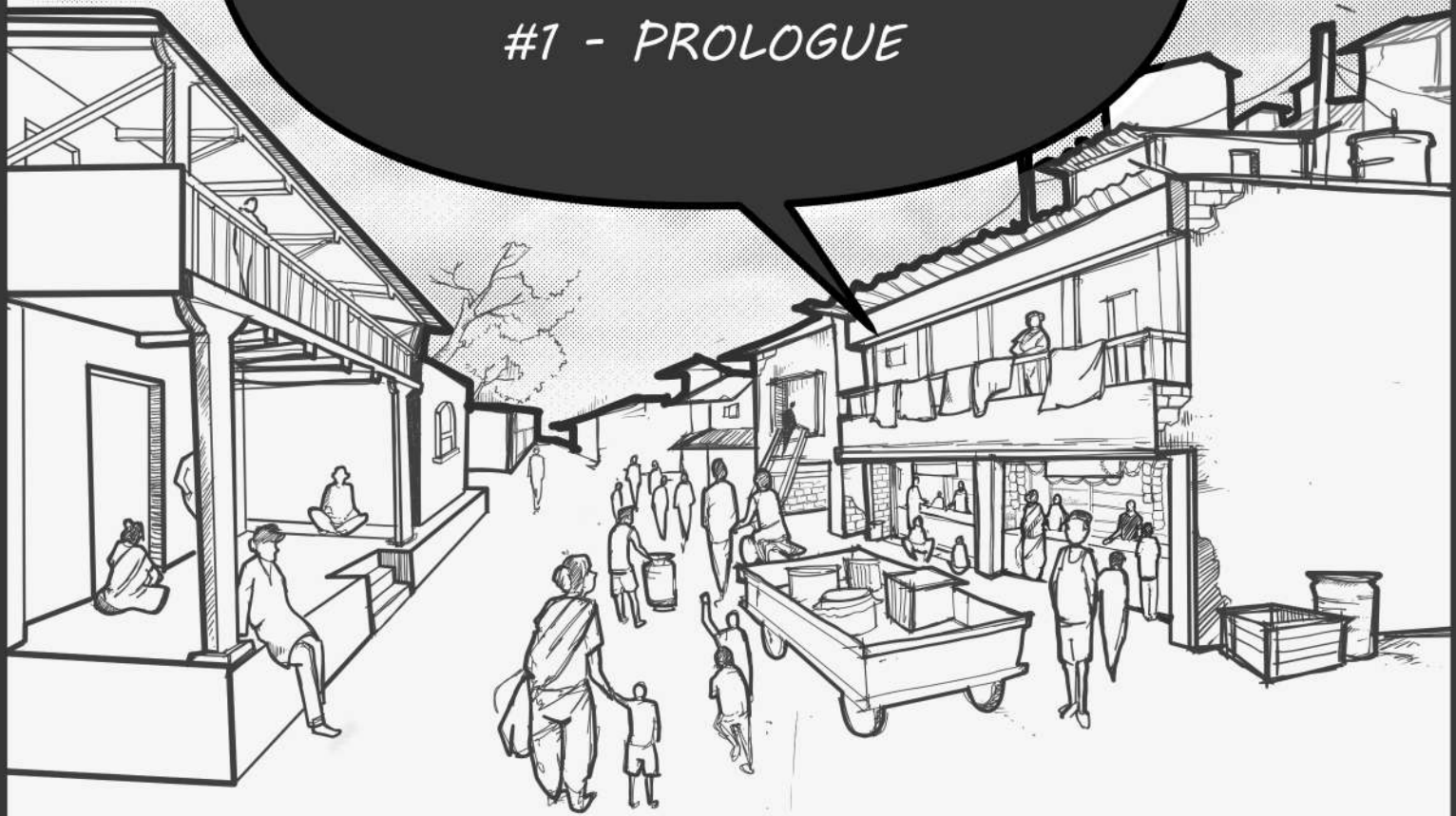


VITHAL BHASKAR CHAWL

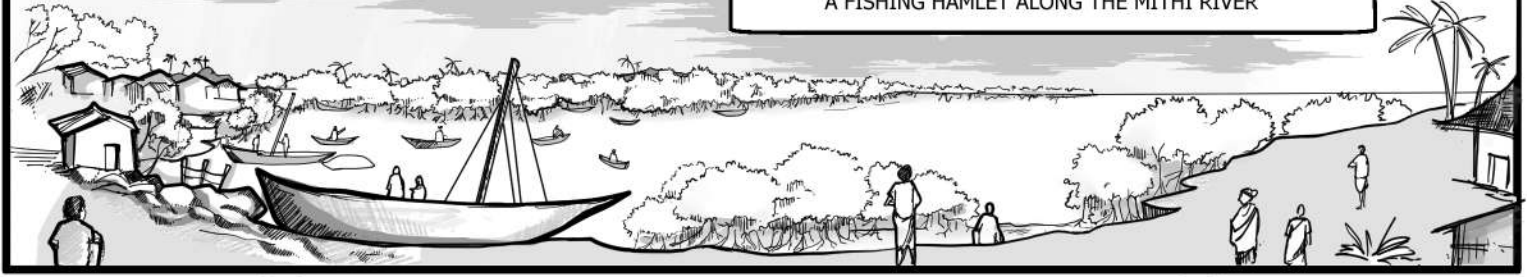
A GRAPHIC NOVEL

#1 - PROLOGUE



DHARAVI KOLIWADA

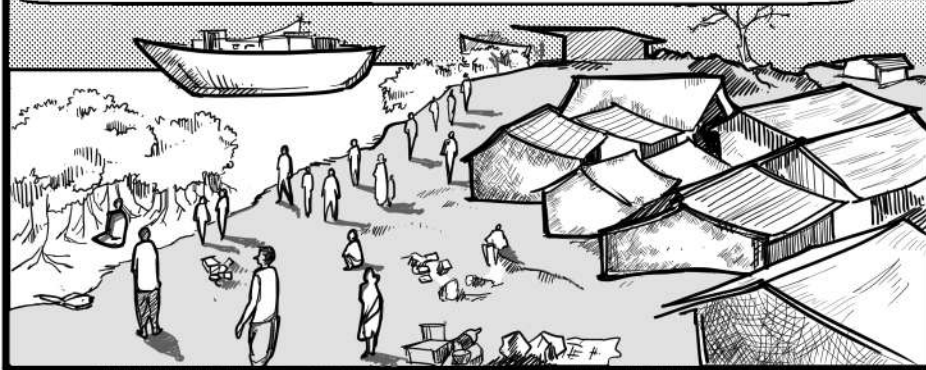
A FISHING HAMLET ALONG THE MITHI RIVER



THE BRITISH ESTABLISHED COTTON MILLS IN THE CITY, ATTRACTING WORKERS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY



MANY WORKERS AND ARTISANS FOUND THEMSELVES HOMELESS IN THE CITY, TAKING CHARGE OF THE SITUATION, THEY BUILT THEIR OWN HOMES AROUND DHARAVI KOLIWADA.



SOON COMMUNITIES ORGANISED THEMSELVES TO BUILD THE NEIGHBOURHOOD....BUT THAT'S A WHOLE OTHER STORY....



LET'S GO BACK TO DHARAVI KOLIWADA.....



LET ME USE MY LAND TO BUILD HOUSING. DHONDU ARE YOU UP FOR IT?

YES SURE!

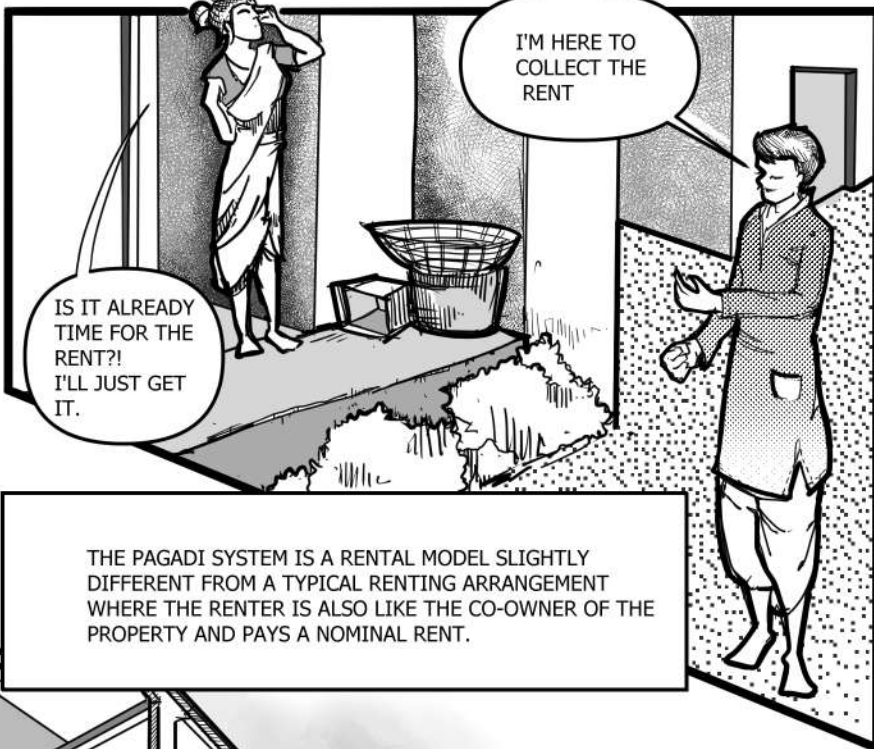
..... AND THE STORY OF VITHAL KOLI



ACCORDING TO URBAN LEGEND, DHONDU WAS THE FIRST CONTRACTOR TO TAKE ON HOUSING PROJECTS IN DHARAVI.

VITHAL GATHERED HIS RESOURCES AND CONSTRUCTED ONE OF THE LARGEST COMMUNITY RESIDENCES AROUND.

AS A FORM OF REVENUE, VITHAL RENTED OUT ROOMS USING THE PAGADI SYSTEM.



IS IT ALREADY TIME FOR THE RENT?! I'LL JUST GET IT.

I'M HERE TO COLLECT THE RENT



OH! WHAT AN IMPRESSIVE CATCH!

YAI! TIME FOR A NAP

I'LL GET READY TO SELL IT AT THE FISH MARKET.

THE PAGADI SYSTEM IS A RENTAL MODEL SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM A TYPICAL RENTING ARRANGEMENT WHERE THE RENTER IS ALSO LIKE THE CO-OWNER OF THE PROPERTY AND PAYS A NOMINAL RENT.

DHARAVI'S KOLLI COMMUNITY PRACTICES ESTUARINE FISHING

DHARAVI KOLIWADA 1920

DHARAVI KOLIWADA 2020

DHARAVI KOLIWADA SET THE EXAMPLE FOR BUILDING HOMETOWN NEIGHBOURHOODS. THIS WAS LATER ADOPTED BY MIGRANT AND ARTISANAL COMMUNITIES THAT BEGAN TO CALL DHARAVI THEIR HOME.

THEY CREATE AND TEND TO FISHING PONDS AMIDST THE MANGROVES OF THE MITHI RIVER.

THE MONSOONS WILL BE HERE...

THE PONDS WILL HAVE TO BE DREDGED FOR FISHING

TO BE CONTINUED...