

cut

fly democracy

In a sea of tents, what does one tent signify? To answer that let us break down the question into two parts of signifying. When we share ideas, we do it using *signifiers*. The *signified* is then the concept, the meaning, in the receiving mind.

So for example, a signifier of a raised V sign = signified, the mental image of victory.

When we are at ease in an environment, we share our experiences in an organic way without much thought. But when we politicise anything, it's different. Take a word like Democracy. It comes off the tongue easily almost as a daily cliché but what is it? It is 'open' to contest. It can generate meanings in radically different ways - across cultural and language gaps.

Like Democracy there are a lot of other words being used here that have complex meanings. Just imagine them as something flying around in this sea of tents. Each tent has the potential to signify new meaning through our collective shared experience.



a tent X zine

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