

Kin
Festival of Fashion and Photography of Hyères
France
2022

Alexandre Potvin
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<https://www.kinbykin.com/personal-projects/khamman-dhadda/>

Every year, in Ahmedabad, West India, hundreds of colorful kites momentarily punctuate the sky in honor of Uttarayan, the Gujarati celebration of the winter solstice.

Uttarayan is when the sky reflects the vibrancy of the streets of Ahmedabad. Hindus, Muslims, Jains, and Sikhs momentarily come together to celebrate, creating a rich visual narrative where cultural disparity is briefly put aside.

Kin's work crystalizes ephemeral conditions, creating a narrative that oscillates between anthropological research and surrealistic imagery. Highlighting the contrasts between delicate and coarse, the photographer masterfully reflects both the mundane and sublime elements of Uttarayan.

Loyal to his creative process, Kin spent months getting accustomed to local communities across Gujarat. *Kamman & Dhadda* is a visual odyssey created at the beginning of 2020 — documenting one of the last joyous communal gatherings just before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. This series acts as an ode to diversity and tradition; Kin commemorates the strength found in the heritage of Ahmedabad.

Kamman & Dhadda — the *cross spar and spine* of the kite. Parallel to its title, this series highlights the structure supporting this celebration: a community characterized by its cultural diversity.