



While working in India, I spent time sketching Arundhati and her moubut, Zahoor Khan. Several months later, she slipped in a muddy creek embankment, fractured one of her front legs and within weeks died. She was 80-years old. Arundhati lived and worked in Rajaji National Park, reputedly the largest abode of Asiatic elephants.

Rajaji is one of 24 major wildlife reserves in India and is known for its high Asiatic elephant population. In fact, the reserve has 10 million-year-old fossils of 50 species of elephants. Only one of those 50 elephant species now survives as the Asiatic elephant. Arundhati was India's Elephant Queen.

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Arundhati at the River

Asiatic elephant

Transparent watercolor

18 x 26