#### THE AUTHOR

S.L.Peeran, Judicial Member of Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal, Chennai, is a poet composing poems in English and Urdu. So far four of his books of poems in English have been published: (a) In Golden Times, published by The Home of Letters (India), Bhubaneswar (b) In Golden Moments, published by Bizz Buzz Publications, Bangalore (c) A Search From Within, published by The Home of Letters (India), Bhubaneswar (d) A Ray Of Light, published by Bizz Buzz Publications, Bangalore.

Now, in Silent Moments is being published by The Home of Letters (India), Bhubaneswar. Peeran has still to his credit two more unpublished works: A Call From The Unknown and New Frontiers, awaiting publication. Many of the poems from these works have already appeared in many anthologies, poetry magazines and journals in India.

Peeran's poetical works have been well acknowledged for his sufistic and matured thoughts, and for the poems being reflective, meditative, descriptive of nature and characterization of human nature and throwing light on the human nature and growth.

In his foreword to *In Golden Times* Dr. Krishna Srinivas, writes, "Like Blake Peeran sees the world in a grain of sand and Eternity in an hour.

An administrator lisping in numbers may sound strange but Muse in Peeran has blossomed into many-spiendoured exuberance.

He writes Haiku and Tanka with illumined vision. There is inner vibrancy, a matchless verbal incantation in his lyrics!..... They have deep poignancy. And there is passionate naturalness in all he writes".

Dr. Gordon Hindley writes, "S.L. Peeran is a worthy Lakshana or sign post of the best in all of us and in Indian English writing." While Bernard M. Jackson of England writes "A delightful Collection by a writer who combines sincerity with craftsmanship - a fine command of English!

A.B.I., U.S.A. and I.B.C., England have included the name of S.L. Peeran in their biographical publications.

# IN SILENT MOMENTS

S. L. PEERAN



# IN SILENT MOMENTS

(a collection of poems)

By: S.L. Peeran

: Author

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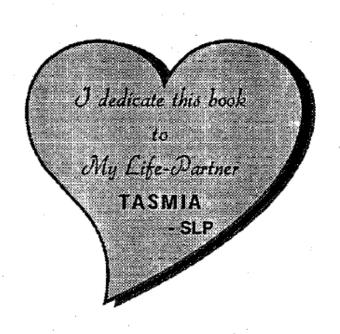
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#### FOREWORD

S. L. Peeran, a Judicial Member of the Customs, Excise & Gold Control Appellate Tribunal, is a fascinating combination of a humane, God-loving soul of rare refinement and sensitivity, suffused with Sufistic thoughts and enriched and mellowed by wide experience of life, garnered from a habit of deep reflection and detached observation, especially from the vantage point of his high judicial office. "Seek peace, love, goodwill / In calm stillness of the night / Deep meditation", says Peeran somewhere. In Silent Moments obviously is the outcome of such meditation, when the mind is stilled and deep truths glow, from the depths of one's being, on the horizon.

Poetry is an incantation of the soul, celebration of the abiding varieties of our human existence. It mirrors a perception of the world peculiar to each poet. What invests the present collection with special significance is the exciting fact that it affords us a glimpse of its author's unique, colourful creative presence. Poetry is *not* merely putting together some clever lines. It is, like falling in love, a serious and blissful proposition. And Peeran's poetry is born out of the confrontation of his whole being with Reality - with the luminous truths of life as well as its seamier manifestations. As the poet himself says, his poems are born from inner turmoils, inner sorrows, inner questionings, inner joys, inner frustrations and ecstasies. Speaking at a Seminar in Bangalore sometime ago, Poet Gordon Hindley observed:

"I define poetry as that utterance which, apparently presenting a particular - an individual - thing or event, in fact emphasises the universal experience within which the particular thing or event occurs. True poetry thus leads us beyond the personal towards an even more immediate yet greater awareness... It brings about an awakening; an enriching of our nature."

And proceeding to cite some specimens of poetry which according to him accomplished this, the speaker quoted among others some of Peeran's verses. Can there be a better tribute paid to a poet?

Peeran is a delectable fusion of a serene elevated soul with the sensitivity and sensuousness of an aesthetic being. A genuine reverence and wonder for Nature and an ali-enveloping love run through all his utterances. With moving faith he voices his fervent hope:

Somewhere, someone, some day Will sow the seeds of affection To bloom as fragrant flowers To fill the gardens of love.

Prayerfully he wishes "Let the streams of love / Flow within, to cleanse the being."

A deep piety marked by virtuousness is the Poet's view of an ideal life. He sings:

Life led with righteous living in humanity and servitude In patience and contentment Enjoys honeyed fruits of heaven.

This state of joyous innocence represents to me the quintessence of Poet Peeran.

Peeran's voice is not one of angry protest; nor is he given to haranguing his erring fellowmen. He is one of a genuine lover of humanity, in anguish over what he sees around him in the country and the world in our day. "Somewhere, someone,

some day/ Will hear my lonely sad voice", is all his hope. As a God-immersed soul, he knows:

When the swords are out
And you are required
To pass through untrodden path,
When the bugles have been blown
And your enemies are out
When the dark clouds hover
Without any silver lining,
With gathering storms and tempests
Lightning thunder and tornadoes
When your heart has melted
And courage has given in

It is the same flair for flashing vivid full-blown visuals that one finds in the description of the primitive man in *Back To Fold With Zest* and in the long four-page poem *Birth And Growth For Total Merger* which parades in rapid succession life in all its stages - from the moment of pre-natal conception to the final attainment of communion with the Supreme Being. This striking feature you meet with, in fact, all over in this volume.

The crop of Haiku and Tankas figuring in this book speak of the command the Poet has over these art forms. Particularly the haiku are a treasure trove of priceless pearls. These precious vignettes of life glisten like self-illumining pearls. The Poet has captured the soul of this genre in his compositions. As the master-practitioner of this Japanese art form, Dr. Mohd. Fakhruddin pithily puts it, 'what is below the surface is important in haiku - the words float on the surface, the emotions below'. The haiku presented go over the whole spectrum of life experience and human emotions. To sample a few, a haiku runs: 'Life is a mirage / Storms blowing of dry leaves, twigs / To oblivion'. Another sorrows: 'Humanity weeps at / A mad scientist's creation / Atom bombs, cloning.' Yet another talks of 'Parents in night clubs / Teenagers in dancing halls / Pubs for more taxes'. Still another speaks of 'The onset of youth / The eternal fire brewing / Yearning for the flesh'. The sensuous poet comes up with this, another gem: 'When eyes shut, lips sealed / Storms, turmoils of life subside / Become motionless'. The judicial persona in the poet alerts: 'Hold the pans even / With judicial decorum / Save democracy'.

To quote but one tanka:

Beautiful garden Jewel of heaven on earth It was here, here, here: Ah: Shalimar: lost beauty

Peeran is a mellowed individual, in consuming love with life with all its beauty - and yes, its ugliness as well. A haiku of his speaks of a moth:

A candle flickers A moth circumbulates, burns in ever deep love.

One is left wondering whether the Author of this book here is not speaking of himself!

August, 2001 Chennai

SRINIVASA RANGASWAMI

#### PREFACE

'In Silent Moments' is an offshoot of inner turmoils, joys and ecstasies experienced in the calm and silent moments of night and when a person is all by himself reflecting on the life's myriad issues, detached from the daily hub and dub.

I have expressed my personal experiences in the form of verse and poems. I am an amateur poet and I have spelt out my thoughts in my poetry to share it with my poet friends. I have not put any extra effort or strain. They have come to me spontaneously in a flash of a moment and it has assumed the form of my personal poetry. I again seek apology of poets and critics for my shortcomings and I would endeavour to improve with positive criticism received from critics and poet-friends.

My better-half Tasmia, has shared much of my inner turmoils, joys and frustrations. As a life-partner she, every day, reads my thoughts and emotions and lives with it. She has contributed to my inner personality and much of my poetic output is as a result of sharing of my experiences with my life-partner. She has devotedly been sailing along with me in all types of weather and storms. As a token of my love and gratitude I am dedicating this book to her.

I deeply acknowledge with gratitude, the readiness with which Srinivasa Rangaswami took the ta k at my behest to go through my manuscripts and pen a profound *Foreword*.

I share my pleasures and joys of reading my poems in the regular poetic meets arranged by 'Poetry Foundation', Chennai, and my gratitude and thanks to all my poet-friends and their valuable suggestions to improve upon my poems.

I hope this humble work of mine would be received well by the poetic world.

Chennai 22nd November, 2001

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# IN SILENT MOMENTS

In silent moments, thoughts would fly Hither and thither, blankly in space Crashing on the walls, on clocks Dashing to the ground, the wavering dreams.

In silent moments, flashes of images Of past, present and of future fears Like titans, clashing, sparking Lightning, thunder and shocks.

In silent moments, creeping depression Running down the brain to heart To the entire being and system Freezing and laving icy hands all over.

# WISH HIM WELL!

So! your loss of son His disappearance Is a cause of anguish Pain and frustration But! you drove him mad! With your constant mental hurts By your sneers, jeers, comments Being stern with ferocious eyes Strict disciplinarian! Calling yourself - a person Of principles! being self-righteous! But bereft Of love and affection Now, your ego has crashed! You feel let down Humiliated, humbled -You wish your son back You tell others -"One can know only when They are in our position You are soaked in Self pity! You need your son -To salvage Your lost self Your imagined glory. Lo! fear God! Seek His Grace His pardon Wish your son well!

#### LASTING TWINKLING EYE

I walked and walked Till the land's end Reached the shores Of deep blue sea.

My soul realised that Knowledge is oceanic And I had moved With assumed learning!

Am I not a grain
On the vast sand?
The vast deep ocean
With hidden treasures
Unknown to my drowsy eyes.
My life is a mere flash!

The vast blue canvas
With twinkling stars
Throwing luminous light
For my eyes to marvel
My hands held up above,
How can I reach Thee?

O Mighty and strong Unknown and unseen Thou, Eternal Being Is Everlasting!

#### THY INSCRUTABLE WAYS

Thy voice is eternal ever living Spoken umpteen times In melody and sung in unison Through apparent chaos and confusion!

Each babel, to lisp Thy numbers
Thou teachest us different programmes
To play a variety of melodies
With unique harmony, to sustain a system.

What terror, what thunder and lightning? What bloodshed, what screams, what cries? What miseries and woes and pains? What sufferings in delusions and storms?

Ah, the ONE who gives joys and ecstasies Happiness and pleasures, mirth and laughter Wealth and show, glamour and glitter Fills my soul, with pangs of separation.

O Master! enough is enough
Seen have I Thy game, found Thy ways
In my hidden mirror thro' my inner eye
Liberate me now, to freedom, to fly
And merge in you for ever.

# **SOUL'S PANGS**

Is crises a panacea for sins?
To open up the heaven's door
To receive the soul's pangs
To broaden and enlighten the mind.

Burn, burn, let flame engulf all Take within Arjuna's pangs Buddha's lofty thoughts, Christ's bleeding heart

Abraham's sacrifices, Joseph's patience, Moses' righteousness, Mohammad's blessings.

O Soul! yearn for the beloved's glance Let your tears be your sacred gift Let your wounds speak your love Silently bear the thorns in your path.

A lover's million throbs and sighs Outshines the sparkle of gems Sandalwood burns to emit fragrance And leaves its sweetness for all.

#### PUPPETRY

Thou playest puppetry with us!
Holding strings in Thy fingers
And making us dance to Thy tunes
O Dear! How strange are Thy doings!

Who holds these strings and why?
O stranger! strange are Thy ways.
Show us Thy effulgence and Face
Let us, slaves, know our Master.

What a trick Thou playest on us!
We play our role and game
Unaware though, that the strings are held by Thee
And simply utter, what is scripted.

Ah! What a gamble, what a show?
For all to think that I played the part
That I did this and did that
Did I do myself, when Thine hands held the control?

Ingrained in all, is Thy genetic code A programme, a system fed in us Remotely, unknown, the scenes get enacted, While the Master devices His own ways!.

#### LIFE

From the dark recess of the womb Emerged the new born crying Helpless, bony and shuddering To breathe the world's mirth till tomb.

Ah! This place of charm, vigour and pain With millions of elements, with patterns A chequer-board for pawns to move for gain With a heart to glow and to yearn.

A world of sin, sorrow and pleasure With attractions and distractions for the soul To look for a living or a lovely treasure Each finds a way to reach his goal.

Though life becomes burdensome Yet one clings and yearns to live Like trees to flower and blossom And not give up the mortal coil all strive.

# **WASH YOUR SINS**

Images of fond memories Float on the walls staring at me Sweet songs of yester years Revive the mirth and pleasures.

Where now the solemn oaths Vows of perpetual bliss? Now, I carry pangs And desolations in my heart!

Ah! the pleasures of the world Were momentary in haste to flee My candle of hope flickers Gloomy darkness surrounds me.

The sneers and jeers of adversaries Strike my stricken heart Like a wound from shining sword Lo! a punishment for my passions brief.

The flowing streams of Ganges and "zam zam", Godly rivers can they wash off my sins?

# HOW SO?

Ha! you advise me To be magnanimous! In your belief In your understanding In your imagination I am not so? You think I am petty minded! That I am heardess! Who doesn't believe in the word of God? With impurity, impunity, imperious! My my! How could you imagine so? How could you guess? Your friend will be unfaithful A person, who has surrendered? Who is one with Lord To be selfish, self-centered! Lo! surely you are mistaken Your understanding Your assumption Is faulty and wrong! How can you then seek Grace? How can you still call me a friend?

#### **BE CAUTIOUS**

Look! How simple it is

To say Be patient
Show fortitude
Be forgiving
Ignore them
Don't take notice.

To advise-

"What can't be cured should be endured"

"Be magnaninous and tolerant"

"Love begets love"

"Turn the other cheek"

But! Have you given thought to -

"A stitch in time saves nine"

" Procrastination is the thief of time"

"Time and tide wait for no men"

"Make hay while the sun shines"

"You reap what you sow"

#### Because:

'Company makes or mars one's career' The enemy on the prowl is within you Be ever in preparedness.

# SOMEDAY LOVE WILL THRIVE

Somewhere, someone, some day
Will hear my lonely sad voice
Filled with melancholy and grief
Which touches the deepest core of the heart.

Somewhere, someone, some day Will sing my songs of pathos Filled with melody and sweetness To heal the wounds of the heart.

Somewhere, some one, some day
Will create new chimes and rhythm
To thrill the sullen heart
To enliven the dull spirits.

Somewhere, someone, some day
Will sow the seeds of affection
To bloom as fragrant flowers
To fill the gardens of love.
O heart don't be dismayed
About ill-will, or tempers frayed.

# A CRY OF A VICTIM FOR PEACE!

Wounds of my heart burn my being With cruel actions of our adversaries What in human treatment? Wicked! Torturous hell created with terror !! Causing destruction to the jewel of my Nation! Ha! Thy hand extending for peace But, lo, hiding within arms in sleeves. With double talk, hypocrisy and lie. Thou callest for talks to resolve the tie To unknot the historical jinx of yore With impious desires coveting my lot Look! How Thou counsellest for restraint from war While hiding in your bosom, venom. With evil designs, by Thy sermons Letting rivers of blood of innocent beings To chill the hearts of weaklings Peace, a heavenly bliss, needs nectars of love Shun Thy enmity and illumine Thy heart With lofty ideals of "Ahimsa" and "Dharma", To recreate a paradise on earth, here, here !.

#### **DESIRES AND FANTASIES**

Does every desire, unmatched with reality Become a cause for frustration and anger? Does it lead to disharmony? Does it lead to unhappiness and misery?

Is not the attachment to desires
The sole cause of discontentment
Unreined, unbridled, unchained desires
A source for leading man to grief!

Desires are temporary passions
An eruption of emotions and feelings
For a pleasure and a gratification
For a joy and a passing glee.

Fantasies and dreams are unreal

Dwell not in them, it is a mirage

Can you catch a cloud or air?

Desires, fantasies, dreams are to pass by.

# DESTINY - 'KARMA - MOKSHA'

Does man live on fervent hopes and dreams?

Does life revolve on needs for existence?

Either way, to find peace and solace

One needs to look within for realisation.

To eat more than your need is gluttony
To eat to appease hunger brings satisfaction
To earn your bread and live to earn
Or earn to live, is to fulfil your "karma" (Destiny)

Only reality is birth and death In both there is certainty Harmony or disharmony, good or bad, Right or wrong are terms to define good living.

Life's vicissitudes are multiple Rein in evil desires and streamline good ones A right balance in daily living Is an art. Thus, civilise to achieve 'moksha'

### SILENT ZONE

Reaching me with open arms Like a distant train, whistling Slowly and steadily creeping Its signals touching me, all over.

The longings and yearnings Pace by pace increasing Ears attentive to distant call Heart's throb calming down.

My taste buds loosening Thinking narrowing Blinking at blank space With vacant looks.

My arms and legs Motionless, zestless Body drooping Silence overtaking.

# NINETY NINE NAMES

Realise the Ninety-nine Names Ninety-nine themes, units and pulses, Of the Lord surrounding you. Of the Holy Prophet within you.

The light upon light lights all. Enlighten your being with it Repeat the Names on your lips Inhale Him, to surcharge you.

Let the streams of Love, Flow within, to cleanse the being. Let the cream of charity Flow thro' your hands for goodness.

Purify the mind with crystal thoughts, Honey-tongued glorify the Lord, With His guidance tread your path, Melodious songs thrill your heart.

# **DAY AND NIGHT**

The morning breeze whiffs past me Blowing sweet melodious tunes To tinkle dreams and lull me Further to sleep, inhaling fresh air.

Bright yellow round luminous sun Shining at dawn, piercing light Creeping inside my bedroom Kissing and whispering to wake me up.

Chirping birds, singing gleefully Rendering notes, joining in chorus Time ever tickling me, to remind Of waiting duties at door step.

A lovely day of the season
Passes with daily chores, performed well
Enters dusk and twilight to close the day
Night with eerie silence lulls me to sleep.

# **SWEET AS EVER**

She is a mere worshipper of virtue Hidden behind the curtain of show Superficiality, without sentiments Dressed, bedecked with artificial gems.

Gleefully singing songs of yesteryears Floating like butterfly in her dreams To suck nectar from every flower Stings her adversary like a bee.

Even in her aged widowhood Her charming grace doesn't diminish With a twinkle in her lovely eyes She relates youthful tales of pleasure.

A rose spreads its fragrance in the air Even when crushed, dissolved in water Rubbed on a stick or in perfumes It smells as sweet as ever.

# LOST HOPES AND NATURE'S FINERY

When I see sky touching the sea
I move my ship of hope towards it
But only to find it receding away
The expanding horizon dashes my hopes.

My sufferings leave a trail of sorrow My sagging spirit utters a sigh The pain mingles with sad thoughts And plays a tune to lull the heart.

Nature's green finery all around me Is it to fulfill my longings and hopes? Though rainbows appear briefly and vanish Yet its colours are lovely for one to see.

Gale and storms bring turbulence and lightning
To plough and sow to reap the harvest
You need to sweat from dawn till dusk
Without fire, can you cook your broth?

#### RUDDER OF FAITH

Oh! He is a man full of ideas, Energy and bubbling with life Every second and minute, he sweats Pursues ideas to reach the endless goals.

I walk on the sands of life With empty hands and head Watching my foot prints erased By the waves of the angry sea.

Name, fame and glory are nature's gifts For men born with a silver spoon With umpteen opportunities at their door To make a choice leisurely at will.

Men with torn sails and broken ships
Can't hope to overcome tides of the seas
To reach safe shores you need a sound Captain
Who can read the weather and hold fast the rudder of faith.

# **AGELESS TIME**

Was time created to serve Man?

Movements of Earth, Moon and Planets

To create seasons and shape the

Destiny of each man and woman differently?

Hours pass in peace and calmness Unperturbed sleep in serene nights, But streak of brilliance at colourful dawn Unfolds for each, a golden morn.

Heavenly plot unfolds in acts and scenes
Drama played with ease and naturalness
In a flash, exhilaration, in another pathos
Life's circle moves on with clock wise precision.

Prophesies, oracles, predictions Chapter by chapter reveal themselves A perfect play on a mighty screen. Is Time created to serve Man?

#### WHEN THE HEART TURNS TO A STONE

When might and terror take hold of him

When justice is flayed and is lost

When humaneness is totally surrendered

When harshness overcomes that person

When the heart turns to a stone

When love and affection bid bye to him

When charity has lost all its meaning

When sympathy is shunned and given up

When shame deserts that person

When kindness refuses to accompany him

When mercy and compassion fly away

When sin becomes a simple game for him

When awe and wonder do not strike him

When he refuses to communicate with nature

When he refuses to forgive his fellow men

When he refuses to respect the aged and elders

When prayer and repentance do not appeal to him

When he refuses to bow before the Almighty.

He is lost in a purgatory blinds.

#### THOUGHTS PERENIAL

Thoughts are perennial Eruptions and emissions From the crystal mind Of light and wisdom Reflections and impressions Gathered by the soul From the experiences Of daily living Of daily dealings Of daily minglings From inner turmoils From inner sorrows From inner questionings From inner joys From inner ecstasies From fantasies and frustrations From dreams and illusions From depressions and disillusionments From meanderings and meditations.

# COMMUNICATION

Words are poor media Of your thoughts

Of your feelings

Of your imagination

You wish you could

Communicate

Like a calm sea

Like a silent Moon

Like a morning breeze

Like a twilight

Like a twinkling star

Like a Mona Lisa painting

Like a beautiful rainbow on skyline

Like a singing nightingale

Like a daffodil, a rose

Like a painting of last supper

Like a "Maryada Purushotham"

Like a "Sachi danandam"

Like a "Laila tul Qadar".

# **ABSURD THOUGHTS**

Are you feeling and More and more believing, Being convinced That, you are more sinned against.

That we are jealous
Of your success
Of your wealth
Of your position in life.
That, we all think
And all act
And all say
Things to hurt you.
That you feel, we
Have not stood by you
That we are crazy
And are kill-joys.
Ha! what absurd thoughts
To attribute to your bosom brothers!!

## PANACEA FOR ILLS

A mind with crystalline purity
Sharpness of a shining sword
With soaring imagination
And capacity to pierce the dark veils

Such a mind filled with knowledge Having panoramic view of the world Of affairs of men and matters And capacity to perceive the trends

Such a colossal mind with insight, depth With foresight, wisdom and intelligence A rare gift and a boon to mankind To salvage men from the abyss of misery

A mind without fear, bias and prejudice Just, with compassion, with strength of steel A born leader of men, a genius A cosmic scientist, a panacea for ills.

#### BACK TO FOLD WITH ZEST

The ancient man continues to live in us With a club in hand, bare skin, long claws Unkempt, unclean, polluted, uncivilised Barbarous, man eater, cruel and wicked.

He can't be at peace, with himself, for long Upto mischief for one thing or the other Needs to hunt for food, fight for a place Grab a lass to deflower, at any moment.

He needs symbols, idols, icons to ward off His fears, to take courage, to gain strength A bully, hot headed, accursed With fire in belly, blood shot eyes, terror.

He covets other's mate, steals at a wink Stinks, faithless, a cheat, a moron March of time has made a full circle Man, now has returned to his fold with zest.

### MYRIAD LIFE

Is life a flickering candle?
To face every now and then
Vicissitudes of listless living
Squalor, disease and filth!

Is life lightning and thunder?
To crumble, burn and destroy
The gardens of lovely relations
When greed, anger overwhelms?

Is life storms, tempests?

Cyclones to wash away

For ever the civilisation

When man challenges nature?

Is life earth shaking quake?
To raze to the ground
The temples and places of worship
To destroy the heartless man!

### **UPLIFTING LOVE**

Whose visitations troubled my mind Whose visitations gave me pleasure Like thunder lightning on a stormy night Like songs of robin blue, nightingale.

She served me nobly with love and songs While I frowned, with scorn chastised her, Her everlasting beauty captivated me Enslaved me, alas I felt crippled.

Ultimate victory to love after pangs, Sufferings, misery facing tempests A rose among thorns to fill fragrance A rainbow to cheer a sulking heart.

Whose curses and evil eye troubled my mind Whose blessings and prayers cheered my heart Paths of love strewn with joys and pains Gift of nature to uplift man.

# THE ULTIMATE REFUGE

When the swords are out And you are required To pass through untrodden path Without help from friends and well wishers.

When the bugles have been blown And your enemies are out To skin you up without mercy. You, without any armoury.

When the dark clouds hover Without any silver lining With gathering storms and tempests Lightning, thunder and tornadoes.

When your heart has melted And courage has given in. It is time for fortitude To seek Mercy, Grace and Divine Help.

### SOULFUL MELODIES

O beloved come, come. Let us mingle together, And engage in Divine talk. In exuberance and ecstasy.

Your beauty and grace.
Delicacy, courtesy, sweetness.
Friendliness and cheer,
Have opened my heart to Love.

Let us together, sing songs.
To welcome the spring,
With flowers scattering fragrance.
To enliven the spirit with thoughts divine.

Let us cry out music, Of the sublime soul; Which lifts us from mere mirth; And leads us to the Far Beyond..

### **ETERNALLY WEEP**

Oh love! Thou art a passing cloud. Light weight, soft like silk, pure like gold. Pleasant in sight and with fragrance. But you cannot be chained!

Oh love! Thou art an illusion.
To create sensations and feelings.
Mirages and dreams, to wander about.
To sulk and get drowned, in Thee.

Oh love! Thou art a magic.

To enthrall and thrill with joys.

To please the soul, or enrapture the body.

To soar higher and higher in the sky.

Oh love! Thou art gloomy and dark. When without silver lining to enliven, Pathos and grief you unleash, In vain, to eternally weep.

### PROTECTION FROM MISERY

There was a time, when we were Walking through familiar roads. Meeting familiar faces charming us Now, thrown far away from them.

Memory slips, mist gathers Corroding the mind, blurring the vision Time and again, events envelop. Confusing names, throwing dark shadows.

Either walking in straight line or zigzag
On slippery path or on thorny untrodden one
Fulfilling dreams or facing disappointments
Despondency gripping the mind.

Despair and grinding poverty
Dashing all hopes and dreams.
Divine Grace the sole celestial gift.
Is a protective canopy from misery.

# WHY ALL THIS?

Poverty smells obnoxiously, Stinks putrefying, decaying. An environmental threat. A cause for grief for Mankind!

Opulence, splendour, wealthy rich!
Wrecks the mind, consciousness and soul.
Corrupting values, customs, themes.
Creating Nuclear weapons for destruction!

And fashion shows with bare bottoms! Chill penury bares all for all to see -Ah! Hiroshima, Bosnia, Sudan! In all, dare devilry; a test for endurance.

Look, Look O Merciful! Why all this Sorry state when you are known To be just, kind, compassionate? Beneficent and Merciful!

#### **ECSTASY**

Every moment of bliss, ecstasy, Is a golden moment, a monument. Surpassing Himalayan heights of glory. Million years of chanting and praying!

A moth circumambulates, burns in flames. A supreme sacrifice on the alter of love. Lightning reducing to ashes Mount Sinai. Moses merging in splendour of the Supreme.

Mohammad's ascension to the Throne On 'Lailathul Qadar' in a flash \_ A glorious and a golden moment. A 'Midas touch' turns dust to gold.

A sigh of a dancing dervish!
With a heart glittering with love
With tattered clothes, dishevelled hair
Soul purified for final merger, O Lord!

# AMIDST SURROUNDING MYSTERIES

Like tumult, waves rise and slash on shores To Peter out, tamed, to merge with sand, Again to rise from the sea as a fresh tide. Friends, relatives, create storms in tea cup.

Sip it, lick it, gulp it, throw it away. In these days of plastic age; They make more din than emit light. Life, though full of mystery, is passive.

Men change like seasons and dresses. Fading memories washing away all deeds. Favours received forgotten, like dipping sun. To live in eternal darkness, sans sight.

For some, love is mirage, deceptive. For some, love is an oasis in desert. For some, love is supreme sacrifice On the altar of Everliving, for Grace.

#### INNER PEACE

Look to the inner voice Its light is eternal Its joys are multiple Its grace is divine It is soothing and pleasing Its voice is melodious It has motherly concern and care It knows your anguish and pain Listen to it Sit in silence In meditation In calm stillness Close your eyes In your heart - recite -"La illaha illAllah Mohammadur Rasool Allah Allah hu hu Allah, hu hu Allah hu hu Allah hu hu".

### **BEAUTY IN NATURE**

The wintry chill freezes my bones and marrow I shudder to think of it in summer When the heat boils and my sweat flows I think of cool spring with scented flowers.

All colours merge to form a white curtain To reappear on it as a rainbow
To delight the hearts for certain
To honour sun and rain with a bow.

Mind and heart admire nature's beauty Eyes, ears to marvel its sound and music Night and day dance hand in hand in gaiety Time spreads its arms, turns the clock to click.

Sun, moon and stars throw luminous light Earth moves round and round for seasons' flight.

### CHANGING FATE

Not an iota of knowledge yet gained The vastness of cosmos is stupendous Splendid and spectacular in dimension Heaven's miracles are for eyes to behold.

But man in order to achieve supremacy Destroys Nature and spreads wretchedness And renders himself unfit to live on globe. Are weak born to live without hope?

Man needs to conquer passions and desires Through lofty thoughts and simple living Then, can achieve for himself splendour And by conscious efforts, greater grandeur.

Meandering thoughts and dialectic debates And empty dreams can't change fates.

# SHARING LOVE

Love a divine spark, hidden in depths of heart For man to cherish, till death doth him apart To give meaning to life, and life - after A binder and a coagulator.

Love is sacrifice and sacrifice is to die A sincere attempt to give up every lie The inner being gets effaced for the Beloved Immersed in thoughts, drunk in His breath.

Where love lets lovely springs to flow In its bottom lies dormant sorrow To creep up and let streams of tears On sad thoughts, for love to share.

A bleeding heart bears gems within To emit rays of hopes, to wash off sin.

## A PARADOX OF LIGHT AND SHADE

Morn, even, I burn the candle of hope Stricken heart swells tears in eyes The scenic beauty around though captivating And melodies fill the air solemnly.

O! the unseen Cosmic Hearer Why does thou offer Hemlock to Thy devotee To mar life with vicissitudes.

Full many pleasures pass my way But lingering pathos are thorns A myriad jinx to contain mirth Lo! a paradox of light and shade.

A cloudless sky, blistering sun Parching tongue add woes to griefs.

### **MELTING HEART**

When the morning's gloss Kissed the night's pathos Tears of love filled The greenery and grass With gleaming gems Pearls tiny and small On each leaf's blade On stalks and barks To share its sorrow And to spread its music With birds of all hues Chirping and singing. When beams of light Enfold its shine The dew's heart melts And mingles with the soil.

### A STRANGE APPARITION

Dark weird nights For the ghosts to walk When no stars and moon shine When no candles are lit When men and animals Are in deep slumber When thieves, thugs don't move When the sentry is fast asleep A strange apparition With creaky noise, of moving feet A passing glimmer of shadow. To wake you up with a bad dream To make you shudder Cause you to let out a shrill cry To scare you beyond belief To leave a trail of terror.

# **MOVING UP AND DOWN**

Pleasures are meant to fade And wither away one day Joys like roses to end up With a stench, to rot A glorious yellow bright Sun Shines with brilliance at midday To lose its shine at twilight To end up the day in darkness. A helpless bony child lisping Crawling, faltering, running Jumping, steadying himself After all the glory, to die To be buried or burnt On funeral pyre to mingle With dust or as ashes thrown in river Like atoms moving up and down all the way.

# LIFE FLOWS

. . . . . . . . . . . . . .

The leaf has turned yellow Its brown stalk weak Slowly drooping at dusk With its future bleak.

The growing darkness The rising storms Thunder and lightning Bring the leaf down.

Yellow to brown it turns From dust it rose Unto dust it returns Yet till eternity, life flows.

### RANK COURTBIRD

Ah! what a stroke of fortune
That you placed on my threshold!
Gleefully, when I received the client
It turned out to be a menace!

Alas! Instead of making a ton -The case, it turned out to be a fake I huffed and puffed in the Court Only to be thrown out, with costs.

A rank court bird, out to dupe Both his adversary and his lawyer. Fools every one being a liar Puts innocent credulous men in hot soup.

# **DEMANDS OF DEATH**

Death caused by bullet received in chest Murderer's knife or thro' a hang man's noose. They dare to welcome it with open breast Don't have anything in life to choose.

Life is dear for the rich and mighty
For them, Apollo comes down to offer elixir
At the cost of a fortune, without being thrifty
Alas! The candle burns at both ends brighter.

Men in chill penury, distress and pain Call out for sweet death to end misery Life's paradox leaves its own strain At every breath demands wealth from treasury.

# TO A LOST SON

Some one is waiting for you all distraught! With tears in eyes, pain in heart With absent smiles, worried face Wrinkles on forehead, dishevelled hair.

Return now dear son, return soon! Sun rises, sun sets without its sheen The lovely spring has lost its gleam With you away, it's darkness at noon.

Springs of love will never dry
Creamy milk will never lose its taste
The honey its sweetness, rose its fragrance
Oh dear son! come! some one is waiting for you.

### **CROWNING GLORY**

Virtuous men are held by strings Of divine love and blessings To remain as pearls and rubies In a glittering necklace.

The glowing crown of divinity Adorns on enlightened beings In them flows heavenly music To thrill the loving spirits.

Life led with righteous living In humility and servitude In patience and contentment Enjoys honey and fruits of heaven.

### **CUPID'S SPELL**

Look! I cling, cringe and crouch
Mingle, merge, be one with
My amorous thoughts, lustful feelings
Gusty youthful lively spirit
With blood gushing forth
Up my streams with jubiliation
Sparkling my eyes
Increasing my juvenile desires
To jump with joy, with mirth
And pleasures, to dance with tunes,
With panting heart
Ah! cupid has cast the spell,
To lead me to the path of eternal fire
To reduce me to ashes in burning inferno.

#### A FERVENT WISH

Let the streams of joy
Of ecstasy and supreme bliss
Be unpolluted with mirth
With rancour and spite.

Let love and affection Forever remain fresh and lively Without losing fragrance and sweetness And converting into stench and rot.

Let each day and night
Sail smoothly, calmly
Silently taking the boat of life
To the safest shore of tranquillity.

### WITH SEARCHING EYES

Why do I stand in this state?
Before death lays its icy, chilly hands!
Threatens, makes faces, a lot
Day in and day out, unleashing pains,
Woes, casting long shadows at noon!
In dreams, projecting bloody walls
With green fresh creepers over it With tasteless fruits, with pungent odour Now, caravans of all co-pilgrims departed
Leaving me, alone in sandy lonely desert Look! See! How much I yearn for Thee
With pathless journey before me, limitless A mirage. And, I, with parching tongue
And searching eyes, long and long for Thee.

# **NEW WORLD ORDER**

The seed bears within, the plant of a rose
Or a plant bearing a fruit sour.
So also a person born is heavenly,
Or carries traits to lead him to hell.
What is inherent gets explicit?
You express, what you absorb?
A drop of manna dew can bring life,
On a soft soil, which can bear it.
On barren soil, nothing grows.
For a cherishable life, enrich souls.
Multitudes of nationals, are now variously reacting,
With different stances leading to a New World order
Utterly unknown till now.

## LOST FRIENDSHIP

A friendship turned to hostility
A grave situation for community
Love lost, flowers decaying
Fragrance turned to stench
A nerve shattering experience
An unending melodrama
Letting streams of pathos
Woes, griefs and moments
For complaints, fights and thunderbolts.
For ever to carry wounds in the heart.
A lasting friendship is to find peace.
Nobility nurtures man to achieve fame.

### **BIRTH AND GROWTH FOR TOTAL MERGER**

Emerged from a being With a command In a genetic code In an invisible form Floating down the canal To merge with another form In a lightning speed In a universe of womb With a perfect union Made for each other In a tight embrace In a total merger To evolve and glow With precision timing To emerge as myself Carrying within millions Of years of history With a destiny Written on my brow With lines of fate Neatly drawn on palm To clutch to breast To suckle and grow With a feeble cry

II

Then a yawn
Then a smile
Then a giggle
To mumble and jumble
To crawl and lisp
To jump and play

To be care free To watch the nature Marvel its wonders Ponder on mystery Learn and write Develop discerning eye Grow in strength Falter and flounder Let the opportunities fly by Merge in mirth and pleasure Mingle with the culture Get swayed by superstitions Be carried away By waves and waves Of confounding confusions With babelisation. Rebel against old times Create new pastures With strength and adventure

#### Ш

Overpower the weak
Loot and plunder
Quarrel and fight
Compromise and compound
Or grow magnanimous
Or turn hostile
Create forces
Of destruction
Of terror
Or of construction
For well-being
For social welfare.
Sorrows and afflictions
Miseries and woes

Poverty and sufferings
Get disillusioned
And frustrated
With disgust and distrust
Withdraw from hub and rub
Renounce the world
Return to the shell
Back into the cocoon
In hibernation
For liberation
To be in trauma

#### IV

In deep meditation Emerge enlightened To glow like a lamp With a halo And shine like a star For ever and ever Till eternity lasts. Or merge in soil Dust, unto dust In deep fathoms Of eternal darkness In damnation In eternal fire To cleanse the soul To rid its darkness For it to illumine With light and colour For total merger With Supreme Being In total bliss and ecstasy.

### THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

Give, while the joys of life are bubbling Share, while the sun's rays are shining Love, while the fragrance of flowers fills the air. Illumine, while the summer of times is clicking Sing, while the birds of all hues are chirping Play, while the youth in you is still charming Pray, while the faith in God is lasting Say, while the mind is still illuminating Pay, while the bank account is still growing Realise, while the soul in body is still existing.

### STRAIGHT PATHWAYS

Millions of stars throw luminous light
To illumine mind, to put darkness to flight,
A source of energy for men of learning,
To look beyond to shun life of sinning.
Love is forgiving, giving up opposition
Sailing smoothly without any friction,
Sincere, true and just with eyes twinkling Like sun and moon always shining.
Sing paeans for Lord of Mercy, always.
Look for men, who walk in straight pathways.

### SEEK PEACE

Keep your body and soul together,
When your lost son returns for good.
Let him find you cheerful and gay,
Let him not find you withered away.
For it would be a grave tragedy,
To compound loss, to defy logic.
A rash act or overwhelming grief
Isn't an answer for passions brief,
Sustain your being with eternal love.
Seek peace and blessings from Heaven above.

#### BLESS ME!

Wake up your being with right energy
Instill in you the enlightened spirit
Illumine your mind with lofty thoughts
Digress not from the awakened 'Kundalini'
Flow like a perennial sweet spring
Let, in every glance love dwell
Every step be in a glorious path
Stray not from the flowing streams
May you be blessed for ever
Let Heaven's glory fall on you.

# PROTECT YOURSELF

Better be within your being Enclosed, enwrapped safely In your own cocoon, in your shell Well protected, encapsuled Than, to let you stray away From the well trodden paths Of honeyed love and affection Of divine and healthy living. To be exposed to lurking dangers And swallowed by mighty sharks.

# THRILL YOUR HEARTS

Revive not bitter memories
But better ones
Those that charm us
Let us fly in ecstasy
In joy and bliss
To cherish them for ever
Sing sweet songs
Of pleasant thoughts
Of sweetest pleasures
To thrill the heart.

# WHEN CHILL WINDS BLOW

Lo! Life, when dull and drab
Cold like icy frozen season
With fading misty light
With gusty feelings receding
With eyes losing their twinkle
And cheeks their dimple
With chill flowing winds
Biting and causing wounds
With heart covered with numbness
Then love is crippled and dimmed.

# DESOLATION

Lamps of joy are flickering in my heart
Throwing dark shadows on its core
Sudden storms have destroyed my gardens
Dashing to the ground fervent hopes
My tears are all now dried up
And all feelings choked like dry well
The paths of love are laid with thorns
And my blood has turned cold
Where now the nightingale's tunes?
To cheer up my desolate heart!

### SCATTER AWAY

Every thought that crosses the mind
Every dream that leaves a trace
Emerges from deep consciousness
To scare, ensnare or instil hopes,
To let the stream flow smoothly
Calmly, peacefully or in turbulence
During sultry heat or in chilly cold
Life is a gift from Heaven above
To enjoy to the brim till sun sets
Or to scatter like seeds for birds to peck.

# MISSED FOR EVER

You forget, you are waiting
For your friend, on a wrong platform.
It is empty, without flow of people.
Without the zest, rush and mad hurry.
You look askance, with searching eyes.
Memory has become now your enemy.
Your own failure to identify places
Colours, schemes, patterns, rules of game
Is the cause of your misery; lost chance!
Every second is becoming past - blank oblivion.

### LASTING MONUMENTS

Ah, millions have perished
Yearning for Thee, unsung!
Yet, the beauty and effulgence
The peacock's dance, chirping of birds,
Songs of nightingale, evoke streams of love.
A slippery and misleading path - a trap
Men with might and power, pelf and splendour
With lust aplenty and creativity
Enjoy life to the brim, with mirth
Die regretless, leaving lasting monuments!

# **NEVER TO MEET**

O we move in opposites,
In parallel lines, never to meet.
Love shunned is paradise lost.
To add to life's burdens and cost.
Like cancerous malignant cells
Spreading, casting death's spell.
Oh Solitude! lost for ever in din
When man commits more and more sin.
Life's parallels don't meet!
Surrender for peace at Master's feet.

# HUMAN CHILD

Human child is meek and weak Unable to bear pangs of hunger For food wails, cries and weeps With all comforts around sleeps.

A wonderful creation to marvel about A weakling at birth, seeks support As he gains strength, throws out Age old parents and ungrateful becomes.

# WHEN BLUES OVERWHELM

Rekindle the lost hopes With fiery emotions Throw away the blues Look ahead at the horizon The rising golden sun Splashing brilliant hues To rejuvenate the being And sing paeans to HIM.

### HAIKU

We poets are like gems Held in a sparkling necklace Without scope to fall.

\_\_\_\_

Play the soulful tunes In gathering of illumined For bliss, ecstasy.

Buy second hand car Marry a sickly lady Perpetual trouble.

Songs the letters sing Rendering melodious tunes For rapturous mood.

Pestilence or Earthquake Catastrophy or God's wrath To chastise Mankind.

The cawing of crows Ever remains in darkness Black is beautiful

The barking of dogs, Is disquiet in public life Signs of turmoil, strife.

Braying of donkeys Signs of fools in paradise. Indianisation! Sunrises in the East Onset of nobility Life in Middle - East.

Ever burning Sun Churning of life for planets Circum'bulation.

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Mutton 'masala'
Tastes good, but ruins my diet!
Be vegetarian.

Strained relationship Accidents in 'middle-life' Strife with charming wife!

Splash ice-cream on face Ready to shake with laughter Bigger than Oscar.

Doctrinization
A woman in driver's seat
Life flies in a spin.
\*\*\*

A lady in love! In match plays cupid in hell! Today's married life!

Saffronisation Be a lotus on water Religion let loose! Knock! Knock! Who's there? Timidity in girl's skirt A sprouting beauty!

Preaching, sermonising By those in ever darkness Search needle in night!

---

Bliss in married life ? Search for needle in haystack Our of season fruit!

Silence is golden In the din of pollution Soaring gold prices

Bangalore Transport! A sure way to destruction With ever bad roads.

\*\*\*

Moghul Sultanate Shines till date in Taj Mahal Beautiful - Mumtaz.

Chinese tea party 'Ikebena', fashion show, To welcome a guest!

A lovely widow!
A lady in white saree
Without a tilak!

A shaved old lady Dipping in Holy Ganges Seeks Eternal Grace

For men of fashion, A lady in red saree To release tension!

Play with tennis balls, Hold firmly the bat's handle To stroke blissfully.

Put 'head in and out' Poke your nose, with wet red lips Release your tension!

Signal of red light An area of damnation Falls like a torn kite.

Sun rises, sun sets Sunflower blooms everyday Without scent, fragrance.

A failure of mission Apollo thirteen perished A superstition!

A cassia tree Standing tall and high in peers Bears life's elixir. Charming golden times Bullock cart and cycle age Without any strife.

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Dancing daffodils Blooming in lovely seasons To enliven spirits.

Mahatma Gandhi Glory of Himalayas Pride of the Nation

Lata Mangeshkar A beautiful nightingale To cheer sullen hearts.

At Hiroshima Destruction of innocents Burning inferno!

Humanity weeps at A mad scientist's creation \_ Atom bombs, cloning.

Eat apple a day, Charity begins at home Send doctor away.

Hold the pans even \_ With judicial decorum Save democracy.

\*\*\*

Stormy Parliament Signs of anarchy and strife For fascism.

Tailor-made shirts, pants A way of clite's pleasure In the modern age!

Delicious mangoes Presented on silver plate Royal welcome sign.

Hang panties, brassiers
On the balcony's clothes lines?
For amorous thoughts.

In matting season
A cuckoo's call to its mate
With deadly silence.

Times don't augur well!
Charming young couples join hands
And a clarions calls.
\*\*\*

Silence, solitude,
A sure way to end journey
Pavillion end.

Wife at grocer's shop With hubby's full pay packet Weep for the whole month! Tears, with choking voice, Plead for a morsel of food, Earthquake shakes rich man.

Sinners of the world Shake your greasy hands in joy Sun is coming down.

Do rub your noses Mingle in tightest embrace Let fountains gush forth?

Mind in ecstasy In bath tub bubbles joining Hands slipping all around.

Tightly bolt the door Let secrets remain within Prevent evil eye!

Look within your shell Strings of hoary bygones Biting memory.

Dead man tell no tales Circumstances speak louder Fossiled history!

At her winking eye \_ Lightning, thunder pass To engulf in mirth. A pinch of pepper, With ripe tomato, orange, On a peeled plantain.

Treacherous woman!

Dancing to every one's tunes \_

Dexterous fingers.

erin.

Chivalrous man
One who plucks the honey comb

Goes to honeymoon.

\*\*\*

Damsel in distress! A dashing young debonair. Roving eyes on birds.

Familiar faces

Scorching sun tanning the skin Beauty at discount.

\*\*\*

Knock at the red door A beautiful damsel in skirt To loose happiness!

To appease hunger Make your fingers dexterous To dip in pockets.

Slowly play life's game The ground is with muddy pitch You may slip and fall.

\*\*\*

The clock on the wall Ticking away to glory My precious hours.

\*\*\*

In my silent hours
My amorous thoughts teasing me
Let out fountains.

\*\*\*

You succumb and fall Never befriend a stranger To weep for ever.

\*\*\*

Fruits on the table Scented roses on my bed A happy union.

\*\*\*

Hissing and scaring
A snake with poisonous fangs
Ready to strike its prey.

The hooting of the owl In the dead of silent night Passes, chill shudder.

\*\*\*

Social calls friends make To pry in your secrecy Troubled privacy.

\*\*\*

Those bewitching smiles Disarm me to yearn for her, A mere ray of hope.

\*\*\*

Rare moments of life They are rare and far between To increase suffering.

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Desire of my arms Longings of my lonely heart For a tight embrace:

Shut the door quickly My dream girl in my bed room A passing shadow.

Life is a mirage Storms blowing dry leaves and twigs To oblivion.

Dreams to build castles But, nothing to cover shame! Hungry man sees food.

Confusion galore
With life playing hide and seek
Time for birds to chirp.
\*\*\*

Carpenter at work
Masons building a castle
Where is the Master?
\*\*\*

Circumbulation 'Around the Holy Kaaba 'Haji' in making! University

Rogue students flirting about

Teachers blowing smoke.

\*\*\*

Parents in night clubs

Teenagers in dancing halls

Pubs for more taxes!

\*\*\*

The onset of youth

The eternal fire brewing

Yearning for the flesh.

\*\*\*

The rich and the poor

Open up like buds, flowers,

To move about, bare.

\*\*\*

Salute the soldier

Who lays down the arms for peace

Victory to the love!

\*\*\*

Blisters in the mouth

Gas, ulcers in the stomach

On the wedding day!

\*\*\*

Oh! Infanticide

Mothers with gall in the mind

A shame for mankind!

\*\*\*

Lovers in gardens

Used condoms thrown every where

A wonderful sight!

1000

A pregnant woman Crushed under road transport bus Lawyers feel the glee!

Silent night watchman Joins with the thief stealthily While angels pass by.

There is room on top, But ladder has been stolen, You grope in the dark.

Captivating youths Beautiful women fall prey When men are away.

Silent Moon keeps watch, A lonely dog bemoans, cries. While dark shadows pass.

Fear thrown to the winds A racing car in top gear. Courage wins the race.

A pot in making Potter slowly turning wheel A role set for it.

Duel and war with words Women with empty vessels. Wailing for water. Shoppers down shutters Hungry rioters on the street Blood has become cheap!

Sound of music, thrills Chill penury, hunger grills Dancing girls in frills.

Water every where Nature in terrible mood Man in helpless state!

Life boat in shambles Tumultuous waves on sea Ray of hope persists.

Pangs of pain, hunger, Beautiful rainbows on skies Is it forever?

A glorious path Silk, gold, silver bring splendour Whither happiness?

Earthquake, pestilence Calamitous condition Man in silent zone!

A magnetic force
A common thread runs in all
To unite mankind.

A candle flickers

A moth circumambulates, burns
In ever deep love.

Creativity
Midas touch turns food to gold
To weep for ever.

Where does life begin? A seed bears within, a tree A child in a womb.

To blasphemous person \_ On barren land nothing grows; Throw not pearls to swines,

Spectacular mind, A drop of dew can bring life Seek you shall find pearls.

Fresh streams, lovely pearls Fragrance filling in the air With clear paths to thrill.

To broaden the mind Burn, burn, let flames engulf all Quench passions, desires.

The vast blue canvas
With twinkling stars, Moon and clouds
For eyes to marvel.

Love's invitation

Chirping birds sing in chorus

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Bees gather honey.

\*\*\*

Seek peace, love, goodwill

In calm stillness of the night

Deep meditation.

\*\*\*

Shroud for every one

Sweet death to end misery pains

For eternal sleep.

\*\*\*

Soothing music thrills

Mind and heart admire beauty

Eyes to transmit love.

\*\*\*

A heavenly path

Rivers of human kindness

Should flow from your heart.

\*\*\*

Communal violence

A terrible, grave mistake

Repent in leisure.

\*\*\*

Whither destiny?

Men are puppets in His Hands

Life is a 'Maya'.

\*\*\*

Love is sacrifice

Perturbation of love's heart

Roses amidst thorn.

\*\*\*

Blistering hot sun Pathless journey in desert Life of a nomad.

Adventurous men
With courage and daunting skill
Cross all barriers.

In silent hours Thoughts go berserk, crazy, mad. Like turbulent sea.

When eyes shut, lips sealed Storms, turmoils of life subside Become motionless.

Serve humanity Wash dirty linen on streets Political life!

Eagles have sharp eyes Catch prey in a quick flicker Politicians?

Life on Mother Earth My eyes wonder and wonder On gazing blue sky.

Twinkling stars for love Dusk fall brings lover's kisses And magnetic pull. Cravings of old age Yearn for an illumined mind To merge peacefully.

Chanting of 'Mantras'
Call of 'Muezzin' for prayers
Water fall, Blessings.

What a paradox ? Wondrous human mind kills\_ Man, Nature and Love.

#### TANKA

### **FUTILE SEARCH**

Onset of darkness,
Dipping orange sun at sea
Men in sailing boats
Search for elixir of life
Trying to touch horizon.

### CRESCENT

Onset of crescent
On parching sandy desert
Where sins aplenty
An illumined mind with clear soul
Pronounced the whole truth.

#### GODMAN

Washerman cleans clothes In which dirt, sweat, aplenty A crystal clear soul Needs no godmen for sermons Empty vessels make more noise.

### HOLY CROSS

Holy cross at Rome
Holy Pope with a sceptre
Guides the hearts of men
Where Christ dwells in humble hearts.
To purify mind and soul.

# LORD SHANKARACHARYA

\*\*\*\*

Master of Yoga Lord Shankaracharya Vedas and Gita With deep penance and in trance; Realised the inner soul.

#### SCIENTIST

Mind in ever search
To discover the whole truth
To baffle mankind
With new vistas of knowledge
To Illumine humanity.

#### PROPHET MOSES

The Ten Commandments
Are Ten pillars of Beauty
Truth is beautiful
For mankind to live in peace
Without any strife and war.

#### SIKHISM

Guru Nanakji With disciple Mardana A Muslim Fakir Travelled the whole world for Truth To illumine disarrayed men.

#### AHIMSA

Lord Mahavira Thou art a realised soul For humanity To teach Truthful Ahimsa, Austerity, clean business.

#### **MELODY FOR PAINFUL HEARTS**

Songs the letters sing, Soulful melodies, thrills hearts With pathos and grief When lost in turbulent sea Amidst life's grave situations.

#### UNTOLD STORY

Faces look pretty
Eyes with expressions many
Filled with tears and joys.
Hide within untold story
Nature's work is a wonder!

#### LIVELY LIFE

Life sways, pass through storms Tumultuous waves swinging it. Violently shaken. Steady, calm, avoiding ridges Weathers storms, reaches shores safely.

#### **PASSERBY**

A calm passerby
Faces all seasons of life;
Cheerfully withers,
Selling wares to one and all
Courteous, pleasant to hagglers.

# SUMMER DAYS

Summer brings heat waves; With parching tongue, severe aches. Burning eyes to all. Chill water in great demand. Yet, joyful season.

# **NIGHT FALL**

Night opens her eyes With twinkling stars and full Moon Throwing brilliant light For men to marvel about. Beautiful love is MERCY.

### MYSTIC POWER

Calm face, pretty looks,
Long flowing beautiful hair
With fine jewellery.
Bewitching smile, unnerves grooms;
Mystic power holding tight.

### DAWN OF LOVE

Damsel in distress
Lovely youth with charming looks.
With courage and strength.
Overpowers the ruffian.
Wins her heart, to possess her.

#### **BEST SELLER**

Imagination
Running riot to create myth
Dreadful fantasy.
Men, beasts, ghosts, join for fiction.
A best seller is created.

### **REACH HEIGHTS**

Voices, sound in mind, Images dancing to its tune. Is it Master's voice? A call from the unknown realm. To reach to oblivion.

# A WARM WELCOME

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Orange yellow sun
Bedecked in reddish curtain
On skyline, dipping.
Birds, chirping, singing on trees
To welcome Moon, Stars, planets.

#### AH, BEAUTY!

Beautiful garden
Jewel of heaven on earth.
It was here, here, here!
Now, flow rivers of red blood.
Ah! Shalimar! lost beauty!

# DESPICABLE ANIMAL

A lone wolf in the forest Hiding in mountains. Stealthily killing his prey. A despicable species.

### DAWN OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

Wailing and weeping Memory haunting like ghost Snaring and teasing Stream of tears flows like fountains Is dawn of Schizophrenia.

# A RUSTIC

Educated man,
Hails from a rustic background
Conflict in the mind.
Respectability roots To deter one from new life.
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#### TRANSFORMATION

A philosophic Person of virtue and mirth, Is caught in a web! In cocoon, he hides himself. To emerge as butterfly!

#### **ECLIPSES**

Sun, Moon are eclipsed.
Astrologers draw inference,
With calculations.
To predict Earthquakes, Cyclones!
Never they say a good word!

# **GOOD LIVING**

Morning dawn splendorous.
Enlightens all the beings.
Except nocturnals.
Radiance of hope emerges.
To search for a good living!

# A PROTECTION

The joy of giving,
Out shines silver lining.
That is charity!
Love permeates in the being
A shield from Saturn's evil.

#### THANKSGIVING

Blessed are those, who thank The gifts that Nature bestows. Who accept with joy, And pass the life, gleefully. Weathering the storms everyday.

### **COURT BIRDS**

Summons from the Court. A bread-winning profession. Inviting trouble. To pay to lawyers thro' nose. Suffer immeasurably.

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# LIGHT AND SHADOW

Black is beautiful.

Joys overshadowing grief.

In stillness of night.

Sunrise to dispel darkness.

Sunset to welcome Stars, Moon.