

LONG LIVE, REVOLUTION!

By Manohar Mouli Biswas

Translated from Bangla by Dr Jaydeep Sarangi

My familiar faces

Lost counting how many times have I seen their faces

In ragged and tattered clothes

Barefooted or wearing slippers

A flag on left shoulder and from right side

Clenched palm of the hand addressed to the sky .

You can be pierced to death by the kissing of a bullet.

My comrades, will you do this?

With Invincible courage if we are to break any barricade

Breaking this wall , will go forward.

Remember you all, never utter these three words:

Brahmanism, Dalit and Ambedkar

Do inscribe these words in mind

These are not acceptable by the high caste.

It's a communalism of the untouchable classes

If you are trapped somewhere , don't dream for revolution again.

I AM A COMMUNIST

I'm a Communist, by birth a Communist

I am a Dalit in this country

And by my humble birth , a Proletariat

I have one straight thought

To knock at the door of equality

I am a Communist, fervently a Communist

I am against the Police if they exercise power;

Exploitation , and the wheel of terrorism.

With angst I dream of breaking the rigid codes of authority.

A DISCRETE DIARY

Why to denounce the world

Widen its horizon is reached?

What is it that leaves everyone so reluctant to take that action!

Subdued by prolonged pain, forced to death,

My feet refuse to walk

My enthusiasm is burnt out.

My search, my journey

Bring me back again to nothingness and all I gather is nothingness

This is destined as the world has always been an unknown mystery

For the Sudra and the most outcaste.

Surrounded by the dense forest,

I am to be hunted down by carnivores

I am no more but 'two feet, two eyes'

To the agents of power

Left to be ever dissected by cruel pungency!

Yet I know not what helps me to transcend

Great sages like, Brihaspati, Bhargav and Shukracharya teach me.

In me, still the feeling of ennobling and deep oozing love!

Bio

Jaydeep Sarangi has delivered lectures on Bangla dalit literature in several continents as invited/keynote speaker. With Angana Dutta, he has transliterated and edited *Surviving in My World: Growing up Dalit in Bengal* which has been reviewed favourably in many leading journals in the world like *EPW*, *Biblio*, *Commonwealth Essays* (Sorbonne University), *South Asia Research* (London), *Indian Literature*, *Kavya Bharati*, *Voice of the Dalit* (Sage Publication), *The Book Review*, etc. His another pioneering anthology (with Usha Kishore), *Home Thoughts : Poems of the British Indian Diaspora* is in press. He is currently Associate Professor in English, Deptt. of English at Jogesh Chandra Chaudhuri College (Calcutta University), 30, Prince Anwar Shah Road, Tollygunj PO; Kolkata-700033, WB, India. He edits, *New Fiction Journal*. Jaydeep Sarangi can be reached at jaydeepsarangi@gmail.com

Manohar Mouli Biswas is the President, Bangla Dalit Sahitya Sanstha. He has authored more than a dozen books—book of poems-4, short story-1, book of essays such as *Dalit Sahityer Digboloy*, *Vinnochokhe Prabandhamala*, *Yuktivadi Bharatbarsha : Ekti Aitijyer Sandhan*, *Dalit Sahityer Ruprekha* and *Shatobarsher Bangla Dalit Sahitya*. *Bikshata Kaaler Bansi* (2013) is his latest book of Bengali poems. His selected poems translated into English came out with the title: *Poetic Rendering As Yet Unborn* (2010). He has taken part in

different national seminars in different parts of India and read his poems. He is one of the leading dalit voice from Bengal writing for more than three decades. His autobiography (in Bangla) has been published recently, *Surviving in My World: Growing up Dalit in Bengal* (2015) The translated version (into English) of his autobiography is likely to be published sometime in 2014.