

ORIGINAL POEM BY: SANTOSH ALEX

Translated from Hindi: Sunil Sharma

Poem

In the corn field
I saw milky corns
Eager to sprout.
The outer coverings
Are happy that
The time for freedom has arrived.

Sparrows are flying in the sky.
The lobes of the maize
Bear the mark of the peasant's hard work.

I am dwarfed
By his labour.
His sweat-drop is a poem in itself.

Country Pathway

My son studying in fifth grade,
While reading a lesson titled "village"
Suddenly asked
Dad, what's a country pathway?

I recalled my village,

Where the country pathway ended
Rocky terrains began.
At some places, there were woods.

The signs of the animals hooves
Could be seen on the dirt- track;
Many a time, I returned home
Along the rocky terrains.
But I feared to go to the woods.

Now there are neither tracks
Nor rocky terrains.
Woods have become a rare sight.

From existing country pathways
Newer ones spring.
How do I tell my son that
The country pathways are a witness
To the existence of a village.

Bio:

Santosh Alex

He is a trilingual poet and multilingual translator, born in 1971 in Kerala. He has an M.A. and Ph.D. in Hindi Literature . He has two poetry collections (Dooram 2008) and (Njan ninakku oru ghazal 2013) in Malayalam. His poems has been translated into Hindi, English, Telugu , Nepali and Odiya. His poetry have appeared in Hudson View (South Africa), Best Poems Encyclopedia (New york),The Single Hound (USA,)Rahapen (Norway), Sunrise from Blue Thunder- An International Anthology edited by Ami Kaye and Indo

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Australian Anthology of Contemporary poetry: Vibrant Voices, The Enchanting Verse ,
Indian Ruminations and Seven Sisters Post. He has been featured as the poet of the month by
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Sunil Sharma is Principal at Bharat College – affiliated to University of Mumbai, Mumbai – at
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