

Dwarf

By Santosh Alex

I was sipping
A cup of coffee
And my eyes fell on a bonsai .
Though it was small in size
It was attractive.

From the tenth floor
The houses below appeared dwarf.
The security of our flat
Is a dwarf.
Dwarf are his wishes, wife and kids.

Mahabali too became dwarf
Giving the boon to *Vaman*

Dwarf is the man
Living in the
Four walls of the room
With his false prestige.
He is not a man anymore
He has become a bonsai.

The village road

Where the road turns
On both the sides and fields.
At some place
A stream flows along.
At some place
The shepherd is tending the sheep.
At some place
The *kulhiwalah* is
Enveloped by kids.
And at times
The nine O clock bus
Blows horn and reaches
By ten .

As the bus turns
Towards the haat ¹
The rickshaw pullers and the travellers
Are caressed by the dust,
Which resemble
A good painting.

The bust halts,
Some alight from the city
Some are going to the city
Some are smoking a *beedy*
Witnessing these.

The bus returns
Announcing the closure of
The haat.
The road is empty now.

Still
In the morning
It prepares for a new day
Along with us.

Haat – The village market.

Post Card

I didn't receive my pension
Since many a months by now.
Mom is not keeping well.
The tiles of the house are in bad condition.
This year too the crops were destroyed.
Take care of your self.
Son, if possible come to the village once.

The washer women at the Godavari ghaat.

She comes to this **ghaat**
Since years
Carrying bundles of sin.

She washes the clothes
Puts them on the clothe lines
And her eyes fill with tears.

In the evening
Her son helps her
In carrying the bundle
Of clean clothes.
Way back to home
The dog goes ahead
Followed by her son.

Its has been many years by now
Her situation at home is the same
The ghaat is the same.
The difference ,
Her hair has turned gray
Godavari has become slim.
And way back to home
The grandson leads
Followed by the dog
And the washerwoman.

Sanjeev Bakshi

Born in Khairagad Chatisgarh in 1952. Senior Hindi poet with 6 poetry collections and one Novel published. Retired from Chatisgarh State as Deputy Secretary. Awarded. Prem chand katha samman 2013 for his Novel Bhulan Kandha . Awarded hemchandrachari puraskaar and Sutra Samman for poetry.

An important document

The heart specialist

Was disturbed.

In the patients file

The report of ecogram

Was replaced by the proof of poverty.

Every time he wanted

To check the angiography report

A recommendation letter

Appeared in the file.

Ecogram and Angiography report

Were important for the doctor.

For a poor person

The proof of poverty and the recommendation letter

Was equally important.

MY NEW ADDRESS

Friend

My address is changed.

It was nice to

Read your postcard sent to me written

“ In front of the old peepal. ”

You came to the village for the

First time

Then you didn't know

The name of my village

But you remembered the road side

Mango garden.

Alighting from the bus

You enquired my address.

“ Turn right from the neem tree

The house in front of the old peepal. ”

Every one told me.

From then on

This was the address

To which you sent me letters

Now, neither the mango garden exist

Nor the neem tree

The peepal is still there in

Front of the house.

No one tells

“ The house in front of the peepal.

Friend my address is changed

This is my new address

www.com

Atma Ranjan

Born in Shimla in 1971 . Young Hindi poet with one poetry collection published to his credit.
Poems translated into Punjabi and English. Awarded Shikar Samman for poetry.

Gods Image

He said
Kids are made in
Gods image.
I saw a
Kid in poverty
With a big mouth,
For each and everything
He was profane to God
Knowingly and unknowingly.

Way

Have dug
Have lost hope
Have got hurt.
The village road
Stands a witness that
Its neither the shovel
The mattock, nor the poclairn
That have made the way
Its footsteps
That have found the way

Bathing Kids

Its

Only the mother

Who can

Bathe the kids this way.

The other being

the dust and sunlight .

Santosh Alex

Santosh Alex ,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 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 Single Hound – Literary Journal from USA. during September 2011.

Dr. Santosh translates post colonial literature in English, Hindi and Malayalam. He's enriching Indian Literature by means of translation for the past 20 years and has introduced more than 70 writers from five different languages to English, Hindi and Malayalam . He has 9 books in Hindi and One in English in translation He has received the Pandit Narayan Dev Puraskaar 2004 and “Dwivageesh Puraskaar ” (National Award for Translation) by Bhartiya Anuvad Parishad, New Delhi during 2009. His bio note has found place in the recent edition of **Asian Admirable Achiever** for his contribution to Indian Literature by means of translation and creative writing. He works as a Technical Officer with CIFT, Visakhapatnam. He can be contacted at his email: drsantoshalex@gmail.com.