

THE CIVILIZED

By Aju Mukhopadhyay

After first birth on the pristine earth some of the human tribes globally spread
It hasn't been fixed if it was from Africa, Andaman or any other country yet
But it is known that civilized men on earth later occupied the other countries
Slaved, killed or drove out the first primitive tribes; first symptom of the civilized.
Guided by greed they came to swallow up all the wealth of the universe
Denuding mother earth of her forests, trees, creatures and the rivers.
Powered by greed all looters are the same everywhere as in our country.
Billions years old geologically historic Aravallis, store of precious stones,
Protecting huge area from severe climatic hazards, conserved the rivers and valleys
Was plundered by ungrateful kings for making forts, temples and mansions;
Even today it's cratons are dug, spoilt, uplifted, landscape gouged and ravaged.
Himalayas is daily broken to bleed, pulverized and its resources plundered
With melting glaciers it gives signals dangerous
Rivers are deprived of billions cubic metres of the flowing water.
Illegal or by force legal mining is ruining the forests, mountains, rivers and valleys
What have been accumulated in millions years
Are being depleted in few hundred years; what about the future?
Tribals are ousted, all their rights are crippled, rights to knowledge of all are curtailed
Wildlife is daily reduced; tiger population increased but dwindled in mining districts.
How beautiful are the peacocks, how nice are the gneisses and quartzite!
These aren't there solely for the economic progress of the country
But are objects crushed to help amass wealth by a few veiled by sophistry.
The rich countries venture into space beyond the earth and solar system
Pollute the planets, spaces and other bodies with satellites, rockets
Millions of broken objects, nuclear venoms and innumerable junks
Crowd the space clashing with each other and are eventually crushed;

It's a ruinous adventure by a few countries and their billionaires to seek
To fulfill their demoniac greed by mining in the unknown planets and the arctic
Polluting whatever comes on their ways to reach the civilized manhood.
Unless you rob their rights to stay in wood
Rights to know and possess, rights to a treat humane
how can you get the free mood
To get everything for your type of livelihood!

Fire rages in forests, wild animals flee to the hills
Polluted air is not breathable, polluted water undrinkable;
Plastic demons choke the earth and water; oceans, rivers and their denizens.
Civilizations and future of man are challenged by man
A product of Nature, how can he survive by attacking her?

Bio

Aju Mukhopadhyay (Pondicherry and Kolkata, India) is a bilingual award winning poet, author and critic. He has authored 36 books including ten books of poems, three books of short stories and one novel in English besides 12 books in Bengali. He has been posted as a world poet in some International World poetry sites on invitation. He is a regular contributor to various magazines and e-zines in India and abroad. His poems including Japanese short verses and short stories have been widely anthologised and translated in many international languages. A member of literary and environmental institutions, he is published as writer on wildlife, Nature and Environment besides biography and literature. He has published scholarly essays in large numbers of books and journals including on large numbers of Indian English poets. He is in the editorial and advisory board of some important literary journals. Besides other awards and honours he received Essay award, "Albert Camus Centenary Writing Award" by SCWIJ published from Cyprus. He was given Laureate Award in Best Author category by Literoma, Kolkata in 2020.