

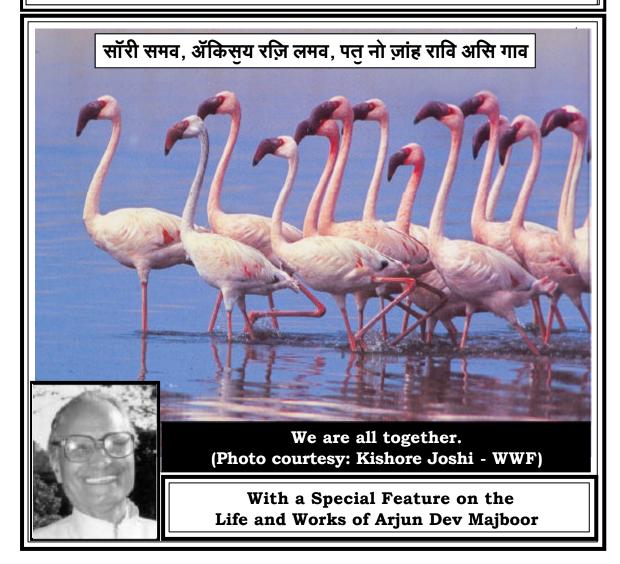
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Editorial - P.N.Wali

Hindu Endowments Bill

n the last session of J&K î assembly, a private members bill was moved which would govern the administration of Hindu religious properties in Kashmir. The bill was moved by a member belonging to National Conference. It

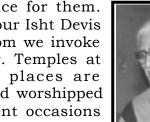
was earlier sent to a select committee, which had already cleared it. But our ruling combine of Congress and PDP brushed it aside and consigned to dust bin without giving any cogent reason for the same.

Mind it, in the same session another private members bill seeking to make Sheriat as the governing law of Muslims in the state was passed without even much debate by the

same ruling combine. Thy did not even worry to exam whether the bill when it becomes law will take away some of the elements of Kashmiriat from the society. Any way that dose not concern us at the movement. But what agitates us is as to why the ruling combine decide to oppose the passing of the bill. It did not affect the rights of any other community. No one apparently opposed it. Some surmise that Yuvraj Karan Singh may have opposed it. There is nothing to suggest that he has done it. It simply appears to be not unconcern but contempt of our issues. Kashmir Hindus have a large number of religious properties scattered throughout the valley. They constitute their heritage. Each one has

significance for them. We have our Isht Devis there whom we invoke every day. Temples at different places are visited and worshipped on different occasions

Festivals we observe are connected with one or the other Tirtha or temple in the valley. We have our local or village deities. They connect us to our past and guide us for future.



and for different purposes. Festivals we observe are connected with one or the other Tirtha or temple in the valley. We have our local or village deities. They connect us to our past and guide us for future. We do not want to lose them. Some of them have even economical potential. It can be exploited, for which some of our unemployed people can be engaged.

There is Augaf Trust for Muslims. Why hesitation in having a similar one for Hindus? Why discrimination?

This a matter on which we should all raise our voice. AIKS should take the lead. If need be, amendments in the Bill may be suggested. But every thing should be done to have the law in place.

◆ In this edition of Milchar, we are trying to give glimpses of the life and works of Pt. Arjun Dav Majboor. He is perhaps the greatest living litterateur in Kashmiri language at the moment, though yet to be honoured with the Sahitya Academy Award, which he rightly deserves.

**

Reaching Out - S.P. Kachru FATED OR FAULTED

o sooner has one fallen foul of a stroke of fate, the know-alls are at hand. Comments rain down on the unfortunate victim from every quarter, all basically confirming that he has only himself to blame. A Heart attack - a clear case of bad food habits or too little exercise or too much of work. Has someone's husband been cheating on her? Then she must have been neglecting him. That's always a safe assumption. Or she has pampered and spoiled him so much that it's no wonder that he got into mischief. And why did she marry him anyway? That was where she went wrong in the first place.

Oh, yes, I do believe in the good in man. That is precisely why I cannot believe that mere spite could be the carefully looked right, who is to say that fate wouldn't take the opportunity and strike from the left at that very moment? That's the way it works. Of course, I shouldn't have



pulled the steering wheel around so abruptly. But what can I do about it, if a big fat spider suddenly decides to crawl across my neck? My own fault?

Yes, of course. But no one is immune to losing face to some extent, now and again. And what sort of life would we lead if we were determined to eliminate each & every risk? After all, fate leaves thousands of culprits unchallenged, only to strike out so much harder against a single

After all, fate leaves thousands of culprits unchallenged, only to strike out so much harder against a single unfortunate individual.

root of all his abject behaviour. Surely not! Quite the contrary, it must be deeply engrained feeling of being no more than a pawn in the hands of the powers of fate and fortune. This feeling needs to be countered most resolutely. We will be subject to blind & savage fate if we behave correctly. I, for one, most certainly won't. Nothing can happen to me. After all, I am reasonable & sensible at all times and therefore perfectly safe. Alas! If only it were just that easy! That really would be fine. But who on earth has prophetic vision of all possible risks and opportunities? And even if we did, and

unfortunate individual. Certainly, not an ideal occasion to relish such a mean form of satisfaction.

Nevertheless, many other reasons can be found to counter such superficial judgement of fate, fault & fortune. At the end of the day, are not our own character, our power of judgement, our upbringing & our personal history – in short all that all that brought us to do all that we have unfortunately done – all an integral part of our fate? Or do all these aspects no longer matter to us? Are we in a position to make independent decisions at any given point in time?

Hard to say but one thing is certain; one is always wiser after the event. It is completely pointless to shout after a child has just fallen down a well "I told you so". I mean of what use is that? Why bother to talk about it, now that is so obvious ly too late? It is just as bad as decrying the dead.

Destiny on the other hand, is a different kettle of fish altogether. As is our attitude now towards any misfortune that we suffered in the past. We could claim that the ability to feel self-pity is one of characteristics distinguishing man from beast. But whose merit is that? One could be inclined to cite an animal's behaviour as a role model for man. But then one is quickly forced to reconsider. After all, the beast is too dumb to understand. Nevertheless, self-pity is a powerful temptation for mankind, and it takes plenty of energy to counteract it. It may be a pleasant sensation for a fleeting moment but believe me, I have tried it . It doesn't work.

By the way, compassion, the milder sister of self-pity, is something completely different. Quite often, this is the only thing able to soothe the pain. Let us all be gallant enough to hold back from our inclination towards arrogance the next time fate strikes one of our acquaintances. Let others make their piercing remarks, we want to try our hand at understanding & compassion. Let us not befool ourselves. We don't control our fate; it controls us. We must realize that it is the Fate that deals the cards & we have to play the hand.



❖ I regularly receive and read the Milchar and feel good to remain connected to my roots. Much as I would like to, I am unable to actively participate in all the Biradari activities organized by the KPA. However, reading titbits from our Newsletter is very satisfying and makes up for the lack to some extent.

I have two requests/suggestions to make: 1) With the passing of our elders, there is a lack of information of the origins of several festivals/rites that we perform like 'Punn' or 'Shraan-Sonder' etc. It would be very useful if every issue featured one such Kashmiri 'Bod Doh'. I am sure there will be several people like me who would like to pass this on to the younger generation.

2) There are a large number of popular Kashmiri songs, melodious and having the most beautiful meaning, passed down from word of mouth. Thanks to the efforts of a non-Kashmiri Kashmiri Vidhu Vinod Chopra who was responsible for the whole country swaying to the strains of 'Bombrobombro' and 'Rinda Poshimaal'. It would be wonderful if every issue featured one such in native script along with the meaning of each song. This will be another interesting way of learning the beautiful nuances of our language. Perhaps we can start with the above two songs and continue with other beautiful lyrics of Habba Khatoon, Rasool Mir etc. and the even more heart rendering poetry of Lal Ded, Arnimaal etc.

I would like to take this opportunity (Contd. on Page 16)

A Peep into the Past - P.L. Zutshi

RETURN OF THE BRAHMIN = 3

he 'Goddess was eulogized as the Mother supreme and loaded with hymn after hymn woven around her in praise of her powers, love for her creation, beauty and grace.

More myths and beliefs continued to get accreted that involved more localities with natural features, and local geographic & physiographic prominences. Meanings were given and not without an attribute to each with an added aura of mystery. In search of the mystic and with a genuine need, people were earnest and therefore experienced the associated urgency. In the process got also added the instinct of explorer. They discovered places around with a real magic of beauty and carried gods and goddesses to these places as a gesture of reverence. In this way entire Valley became a 'place of pilgrimage'. Thus increased in proportion the involvement and the love of the land. Said a wise man but, "Leave the land, abandon it if it gets polluted and your faith stands encroached by the lesser 'beings'. This is told more in exercise of 'tyag' balidan and non-attachment. This is being considered as an attributive quality of savants.

The mathematics of learning of astronomy and astrology got continuously refined and up-graded. These subjects continued to be center of interest for research. In fact these subjects in course of time developed a synonymity with the 'Brahmin' name from Kashmir and the place developed

into a center of attraction for learning and enrichment of Indian theology and philosophy, humanities and literature. (That literature, without leaving trace, is



consumed by the vandals during the later 'poignant' historical events). Kashmir through the ages therefore, gained the importance of being called the abode of Gods. A pride of honor it enjoyed all along. It is the land of Brahma were spread in abundance the fragrance of the Supernatural. It also stayed as the living philosophy; the code being 'Shiv-Shakti', in brief the core of Kashmir Shaivism. Here in is told in explicit terms that, 'life is what it is, live it in the name of the Creator'.

The life:

Privileged as they felt in the land of beauty and plenty, the people stayed undisturbed by any contemporary happenings. They thus pursued a principled living as householders and as very active aesthetics. It was a period, free from want, free from any source of attrition and which is a perfect corporate experience in the state of harmonious living. A dawn of understanding for the men and women that human life was a great boon not repeated often. This belief was not without the accompaniment of a strong intuitive feeling. The 'pairpartnership' was thus understood as a transient opportunity and a knowledge event to observe the

(Contd. on Page 9)

Mysticism & religion - Chaman Lal Raina (USA)

Shri Roopa Bhawani is Alakheshvari — 2

he was a woman of the Vedic tradition to live the standards of life, according to the Kashmiri style and dress. But

it was she, who left her house in search of Nirvana - the supreme reality of life, to be realized in the phenomenal world. She left in quest of the Absolute Truth. She meditated at Lar, Waskura, Cheshma Sahibi, Manigam to see the Sat Chit Ananda, within her own self. She graced villages, jungles, mountains during her Sadhana to teach the harmony of body, mind and soul. She gave vision to a Muslim blind boy at Waskura, asking him to dig the well, which is the sacred well for the devotees.

Essence of the Vedas and the Prasthaan Trayi is seen in Her revelations. She has been very influential in shaping the Kashmiri culture on the pattern of the Sharika worship, cosidering Sharika as the Mother of the Universe. Shakti tradition and its application in life pattern and religious thought is vivid in her Shlokas.

Alakh Sahiba is revered by the cross section of the Kashmiris both Muslims and Hindus. When we go through her Shlokas, we come across the words, which are Vedantic in spirit, philosophic in content, Yogic in application, and Agamic in thought. It is thus clear, She is the Alakheshvari, the great mystic of the 17th/18th century. She was a Jivan Mukta - a liberated soul, as the definition of the Jivan Mukta goes in the Hindu philosophy. It can be said that Alakh

Sahiba realized the Parmatman within her Jivatman. What a wonderful spiritual awakening within human birth! It is said that She lived a life span of one hundred years,



from Jyeshta Purnimashi 1677 to Magha Sahiba Saptami 1777 Bikrami, corresponding to 1734 -1834 A. D, as established by the Alakh Sahiba Trust.

Pandit Keshav Bhat Jyotshi of Rainawari, took the pains to transliterate the Sharada Manuscript of the Rahasyopdesha in the Devanagri script, in early 20th century, which was printed at the Nirnaya Sagar Press Mumbai; later Dr Shiv Nath Sharma, edited it with cross references, which is considered as the standard text for recitation purposes.

Smt Amrita Pritam writes about Alakheshvari, in her Foreword to the Mystc Revelations of Shri Roopa Bhavani, authored by me for the Alakh Sahiba Trust, in the year1996:

"She was lovingly called ALAKH SAHIBA, and I would like to say that her every word is Alakh-Lila, a secret of being and becoming, which reveals itself only to those, who are a little familiar to their own 'inner-souls' - the source of Light and sound".

About the Word ALAKH:

Alakh is the Primal source in understanding the Traidic philosophy of manifestation. A in Sanskrit is the Ishvar Tattva, and the first vibration of the Vedic Pranava AUM. A

(Contd. on Page 38)

socio-cultural & religious traditions of kashmiri pandits

Book: Socio-cultural and

Religious Traditions of

Kashmiri Pandits

Author: Piyaray Raina
Publishers: NeeRoh Inc (USA)

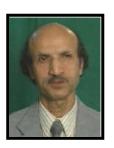
Publications 2006

Review by: Dr. K.L.Chowdhury

Socio-cultural and Religious Traditions of Kashmiri Pandits by Piyaray Raina, a NeeRoh Inc(USA) publication, has just been released. The author appropriately calls himself 'Sadhak', for this book could not have seen the light of day without real Sadhna. This work is a first of its kind, an endeavor to crystallize the essence of the hoary traditions that make the Kashmiri Pandits what they are, and put in between the soothing blue covers of a handsome volume, compact and slim for its 562 pages, elegantly bound and superbly printed.

Mr. Raina makes no claims to originality. Yet, what he has done is original – putting the whole gamut of the religious and socio-cultural traditions in one tome, neatly explaining the nuances of each tradition, ritual and festival in simple language. This monumental work is divided into two sections. Section one is exhaustive and touches on almost everything from religious philosophy and theology to Kashmiri Shaivism and the vogic 'sadhna' thereof, to cosmology, Panchang (the calendar that guides the daily lives of Pandits), Rashis and Gotras, social events,

festivals, pilgrimages, shrines, temples, saints and savants. It takes you to your origins in the valley of Kashmir and recreates the flavor and the spirit of some of the most



cherished traditions that now are only a subject matter of the dreams of Pandits in exile and the wide scatter they find themselves in.

The chapter on Social Customs in nostalgic detail describes everything from the traditional dresses to the food habits and Kashmiri cuisine, and the elaborate, and sometimes nerve wracking, wedding and vagneopavit ceremonies, including the nachun (dancing) and wanwun (singing) that goes with them. That on Festivals enumerates month-wise festivals - the major ones like Shivratri and Janam Ashtami and the minor, but in no case less captivating, like the Kaw Poornima (to celebrate the birthday of crows), the Tila Ashtami (to bid farewell to winter with the bonfire of Kangris or firepots), and the austere custom on Sonth (of looking at a thali filled with rice, bread, milk, yogurt, flowers, pen and inkpot, currency, a picture of the deity, etc. first thing in the morning) and that of Navreh, that heralds the Kashmiri New vear and with it the new hope of spring. The pictures of temples and shrines are tantalizing, while those of marriage and thread ceremonies so vivid.

Section two deals with Karmakanda - the details of private worship (the daily, yearly or once-ina-lifetime worship) and liturgical functions for the performance of the rituals - the Homa (Havan) and the Puja (prayer) - with all the mantras, recitations (stutis and strotas) and hymns both in the Devnagri and Roman script, and faithfully translated, and the Kriya (Karmic action) fully explained. Those of us who go through the whole Karmic rituals mechanically, without almost understanding anything about them will wake up to their simple meaning and deep symbolism that makes them so unique. If you did not understand the why and how of a ritual like the birthday 'puja', that you have been performing every year all your life, or the Shivratri 'puja' with the full assemblage of the pots and pans, materials and consumables, and all the paraphernalia that go with it, or the meaning and significance of the last rites for the departed, you have it all there in this book - made so simple, easy and practical..

This work is replete with references, notes, appendices and a glossary of Sanskrit words. The text is supplemented and greatly enriched with sketches, diagrams (for example the ones on pages 318 and 371 detailing the placement of Kalash, Panhbutas and Agnikund for the Havans, and page 398 showing the placement of the pots and pans for Shivratri), maps, pilgrimage routes and pictures that brings out in full the geologist in the author side by side with the spiritualist, the ritualist and the 'Saddhak'. The thousand names of

Return of the Brahmin ...From Page 6

exclusive gust of stormy fire of life. That, 'the event history has never to be the same in the transcendence of time', was a rational truth felt by every conscious soul. Nature was considered to be the only endowment and source of life amenities and therefore, not amenable to any level of transaction. All this rendered nature as sacred and also the ultimate provider. This philosophy negates any attempt at transacting business with any of its produce or product. It would be a profane sin. The asset theory, so popular as of now, was therefore, nonexistent, more so the liquid assets. Society was in its most nascent stage hence a content of faith and trust was observed in plenty. Requirements were addressed as a need of each individual and unit. Living in confirmation with nature was a non-negotiable instrument. It is thus felt that the society and the life in it exhibited an inhibitive attitude of a stable civil life. without fear and non-coercive. 'Ebb and Flow' a phenomenon that, might best explain the aptitude of living, in nature, with nature, by nature and for the nature—Ebb and flow explains Nature's restlessness with it self before the Ultimate; symptomatic of a peaking civilization where the divine is within the visible frame. This state of living and being continued for generations without interruptions, wherein the people landed into an unfelt ocean of calm. It was a state free of terror, with mind and intellect was available for wild flights in Human and Divine realms. The Brahmin equipped thus researched in him self.

(Contd. on Page 33)

(To be continued)

पुस्तक समीक्षा - म.क.रैना डा. फूलचन्द्रा कृत "मेरा कश्मीर - अतीत और वर्तमान"

किताब : मेरा कश्मीर - अतीत और वर्तमान

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पंजाब १४७ ००१

केंह काल ब्रोंह गव में इंटर्नेटस प्यठ अख इश्तिहार नज़रि। इश्तिहार ओस 'मेरा

कश्मीर - अतीत और वर्तमान' नावृचि अिक किताबि हुंद। किताबि हुंज़ लेखन वाजन्य ऑस डा. फूलचन्द्रा तु इश्तिहार दिनु वोल ओस कैनाडाहुक रवी सफाया। बु ज़ानुहन नु डा. फूलचन्द्राजी पानु केंह, अिम किन्य ओस नु में यिहुंज़ किताब परनुक त्युथ शोख केंह। मगर कॅशीरि प्यट लेखनु आमुच्चि कुनि ति किताबि हुंद नाव बूज़िथ छि में वॉलिंजि तॅछिन्य व्यथान। तॅछिन्य अमिम्वखु ज़ि बु वुछुहॅव

लिखॉर्य किथु पॉठ्य छि कॅशीरि हुंद्य हालाथ ॲस्य र व्यकृनॉव्यमृत्य तु कॅशीरि हुंदिस व्वजारु गकृनस प्यठ कस छुन राह खोरमुत। इश्तिहारस मंज़ ओस डाक्टर सॉबुन टेलेफोन नम्बर दिनु आमुत तु यि ति बावन आमुत ज़ि यि किताब छि वार्याहन कॉशिर्य ॲसोस्येशनन प्यठ दस्तियाब। अमि ब्रोंह ज़ि बु करुहॉव कश्मीरी पॅडित्स ॲसोस्येशन, बंबयि सुत्य रॉबितु कॉयिम, मे वोत अख फोन। बु सपदुस यि वुछिथ केंछ़ा हॉरान तु केंछ़ा ख्वश ज़ि फोन करन वाजेन्य ऑस डाक्टर फूलचन्द्रा पान्। स्व ऑस यि सर् करुन यछ़ान ज़ि य्वस् किताब तिमव

म्यानि खॉतरु सूज़मुच्न ऑस, स्व वॉच्ना में ? बहरहाल यि किताब मीज में दुयि त्रेयि दोह्य तु में ज़ोन पनुन

> पान ख्वश कुस्मथ ज़ि डाक्टर सॉंबुनिस मेलिंग लिस्टस मंज़

ओस म्योन नाव ति । मॆ कॊर डाक्टर सॉबस फोनस प्यट्य शुक्रिया अदा ।

किताबि हुंद कवर ओस मॉर्यमॉद। मगर यि सूंचिथ ज़ि सॉरी चमकवन्य चीज़

छिनु स्वन आसान, में सूंच ज़ि ग्वड पज़ि पूर किताबि साम हॆन्य त तिम पत अमि किस कवरस प्यठ तबसर करुन। मॆ लॉज कालुक बत ख्यथ्य यि किताब परुन्य त रॉच हंज़ि द्वयि बिज वातुनॉव मॆ यि अंद। पज़र हय बूज़िव, अमि पत रॉव मॆ नॆंदर्य। ब वोतुस खयालन मंज़्य पनुन गर छ़च़ुबल तु ब्यूठुस दूद गंगायि बॅठिस प्यठ अपारि बोनि कुल्यन निश बनेमृत्यन हेरि पाव्यन हंदिस तथ थरस वुछान, यथ प्यठ खॅसिथ

अस्य सॉकूल शुर्य ऑस्य खुर त्रावान तु ब्वनु किन द्रवफ कॅरिथ लायनु यिवान। गरु वॉतिथ ओस असि पताह लगान ज़ि असि ओस मंदलन तल आसान गॅखरि सूत्य निकर छ्योनमुत। अमि पतु युस मार असि प्यवान ओस, तथ मुतलक केंह लेखनुय गॅयि पानस खजालथ कर्न्य।

डा. फूलचन्द्राजी हुंज़ किताब छनु स्व र्यवायती किताब यथ मंज़ कॅशीरि हुंद्यन हालातन साम छि ह्यनु आमुच्न। यि छि बिलकुल ब्योन। यि पॅरिथ्रय छु इनसानस ज़र ज़र गछान ज़ि वाह्य, कति लबव बेयि तिम दुह,





कर करव डूंगस मंज़ डल सॉर तु कर ख्यमव ख्यलु वॅथरन प्यट बतु। किताबि हुंद अख अख सफु पॅरिथ छु पनुनि ज़िंदगी हुंद अख अख वरुख याद प्यवान। सॉन्य शुर्य येलि यि किताब परन, शायद सोंचन तिम ज़ि यि केंछा अथ मंज़ लीखिथ छु, ति ओसा पॉज़ किनु न? असि छु तिमन कसम हॉव्य हॉव्य वनुन ज़ि ती छु पोज़।

डाक्टर सॉबन कॉचाह मेहनथ छि कॅरमच किताब लेखनस मंज़, तु मवाद जमाह करनु खाँतरु कोत कोत छे स्व वॉचमुच, ति छू नोन तु टाकारु। परान परान छि खयालात यिवान आवलुनिस मंज़ ह्यन्। ल्वकटि खोतु ल्वकुट न्वख्तु ति छु लेखन वॉल्य सॉंबुरॉविथ ऑनमुत त असि ब्रोंट किन सँगीन ज़ीर दिन खॉतर त्रोवमुत। मसलन यि पॅर्यतव, "ब्याह शादी में अन्त में डालने वाली सब्ज़ी, पीला पनीर या पीला मीट परोसने खुद बावर्ची आता था, जिस ने मैले कुचैले कपडे पहने होते थे। जाने क्यों हम लोग उसे साफ कपडे पहना कर पनीर या पीला मीट परोसने पर बाध्य नहीं कर पाते थे। इ में प्यव अचानक सु सीन याद येलि ब कुनि खांदर सबि मंज़ बतु खेनि ओसुस गछान। बु ओसुस नु स्युन ख्यवान। युथुय सालुर्य बतु चादिर ब्रोंह किन ब्यहान ऑस्य, बु ति ओसुस क्वठ्यन वाश कॅडिथ बॅड जाय रटान। थाल त्रॉविथ युथुय स्युन ऑस्य ह्यवान त्रावुन, बु ओसुस स्युन त्रावन वॉलिस वनान, "हे, बु छुसय वैशनॅव्यह्न। यकदम ऑस छुवप हिश गछान। इन्तिज़ाम करन वॉल्य ऑस्य पानवॅन्य कन फुसराय करान, तु अख बुज़र्गाह ओस ब्रोंठ कुन यिथ वनान, "हे, बिये कुस कुस छुव वैशनंव्य?" सबि मंज़ ॲस्य पांछ़ शॆ अथ थॊद व्यथान। इंन्तिज़ाम करन वाल्यव मंज़ ओस अखाह गॅंज़रावान "अख, ज़, त्रे, चोर, पांछ़, शे।" पत ओस अंदर कुन क्रख दिवान "हे शे।" अमि पत् ओस असि बदनॅसीबन बडु आरु हति बुथि यिवान वनन, "हे तोह्य वॅथिव ना योर कुन। वॅलिव

येत्यथ त्रावोव अलग बतु ज़ादर।" ॲस्य ऑस्य ज़न तु ज़ूरु सुंद्य पॉठ्य जाय बदलावान तु ॲछ कॅड्य कॅड्य दोयिमि सबि कुन वुछान येति स्युन बॉगुरावन वाल्यन हुंज़ु लॉनु आसु लगान। असि कुन ओस न कांह वुछान। पतु ओस असि पताह लगान ज़ि वैशनॅव्य शॆ थाल छि वुरि प्यटय बॅरिथ अनुनावनु आमृत्य। थाल अकि लटि असि ब्रोंह किन त्रॉविथ न ओस असि कांह पृछान तु न गारान। सॉरी ऑस्य ल्वलुमतु लाय करान स्युन ख्यनु वाल्यन।

'मेरा कश्मीर - अतीत और वर्तमान' किताब छि सानि कॅशीरि हुंज़ि ज़िंदुगी हुंदिस लगबग प्रथ ॲकिस पहलूहस प्यठ गाश त्रावान तु असि तिम माहोलुच याद ताज़ करनावान। सोन रहन सहन, सॉन्य समॉजी ज़िंदुगी, सॉन्य बॅड्य दूह, सॉन्य दीवी दिवता, सानि रोज़नुच जाय, सानि गरुक सामानु, सोन चोकु, सोन ख्यन चन, सॉन्य पलव दलव, सॉन्य डल तु दॅरियाव, गरज़ प्रथ कुनि चीज़स छि आमुच साम ह्यनु। म्यानि हिसाबु छि यि किताब त्युथ अख म्वलुल सरमायि, युस प्रथ ॲकिस बट गरस मंज़ आसुन गछि।

किताबि मंज़ छि केंह खॉमियि ति। मसलन कॉशुर छुनु कॉशिरि लिपि मंज़ बॅल्यिक छु यि हिंदियस मंज़ आमुत लेखनु तु आम तोर छु गलथ। कुनि कुनि जािय छि प्रूफ रीडिंगि हुंज़ ति कॅमी रूज़मुंच। ॲकिस जािय छि लेखिका लेखान "शहरी लोग ग्रामीण परिवार से विवाह नहीं करते थे।" यि छुनु पूर पॉठ्य सही। आ, दॅपिव शहरुक्य लूख ऑस्य ज़्यादु पहान शहरस मंज़्य खांदर करान। वगुव्युक ज़िक्र करनु वख्तु छे लेखिकािय "पतुज" तु "ग्राँगिज" मॅशिथ गॉमुच। कॉशिर्य मुसलमान छि शीर्य चायी "नूनु चाय" वनान। यथ शीर्य चायि मंज़ नु दूद ओस प्यवान, तथ ऑस्य "ट्यॅंठ चाय"वनान। ॲकिस जािय छि लेखिका लेखान, "कश्मीर घाटी में यूनानी और आयुर्वेदिक दवाईयों का

(Contd. on Page 39)

Book Review - Prof. Raj Nath Bhat & Prof. S.K.Shah

VITASTA ANNUAL NUMBER 2005-06

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Kolkata.

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. B.K.Moza

Review by: Prof. Raj Nath Bhat (BHU)

his is the Golden jubilee Number of the KP Sabha edited by Dr. BK Moza, a

revered and dedicated member of the biradari. The theme of the Number is 'Sabhas, Samaaj and Sammelan- A Mantra for KP Solidarity' and the issue is accordingly divided into three Sections with the same titles. In the preface to the

issue Dr. Brij Krishan Moza, the editor, provides an elaborate statement on various stages of its compilation and the reasons that prompted him to choose the theme of the issue. Dr. Moza believes that the displacement of 1990 has caused disarray in the community and that we are on the threshold of handing over reins of the Samaaj to the new gener-

ation that has little or no memories/ nostalgic agonies of the Kashmir valley. It may have a sentimental attachment or affiliation to Kashmir but the trauma of dislocation, the depth of suffering and anguish that the senior generation experiences cannot, rather should not, haunt it. Dr. Moza asserts that Sabhas have to shoulder a historic responsibility to nourish and nurture the young minds with wholesome lessons on our religious-cultural practices that give us an independent identity.



Raj Nath Bhat

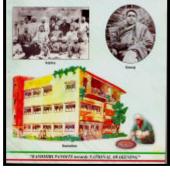
The young minds need to build fraternal community bonds among

themselves which is possible only if the seniors exhibit such behaviour that the young can emulate. Sabhas are important instruments of community bondage at the local level whereas Samaaj is the Platform of bringing the community

> together on the global scale so that we KPs can grow and prosper as a united body and thus retain our identity and preserve our cultural heritage. The Sammelan has succeeded in its aim by bringing in greater cohesion in our appreciation and understanding of the needs of the community.

The section on 'Sabhas' includes brief sketches of

the origin and growth of ten Associations scattered around the length and breadth of the country, from Bangalore in the South to Jammu in the North, Mumbai in the West to Kolkata in the East. It seems that a large number of Associations did not send in their entries to the editor for



Vifasta Annual Number

inclusion in the Volume. There are as many as sixtyone sabhas of KPs spread across India, the US, Canada and UK.

The section on 'Samaaj' carries eight write-ups and a well thought out piece by Sh MK Kaw, President, AIKS which gives a vivid and comprehensive account of the initiatives AIKS is required to take to 'provide organizthat ational framework can accommodate different shades of opinion, with a common minimum agenda on which all are agreed'. He rightly observes that our struggle to survive as a distinct community with dignity and honour has entered a crucial stage and that there is a need to evolve a multi-pronged strategy to awaken the world at large and the deaf/ill-informed public, politician, policy-maker about the plight of KPs and the sinister designs that the Islamic terrorists harbour against the whole country. Quoting Justice Mr. P.N. Bakshi's statement on the formation of AIKS in 1980, Dr. N.L. Zutshi observes that preservation of ethnic identity is vital to any community, losing ones identity equals inviting death. He recommends that AIKS should be rechristened as AWKS-'All World Kashmiri Samaj' - a thoughtful recommendation, I believe. In fact Justice Bakshi's historic speech at the formation of AIKS in 1980, and the speech delivered by Pt. Dwarika Nath Munshi at Jaipur conclave of AIKS in 1991 have been reprinted in the Volume, which, in my humble opinion, are a must read for every KP. Dr. BK Moza in his article provides a functional demarcation of the roles and responsibilities of local Sabhas, and the Inter/National AIKS. Prof. S.K. Shah's interesting article gives a historical account of the evolution of KP Sabhas from 1913 onwards. The first such Sabha, we learn, was formed in Jammu by KP employees during the winter of 1913 following the death of one of their colleagues. The KP Sabhas at Allahabad, Lucknow, Delhi etc. have played a pivotal role in postindependence period in guiding and shaping the educational vision of our youth who eventually occupied responsible positions in administration. Prof. Shah records with reverence the contributions made by Pt. Kashyap Bandhu in the sphere of socio-cultural transformation of the community during his over sixty years of active life. Prof. Shah in a footnote makes a penetrating observation about us as a community- a worth reading note. Prof. C.L.Sadhu in his write up recollects some of the horrifying episodes of post-independence Kashmir when KP was at the receiving end on all fronts. Mr. Vijay Saqi has given a comprehensive account of the development of AIKS over the last 27 years and the agenda the Samaaj is gradually unveiling to ensure a better morrow for the members of the community. A letter written by Pt. Kashyap Bandhu has been included under this section. Besides its historical significance, the letter demonstrates the energy and spirits of that great soul at that advanced age of 87. Pt. Kashyap Bandhu expired the same year. Professor K.N.Pandita's article on 'Panun Kashmir' puts issues in a historical perspective with regard to the activities both political and social that have been orchestrated by the PK. This is a thoughtful piece on the position and status of KPs in the overall political-social design of India.

Perhaps his disillusionment with the state of affairs across the political spectrum have, of late, forced him to have a second look at our status and he advises the young to seek shelter elsewhere. He is a scholar of eminence and his word carries weight. We need to absorb his thoughts with a cool mind.

The last section- 'Sammelan'' carries 14 pieces by several persons from across the country. Chaman Lal Gadoo's article on Kashmir politics and power relations after 1947 should be an eye opener to all those media persons and 'think tanks/buffs' who have all through been spitting venom against KPs. Gadoo gives statistics on the decline of KP population, their economic powerlessness, joblessness and general threat that they had to suffer all through the postindependence period. A severe push in 1990 completed the ethnic cleansing resorted to by the Islamist forces throughout its history. H.N.Tiku forwards a powerful suggestion for character building and moral education among the children and youth through moral education of the kind presently being pursued by 'Sanskara' an organization founded by a host of educationists and concerned citizens. Dr. Satish Ganjoo gives a brief account of historians and Historiography of Kashmir. The references therein will be of immense value to young scholars interested in taking up historical study of Kashmir. S.N.Gurkha presents a comprehensive account of the contribution KPs have made to Urdu journalism. Vijay Saqi expresses anguish for our negligent attitude towards the stalwarts of the community. He rightly points out that we ought to put on record (the printed

word carries weight) the contributions made by our community stalwarts like T.N.Koul, P.N.Haksar, M.L.Saqi, Brij Premi, and so on. Our community magazines may take lead in this direction. Jawahar Kaul Ganhar laments that the ancient Sharada temple (now in a dilapidated state in PoK) is not accessible to KPs. He believes that the GoI will take measures to ensure that the Govt.of PoK allows pilgrimage to the sacred temple. Prof. Surendra Munshi decries our inability to act or think collectively. He has coined a very suitable term, priestly crabs, to refer to our egoisticindividualistic attitude. He attributes this meaningful coinage to an engineer from the community. T.N.Dhar Kundan and Udai Nath Koul in their articles provide valuable inputs to KP solidarity and the need for the leaders from the community in industry, media, law, engineering, medicine, academics etc. to put their heads together to chalk out a concrete future plan of action so that our energetic and intelligent progeny lives with dignity and honour. Dr. Ajay Koul, a heart surgeon, gives very useful tips on prevention and care of heart diseases, T.N.Dhar Kundan pleads for the preservation of Kashmiri literature and use of such words that are a part of the common man's tongue. He strongly advocates use and expansion of Kashmiri-Devnagri script for writing Kashmiri. Ravinder Ravi in his write-up records that the trauma of displacement has forced a sizable number of KPs to pen their agonies. Consequently, a large number of creative works have appeared in print both in Nastaliq and Kashmiri-Devnagri scripts during the past 17 years. Raj Nath Bhat commends the

use of mother tongue at home to enable our progeny to retain whatever little element of identity can be preserved. 'Lalita Kaul Sahib Award' (page 98) instituted by A.N.Koul Sahib for speaking in Kashmiri in a competition organized by Jammu Vichar Manch is a great incentive to the young to learn and speak in our mother tongue. I wish many such awards were instituted across the Sabhas.

The Volume has a historical significance for it was at this Sammelan that the community elders decided to launch a political platform of our own. The Kolkata Sabha in general and Dr. B.K.Moza in particular deserve praise and appreciation, and gratitude and congratulations for making the Sammelan a success and for bringing out this beautiful volume at the occasion.

VITASTA ANNUAL Review by: Prof. S.K.Shah

f all the community journals and magazines that are published from various centres in the country and abroad

VITASTA published from Kolkata has a unique feature. Its annual number is always thematic. Since there is a focus on a subject of importance and all contributions are directed towards that end, the number invariably falls within Ruskin's definition of 'book of all times' and not 'book of the hour' wherein all periodicals can be categorized. The Golden Jubilee Number is understandably one of the best specimens of the various annual numbers that have been published so far.

The theme for the number Sabhas,

Samaj and Samellan – a Mantra for Kashmiri Pandit solidarity may appear to be somewhat intriguing but it has a history. This was the theme of a paper presented by Calcutta Sabha way back in 1982 session of All India Kashmiri Samaj (AIKS) that received wide acclaim and happens to be more relevant at the present point of time.

Indians have poor sense of history. This is because the Hindu ethos considers time not in a linear fashion but in a spherical sense with no end and no beginning. But Kashmir alone has been exceptional in this regard and no wonder all the ancient recorded history of India comes from Kashmir. Following in that tradition this number constitutes a landmark in recording the history and development of Kashmiri Pandit culture through various Sabhas spread over length and breadth of the country and abroad.

The number is divided into three sections in line with its theme. Articles in Section I Samaj focus on birth, growth, activity and relevance of AIKS in a historical sense. Each of the articles is a storehouse of information, most of which is not available in any of the earlier publications. Many of them are based on old news items which have since been forgotten or on personal memories and experiences.

The Section II Sabhas is probably the most important one. A major service rendered through the publication of this number is recording the history of various Sabhas of Kashmiri Pandits spread over the country and abroad. While AIKS boasts of 42 affiliates, very little is known about most of them and their activities.

That deficiency has been partly covered in this number. It is a pleasure to learn that the collective social activity of Kashmiri Pandits through Sabhas outside Kashmir even predates the same within Kashmir. Within the framework of the historical growth and activities of various Sabhas and organizations, each write-up is pregnant with ideas and suggestions for future development and introspection into the cultural, social and political problems of the community. An article on the history and relevance of Panun Kashmir by K.N.Pandita gives an insight into the most popular political movement in which Kashmiri Pandits from all over the world were involved.

Section III Samellan is a genuine brainstorming section with contributions, ranging from Kashmiri language and script through cultural identity, publications to solidarity issues and even articles on health. Most of these articles are thought provoking and display a high standard of erudition of the authors and labour put in consolidating the thoughts and ideas

On the whole the number is a delightful departure from the normal rut of publications on Kashmiri Pandits. A positive attitude is apparent throughout the volume. While focusing on the problems of the community that are undoubtedly colossal, nowhere is there an attitude of wringing the hands about the 'plight' of Kashmiri Pandits as has become the norm in most of our writings.

While reviewing a volume of this type, one tends to pay sole attention to each of the articles and the views expressed therein. In the process what gets ignored is the effort that must have gone in on the part of the

editor of such a volume. Identifying the authors and pursuing them relentlessly for their contribution and consolidating and classifying the write-ups and summarizing the inputs is a marathon job. While Kashmiri Pandits are highly eloquent and everybody has the gift of the gab, when it comes to writing, they tend to be lethargic! No wonder many Sabhas that exist in other towns of the country have failed to send their write-ups. The Editor-in-Chief Dr. B.K.Moza deserves all the congratulations from a thankful community for bringing out this volume that should become bedside reading in every Kashmiri Pandit household, if for nothing else but the pride it generates in a demoralized community in a state of diaspora. 米米

Letters

... From Page 5

to convey my personal appreciation of the grand efforts being made by all KPA members towards keeping the community connected.

Urmila Dhar Zutshi, Mumbai

• टाठि रैना सॉब्। राथ वोत मिलुझार तु यि पॅरिथ ज़ि तुहुंज़ माताजी छि स्वर्गवास सपुज़मुझ, सपुद शूख। स्यठाह वाँसि यिथ माजि हुंद छ़्यनु गछुन छु बोड सदम्। दय दीनवु प्रथ विज़ि शक्ति तु शाँति - व्यतुरावनुच। युस आव, ज़ाव, प्याव, बड्याव, तस छु अिक नतु अिक दृह शॅरीर त्रॉविथ, पनुन्य नामावॉरी त्रॉविथ येमि संसारु गछुन। आश छम, त्विह आसिव यि सदमु शाँति सान बरदाश कोरमुत तु ल्वकट्यन बड्यन दिलासु द्युतमुत। शिव शंकर दियिन दिवंगत आतमायि शाँति। व्यमेद छम व्यन्य आसिव संसारुकिस लोह लंगरस कुन मन लोगमुत। दय दीनव वाँस, शिक्त त सहत।

- मोती लाल क्यमू, जॉम.

SPECIAL FEATURE: LIFE & WORKS OF ARJUN DEV MAJBOOR

'Kashmir Sentinal' on Arian Dev Maiboor

'Kashmir Sentinal', a monthly tabloid published by Panun Kashmir Foundation, Jammu has dedicated its February 2007 issue to Shri Arjan Dev Majboor to honour his contributions to the cause of Kashmiri language and literature. The paper, very popular among KP masses, carries articles, special reports and photo features on the life and works of this great poet, in which some renowned authors and critics have judged his works and reviewed some of his publications. Among the writers are Mohd. Yusuf Teng, A.N.Dhar, Syed Rasool Pompur, M.K.Tikoo, Dr. Romesh Kumar, Upender Ambardar and M.K.Raina. The issue also carries a conversation with Majboor Sahib and a poem on him by Maharaj Krishan Santoshi.

It is perhaps for the first time that a popular news volume has been dedicated to a living legend like Arjan Dev Majboor. It may be a co-incidence that the feature on Majboor comes in an issue also highlighting the Holocaust Day of KPs, but to us, it proves naturally that the fire of exodus still burns in the poet's heart and he is one strong protestor among those mourning the black day of holocaust.

In this issue of Milchar, we carry a Special Feature on the life and works of this great poet. While we reproduce two write ups on the author by Mohd. Yusuf Teng and M.K.Raina from above noted Kashmir Sentinal, we also include two of Majboor's unpublished short stories along with some of his poems and 'What Press Says' about the author. • Editor.

Two poems from Arjan Dev Majboor's 'WAVES'

(Translation: Arvind Gigoo)

Rootless

Each warm evening wet memories transfix my heart and cripple me. Helplessness floods the room. Objects shiver. My existence is a knot. Home and river and rustle flit and pass. Hope is hazy. That city is a litter of broken bricks. burnt houses and choked gutters. Their present, our past and your future fall to pieces before the gun. The gaping wound speaks of broken man's chopped fate.

Longing

Consciousness sped fast to reach the centre.
The uptight scorpion crawls beneath the sole, flames waltz with a guffaw, clouds jig wildly, skin glues on to the thorns. But the old fancy remains unfulfilled - the fancy to hover in the sky.

विवास अञ्चलका कार्यका व्यक्त व्यक्त

Literature & Litterateurs - M.K.Raina

ARJUN DEV MAJBOOR - THE RESTLESS SOUL

Arjun Dev Majboor does not need any introduction in the world of literature. A writer of great repute, Majboor has a very good command over three languages Kashmiri, Sanskrit and Persian, and has also done research work in Dogri and some other languages of Jammu & Kashmir. As a senior poet, who has enriched Kashmiri literature by the varied canvass of his contributions, Shri

Majboor commands instant respect from the litterateurs in these languages.

Arjun Dev Majboor was born in Zainapora village in Pulwama District in Kashmir in the year 1924. Having orphaned in the early stage of his life, he worked in a co-operative bank after passing his Matriculation. In due course of time, he got a

job in the court which he did not continue for a long. He went to Lahore, where he started learning Sanskrit. On his return from Lahore, he worked with Shri Prem Nath Bazaz for some time. He was subsequently employed in Education Department after he got a Degree in Teaching.

Arjun Dev Majboor was very much influenced by Kalidas, Galib and Nadim. He translated Kalidas's Meghadootam into Kashmiri verse. His first collection of poems Kalaam-e-Majboor was published in the year 1955, Dashahaar in 1983, Dazavuni Kosam in 1987, Padi Samyik in 1993

and Tyol in 1995. He also authored his most notable set of essays Tehqeeq. He has written a good number of short stories in Kashmiri, which have over the years been



translated into various other Indian languages. Majboor has translated Nilamata Purana into Urdu, which is expected to be published by the J&K

Academy of Art, Culture & Languages soon. He has also worked and written a lot on the Pre-historic Period of Kashmir and Kashmiri Culture, parts of which have already been published and more yet to be published.

Arjun Dev Majboor has authored research papers on Lala Lakshman, a well known Kashmiri humorist-

poet (1892-1962 AD) and compiled a book on his works titled 'Kuliyat-e-Lala Lakhman', published by J&K Academy in 1982. Majboor has also to his credit, a research article on Arinimal. He has published monograph on Krishen Razdan.

'WAVES', A collection of Arjun Dev Majboor's 30 poems, selected and translated into English by Prof. Arvind Gigoo, has opened a wide window on his works, thus taking him right across the country. This book won him an award from Poets Foundation, Calcutta, presented to him personally by Chief Justice Shyamal Kumar Sen

of Calcutta High Court on 20 December 1999. According to Dr. B.K.Moza, this book brings out his deep rooted love for the beautiful valley of Kashmir, the land of his birth, where he sees his cultural roots. Dr. R.L.Bhat, a well known reviewer and columnist says, "Had WAVES not appeared, non-Kashmiri people in Tagore's land might never have tasted the rich flavors, Majboor has been brewing." Majboor won the All India Radio Award in National Songs Competition, and also

the Best Book Award from the J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages in 1993 for his book 'Padi Samyik'.

Arjun Dev Majboor was conferred with the Rashtra Bhasha Samaan Rashtra Bhasha Samiti, Jammu in the 2005 for his year contribution to Hindi language. He has been honoured with the Saraswati Award by the J&K Vichar Manch in 2005 for his contribution

to Kashmiri literature, and also with the Vitasta Award by Naagraad, Jammu.

A Kashmiri music album 'AAlO' based on the lyrics of Arjan Dev Majboor, with music and direction by the sitar maestro Pt. Bhajan Sopori was released in Jammu in December 2006 by the governor of J&K Lt. Gen. S.K.Sinha. The voice to the album has been rendered by Shamima Dev Azad, Rashid Farash, Jamila Khan and Shazia Ahmed Dev.

What kind of a love Majboor has for the place of his birth, is evident from his writings. Dr Manzoor Fazili says, "The political upsurge and violence in the Valley forced him to leave Kashmir in 1990. Since then he feels alienated. He is conscious of separation from his native village and native place The soul of the poet tumults in such a manner that he turns majboor (helpless) and is sandwiched between the love of his native land and its separation. He aches, has agonies and woes that his personality is shattered."

"Arjun Dev
Majboor's poetry
is marked by
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treatment."

It is very difficult to sum up the character of Majboor as a writer, especially as a poet. But Maharai Krishan Santoshi's brief assessment tells a lot about the poet: "Arjun Dev Majboor is a restless soul, who always wants come out with something. Although he is septuagenarian, yet old age has not touched his spirits. He is as such, the most diligent poet of Kashmiri". Shri T.N.Koul

adds, "Arjun Dev Majboor's poetry is marked by deftness of expression, deep introspection, progressive outlook and mature treatment. His works constitute a muffled outcry of his bruised heart against the disappearance of old values and the disequilibrium of modern life".

Arjun Dev Majboor is presently in exile, having been hounded out of Kashmir along with his brethren because of militancy, craving to return to his native land, once adored as the Land of Rishis.

Literature & Litterateurs - Mohd. Yusuf Teng

ARJUN DEV MAJBOOR - THE VERSATILE PIONEER

e Kashmiris may still have the pretensions of belonging to the 'Paradise on Earth', but the fact remains that we on both the sides of Pantsal are presently living in hell, people on the northern side of the hill, by and large, physically and mentally, and on the southern side, spiritually and emotionally. The Volcano erupted rather abruptly but it had been gathering its embers through a long span of time. What is even worse, our two neighbouring giants contributed to it in ample measure.

Arjun Dev Majboor, to my mind, is one of the most eloquent, authentic and artistic chroniclers of this blazing inferno. I have a few weighty arguements to substantiate my assertion. Firstly, he is not a journalist or a historiographer, in the formal sense of these terms. This class can only see and judge the manifest - the apparent occurances and their crust, which are otherwise far more complex and twisted. Secondly, he is not swept off his feet by the heat of the moment, so garishly coloured by the linkages of class, creed and convenience. The best and instant genre can be seen in the books published on the two sides of Pantsal in recent times. One's hero is other's villain and vice versa. One's holocaust, is other's freedon struggle etc. Thirdly, Majboor has a poets sensibility and an artist's eye. Both ignore the transient and banal; for substantial and enduring. They do not identify killers by their fatigues; they peep into their psyche and minds. They

recognise them as instruments of primordial instincts, good and evil, which surface in human frame and chart out his destiny.

Majboor celebrates the beauty of his motherland, even when he is under strain. He has a very long memory of his historical past and he remembers it through thick and thin. He does lament that whatever he cherishes is crashing and collapsing. But he draws strength from the fact that Kashmir has seen all this in the past and always outlived and outgrown its miseries. It is an amazing response to a situation where there is no visible hope. He does wail and weep but never like at the level of squabbling, shrieking mobs. He encounters it at a higher plane and like French philosopher Rousseau, he exclaims "Everything coming from the hands of man". It is a different attitude than the stock submission of an oriental Sufi; it somehow draws its lessons from the dialectics of human history. Humans tend to take plunge in their quest to forge ahead. They have to cross rivers of blood and fire, but time, at the end of every catastrophe, sees them going a step higher at the ladder. Majboor's journey of pain creates such luminous allusions in his poetic odyssey:

> दृहय छ्वकुनॉव्यज़्यन मन शीनु वाने यि क्वदरथ र्वफ छि सॉबरान दानि दाने

> > or

छि नागुय नाग अति आबुक नु परवाय वुडर रीशिम त यिमनय पोशि बुबराय

Ωť

वसान शामस ओतुय लॊत लॊत मलॉयिक वनान तिम ग्यान ज़ॅरियिक्य खास लॉगिथ

Majboor's other mainstay takes in his wonderful poem 'Paed Samyik'. It draws strength from the great historical saga of Kashmir, right from its genesis. The landmass emerging from a drying satisar, had the inherent make-up of a paradise. He is overtaken by a flowing melody as a rosepetal in the gushing waters of Vitasta. Vitasta, which is born in the lap of mother Kashmir and which announces the independent character of its culture and its existence. Vitasta, which leaves Kashmir only after creating the Amrita reservoir of Wullar. This translated self-containment is in Kashmir's journey of faith and pattern of history as well. Mt. kailasa is transformed into Pradiyman Pitha; Shiv Shankar takes the shape of Buddha, Nagrai, a Naga prince becomes the darling of Himal, the princess of ruling Arya clan. These accords and concords emerge like lotus flowers from the oceans of blood. It is a journey of pain, but in William Cowper's words resulting in 'pleasure and even ecstasy of fulfilment'.

> 'वनख ना जाफर्यो लेदरिस ग्वलाबस, छि कॉशिर्य क्याज़ि सॉरी दर अज़ाबस.

It is not a demagogue's figure of speech to bluff his listener. Majboor does not discriminate among Kashmiris. They are all his kin and fellow-travellers. He never bothers to know their names, neither cares who is circumcised and who is not. If one does not know him personally and if proper name is not revealed to him, it will be quite difficult for the reader to know whether the poet is a Pandit or a Muslim. Just a

small ingredient can hint to his class, his use of some very apt, eloquent and meaningful allusions in Sanskrit. These are married to the context in such a way that they simply cannot be replaced. Sanskrit has been the lingua franca of Kashmir's most glorious culture. It is not only Ananda Vardhana and Kalhana, who epitomise its aesthetics and narrative excellence. Even Zainul Abdin's court historians took its chartered course; Lal Ded and Nund Reshi enjoy its liberating atmosphere and use it for their epoch-making renderings. In Majboor, it has an effortless beauty. He picked it up in the company of that great gypsy-Hermit Rahul Sankrityan, who died as a convert to Sakhya Muni's world-conquering creed.

Majboor makes his historical journey through different vicissitudes of Kashmir's past - Nagas, Paicachas, Darads, Aryans, Kushans, Huns, Turks, Mughals, Afghans, Khalsas, Jamwals etc. He talks of great figures and great spots in the journey. Anandvardhan, Kundalvana, Pravarsen, Lalitaditya, Martand, Nagarjuna, Harwan, Lalitaditya, Sultan Shahbuddin, Budshah (he has partiality to him because he founded Zainapur also, Majboor's native village), Shamsuddin Iraqi, the great Shah Hamdan, Lal Ded, Sheikhul Alam, Makhdoom Hamza, Akbar the great, Mehjoor etc. And then coming to his own times, he admires that tall person - the harbinger of modern revolution in Kashmir.

> बलवीरा असी मंज़ वोथ, दितुन नाद बन्यव सुय रहनुमा, हुक्मस कॉरुन वाद

I consider both these poems extraordinary; quite long by the

standards of Kashmiri language, yet just stops short of becoming classical Mahakavyas, although they are written and fashioned in that mould. Both are epoch-making and epical in nature and have only one precedent. Some operas of great and larger than life - Dina Nath Nadim, who appeared to be an elder contemporary and a guiding spirit of Majboor. Majboor's poems may lack the majesty and grandeur of Nadim's torrential flow, but he compensates by his poise and depth. Nadim had not to encounter the avalanche of blood and mayhem which was Majboor's destiny, therefore, Majboor scores greatly. If he was not overwhelmed by the turbulence and came out of it as a proud Kashmiri, it must be ascribed to his innate goodness and to the courage of his convictions. On purely artistic plane, they evoke that tuneful tradition of Kashmiri Masnavis - which are immersed in beautiful melodies in the form of Lyrics etc to lessen the burden of their terrible content. Majboor's poems under reference can fully blossom on the stage and unveil their real potential. I hope that he will find an interpreter in the mould of a Kashmiri Shyam Benegal. The poems are pregnant with terrific situations, tuneful music, sharp-witted dialogue and other components necessary for a fantastic production. Such an opera can be staged, both at Geeta Bhavan in Jammu, Pamposh Colony in Delhi and Islamia College in downtown Srinagar, and receive accolades.

Majboor's versatility knows no bounds. He is a short story writer, a translator, a researcher with penetrating insights, a linguist of many parts and a cultural voyager. His

translation of some Tarangas of Kalhan Pandit's magnum opus, have already been published by the State Cultural Academy and is much more enjoyable than the lousy English text of Stein, if not as illustrative. He has completed the first ever Kashmiri translation of that semi-Veda of Kashmir - the Nilmat Purana. It is the most ancient text ofKashmir's cultural anthropology. It is awaiting publication in Cultural Academy and when published, will add more colour and spice to many festivities in Kashmir. It will recreate their linguistic opulence folsky authenticity. His Arinimal monograph on established her on the firm pedestal of historic belief. It will no more be possible for sensation-mongers to question her historical presence and her sweet, if somewhat short, repertoire of songs. Many of Majboor's pathbreaking research articles are concealed in the files of Kashmiri Shiraza and other journals. They cannot be allowed to hibernate there and must see the light of print medium. These will inturn throw light upon many a dark alleys of Kashmir's history.

Arjun Dev Majboor has an aura of encyclopaedic dimensions about his work. As far as I know, contemporary Kashmir literary scene can hardly boast of any other person of his versatility. But what is more noteworthy is that inspite of his accomplishments of pen, he is second to none in the mundane field of struggle of Kashmiri, its rights and dignity. He has been in the vanguard of his struggle since 1948. He is among the few pioneers who ushered in the renaissance in our language and

literature. He took the torch to villages of Kashmir and also tried to build an ambience so important for literary exposition. He has been active in almost every movement of substance which worked for Kashmiri. He is now an octogenarian and not in the best of health, but his passion to labour and deliver has not receded. Hence his very fresh dalliance with the preparation and release of Kashmiri music albums at the highest level available in this field. What I consider icing on the cake is his inborn humility and unbelievable gentlemanliness. I have yet to meet a person who speaks ill of him.

Everybody cannot become everybody's friend, that is not the way we humans are made but his chemistry with his contemporaries as well as the younger generation is just remarkable. He could never compromise his ideals, but still managed to smile. Even in this era of hate and bad blood, his sincerity seems transparent and transcends the barriers of mighty Pantsal. He is ageing but still making friends, still writing, still contributing and still inspiring. We have not had the grace to bestow a very deserving Sahitya Award on him, but that does not detract anything from his glorious accomplishment. It only casts a shadow on the genuineness of that otherwise coveted award itself. Our all-time great Nadim would receive it only when he had started for his last journey and Urdu's Krishan Chander could never make it to the panel even.

Majboor Sahib is a living movement of the best Kashmiri cultural synthesis can offer. Well, it is a melancholy though, that given the present state of milieu, we may not see the like of him anymore. History, contrary to the cliche sometimes, refuses to repeat itself and takes vicarious pleasure in denial.

(The author was Secretary, J&K Cultural Academy (1973-1993), Director Information, Director General Cultural and Cultural Advisor to Chief Minister. He has also served as a member of the State Public Service Commission and Member, Legislative Council (1990-2005). Mr Teng writes both in Kashmiri & Urdu. A well known critic and researcher, he has eight books to his credit. He won Sahitya Academy Award for his book 'Mehjoor Shinasi'.

त्योल

... अर्जुन देव मजबूर

मॅत्य् आब

वूंठ मत्योमुत मंज़ मॉदानस सॉरी पानस पानस लॉर्य यस दियि कारि वुठन वुठकाव्यस यस लगि तस लगि सरकॉरी

पुरसिश किछ साँ साँरी मॉलिक हॉकिम साँरी गर गर राज अल शहरस साँरी मोहताज

अशराफन येति मुश्किल रोजुन ज़ॅर्य शहरस मंज़ कस क्या बोजुन यस युस ख्वश गिष्ठ सुय गज़ लाग्यस सॉरी गाटुल्य् सॉरी चॉर्य बूट कलस प्यट ख्वर ननुवॉर्य

कालू मोत ह्यू बेछान बासान ऑद पोक सोरुय काव अय छॅल्य्ज़्यन सज़ तय साबुनि क्रेंहन्यर त्राव्या ? वूंठ मत्योमुत मंज़ मॉदानस सॉरी पानस पानस लॉर्य

What Press Says About Majboor

Himalayan Mail, Jammu. 31.03.2007

Ravinder Kaul in Daily Excelsior, Jammu. 09.04.2007

Majboor's 'Vanwas' will portray pain

83-year-old poet has a wide fan following in Kashmir and is considered a walking encyclopaedia

Next on the agenda of prolific Kashmirborn writer is Vanwas, but 83 and ailing, he himself is far from it. Vanwas is his new novel in which he intends portraying the saga of exile through the eyes of a poet whose main inspiration are the sights and sounds of his motherland. His latest novel portrays the pain of being uprooted from one's own country. "Despite my illness, I am trying my best to finish the novel as soon as possible", says Majboor, for whom time is what you make of it.

Having just finished the translation of the famous 8th century Sanskrit text Nilmata Purana into Urdu for the first time ever, to make it available to a wider readership, Arjan Dev Majboor has been a source of inspiration for budding writers in the state because of his tremendous zest for life and literature. With more than 20 books to his credit and numerous research articles and poems published in noted journals and magazines, Majboor is one of the finest contemporary writers in Kashmiri language.

Majboor retraces his literary footsteps

I had heard the poetry of Arjan Dev Majboor before. I was also quite familiar with his prominent place in Kashmiri literature. Yet, I truly appreciated, for the first time, the poetry of Majboor sometime last year when I was in Delhi and spent almost one full week at the residence of Santoor maestro and well known music director Pandit Bhajan Sopori. He was planning an album based on the poetry of Majboor and the entire day would be spent rehearsing the songs. Although I found all the songs of the album quite impressive, yet, strangely, one particular song 'mê tí mäj kåshîrî kårízí khabar' would bring tears to my eyes every time I heard it. It is the anguished cry of a person in exile desiring to be a part of the joys and sorrows of his motherland - a very moving poem and a very touching song.

Literary organisation 'Sanmukh' organised an evening with Arjan Dev Majboor here today in which Majboor presented an essay 'Main Aur Mera Samay' about his literary journey. Owing to the health problems of Majboor, the essay was read by Dr. Kshama Kaul. Majboor recalled the trials and tribulations faced by him as a writer of Kashmiri language. His satisfaction at being able to express himself the way he wanted and his

experiences with his contemporaries also formed a part of the essay. A major highlight of the programme was the recital of three poems of Majboor in translation. Bhasha Sumbly presented the poem translated by Arvind Gigoo in English. Sapna Soni presented the poem translated by Dr. Agnishekhar, and Dr. Sudhir Mahajan presented the poem translated by Dr. Kshema Kaul, both in Hindi language. The dramatic rendering by the artistes, particularly Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, was greatly appreciated by the entire audience.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Rafiq Masoodi, Secretary, J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages, recalled his long association with Majboor and particularly laid emphasis on the pioneering work done by him for radio and in translating Kashmiri literature into Hindi. Well known physician and poet Dr. Choudhary laid stress on the fact that despite suffering from debilitating health problems, Majboor was very active and prolific in his literary pursuits. This, he said, spoke volumes about his grit commitment to literature. Prominent poet M.L.Aash, who presided over the function, recalled the backwardness of the village Zainapora in Pulwama District, to which Majboor belonged. It was a sheer miracle that a poet of the stature of Maiboor could be born in such a stark environment, he said.

Some of the speakers during the course of lively discussion, pointed out that it was quite unfortunate that Majboor had not so far been given the Sahitya Academy Award, that he so richly deserves. Although, he has been the recipient of several prestigious

literary awards during his over 50 year long prolific literary career, the highest official literary award of the country had still evaded him. Not that he was too bothered about it, the speakers opined, the sooner this anomaly was corrected, the better it would be for the credibility of the Award.

Responding to the queries of the audience, Majboor paid rich tributes to the composite cultural ethos of Jammu city. He demanded that, besides being known as the City of Temples, Jammu should also be advertised as the Cultural City, because of the continuous cultural activities taking place in the city in various languages and in different genres. Earlier, Dr. Agnishekhar gave a brief background of the literary organisation Sanmukh and the series of meetings with authors of different languages that the organisation planned to hold. Naina Sapru ably conducted the proceedings of the programme.

Coming back to the music album, although time has a tendency to make you a softy at heart and I may be more prone to sentimentality than others, there can be no two opinions about the fact that it is a very moving poem rendered to haunting music in a very befitting manner.

दुख ... अर्जुन देव मजबूर

में बेयि सुय बोनि बागन हुंद हवा गोछ़ गरन अंदर गर्युक सुय रुत सदा गोछ़ अमा कॅम्य स्वर्ग दारस शाफ द्युतमुत हॅकीमा नोव तु छ्वख बलनुक दवा गोछ़

यादें - अर्जुन देव मजबूर जलता घर, उभरते चेहरे

स तन लागे, सो तन जाने! जब शाम को मुझे यह समाचार मिला कि हमारा घर जला दिया गया है तो मैं सतम्भित हो कर

अंदर ही अंदर दु:ख के धुएँ की कडवाहट महसूसने लगा। पचीस वर्ष पूर्व बने इस मकान के नकूश जो अब हमारे मस्तिष्क में कौंध रहे थे, एक दूसरे का स्थान ग्रहण करने के लिए लाइन लगाए खड़े थे।

यह हमारा दूसरा मकान था जो पूर्वजों के कच्चे मकान की नींव पर बनाया गया था। कच्चे मकान ने वह युग देखा था जिसे कहते हैं गुलामी का युग, किन्तु इस की भी अपनी विशेषताएँ थीं। सादगी, प्रेम, एक दूसरे के सुख दुख में शिरकत और भागमभाग वाले आज के जीवन की सैंकडों परेशानियों से मुक्ति। इस मकान में कहने को तो तीन मंज़िलें थीं पर वास्तव में तीसरी मँज़िल सपाट सी जगह थी, छत से ढकी। इस में एक भी खिडकी न थी, एक भी द्वार न था। किन्तु वर्षों से इस मकान में कभी भी चोरी नहीं हुई थी। हाँ, यह बात अलग है कि देखते देखते यदि कोई पडोसन किसी वस्तु पर हाथ साफ करती तो उसका दुख थोडे दिनों के बाद हरन हो जाता।

मकान की तीसरी मंज़िल में बखौफ पक्षी आते, स्वयं बचे खुचे दाने या भात बटोरते या कोई तर्रार कौआ किसी बच्चे के हाथ से चावल की रोटी झपट जाता। परन्तु इन बातों पर सभी खुश होते, ठहाके मारते। कभी कभी कोई बुलबुल रिकाबी के एक किनारे आकर पक्के भात के दो पाँच दाने उडा ले जाती तो हम हर्ष का अनुभव करके अपना खाने का कर्म जारी रखते। इस घर के वासियों ने कमी का, न होने का दुख बहुत सहा है। कभी चावल समाप्ति की चिन्ता, कभी कपडे के लिए पैसों का न होना और कभी महीना भर के खर्चे के जुगाड की परेशानी। इस के बावजूद खुशियों के अवसर भी बहुत आए हैं इस घर में। मेहमान आ रहे हैं, खाना खा रहे हैं। कहानियाँ सुनी जा रही हैं। कोई रेडियो नहीं, हारमोनियम नहीं,



बाजा नहीं, किन्तु प्रकृति का, पीछे बहने वाली छोटी सी नदी का गोल गोल कन्करों के ऊपर तेज़ तेज़ बहने का संगीत कानों में अब तक सुरक्षित है। इस घर ने गरीबी में सैंकडों को खिलाया है। शादियाँ और उत्सव देखे हैं। शिवरात्रि पर हमारे साथ गोश्त के तरह तरह के व्यंजन खाने वाले आज आतंकवादियों के नेता हैं।

इस मकान के सामने का खुला आँगन एक पन्ना उलटता है अपने इतिहास का और 'कंठ काक' अन्दर आता है। शेर की शक्ति पर इनसान की चाल। एक लम्बे कद काठी का, लम्बी बाहों और मोटी टाँगों का व्यक्ति बिना किसी जूते के नंगे पैर। बडी नाक, भौवें लम्बी और मूंछें ऐसी कि आकर्षित करें और व्यक्ति के सरल स्वभाव के कारण डरावनी न लगें। फेरन पहने। हस्पताल में चौथे दर्जे का मुलाज़िम। "क्या हो रहा है

भाई", उसकी आवाज़ बड़ी मनमोहक लगती है।
"कंठ काक! शीत काल के लिए कुछ लकड़ी काट
लाए थे।" "अच्छा तो बिना फाड़े क्यों रखी हैं? सूख
जाएगी तो कौन फाड़ पायेगा इसे?" हम चुप। "उठो,
शीर चाय और चावल की फूली फूली रोटियाँ बनाओ।"
कँठ काक का आदेश। स्त्रियाँ झट से चूल्हा जलाती
हैं। एक भारी हंडिया में नमकीन चाय गडकने लगती
है। परात में चावल का आटा गूंधा जाता है और भारी
चूल्हे पर मट्टी के तौए पर फटा फट रोटियाँ पटकी
जाती हैं और फिर चूल्हे के भीतर इन्हें फूलने के लिए

इतने में आडू के फूलों जैसे रंग की शीर चाय और चावल के आटे की रोटियों की महक सारे आँगन में फैल चुकी थी। सभी चाय पी रहे थे। खासू पर खासू और एक रोटी के बाद दूसरी। कंठ काक ने पंद्रह प्याले चाय और आठ रोटियाँ घटक लीं। हुक्के के दो चार लम्बे कश लिए, अपनी दाईं बाँह फेरन से बाहर निकाल ली और सब से भारी कुल्हाडा हाथों में थाम लिया। आँगन में बैठे व्यक्ति देखते रहे कि शेर क्या करामात दिखाता है आज? दो घंटों के बीतर फाडी गई लकडियों का एक भारी अंबार लगाकर कंठ काक बिना कोई एहसान जताए खिसक गया था।

आँगन ने इतिहास का एक और पन्ना पलटा। मेरे जन्यू डलने के उत्सव की तैयारी। तीस रुपये में खाँड, मसालों और अन्य सामग्री से लदे दो घोडे आँगन के भीतर आ गए थे। अगले दिन आस पास के गाँव से घोडे बटोर कर बीजबिहाडा पहुंचाए गए थे। श्रीनगर से कुछ महिलाएँ आ रही थीं, उसी घर से जहाँ मैं ने पढाई के लिए दो वर्ष बिताए थे। रास्ते में कई महिलाएँ गिरी और फिर घोडों पर चढाई गईं और घर पहुंचाई गईं। शाम को महंदी रात थी। गाँव का गाँव उमड पडा। बच्च-नग़मा, तुम्बखनारी पर थाप, लोबान की सुगन्ध और वनवुन तथा गानों की आवाज़ के साथ हंसी मज़ाक के सुरों से सुरों की एक मिश्रित दुनिया जीवित हो उठी थी। सभी महिलाओं ने मेंहदी लगाई। सब के लिए रात भर कहवे, कंदी कुलचे और शीर चाय के साथ सत्त्र के कई दौर चले। मुझे नहीं लगता कि चार सौ आगन्तुकों में से रात के पिछले पहर तक कोई सोया हो। सभी आनन्द में मस्त। अगले दिन छ: भेड़ मार कर गाँव के सभी मुसलमानों की दावत हुई। हिन्दू घरों के लिए इस से अगले दिन घर में आए दो सौ अतिथियों के साथ

अंगारों पर रखा जाता है। सभी पडोसी आँगन में हुक्के के गिर्द बैठे हैं और कंठ काक मज़े ले ले कर हुक्के के कश लगाता अपने जीवन की कुछ घटनाएँ सुनाने में मस्त है: "उन दिनों मेरी ड्यूटी पहलगाम में थी। बर्फ गज़ भर गिरी थी। हस्पताल का डाक्टर ठंड के कारण श्रीनगर गया था और हस्पताल मेरे और स्वीपर कबिर के हवाले कर गया था। कुछ दिन तक ठीक चलता रहा किन्तु एक दिन कबिरा बीमार पड गया। उसे जीने की कोई आशा न थी। मुझ से जितना हो सका, मैं ने इलाज किया किन्तु ठंड के कारण वह कमज़ोर पडता गया। अंत में उस ने कहा. "कंठ काक! अब मैं क्या करूं, यदि मरना ही है तो मैं घर में ही मरना चाहूंगा।" मैं ने कहा, "जब तक कंठा ज़िन्दा है, तुम्हें मरने नहीं दूंगा।" भारी हिमपात के कारण बसें बंद थीं। और उस ज़माने में तो पहलगाम में बसें होती ही नहीं थीं शीतकाल में। मैं ने सोचा. बेचारा कबिरा यहाँ मारा जाएगा। आखिर अपना मन बना लिया और दूसरे दिन चाय पीकर कबिरा को अपनी पीठ पर चढा लिया और चल पडा। बर्फ में एक पतली सी लकीर रास्ते का आभास दे रही थी। मैं चलता गया। कबिरा को मैं ने लोई में लपेट लिया था कि कहीं उसे ठंड न लगे और दर्द बढ़े। मैं चलता गया, जहाँ थकता वहाँ बर्फ पर थोडी देर सुस्ता लेता। जो लोग मुझे देखते, आश्चर्य चकित रह जाते। पचास साल का व्यक्ति जो मेरे कंधों पर था। शाम होने को हुई तो हम बीजबिहाडा पहुंच चुके थे। मैं ने साठ किलोमीटर का फासला तय कर लिया था। अब आठ किलोमीटर और जाना था कबिरा के घर तक। सोचा, शाम का वक्त है, कोई भाग या चीता रास्ते में पडा तो मैं तो भाग जाऊंगा पर कबिरा की जीवन लीला समाप्त हो जाएगी। हम दोनों मस्जिद के हमाम में ठहरे। बाज़ार से कुछ लवास लेकर चाय के साथ लिए और रात हमाम में मज़े से काट ली। थकान के कारण नींद भी आई। दूसरे दिन प्रात: सूर्य निकलने

वैष्णवी भोज बना, जिस में पनीर की दो क़िस्में, दम आलू, साग, खट्टे बैंगन, चूर्मा और मूली दही की चटनी थी। खाना मिट्टी की रिकाबियों में परोसा गया। आँगन में व्यंजनों की सौंधी सौंधी महक और मक्खन की तरह मुलाइम मुश्क बुधिज के चावलों की ऐसी खुशबू कि आज भी सूंघने को तरसता हूं। इसी आँगन में बैठ कर हम ने एक नए कश्मीर का स्वप्न संजोया था। जिसके लिए वर्षों संघर्ष करने पर भी स्वप्न पूरा न हुआ।

पुराने मकान के आँगन में बाईं तरफ बना पुख्ता मकान अब मेरी स्मृतियों के तहखाने में दफन है। मैं इस में पच्चीस वर्ष रह कर भी इसके स्वप्न नहीं देखता, सम्भवतः बचपन की यादें जवानी की यादों से गहरी होती हैं। जिस संदर्भ में यह मकान अन्धे क्रोध का निहत्था शिकार बना, उसी नन्द ऋषि के श्रुकों का अनुवाद मैं ने इसके कमरों में बैठ कर किया था। इस घर में अधिकतर पुस्तकें थी अलमारियों में। प्रत्येक कमरा एक छोटा पुस्तकालय था। इन पुस्तकों में कश्मीर के सूफी कवियों का कलाम, इस्लामी नुमाइश की छपी अत्यन्त सुन्दर रिपोर्ट, तुलसी कृत रामायण, अनेक भाषाओं के शब्दकोष, कश्मीर से सम्बद्ध इतिहास, कई भाषाओं में छपी कुछ साहित्यिक पुस्तकें और हज़रत मुहम्मद साहिब की छपी सुन्दर जीवनी थी। अलमारियों में पत्रिकाओं की फाइलें और कुछ पाण्डुलिपियाँ भी थी। इस मकान में कई शादियाँ हुईं। मैं ने जम कर लिखा और मित्रों आदि को पार्टियाँ दीं तथा साहित्यिक गोष्टियाँ की। फिर क्या खता थी इस मकान की जिसका स्वामी परेशानी का जीवन बिता रहा था। इसका उत्तर आतंकवादी या भारत की भोली सरकार कैसे देगी? वह तो मेरे पाँच मास पूर्व दिए गए एफ.आई.आर के सम्बन्ध में भी कश्मीर सरकार से यह तक नहीं कहला पाती कि हाँ. यह घर फ़लाँ तारीख को जलाया गया है। वाह रे भारत के प्रजातन्त्रवाद! थुम एक आँख में ज़हर भर रहे हो और दूसरी में शहद लगा रहे हो।

नये घर की राख तले मेरे जीवन का सारा संघर्ष चिंगारियों की तरह दबा है। चिंगारियाँ जब आँधी से मिलती हैं तो झूठ के खसोखाशाक को धू धू कर जलने पर विवश करती है। मैं भावुक हो रहा हूं, ऐसी कोई आँधी कम से कम आज मुझे उठती दिखती नहीं। आज नफरत, भय, जातिवाद और पैसावाद की आँधियों ने मानवता की सुखद हवाओं को बाँध के रखा है, दूषित करके रखा है।

एक सुन्दर चेहरे की आँखें आँगन की बाहिरी ड्योढी से अन्दर झांकती हैं। यह चेहरा अभी जीवित है। मैं इसे उसी तरह देखता हूं जैसे आज से पूर्व इसी सहन में बैठ कर देखा था। यह चेहरा अब उतना जवान नहीं दिखता, पर हैरान और परेशान हो कर भी मुझे सांत्वना देता लगता है। इस चेहरे ने मेरे कच्चे मकान को देखा था, पक्के को नहीं। किन्तु आंगन तो एक ही है। इस ने हर आने जाने वाले. पैदा होने वाले और मरने वाले का इतिहास लिखा है। इसने मेरी माँ और गाँव की नायक खातून को सुख दुख की बातें करते देखा है। इसने मेरी आशाओं को कठिन रेगिस्तान के रेतीले तूफानों से गुज़रते देखा है। इसी आँगन ने मेरे खेलने, कुलांचे भरने और गुनगुनाने के नक़श अपनी छाती पर सजा लिए हैं। इसी आंगन ने कश्मीर के कितने सियासी मौसम बदलते बिगडते देखे हैं। यहाँ वसंत चुपचाप आती थी। तारिकाएँ सारी रात चमकती थीं। जुग्नू स्वतंत्र हो कर नृत्य करते थे। अबाबीलें चक्कर काट कर सीधे मकान में घुसकर घौंसले बनाती थीं। यहाँ कोई षडयंत्र नहीं रचा गया, न कोई भेदभाव रखा गया। फिर इस पर इतना अताब क्यों ? कोई तो जवाब दे। क्या इन्सानियत खत्म हो चुकी है दुनिया से?

चेहरों, दृष्यों, घटनाओं की छोटी बडी इतनी रीलें हैं कि मैं इनकी कथा लिखने बैठूं तो वर्षों लिखता जाऊं। अतः मेरे जले घर की मुझे थोडी सी राख तो दे ताकि मैं उसे कुछ दिन सीने से लगाए रखूं। **

अफसानु - अर्जुन देव मजबूर पतव लाकन नु केंह ...

लि गाडि सडक हना गामु नेबुर्य द्रायि तु अथ सडिक प्यटनॅव्य वान पेयि, शव जियन ख्यव नु ग़म। सु रूद बराबर वानस प्यट

यिवान, जेजीर ऑसस मंज़ रॅटिथ ग्राकन प्रारान। तस ओस कथ वननुक जान वल। वुछान वुछान ओस ग्राकस नावि वालिथ निवान। व्यज़ुम ति ओस दिवान मगर वापस ह्यनुक ति ओसुस जान सॅलीकु। असान असान ओस पनुन्य पोंसु सूद ह्यथ वसूल करान। बु ओसुस नु ॲमिस निश ज़ांह ति फस्योमुत। शाहमतुनि कारु म्वकलेयि गरि चाय। चंदस ऑस्य नु पोंसु केंह। मै दौप चलो, शव जियस ह्यमव व्वज़ुम। तस ज़न आयि नु पछुय। कुसुम तारु हॉव्यनम। पोतुस दोपुन, जान गव येमि बोहरि मंज़ निन्य। में ति दोप चायी छि, दोखु हय दियि तु कोताह! चाय ह्यथ वोतुस गरु। अमा चाय येलि तयार गॅयि, अथ पेड्यव योहय क्रॅहन्यार ह्यू। मे दोप शायद आसिह्यस दूद कम पहान त्रोवमुत। मगर येलि शामस दूद त्रोवुस हुरुय, क्रेहन्यारस गॅयि न कांह फर्ख। में सूंच ऑखुर चायि हय गछान छु तु क्या छुस गछान ? मॆ तुज चायि फ्यखाह तु त्रॉवुम पॉनिस मंज़। अमा अथ ब्यूट तलु किन चायि सुत्य कुनकु कौश ति। साफ ओस ज़ि शव जियन छु कुनकु कॅशिस क्रुहुन रंग दिथ चायि मिलावट कॅरमुच्न। अथ दमस ताम ओस नु में मिलावटुक लफ्ज़ बूज़मुत। दपान ऑस्य, बॉहरि यि नेबुर्य किन्य अंग आसि, ती छु अँदर् माल ति आसान। न मालस फेरु तु न वज़नस कॅमी। ती ओस पज़र।

मे तुज कॅश्य फ्यख अथस मंज़ तु गोस शव जियस निश तु हॉवुमस। दंद टुविथ वॉनुमस चायि छे मिलावठ। यि वॉथ ओरु बॅडिथ तु बूलिथ, "महारा, तमि खॉतरु गव चायि कंपनी दावा करुन। मे युथ माल वोत, त्युथ कुनुम।" वनृहॅस क्याह? प्यटु व्वज़म्यो गोखो हुर्यर रावरुनि। रॉसय आस गरु वापस तु दुबारु कॅरुम शव जियस व्वज़ुम ह्यनस निस रुख। पोज़, मजाल छा, शव जी दियिहे अम्युक बास।



सु ओस में प्रॉनी पॉठ्य यज़थ करान तु खबर अतर पृछान। मगर केंच्रि दोही गव शव जीनिस वानस प्यठ क्रकुनाद। पोतुस नन्यव ज़ि तॅम्य ओस ॲिकस ग्राकस नून दूगन कुमतस प्यठ कुनमुत तु ग्राख ओस नून द्यथ वापस आमुत। मगर शव जी ओसुस नु नून वापस रटान। येलि ग्राकन द्रवजरुक वजह पृछुस, शव जियन वोनुस, "चृ हबा छुख बेकुल। अथ नूनस छु द्विय फिरि शबनम छावनु आमुत। अवय छुस म्वल हना च्रोर। मगर तॉसीर ... तम्युक मतु पृछतु केंह। गछृ वुछ, ख्यनु मेठुनय वुठ। वुन्यक्यन यि वनख ति दुश्मनन, यि पगाह वनख ति में।"

ग्राख गव मुतमयीन। तॅम्य सूंच शव जी कोताह अपुज़ विन! ऑखुर बु हय छुस अक्सर ॲमिस निशि व्यजुम तुलान। यि दिया में दोखु! यी सूंचिथ कोर तॅम्य कपर ज़ादिर लोंचि गंड तु नून ह्यथ द्राव गरु कुन। शव जीनि यिछ्य कथु आसु व्वन्य गॉम्य गामस तेलेमग्नु तु लुख ऑस्य अश अश करान गरन मंज़ यिमु दॅलीलु फिरान। दर अस्ल ओस नु शव जीयस कुन गामस मंज़ बेयि दुकान खुलनु सूत्य कांह ग्राख पकान। अवु म्वखु ओस सु ॲकिस दून ग्राकन जान पॉठ्य फसॉविथ दुहुक खर्च कडान।

शव जियस ओस नु खांदर बन्योमुत तिक्याज़ि सु ओस ब्रोंह कांदुर्य कार करान तु यि दाग गालनु म्वखय

ओस तॅम्य वॉन्य वान त्रोवमुत तु कांदुर्य कारस लवु कॅरमुच । बु ओसुस तिमन दूहन ल्वकटुय। गामस मंज़ ऑस नागु हना। जवानव दोप अथ नागस नखु गछि श्रान कुठ बनावन युन। चित्रस मंज ऑस अथ नागस प्यट यात्रा लगान। नेबरु कनि ऑस्य पॉकॉर्य, हलवॉय तु दुकानदार वान त्रावान तु ओर ऑस्य तरफातन हुंद्य लुख वातान। ज़नानु आसु ज़्यादय पहान यिवान। जवानव दोप चंदु सोंबुरावव। तिमन दूहन ओस पोंसु नायाब। मगर जवॉनी हुंद जोश! में ति दोप चंदु सींबुरावुन्य छ रच कॉम। शव जी ओस तिमन दूहन दुकान करान। में प्यव योहय याद। सूंचुम, कुनी असॉम्याह रटोन। अगर यि र्वपयि पांछ़ दियि, न्यसुफ कॉम वाति अंद। बैयि बनि नवजवानन मंज़ में यज़त अफज़ॉयी ज़ि पांछ़ र्वपयि छन सोंबुराविमच्। में लोद गुरिस ज़ीन तु द्रास शव जीनिस प्रॉनिस वानस कुन, युस सानि गामु प्यटु २० किलोमीटर दूर ओस। शव जियन ओस ऑट्य दार च्वगु लोगमुत तु किम मज़ ओस च्वचि थुरान। बु वोथुस गुरि प्यठ ब्वन। नमस्काराह कोरुमस तु चास वानस अंदर। दुह्य गटुकार ओस वानस गतु ग्यूर करान तु ग्राख ऑस्य ॲथ्य मंज़ लवासु गिरदु बेत्री मॊल्य ह्यवान। में सूंच, कॉम करनस दोरान सुबहॉय चंदु मंगुन गव ऑब। म्वकलि तु कथा बाथा कॅरिथ वनस। ॲमिस क्याह तॉर लिंग, पोंसु पीट्य हय बॅरिथ छस। अज़ ऑस ग्राकन रॅज लॅजमुच्र। अमि सबु म्वकल्यव शव जी हना चीरी। ॲम्य पुछ न चायि ति। में सूंच, चंदय हय दियिहे, चायि हुंद ओस सॅहलुय। छेकरस येलि शव जीयन कॉम म्वकलॉव, अथाह बुथाह छोलुन तु ओबुर लॉगिथ कॅमीज़ पॉजामु लोगुन, मे त्रॉवुस पनुन्य मिसल ब्रोंह कुन। "महारा, त्विह छुवु मोलूम ज़ि नागस प्यट छि दिवय लगान। अति छे कुन्नु ज़नानु यिवान, पोज़ शर्मि हुंज़ कथ छि ज़ि नागस प्यट छुनु अख श्रानु कुठ। यि छना सानि बापथ शर्म?"

शव जीयन द्युत म्यंगन चार ह्यू तु दोपुन, "आ, यि कथ छ शर्मि लायक, मगर।" शव जीयस ओस बिये ति केंह वनुन तु बु वोथुसस, "महारा, असि नवजवानव छु फॉसल कोरमुत ज़ि युहुस गछि यात्रायि ब्रोंह्य श्रानु कुठ बनावनु युनि।" शव जीयन वौन, "चॉनिस ऑसस खंड तु शकर। यि छॆ दर्मुच कॉम तु अथ तुलिव जल जल दस।" बु वोथुसस दंद टुविथ ह्यू, "महारा, अथ लगन पोंसु तु बु छुस फकत अमी कामि म्वखु त्वहि चंदु मंगनि आमुत।" शव जीयस गव बुथिस अकि रंगु ब्याख रंग। यि वाथ, "आ, ति गव जान। तोह्य गॅछिव सोंबुरावान म्यॉन्य पोंसु मॉन्यतव चंदस।" मे वोनुस, "महारा, तोह्य छिव ग्वडनुक्यि शख्स। येलि ताह्य दियिव, बाकुय दिन पानय।" दरअस्ल ओस शव जी बहानु कॅरिथ में टरकावुन यछान। मगर में ओस नाव ज़ेनुन ज़ि पांछ़ वंपयि कर्यन जमाह, ठठु कथ छन्। अवु म्वखु कॊत त्रावुहन? मॆ वॊनुस, "शव जी काक! ब छूस थेकिथ आमुत ज़ि शव जी छू बॉड दुकानदार, सु थवि गामुक शान।" शव जी आव योहय चरकस लदनु। च़िक ओस नु सु डबल पोंसु दिनस तयार। येलि नु में ति थफ तुजिस, तॅम्य मुचरोव गलतान तु चोर आनु डबल त्रॉविन में ब्रोंह कुन। में चॅंज ख्वरव तल मॆच्न नीरिथ। वुह तु वुह च़तजीह मील गुरिस प्यट फाकय तु फुकरय, तु यि सोरुय फकत चोनी हुंदि बापथ। अँदुर्य दिचुम ड्यकस चँडाह। च्रोनी तुजिम थोद। अथ ल्यूखुमस रॅसीद तु गुरिस कॅंडुम चॅंड।

शाहमतिन कारु युथुय बु क़सबु न्यबर मीलाह द्रास, पॅत्य किन्य दिन्न कॅम्य ताम क्रख "हयो बटु कट्याह सब्र कर।" बु गोस गुर ह्यथ रूज़िथ। सफेद पोश शख्साह, यस दॉर छेतेमुन्न ऑस, गव खडा। ॲम्य दिन्न गुरिस नज़राह तु में कुन वोनुन किम ताम बुथि, "गुर छुय दागु वरॉयी। यि कित छुथन न्नूरि ऒनमुत?" में गव ब्रूंटिम शाह पथ तु पॅतिम ब्रोंठ। वुठ गॉम ख्वशुक

तु ह्यमथाह कॅरिथ वॊनुमस, "हज़रत, यि छु मॆ गर्युक गुर, च़ूरि हुंद छुम नु।" "तेलि आसिहेस म्योन निशानु। यथ अलाकस छुस बु मॉलिक। पथर वस। पख थानस प्यट।" युथुय ॲम्य नेक बख्तन थानुक नाव ह्योत, मे चायि नठ। तेलि ओस चपरॉसिस वुछिथ गॉम्य गाम चलान। थानुचि आसु नु कथय। यि गॅयोव तपालि हुंज़ि अगि लगुन। बु छुस अजि ल्यकु शव जीयस तु अजि ल्यकु पानस चारान। बु वोथुस पथर। ॲछन तेल्योम अनि गोट। अँदुर्य ऑसुम थरु थरु तु नेबुर्य ओसुस ह्यमथ कर हॉशिमो ! मॆ पॆयि शव जीयिन्य च़ोनी याद। चंदु मंज़ु कॅंडुम च्रोनी तु यि पिलुनॉवुम ख्वजि सॉबस कुन तु वदान वदान वोनुमस, "हज़रत, यि गव जुरमानु। दुबारु आसु नु बु यिछ् गलती करान।" व्यमेद ऑसुम नु केंह, पॉज़, च्रोनी चंदस त्रॉविथ वॉन सफेद पोश सॉबन, " वुनि छुख शुर, अवु म्वखु त्रोवुमख। नतु लदुनावुहॅथ गुर ह्यथ वुन्य कॉद।" मे आव अन्यन ॲछन गाश तु गुरिस लॅज़ुम लथ तु थख कोंडुम गरि।

दृह पोंशि गॅछिथ येलि शव जी गाम आव, में वॅनिस सॉर्य दॅलील। सु वॊथ "म्योन नाव वॅनिज़िहेस, किहीन्य करिही नु। थानुक थानु गव सोन रैयत।" खॉर, आयि कथाह, गॅयि कथाह।

शव जी ओस व्वन्य पानस बापॉर्य वनान। अगर कांह व्यपर तस म्यानि या सान्यन हमसायन मुतलक पृष्ठिहे, सु ओस वनान ज़ि "हुम मकानु गॅयि म्योन गुदाम, हु गव सोन किचन तु हु गव गॉव खानु तु यि गव ज़्युन बाठ थवनुक प्रोन मकानु।" यिथु पॉठ्य ओस सु पनुन इगो (ego) शांत करान। टर वनुनस मंज़ ओस सु मॉहिर। तु अमि सुत्य ति ओस कांह नतु कांह ग्राख तँदिस ज़ालस मंज़ फसान। तॅम्य बनोव प्वख्तु मकानु। तु बॉय सुंद्यन शुर्यन रूद पनुन सोरुय केंह आयितन थावान। बदनॉमी ति गॅयस, पोज़ कनु डोल द्युतुन।

बु द्रास अकि दृह सुबहय चकरस ज़ि यि वुछुम वानस प्यंठ बिहिथ। ॲम्य कोर आलव तु में लोग नु वानस प्यंठ खसनस केंह चारु। ब्यहान ब्यहानुय वोनुनम, "हे, अज़ वुछुम सोपुनाह।ॲथ्य मंज़ छुस हॉर्तस।" यि छु में सोपुन बोज़नावनु बापथ व्वटि अनान। ऑखुर वोनुस में, "वन सॉ! ऑखुर वुछुथ हय तु वुछुथ क्याह?" सु गव चालू

" में वुछ सोपुनस मंज़ सानि विरि वारु नखु गाश तेज़ान। ग्वडु बास्योम नार, पतु योहय ज़ित्यनि ज़ूल ह्यू।" "अछा, पतु क्याह सपुद ?" मे वोनुस इश्तियाकृ सान। "हे क्याह वनय? ज़न तु हतु बॅद्य स्वनर स्वन गरान ऑस्य। बु वोथुस थोद। जुरथाह कोरुम। बोड डुसाह तुलुम अथस मंज़ तु द्रास विरि वारस कुन। ब्रोंह ब्रोंह छुस पकान तु नार छु हमान। गाश छु ज़ोतान। बास्योम, ज़न तु बोड नॉग्यरायाह छु गाशुदार मनकस गिंदान।" "अछा पतु!" मे वोनुस हॉरुतस गॅछ़िथ। "हे पतु क्याह? मे कॉर यरादु, या कलु यियि, नतु कल् गछि। डुस ओसुम अथस क्यथ। सूंचुम, सर्फस कडु टास ज़ तु त्रे, तु मनकु छृनु चंदस। वाँसन सुंब गछ़ि खानदान तारु तॅरिथ। न छु बापारुय करुन तु न ज़ॅमीनदॉरी।" "तु मोरथनु च़ॆ स्वरुफ?" मॆ वॊनुस तॉजुबस गॅछिथ। "हे बोज़ू यारु, तोत मु खै। बु गोस ब्रोंह ब्रोंह पकान। लालुक गाश गव ज़ोतान तु स्वरुफ गव नज़रि डलान। में दौप कुस्मथ छूय शव जिया रुत। स्वरुफ च्रोल पानय लाल त्रॉविथ चानि बापथ। पकान छुस, पकान छुस। युथुय नॅज़दीख वोतुस, जित्यनि त्रोटाह वाथ तु लोग नचनि। मे दोप लाल छु बे-बहा।" "पतु तुलथु च़ॆ लाल ? हे शव जी काक, मॆ ति हाव तु, बु ति वुछुहाँ यि लाल क्युथ छु आसान", मे वोनुस तॉजिली सान।

"हे बोज़ सॉ, तॊत मु खॆ।" शव जियन चारि बुमु ज़न तु स्वरुफ ओसुन अकी तपरु मोरमुत तु लाल

ओसुन बेबि बोरमुत। बु ओसुस हम तन गोश। यिछ़ दॅलीलाह ऑसुम नु ज़ांह बूज़मृत्र। शव जी वोथ, "बु गोस पकान। गबराठ ति ओसुम तु ख्वशी ति। हे येलि बु पूर मकामस वोतुस, न ओस स्वरुफ कुनि तु न लाल।" "अदु क्याह?" में वोनुस हॉरान गॅछिथ। सु वोथ बडु आराम सान, "यि हसॉ ऑस सॉन्य सेरि कोंदु बकु बख करान।" "धत तेरे की", में वोन अँदरी। मगर बुथिस प्यठ हॉरॉनी पॉदु कॅरिथ वोनुमस, "हे चृ कोताह ख्वश नॅसीब छुख! दोयिम सेरि कोंदु खंन्नुय ग्वडनिचि ख्वत ति रंगदार त सरस।"

वक गव पकान। शव जी ओस दुकान चलावान। गामस मंज़ ओस आज़ॉदी हुंद ह्वल ह्वल, पॉज़, नविराह ओस नु केंह। हॅकीमुय योत ओस बदल्योमुत मगर यलाज ओस प्रोनुय। रशवु ओस चलान, पॉज़ इनसाफाह ओस न नज़िर गछान। शव जी ओस निव निव दॅलील तु टर वॅनिथ पनुन्य पछ बरकरार थॅविथ। सु ओस वनान ज़ि पुलसु वॉल्य ति गॅयि म्यॉन्य खॉदिम। तॅहसीलदार ति ज़ानन। यिथु पॉठ्य ओस सु थेक्य थेक्य शोंठ ह्यू दूह कडान। यीतिस कालस सु कमावान रूद, सॉरी ऑस्य दस्त बस्तु। कश्टुवॉर्य मोहन्युवाह ति ओसुन थॉवमुत। कुसमतुनि कारु ओस नु सु शव जियस तनखाह ति रटान। शव जी ओस तस मंगत वनान तु दपान ओसुस यि में छू, ति छू चोनुय। मंगतु ओस ग्वलाम ह्यू बॅनिथ फकत बत मेंडिस प्यट सॉरय कॉम करान। ज़ॅमीनदॉरी, चारवॉय रछुन्य, वान साफ करुन, पलव छलुन्य, सारिनुय काम्यन ओस अठ दिवान। प्यठ असान असान तु ड्यकस नु ज़ांह द्रुहु।

कोंदि मंज़ आसु कर ताम सेरि शॆहलेमचु। पॊज़, बंदुय आसु। शव जी ओस नु टर वनुनस तु दाबन थख कडान। सु ओस बराबर वानस प्यंट नेरान तु यदवा तदवा सोदा हन कुनान। तु अिक दूह गॅिय गामस मंज़ कख जि शव जियस खलाफ ओस कॅम्य ताम थानस रपठ कोरमुत ज़ि ॲम्य छ इजाज़तु वरॉयी सेरि कोंदु पॅयमुच तु अवय छु पुलीस आमुत। दपान शव जी गव ब-शाने जम पॉठ्य पुलसु वाल्यन निश। खबर ऑसुस ज़ि करनम क्याह? येलि थानुदारन वोनुस, "बिला इजाज़थ क्याज़ि छय च़े कोंदु पॅयमुच?" शव जियन वोनुस, "जिनाब, जुरुम क्याह कोरुम? सॉरी आयि यी करान।" शव जियुन यि वनुन ज़ि थानुदार वोथ थोद तु कॅरनस सख बेज़ती। छेकरस दपान क्याह ताम द्युतुन तु म्वकलोवुन पान।

अमि वाकु पतु कींज़्य दोही गव शव जी ब्यमार तु पतु ति वोथ नु। येलि में बूज़ सु गव स्वर्गुवॉस्य, बु गोस त्युहुंद गरु। शव जी ओस ॲकिस कपर च़ादिर तल सॉर्य ज़िंदगी ह्यथ ऑखरी नेंदिर शॉगिथ। शुर्य मुर्य ऑस्य कित ताम। ज़नानु ज़ु च़ोर आसु बेयिस कमरस मंज़ ज़मानु क्यन हालातन दल दिवान। में कॅर ओरु योर नज़राह तु वोनुम, "ज़िंदगी ज़ीठ, अमा पतव लाकन नु केंह"

पॅद्य समयिक्य ... अर्जुन देव मजबूर वचून

रेश्य् वारि अमृथ चाव तय लॅतिये
कती मदु मॅतिये माल्युन चोन
दिवता छी वुछान ब्रोंटु तु पॅतिये
कती मदु मॅतिये माल्युन चोन
पोशे वर्शुन शूबी सॅतिये
येतिये साथा कर ठॅहराव
सॅदुर तय सर हय दितिथख पॅतिये
कती मदु मॅतिये माल्युन चोन
कति ह्यथ आयख कोसम फॅतिये
वनतय बांबर कमिची छय
लूख छी प्रारान पतु मॅत्य् मॅतिये
कती मदु मॅतिये माल्युन चोन



छांडान त छांडान च कम वत मांडान ज़ॉनिथ त मॉनिथ अंद अथ वति दर कर नावि डीशिथ दूरिथ त दॅविथ ज़ानुन अनज़ान, बॅड कथ छि यी ग्यान मन मोत ज़ॉनिथ, अँदर्य शब्द च्रीनिथ तारख त च़ँद्रम छि ज़ोतान हरदम दूह राथ यिवान, ज़ांह छिन थकान सोंत तय हरदुय छु वेल वेल यिवान आब प्यट ऑबुर त शीन तय रूदय ब्यालि प्यट बॉड कुल, पोश त ब्योलुय यिम गॅयि ज़गतचि ज़ॉहिर मायायि पत वत छु आमुत सु बगतस रॅछरान करम्य छु दरम्य, यूग्य तु बगवथ दीन या दर्मय, दुनवय छि करमय छांडुन तु मांडुन छु अख सार सारुन छाँडिथ त छाँडिथ, कम वत माँडिथ

यिन मालि अडवति वुनि त्रावख फ्रख यिन मालि न वात्नय वुनि त्रावख फ्रख ियन मालि न तरनय वुनि त्रावख फ्रख यिन मालि न ज़ॉनी वुनि त्रावख फ्रख यिन मालि बॆ-ज़ानय वुनि त्रावख फ्रख वुछ मालि यि क्वदरथ त पख ब्रोंठ ब्रोंठ वुछ मालि यि हॅसरथ त पख ब्रोंठ ब्रोंठ वुछ मालि यि पतवथ त पख ब्रोंट ब्रोंट वुछ मालि यि हेरफेर त पख ब्रोंठ ब्रोंठ वुछ मालि यि यित-गाव त पख ब्रांठ ब्रांठ ज़ान मालि यि ज़ागरथ त ज़ानुन सुय ज़ान मालि यि बागवथ त ज़ानुन सुय ज़ान मालि यि अख वथ त ज़ानुन सुय ज़ान मालि यि दयि वथ त ज़ानुन सुय ज़ान मालि यि सौन सार त ज़ानुन सुय यिन मालि लूसिथ वुनि त्रावख फ्रख

Book Review

... From Page 9

mother Bhavani (Bhavani Shasarnaam), translated in the end, are an icing on the cake.

Though this work is no treatise on any particular aspect of the religious or socio-cultural traditions, it has something interesting and, at places, arresting for every one and can be an easy reference book. This book should serve the long pending need of the Kashmiri Pandit Diaspora, whether it is to perform the rituals or observe the festivals in the absence of our priests, or to understand the basic tenets of our religious and cultural traditions, and their symbolic significance.

• Annual Cultural Programme at Mumbai:

The much awaited Annual Cultural-cum-Fund Raising Programme of the Kashmiri Pandits' Association, Mumbai was held at Rang Sharda, Bandra, Mumbai on 31st March 2007. The programme was a mixed blend of music and drama. This year, in addition to our local talent, we also had two guest artistes Ms. Deepali Wattal and Shri Ravi Bhan from Jammu performing on stage. Shri Sanjeev Kaul and Shri Sunil Mattoo

along with their team presented a skit 'Lagyo Balayi Munnabhai'.

Biradari News

It goes to the credit of Meeta Ji that she has tried to incorporate so many

Seeing just one actor presenting

on the stage, transformation from

childhood to the sainthood and a poet

with highest spiritual sensitivity was

a treat to watch. In the eighty minutes

of unbroken silence in the auditorium,

the audience was immersed in the

mystic aura of the great saint who looked becoming alive in their

presence. The atmosphere created

was so powerful that even the

language used became less important.

Besides Hindi and English a good deal

of the play was rendered in Kashmiri.

This year, the prestigious **Life-time Contribution Award** was presented to Shri Shamboo Nath Bhan of Jogeshwari, Mumbai for his tireless service to the community.

• Birth anniversary of Swami Lakshman Ji:

The birth anniversary function of Ishwar Swaroop Swami Lakshman Ji Maharaj was held on Samoohik basis for the first time in Mumbai on 14th April 2007 at Kashyap Bhawan. The function was well attended. After the Puja archana, Prasad was served.

● Play on Lal Ded by Meeta Vasisht:

Ms. MeetaVasisht, an award winning film and theatre actor, presented her play 'Lal Ded' on 28th & 29th April 2007 at the Experimental Theatre, NCPA Mumbai. Watching (and feeling) the play was an out of this world experience. It started with the memory of the past lives of Lal Ded. Her marriage and youth was fallowed by liberation from home. And it finally depicted her liberation from the bondage of the world itself.

of the Vakhs of Lal Ded in the presentation. Kashmiri is difficult to speak and pronounce especially for those not already initiated in the language. Yet, a great effort has been made in rendering the Vakhs as close to the original as possible. It is clear that the presenter has done a lot of study and research of the life, times and works of Lal Ded. Otherwise such a powerful presentation would not be possible. We hope Meeta Ji makes some more presentations of the play with sufficient notice so that many of us, Kashmiris, can have the pleasure of watching it.

Rakesh Kaushik's Sai-Chaleesa :

Rakesh Kaushik has composed Sai-Chaleesa on the lines of Hanuman-Chaleesa. It shows his excellence and deep devotion to Sai Baba.

• Ashwani Hashia's new home:

Ashwani Hashia has shifted to his new home at Flat No. 43-44, Bldg. No. 85, Happy Home Estate, Poonam Sagar Complex, Mira Road 401107, Dist. Thane. Tel: 32418442.

मिल्नार ശരങ്ങരുതരുതരുതരുതരുതരുതരുതരുതരുതരുതരുതരുതരുത

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A Well Wisher	30000/-	Shri J.N.Kachru (Goregaon)	521/-
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Shri S.L.Kaul	10000/-	Shri Roop K. Bhat	501/-
Shri Makhan Lal Mattoo	10000/-	Shri Rakesh Shah (Belapur)	501/-
Smt. Amrita Kachru	5100/-	Shri Ashwani Kumar Raina	501/-
Shri A.K.Misri, Bandra	5001/-	Ms. Neha Hashia	501/-
M/s Nishal Enterprises	5000/-	Shri Vijay Kaul	501/-
S.K.Chemicals	5000/-	Shri Ashok Ganjoo	501/-
Shri B.M.Munshi	5000/-	Shri Janki Nath Mirza	501/-
	,		,
Smt. Sushila Munshi	5000/-	Shri S.K.Kaul (Kandivli)	501/-
Ms. Nirja Munshi	5000/-	Shri O.N.Fotedar	501/-
Shri Sanjeev Munshi	5000/-	Smt. Manju Satish Kaul	501/-
Shri H.J.Kachroo	3500/-	Shri K.J.Kaul (Chembur)	501/-
Shri Kapil Raina	3001/-	Shri Narendra Razdan	501/-
Smt. & Shri M.L.Shalia	3001/-	Shri Shanti Lal Razdan	501/-
Shri R.N.Bakshi	3001/-	Shri Sunil Kher	501/-
Smt. Meena Wanchoo	3000/-	Shri Satish Ganjoo	501/-
Shri Ashok Tikoo	2500/-	Smt. Lalita Bakshi	501/-
Shri I.B.Raina (Andheri E)	2001/-	Shri C.Kachroo	501/-
Shri Moti Kaul	2000/-	Shri Sukant Kaul (Malad)	501/-
Shri Autar Krishen Raina	1500/-	Smt. & Shri Sanjeev Shalia	501/-
Smt. Renu Vinod Razdan	1111/-	Smt. & Dr. J.P.N.Trakru	501/-
Shri T.K.Wali (Powai)	1100/-	Shri S.K.Kaul	501/-
Shri M.K.Padora	1100/-	Dr. C.L.Kaul (Versova)	501/-
Shri Soom Nath Jalla	1100/-	Smt. Anita Gondalia Mattoo	501/-
Shri Sanjay Razdan	1100/-	Shri Ashwin Dhar	501/-
Shri Autar Krishen Kaul	1100/-	Shri Pyare Lal Kaul	501/-
Shri Rajen Kaul	1100/-	Shri R.K.Kaul	501/-
_	•		501/-
Smt. Saroj Sathu	1001/-	Shri Upender Kumar Thusu	•
Shri Ashok Dhar (Parel)	1001/-	Shri Jitender Khushu	501/-
Shri Surinder Mohan Raina	1001/-	Shri Jawahar Karihaloo	501/-
Capt. A.N.Raina	1001/-	Shri Rajinder Kachroo	501/-
Dr. Autar K. Miskeen	1001/-	Shri S.K.Razdan	501/-
Shri R.N.Monga	1001/-	Shri Rattan Lal Misri	501/-
Shri Amresh Jalali	1001/-	Shri B.L.Tikoo	501/-
Shri Vijay Kaul	1001/-	Shri Deepak Saproo	501/-
Shri Naren Kachroo	1000/-	Shri T.K.Raina (K.Khairne)	500/-
Smt. Kiran Sachdev	1000/-	Smt. Khema Ganjoo	500/-
Shri Sameer Jalali	1000/-	Shri J.L.Manwati	500/-
Shri Ashok K.Dhar(Andheri W)	1000/-	Shri Sunil Manwati	500/-
Shri K.K.Kemmu	1000/-	Shri K.L.Dhar	500/-
Smt. Mohan Rani Raina	1000/-	Shri Bal Krishen Khar	500/-
Shri Jayant Raina	1000/	Shri Ashok Dhar (Mulund)	500/-
Shri K.L.Kachroo	1000/-	Shri Ramesh Kachroo	500/-
Shri R.D.Kaul	1000/-	Shri C.L.Kaul (Yari Rd.)	500/-
Smt. Mohini Tiku	701/-	Shri Dwarika Nath Mattoo	500/-
Shri Ramji Sabni	700/-	Shri Ritu Raj Sar	500/-
Shri Sunil Dhar	555/-	Shri Jatinder Bali	500/-
	•		500/- 500/-
Shri Sunil Mattoo	555/-	Shri Vijay Bhan (Nerul)	300/-

मिलुन्नार क्राव्यक्राव्यक्राव्यक्राव्यक्र	ത്തെങ്കാ	ૹૹૡૹૡૹૡૹૡૹૡ	MILCHAR
Shri Raju Raina	500/-	Smt. Indra Razdan	151/-
Shri Suriender Kachroo	500/-	Shri Vinod Moza	151/-
Shri Bharat Pandit	500/-	Shri Rajinder Vale	151/-
Shri Virander Taku	500/-	Shri Rajesh Kumar	151/-
Smt. & Shri Sharad Mattoo	500/-	Shri Ramesh kaul	150/-
Shri Madhav Singh	500/-	Shri N.Kachroo (Goregaon)	150/-
Smt. Mohan Rani Raina	0007	Shri M.L.Wattal	150/-
& family	500/-	Shri Makhan Lal Kaul	111/-
Smt. Pushpa Koshal	500/-	Shri M.L.Wazir	111/-
Smt. Usha Shankar Sahib	500′/-	Smt. Sheela Dhar	105/-
Smt. Neena Bamzai Kher	500/-	Dr. B.L.Kaul (Bvi)	101/-
Shri Anup Kannaw	301/-	Shri R.L.Bhan (Bvi)	101/-
Shri Roop Nath Kaul	301/-	Shri Ramesh Raina	101/-
Shri M.K.Kar	301/-	Shri Ashok Mattoo	101/-
Shri Virender Kar	301/-	Shri Ashish Dhar	101/-
Shri R.K.Pandita	300/-	Smt. Lalita Dhar	101/-
Smt. Leela Mam	300/-	Smt. Kaushalya Raina	101/-
Smt. & Shri C.L.Raina	300/-	Smt. Usha Bhan	101/-
Smt. Kanchan Kalgutkar	300/-	Shri Rakesh Takoo	101/-
Shri Rajesh Bhan	300/-	Shri Vijay Bhan	101/-
Shri Ashok Thusu	251/-	Ms. Preeti Wanchoo	101/-
Shri T.N.Shangloo	251/-	Shri Sameer &	101/
Shri L.N.Raina (Andheri E)	251/-	Pritika Wanchoo	101/-
Shri Ramesh Kachroo	250/-	Shri O.N.Kundu	101/-
Shri Surinder Kaul	251/-	Shri Nikhil Monga	101/-
Shri T.K.Karihalloo	251/-	Shri Shumit Monga	101/-
M/s Anna Bulk Carriers	251/-	Smt. & Shri T.K.Bhan	101/-
Shri Ashwani Kumar	201/	Shri Ramesh Langer	101/-
(K.Khairne)	250/-	Miss Monika Raina	101/-
Dr. Vijay Kak & Sunita Kak	250/-	Shri Vikram Raina	101/-
Shri Ashok Mattoo (Kurla)	250/-	Smt. Rajni Sopory	101/-
Shri P.K.Miskeen	250/-	Shri Rajinder Harkara	101/-
Shri O.N.Kaul	250/-	Smt. Sunita Ashok	101/-
Shri Rajeev Mattoo	250/-	Shri Ravinder Thusoo	101/-
Shri Dilip Bhat	250/-	Smt. Jyoti Raina	101/-
Shri Chand Bhat	250/-	Shri M.L.Kaul (Andheri)	100/-
Shri Tej Krishen Kaul	251/-	Shri J.K.Tiku `	100/-
Shri T.N.Monga (Vashi)	200/-	Shri Deepak Kachru	51/-
Shri C.L.Kadalbuju	200/-	Smt. Prabha Bamzai	51/-
Shri Vijay Tikoo	200/-	Shri B.L.Raina	50/-
Shri Sanjeev Kaul	200/-	Smt. Asha Bhan	21/-
Shri Suraj Kaul	200/-	Shri B.K.Tikoo	501/-
Shri Girdhari Lal Dhar	200/-	Shri T.N.Bhan	251/-
Shri D.K.Bhan	200/-	Shri R.P.Wazir	251/-
Shri Ashok Pandit	200/-	Shri J.L.Kak	1111/-
Shri Vinod Ganjoo	201/-	Smt. Shakuntala Kachru Nair	150/-
Shri C.L.Trisal	155/-	Shri Prathmesh Prabhakar	151/-
Shri Deepak & Krishna	151/-		
Shri Suresh Kaul (Andheri)	151/-	Total: Rs: 1	,97,3,55/-
Shri Som Nath Pandit	151/-		
Shri Sanjay Choudary (Powai)	151/-		

मिल्चार क्रालकालकालकालक	രെങ്കരുകര	<i>അത്തേരുതയുടെ</i>	MILCHAR
Kharghar Donations - 1	Feb 2007	Shri Ashwani Hashia	200/-
		Shri Mohan L. Kaul Surmali	200/-
Smt. Nirja Mattoo	11000/-	Shri N.N.Kachroo	2000/-
Shri Sameer Jalali	11001/-	Shri S.K.Kaul	400/-
Smt. Amrita Kachru	50000′/-	Shri Ramesh Kaul	200/-
Shri S.P.Kachru	50000′/-	Shri Rajesh Pandit	200/-
Shri Ashwani Kumar Raina	5001/-	Shri O.N.Kaul (Thane)	200/-
Shri Ashwani Hashia	11000/-	Shri Jayant Tiku (Chembur)	200/-
Shri Vijay K. Raina	5001/-	Shri Rajinder Dhar	800/-
Shri J.K.Tiku	11000/-	Shri Vijay O. Kaul	200/-
Shri P.K.Miskeen	1000/-	Shri Sanjay Chaudhary	2000/-
Shri C.L.Kadalbuju	1000/-	Shri Romesh Kachroo	200/-
Shri P.L.Kaul	5000/-	Shri Subash Chander Kaul	2000/-
Shri Yogin Raina	1100/-	Shri S.L.Kaul	800/-
Smt. Nansy Kaul	500/-	Shri Anil Kumar Pandita	200/-
Shri Tej Krishen Hakim	1000/-	Shri P.K.Miskeen	2000/-
Shri Ravinder Kotru	2501/-	Shri C.L.Kadalbhuju	200/-
Shri Ashok Kumar Dhar	1000/-	Shri Ashok Ganjoo	400/-
Smt. Sushila Rani Thusu	5000/-	Smt. Kanchan Kalgutkar	200/-
Smt. Arandatti Dhar	,	Shri S.K.Kaul	200/-
W/o Late Kashi Nath Dhar	10001/-	Smt. Mohini Tikoo	200/-
Shri Sunil Dhar	1000/-	Shri Yogin Raina	200/-
Shri M.K.Kar	10001/-	Shri Ashish Dhar	200/-
Shri C.L.Kaul (Yash Exports)	5100/-	Shri Vijay K. Jalali	400/-
Shri S.M.Raina	1000/-	Dr. A.K.Miskeen	600/-
Smt. Sarla Jalla	10000/-	Shri C.L.Kar	200/-
Shri Rajen Kaul	11000/-	Shri R.K.Kaul	200/-
Master Soham Kak	1100/-	Shri Suraj K. Kaul	200/-
Master Shivam Kak	1100/-	Smt. Leela Mam	200/-
Master Sumukh Kak	1100/-	Shri Ravinder Kotru	200/-
Mathew Associates, Mumbai	20000/-	Shri J.L.Manwati	200/-
Offshore Const., Mumbai	15000/-	Shri K.L.Kachroo	400/-
	,	Shri Ashok Dhar	200/-
Total: Rs:	2,58,5,05/-	Smt. Pushpa Kaul Koshal	200/-
		Shri Ramesh Kachru	400/-
Milchar Subscript	tion	Smt. Manju S. Kaul	200/-
		Shri Brij Mohan Munshi	200/-
Smt. Kiran Sachdev	200/-	Shri Amrish M. Jalali	2000/-
Shri Virander Takoo	200/-	Shri Ashish Sopory	400/-
Shri T.K.Raina	200/-	Shri C.L.Kaul	2000/-
Shri Mohan Lal Dhar	200/-	Smt. Rita Vale	200/-
Shri Ashok Thusu	200/-	Shri R.P.Ambardar	200/-
Dr. B.L.Kaul	200/-	Shri Ashok Dhar	200/-
Shri R.L.Bhan	650/-	Shri Rajendra Harkara	200/-
Shri T.N.Shangloo	200/-	Shri R.K.Bhat	200/-
Shri Ashwani Kumar Raina	600/-	Shri Sanjay Razdan	600/-
Shri Ashwani Kumar Raina 2000/-		Ms. Supriya Saraf	200/-
Shri K.K.Kemmu	200/-	Shri R.L.Misri	200/-
Shri Anoop Kannaw	200/-	Shri Narendra Razdan	400/-
Shri Suresh Kaul	400/-	Shri Shanti Lal Razdan	2000/-
Smt. Saroj Sathu	200/-	Shri Jitender Bali	400/-

Shri Jawaharlal Tiku	200/-
Ms. Aarti Mattoo	200/-
Sjri J.L.Mam	200/-
Shri Rajesh Bhan	200/-
Shri Sandeep Garyali	500/-
Dr. C.L.Kaul	200/-
Shri M.L.Watal	200/-
Shri Rajinder Raina (Saraf)	200/-
Shri Ashok Tiku	600/-
Shri I.B.Handoo	200/-
Shri A.K.Munshi	200/-
Shri Jawahar Lal Tiku	200/-
Shri Autar Krishen Raina	200/-
Shri Ashok Kumar Dhar	400/-
Shri D.N.Fotedar	200/-
Shri Tej Bahadur Saheb (Goa)	200/-
Shri Tej Krishen Hakim	2000/-
Shri Autar Krishen Kaul	2000/-
Shri Ashok Mattoo	200/-
Shri R.D.Kaul	200/-
Shri Abhay Aima	400/-
Smt. Shakuntala Aima	400/-
Shri Tej Krishen Kaul	200/-
Shri Bhushan Lal Raina	200/-
Shri Ramesh Mirza	200/-
Shri Ashok Mirza	200/-
Shri Naresh Mirza	200/-
Shri Bal Krishen Dhar	200/-
Shri Rohit Kaul	200/-
Shri Devendra Sabni	200/-
Shri Ramji Sabni	200/-
Shri Bushan Lal Tikoo	600/-
Smt. Lalita Bakshi	600/-
Shri R.N.Monga	200/-
Shri Satish Usha Ganjoo	400/-
Shri Deepak Sapru	200/-
Shri M.K.Raina	400/-
Shri Sukant Kaul	200/-
Shri Ritu Raj Sar	200/-
Shri Vijay Bhan	200/-
Shri S.K.Kaul	750/-

Total:

Social Get-together Statement of Expenses

Particulars	Amount	Exp. in 2006	
Lunch, Tea,			
Prasad, Kheer	24334.00	23405.00	
Veg., Fruits	5792.00		
Toileteries & cups	4020.00		
Aganvatri	4816.00	7500.00	
Misc. expenses	2105.00	3412.00	
Decorators	31836.00	46000.00	
Cook	21000.00	21275.00	
Bricks etc.	1570.00		
Gas Cylinder	1380.00	4500.00	
Guru Dakshina	7101.00	8500.00	
Conveyance	190.00	1446.00	
Water	3417.00	3857.00	
Flowers, Caps,			
Kurta	1625.00		
Milk & Curds	2108.00	1480.00	
Total Rs:	111294,00	121375.00	

Shri Roopa Bhawani ... From Page 7

symbolises the 'Vaishnavi excellence. It is the spirit of sustenence. La is the Prithvi Tattava, which symbolises the physical manifestation of the universe. it is the Shailaputri concept of the Supreme Shakti La is the basis of Yoga, as it is situated in the Mooladhara Chakra. La is body and its consciousness. Kha is the ethereal consciousness. It is the Akasha Tattva, and known as the space. Therefore, ALAKH is the Shabda BRAHMAN. The presiding deity is the Alakheshvari.

May Alakh Sahiba be gracious to one and all!

MATRIMONIAL

Rs: 46100/-

Alliance invited for a 35 Yrs. old KP woman 5'-4", legally divorced & issueless, M.Ed., PGDiploma in Computer & System Management, pursuing MBA (already cleared 2 semesters), father retired maths & statistics professor Govt. College, Jammu. Contact: 0191-2579230. Mob:9419182985.

पुस्तक समीक्षा

... पृष्ट ११ से आगे

प्रयोग कम होता था।" यि छुनु पज़र। तित य्वसु दीसी यलाजु पदती चलान ऑस, स्व ऑस यूनॉनी तु आयुर्वेदिकृय आसान। हकीम तु वैद्य ति ऑस्य जडी बूटियन हुंदुय इस्तेमाल करान। सफ़ ६२ पतृ युस कॅदुल छु हावनु आमुत, सु छुनु सफा कदल, बॅल्यिक छु फतेह कॅदल। यिथय पॉठ्य युस सफ़ ६३ ब्रोंठ सफा कदल नावुक कॅदुल छु आमुत हावनु, सु छु ज़ॉनु कॅदल। ब्रिटिश सरकारु कि वख्तु ऑस्य सिरीनगरस मंज़ कुल ७ कॅदुल। यिम ऑस्य (सिलसिलुवार) ओम्बरा कॅदुल, हब्बु कॅदुल, फतेह कॅदुल, ज़ॉनु कॅदुल, ऑल्य कॅदुल, नोव कॅदुल तु सफा कॅदुल। पतु बन्यव ओम्बरा कॅदुल, नोव कॅदुल तु सफा कॅदुल। पतु बन्यव ओम्बरा कॅदलस सुत्य बॅन्यिम तरफ़ बडशाह कदल तु ह्योर कुन बन्यव ज़ीरो ब्रिज। १९८० किस दॅह्यलिस मंज़ बन्यव सफा कॅदल ब्वन ति ब्याख कॅदुल, यथ सीमठ कॅदल नाव प्यव।

किताबि मंज़ छि २०० पेठ्य रंगीन फोटुव येमि किन्य यि ज़्यादय पहान शूबिदार छि बनेमन्न। फोटुव छि सानि रहन सहनुचि ज़िंदु तसवीरु। पॉज़ हय बूज़िव, किताब छि पॅज़्य पॉठ्य वॉलिंजि मंज़ थवुन्य लायक। मगर वॉलिंजि मंज़ न यियि थवन तु न नेरि तिम सुत्य कॉम। किताब गिंछ पॅज़्य पॉठ्य यिन्य परनु तु अम्युक मवाद गिंछ ल्वकट्यन ताम ति युन वातुनावन्। अमि सुत्य सपिद सानि निव पुिय ति सॉनिस पथ कालस सुत्य जान तु सॉन्य वरासथ ति रोज़ि जिंदु।

म्यानि तर्फु छु डा. फूलचन्द्रायि यि किताब लेखुनस प्यठ हथ हथ मुबारक। **

> कॉशुर परुन छुनु मुश्किल दफ, कल गछि आसुन्य - Project Zaan -

OBITUARY



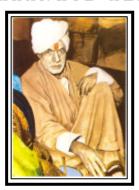
Smt. Jaikishori Munshi

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the sad demise of our beloved Mataji Jaikishori Munshi (popularly known as Bhabhiji] W/o Late Shri Amarnath Munshi, at B-121, Panchvati Apt., Vikaspuri, New Delhi 110018, on Navreh day i.e. 19th March 2007. We pay our respectful homage to her everlasting memory and pray to the Almighty to bestow eternal peace to her soul. An embodiment of simplicity, tolerance, love and affection, her blessings will remain a source of strength to all of us in times to come. Alas! Her frequent majestic laughter will be missed not only by us but also by those who came in contact with her.

Deeply remembered with reverence and love.

Brij Mohan Munshi Girja Kak
Susheela Munshi Madan Kak
Sanjeev Munshi Mohit Kak
Nirja Munshi Purnima Saraf
Sunil Saraf
Shivank Saraf

OM NAMO BUAGWATE GOPINATUAYA



To Commemorate The 39th Mahanirvan Day of BHAGWAN SHRI GOPINATHJI MAHARAJ

A Mahayagya

would be performed on **Saturday, the 16th June 2007**

at Narmadeshwar Mandir

Near Mandala B-Camp, Trombay, Sion-Trombay Road, Mumbai 400 071.

Puran Ahuti at 1.30 pm. Prasad thereafter All devotees and members of the biradari are cordially invited to participate.

"Na tadbhasayate suryo Na shashanko na pavakah Yad gatvana nivartante Tat dhama paramam mama"

"The Sun does not illuminate it, nor the Moon, nor the fire. That is my supreme state reaching which one does not return."

- Gita Chapter XV, Verse VI

Bhagwan Shri Gopinathji Trust

- * Kharyar, Habba Kadal, Srinagar, Kashmir.
- * Udaiwala Road, Bohri, Jammu Tawi.
- * Pamposh Colony, New Delhi.

Res: Tel: 25529307, 25200527, 25200674, 25572565.

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