



SHAIENDRA: TEN SONGS



LYRICS: SHAIENDRA; TRANSLATION: MADHULIKA LIDDLE

**Kuchh aur zamaana kehta hai
(Chhoti-Chhoti Baatein, 1965)**

*Kuchh aur zamaana kehta hai
Kuchh aur hai zid mere dil ki
Main baat zamaane ki maanoon
Ya baat sunoon apne dil ki*

*Duniya ne humein berehami se
Thukra jo diya acchha hi kiya
Naadaan hum samjhe baithe the
Nibhti hai yahaan dil se dil ki
Kuchh aur zamaana kehta hai...*

*Insaaf, mohabbat, sachchai
Woh reham-o-karam ke dikhlaave
Kuchh kehte zubaan sharmaati hai
Poochho na jalan mere dil ki
Kuchh aur zamaana kehta hai...*

*Go basti hai insaanon ki
Insaan magar dhoonde na mila
Patthar ke buton se kya kije
Fariyaad bhala toote dil ki
Kuchh aur zamaana kehta hai...*

The world says one thing;
My heart is obstinate about quite another.
Shall I listen to the world
Or should I listen to my own heart?

Mercilessly, the world has spurned me;
All for the best, this rejection:
Naively, I had assumed
That hearts meet here.
The world says one thing...

Justice, love, truth:
All this façade, of mercy and benevolence
My tongue shies away from speaking up:
Ask not of the burning flame in my heart.
The world says one thing...

Though this settlement be one of humans,
A search yielded not one human.
Before idols made of stone,
Why utter your pleas of a broken heart?
The world says one thing...

Jeevan ke doraah pe khade
(Chhoti si Mulaqat, 1967)

*Jeevan ke doraah pe khade
Sochte hain hum
Jaayein toh kidhar jaayein
Taane hai dil idhar ko toh
Kheenchein udhar qadam
Jaayein toh kidhar jaayein...*

*Har mod pe deta hai
Yeh sansaar duhaayi
Har gaam pe deta hai
Mera pyaar duhaayi
Is raaste mandir hai
Toh us raaste dharam
Jaayein toh kidhar jaayein...*

*Deewaangi aisi ki
Na thha hosh kisi ka
Pardesiyaan se poochha
Pata ghar ki gali ka
Ab hosh mein aane pe hai
Behoshiyaan ka gham
Jaayein toh kidhar jaayein...*

At the fork in the road of life
I stand, pondering:
Where do I go?
My heart tugs me this way,
My steps pull me there
Where do I go?...

At each turn
The world cries out to me.
At each step,
My love cries out to me
Down this way is the temple
And down that way is faith—
Where do I go?...

The madness was such
That I lost consciousness of all:
From outsiders, I asked
Directions for the way home.
Now that I am conscious,
I ache for that unconsciousness...
Where do I go?...

Mera joota hai Japaani
(Shree 420, 1955)

*Mera joota hai Japaani
Yeh patloon Inglistani
Sar pe laal topi Rusi
Phir bhi dil hai Hindustani
Mera joota hai Japaani...*

*Nikal pade hain khuli sadak par
Apna seena taane
Manzil kahaan, kahaan rukna hai
Uparwaala jaane
Badhte jaayein hum sailaani
Jaise ik dariya toofaani
Sar pe laal topi Rusi...*

*Upar neeche, neeche upar
Lehar chale jeevan ki
Naadaan hain jo baith kinaare
Poochhe raah watan ki
Chalna jeevan ki kahaani
Rukna maut ki nishaani
Sar pe laal topi Rusi...*

*Honge raaje-rajkunwar
Hum bigde-dil shahzaade
Hum singhaasan par jaa baithe
Jab-jab karein iraade
Surat hai jaani-pehchaani
Duniyawaalon ko hairaani
Sar pe laal topi Rusi...*

My shoes are Japanese
These trousers are English
The red cap on my head is Russian
But my heart is Indian
My shoes are Japanese...

We have set out on the open road
Our chests puffed up, confident:
Where our destination is, where we stop,
Only the Almighty knows.
We travellers forge ahead,
Like a stormy river, in spate.
The red cap on my head is Russian...

Up and down, down and up:
The wave of life continues.
Naïve are they who sit on the shore
And ask directions for the way home
The story of life is in moving,
To stop is a sign of death.
The red cap on my head is Russian...

There may be kings and monarchs:
We are wayward, unruly princes.
We go and sit on thrones,
Whenever we take it into our heads.
Our faces are familiar,
The world looks on and is surprised:
The red cap on my head is Russian...

**Dil ki nazar se, nazron ki dil se
(Anari 1959)**

*Dil ki nazar se
Nazron ki dil se
Yeh baat kya hai, yeh raaz kya hai
Koi humein bata de
Seene se uthkar honthon pe aaya
Yeh geet kaisa, yeh raag kya hai
Koi humein bata de*

*Kyon, bekhabar, yoon khinchi-si
Chali jaa rahi main
Yeh kaun se bandhanon mein
Bandhi jaa rahi main
Kuchh kho raha hai
Kuchh mil raha hai
Yeh baat kya hai, yeh raaz kya hai...*

*Hum kho chale
Chaand hai ya koi jaadugar hai
Ya madbhari yeh tumhaari
Nazar ka asar hai
Sab kuchh hamaara
Ab hai tumhaara
Yeh baat kya hai, yeh raaz kya hai...*

*Aakaash mein ho rahe hain
Yeh kaise ishaare
Kya dekhkar aaj hain
Itne khush chaand-taare
Hum-tum paraaye
Dil mein samaaye
Yeh baat kya hai, yeh raaz kya hai...*

From the heart to the gaze,
From the gaze to the heart:
What is this, what secret lies here,
Will someone please tell me?
From my bosom rising to my lips,
What is this song, which tune is this
Will someone please tell me?

Why, all unawares, am I pulled along
Going down a path involuntarily?
In which bonds are these
That I find myself bound?
Something is being lost
Something is being gained
What is this, what secret lies here...

We wander, lost:
Is this the moon, or a magician?
Or is it the effect of
Your intoxicating gaze?
All that is mine
Is now yours.
What is this, what secret lies here...

In the sky, what are
These indications, these signs?
What do they see, that makes
The moon and the stars so joyful?
You and I, strangers earlier,
Dwell in each other's hearts now
What is this, what secret lies here...

Hariyala saawan dhol bajaata aaya
(Do Bigha Zameen, 1953)

Hariyala saawan dhol bajaata aaya
Dhin-tak-tak mann ke mor nachaata aaya
Mitti mein jaan jagaata aaya
Dharti pehnegi hari chunariya
Banke dulhaniya

Ek agan bujhi,
Ek agan lagi,
Mann magan hua
Ek lagan lagi
Hariyala saawan dhol bajaata aaya...

Baith na tu man maare
Aa, gagan tale
Kya pawan chale
Aaja mil-julke gaayein
Jeevan ka geet naya

Ek agan bujhi...

Aise beej bichha re
Sukh-chain uge,
Dukh-dard mite
Nainon mein naache re
Sapnon ka dhaan hara

The verdant monsoon comes, beating a drum:
Making the mind's peacock dance,
Awakening life in the soil.
The Earth, wearing a green veil,
Will be a new bride.

One flame has been quenched
One flame has been lit.
The mind goes into raptures of joy,
Intoxicated, delighted:
The verdant monsoon comes...

Don't sit, disheartened:
Come, below the sky
What a breeze is blowing!
Come, together let us sing
A new song of life

One flame has been quenched...

Scatter seeds, of this kind:
That joy and contentment will grow
Pain and sorrow will be erased
In our eyes will dance
The green paddy of our dreams

Kya hawa chali
(Parakh, 1960)

*Kya hawa chali baba
Rut badli
Shor hai gali-gali
Sau-sau choohe khaaike
Billi haj ko chali*

*Pehle log mar rahe the
Bhookh se, abhaav se
Ab kahin yeh mar na jaayein
Apni khaav-khaav se
Arre, meethi baat kadvi lage
Gaaliyaan bhali
Kya hawa chali...*

*Aaj toh jahaan ki
Ulti har ek baat hai
Arre hum jo kahein din hai
Bhai, log kahein raat hai
Ret mein bhi khil rahi hai
Pyaar ki kali
Kya hawa chali...*

*Aam mein uge khajoor
Neem mein phale hai aam
Daakuon ne jog liya
Chor bhaje Ram-naam
Hosh ki dawa karo,
Miyani Fazal Ali
Kya hawa chali...*

What wind is this that blows, my friend?
The weather has changed.
In all the streets, there's a hue and cry:
After eating hundreds of mice,
The cat's turned a pious pilgrim

First, people were dying:
From hunger, from want
Now, what if they die
From serious overeating?
A sweet word may seem bitter
And abuses kind:
What wind is this that blows...

Today it seems as if the world
Goes a different way in all ways;
If I say it's day,
Brother, people say it's night:
Even in the sand, there blooms
A bud of love.
What wind is this that blows...

On the mango tree there grow dates
On the neem, mangoes appear.
Dacoits have taken on the garb of mendicants
And thieves spout the name of God.
Pray for consciousness,
Oh friend Fazal Ali:
What wind is this that blows...

Kaanton se kheenchke yeh aanchal
(Guide, 1965)

Kaanton se kheenchke yeh aanchal
Todke bandhan baandhi paayal
Koi na roko dil ki udaan ko
Dil woh chala...

Aaj phir jeene ki tamanna hai
Aaj phir marne ka iraada hai

Apne hi bas mein nahin main
Dil hai kahin toh hoon kahin main
Jaane kya khoke meri zindagi ne
Hanskar kaha:
Aaj phir jeene ki tamanna hai...

Main hoon ghubaar ya toofan hoon
Koi bataaye main kahaan hoon
Dar hai safar mein kahin kho na jaaon main
Rasta naya:
Aaj phir jeene ki tamanna hai...

Kal ke andheron se nikalke
Dekha hai aankhein malte-malte
Phool hi phool, zindagi bahaar hai
Tayy kar liya:
Aaj phir jeene ki tamanna hai...

Pulling my veil from the thorns,
Having broken bonds, I donned anklets:
Let nobody stop the flight of my heart:
There it flies, my heart...

Today again, there is the desire to live,
Today again, there is the decision to die.

I am not within my own control,
My heart is somewhere, I am elsewhere.
Who knows what my life lost,
And then said, with a laugh:
Today again, there is the desire to live...

Am I the cloud of dust, or the storm?
Someone tell me, where am I?
I fear that in this journey I may get lost,
The road is all unfamiliar and new.
Today again, there is the desire to live...

Emerging from the darkness of yesterday,
I have rubbed my eyes and seen:
Flowers everywhere, life is spring.
I have decided:
Today again, there is the desire to live...

Tumhe yaad karte-karte
(Amrapali, 1966)

*Tumhe yaad karte-karte
Jaayegi rain saari
Tum le gaye ho apne
Sang neend bhi hamaari*

*Mann hai ke jaa basa hai
Anjaan ik nagar mein
Kuchh khojta hai paagal
Khoi hui dagar mein
Itne bade mahal mein
Ghabraaon main bechaari
Tum le gaye ho apne
Sang neend bhi hamaari...*

*Birha ki is chita se
Tumhi mujhe nikaalo
Jo tum na aa sako toh
Mujhe sapn mein bulaalo
Mujhe aise mat jalaao
Meri preet hai kunwaari
Tum le gaye ho apne
Sang neend bhi hamaari...*

In remembering you, over and over,
This entire night will go:
In going away, you have taken
My sleep with you, too.

This mind of mine has gone and settled
In a township unknown to me.
It searches, this mad one, for who knows what
Along a lost path.
In such a grand palace,
I, poor soul, worry and fret:
In going away, you have taken
My sleep with you, too.

From this cremation pyre of separation
Only you can pull me out.
If you cannot come,
Then call me into your dreams.
Do not torment me so:
My love is still new and fragile.
In going away, you have taken
My sleep with you, too.

Sajan re jhooth mat bolo
(Teesri Kasam, 1966)

*Sajan re jhooth mat bolo
Khuda ke paas jaana hai
Na haathi hai na ghoda hai
Wahaan paidal hi jaana hai
Sajan re jhooth mat bolo...*

*Tumhaare mahal chaubaare
Yahin reh jaayenge saare
Akad kis baat ki pyaare
Yeh sar phir bhi jhukaana hai*

*Bhala keeje bhala hoga
Bura keeje bura hoga
Wahi likh-likhke kya hoga
Yahin sab kuchh chukaana hai*

*Ladakpan khel mein khoya
Jawaani neend bhar soya
Budhaapa dekhkar roya
Wohi kissa purana hai
Sajan re jhooth mat bolo...*

My friend, do not lie.
We are all destined to meet the Almighty
No elephant will be there, no horse:
We will have to go there on foot...
My friend, do not lie.

These palaces of yours, these pavilions:
These will all be left behind.
What use this hubris, my dear?
This head, no matter what, will have to bow.

Do good, and good will be done unto you.
Do evil, and evil will be done unto you.
Why write this over and over again?
All accounts will be settled here, in this life.

Childhood was lost in play;
Youth was frittered away in sleep
Old age watched, and cried:
The story is the same old one.
My friend, do not lie...

**Apni toh har aah ek toofaan hai
(Kaala Bazaar, 1960)**

*Apni toh har aah ik toofaan hai
Kya karein, woh jaankar anjaan—
Uparwaala jaankar anjaan hai
Apni toh har aah...*

*Ab toh hanske apni bhi
Kismat ko chamkaade
Kaanon mein kuchh keh de
Jo is dil ko behla de
Yeh bhi mushkil hai
Toh kya aasaan hai?
Uparwaala jaankar anjaan hai...*

*Sar pe mere tu jo
Apna haath hi rakh de
Phir toh bhatke raahi ko
Mil jaayenge raste
Dil ki basti bin tere
Veeraan hai
Uparwaala jaankar anjaan hai...*

*Dil hi toh hai
Isne shaayad bhool bhi ki hai
Zindagi hai, bhoolkar hi
Raah milti hai
Maaf kar, banda bhi ek insaan hai
Uparwaala jaankar anjaan hai...*

Each sigh of mine is a storm:
What can one do, they are oblivious—
The one above is oblivious.
Each sigh of mine...

Now, just laugh and
Bring a gleam to my fate:
Say something in my ear
That will soothe my heart.
If this too is difficult,
What, then, is easy?
The one above is oblivious...

If you would only place
On my head your hand:
Then this wandering traveller
May find his path.
The dwelling of this heart
Is desolate without you.
The one above is oblivious...

This heart of mine is just a heart:
Perhaps it too has made mistakes.
This is life; only after mistakes
Is the path found.
Forgive me, this fellow is after all human:
The one above is oblivious...