

Yeh kaun chitrakaar hai
Boond Jo Ban Gayi Moti (1967)

*Hari-hari vasundhara pe
Neela-neela yeh gagan
Jispe baadlon ki paalki
Udaa raha pawan
Dishaayein dekho rangbhari
Chamak rahi umangbhari
Yeh kisne phool-phool pe kiya singaar hai?
Yeh kaun chitrakaar hai?*

*Tapasviyon si hain atal
Yeh parvaton ki chotiyaan
Yeh sarp-si gherdaar
Ghumaavdaar ghaatiyaan
Dhvajaa-se yeh khade hue
Hain vriksh devdaar ke
Galeeche yeh gulaab ke
Bageeche yeh bahaar ke
Yeh kis kavi ki kalpana ka chatmatkar hai?
Yeh kaun chitrakaar hai?*

*Qudrat ki is pavitrata ko tum nihaar lo
Iske gunon ko apne mann mein tum utaar lo
Chamkaa lo aaj laalima
Apne lalaat ki
Kan-kan se jhaankti tumhe chhavi viraat ki
Apni toh aankh ek hai
Uski hazaar hain
Yeh kaun chitrakaar hai?*

Above this green Earth
This brilliant blue sky
On which the wind goes about
Blowing the palanquins of the clouds
Look: each direction is filled with colour
And shines with joy
Who is this who has decorated each flower?
Who is this artist?

As immovable as an ascetic deep in penance
Are these ranges of mountains
Like sinuous snakes, each with many twists
Are these weaving, meandering valleys
Standing tall like pennants
Are the trees of the deodars
These carpets of roses,
These gardens of [the colours of] spring
Which poet's imagination has crafted this
miracle?
Who is this artist?

Feast your eyes on the purity of nature
Imbibe its virtues into your being
Light up your own destiny [literally, 'bring a
glow of redness to your forehead']
From each particle, shines forth brilliance
We have one eye alone;
He has a thousand.
Who is this artist?

Ae maalik tere bande hum
Do Aankhen Baarah Haath (1957)

*Ae maalik tere bande hum
Aise hon hamaare karam
Neki par chalein aur badi se talein
Taaki hanste hue nikle dam*

O master, we are your followers
Let our deeds be such
That we walk on the path of righteousness
and stay away from evil
So that we may leave this life joyfully

*Bada kamzor hai aadmi
Abhi laakhon hain ismein kami
Par tu jo khada
Hai dayaalu bada
Teri kirpa se dharti thami
Diya tune humein jab janam
Tu hi jhelega hum sab ke gham
Neki par chalein aur badi se talein
Taaki hanste hue nikle dum*

Man is weak
There are in him countless flaws
But you who stand there
Are very merciful
Your grace keeps the Earth steady.
You brought us into this world,
You will bear all our woes.
Let us walk on the path of righteousness and
stay away from evil
So that we may leave this life joyfully

*Yeh andhera ghana chaa raha
Tera insaan ghabraa raha
Ho raha bekhobar kuchh na aata nazar
Sukh ka suraj chhupa jaa raha
Hai teri roshni mein woh dum
Jo amaavas ko kar de poonam
Neki par chalein aur badi se talein
Taaki hanste hue nikle dum*

Dense darkness looms around us
Your human being worries and is frightened:
He is confused, he can see nothing.
The sun of happiness is hidden;
Your light contains the power
To turn a no-moon night into a full-moon one.
Let us walk on the path of righteousness and
stay away from evil
So that we may leave this life joyfully

*Jab zulmon ka ho saamna
Tab tu hi humein thhaamna
Woh buraai karein
Hum bhalaai bharein
Nahin badle ki ho kaamna
Badh uthe pyaar ka har kadam
Aur mite bair ka yeh bharam
Neki par chalein aur badi se talein
Taaki hanste hue nikle dum*

When we face torment and trial
Then buoy us up, uphold us.
If *they* do evil
Let *us* do good.
Let there not be in us a desire for vengeance
Let our steps move forward in love
And let this illusion of enmity be erased.
Let us walk on the path of righteousness and
stay away from evil
So that we may leave this life joyfully

Keh do koi na kare yahaan pyaar
Goonj Uthi Shehnai (1959)

*Bikhar gaye bachpan ke sapne
Armaanon ki shaam dhale
Kahin saje baaraat kisi ki
Kahin kisi ka pyaar jale*

All the dreams of childhood lie scattered
The twilight of hopes falls;
Somewhere, someone is being married
Somewhere, someone finds their love going
up in flames

*Keh do koi na kare yahaan pyaar
Ismein khushiyaan hain kam
Beshumar hain gham
Ek hansi aur aansoo hazaar
Keh do koi na kare yahaan pyaar*

Proclaim it, let no-one fall in love here
This offers few joys
And has countless sorrows
One moment of laughter, a thousand tears;
Proclaim it, let no-one fall in love here

*Preet patanga diye se kare
Uski hi lau mein woh jal-jal mare
Mushkil raahein yahaan
Ashq aur aahein yahaan
Ismein chain nahin na karaar
Keh do koi na kare yahaan pyaar*

The moth loves the lamp
But burns to death in its flame
These paths are difficult
Filled with tears and moaning
There is neither rest here nor respite.
Proclaim it, let no-one fall in love here

*Hum ne toh samjha phool khile
Chun-chun ke dekha
Toh kaante mile
Yeh anokha jahaan, har dum dhokha yahaan
Is veeraane mein kaisi bahaar
Keh do koi na kare yahaan pyaar*

I thought flowers blossomed here
When I plucked them, I discovered thorns
instead.
This is a strange world, full of deceit;
Where is spring to be found in this
barrenness?
Proclaim it, let no-one fall in love here

Saranga teri yaad mein
Saranga (1961)

Saranga teri yaad mein
Nain hue bechain
Madhur tumhaare milan bina
Din katte nahin rain

Woh ambua ka jhoolna
Woh peepal ki chhaaon
Ghoonghat mein jab chaand thha
Mehendi lagi thhi paaon
Aaj ujadke reh gaya
Woh sapnon ka gaalon

Sang tumhaare do ghadi
Beet gaye jo pal
Jal bharke mere nain mein
Aaj hue ojhal
Sukh leke dukh de gayeen
Do akhiyaan chanchal

My love, in my remembrance of you
My eyes have grown restless
Without the sweetness of your company
Neither the days pass, nor the nights

The swishing leaves of the mango tree,
The shade of the peepal;
When the moon was veiled and
Your feet were adorned with henna
Today, all of that is destroyed:
That village of dreams is gone.

Those few moments I spent with you
That brief time has gone.
Having filled my eyes with tears,
They have disappeared.
Taking happiness and leaving only sorrow,
Two vivacious eyes have vanished.

Yeh maati sabhi ki kahaani kahegi
Navrang (1959)

Na raja rahega na rani rahegi

Yeh duniya hai faani aur faani rahegi

Na jab ek bhi zindagaani rahegi

Toh maati sabhi ki kahaani kahegi

The king will not last, neither will the queen;

This world is ephemeral and will remain so

When not a single soul is left alive

Then this earth will tell the story of each one

Dikhaayegi Rana ke rann ki nishaani

Kahegi Shivaji ke pran ki kahaani

Bataayegi Mughalon ki baatein ajaani

Us gaddaar Jaichand ki zindagaani

Yeh aapas ki sab badghumaani kahegi

Yeh maati sabhi ki kahaani kahegi

It will show the symbols of Rana's battles

It will tell the story of Shivaji's vow

It will reveal the untold stories of the Mughals

The life of that treacherous Jaichand

It will talk of our mutual distrust

This earth will tell the story of each one

Jo thhe desh dushman ghulaami ke raahi

Lage pherne is watan par siyaahi

Videshon ki karne lage wah-wahi

Gaya desh haathon se, aayi tabaahi

The enemy nations that followed the path of
slavery

Began to spill black ink on this land

Began to praise everything foreign

The country slipped out of our hands, it was
ruined

Yeh bhar-bharke aankhon mein paani kahegi

Yeh maati sabhi ki kahaani kahegi

It will say this, with tears pouring from its eyes

This earth will tell the story of each one

Phir aatank ka aisa sangraam aaya

Ki har aadmi desh ke kaam aaya

Badi veer Jhansi ki Rani Bhawani

Hazaaron ne, laakhon ne jauhar jalaaya

Then such a war of terror was fought

That each man came to the aid of his country

The very brave Queen of Jhansi, Bhawani

Thousands, lakhs, immolated themselves

[rather than face dishonour in defeat]

Yeh qurbaaniyaan khud zubaani kahegi

Yeh maati sabhi ki kahaani kahegi

It will recount these sacrifices with its own
tongue

This earth will tell the story of each one

Jalaa do yeh itihaas jhoothe tumhaare

Yahaan zarre-zarre pe sach hai likha re

Zulam woh tumhaare sitam woh tumhaare

Burn these false histories of yours

Here, in every particle, the truth is written;

The tortures you inflicted, the torments you
wrought

Karo yaad uff karnaame woh kaare

Ke patthar se aansoo ki dhaara bahegi

Yeh maati sabhi ki kahaani kahegi

Remember those dark deeds of yours

That rocks may shed streams of tears

This earth will tell the story of each one

Yeh maati hai tab se na tum thhe aaye

Yeh maati rahegi na jab tum rahoge

Is maati ke neeche dabi hain kathaayein

This earth has been since before you were

This earth will remain when you do not

Under this earth are buried stories;

*Yeh khud hi kahegi yeh tum kya kahoge
Zameen-aasmaan thar-tharaake rahegi
Yeh maati sabhi ki kahaani kahegi*

*This will speak, what will you speak?
It will shake up the earth and the sky,
This earth will tell the story of each one*

**Chaand hai wohi
(Parineeta, 1953)**

*Chaand hai wohi
Sitaare hain wohi gagan
Phir bhi kyon udaas hai
Udaas mera mann*

*Kaun thha mila mujhe
Jo milke kho gaya
Kaun aake mere paas
Door ho gaya*

*Phool hai wohi
Bahaar hai wohi chaman
Phir bhi kyon udaas hai
Udaas mera mann*

*Aaj mere mann ki
Baansuri bhi maun hai
Jisko dhoondte mere nayan
Woh kaun hai*

*Raag hai wohi
Paraag hai wohi pawan
Phir bhi kyon udaas hai*

The moon is the same
The stars are the same, so is the sky
Even then, why is my heart so sad?
My heart, so sad.

Who is this whom I met,
Met, and then lost?
Who is this who drew close to me,
And then went far away?

The flowers are the same
The spring is the same, so is the garden
Even then, why is my heart so sad?
My heart, so sad.

Today, even the flute of my mind
Has fallen silent.
He whom my eyes seek:
Who is he?

The tune is the same
The pollen is the same, so is the wind
Even then, why is my heart so sad?
My heart, so sad...

Ud jaa ud jaa
(Rani Rupmati, 1959)

Ud jaa ud jaa bhanwar maya kamal ka
Aaj bandhan todke

Rang iska laal hai
Aur roop bhi kya kamaal hai
Jin pankhuriyon mein tu jhoomo
Woh tera janjaal, tera jaal hai
Kahin aur jaake dil lagaa
Kaliyon ki galiyaan chhodke
Ud jaa bhanwar

Dekh woh suraj ki kiranein
Aa rahi hain jhoomti
Chal gagan ki ore
Tera mukh hawaayein choomti
Baanwre uth gyaan se
Makhmal ka ghera door kar
Tan hai kaala us liye
Man ka andhera door kar
Tujhko bulaaye, tujhko bulaata
Hai savera dekh mukhda modke
Ud jaa bhanwar

Ud jaa ud jaa ud jaa bhanwar

Fly away, bumble-bee,
Today leave the bonds of this lotus of illusion

The colour of this is an attractive red
And its beauty is magnificent;
The petals in which you hover so intoxicated
They are a trap, a net in which you are caught;
Go and set your heart elsewhere
Leave the environs of these buds far behind
Fly away, bumble-bee.

See, the rays of the sun
Are here, gleaming and dancing:
Come, towards the sky
The breezes kiss your face
Bumble-bee, come, rise; use knowledge,
To dispel the velvety darkness around you.
Your body is black;
So, throw off the darkness in your mind
You are called, the morning summons you:
Turn your face, look towards it
Fly away, bumble-bee

Fly away, bumble-bee, fly away...

Na na na barso baadal
(Samrat Prithviraj Chauhan, 1959)

Na na na barso baadal
Aaj barse nain se jal
Aaj mann ka mor ghaayal
Na na na barso baadal

Aaj barkha hai deewaani
Nayan jal khoye
Baadlon ke hi bahaane hirani roye
Bundliyon ki chhum-chhanan-nan
Baaje re baaje re paayal
Na na na barso baadal

Shyam bin shyaamal ghata
Mann ko nahin bhaaye
Piya bin bijli jiya mein
Agan sulgaaye
Neel nayanon ke gagan se
Jhade re kaajal, jhade re kaajal
Na na na barso baadal...

Don't, don't, oh don't rain, cloud!
Today, water pours from my eyes
Today, the peacock of my mind is wounded
Don't, don't, oh don't rain, cloud!

The rain today is maddened
My eyes have wept so much, they are dry
Using the clouds as an excuse, the doe weeps
The pitter-patter of droplets
Is like the tinkle of anklets
Don't, don't, oh don't rain, cloud!

Without Shyaam, the dark clouds
Do not please my heart
Without my lover, the lightning
Only serves to set my heart aflame
From the blue skies that are my eyes
Falls black kohl.
Don't, don't, oh don't rain, cloud!

Meri aan bhagwaan
(Toofan aur Diya, 1956)

*Meri aan bhagwaan
Kan-kan se ladi hai
Toh tumse bhi aaj ladegi
Meri baat tumhe rakhni padegi*

*Dekh apnon pe dukh
Jo chhupaoge mukh
Toh aapas ki raad badhegi
Meri baat tumhe rakhni padegi*

*Humne toh suna hai
Badon ke mukh se
Apne baalakon se tumko bhi pyaar hai
Phir kyon bhoolte ho, sabke pita
Kuchh hamaara bhi tumpe adhikaar hai!
Ladhadaate hain paaon
Aur dekh rahe tum
Kya yeh naiyya bhanwar mein adegi
Meri baat tumhe rakhni padegi*

*Meri palkon ka tod kinaara
Lagi behne jo aansoon ki dharaa
Teri dharti bahegi tera ambar bahega
Beh jaayega aasan tumhaara
Meri sunke bhagwaan
Tune diya nahin dhyaan
Toh zabaan meri zid pe chadhegi
Meri baat tumhe rakhni padegi*

My honour, God
Has fought with every particle;
Today, then, it will even fight you
You will have to concede to my demand.

Having seen the sorrows of your own
If you turn away your face,
The rift between us will grow wider
You will have to concede to my demand.

We have heard
From the mouths of our elders
You too love your little ones;
Then why, oh father of all, do you forget
We too have some claim on you!
Our feet stumble
And you look on.
Will this boat get caught in the whirlpool?
You will have to concede to my demand.

Having burst the banks of my eyelids
If these tears start streaming
Your Earth will flow with it, your sky, too;
Your throne will be carried away in the flow
If, having heard me, o God
You pay no attention
Then my tongue will turn stubborn
You will have to concede to my demand.

**Khaali peeli kaahe ko
(Tamasha, 1952)**

*Khaali-peeli kaahe ko
Akkha din baithke bom maarta hai*

*Left-left-left-right—
Halt!*

*Bistar se uthke bathroom
Mein jaake tu snaan kar
Tamaam Lux se ragad-ragadke
Badan ko saaf kar
Khatiya se chhod vaasta
Taiyyaar tera naashta
Bhabhi take hai raasta
O aalsi, o aalsi!
Kaahe ko himmat haarta hai*

*Nana ne kiya ghotaala,
O gadbadjhaala
Samajh nahin aala re
Nanaji ne baithe-baithe
Apni akal ghumaayi hai
Bachchu bachchu ji, yeh naar naveli
Padhaane tumhe aayi hai
Rat mann billi rat mann chhooha
L-O-V-E, L-O-V-E
Love! Maane pyaar
Pyaar maane mohabbat
Mohabbat maane—*

*Jhootha-sachcha pyaar jataavo
Thandi-thandi aahein bhara
Iske prem mein paagal bankar
Kabhi jiyo aur kabhi maro*

*Gar baat meri maan le toh
Tera beda paar hai
Nahin toh bachchu naav
Teri—gudup!—majhdhaar hai
Yehi hai mera faisla
Ab dekhein tera hausla
O pehelwaan, o pehelwaan!
Kaahe ko himmat haarta hai*

Why do yuh sit aroun' all day long
An' spout nonsense?

Left-left-left-right—
Halt!

Git up from yer bed
Go on an' bathe in the bathroom
Use up all the Lux to scrub yerself,
Get that body cleaned!
Leave yer relationship with this bed,
Yer breakfast's ready
An' sis-in-law's waiting for yuh
O lazy bum, o lazy bum!
Why d'yuh get discouraged?

Grandpa's thrown a spanner in the works
Pulled off one of his tricks
Can't figure out what.
Without doin' much movin' around,
Grandpa's put his mind to work
Buddy, dear Sir Buddy: this pretty lady
Has come here to teach yuh!
-“This is a cat, this is a rat”
L-O-V-E, L-O-V-E
Love! Which means amour
Amour means affection
Affection means—

True or fake, boast about yer love
Heave deep sighs
Go nuts for her love
Die sometime, live sometime

If yuh heed my advice
Yer life's made;
Otherwise, buddy—yer boat's headed
For the whirlpool
That's my verdict
Now let's see yer courage
O wrestler! O wrestler!
Why d'yuh get discouraged

Yeh sone ki duniya

Do Dost (1960)

Yeh sone ki duniya

Yeh chaandi ki duniya

Yahaan aadmi ki bhala baat kya hai

Yeh daulat ki duniya, ameeron ki duniya...

Yeh toote dilon ke jo tukde pade hain

Lagaale inhe dil se woh dil kahaan hai

Yeh footpath par so rahe jo musaafir

Bataaye koi inki manzil kahaan hai

Bina roshni ke hain inke savere

Jo din hi andhere toh phir raat kya hai

Yeh daulat ki duniya, ameeron ki duniya...

*Yeh bhooke yeh nange yeh bhikmange bhi
toh*

Usike na bandhu ki santaan hain re

Yeh kyon chhin gaya inka jeene ka adhikaar

Yeh bhi toh hum jaise insaan hain re

Yeh aankhen barasti hain baaroh mahine

In ashqon ke aage yeh barsaat kya hai

Yeh daulat ki duniya, ameeron ki duniya...

This world of gold

This world of silver

Here, what is the worth of man?

This world is of wealth, and of the wealthy...

The fragments of shattered hearts which lie
here:

Where are the hearts that will take these to
heart?

These travellers who sleep on pavements

Someone, tell: what is their destination?

Their mornings are without light

When their days are darkness, what of their
nights?

This world is of wealth, and of the wealthy...

These hungry, these naked, these beggars too

Are, my friend, the children of Him too

Then why has the right to live been snatched
from them?

Like us, they too are human

These eyes rain tears through the twelve
months

Compared to these tears, what is the rain?

This world is of wealth, and of the wealthy...