

LONGER POEMS OF IQBAL

7
TO ENGLISH

2
R. TARIQ



As a matter of fact, the real height of Iqbal's Imagination, the *constructive* value of his Poetry and the emphasis and flow of his language is better found in his Longer Poems. Here is a versified English Translation of his most distinguished and enlightening Poems, by the Pen of one who knows well how to convey the real *Meaning* and the *Spirit* of Iqbal's original works !

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**LONGER POEMS
OF
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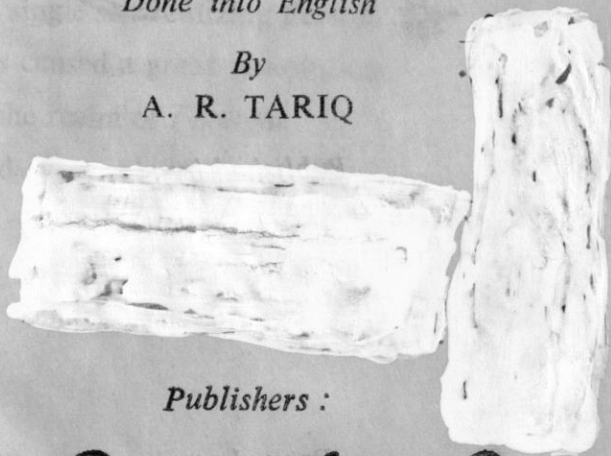
THE
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Done into English

By

A. R. TARIQ



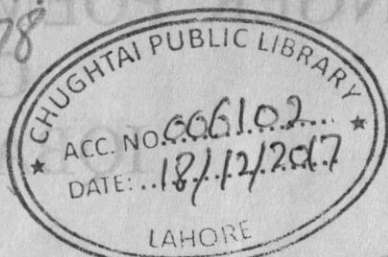
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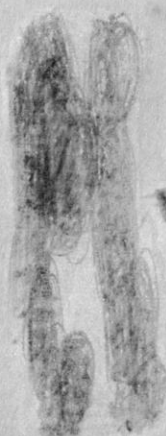
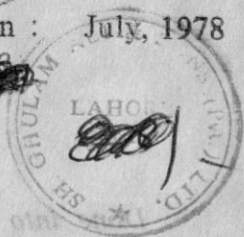
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After my Death
They ponder on my verses
And say :
“A single self-realizing Person
Has caused a great Revolution
In the realm of *Thought*
And *Action!*”

-Iqbal

After my Death

They ponder on my verses

And say

"A single self-realizing Person

Has caused a great Revolution

In the realm of Thought

And Action"

(pba)

FOREWORD

A Poet's command of Language, treasure of vocabulary, beauty of expression, and flight of Imagination are better known by his *Longer*

**"It is *I* who has infused
A new spirit of Action
Into the Hearts of Muslims,
From Lahore
To Bukhara and Samarqand!"**

—Iqbal

Similarly, in our own country, Iqbal is the only distinguished Poet, who has all the good qualities of Language and Meaning in his "Longer Poems" and has done for them a lot.

"It is I who have infused
A new spirit of Action
Into the Hearts of Muslims,
From Lahore
To Bukhara and Samarkand!"

FOREWORD

A Poet's command of Language, treasure of vocabulary, beauty of expression, and flight of Imagination are better known by his *Longer Poems*. The same is true of *all* the great Poets in any Nation, and in any country of the world!

For example, Dante's "Divine Comedy"—Milton's "Paradise Lost" and "Paradise Regained"—Wordsworth's "Intimations of Immortality from early Childhood"—Shelley's "Ode to Skylark" and "Ode to the West Wind"—Homer's "Iliad" and "Odyssey",—Matthew Arnold's "Rustam and Sohrab"—Firdausi's "Shah Namah"—Rumi's "Mathnavi Ma'navi" etc. distinctly and outstandingly corroborate this statement!

Similarly, in our own country, Iqbal is the only distinguished Poet, who has *all* the good qualities of Language and Meaning in his "Longer Poems", and has done full justice to the

Caption that he has fixed for each Poem. As a matter of fact, his Longer Poems are much more *emphatic, pathetic* and *instructive* than his shorter ones. Therefore, I have selected some of his Longer Poems, and have tried my best to convey their real *spirit* in the Translations. Of course, the true judgment of my attempt lies in the good Taste and "Intellectual" capability of my respectable Readers, to whom I am very thankful for their interest in such *constructive* subjects!

A.R. Tariq

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THE RENAISSANCE

OF

ISLAM

1. The twinkling of the star,

That clear Sign

of the Dawn!

Now the Sun has arisen

From the Horizon,

and the period of deep shadows

Has passed away!

THE RENAISSANCE

OF

ISLAM

THE RENAISSANCE OF ISLAM

Iqbal by his own Intuition, has visualized the hopeful and bright Future of Islam, and has expressed his observations on this subject, quite Confidently! We have no reason to doubt his predictions, yet, as he has emphasized, our expectations about a bright future of Islam can be materialized only by a firm Faith, constant Struggle and Unity!

یقین محکم ، عمل پیمزم ، محبت فاتح عالم

جہاد زلدگانی میں ہیں یہ مردوں کی شمشیریں! (اقبال)

1. The twinkling of the star
Is a clear Sign
Of the Dawn!
Now the Sun has arisen
From the Horizon,
And the period of deep Slumber
Has passed away!

2. Now the Blood of Life
Is speedily circulating
In the dead veins
Of the East!
Seena¹ and Farabi²
Cannot understand
This Secret!

3. Oh, the Tumult of the West³
Has made a Muslim
A true *Muslim*,
For the culturing of a Pearl
Depends upon the Storm
Of the River!

-
1. That is, Bu Ali Seena, the famous Philosopher. "Seena" was the name of his grand-father.
 2. Farabi, that is, Al-Farabi (Abu Nasr bin Mohammad bin Tarkhan; C. 870-950) Arabic-writing Muslim Philosopher of Turkish origin, was born, C. 870 in Trausoxiana, Central Asia. Having situated first in Khurasan and then in Baghdad, where he lived for a considerable time, he eventually transferred himself to the Court Saif-ul-Daulah. He died near Damascus in 950. His writings show everywhere the influence of the blend of Aristotelian and Neoplatonic thought. Most Arabic Philosophers depend on his achievements.
 3. That is, the civilization and the aggression of the West.

4. The true Believer
Is going to be blessed
By the Supreme Being
With the Dignity of a Turk,
The intellect of an Indian,
And the eloquence
Of an Arab!¹

5. O Nightingale²!
If there is some effect
Of Slumber in the Buds,
Sing more bitterly,
When you find the taste
For Music diminishing!

6. Now Flutter
In the terrace of Garden,
In the Nest, and
Amidst the Branches!
For the characteristics
Of quick-silver
Can't be separated
From it!

-
1. The Arabs have always proclaimed that they are the most *Eloquent* people in the world. That is why they call others "Ajami" (Dumb).
 2. By "Nightingale" is meant the Poet himself.

7. Why a pure-visioned Eye,
Which can see the Valour¹
Of a Muslim Warrior,
Should be charmed
By the Beauty
Of the Coat-of-mail?

8. O God! Light the Lamp
Of *Desire*
In the heart of Tulip,
And make every particle
Of the Garden crazy
For an eternal search!

9. In the Tears of a Muslim
There is an effect
Of vernal Cloud!
Therefore, the River
Of the true Friend of Allah²
Will again produce Pearls!

1. That is, the light of his *Faith*!

2. "Khalil-Ullah"; that is a title for Abraham.

10. Oh, the Book of Islam
Is being bound again,¹
And the Branch of Hashimi²
Is going to grow
New leaves and fruits!
11. Oh, that Sweetheart of Sheeraz³
Has snatched away
The heart of Tabrez
And Kabul!
The morning-breeze
Has taken a co-traveller
Of the Fragrance of Rose!
12. If a mountain of Sorrows
Has fallen upon the Othmanites,⁴
Why should we worry about it?
For by the disappearance
Of a hundred thousand Stars
Is born the Morn!

-
1. That is, the Muslim Nation is being re-organized.
 2. That is, Islam.
 3. This is a metaphor for the Holy Prophet (Peace be on Him).
 4. That is, Turks, for they have been reported to be the offspring of Hazrat Othman, the third Caliph of Islam.

13. To *see* the world is more difficult
Than to *Rule* the world!
It is only when the Liver bleeds!¹
That Heart's Eye
Is able to *see*!

14. For thousands of years
The Narcissus weeps
Over her lack of sight:
Then rarely appears
A visioned personage
In this Garden²

15. O Nightingale³! Sing and Sing
So that by the effect
Of thy Song
The tender and delicate body
Of a Pigeon⁴ be endowed
With the Liver of a Hawk⁵!

-
1. Bleeds by the deep influence of Love and Contemplation.
 2. That is, the World.
 3. Again, by "Nightingale" is meant the Poet himself.
 4. That is, a weak and humble creature, which has been oppressed by slavery.
 5. That is, a brave and dauntless Muslim Warrior, who would fight for Freedom!

16. The Secret of Life
Is hidden in thy Bosom!
Now tell the Muslim
Of the Tale of sorrow and joys
Of Life!
17. O Muslim! *you* are
The powerful Hand
And the Tongue
Of Immortal Being¹!
O Forgetful! Cultivate
A firm *Faith* in your Heart,
For you have been overpowered
By *Doubts*!
18. Beyond the blue Heaven
Is the Destination of a Muslim²!
You are a Caravan
Of whom the Stars
Are mere atoms of dust
In your way!

-
1. That is, *you* represent the Attributes of Allah in a *practical* way.
 2. That is, there is no limit to the Spiritual flight of a Muslim, for he is the *nearest* person to God?

19. The House¹ is doomed
 To Destruction,
 And the Resident² will live in it
 But for a *moment*!
Eternity is yours,
 Because you are the bearer
 Of the Last Message³ of God,
 To Humanity,
 And, therefore, you are *Eternal*!

20. The blood of your Liver
 Is a myrtle for the Bride
 Of Tulip!
 You have inherited
 The Faith of Abraham,
 And you are the Architect
 Of the World⁴!

1. *i.e.*, The World.

2. *i.e.*, Man.

3. That is the Holy Quran, for no Heavenly Book will be revealed after it.

4. That is, it is *you*, who will improve and strengthen the Moral and Spiritual values of mankind.

21. Your nature is rich
 With all the possibilities
 Of Life,
 And you are a *Test and Trial*
 For the hidden powers
 Of the Universe¹!
22. *You* are the Gift,
 Which Prophecy took away
 From this world
 Of water and dust
 To the *eternal* world²!
23. From the History
 Of the Muslim Nation
 This Point is quite clear:
 It is *you*,
 Who is the Guardian
 Of the Asian Nations!

1. That is, *you* should struggle hard to discover and utilize
 the hidden Elements of the Universe.

2. *i. e.*, For the world Hereafter.

24. Therefore, O'Muslim!

Read once again

The lesson of Truth

Justice and Gallantry!

For only then

Allah will bestow on you

The Leadership

Of the whole World!

25. A Universal Brotherhood,

And boundless Love

For one another,

Is the main object of Nature,

And the secret of true Faith!

-
1. For these three are the basic principles of Islamic Ethics. The Holy Prophet himself and his companions followed them very faithfully.

26. Ah, smash quickly
 The idols of Colour and Blood,¹
 And get merged
 Into the *Nation*
 So, there be left no
 "Turani,"—"Irani",
 Or "Afghan"!
27. Oh, how long shall you
 Keep company
 With the Nightingale
 Amidst the Branches?
 In fact, you have the power of **Flight**
 Of the Hawk of Qahastan²
 In your Wings!
28. In this world of Doubts,
 The Faith of a Muslim is
 Like a beacon Torch,
 In the dark Night
 Of a Desert!

-
1. For Islam has strictly forbidden them, as they are barriers to the Universal Brotherhood of the Muslims.
 2. "Qahastan" is the name of a territory in Khurasan. The Hawks of that country are famous for their bravery, agility and quick flight.

29. What put an end
To the aggression of
Qaisar and *Kisra* ?
The strength of *Haidar*,¹
The Devotion of *Bu-Zar*²,
And the Truth of *Salman*³!

30. Oh, with what Dignity
And Grandeur
Are marching on the Liberators
Of our Nation!
The Spectators have been
Peeping through the holes
Of their Doors,
For hundreds of years!

-
1. That is, Hazrat Ali, the fourth Caliph of Islam.
 2. That is, Hazrat Abu Zar Ghaffari, a distinguished Companion of the Holy Prophet.
 3. That is, Hazrat Salman Farsi, who was also a distinguished Companion of the Holy Prophet (Peace be on h'm).

31. The stability of Life
 In this world
 Is achieved by a firm *Faith*,
 For a Turk has become
 More lasting than a German!
32. When this Spark of Dust¹
 Attains Self-confidence,
 It sprouts the feathers and
 The wings of Gabriel²!
33. Neither Swords nor Plans
 Are of any use in Slavery!
 But a firm *Faith* can cut
 The chains asunder³!

-
1. By "Spark of Dust" is meant Man!
 2. That is, true Faith inspires him soar very high like Gabriel.
 3. That is, Faith is the most irresistible and unconquerable Force, which can easily cut the chains of slavery.

34. Can anyone gauge
The *strength* of his *Arm*?
The mere *Glance*
Of a true Believer
Can change the *Destinies*¹!
35. The Divinity,
The Sovereignty,
The Knowledge
Of the Universe:
What are these?
Only various interpretations
Of the meaning of "*Faith*"!
36. Yet, the insight of Abraham
Is obtained with great difficulty!
Passion stealthily paints
His own pictures
Within the Bosom!

-
1. There have been numerous instances in the History of Islam, when certain Divines changed the fates of men by mere *glance*. I am quite confident that Iqbal himself had such a miraculous effect in his *Glance*!
 2. All the above-mentioned things (*viz.*, Divinity, Sovereignty and knowledge of the Universe) were achieved by the pious Companions of the Holy Prophet, and that too by means of a firm *Faith*.

37. The Distinction
Between *master* and *slave*
Is the main cause of trouble
For Humanity!
O Tyrants! Beware,
For severe are
The Punishments of Nature!

38. The reality of *all* things,
Whether of Dust,
Or of Light,
Is the *same*,
If we cut the heart
Of an *Atom*,
Therefrom will drop
The blood of *Sun*¹!

39. A firm Faith,
Continuous Action,
And world-conquering Love:
These are the Swords
Of the gailant,
In the Battle of Life!

1. That is, all the things in the Universe are related to one another with such a strong *internal* link, that their action and reaction is the same everywhere!

40. What is needed
By an Upright Man?
Sublime Thought,
Pure Creed¹,
A warm Heart,
Pious Glances,
And a restless Spirit²!

41. Those who attacked
Like a Hawk,
Were found without feathers
And wings³!
But the Evening Stars
Emerged after diving
Into the blood of Twilight!

-
1. By "Pure Creed" is meant Islam, which is the natural religion of mankind.
 2. A spirit restless to propagate and establish Good, and to uproot Evil.
 3. *i.e.*, The infidels; the aggressors. And in the next line by "Evening stars" are meant true Believers, who overpowered Evil, and became successful in every trial.

42. Those who Swam
Beneath the River,
Are buried down in the River¹;
But those who were hit
By the waves,
Turned out shining Pearls!
43. Those, who were proud
Of their Alchemy,²
Are mere Dust of the Path!
But those who did obeisance
(To the Almighty),
Became real Alchemists!

-
1. In this couplet reference has been made to the drowning of Lord Kitchner. Horatius Herbert Kitchner (1850-1916) British Field Marshal and Statesman. Early in 1916 the Tsar urged that Kitchner should visit Russia, promising that his counsel would be taken to the full, even if the counsel included certain transfers of control into British hands. On the afternoon of the appointed day, Kitchner, having paid a visit to Lord Tellicoe on his flagship, embarked on the "Hampshire". An unswept channel was chosen for her passage, but under stress of weather, the destroyers which formed her titular escort, turned about, leaving the vessel to steam to her doom. The Hampshire struck a mine and went down with nearly all the passengers.
2. That is, the Scientists and the Materialists.

44. Our slow Messenger¹
Ultimately brought
The message of Life!
But those who received News
Through Electrones,
Are now found
To be absolutely *ignorant*,

45. The Sanctuary became infamous
Because of the short-sightedness
Of the Keeper of the Sanctuary!
But how prudent proved
The youth of Tartar!

46. The Heaven-flying Angels
Say to the Earth:
The mortals living on thee
Are certainly more alive,
More lasting,
And more shining!²

-
1. By "Slow Messenger" is meant the Heart of a true Believer.
 2. And they achieved all these qualities due to a firm Faith.

47. The true Believers
Live in this world
Just like the Sun!
Here they Set,
There they Rise,
There they Set
Here they Rise¹!

48. The Faith of *Individuals*
Is a strong Foundation
For the construction
Of a *Nation*!
This is the Power
Which forms and determines
The Destiny of a Nation²?

1. That is, they never die; they are *immortal* by the miraculous force of their Faith.
2. That is, it is the *Individuals*, who build up the destiny of a Nation by dint of their Faith.

49. **You are the Secret**

Of God's Command: "**Be!**"

And then it "**Was**"!

Therefore reveal yourself

To your Eyes,²

Understand the secrets

Of your *Self*,

And thus represent the **Attributes**

Of the Supreme Being!

1. That is, "O Muslim! The real object of God's Command "Be!" was *you*, and not anything else in the Universe. Therefore, realize the dignity of your rank, and demonstrate your inborn qualities!

2. That is, realize your innate qualities and possibilities, which are still lying dormant due to your negligence!

50. Ah! Greed has split
The entire Humanity
Into Pieces!
Now be an exponent
Of "Brotherhood",
And a Tongue
Of true Love!

-
1. The Brotherhood of the Muslims is an eternal thing, which has been the very foundation of their national life; that is why this subject has been emphasized again and again in the Holy Quran. For instance:

"Undoubtedly the Believers are Brothers (to one another); therefore, make peace between your Brethren, and fear Allah, that He may take mercy on you!" (49:10).

"And hold fast by the Rope of Allah all together, and be not disunited. And remember Allah's favour to you when you were enemies (to one another):—then He united your hearts, so by His favour you became Brethren!" (3:102)

51. This is an "Indian",
And that is a "Khurasanian",
This is an "Afghanian",
And that is a "Turanian"!
O bound to the bank
Of the River!
Now *jump*, and be boundless¹!

52. O Bird of the Sanctuary²!
Thy feathers are heavy
With the Dust of
'Colour' and 'Lineage'!
Therefore have a good flutter
Before the Flight!

-
1. That is, break down the idols of caste and colour, and be united (as *one* Brotherhood)
 2. By "Bird of the Sanctuary" is meant a Muslim.

53. O Forgetful! Dive deep
Into thy *Self*,¹
For this is the main Secret
Of Life!
Get out of the circle
Of "Day" and "Night"
And be *immortal* !²
54. Cultivate the quality of *Steel*
In the Battle-field
Of Life!
But be as soft as Silk
In the Night-chamber
Of *Love* !
55. Pass through the Mountain
And the Desert
Like a speedy *Storm*,
But if a Garden
Falls in thy way,
Be a singing *Stream*!

1. That is, realize your inherent qualities and possibilities,
as a true Believer.

2. *i.e.*, Break the limits of Time, and achieve *Eternity*!

56. Oh, there is no limit
To thy *Knowledge* and *Love*!
And there is not
A better Tune than thee
In the musical instrument
Of *Nature*!

57. Hitherto man is a weak Prey
To Imperialism¹!
What a havoc!
Man is the Hunter
Of *Mankind*,
In *this* age!

58. The glare
Of the present Civilization
Dazzles one's Sight!
Yet, this craftsmanship
Is the cutting of false Stones!

1. For "Imperialism" is another name for Dictatorship and Aggression: this is why Islam has strongly opposed "Imperialism", and suggested "Democracy"!

59. The Diplomacy,
Of which were proud
The wise men of the West,
Is but a slaying Sword
In the bloody hand
Of Greed!
60. Merely the magical work
Of "Thinking"
Cannot make a Culture
Strong and stable,
Especially when it is based
On *Capitalism*!
61. It is *Action*,
Which builds up Life,
And moulds Heaven or Hell!
Otherwise *this* earthly creature¹
Is neither an Angel
Nor a Devil,
By *nature*!

1. i.e., Man.

62. Now teach the Nightingale
Some melodious Songs,
And make the Buds bloom,
For you are a Springtime-breeze
For this Garden¹!
63. Love has again sparked
In the Heart of Asia;
Now the whole Earth
Is a Play-ground
For the brocade-bedecked
Tartars²!
64. O'Come! A Buyer is up
To buy our infirm Soul³,
And it is after a long time
That a Caravan
Has passed this way!

1. *i.e.*, The World.

2. Here by "Tartars" are meant Tulips and Roses.

3. A Soul, which is weak by doubts and superstitions.

65. Come, O Cup-bearer¹!

The Song

Of the Sorrow-stricken Bird¹

Has been heard

From the Branches!

Spring has come,

And with her

A Sweetheart has come

Who has brought me

Consolation!

66. The vernal Cloud

Has pitched his Tent

In the Valley

And the Desert!

Now the musical tunes

Of the Waterfalls

Can be heard

From the **high Mountains!**

1. That is, Nightingale.

67. O' Cup-bearer!

I pledge my head to thee!

Now harp the Song of Future,

For the groups of Singers¹

Have come in rows after rows!

68. Get away from the Pious,

And drink fearlessly,

For, after a long time

The voice of a Nightingale

Has been heard

From this old Branch²!

1 That is, the Springtime Birds, who sing amidst the Branches.

2 Here by "Old Branch" is meant the Muslim Nation, "Old" somewhat refers to its *decline*!

69. Take to the Desirous
 The Sayings of the Master
 Of *Badr*¹ and *Hunain*²!
 For his secret activities
 Have been revealed
 To my Eyes!
70. The Branch of Khalil³
 Is again transfused
 With our Blood:
 For in the market of Love,
 Our money has proved
 Its worth!

1. The Battle of Badr: Ramadan 19, A.H. 2, usually made to synchronize with March 7, 624, in which the Meccans numbering about a thousand, were badly defeated by the Muslims, numbering 313. Abu Jahl (the Father of Folly) was also killed in this battle and it was a dazzling victory for the true Believers.
2. Hunain: the name of valley about three miles to the North-East of Mecca where in the eighth year of Hijah a Battle took place between the Holy Prophet and the Bani Hawazin when the latter were defeated. In the Holy Quran, the Victory of Hunain is ascribed to angelic assistance:
 "Verily, Allah has assisted you in many battle-fields, and particularly on the day of Hunain"! (9 : 25)
3. i.e., Abraham. By the "Branch of Khalil" is meant *Islam*.

71. Over the Grave of a Martyr

I scatter the Petals

Of a Tulip,

For his blood has suited well

The nourishment

Of the Plant

Of our Nation!

72. O'Come! That we may

Scatter the Roses,

And pour wine into the cup¹

And then we will pierce

The roof of Heaven,

To lay a new Foundation²!

1 That is, the wine of Divine Love into the cup of our Heart.

2 The Foundation of Liberty and Peace, based on Islamic Democracy.

THE GUIDE

THE GUIDE

THE GUIDE

The Spiritual Guide and the main Figure in this Poem is Khizr (Khadir) of whom the Poet asks certain questions about the Religious, Political, and Social problems of his age, viz., what is the Secret of Life?—What is Sovereignty?—What is this Conflict between the Capitalist and the Labourer? Why this disunion and confusion in the World of Islam? And then Khizr answers his questions in very comprehensive and pathetic words, which the Readers will think over in this Translation. Khizr is believed to be immortal, and endowed with divine Knowledge, for the Holy Quran says about him :

“Then they found one of Our servants, whom We had granted Mercy from Us, and whom We had taught Knowledge from Ourselves!”
(18 : 65)

It was this “Divine Knowledge”, which Moses was seeking so enthusiastically, and was consequently benefited by the same.

Keeping in view the same Tradition, and the same characteristics of Khizr, Iqbal also wants to be enlightened by his knowledge, and asks him the above-mentioned questions, which serve as a base for this Poem!

THE POET

1. One Night by the river-bank,
In my contemplation, I was **hiding**
A world of Sentiments restless
In the Corner of my Heart!
2. The Night was quiet,
The Air was light,
And the River was flowing softly:
Whether it was a River,
Or a *Picture* of the River?
My vision was bewildered!
3. As the sucking Babe
Goes to sleep in the Cradle,
So was resting the restless **Wave**,
In the abyss of the River!

4. The bewitching Night
Had ensnared the Birds
Into their Nests,
And the charming Moon
Had captured the twinkling Stars!

5. Behold! What I see!
The world-wandering Khidr,
Whose old age,
Like the Dawn,
Is tinged with the radiance
Of youth:—*him* I see!

6. Says he to me:
“O’seeker of the Secrets Divine!
If ye ope thine eyes,
Of the slumbering Heart,
It will reveal to thee
The Fate of the World!”

7. As soon as I heard these words,
An uproaring Tumult
Arose in my Heart:
Dying in search of Truth
As I was, I exclaimed:

8. O'Khidr! Whose all-seeing Eye
 Sees all the Storms
 That still lie asleep
 In the bed of the River!
9. "The Boat of the Poor"!
 "The innocent Boy"!
 And the "Wall of the Orphans"!¹
 To hear the meaning
 Of these incidents,
 Even the knowledge of Moses
 Was perplexed before thee!
10. Leaving the Inhabitation behind,
 Ye wander about the Desert,
 And thy life is heedless
 Of Day and Night,
 Yesterday and Tomorrow!²

1. For the complete story of these three incidents, please see the Holy Quran. (18:65-82).

2. That is, the limits of Time

11. Oh, let me know please:
What is the Secret of Life?
What is "Sovereignty"?
And what is this *Conflict*
Between Labour and Capital?

12. The antique Robe of Asia
Is being torn into pieces,
And the youth of this age
Are blindly imitating
The culture of newly-arisen Powers!

13. Although Alexander remained thirsty
Of the life-giving Nectar¹
His nature is still busy
With its hot pursuits!

1. It is told that Alexander was continuously in search of Nectar, but he could not find it. By having this water (*Ab-i-Hayat*) he wanted to be immortal, to conquer the whole world!

14. Lo! The very Descendants
Of the Holy Prophet have become
His Honour-retailing Band;
And Alas! The tough Turk
Is besmeared with blood and sand¹!

15. Ah, there is Fire, the Descendants
Of Abraham,² and Namrud³!
Is it that some-One⁴
Wants to test someone again?
O Prophet of Fore-Knowledge
Of the Future Events,
Answer please!

1. Because at that time Turks were fighting against the hostile Powers, and due to the shortage of war-material and man-power, they suffered heavily:—yet by their unflinching courage, self-confidence and martial spirit, they ultimately won the victory!

2. The Holy Quran says that when Abraham detested and condemned idol-worshipping, the infidels kindled a big pit of fire and threw Abraham into it, but by the Commandment of Allah the fire became harmless for him: "We said: "O" Fire! Be coolness and peaceful for Abraham!"

(21:69).

3. "Namrud" was a pagan and tyrant Ruler of that time, who had ordered for the chastisement of Abraham.

4. *i.e.*, Allah.

THE REPLY OF KHIDR

16. Why are you astonished
At this desert-wandering of mine?
These continuous rambles are
Of *active life* a great Sign!
17. O stay-at-home!
You have not seen yet
The charming Spectacle
When the Trumpet of March
Echoes and re-echoes
In the atmosphere of a Desert!
18. Ah, the careless jumping
Of a Deer on the mounds of sand,
And those Halts in the Desert,
Without bag and baggage:
And the Journey overland
Heedless of *Distance* and *Destination*!
19. Behold! Is it a quick-silvery Star
At the Hour of Dawn
Shining afar?
Or, the illuminating Forehead
Of Gabriel,
Appearing from the roof of Heaven?

20. Lo! The Sunset in the solitude
Of the Desert-evening,
Which lent more hight of Divinity
To the world-seeing eye
Of Abraham¹!

21. And Lo! The halt of Caravan
By a Fountain in the Desert,
As the Believers gather together,
Around the Fountain Salsabeel²
In Paradise!

-
1. It is stated in the Holy Quran that in his vast contemplation of the Universe, Abraham saw the Star, the Moon, and the Sun respectively, and as he was enchanted by their beauty and illumination, every time he took each of them to be his god; but consequently, when they faded out, he lost his faith in them, saying: "I do not love the setting ones. Surely I have turned myself, being upright, wholly to Him, who originated the Heavens and the Earth, and I am not one of the Polytheists." (6 : 80).

Thus he realized the "Unity of God," and was blessed with more Divine Light to see the *Reality*!

2. "Salsabeel" is the name of a Fountain in Paradise.

22. The craze of Love is always
In search of a new wilderness,
And thine Farms and Gardens
Have become thy chains
Amidst the Population!

23. As a matter of fact,
The Cup of Life is more durable
By its constant *Rotation!*
And O ignorant! This is
The Secret of *eternal Life!*

LIFE

24. Life is above the risk of
Loss and gain, I tell thee,
And Life is sometimes
The very Soul, and sometimes,
The surrender of Soul
(To the Almighty!)

25. Oh, do not measure Life
With the scales of "To-day"
And "To-morrow!"
Everlasting, ever-revolving,
And ever *young* is Life!

26. Create a world of your own
If you are amongst the living!
The secret of the Creation
Of Adam, and the object
Of Divine Order "*Be*!"
And then it was!—is Life!

-
1. That is, with the measures of Time, of which "To-day"—
"To-morrow" or "Yesterday" are mere *Terms* for the
worldly affairs and appointments to fulfil!
 2. That is, the real object of the Divine Command: "*Be*!"
was *Life*, which immediately became *active* in the Universe.
"His command, when He intends to create anything, is
only to say to it "*Be*!"—and then it is! (36 : 82).

27. Ask the reality of Life
 Of the Mount-breaker¹;
 A stream of milk,
 An adze, and a heavy granite
 Is Life!
28. Ah, in Bondage it exhausts
 Into a shallow stream,
 But in Liberty it exalts,
 For a boundless Ocean is Life!
29. It is manifest and sublime
 By its captivating powers,
 Although hidden in a
 Mortal earthly structure
 Is Life!

1. His name was Farhad, who was madly in love with Sheerin, the wife of Khusro Parvez, who had commanded Farhad to dig out a stream from "Koh-i-Besatun". In the original verse, "*Ju-i-Sheer*" means a "stream of milk";—but how a stream of milk is possible in a mountain? Although Persian and Urdu Poets have always mentioned "*Ju-i-Sheer*" on this occasion, yet it seems to be a metaphor for "sweet water".

30. Like a Bubble you have arisen
From the Ocean of Life,
And in this "House of Loss"¹
Your real test, is Life!

31. So long as you are *immature*,
You are nothing but a heap of Dust,
But when you are *mature*,
You become an all-conquering
Sword!

32. A Heart desirous of dying
For the sake of *Truth*,
Should in the first place,
Incorporate Courage and Zeal
In its earthly mould!

33. It should be able to burn away
This borrowed Earth and Heaven,
And from their cold ashes,
Should create a world of its *own*!

1. *i.e.*, The World, wherein everything is doomed to destruction!

34. It should reveal
 The hidden Powers of Life,
 So that this insignificant Spark
 May produce an *eternal* Light¹!
35. It should shine like Sun
 Over the Eastern Land, so that
 Badakhshan² may exhibit
 Its old rich Rubies again!
36. It should send the Messenger
 Of nightly Lamentations
 Towards the Heaven, and thus
 Create the understanders
 Of its Secrets
 Amidst the *Stars*!

1. "Eternal Light" which can be attained by improving the Spiritual and Moral qualities in man.

2. *Badakhshan*, including Wakhan, a Province on the north-east frontier of Afghanistan, is particularly known for its jewels and rubies.

37. Oh, this is Doomsday, and you stand
In the Court of Justice!
Therefore, present, O'Forgetful!
If you have any good Deeds
In your Record!

SOVEREIGNTY

38. Now come, I tell you
The meaning of the Verse:
"Innal-Muluk¹":
Sovereignty is a magical work
Of the Ruling Nations!
39. If the Subject ever wakes up
From his sleep, for a moment only.
The magic of the Ruler
Lulls him to sleep, again!

-
1. The complete verse runs as follows:
"Surely the Kings, when they enter a town, ruin it, and
make the noblest of its people to be low and disgraced;
and thus they will do!" (27:33)

Thus, it clearly explains the aggressive and tyrannical
attitude of the Sovereigns and Dictators towards their
subjects.

40. By the effect of the Sorcery
That Mahmood¹ does practise
On the eyes of slave Ayaz²,
He finds the chain in his neck,
An instrument of Pleasure!

41. At last, the blood of Israelites
Boils against the Tricks
Of enchantment,
And some Moses
Breaks the spell of *Samiri*³!

-
1. That is, Sultan Mahmood of Ghazna (971-1030) son of Subuktagin, Afghan conqueror.
 2. Traditions say that Ayaz was exceedingly beautiful, and Mahmood kept him as a sweetheart, yet there was no touch of passion in his love. In this verse, however, Ayaz represents *slaves*!
 3. *Samiri* was an idolater and magician, who made a golden calf and induced the Israelites to worship it as their *god*: but later Moses burnt the calf, and threw, its ashes into the river. (20:97)

42. Mastery suits alone
That peerless Person in Heaven,
And the real Ruler is only *He!*
The rest are mere Idols,
Raised by Azar¹ on earth!
43. O, do not bring shame and ridicule
To your libertine nature
By accepting constant *Slavery!*
So long as you carve out "Lords²"
You are an infidel
Worse than the Brahmins!
44. The Western Democracy
Is the same old Musical Instrument,
From whose chords proceeds
No voice save that of "Imperialism"!

-
1. As it is mentioned in the Holy Quran (6:75) Azar was the name of Abraham's father, who was an idolater, and had so many earthly "Gods" in his Temple, to worship.
 2. That is, aggressive Rulers, to subjugate free people.

45. It is the Monster of *Aggression*,
Masquerading in the garb of
"Democracy"
And O'fool! You take him to be
The Fairy of *Freedom!*
46. The "Legislature"! The "Reforms"!
The "Grants and Concessions"!
The protection of "Human Rights"!—
The recipes of the Western
Pharmacopoeia
Are sweet to taste, no doubt,
But in effect, they cause
An endless Sleep!
47. God save us
From the fiery Speeches
Of the Legislators!
This is also a battle
Of the Capitalist supremacy!
48. You believe this mirage
Of colour and fragrance
To be a garden of Roses!
Alas! O ignorant!
You have mistaken
The Cage for your Nest!

CAPITAL AND LABOUR

49. Take to the Labourer
This message of mine,—
Message not only of Khidr,
But of the whole Universe:
50. O'Poor Creature!
Who has been ruined
By the cheating Capitalist!
For centuries together
You have been passing your life
In misery and torture!
51. Ah, the wealth-producing Hands
Of the Labourer,
Have been paid the wages,
As the rich give alms
To the poor, in charity!

52. The Wizard of Almoor¹
Gave you a leaf of Hemp,
And you took it to be
A piece of sugar-candy!

53. The "Race"; the "Nationality"
The "Church"; the "Sovereignty"
The "Culture"; the "Colour"!
Oh! Capitalism has made
How nice choice *intoxicants!*

-
1. "Almoor" is the name of a Fort between Qazwain and Geelan. By "Wizard of Almoor" is meant Hassan bin-Sabbah, who had built that Fort, the interior of which he decorated with fascinating things, and gathered together most beautiful girls of the country in it. On the whole, he called it his "Paradise", and invited people in it through his disciples. To each of them he gave hemp, and when he became sober after the intoxication, he found himself in a wonderful garden beside a murmuring stream, surrounded by the "Hauris". Thus every visitor was completely enchanted by the spell of that Wizard, and became his disciple.

In this verse, however, by "Wizard of Almoor" is meant the Capitalist, or the Landlord!

54. O' ignorant! You sacrifice your **Life**
For these imaginary gods,
And in this trance,
They robbed you
Of your wealth of **Life!**
55. Oh, the Capitalist has won
Each and everything
By his mean tacts and tricks,
And the Labourer has been defeated
By his extreme simplicity!
56. Arise! The World has taken now
To a *new* way of **Life**,
And in the East and the West
Begins your Era of *Prosperity!*
57. High Courage does'nt accept
Even the bounties of River:—
Then O'ignorant! How long
Will you keep the dew-drops
In your skirt, like the Bud?

58. The Song¹ which awakens
The Masses,
Is a perpetual source of Pleasure!
So, how long will you tell us
The dreamy-sleepy Tale
Of Alexander and Jamshed²?
59. A new Sun³ has been born
From the womb of the World!
O Heaven! How long will you mourn
For the vanquished Stars?

1. *i.e.*, The song of *Liberty*.

2. In this line, by Alexander and Jamshed are meant Dictators and aggressive Rulers!

3. That is, the Sun of complete Freedom for all peoples and nations over the Globe. Now, no Dictator or Emperor can deprive people of their legal right of Self-determination!

60. The human nature has shattered
 All its chains of Sorrows!
 How long could weep
 The eyes of Adam
 Over the loss of Paradise¹?
61. The Spring says
 To the helpful Gardener:
 How long will you search Salves
 For the wounds of Roses?
62. O, foolish Moth!
 Get rid of revolving
 Around the Candle
 And live in the illumination
 Of your own *nature*!

1. When Adam was commanded by Allah to leave Paradise and to descend on earth, he wept for a long time and asked pardon of Allah, for his disobedience. Hence this is an allusion to his Prayer also:

“O Lord! we have wronged ourselves: and if you will not forgive us, we shall certainly be of the losers!” (7:23)

THE WORLD OF ISLAM

63. What are you telling me?

The tales of Turks and Arabs?—

Nothing is hidden from *me*

Of the Joys and Sorrows

Of the Muslims!

64. The children of the Cross¹

Took away the inheritance

Of Khalil² and the dust of Hedjaz

Has been transformed into Bricks

For the Foundation of Church!

1. In this line, by the "Children of Cross" are meant the Christians.

2. The Arabic word "Khalil" literally means "Friend." Since Allah took Abraham for His Friend, due to his firm *Faith*, these words obviously become an allusion to a Verse of the Holy Quran:

"And who is better in Religion than he who submits himself entirely to Allah, while doing good (to others) and follows the Faith of Abraham, the upright. And Allah took Abraham for a *Friend!*" (4:125)

65. The Red Cap¹ has become
Infamous in the World
And those who were proud
Of their power and possessions,
Have now fallen
To the mercy of others!

66. Persia is taking from
The Wine-sellers of England
That haughty and headstrong wine,
Whose glow and heat
Melts the very Decanter!

67. The Western Diplomacy
Has brought our Nation
To such a state of *disunity*
As the Scissors Cut
The Gold into pieces!

1. "Red Cap" which was worn by the Turks, and which unreasonably became "infamous" due to the false propaganda by their enemies.

68. Ah, the blood of a Muslim
Has become cheap like water
And you are restless, because
You cannot understand
The Secret of his *Fate!*

69. Says Rumi¹:
"Every old Building,
Which is reconstructed,
They first destroy
Its old foundations:
Don't you understand?"

-
1. Maulana Jalal-ud-Din Rumi (A.D. 1207-1273), the famous mystic Poet of Persia. The *theme* of his Poetry is generally "*Ishq*" (Divine Love) which is frequently found in his well-known Mathnawi. Iqbal's heart and brain got a profound influence of his mysticism and he is proud to call himself a "Disciple of Rumi:

"Inspired by the genius of the Master of Rum,
I rehearse the sealed Book of the Secret Love!
His Soul is the source of Flames,
And I am like the Spark
That gleams for a moment!
His burning Candle consumed me, the Moth,—
His Wine overwhelmed my Goblet!
The Master of Rum transmuted my soil to Go'd,
And clothed my barren dust with *Beauty!*"

70. The Nation's eyes opened
When the Homeland slipped off
From its shivering Hands!
O Forgetful! Look into the depth
Of this Event,
For God has granted you
A keen *insight*!

71. O broken Twig!
Better remain as you are,
Than begging balm of others!
O helpless Ant¹!
Don't beg your needs
Of the great King Solomon!

72. In the Organization and Union
Of the Muslims
Lies the Salvation of the East!
Alas! The Asians are still
Unaware of this anecdote!

1. "Ant" has an association with King Solomon. See Ch. 27 of Holy Quran, which is entitled: "Ant".

73. O Muslim! Forsake the "Politics"¹
And enter the Fort of Faith
Once again,
For Sovereignty and Wealth
Are only a Reward
For defending the Honour
Of the Sanctuary²!

74. From the banks of the Nile
To the soil of Kashghar
The Muslims should be united
To safeguard their Sanctuary³!

-
1. *i.e.*, The "Politics" which is absolutely devoid of Religion and Spiritual values. Iqbal strongly pleads for a complete unity and harmony of Politics and Religion, for this is the *basic* principle of a true "Islamic State".
 2. That is, a financially and politically strong State is the fruit of following the Law of *Shariat*?
 3. In this couplet Iqbal emphatically and effectively pleads for "Pan-Islamism". This he demands of the Muslims, just as the Holy Quran demands of them, for *Revelation* is the main source of his inspiration. Says Holy Quran on a "Universal Brotherhood" of the Muslims:

"And hold fast by the Rope of Allah all together, and be not disunited. And remember Allah's favour to you when you were enemies; then He united your hearts; so by His favour you became *brethren*!" (3:102)

"And be not like those who became divided and disagreed after clear arguments (for Truth) came to them, and for them is a grievous chastisement." (3:104)

"And obey Allah and His messenger, and do not dispute with one another, lest you get weak-hearted, and lose your influence (over the infidels), and be steadfast, for surely Allah is with the steadfast." (8:46)

75. Whosoever will observe
The distinctions of Colour and Blood¹,
Shall perish immediately,
Whether it be the prosperous Turk
Or an Arab of high Pedigree!

76. If "Race" takes preference
Over "Religion"²
Among the Muslims,
They shall be blown off
From the Globe
Like the dust of the Path!

1. That is, the pride of Race and Pedigree, which is strictly forbidden in Islam, for the real test of one's honour in Islam is "Taqwa" (Piety), and not race, colour, or worldly riches!
2. Iqbal means to say that religion should always dominate the idea of race, or pride of colour, for these things have a very destructive effect on the *unity* and *national discipline* of the Muslims all over the world!

77. Go! Search somewhere
 And fetch the Heart and Soul
 Of your great *Ancestors*,
 So that you may raise once again
 The Foundation
 Of the long-forgotten Caliphate!¹
78. O you! who doesn't understand
 The obscure Polytheism,²
 Beware of the manifest at least!
 O enraptured by the names of
 Abu Bakr and Ali, *Awake!*

-
1. That is, the true Caliphate of Islam, which was originally based on "Democracy", of which the first Caliphs of the Holy Prophet were perfect and peerless examples!
 2. Two kinds of "Shirk" (Polytheism) are mentioned in this couplet, namely, "*Shirk-i-Khafi*" (obscure Polytheism) and "*Shirk-i-Jali*" (manifest Polytheism). The former means to follow one's passions and temptations, regardless of the Law of Shariat, and the latter means to worship idols, or other elements in the Universe. To Iqbal it is in no way less than "*Shirk-i-Jali*" to worship one's own *Imam* or Caliph, just like an *idol*, and to hate and condemn others!

79. Lamentation was a binding

For "Love"

And that too is over!

Now hold your Heart for a while

And wait for the *effect*

Of my Lamentation!

80. You have seen the reckless rise

And the high Flow

Of the River¹:

Now wait to see

How its restless Waves²

Turn into chains

(To overpower the River!)

-
1. In this Line "River" is a metaphor for an aggressive Ruler or Dictator!
 2. In this line "Waves" is a metaphor for weak and helpless subjects!

81. The Dream of Liberty
Which Islam had visualized
So frequently in the Past:
O Muslim! To-day see
The true interpretation
Of that Dream!

82. The very ashes of Salamander¹ are
A source of Reincarnation to him!
Look! This old Universe
Takes its *rebirth*
After dying out!

83. Oh! Open your eyes and see
A Picture,—a faint Picture
Of the coming Era,
In the Mirror of my *Speech!*

1. A kind of lizard or similar creature, formerly believed to be capable of living in fire.

84. Still there is another tried Trick

With the Heaven!

Witness the failure

Of worldly *Plans*

Before the strength of *Fate!*

85. Never forget that you are a *Muslim!*

Keep your breast brimmed

With healthy Desires,

And always remember

This holy Verse:

“God does not break

His Promise (with true Believers)”

(13 : 31)

THE CANDLE
AND
THE POET

24. Sit down to write the lines
With the heart
Which is the heart
Of worldly men
Before the strength of Fate

25. Never forget that you are mortal
Keep your heart
THE CANDLE
With the heart
And the heart
AND
The heart
The heart
THE POET

THE CANDLE AND THE POET

In this Poem "Candle" is a symbol of "Divine Light" which guides the Poet to the Right Path¹, with a satirical language: a device rather effective. The meanings are generally expressed by metaphors, which are easy to understand. In the end, the Poet has advised the Farmer, who has been exploited by the Landlord for centuries, to be conscious of his powers, possibilities and legal rights in Life!

1. Last Night I said
To the Candle of my desolate House:
Your Hair has a Comb
From the wings of a Moth!

1. As defined by the Holy Quran!

2. In this world I am
Just like a Lamp of the Tulip
In a *Desert*:
So, neither am I in an Assembly
Nor in a House!
3. For a long time I too
Have been burning like you,
But not a single Moth
Has ever encompassed
My Flame!
4. A thousand forms of Beauty,
Within my *Chest*,
Which is a centre of dead Desires,—
Have been restless for a Spectator,
But no crazy Heart came forward
To adore this Beauty!
5. Whence have you acquired
This world-illuminating Flame?
For you have imparted
The zeal and pathos of Moses
To an insignificant Worm!

1. *i.e.*, Moth.

THE CANDLE

6. The very *Breath*,
Which is a message of Death
To me,
Becomes a beautiful Line
Of *Verse*,
Upon your Lips!
7. Of course, I burn and burn,
Because Pathos is in my *nature*,
But you impart *Light*
So that Moths should fall
Upon your Flame!
8. I weep and weep
During the whole Night,
Because a flood of Tears
Is in my Heart
But you sprinkle the *Dew*,
So that the Roses should be
Obliged to you!

9. My Morn has a heap of Roses
From the Blood that I shed
During the Night,
But your *To-morrow*
Knows nothing of your *To-day*¹!
10. Outwardly you are Bright,
But you lack *internal* Heat!
Your Flame s just like
A Lamp of Tulip,
In the Desert²!
11. Think for a moment :
Do your deserve the Title
Of a "Cup-bearer",
When your Cup is *empty*,
And the Gathering is Thirsty!

1. *i.e.*, Your *Future* is not built in view of your *Present*. In other words, there is no *Progress* in your *Life*!

2. Where it is absolutely useless.

12. Your Behaviour is contrary
To the Laws of Religion,
And your ugly Face
Has degraded your Mirror¹!

13. There is a Ka'ba²
Within your Breast,
And you worship the *Idols*!
How crazy is your reckless Love!

14. Lovers like *Qais*
Can't be produced in your Assembly,
Because your Desert is too narrow
For them, and there is no *Laila*
In your *Mahmil*³!

15. O shining Pearl!
Which has been raised
By a *Wave*
Your River is still unfamiliar
With the *storm*!

-
1. *i.e.*, Your character is a disgrace to your Religion!
 2. *i.e.*, Heart of a true Believer, which is a Seat of God!
 3. The Chair on Camel's back, wherein Laila sat.

16. Why are you Singing *now*,
 When your Garden has been ruined
 By the *Autumn*?
 Now your Song is irrelevant,
 And out of Season!
17. Those who had a Taste
 For this spectacle,
 Have gone away!
 Now, what is the use
 Of your Promise
 For a "*Free Show*"?
18. The old Drunkards
 Have left the Tavern!
 O Cup-bearer! Now what is the use
 Of your Cups, filled with Wine?
19. Oh! When the whole Garden
 Has been destroyed
 By the *Autumn*,
 What difference does it make,
 If a single Flower has received
 The message of *Spring*?

20. The condition of a wounded Heart
Was worth-seeing
During the last moments of Night!
Now, what is the use
Of the appearance of "Beloved"
At the Top of House?
21. The Flame, which was worshipped
By every Moth,
Has been extinguished!
Now I wonder, why there are
Seekers and Lovers
Of the same Flame!
22. O Nightingale! Whether you sing,
Or do not sing a song,
The Flowers are quite indifferent
To you!
Whether there *is* a sound
Of the Gong, or not,
The People in the Caravan
Are Senseless!

23. In spite of being a Candle
In the *Assembly*,
There is no *Heat* in your Heart!
That is why the Moths are also void
Of *Devotion*!
24. When you could strew them
Into the thread of *Love*,
Then why the Beads of your *Rosary*
Are scattered so badly?
25. The Reckless Love has died away,
And the lofty Thoughts are no more,
Hence there are neither Wise
Nor Crazy people
In your *Assembly*!
26. Neither there is
The traditional *Pathos*
Of your *Ancestors*,
Nor the *Courage* to devour
The *Flames*:
Then, I wonder, why the Moths
Have surrounded your Candle?

27. I admit that you are
An efficient Cup-bearer,
But *whom* will you offer
Your Wine?
Now there is *none*
Of those Taverns,
Or the Drunkards!
28. To-day a broken Goblet
Is weeping for the Cup-bearer,
Whose Cups went around,
In the Assembly, till yesterday!
29. To-day those Deserts are
Quite Desolate and Silent,
Where *Laila* and her Lovers
Used to Dance!
30. Alas! All the Luggage
Of the Caravan
Has been robbed off:
And still there is no feeling
Of Sorrow in their Hearts,
For the great Loss!

31. To-day the cities of those,
 Who turned Wilderness
 Into beautiful Towns,
 Are no better than *Ruins!*
32. Alas! The very Prayers of yours,
 That once established
 The "Unity of God" in India,
 Have been vanished
 By the Brahmins¹!
33. Don't you know
 That an everlasting Pleasure
 Can be ensured only by
 Following the Law ?
 An unjustified Freedom
 Has caused Lamentation
 To the Wave²!

-
1. *i.e.*, Since your mind has been affected by the Idolatry of the Hindus, you have forgotten the basic Principle of Islam (*Tauhid*), which was strengthened by regular Prayers!
 2. When a wave runs in the waters, it makes a *Sound*—the Poet interprets it as "Lamentation" of the wave!

34. The very Glances,
Whom even the *Vision* wanted
To see,
Are now despondent
Of the Light on Mount Sinai¹!

35. Till yesterday there were Flying
A thousand Nightingales
In the Garden!
What occurred to their Minds,
That they are confined to-day,
Only to their *Nests* ?

36. The very Lightning,
That once burnt
All the Spectators,
Is now hidden
In a Heap of Grains!

1. i.e., The "Divine Light" which was shown to Moses.

37. Why my Blood-shedding Eyes
Should be obliged
To the Garden?
My own Continuous Tears
Have provided Roses
To my sight!
38. Yet the Evening of Sorrows¹
Gives me a Happy News
Of the Morning of *Eid*,
And I can clearly see
A Beam of *Hope*
In the darkness of Night!
39. A glad tiding to you,
O Cup-bearer² of the Tavern
Of *Hedjaz*! Your Drunkards
Are *Sober* again,
After a long period of Time!

-
1. Here the Poet takes, as it were, an *Optimistic* turn in his statement!
 2. That is, the Holy Prophet (Peace be upon Him).

40. Our Sense of "*Self-respect*"
Was being paid as Price
For the Wine, imported from Europe,
But now your Tavern is filled
With indigenous Stocks,
And we are drinking *heavily* !
41. The magic of the Beautiful ones
Of India,
Has been broken,
And the sight of *Salima*¹
Has caused a new Tumult
In our Hearts!
42. Now we can hear the Cry again:
O Cup-bearer! Give us
The indigenous Wine,
For the Storms within our Hearts
Have been silenced
By the *Western Wine* !

1. A name for the Sweetheart, in Arabic Literature.

43. O my Dear Poet!
 Now Sing some *happy* song:
 For this is not the Time
 To be Silent!
 Lo! The Morning-Heaven
 Has the Goblet of Sun
 Upon his Shoulder!
44. Now burn your Heart
 With the Sorrows of your People,
 And let them also burn!
 I've given you some *clear*
 And constructive Instructions,
 If you have an Ear to *Listen* !
45. They say: "Poetry is a part
 Of Prophecy!"
 Now deliver to your Nation
 The Message
 Of the "Invisible"¹!

1. *i.e.*, Allah.

46. Open their Eyes
With the Promise of the "Vision",
And revive their Hearts
With the Heat
Of your *Speech!*

47. Your Ease-loving Trends
Have been very destructive
To your Courage and Zeal!
You were an *Ocean* in the Desert,
But became a *Stream*
In the Garden!

48. So long as "Fragrance"
Was faithful to the Rose
It was honoured in its *centre*,
But as soon as it left it,
Its caravan was scattered,
And lost all its *Charm!*

94. It is the "History" of a *Drop*
That teaches us the Secrets of Life:
Sometimes it was a *Pearl*
Sometimes it was *Dew*,
And sometimes a *Tear*!

50. One's own Heart
Is the greatest wealth on Earth!
Therefore, *search* for it,
And Reproduce it,
For it is no use living
Without an *enlightened Heart*!

51. The Honour of your Nation
Was maintained by "*Unity*"!
When you lost this priceless *Gem*,
You were degraded in the eyes
Of entire Mankind!

1. By all these examples, he wants to stress "Evolution" in Life!

52. An *Individual* can exist honourably
 So long as he is Faithful
 To the *Nation*:—
 Otherwise, keeping him *Alone*,
 He is *Nothing*!
 For example Wave is a “Wave”,
 So long as it is in the *River*:
 Out of the *River*, it is *Nothing*!
53. Keep your Love concealed
 Within your *Heart*!
 That is, don't defame¹ your Wine
 Like the Goblet²!
54. Pitch your Tent again
 In the Valley of *Sinai*,
 Like Moses
 And let the Flame
 Of your absolute *Love*
 Burn your *worldly* substance!

1. *i.e.*, Exhibit.

2. For, in spite of being in the Goblet, it is “naked”.

55. Build up a new Morn
Out of the ashes of Moth,
So that the candle should see
The End of its Tyranny!
56. If you have a sense of "Self-respect",
Don't be obliged
To the Cup-bearer,
And invert your Cup
Right in the mid-river
Like a Bubble!
57. Now there is no charm
In the *Old* Mountain
And the Desert!
Since your Craze
For your "Beloved" is *new*
Create a new Desert!
58. If your "Luck" has pushed you down
In the Dust
You should raise up
A staff from the Ground
Just like a *Grain*!

59. Now make your Nest
 Upon the same Old Branch¹
 And let all the Birds
 In the Garden
 Fall into Ecstasy
 With the alluring effect
 Of your *Song* !
60. In *this* Garden
 You should follow
 Either the Nightingale, or the Rose!
 That is, either Sing
 In a *High Tune*,
 Or be *Silent* for ever!
61. Why are you *Dumb* in the Garden
 Just like the *Dew*?
 Now open your Lipst
 For *you* are the real Music
 Of the Harp of this World²!

1. *i.e.*, Be faithful to the genuine Islam!

2. *i.e.* You are the real object of the Creation!

62. O Farmer! Realize your inborn Qualities
And Possibilities!
You are the Grain
You are the Farm,
You are the Rain,
And *you* are the Produce!
63. Oh! Whom are you seeking about?
You are the Path,
You are the Passenger
You are the Guide,
And *you* are the Destination!
64. Does your Heart tremble
With the Fear of the Storm?
You are the Sailor,
You are the Sea,
You are the Boat,
And *you* are the Shore!
65. Sometimes look into the Lane
Of the cleft of your Skirt!
You are *Qais*,
You are *Laila*,
You are the Desert,
And *you* are the *Mahmil!*

66. O Fool! Why do you ask Wine
Of the Cup-bearer?

You are the Wine,

You are the Goblet,

You are the Cup-bearer,

And *you* are the Assembly!

67. Now be a blazing Flame,

And burn everything, save Allah!

Why do you fear *Evil*?

You have the Power

To destroy Evil,

And all the Evil-doers!

68. O Ignorant! *You* are the "Temper"

Of the Mirror of Time,

And *you* are the Last Message

Of God to Mankind!

69. O negligent Muslim!
Be aware of your greatness
In the World!
Although you are a mere *Drop*¹,
Yet you are as *Boundless*
As the *Ocean*!
70. Why are you depressed by the **Feeling**
Of your insignificance?
Just see, there is surely hidden
A great *Storm*
Within your *Chest*!
71. Your Breast is really a Trust
Of the message of the **Supreme Being**,
Who is *Apparent*
As well as *Concealed*
In the workings of this World!

1. As compared with the Universe!

72. If you could realize
Your Possibilities
You possess the Substance¹
Which can easily conquer
The whole World
Without a *Sword* or a *Gun*!

73. O careless Fellow!
Do you remember the Promise²
Of which Mount *Faran*³
Is a witness
Until this moment?

74. You have been content
Only with a few *Buds*,
Otherwise there is a *Treatment*
In the Garden,
Which can *expand*
Your narrow Skirt!

1. *i.e.*, A firm *Faith*.

2. *i.e.*, The Promise of Allah to the true Believers that if they will follow His Commandments faithfully, He will make them the Masters and Rulers of His land. (Quran 24:55)

3. The mountain on which the Holy Prophet delivered his Sermon to the Muslims!

75. The Feelings of my Heart
Have been expressed
In my *Speech*:
Just as the Wine is *apparent*
As well as *concealed*,
Under the garment of a Goblet!
76. The Flames of my Speech
Have turned me into ashes,
And yet they are also
A substance for my *Life*!
77. Just see the Secret
Of this Fiery Speech
Within my Chest!
Behold the activities of "Luck"
In the Mirror of my Heart!

78. Now¹ the Heaven will be
As Bright as a Mirror,
With the Light of Dawn,
And the darkness of Night
Will flee like Quicksilver!
79. The Springtime Wind
Will be so much Music-prodcing,
That the dormant Fragrance
In the Bud,
Will become its sweet *Tune*!
80. All the crazy Lovers
Will gather together once again²
In the Garden,
And the Morning-breeze
Will be completely associated
With the Assembly of Roses!

1. Here begin Iqbal's "Prephceries". Most of them have become true, others will be!

2. *i.e.*, All the Muslim Countries will be united together, for their integrity and there will be Pan-Islamism.

81. My sprinkling of the Dew
Will have a *reviving* effect
Upon the Garden,
And every Bud in it
Will Blossom by its own
Internal Heat!

82. You'll certainly see the Result
Of the aggressive march
Of the River,
For every restless Wave
Will become a Chain
In his Feet¹!

83. The Muslim's Heart
Will remember again
The effects and uses of Obeisance
To his Maker, and his Forehead
Will be familiar
With the Dust of Ka'ba!

-
1. That is, the weak and the oppressed people throughout the world, will vanquish the oppressors, the usurpers, and the Tyrants!

84. The Birds will sing a happy song
Out of the Lamentation
Of the Fowler:
And the Bud will dip her Shirt
Into the Blood
Of the Flower-plucker!
85. In short, my *Lips* can't express
What my *Eyes* see Today!
I simply wonder,
How *speedily* the World will *change*!
86. The Dark Night will flee at last
By the dazzling Light
Of the Sun:
And this Garden¹ will ring again
With the sweet Tunes
Of the "Unity of God"!

1. *i.e.*, The World.

84 The Birds will sing happy songs
Out of the Mountains
Of the Fowls;
And the Bird will tip her Shins
Into the Blood
Of the Flower-plucker!

85 In short, my Eyes can't express
What my Eyes see Today!
I simply wonder
How speedily the World will change!

86 The Dark Night will be as fast
By the dazzling Light
Of the Sun;
And this Garden will ring again
With the sweet Tunes
Of the "Unity of God!"

IN MEMORY
OF
MY MOTHER

**In Memory
of
My Mother**

In Memory
of
My Mother

**IN MEMORY
OF
MY MOTHER**

Here is Iqbal's greatest Poem that he has ever written in Urdu. The "Theme" of this Poem is Immortality of Soul, and the Life after Death (Resurrection). The arguments that Iqbal has given us on this subject, are so realistic and convincing that they can't be denied even by an Atheist. Nearly every Chapter of Holy Quran contains Verses on this particular subject, and Iqbal has done full justice to their meaning. Especially those who have been deprived of the most distinguished Blessing¹ of God on earth, will find a true reflection of their sentiments in this prophetic Poem !

1. Oh, every atom of this World
Is imprisoned by its Fate,
And our "Planning" is but an excuse
For our Helplessness !

1. i.e., Mother, for none can replace her.

2. The Heaven, the Sun and the Moon
All are oppressed by their *Destiny*,
And the moving Stars too
Are compelled to march
In their Course!
3. The cup of a Bud in the Garden
Is also destined to break
And the Green and the Flowers
Have to appear under a Divine Decree!
4. Whether it is the Song
Of a Nightingale,
Or the silent Voice
Of one's own conscience,—
Everything is held strongly
By the chain of Destiny,
Spreading throughout the World!
5. When this Secret of "Helplessness"
Is revealed to our Mind's eye,
The flood of Tears in our Heart,
Is altogether turned Dry!
6. Then there is no more Dance
Of Pleasure or Sorrow,

Within our Chest:
Ah! There is only a tragic Tune,
Without any ups and downs
Of Music!

7. Our knowledge and our Wisdom
Are only Robbers
Of Tears and Sighs!

That is, our enlightened Heart,
Is but a piece of Diamond,
To hurt our Feelings!

8. Although my Garden
Isn't refreshed by the Dew,
Yet my eyes don't shed
The Tears of Blood!

9. Oh! I know well, I know well,
The Secret of Man's Sorrows,
Yet the Musical Instrument
Of my nature is void
Of the Tunes of Complaints
Against the *Divine Decree*!

10. I never talk about the wonderful
And *unexpected* changes of Time!

In other words, my Heart is not astonished
By the *Revolutionary* effects of Time,
Nor does it laugh or weep¹!

11. Still O Mother! Your Picture is a messenger
Of Constant Tears!
Ah! It strongly rejects
My claims of Wisdom!
12. Oh, continuous Tears
Are a strong Foundation
For the Soul, and Pathos
Puts the stone-hearted Reason
To shame!
13. It is the Smoke of my Sighs
Which has made
The Mirror of my Heart
More and more Brilliant!
Now my lap is full of the Treasure
That has been driven here
By the Water²!

1. *i.e.*, The various Events in the lapse of Time, whether
Comic or tragic, can't affect my mind, for the centre of
my devotion is *God* !

2. *i.e.*, Tears.

14. I am simply wonder-struck
By the miracle of your Picture,
Which has changed the *Direction*
Of the Flight of Time!
15. It has completely represented
The Past and the Present
Before my Eyes, and has
Acquainted me once again
With my *Childhood* !—
16. When this weak and feeble creature,
Who couldn't utter a single word,
Was being brought up
In your Lap!
17. And Lo! Now people talk proudly
Of the Thoughts and Teachings
Of the same man,
And his Tears are honoured
As invaluable Pearls!
18. The sober talk of a great Scholar,
And the mature Intellect
Of an old man,
The Dignity of a *Rank*,
And the vain pride of youth;—

19. We at once Descend
From all these heights of Life,
And in the Lap of our *Mother*,
We are again an ordinary *Child* !—
20. Here, we are free from all worries,
And enjoy our laughs
Wherein there is no bitterness!
Now we reside again
In our "Paradise Lost"!
21. Ah! Who will now wait for me
In my native Country ?—
And who will be restless
For my Letter ?
22. I'll cry, I'll cry upon your Grave:
Who will now remember *me*
In the midnight Prayers ?
23. I attained the height of Stars
Due to your good *Breeding*,
And the House of my Ancestors
Has been blessed with great Honour!
24. As a matter of fact,
Your Life was a golden Leaf

- In the Book of *Human Life*,
 And you gave me a Lesson
 How to be successful in *this World*,
 And in the *Hereafter* !
25. You have been serving me
 Throughout your Life,
 And when I was enabled
 To serve you, Ah! you passed away!
26. That youth¹, who is just like a Cypress
 In his height,
 And who was fortunate enough
 To serve you more than *me*,—
27. And who has been very helpful
 To me, in my worldly struggle,—
 My arm, and the *image*
 Of your Love,—
28. He weeps and weeps
 In your Separation
 Just like a Child
 And has lost all Patience!

1. Sh. Ata Muhammad, elder brother of Iqbal.

29. The Seed of Love that you sowed
In the Field of our Soul,
Has now been strengthened
By the admixture of Grief!
30. Ah! This World! This mourning-house
Of the youth, and the aged ones!
What is the Magic
Of "Yesterday" and "To-morrow"
Which has enchanted
All the Human Beings?
31. How difficult is Life
In this World,
And how easy is Death!
In the Garden of this World
Death is as Common as morning-breeze!
32. There are Earthquakes
And Lightnings, and Famines,
And many other Calamities!
Oh! How horrible are the Daughters
That are born out of the womb
Of Time!

33. Death in the Hut of a poor man!
Death in the Palace of a King!
Death in the City,
And Death in the Desert!
Death in a Garden,
And Death in the Wilderness!

34. Death reigns supreme
Even in the depth of Ocean,
For countless people died
Due to the sinking of Ships!

35. Yet we mortals can't complain
Against the Will of God,
Nor have we power to talk
On this tragic Subject!
Our life is nothing more
Than a neck-hurting Collar!

36. In the Caravan of Human Race
There is but a pathetic Sound
Of a Gong, and accordingly
We mortals march forward
With weeping Eyes!

37. However, the Period
Of this great Trial
Will at last come to an End,
For there are more pleasant Periods
Beyond the nine Curtains
Of Heaven!
38. Why should we worry,
If the Tulips and the Roses
In this Garden,
Have a wounded Breast;—
And thereby the Nightingales
Are singing a sad Song!
39. Every dry Bush,
Which is a symbol of Autumn,
Will be rendered green
By the winds of "Eternal Spring"!
40. If our Spark is hidden
Beneath the ashes of Death,
And if our Spirit dwells temporarily
In this handful of Dust¹
We have no reason to worry about;—

1. *i.e.*, Human Body.

41. For the Fire of Life
Will never turn into Ashes,
And this Diamond is not destined
To break into pieces!
42. Life is so precious,
And so much honoured
In the Eyes of its Originator,
That the Feeling
Of the "Safety of Life"
Is in the very *nature*
Of every living creature!
43. If the Impression of "Life"
Could be erased
By the Hand of Death,
The workings of this World,
Would never let it be
So common¹!

1. That is, in spite of Death, so common, Life itself remains unaffected, for it continues even beyond the Grave. Mir gave us an immortal Line in this meaning, when he says:

موت اک زندگی کا وقفہ ہے
یعنی آگے چلے گئے دم لے کر!

"Death is just an *Interval* of Life, that is, we will continue our Journey, after a little *Rest*!"

44. Even if Death is so common
 All over the Globe,
 It has no importance at all;—
 Just as one's Sleep
 Can't affect one's Life,
 In *any* Degree!
45. O, the Negligent ones!
 The Secret of Death
 Is beyond your Comprehension!
 Our temporary and transitory Life
 Has a different Interpretation!
46. How pleasant is the View
 Of a Bubble,
 On the Surface of water!
 Really it is a miracle of the Wind,¹
 Which has built the Bubble,
 Out of a Wave!
47. The Wind hides the Bubble again
 Behind the curtain of the Wave;—
 And how mercilessly it destroys
 Its own impression !

1. Here Wind is a metaphor for Almighty God, and
 Bubble is a metaphor for Man !

48. If the Wind were not able
 To *reproduce* the Bubble,
 It would never be so bold
 And reckless, in destroying it!
49. Then how this attitude of the Wind
 Can affect the *Continuous existence*
 Of the Bubble? —
 Rather, it is an undeniable proof
 Of the "*Constructive power*"
 Of the Wind!
50. Of course, there is a Desire
 Of Progress
 In the very *nature of Life*,
 And by the process of *Evolution*
 It seeks a better and better Model
 To appear in!
51. Oh! Those scattered Drops
 Of quick-silver, that is, the Stars,
 Which illuminate the Heaven!
 Those burning little Sparks,
 That shine only in a dark night!

52. Our Reason is simply bewildered
 By their short duration,
 But still they are reborn
 Every successive Night!
53. Then *Man*, the "Lord of Creation",
 Whose glances penetrate the Heaven,—
 Who is nobler than the Angels
 In his aims and objects;—
54. Who is like a Candle
 In the Assembly of Nature,
 And in whose expansion,
 Heaven is only a Dot;—
55. Whose ignorance is always restless
 To realize and receive the *Truth*,
 And whose nail is a Plectrum,
 For the Mustical Instrument
 Of Life;—
56. Is *this* Flame of ours
 Inferior to the Sparks¹ of Heaven?
 And is this *Sun* of ours,
 Less valuable than the Stars?

1. *i.e.*, Stars.

57. The Eye of the Seed
Of a Flower, is *awake*,
Even under the Dust,
And how restless it is
To *grow* and to *appear*!

58. The Flame of Life
Which is hidden in this Seed
Has been compelled by Nature
To improve, to expand,
And to *appear* to the human Eye!

59. It is never rendered Dead,
Even by the coolness of its "grave",
And it does not lose its *heat*
Even under the *Dust*!

60. Then, by the miraculous effect
Of Nature,
It appears as a Flower
From within its "grave",
And after its Death,
It acquires a *new Cloak of Life*!

61. Therefore, we can easily conclude
That the very Grave

- Is a collector and reorganizer
Of that scattered Power of *Life*,
Which throws its Lasso
Into the neck of Heaven!
62. As a matter of fact,
Death is a **Renewal**
Of the Taste of *Life*,
And is a messenger of *Awakening*
Under the disguise of *Sleep*!
63. A Bird, who is used to *Flying*,
Has no fear in its *Flight*!
Similarly, our Death in this **Garden**¹
Is nothing more
Than *wheighing* our *Wings*
For a *Flight* to Heaven!
64. They say: "The Disease of **Death**
Is incurable, but the wound
Caused by the Separation
Of the Deceased,
Is healed by *Time*"!

1. *i.e.*, The World.

65. But I say: One's heart is filled
With the Sorrows of the Deceased,
Without any bounds of
Days and Nights !
66. The magic of Time
Cannot put any Barrier
To the continuity of our Lamentation,
And it can't be a Balm
For the Wounds,
Caused by the Sword of *Separation!*
67. When one is haunted
By a sudden Calamity,
Tears continuously Flow
From one's Eyes!
68. Then one's Heart has naturally
A familiarity with "Mourning",
And the very heart's blood
Flows from one's Eyes!
69. Although we weak and helpless Humans
Are deprived of Patience
On such occasions,

Yet it is in our *nature*
And we can't help it!¹

70. Despite these facts,
The Essence of Life is *Immortal*,
And though the Spirit
Disappears from our eyes,
It *never* Dies!

71. The bag and baggage of Human Life
Is turned into ashes
By the Flames of Sorrows,
But the Flames themselves
Are extinguished by the Conviction,
That: "*Soul is Immortal!*"

72. Nevertheless, our control of Lamentation
Is not due to the negligence
Of the laws of Religion!
This trick for "Consolation"
Is purely *Rational*
And isn't based on Oblivision!

1. *i.e.*, Mourning for the deceased is quite natural, and we can't avoid it.

73. When the luminous Morn appears
From behind the curtain
Of the East,
It washes away the stain of Night
From the Skirt of the Globe!
74. The Morn, the cheerful Morn,
Gives a new red Cloak
To the fading Tulip,
And goads the silent Birds
To many a happy Song!
75. Now the harmonious Tunes
Are free from the prison
Of the chest of a Nightingale,
And Listen! The morning-breeze
Is overflowing with hundreds
Of Happy Songs!
76. Now all the asleep in the Garden,
In the Mountain,
And in the Desert,
Are associated with a new
Bewitching "Bride of Life"!

77. If 'tis an eneternal Law of Nature
That every Eve must give birth
To a Morn,
Then why the Night of one's Grave
Shouldn't turn into a Morn?
78. Anyhow, the Silvery Net
Of my Imagination,
Is world-embracing,
Wherein, O Dear Mother! I've ensnared
The Bird of your pathetic *Memory!*
79. My doleful and dejected Heart
Is filled with your sweet *Memory,*
Just as the Air of K'aba is filled,
With the Prayers of Pilgrims!
80. The chain of Obligations,
Whom we entitle as "Life",
Exhibits itself in millions and millions
Of *vanishing* worlds!
81. Every Destination of Life
Has its different ways and attitudes!
Yet "Resurrection" too
Is a Play-Ground of *Life!*
82. Death won't be able
To sow its Seeds
In that last Field,
And people will reap the Harvest
Of their own good or bad Deeds!

83. Assuredly, the Immortal Flame
 Of Human Life,
 Is not bound to the dark chamber
 Of man's earthly Structure,
 And the Circle of his Thoughts
 Is not so narrow,
 As to deny *Resurrection!*

1. "They are losers indeed who reject the meeting with Allah, until when the Hour (Day of Judgment) comes upon them suddenly, they will say: O our grief for neglecting it! And then they bear their burdens on their back;—now, surely *Evil* is that which they bear!"

(6:31)
 "And as for the Dead, Allah will surely raise them, then to Him they will be returned." (6:36)

"As He brought you into being for the *first* time, so shall you be returned to Him again!" (7:29)

"From Dust have We created you, and into it We shall return you, and from it raise you a second time!" (20:55)

"And the Hour (Day of Judgment) is coming, there is no doubt about it; and Allah will surely raise up those, who are in the graves!;" (22:7)

"Oh *Hour* is surely coming; there is no *doubt* therein, but most people do not believe in it." (40:59)

'Were we then fatigued with the *first* creation? Yet they are in doubt about their new (*second*) creation!" (50:15)

"Those Who disbelieve, think that they will not be raised. Say: Aye, by my Lord! you will *certainly* be raised; then you will certainly be informed of what you *did*. And that is quite easy to Allah!" (64:7)

84. O Mother! Your Life was brighter
Than the Moon,
And your journey was more alluring
Than that of the Morning-Star!

85. May your Grave be illuminated
Like the Dawn, and may
This night-chamber of yours
Be filled with the Divine Light!

86. May Heaven scatter
His Pearls of Dew,
Upon your Grave,
And the new-grown Green
Guard your earthen Home!

THE MOSQUE OF CORDOVA

When Iqbal visited Spain in 1933, he said his Prayer in the Mosque of Cordova. There he composed this unique Poem for a unique Mosque in the whole world. It is almost a lamentation of the Past Glory of Cordova. Iqbal is quite Optimistic about its future.

THE MOSQUE OF CORDOVA

1. The Chain of Days and Nights
Is an Engraved Jewel
The Chain of Days and Nights
Is a Root of Life and Death !
2. The Chain of Days and Nights
Is a bicolour Fibre of Silk,
Of which God weaves the Cloak
Of His Attributes !
3. The Chain of Days and Nights
Is the Harmony
Of the Musical Instrument

24. I believe your life is brighter
I see the way

And your journey was more shining
Than that of the Morning-Star!

25. I believe you have been guided
And the way

That led you to the light
And the way
That led you to the light

THE MOSQUE
OF
CORDOVA

THE MOSQUE OF CORDOVA

When Iqbal visited Spain in 1933, he said his Prayer in the Mosque of Cordova. There he composed this unique Poem for a unique Mosque in the whole world. It is almost a lamentation of the Past Glory of Islam, yet he is quite Optimistic about its Future !

1. The Chain of Days and Nights
Is an Engraver of great Events!
The Chain of Days and Nights
Is a Root of *Life* and *Death* !
2. The Chain of Days and Nights
Is a bicolour Fibre of Silk,
Of which God weaves the Cloak
Of His *Attributes* !
3. The Chain of Days and Nights
Is the *Harmony*
Of the Musical Instrument

Of *Eternity*, whereby God shows
The Ups and Downs of the Possibilities
Of His *Power of Creation!*

4. The Chain of Days and Nights

Tests and tries *me* and *thee*,
Because it is a great Tester
Of the whole Universe!

5. Therefore, if anyone of us

Proves to be worthless

In the Test,

He is then destined to Die!

6. What is the *Reality*

Of the Chain of Days and Nights?—

Just a Continuous Flow of *Time*,

Wherein there is neither a “Day”

Nor a “Night”¹!

7. Oh! *All* the miracles of Art

Are momentary and transitory things!

-
1. What the Poet means to say is that the words “Day” or “Night”,—“Morning” or “Evening,”—“Noon” or “Afternoon” have been coined by *us* for our own convenience, otherwise “Eternity” has nothing to do with *our* Division of Time !

- There is *nothing* everlasting
In this World!
8. The *first* Creations
And the *last* Creations;
The *old* Paintings,
And the *new* Paintings;—
All are doomed to *Destruction*!
9. But there is a glimpse of *Eternity*
Only in that Creation,
Which has been completed
By a Devotee of God!
10. The Impression of such a Person
Is enlightened by his Love!
For Love is the root of "Life"
And "Death" can never touch it!

-
1. In Iqbal's Poetry "*Ishq*" (Love) is opposite of "*Aql*" (Reason), and this is the only irresistible force that can ensure success in any Enterprise in *this* world, and Salvation in the *next*. On the contrary, "Reason" is purely "materialist" and lacks in the courage, determination and "Intuition" that *Love* has. In the following Lines he mentions the possibilities and miracles of *Love*!

11. Although the Flood of Time
Runs too Fast,
Yet it is overpowered
By the Flood of *Love* !
12. In the Almanac of Love
There are certain Periods of Time,
Besides the *Present* one,
Which have no name at all!
13. "Love" is the Breath of Gabriel,
Love is the Heart of Mohammad,
Love is the Messenger of Allah,
An Love is the Word of Allah!
14. This structure of Clay¹
Has been enlightened
Only by the Spirit of *Love* !
Love is a pure Wine,
And Love is a Cup
Of the Honoured² Ones!
15. Love is the Law-giver in Ka'ba,
And Love is the Commander-in-Chief

1. *i.e.*, Man.

2. *i.e.*, Honoured by Allah.

Of the Army of true Believers!
Love is the Passenger,
Who has a thousand Destinations!

16. It is the Plectrum of "Love"
Which causes sweet Tunes
In the string of Life!
Love is the *Light* of Life!
Love is the *Heat* for Life!

17. O Mosque of Cordova!
Your very existence is due to *Love* !
"Love" itself is the Eternity,
Wherein there is no *Past*,
Present, or *Future*!

18. Whether it is Colour,¹
Or Brick and Stone²
Or the Guitar,³ or a Speech or Song,
The miracle of an Art is enriched
Only by the blood of one's *Liver* !

1. *i.e.*, Painting.

2. *i.e.*, Building.

3. *i.e.*, Music.

19. A single Drop of such a Blood
Turns a Brick into a *Heart*,
And infuses a new *Heat*
Into the Voice of a Singer!
20. Your atmosphere imparts
A new Light to the Heart,
Whereas my Voice reflects
An everlasting *Pathos*
Upon the Breast of true Believers!
You shift them to the presence
Of the Supreme Being,
And I give them a new Inspiration
For good *Faith* and *Action*!
21. Although the Boundary of Man
Is *Heaven* at the most,
Yet the Breast of a true Believer
Is by no means less than
The Throne of God!
22. No doubt the Angels
Do Obeisance to God,
But their obeisance
Is devoid of *Pathos* !

1.	Painting.
2.	Building.
3.	Music.

23. Although I am an Indian Muslim,
 Look to my Love and Devotion!
 I read "*Darud*" with my Heart,¹
 And I read *Darud*
 With my Tongue!
24. "Love" is in my Flute
 And Love is in my Tune
 And the Song of "*Allahoo*"²
 Is sung by every vein and tissue
 Of my Body !
25. Your Beauty and Awe³
 Are identical with a true Believer,
 And these qualities are common
 In both of you !
26. Your Foundation is very Strong,
 And your Pillars are countless,
 Just like a group of Date-Palm
 In the Desert of Syria !

1. *i.e.*, Peace and Blessings of Allah to the Holy Prophet.

2. *i.e.*, The Unity God.

3. Fear mingled with Reverence.

27. I can see the Light of Sinai¹
 On your Roof and Doors,
 And your high Minaret
 Represents the Forehead of Gabriel!
28. Now you impart a Message to *me*,
 That a true Muslim cannot perish,
 For his very 'Call'²
 Reveals the Secret of Moses
 And Abraham!
29. There is no Boundary to his Land,
 And there is no Frontier
 To his Horizon!
 The Tigris and the Nile
 Are merely *waves* of his Ocean!
30. His Times are strange,
 And his Stories are Curious!
 The ancient Cultures
 And civilizations
 Have been destroyed by him!
31. He is a Cup-bearer
 For the "Men-of-Taste"

1. Where Allah talked with Moses.
 2. In the original: "Azan".

And he is a Rider
In the Field of *Love*!
His wine is pure,
And his Sword is made of
A Steel of true *Temper* !

32. Practically he is a Soldier
And his Coat-of-Mail is:
"La-Ilaha-Ilallah"¹!
Even under the Shadow of a Sword
His real Refuge² is :
"La-Ilaha-Ilallah!"
33. It is *you*, O Mosque of Cordova!
Which has revealed to us
The Secret of a true Believer!
That is, you have shown us
The Heat of his *Days*,
And the Pathos of his *Nights* !—
34. His high Abode
And his great Thoughts ;—
His Love, his Devotion,
His needs and his indifference
To the fleeting World!

1. *i.e.*, None is worthy of worship but Allah.

2. *i.e.*, Shelter.

35. The Hand of a true Believer
Is really the Hand of Allah,
For it is overpowering,
Work-creating,
And *work-completing* !
36. In spite of being made of *Dust*,
Originally he has been founded
On the "Divine Light"
And his Heart is indifferent
To the two worlds¹ !
37. His Hopes and Expectations are few,
But his Aims and Objects are great !
His Behaviour is very Pleasant
And his Glances are charming² !
38. While *speaking*,
He is Polite and Humble,
But while *Seeking*,
He is energetic and Dashing³ !
Whether he is in the Battle-field,
Or in the Assembly of his Firends,
He is Pious and pure in Heart⁴ !

-
1. For the centre of his love is always God.
 2. *i.e.*, He attracts the love and interest of People even by his *glances* !
 3. *i.e.*, Advancing and rushing forward in prompt action!
 4. That is, there is no "Hypocrisy" in his behaviour.

39. So, the Central Point
Of the Encompasses of *Truth*
Is the "Faith" of a true Believer!
To him the whole world
Is a magic-work and a *Fantasy*!
40. He is the Destination of Reason¹,
And he is the Produce of Love!
In the Circle of this World,
He is the Rose of its Assembly!
41. O Ka'ba of the Craftsmen!
O Grandeur of Islam!
Spain has almost become equal
To the Ka'ba,
Due to *your* presence here!
42. If there is anything equal
To *your* Beauty,
Under the Sun,
It is only in the *Heart*
Of a Muslim!
43. Alas! Those gallant Arabian Riders!

1. For when Reason is in search of a "Perfect Man" a true Believer is its goal!

- Those sincere Servants of Allah!
 Those men of great Morality;—
 The true Believers,
 Who had a firm Faith in Allah!
44. Even Today their Sovereignty,
 Proves the truth of their *Ideal* :
 That the Government of true Believers
 Can be founded on *Piety*,
 And not on *Imperialism* !
45. Their very Glances led Humanity
 To the Right Path,
 And their Intellect could see it
 Even in the Darkness¹ of Europe!
46. Of course, it is *their* Blood,
 Which has imparted Courtesy,
 Sociability and Sincerity
 To the People of Spain!
47. Even Today the charming Eyes
 Of a Deer,²

1. *i.e.*, The *Spiritual* Darkness.

2. All the Persian and Urdu Poets have likened the eyes of their Beloved to the eyes of a Deer, which are indeed very beautiful !

Can be seen in this Country,
And the arrows of warm Glances
Hunt the Hearts of Visitors!

48. Even Today the pleasant Smell
Of Yemen can be smelt
In its Air,
And the Tunes of *Hedjaz*
Can be heard in its Songs!
49. In the eyes of the Stars,
Your Earth is equal to Heaven;—
But Alas! For the past few centuries
Your Air does not vibrate
With the Sound of *Azan* !
50. Oh! In what unknown Valley
And in what Destination
Is the tough Caravan
Of Tumult-causing *Love*?
51. Germany has already experienced
The Havoc of her "Religious Reformation"
Which totally destroyed the impressions
Of her ancient Culture!

52. The "Innocence" of the Pope
Became a meaningless word,
And the Boat of "Intellectual Research"
Kept floating on the River!
53. The French have also seen
The effects of their "Revolution",
Which caused a great change
In the Western Society!
54. The Romans had seen a Decline,
Due to their Orthodox Views,
But *now* they have turned strong
Because of their sense of *Renovation* !
55. Today, there is the same
Tradional Restlessness,
Good Desire, and a sense of *Revolution*
Even in the minds of Muslims!
This is a Secret of God,
And my togue can't express it!
56. Let us see what emerges
From the Bottom of this Ocean,
And what is the *new* Colour,
Which is going to be shown
By the blue Heaven!

57. In the Valley of the Mountain
The clouds have been bathed
Into the crimson Pool of Twilight,
And the Sun has left behind it
The heaps of Red Diamonds!
58. In such a romantic Atmosphere
I hear the simple and pathetic Song
Of a Peasant Girl!
Oh! Youth is a fair Stream
For the Boat of a Poet's Heart!
59. O Flowing waters of *Kabir*¹ !
As I stand beside the River,
I am seeing a happy Dream
Of *another* Golden Age!
60. There is a *New World*,
Hidden behind the Curtain of Fate,
Yet its Dawn has been Revealed
To my seeking Eyes!
61. If I unveil the Face
Of my *Thoughts*,

1. *Wadil-Kabir* : name of a River flowing beside the Mosque of Cordova.

Britain won't be able to bear
The Heat of my Words! 57.

62. A Life,—a Sleepy Tipsy Life,
Which has no Spirit of *Revolution*,
Is worse than Death!
Nations can *live* in this world, 58.
Only with a "*Spirit of Revolution*"!

63. A Nation, which examines and checks
All its Actions, every moment,
Is just like a world-conquering Sword
In the Hand of *Destiny*! 59.

64. All the Paintings are incomplete
Without the Blood of Liver;—
And all the Songs are meaningless
Without the Blood of Liver!¹ 60.

1. That is, *all* the Fine Arts, of which the Mosque of Cordova is a distinguished example, require a very hard work, Concentration and *Devotion*, for their perfection and completion!

THE DEVIL'S COUNCIL

The Poem, which is set in the
middle of the story, is a very good
example of the author's style and
writing. The author, who has written
many other books, has a very
strong sense of the story and
the characters. The author has
written a very interesting and
readable book.

DEVIL

THE DEVIL'S COUNCIL

The author and publisher, W. W.
Watts, was created originally
by the author, W. W. Watts.

The author, W. W. Watts,
has written a very interesting
and readable book.

The author, W. W. Watts,
has written a very interesting
and readable book.

Wanted to be able to wear
The Heart of my World.

61. A Life, — a Sleep, — a Lie,
Which has no Spirit of Revolution,
Is worse than Death.
Nations can live in this world,
Only with a "Spirit of Revolution."

63. A Nation, which exerts no power,
All its Actions, only receive
is just like a dead man,
In the Hand of Death.

64. All the things
Without the Spirit of Revolution,
And all the things
Without the Spirit of Revolution.

THE DEVIL'S COUNCIL

1. The Devil's Council
is a group of men
who are in the
devil's service.

THE DEVIL'S COUNCIL

This Poem, although written on the International Politics of this Age, is a very good Satire on the Spiritual, moral and economic decline of the Muslims, who can reform themselves accordingly. Countless Verses of the Holy Quran prove that Satan is the Archenemy of Islam. That is why his following Discourses are against the same !

DEVIL

1. Ah! This old game of Elements;—
This mean and transitory World,
Which was created contrary
To the wish of Angels¹!
 2. To-day its Creator,
Who caused it simply by saying: “Be!”,
Is Himself bent upon its *Destruction* !
-
1. “And when thy Lord said to the Angels: I am going to place a Vicegerent of mine in the earth, they said: “Will thou place in it such a creature as will make mischief in it, and shed blood?—and we celebrate Thy Praises and exalt Thy Holiness! He said: Surely I know what you know not”. (2:30)

3. It is I, who has shown Great Britain
The charming Dream of "Imperialism"
And it is I, who has broken the magic
Of the Mosque, the Temple,
And the Church!¹
4. It is I, who taught the lesson of "Luck"²
To the Poor, and it is I,
Who caused the mania of "Hoarding"
In the mind of the Capitalists!
5. Therefore, *who* can extinguish the Fire,
Whose blazing Flames were raised
By Devil himself?
6. Who can push down the Tree,
Whose branches and leaves
Have been nourished
By *our* water?

FIRST COUNSELLOR

7. There is no doubt about the Fact
That the Foundation of the Organization

-
1. *i.e.*, People are no longer interested in "Religion",
because they are turned "Materialists" by *my* Tactics!
 2. *i.e.*, They are content with their "Luck", especially when
cheated and exploited by the Capitalists!

Established by Devil, is very Strong,
For the Masses are now more familiar
With "slavery" than ever before!

8. Since the very First Day
Of Creation,
They are destined to be
In *Prostration*¹,
Without standing up
In the Prayer!
9. None of them has a Desire
For the revival of Religion,
And if there *is* any Desire like that,
Either it dies without *Action*,
Or remains immature!
10. It is due to *our* constant struggle
That To-day the *Mystics*,
As well as the *Mullas*,
Are unconditional Slaves
Of "Imperialism"!
11. Only this is the Opium,
Which is most suitable
For the Temperament
Of the Eastern People,
Otherwise "Logic" is by no means
Inferior to a "Musical Concert"²!

1. *i.e.*, Submission; Slavery.

2. For both of them cause self-negligence.

12. If there are certain Religious Rites
Like Hajj, or the circumambulation
Of Ka'ba,
We attach no importance to them,
For the Sword of a Muslim
Has been turned *blunt* by us!¹
13. Don't you know
Who has made the Muslims
Inactive and Hopeless,
When he issued the new *Fatwa*:²
"Jihad (Holy War) has been
Forbidden to the Muslims
In this modern Age!"

SECOND COUNSELLOR

14. *You* are not aware
Of the fresh Tumults
Of the modern World!
Now tell me something
About the Good or Evil
Of "Democracy"!

-
1. *i.e.*, There is no spirit of war against Evil.
2. The written Verdict of the Mohammadan Law-officer of
a Court, according to *Shara*.

FIRST COUNSELLOR

15. I *am* quite aware
Of the *modern Trends* of human mind,
Yet my observation and
My past experience tell me
That so-called "Democracy",
Which is now hiding "Imperialism"¹
Behind it, can be no danger to *us*,
Or to our *Followers* !
16. When we observed that Man is becoming
More and more Self-realizing,
Independent and Freedom-loving,
We dressed "Imperialism"
With the garments of "Democracy"!
17. The system of "Imperialism"
Has a different interpretation
In *this* Age,
And it does not depend
On an "Emperor"
For its existence!

1. There is another emphatic verse of Iqbal in this meaning.

دیو امتداد جمہوری قبا میں پائے کوب
تو سمجھتا ہے یہ آزادی کی ہے نیلم ہری

"Now the Monster of Aggression is dancing in the
cloak of Democracy, but you think that it is a Fairy of
"Freedom!"

18. Whether it is a Parliament
Or the Court of an Emperor,
The real "Emperor" is he,
Who wants to possess
Another's Land!
19. Have you not seen
The "Democratic System"
Of the West?—
The Faces of its organizers
Are Bright,
But their Hearts are darker
Than that of Ghangez Khan!¹

THIRD COUNSELLOR

20. Yet, if the spirit of "Imperialism"
Remains active in their Society,
We have no reason to be Restless!
But what is your reaction
To the "Economic Trick"
Of that Jew?²

1. Which is always a symbol of Tyranny and Aggression.
2. *i.e.*, Karl Marx (1818-83). The German Economist.

21. That Moses, without any ‘Divine Light’
 And that Christ,
 Without any ‘Cross’!
 Although he is not a Prophet,
 Yet he has a Book¹ of his own
 In his arm-pit!
22. I’ve no words to tell you
 How *burning* are his *Glances* !
 His ‘Law’² has caused a Doomsday
 For the Eastern
 And the Western Nations!
23. What more ‘Revolutionary Sentiments’
 Can be caused in the Masses;—
 Lo! The slaves have broken
 The Tent-ropes of their Masters!

FOURTH COUNSELLOR

24. The Antidote for *this*
 State of affairs can be seen
 In the Palaces of Rome!—
 For we have shown once again
 The Dream³ of Julius Caesar
 To his People!

-
1. Namely: ‘Das Kapital’.
 2. *i.e.*, Economic Formula.
 3. The Dream of World-domination.

25. Now, who is Fighting with the Waves
Of Mediterranean Sea?—
Sometimes he is as high
As a Cypress,
And sometimes he cries
Like a Harp!

THIRD COUNSELLOR

26. Excuse me, I can't appreciate
The foresight of anyone
Who lay open the Politics
Of Great Britain, as it *is* !

FIFTH COUNSELLOR

(Addressing the Devil)

27. I admit that the Administration
Of the whole World
Has been put aright,
Under *your* Management!
Whenever you wished,
You revealed the "Top Secrets"
Of the Governments!

28. To-day a mere Clay
 Has been turned
 Into a magnificent World
 By your *Heat*,
 And the Fool, dreaming of Paradise,
 Is now an intelligent man
 By your Teachings!
29. Even *He*, who is known as "Sustainer"¹
 Among the simple People,
 Is not more familiar
 With *human nature*,
 Than you are!
30. Even the Angels,
 Who were devoted
 Only to the Prayer
 And Praises of God,
 Are now under an inferiority Complex,
 By your sense of "Self-respect"²

1. *i.e.*, God.

2. Because Angels did obeisance to Adam, but Devil did not.

31. Though all the Magicians¹ of England
Are your Disciples and Followers,
Yet I no longer depend
On their Diplomacy!

32. On the other hand,
Look to the Tumults-causing Jew,²
Who is really a Reincarnation
Of the Spirit of Mazdak!³
Now the Cloak of every Nation
Is being torn into pieces,
By his powerful Hand!

1. *i.e.*, Diplomats.

2. *i.e.*, Karl Marx.

3. Name of a Heresiarch. *Mazdakism*: a dualistic religion, which developed in Iran as an offshoot of Manichaeism. Its founder appears to have been one Zaradust-i-Khuragan. The religion first came into prominence in the late 5th Century A.D. under Mazdak-e-Bamdad, after whom it was generally named. Mazdak sought to make Property and Women Common. The Communist ideas associated with Mazdakism, had spread through the populace, leading to looting, seizure of land, and abduction of women. Consequently, Khosrau, son of King Kavadh (488-531), the Ruler of that time, had Mazdak and a large number of his adherents put to death, the literature of Mazdakism destroyed, and its followers persecuted.

33. Oh! Now a *Crow* in the Desert
 Claims to be equal to a *Hawk*!
 Lo! How speedily changes the World
 Its Temperament!
34. Now, the very insignificant Creature,¹
 Whom we considered
 To be a handful of *Dust*,
 By our Foolishness,
 Has practically covered
 All the expansion of Heaven!
35. The Tumult² of *To-morrow*,
 Is so overwhelming
 That all the Mountains,
 The Deserts, and the Oceans
 Are trembling with its Fear!
36. O my Master! The World,
 That depended on *your* Leadership,
 Is now going to be
 Entirely Annihilated!

1. *i.e.*, Man.

2. *i.e.*, Communism.

DEVIL

(To his Counsellors)

37. Don't worry! The whole World
Is *still* under my Control!
The Earth, the Heaven and
The Heavenly Bodies move
According to *my* Directions!
38. The People of the East
And the West
Will see what happens,
When I impart a new Heat
To the Blood of European Nations!
39. Whether there are *Political* Leaders,
Or the *Religious* ones,
All of them will turn crazy
Under the effect of
My *single* Outcry!
40. All the Fools who label
The Western Civilization
As a "Glass-Factory"
Are challenged by *me*,
To break its Cups and Goblets!

41. All the Skirts
That have been torn into pieces
By the powerful Hand of *Nature*,
Can't be darned by the Needle
Of the Logic of "Wages"¹!

42. I assure you all
That I can't be threatened
By the vagabond, crazy,
And fickle-minded Communists!

43. If I fear anyone at all,
It is the Nation,² that has still
The spark of Desire³
Under its Ashes!

44. Even now there are some Persons
In this Nation,
Who perform their Ablution,
With the Morning-tears!⁴

1. *i.e.*, The legal Rights of Labour.

2. *i.e.*, The Muslims.

3. The Desire for a Spiritual and Moral Revolution in mankind!

4. Which they shed by the fear of Allah !

45. Anyone, who has his Fingers
At the Pulse of Time,
Knows well that the real Tumult¹
Of *To-morrow*,
Is *not* Communism, but *Islam!*
(2)

46. I know full well,
That this Nation is not following
The Teachings of Quran,
And the Muslims have also adapted
The ways and attitudes of "Capitalism"!

47. I know full well
That in the Dark Night²
Of the East,
There is no "White Hand" of Moses
Under the Sleeves
Of Religious Guides!³

48. Yet due to the Political
And Social requisites of *this Age*,
I have a fear that Islam
May not regain its *past* glory,
And grip on Human Mind!

1. *i.e.*, A Revolutionary Force.

2. Spiritually Dark!

3. *i.e.*, They lack in Spiritual Powers, because they are slaves
of their own Temptations!

49. God save us from the Effects
Of Mohammadan Law,
Which is a Defender of
Women's Honour, and is
*Man-testing*¹ and *Man-creating*² !
50. Such a Law is undoubtedly
A message of Death
To every kind of *Slavery*,
For there is no distinction
Between a King and a Beggar !
51. Such a Law cleanses the "Wealth"
Of every possible Dirt,
And declares the Rich
To be merely the "Trustees"³
Of Wealth !
52. And what a greater Revolution
Of Thought and Action can there be
Than that :
The Kings are not *owners*
Of the Land,
But Allah !

-
1. *i.e.*, Testing the capabilities and possibilities of Man.
 2. *i.e.*, Creating Courageous, honest, pious and upright men.
 3. For the real "owner" of everything is God. Now, even the "Trustees of Wealth" should spend it according to Commandments of God. and be cautious that not a single Penny is spent in forbidden things. Moreover, they shouldn't forget the portion of the *Poor* in their wealth !

53. Therefore, I advise all my Followers
That they should keep
Such a Law hidden
From the eyes of Mankind!
And there is a great advantage
For them,¹
That the so-called "Muslims"
Are still devoid of "*Faith*"!

54. Just Keep them absorbed
In the various Problems
Of "Theology", and in the
Wrong interpretations
Of the Verses of Holy Quran!

(3)

55. Let not the Dark Night
Of that Man² be Lit,
Whose "Call" once broke
The magic of "Six Directions"!³

1. *i.e.*, The Followers of Devil.

2. *i.e.*, Muslim.

3. *i.e.*, The boundaries and limits of *space*, for the main idea in a Call (Adan) is the "Unity of God," and that He is *everywhere*, regardless of "Directions"!

56. Whether the Son of Mary
 Has died, or is enjoying
 An Eternal Life in Heaven?—
 Are the Attributes of God
Separate from Him,
 Or, they are part and parcel
 Of His Self?—
57. What is meant by
 The “Coming One”?
 Jesus Christ?—
 Or, any “Renewer of Faith”
 Who has the qualities of Christ?—
58. Are the Words of Holy Quran
 “New” or “Antique”?—
 What is the particular “Belief”
 That can ensure Salvation
 For the Muslims?
59. Now, my Friends, tell me
 Are not these well-carved Idols
 Of “Theology” quite enough
 To keep the Muslims far away
 From the “Right Path”?

60. Just see that none of them
 Becomes a "Man of Action",
 So that all his pieces of Dice
 Are beaten at the Table of Life!
61. All of us are Safe and Secure,
 So long as the Muslims are content
 With "Slavery",
 And having no interest
 In this "Transitory World",
 Leave its Benefits for *other Nations*
 of the World!
62. Only that kind of Poetry
 And Mysticism
 Is better for them,
 Which can hide
 The "Spectacle of Life"¹
 From their Eyes!

1. *i.e.*, Which can keep them away from the Principles of Life: To *Seek*, to *Find*, to *Conquer*, and not to yield!

63. Every moment I have a Fear
About the Awakening and *Revival*
Of the Nation,
Whose Religion teaches them:
"Reckoning of the whole Universe"¹!

64. Therefore, let them be lost
In the Morning Prayers
And in the ease-loving Trends
of *Renunciation* !

THE VOICE
OF
TIME

1. *i.e.*, Pondering on the creations of Heaven and Earth (to realize their Creator), and finding out the *Utility* of Elements!

63. Every moment I have a Fear of God
About the Awakening and Revival
Of the Nation, for every man
Whose Religion teaches them
"Reckoning of the whole Universe";

64. Therefore let them be bold
In the Morning Prayers
And in the case-loving Friends
Of Reformation, who are bold
To stand for the cause of God

65. I have a Fear of God
I have a Fear of God
I have a Fear of God
I have a Fear of God
I have a Fear of God

1. i. e. Pondering on the creation of Heaven and Earth
(to realize their Creator) and finding out the Unity of
the Elements and worlds of God or Heavens of God.

**THE VOICE
OF
TIME**

THE VOICE
OF
TIME

THE VOICE

OF TIME

In Prose Iqbal wrote so much on the nature and effect of "Time", but in this emphatic and comprehensive Poem he has thrown light on all its possible Aspects. Especially, a "Psychological" study of the Spirit of Time is a rare and distinct feature of this Poem. I think this is the only perfect poem on this particular subject, that can be found in the World Literature!

1. I have the Sun
And the Stars
In my Skirt!
If you look into *me*,
I am *nothing*;—
But if you look
Into *yourself*,¹
I am your *Spirit*!

1. i.e., If you realize your inborn qualities and possibilities!

2. I am in the City,
I am in the Desert,
I am in the Palace,
And I am in the Night-Chamber
Of the Kings!
I am the *Malady*,
And I am the *Remedy*:¹
I am a Source of great Pleasure!
I am a world-burning Sword
And I am the Spring of Life!²

3. The invasions of Ghanghez Khan
And the victories of Tamerlane
Are just a handful of *Dust*,
Caused by my *Speed*!
The world-dominating oppression
Of Great Britain,
Is only a Spark
Springing out of *my*
Blazing Flames!

1. That is, if you are a "Pessimist", I am a Malady (Disease) for you; but if you are an "Optimist" I am a Remedy (Cure) for you.

2. *i.e.*, Nectar.

4. Man and his World
 Are the Paintings and Impressions
 Of my Brush,
 And the Blood of the Liver
 Of *Courageous Men*
 Serves as a Paint,
 For my peerless Pictures!
 I am the all-burning Fire,
 And I am a Garden
 Of Paradise¹!
5. At a Time,
 I am *Stationary*,
 And I am marching *quickly*:
 What a wonderful Show it is!
 Just see the Events
 Of *To-morrow*
 In the Mirror of my *To-day*!
6. Behold! A thousand beautiful worlds
 Are hidden in my *Heart* !
 Behold! There are countless moving Stars,
 And green Domes
 Behind the Veil of my Chest!
 I am a Dress for Man,
 And I am a Cloak for God!

1. *i.e.*, Now, it depends on your own Attitude *how* to use me!

7. "Luck" is *my* Magic-work
And "Pluck¹" is
Your Magic-work!
You are a lover of *Laila*,²
And I am a Desert
For your Crazy Wanderings!

8. I am as pure and clean
As a *Spirit*,
And I am beyond
Your Discussions on
"What"?—"Where"?—and "How"?³
As a matter of fact,
You are *my* Secret,
And I am *your* Secret,
For I appear from your Soul,
And then disappear
Into the Same!

-
1. *i.e.*, Courage; attempt in Planning something.
 2. Generally, a symbolic name for "Beloved". However, here by "Laila" is meant one's noble "Aim" in life!
 3. *i.e.*, Your Logical Discussions on the *nature* and *effect* of Time!

9. I am a Passenger,
 And you are my *Destination* !
 I am a Farm,
 And you are my *Produce* !
 You are a Musical Instrument,
 With a thousand fascinating Tunes!
 Undoubtedly, you are the Chairman¹
 In the Assembly
 Of this World !

10. Alas! you are lost
 In the Beauty
 Of this *material* World!
 Now find out
 The elevated Abode
 Of your *Heart*² ;—

1. i.e., "Lord of the Creation", for he says in another verse:

از خود اندیش و ازین بادید ترماں مگذر
 کہ تو هستی و وجود دو جہاں چیزے نیست

"Realize your dignity and nobility in this world, and don't fear anything, while you cross this Desert! You are the really *existing* Force in this Universe, and the two worlds are nothing !

2. i.e., Your Spiritual Standard.

And then See
 How a Boundless Ocean
 Of "TIME" has been kept
 In a small Cup;—
 For it is your High Wave,
 Which has given birth
 To my irresistible Storm!

Here are a few more verses from Iqbal's
 "Asrar-i-Khudi", for they further explain the
 nature and effect of Time :

در دل خود عالم دیگر نگر	اے اسیر دوش و فردا در نگر
وقت را مثل خطے پنداشتی	در گل خمود تخم ظلمت کاشتی
فکر تو پیمود طول روزگار	باز با پیمانہ لیل و نہار
گشتہ مثل بتان باطل فروش	ساختی ایس رشتہ راز نار دوش
سر حق زائیدی و باطل شدی	کیمیا بودی و مشت گل شدی
شمع بزم ملت احرار باش	مسلمی؟ آزاد ایس زنار باش
از حیات جاودان آگہ نہ	تو کہ از اصل زمان آگہ نہ
زندگی سریست از اسرار وقت	این و آن پید است از رفتار وقت
وقت جاوید است و خور جاوید نیست	اصل وقت از گردش خورشید نیست
مرتاب ماہ و خورشید است وقت	عیش و غم، عاشور و بہم عید است وقت
امتیاز دوش و فردا کردہ	وقت را مثل مکان گسترده
از خیابان ضمیر ما دمید	وقت ساکو اول و آخر ندید
ہستی او از محر تابندہ تر	زندہ از عرفان اصلش زندہ تر
غوطہ در دل زن کہ بینی راز وقت	نغمہ خاموش دارد ساز وقت
زندگی از دہر و دہر از زندگی است!	
لا تسبو اللہر فرمان نبی است!	

1. Ah! Your Intellect is Bound
To the distinction of
"Yesterday" and "To-morrow";—
Yet, you can see
A different world (of Eternity)
In your *Heart!*
2. You have sown a Seed
Of Darkness in your Soul,
And you Consider "Time"
As a straight *Line!*¹
3. Then, with the measurement
Of "Day" and "Night",
Your Reason measures
The *Length* of Time²!
4. You wear this Conception
Of yours, like the "Sacred Thread"
On your Shoulder,
Professing and promoting Evil,
Like the Idols!

-
1. For, there *is* a beginning and end for a Line, but for "Time" there is none!
 2. Although there is no "Longitude" or "Latitude" of Time!

5. You were an Alchemy,
But turned a handful of **Dust!**
You were born
As a Secret of God,
But became untruth
(By wrong conception of **Time**).
6. If you are a true Muslim,
Get rid of this Thread,
And be a Candle,
In the Assembly
Of *Free People!*
7. Because you are not aware
Of the *Root* of Time,
You can't realize
The Secret of *Eternal Life!*
8. Everything in this world
Has appeared
From the *Speed* of Time;
And our Life too,
Is a Secret of Time!

9. Never forget
That Time is not Founded
On coming and going
Of *Sun*,
For Time is *Eternal*,
But Sun is not!
10. It is Time,
Which gives birth to
Pleasure and Sorrow;—
And it is Time,
Which imparts Light
To Sun and Moon !
11. But Alas! You spread Time
As a "Space" limited,
For you make distinction
Between "Yesterday" and "To-morrow"!
12. Our Time,
Which has neither any *Beginning*,
Nor any *End*,
Has really grown
From the Garden
Of our *Heart*!
-
1. On the other hand, Time has nothing to do with your
Terms: *Past, Present and Future* !

13. A living Person
 Becomes livelier,
 By the Realization
 Of the *Essence* of Time,
 And his Life becomes
 More luminous than the *Dawn!*
14. However, the Musical Instrument
 Of TIME,
 Produces very *low* Tunes¹;—
 Therefore, dive deep
 Into your Heart,
 So that you may see
 The Secret of *Time!*
15. In short, “Life” appears
 From Time,
 And Time appears
 From Life!
 That is why the Holy Prophet said:
 “Do not abuse Time,
 For the “Root of Time
 Is Allah²!””

1. If you have an *Ear* to listen them!

2. This is why He has sworn with “Time” in Chapter 103
 of Holy Quran.

THE SONG
OF
STARS

1. Our Existence
Is due to our Discipline,
And our Rapture
Is due to our moving!
There is no Star
To our constancy
And this is the secret
Of our everlasting!
The relation of Heaven too
Is in our heart's
We see all this in

2. This World!
Of God's wonderful things!
The Temple-house
Of strange images!
The Battlefield of existing
And non-existing things!

3. The World

4. In Heavenly things. Things that belong to belief
only. Of course, there is a conflict between the religious
and the

**THE SONG
OF
STARS**

**THE SONG
OF
STARS**

1. Our Existence
Is due to our *Discipline*,
And our Rapture
Is due to our *moving* !
There is no Stopping
To our constant *Revolving*,
And this is the secret
Of our everlasting life!
The rotation of Heaven too
Is to our heart's desire!—
We see all this and *move on* !

2. This Museum¹
Of God's wonderful things!
This Temple-house
Of strange images!
This Battlefield of existing
And non-existing² things!

1. *i.e.*, The World.

2. *i.e.*, Imaginary things. Things that belong to Belief only. Of course, there is a conflict between the religious beliefs too !

This conflict of *Elements* !
This Time's own Playground!—
We see all this and *move on!*

3. The heat of War
Between various Nations;—
The follies of the Wise!
The fall of the Crowns,
The Thrones and the Kings:
We see all these Revolutions
Of Time, and *move on!*

4. Now the Masters
Are no longer "Masters",
And the Slaves
Are no longer "Slaves"!
The Czars, the Kaisers
And the Alexanders¹
Of the old age
Do not exist any more!
Gone too are the Idols²
And the Idol-makers!³
We see all this and *move on!*

1. In these lines by Czars, Kaisers and Alexanders are meant the Emperors and Dictators of History, whom the people of present age cannot tolerate at all!

2. *i.e.*, Monarchs.

3. *i.e.*, Those who entertained and worshipped those Monarchs.

5. Lo! The silent Dust¹
 Is now active and uproarious!
 Although weak in foundation,
 Yet fighting and hard-working!
 Sometimes he is
 In a hilarious assembly
 Of Music and Drinking,
 And sometimes carrying a Coffin
 Upon his shoulders!
 "King of the World,"²
 As God made him,
 But now a wretched Slave!—
 We see all this and *move on!*

6. O Man! You've been caught
 In the magic-circle
 Of Phenomena,
 And your intellect is lost
 In the Riddle of Universe!
 Poor Creature!
 You look like a weak
 Lean and sick Deer,

1. *i.e.*, Man.

2. *i.e.*, "Lord of the Creation".

Helpless in the Snare!

And we in our High Nest¹

See all this and *move on!*

7. Why all the veiled² things?

And why the unveiled³?

What is the origin

Of Light and Darkness?

What is *Eye*?

What is *Heart*?

What is *Reason*?

Why the human nature

Is so impatient and *restless*⁴?

Why this distinction

Between "near" and "far off"⁵?

We see all this and *move on!*

1. *i.e.*, Heaven.

2. *i.e.*, Invisible.

3. *i.e.*, Visible.

4. *i.e.*, What is the Object that human nature wants to achieve?

5. *i.e.*, Why the barriers of *Space*?

8. What is "Much" to *you*
Is very "Little" to *us*!
What you call an "Year"
Is but a "Moment" before us!
O you! Who has a Sea
In his Bosom,
Why are you content
With a few Dew-drops?
Lo! *We* are always in search
Of a *New World*!—
We see all this and *move on*!

8. What is "Much" to you? to your
 Is very "Little" to us! to us
 What you call an "Year"
 Is but a "Moment" before us!
 O you! Who has a Sea
 In his Bosom,
 Why are you content
 With a few Dew-drops?
 Lo! We are always in search
 Of a New World! —
 We see all this and more only

1. ...
2. ...
3. ...
4. ...
5. ...

SAQI NAMAH

Although "Saqi Namah" has been written by some other distinguished Poets of Persia, yet that written by Aliama Jibal is quite different in many respects. In its language, it is very emphatic and pathetic, in its meaning, it is highly educative and constructive, dealing with the most important political and social problems of this age. — nevertheless the main idea of this Poem is Jibal's most favourite and best

SAQI NAMAH

1. The Canyon of Spring
Has again pitched its Tent
Beside the Mountain,
And the valley has been turned
Into a Paradise!

2. Lol The Rose, the Narcissus,
The Lily, the Dog-Rose,
And the Tulip with its shroud
Dipped into blood!

1. A kind of white Rose.

SAĞI NAMAN

SAQI NAMAH

Although "Saqi Namah" has been written by some other distinguished Poets of Persia, yet that written by Allama Iqbal is quite different, in many respects. In its language, it is very emphatic and pathetic, in its meaning, it is highly educative and constructive, dealing with the most important political and social problems of this age,—nevertheless the main idea of this Poem is Iqbal's most favourite and beloved subject: Ego!

1. The Caravan of Spring
Has again pitched its Tent
Beside the Mountain,
And the valley has been turned
Into a Paradise!
2. Lo! The Rose, the Narcissus,
The Lily, the Dog-Rose,¹
And the Tulip with its shroud
Dipped into blood!

1. A kind of white Rose.

3. Now the whole world
Has been concealed
Under a curtain of fascinating Colours,
And there is a circulation of blood
Even in the veins of a stone!
4. Now the atmosphere is bluish
And the air is intoxicating;—
That is why the birds can't stay
In their Nests!
5. The mountain stream
Is sometimes jumping,
Sometimes stopping,
Sometimes moving zigzag,
Sometimes escaping the bank;—
6. Dancing, slipping, singing,
And then standing still;—
After making so many curves
And inlets, it is constantly
Dashing forward!
7. If it is compelled to stop,
It cuts the stones asunder,
And runs through the heart
Of the Mountain!

8. O Tulip-red Cup-bearer!
Lend an ear to its
Inspiring and invigorating
Message of *Life* !
9. Let me drink the Wine
That burns every curtain,¹
For spring doesn't visit us
Every day !—
10. The Wine, that illumines
The innermost aspects of *Life*;—
The Wine, that provides
A new ecstasy
To everything in the Universe!—
11. The Wine, that contains
The pathos and harmony
Of *Eternity*;—
The Wine, that reveals to us
The Secret of *Immortality*!
12. O Cup-bearer!² Lay open to us
The Secret of *Victory*,
And let the wagtail
Have a contest with the *Hawk* !

-
1. *i.e.*, The curtain between me and my Beloved!
2. Here, and in the following stanzas by "Cup-bearer" is meant Allah !

13. Now the world has changed
 Its trends and objects;—
 Since the Tune is *new*,
 The Musical Instrument
 Is also *new*!
14. The Top Secret of Great Britain
 Has been revealed in such a way,
 That her Diplomats
 Are simply spellbound!
15. The old political policy
 Is a total failure in *this* age,
 And the *Land* resents
 Every Capitalist and King!
16. As a matter of fact,
 The Era of Capitalism
 Has passed away,
 And the Juggler's¹ Show
 Has come to an End!
17. The long-asleep Chinese
 Have been awakened,
 And the Springs of Himlaya
 Are bursting out!

1. *i.e.*, The Capitalist.

18. The heart of *Tur Sinai*¹
 And *Faran*²
 Is cleft into twain,
 And Moses is waiting again
 For the *Vision* !
19. Although the Muslims
 Are very keen and enthusiastic
 About the "Unity of God",
 Yet there are certain idols
 In their mind !
20. Their Culture, their Mysticism
 Their Religion and their Logic;—
 All of them worship
 The idols of Persia!³
21. The Reality has been lost
 In the mist of Superstitions,
 And this Nation has been misled
 By false traditions !

-
1. Where Allah spoke to Moses and delivered to him Torah!
 2. A mountain near Mecca, where the Holy Prophet delivered his most important Speeches about Islam !
 3. i.e., They have lost the genuine Islam by following foreign Customs and usages.

22. The Speech of the Orator
Is quite pleasant for the audience,
But there is no heat and pathos
Of "Divine Love" in it!
23. His words are ornamented
By logical reasoning,
And his high-flown vocabulary
Rather conceals the meaning!
24. The Mystic, who was sincere
In his worship,
And peerless in Love and
Self-respect;—
25. Has been enchanted by the beliefs
And customs of Persia,
And this Traveller
To the Divine Destination
Has been lost in the way!
26. Alas! The fire of Love
Has been extinguished,
And the whole world is dark;—
Even a Muslim is now
A heap of ashes!

27. O Cup-bearer! Let me drink
 The old Wine¹ once again,
 And circulate the same Cup
 In the assembly!
28. Let me fly
 With the Wings of *Love*,
 And turn the atoms of my body
 Into glow-worms!
29. Free our Intellect
 From the bonds of Slavery,
 And let the youth be
 Teachers of the Old!
30. The branch of our Nation
 Is green due to your moisture,
 And the breathing system
 In our body is from *your* Breath!²

i. *i.e.*, The wine of your love and devotion!

2. Allusion to a Verse of Holy Quran :

“When thy Lord said to the Angels: Surely I am going to create a man from dust; so when I have made him complete, and breathed into him of My spirit, fall down to him in prostration!” (Ch. 38 V. 71-72)

31. Please grant me the power
To flutter in this Garden!
Bless me with the heart of Ali
And the pathos of Siddique!¹
32. Pass the same old arrow²
Through our Liver,
And revive a healthy *Desire*
Within our Breasts!
33. Long live those shining Stars
Of Your Heavens,
And Your sincere worshippers
Throughout the Night
On Earth !
34. Pray! Pour the Pathos of Love
Into the hearts of the Youth,
And award them
With my Love and Sight!
35. Now take out my Boat
From the whirlpool;—
Ah! It is *stationary* :
Make it move forward!

1. Abu Bakr Siddique, the first Caliph of Islam.

2. *Arrow*, The arrow of your Love!

36. Let me know the Secrets
Of Life and Death,
For the whole Universe
Is open to you like a Book!
37. Kindly look to my weeping
And sleepless Eyes,
And the hidden restlessness
Of my impatient Heart!
38. My requests and demands,
During my midnight Prayers;—
The fervour of my loneliness
And Society!—
39. My aspirations
And my Desires!
My Hopes, and my seeking
And searching my Objects!
40. Thanks to You! Thanks to You!
That my nature is a Mirror
For the whole Universe¹,
And it is a pasture
For the Deers of lofty Thoughts!

1. *i.e.*, The secrets and activities of the whole Universe are reflected upon my mind.

41. My own Heart
Is a Battlefield of my Life,
Where there are hosts of Doubts,
Yet my *Faith* is always victorious!
42. O Cup-bearer!
This is the humble asset
That I possess,
And I feel to be so rich,
In spite of my poverty!
43. Now distribute it
Among the people of my Caravan¹
And thus let it be
A correct disposal!
44. The River of Life²
Is always flowing swiftly,
And the speed of Life can be seen
In everything of the World!

1. *i.e.*, My Nation.

2. Please note that Lines 44 to 69 are all about the wonderful possibilities and effects of *Life*!

45. It is the Spirit of *Life*,
Which has given birth
To our Body,
For the wave of Smoke
Is hidden behind the Flame!
46. Although the mixture
Of water and dust¹
Is an unpleasant task,
Yet Life is pleased
With this hard labour!
47. At a time it is *stationary*
As well as *moving*,
And still it is indifferent
To the snare of *Elements*!
48. This Singularity
Has been entrapped
By the Plurality!²
But everywhere it is
Unique and peerless!

1. Which caused the form and figure of Adam!

2. *i.e.*, Life exhibits itself in so many forms!

49. *This World,*
Which is an Idol-house
Of Six Directions,
Has been carved by *Life*!—
50. Yet, it is strictly against
The Repetition¹,
For *you* can't be I,
And *I* can't be *you*²!
51. It builds up its Society
From *you* and *I*,
But right in the Assembly,
It enjoys its *Solitude*!
52. Its brightness can be seen
In the Lightning and the Stars!
It glimmers in Silver,
Gold and quicksilver!
53. It is the owner and organizer
Of Desert and Sea!
It is the producer
Of Flowers and Thorns!

-
1. i.e., It always creates *new* and *rare* things.
2. Because nature also never repeats or immitates the *same* things, and there is an infinite *variety* in its products!

54. Somewhere its strength
Is exploding the Mountains,
And somewhere its Lasso is
In the neck of Gabriel
And Hauris!¹
55. Somewhere it is
A white Hawk,²
Whose claws are red
With the blood of Partridges!
56. Sometimes it is a Pigeon
Far away from its Nest,
And fluttering impatiently
In the Net!³
57. The theory of *Rest* and *Motion*
Is only a deception
Of our own *Sight*
Otherwise every Atom in the Universe
Is flying fast!

-
1. i.e., Its spiritual flight is too high and it can easily trap the creatures of celestial regions.
 2. A white Hawk is particularly sought after and highly valued for its speed and stamina.
 3. Of course, sometimes it suffers the pangs and pains of *Separation*!

58. In fact, the Caravan of Life
 Never stays at any Spot,
 For it always changes
 Its *form* and *goal* !
59. *You* think that Life is a Secret
 Which was never *revealed*
 To anybody;—
 But I define it to be:
 A craze for endless *Flight* !
60. It has seen countless
 Ups and Downs in its way!—
 It always prefers *Journey*
 To a *Destination* !
61. The real bag and baggage
 For Life is *Journey*,
 Because to Life
 Journey is a *Fact*,
 And Stay, a *Fantasy* !
-
62. It commits certain mistakes,
 Only to *correct* them !
 It finds its real pleasure
 In perpetual *Restlessness* !

63. When Life faced Death
 Upon this Globe¹
 It was very difficult for her
 To overpower him;—
64. Yet in this world
 Of Retribution,
 Life has always been
 In ambush for Death!
65. To satisfy its taste
 For *expansion* and *dispersion*,
 It appeared in countless forms,
 And exhibited itself
 In the Desert and the Mountain,
 Just like a huge Army!
66. Although Roses fell
 From this Branch,²
 Yet more fresh Roses
 Blossomed at the same!³

1. i.e. To defeat it, to overpower it.
 2. i.e., Death is inevitable and people had to die in every age.
 3. i.e., More people were born instead.

67. Ah! The ignorant think
 That Life is a vain
 And transitory thing;—
 Whereas the fact is:
 Whenever its impression is erased,
 It re-appears with a better
 Brilliance and Beauty!
68. It has a Lightning's Speed,
 And can reach its Destination
 Just in a moment!
 To it the Space
 Between the Advent of *Creation*¹
 And the *Eternity*,
 Can be crossed in a Breath!
69. In fact, *Time*,
 Which is a chain of Days and Nights,
 Is another name
 For our *Breathing* !
70. What is the wave of our Breath?—
 It is a Sword!
 What is *Ego* ?—
 It is the edge of that Sword!²

1. i.e., The first Dawn of Creation!

2. All these Lines onto the End are about the possibilities
 and effects of *Ego* !

71. What is *Ego* ?—
 The mystery of *Life* !
 What is *Ego* ?—
 The awakening
 Of the Universe!
72. Although *Ego* is fond
 Of Solitude,
 It is always restless
 To demonstrate its possibilities!
 This is a Drop,
 Which has concentrated
 The whole Ocean in it!
73. It is bright in darkness,
 As well as in light!
 Although it has exhibited
 Itself in *you* and *me*,
 It is not attached to us
 For ever!
74. Eternity is in *its* backside!
 Eternity is in front of it!—
 So, it has no boundary
 In *any* Direction !

i.e., It is *free* by nature.

75. It is always flowing
 In the River of Time,
 And is strong enough to bear
 The continuous strokes
 Of its wild waves!
76. It is ever changing
 The route of its *Seeking* !
 It is ever changing
 Its aims and objects!¹
77. A heavy stone becomes
 Very light in its hands,
 And the Mountain is turned
 Into Sands, by its violent **Strokes!**
78. *Journey* is its beginning,
 And *Journey* is its end!—
 This is the main **Secret**
 Of its **Almanac!**

1. i.e., It always seeks new values and rare things, leaving the old ones behind!

79. It is a beam in the Moon,
And a spark in the Stone!
In spite of diving deep
Into the colour,
It is *colourless* !¹
80. It has nothing to do
With more or less,
Up or Down,
Back or Front!²
81. Since the first Dawn of Creation
It is engaged in a hard *Struggle* !
To demonstrate itself
At the *best*,
It appeared in *Man* !
82. Lo! The Nest of Ego
Is in your *Heart* !—
Just as Heaven has been grasped
By the pupil of your Eye!
-
1. i.e., In spite of indulging in the worldly affairs, an Egoist does not attach his mind to this transitory world.
2. i.e., Ego, in its workings, does not attach any importance to the *quantity* of things, or to the *directions* !

83. To a keen defender of *Ego*,
 That bread is a pure poison
 Which deprives him
 Of his Honour¹!
84. Only that bread is lawful
 For him,
 Which can maintain
 His Honour and Dignity.
85. Do not pay attention
 To the pomp and show
 Of a King!
 Preserve your *Ego*,
 And don't behave like a Slave!

1. According to the teachings of Holy Quran, and the Traditions of the Holy Prophet, only that sustenance (*Rizq*) is lawful (*Halal*) which is earned by just and lawful means, and then it is only the lawful living, which strengthens one's *Faith* and *Ego*. Anyone, who earns his living by illegal and criminal means, has a guilty mind and an absolutely dead *Ego*. Even one's Prayers can never be accepted by God, if one's living is provided by illegal means. Hence, the stress *Iqbal* has laid on lawful sustenance!

86. Only that obeisance .00
Is permissible in Islam,
Which is before *Aallah*,
And which forbids
Every obeisance
Before His *creatures* !

87. *This World* ;—this tumult .01
Of *Colour* and *Sound*!¹
This World, which is
Under the command of *Death*!²

88. This World, which is an Idol-house .02
Of Eyes and Ears,³
Where one's life is given
To eating and drinking only !—

89. This is the *first* Destination .03
Of "Ego"
(In its journey to Heaven);
Therefore, O Passenger!
It is not your *permanent*
Abode!

-
1. i.e., The charming and fascinating things of the world, which please our Senses so much!
 2. i.e., Death is inevitable and it spares none!
 3. i.e., Where the five Senses of man are enchanted by the external beauty of various things, and to his own loss here and there, he forgets God, his Creator and Sustainer!

90. Your fire is not
From this Earth!¹
In fact, the world took
Its birth from *you*²
And not you, from the *World*!
91. Now, march quickly,
And break that mountain
In your way;—
Break every spell
Of *Time* and *Space*!
92. *Ego* is a Lion of Allah
And the whole world
Is its prey!
Heaven and Earth too
Are its prey!
93. Still there are some unknown
And *unexplored* worlds,
For the core of Universe
Is not yet empty!—!

1. i.e., The Flame of "Love" in your heart comes *direct*
from Allah!

2. i.e., The world was created for *you*.

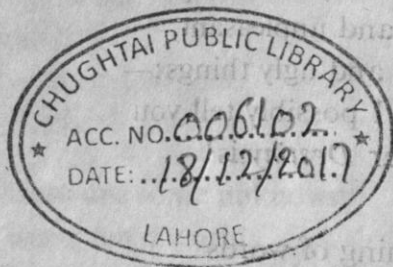
94. Each of them is waiting
For your *attack*,
And wants to test the possibilities
Of your *Thought* and *Action* !
95. The real object of the Changes
And Revolutions of the world
Is that your "Ego" should exhibit
Its overwhelming strength
Before you !
96. In fact, *you* are the Conqueror
Of this world, which represents
Pleasant and unpleasant,
Beautiful and ugly things ;—
How can I possibly tell you
What your *Destiny* is !
97. The clothing of words
Is very tight
Upon the body of *Reality* !
Reality itself is a bright *Mirror*,
But speech is its *Rust* !

98. Although the Candle of Breath

Is alight within my Breast,
Yet the power of my speech says:

“Now Stop!”—

99. “If I fly a little higher,
The flash of Divine Light
Will burn my wings!”





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