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A VISITOR IN JHARKHAND [2014]

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ABSTRACT & KEYWORDS

On way to 'Netrahat', from Latehar,

in Jharkhand....

Nature is calm,

The sun is full

Up and down its craggy boulder terrain

Upon the road, the rays gleam,

And then is gone,

The "Baked and baking Orb" swinging, beat down, the ochre blanched terrain;

then retreat

Like soldiers in a petty war...

The Sal-wood giants, in virgin forests

Half-drunk with ... serenity, on unsteady foot, move in love with the breeze.

The resilience of the diurnal round

Bring thoughts of progress...displacement of natives...creeping disturbances of 'sound and fury'

INTRODUCTION

Replacement by Concrete Jungles...the Eternal Cycle

Dulling my spirit with sadness within,

My Sufi leanings, my voices within, impress

This world is an illusion.

Not forever the leaves remain green

Nor forever rains the monsoon

Thoughtful must be our actions,

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Yet,

It's written all clear, in unspoken words

The Natives, Its inhabitants are survivors....

They have survived by the land and its bounties.....

Their cottages, thatched, patched with pines

Picturesquely set, like watercolor drawings

The plantations indeed seem divine

The red moraine that carpets, the terrain

Broken by boulders raw stones of various hues and size

In shades of the brown refrain

Ore plateaus, with bauxite jutting out

In breaks

As one winds up the road,

From Latehar to Netrahat

With armed guards

In fright of what?

They say 'Naxalites'

Infest...

But to my naked eye

There is orderly "existence" all around

Without a single law imposing cop

People, primitive, plain, pensive puny, punkey and party

Seen to move about their parchment with their pasting pride

Yet they say," fear the Naxals"

Don't you see through the media and news nerds?

That, paint them in colors, not pleasing at all

'Naxals', have 'We' made, of them?

Deprived them of their lands... livelihood,

Natives – people fighting for their habitats today

Freedom fighter of tomorrow?

We move on to 'Sunset point',

Through, the bowl-shaped valley...

And,.... then their burst before our eyes;

A forest....a most breath-taking surprise...spread out inmiles on a stretch

Virgin White Pear - Blossoms clothing the trees, an endless floating expanse of white, so alive......so arresting...

Gone is the fear

As the salubrious, fragrance smacks our face...

'COME', I beckon my son, the District Magistrate...

Let's celebrate, the pear-blossom season..

Don't draw plans, don't get threatened, these natives cannot be law and order problems;

Bring confidence in the Natives; your machinery is there for their support

CONCLUSIONS

What uses the Beaurocracy; Pride in Government files?

Wise officers fall: afoul their wisdom

Do the good that can be done, YOUNG MAN, you are incomparable,

The world we leave behind;

Only DEEDS, Good or Evil determine, our next placement;

Drive us down to the grave end.

A few days, we may live and seem to prosper.

Who knows, when we will be turned in to the Dust, we came from

'Amidst All Arrogance', the greatest mendacity.....

REMEMBER.....I'm NOTHING.