

Translation

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Lost in translation?

When we met
Our mutual words transcended
Transformed in translation
We strung words like pearls
Mother tongue and Other tongue
A new poem born out of the womb
Of a well known old poem
The original homegrown poem
Became a global sapling
Rooted, uprooted, re-rooted
Unique avatar

Linguistic transfer
Cultural code switching
Those are puzzles for sages
And heat oppressed brains
Ethnic poems in global syntax
Global poems in ethnic inscription
Smiled in the new dawn
Reaching hearts and minds
Liberated from the intense entrapment
In either/or- singular tongues

Our willing translations
Our mutual spinning of words
In an Other tongue, in our mother tongue

To fill the gaps others hadn't bridged
Insularity and isolation were erased
A rainbow of words
Not a chaotic Babel
Brought us together
Isolated islands of words
Converged into continents of communion

We never regretted any loss in translation
We were incorrigible dreamers, for us
Territories and borders were life- threatening
We dreamt about bringing together
A fractured world with our healing words-

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakum
Our world as a single family

In translation
We gained an inclusive world
We mingled diversity and difference
In our several tongues and daring dreams
We translated uninhibited
For us, to be transfixed and immobile
Was surrender and suicide
We translated and translated and translated
And our mutual words
Became universal symbols, signs and sign
posts
Our adhesive translations made the Other our
own
Fused into a holistic dream come true

Translated, we became indivisible
Not you and me, but us.

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