



# SHABDO-KA-MELA



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A LIVE POETRY RECITATION AND STORY TELLING  
COMPETITION BY PARYAVARAN MITRA AND  
GREEN CATALYST

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*"Give me just one generation of youth,  
and I'll transform the whole world"*

*~Vladimir Ilyich Lenin*

*Youth are the rulers of tomorrow, so well-being of earth becomes their responsibility. They have to restore what the past generation damaged and at the same time preserve what they have for the future generation. They need to be leaders, change-maker, innovators and as well as devoted worker.*

*We at Paryavaran Mitra help young people with the same. We give them opportunity, guidance and inspiration to serve Mother Earth. We help them know how their area of interest can be used for environmental benefits. We call these young minds Green Catalysts, as they will play a major role in enhancing Earth's condition.*

*On the occasion of International Youth Day we decided to give platform to young poets and writers, so they can share their heart-felt experience with nature and also their views on situation of earth. We organized a live poetry recitation and story telling competition called 'Shabdo-ka-mela'. This attracted a lot a of young people as they were eager to pay homage to Mother Earth. They inspired the audience with their words and made them think about their role in saving earth. The event gave voice to young minds and the echo can still be heard.*

**"THANK YOU AND SORRY"**

*Thank you, Mother Earth for your delight embrace;  
and Sorry, could not sustain your grace.*

*Thank you for giving us the rain;  
and Sorry for just allowing it to drain.*

*Thank you all the we get;  
and Sorry for the gases we create.*

*Thank you for all the forests;  
and Sorry for not protecting the nest.*

*Thank you for the land, shared by all humans and animals;  
and Sorry for creating the mess of chemicals.*

*Thank you for the nurture and nature;  
and Sorry for the rising temperature.*

*Thank you, Mother Earth for all that  
endless spins around your sun;  
and Sorry for tolerating all the sins  
of your son.*

*Thank you Mother Earth, Thank you Mother Earth!!*

*~ JAY PARIHAR*

## "MY EXPERIENCE WITH ENVIRONMENT"

*A couple of years back I was out on a retreat in the wild. In the afternoon, we were given some free time and I decided to take a walk in the woods. It was a sunny day in the middle of January. The landscape was covered in a thick sheet of snow. I did not have snow boots on me but I decided to go anyway. I walked and walked and walked deep into the woods. Soon I realized that I had come so far deep that I had lost sight of our campsite. I had a rough idea of the path I had taken but I wasn't entirely sure. We weren't allowed access to our phones at the retreat so I didn't have that either. So here I was, by myself, with soaking wet feet, away from civilization and in the middle of the woods with no way to contact the human world.*

*At this time, you would expect me to feel a little vulnerable, maybe even scared. Surprisingly, I did not feel any of that. I looked around me. The frozen lake, the chirping birds, the rotting wood, the gentle breeze, the clear blue sky, the fungus on trees, the rabbits running, the wolves howling. It felt sacred. I felt close to God. Closer than any place of worship ever made me feel. It was unlike anything I had ever experienced. Everything was in perfect harmony. An ecosystem in balance. The complex interconnectedness of all life.*

*I couldn't help but stand in awe of the natural world and the 4.3 billion years of our planet's history. Life which started with a few simple organic molecules and evolved into all the different forms of life that we see today in our oceans, our forests, our mountains, our rivers, our deserts. We are all descendants of those first molecules. They are our true ancestors. How magical? How fascinating? They say our universe and its secrets are far more fascinating and magical than anything in our worlds of imagination. They were right and I felt it that day in the woods.*

~MEGH SONI

**"MAUSAM AAJ BIMAR HAL.."**

*Mausam aj bimar hai.  
Aj usko zukam hai  
Par jana humko bahar hai  
Mausam ko lejana haspatal hai  
Karna ek kaam hai  
Uska karvana ilaj hai*

*Kyuki hume jana bahar hai  
Mausam aj phir bimar hai  
Aj usko bukhar hai  
Gussa uska asman ke paar hai  
Samne dekh bhi nai sakte utna behal hai*

*Aj mausam kyu bejaan hai?  
Na dhup na barsat hai?  
Aj rehne dena sab kaam hai  
Aur puchni ek baat hai  
Kyu voh roz hojata bimar hai?  
Jana mausam ke pas hai  
Aur puchni ek baat hai  
Kyu wo roz hojata bimar hai?*

*~RAJVEE DESAI*

## "NATURE'S WAY"

*Upon a nice mid-spring day;  
let's take a look at Nature's way.  
Breathe the scent of nice fresh air;  
feel the breeze within your hair.  
The grass will poke between your toes;  
smell the flowers with your nose.  
Clouds form shapes within the skies;  
and light will glisten from your eyes.  
Look across the meadow way;  
and you still see a young deer play.  
Know the sounds of water splash;  
catch the glimmer in a flash.  
When altogether all seems sound;  
lay yourself upon the ground.  
Take a moment to inhale;  
and listen to nature tell her tales.*

*~PRIYA PATEL*

**"IF YOU..."**

*If you stay some more time,  
I will express my whole feelings.*

*If you stay some more time I will release my tears,  
my pain in front of only you.*

*If you see me with caring eyes,  
I will tell you my thought at that time same way.*

*If you listen me very innocently,  
I will melt in front of your silence.*

*If you meet me as you are,  
I will become a little child for you.*

*If you miss me or talk about me in presence of only you,  
I will reach at you becoming touch of love.*

*Shortly, if you stay some more time,  
I will open myself in front of you like me.*

*~ AYUSHI ANDHARIYA*

## પ્રકૃતિના ખોળે

થોડા દિવસો પહેલા હું અને મારા ફ્રેન્ડ્સ પ્રકૃતિના મણવા માટે નીકળી પડ્યા હતા. પ્રકૃતિને મણવા માટે અમે લોકોએ એક હિલ સ્ટેશન નક્કી કર્યું હતું. જે બીજું કોઈ નહીં પણ આપણું જાણીતું એવું 'ગુજરાત કી આંખો કા તારા સાપુતારા'. સાપુતારાના પ્રવાસ માટે ગયા હતા. ત્યારે જે અનુભવ થયો છે એ ખુબ જ સરસ અનુભવ છે. આ અનુભવ ને હું શબ્દોમાં વર્ણન તો ન જ કરી શકું તેમ છતાં મેં મારા તરફથી થોડી એવી ટ્રાય કરી છે.

પ્રકૃતિનો ખોળો એ એક એવી જગ્યા છે જ્યાં,  
ઠંડી ઠંડી હવાની લહેર વહે,  
ઝરમર ઝરમર વરસાદ વરસતો હોય,  
જળ વહેતું ઝરણું હોય,  
કલરવ કરતા પક્ષી હોય,  
મીઠી મધુર ચા હોય,  
અને મનગમતા ગીત નો સાથ હોય,  
જ્યાં ના બંધન હોય, ના તો કોઈ ચિંતા,  
જ્યાં ખાલી મનમાં શાંતિ,  
પ્રકૃલ્લતાની અનુભૂતિનો અહેસાસ હોય એનું નામ પ્રકૃતિ.  
~ સ્મિત લાડ

## 'शुद्ध पर्यावरण ही मानव अधिकारों की बुनियाद है'

मानव अधिकारों के मुख्य चार स्तंभ होते हैं जीवन समानता स्वतंत्रता और गौरव;  
जिसके बिना हर कोई एक असहाय मानव।

जो पर्यावरण सृष्टि एवं धरती मां के जन्म के समय से ही अपवित्र व अशुद्ध होता;  
तो जीवन का संचार किस प्रकार होता और कैसे होता धरती पर सैकड़ों जीव-जन्तु, पेड़ पौधों में मानव।

जो जीवन ही ना होता तो बाकी तीन स्तंभों का क्या अर्थ होता?

जो मानव जीवन ना होता तो स्वतंत्रता समानता और गौरव का क्या महत्व होता?

पर्यावरण शुद्ध मिला;  
तब जाकर जीवन रूपी पुष्प खिला।  
इस ब्रह्माण्ड में, इस धरती पर;  
अनेकों-अनेक जीव जन्तुओं और मानवों को जन्म मिला।

जो पर्यावरण शुद्धि ना होता, तो क्या हमारे पूर्वजों का,  
हर परदादा-परदादी हमारे परनाना-परनानी  
के सम्मान पूर्वक वह गौरवपूर्ण तथा मानव अधिकारों से अलंकृत अस्तित्व होता?  
हमारे पहले जो पीढ़ियां आईं, जितने भी लोग आए  
, क्या तब मानव अधिकारों के चार पधारो बस तंबू का कोई अस्तित्व वर्चस्व एवं महत्व होता  
जो पर्यावरण वर्तमान समय के भारतीय दूषित होता?

प्रश्न करिए स्वयं से; और पूछिए अपने आप से आईने के समक्ष।  
जो यह तमाम प्रश्न पूछते समय पलके शर्म से झुकी;  
तब सारे सनातन सत्य हो जाएंगे प्रत्यक्ष।  
सिद्ध हो जाएगा पर्यावरण के संरक्षण का महत्व;  
उसके दूषित होने का कारण है मानवों के अर्थहीन स्वार्थ का वर्चस्व।

पर्यावरण की शुद्धता जिसमें पंचतत्वों का समावेश होता है;  
वह अग्नि, पवन, जल, जमीन व आकाश इस पृथ्वी पर के मानव जीवन का सत्य बतलाता है।  
मानव शरीर की रचना ही हुई है;  
इन पंच तत्वों से पर्यावरण की शुद्धता का महत्व यह सत्य उजागर करता है।  
ध्यान से समझने पर यह पता चलता है;  
कि उन पांच तत्वों की खूबियां व गुणों से ही मानव शरीर की रचना का करिश्माई जादू हुआ है।



# SHABDO-KA-MELA

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जिसमें पवन की चंचलता वेग से मनुष्य का मन उत्पन्न हुआ है, जल की शीतलता से हृदय, अग्नि की पवित्रता व ताप से परिपूर्ण मनुष्य का मस्तिष्क वह अग्नि की शक्ति से भुजाओं का निर्माण हुआ है; जमीन के उपजा ओपन और विशाल आकाश की दिव्यता ऐसे ही तो मानव शरीर का सर्जन हुआ है।

पर्यावरण की शुद्धता व पवित्रता ही तो हमारे मानव जीवन का आरम्भ है;  
वही तो मानव अधिकारों के मूल अस्तित्व की बुनियाद है।  
पर्यावरण के स्वच्छ होने से ही तो मनुष्य के मस्तिष्क का विकास हुआ है  
; शुद्ध हवा पानी खाना और स्वच्छ निवास स्थानों में रहने से ही तो मनुष्य की वानरों से क्रमागत उन्नति हुई है

मानवों की इस क्रमागत उन्नति से पाए करिश्माई मस्तिष्क से ही  
तो मानवों ने अपनी सुख-सुविधाओं के लिए  
जो नव निर्माण किए, आविष्कार किए  
और धरती मां भी अब तक सारे दुःख में सारे कष्ट सहन किए।

परंतु अब तो धरती मां के समग्र कष्ट प्रत्यक्ष रूप से उजागर हो रहे हैं;  
किस कारण समस्त प्राणी जगत के जीव-जन्तु, पेड़-पौधों व मानव जगत,  
हर क्षण दुःख हो वह जीवन खोने के भय से पीड़ित हो रहा है।  
मनुष्यों के स्वार्थी कृतियों से जो पर्यावरण का तिरस्कार वह नुकसान हुआ है;  
उन्हीं दुष्कर्म व धर्मों के दूरगामी परिणामों का रूद्र तांडव का आरंभ हुआ है।

जहां दृष्टि जाती है वहां हरे जंगलों में दावानल है;  
तो कहीं शांत समंदर में तूफान और सुनामी है।  
कहीं अकारण ही अधिक गर्मी है,  
तो कहीं अकारण ही सर्दी है।  
जंगलों के नष्ट होने के कारण वर्षा ऋतु में बारिश की कमी है;  
जबकि पूरे वातावरण में अधिक नमी है।

इतने कार्य करने को पर मानवों में ताजगी व स्फूर्ति की कमी है।  
बस! इन सब घटनाओं व तर्कों के पीछे एक ही मूल सनातन सत्य है  
जिसका स्वीकार वह आत्मसाध ही धरती पर के जीवन में  
मानव अधिकारों के चार मुख्य संभोग का आधार है,  
वह यह है कि  
"शुद्ध पर्यावरण ही मानव अधिकारों की बुनियाद है"।

~मैत्री पटेल

## "कितना अच्छा होता ..."

कितना स्पष्ट होता पर्यावरण को बचाने का मतलब  
अगर सारा पोलूशन हमारे सामने होता हमारे चारों ओर नहीं।

कितना आसान होता एनवायरनमेंट बचाते जाना  
यदि हम केवल बचाते बाकी सब पोलूशन ना करते।

हमने अक्सर इस उल-जलूल दुनिया को  
10 सिरों से सोचने और 20 हाथों से  
पाने की कोशिश में अपने लिए बेहद मुश्किल बना लिया।

शुरू-शुरू में सब यही चाहते हैं  
कि हम एनवायरनमेंट को रिवाइव कर सके  
लेकिन अंत तक पहुंचते-पहुंचते सब हिम्मत हार जाते हैं  
हमने कोई दिलचस्पी नहीं रहती

कि बाकी इसे कैसे और कितना गंदा कर रहे हैं।  
दुर्गम बनो और ऊंचे पर्वतों को जीते हुए  
जब तुम अंतिम जगह को भी पोलूशन फ्री कर दो  
जब तुम्हें लगे कि अब और कुछ साफ करने के लिए नहीं रहा।  
तब तुम अपने मस्तक को आसमान में उठाओगे और काँपोगें नहीं और  
महसूस करोगे कि अब और कुछ जीतने के लिए नहीं बचा।

~आरिफ हुसैन

## "KHEJRALI MASSACRE"

*In Marwar region of Rajasthan, near to Jodhpur, there lived a community of people named as Bishnoi people or villagers. They are famous for their lush flora, animal care, and water collection, and they preached environmental stewardship.*

*In 1730, the Maharajah (king) of Jodhpur wanted to build a new palace. He sent soldiers to gather wood from the forest region near the village of Khejarli, where Bishnoi villagers had helped foster an abundance of khejri (acacia) trees. When the king's men began to harm the trees, the Bishnois protested in anguish but were ignored by the soldiers, who were under royal orders.*

*Then a female villager named Amrita Devi who could not bear to witness the destruction of both her faith and the village's sacred trees. She decided to literally hug the trees, and encouraged others to do so too, proclaiming: "A chopped head is cheaper than a felled tree." Bishnois from Khejri and nearby villages came to the forest and embraced the trees one by one to protect them from being cut down. As each villager hugged a tree, refusing to let go, they were beheaded by the soldiers. This voluntary martyrdom continued until 363 Bishnoi villagers were killed in the name of the sacred Khejarli forest.*

*Once word got back to the King about this activity he rushed to the village and apologized, ordering the soldiers to cease logging operations. Soon afterwards, the maharajah designated the Bishnoi state as a protected area, forbidding harm to trees and animals. This legislation still exists today in the region.*

*In memory of the 363 Bishnois, who died protecting their dear trees, a number of khejri trees are planted around the area, which is still notably lush and rich with animal life. The Bishnoi sacrifices became the inspiration for a much larger Chipko movement that is still growing today, in which villagers physically embrace trees to save them from logging.*

## "धरती माँ की पुकार"

जब तेरी माँ रोती है  
तुझे दर्द होता है,  
जब तेरी धरती माँ पुकारती है  
तब तू कहां होता है ?

अब रुक जा, ठहर जा , थोड़ा बैठ जा ।  
और सोच जरा ,  
किसी को नुकसान पहुंचा के  
भला कौन खुश रहा है ?

हर सुबह तू अपनी माँ को देखे  
यही उसकी दुआ है।

तो ऐसा कुछ काम कर ....  
पक्षपात कर ,  
पर धरती माँ को मैला न कर।

फिर हर रोज एक नई सुबह होगी,  
तेरी धरती माँ तुझे निहार रही होगी ।  
एक आस अपने दिल से लगाए बैठी होगी।

~RUPALI NAYAL

## "SAVE OUR MOTHER EARTH"

*Lives are crying, because it is not clean;  
Earth is dying because it is not green.  
Earth is our mother, don't pollute it;  
She gives us food and shelter, just salute it.  
With global warming, it is in danger;  
Let's save it, by becoming a strong ranger.  
With dying trees and animals, it's in sorrow;  
Make green today and green of tomorrow.  
With melting snow, one day it will sink;  
How can we save it, just think.  
Trees are precious, preserve them;  
Water is a treasure, reserve them.  
Grow more trees, make mother earth green;  
Reduce pollution, make her a queen.*

*~PAYAL PATEL*

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