

Dahuk (Gallinule)

by Farrukh Ahmed

A gallinule wails all night long
There prevails sleep — sleep only
The pond is silent as invisible bottomlessness

Let you shun today playing the dice of slowness
Let the bee of day have repose on the branch
And hear by ears the cry of gallinule.

The moon leaves the port of the stars
And enters into the ocean of night
Crosses the cloud like feather floats in order
As if an untired diver dives one after one

Sleepy winged dew shower constant
Calm and quietness lay around
The lamp of desire goes off
And only the gallinule is heard.

A wailing having much depth of death
Of a diver
Of an unseen bird which seems bodiless
Comes out of the bottomless ocean
A Lamp within stars dozes in dreamy sky.

Are you still awake?
Does your audible hear?
Do you hear a sound ascending towards sky?
A vigilant guard it is, in deep forest of sleep
His fairy-dream advances through gentle breeze
Crossing the path of rattan bushes
The mate is droisy.

The gallinule overflows the brim of the night-cup
Only... only the sound is being piled up.
In the dreamy saddened seven skies of night
The moon goes demolishing over rattan bushes.

As if you are merely a sound bodiless
No, I know, you are not a sound
You are only a sound-box.

You bear only an amazing music endless
Which is absorbed in densely forest
Piled up in the sky
Painful having depth of sea.
And the gallinule blurs the fake blue moon light
O'bird! O'decanter still I fail to recognise thee.

Might be I know thee
And thy physic having well complexion.
That is painted with a wonderful brush.
And the amazing wine makes the end of night cry
Painful and sour humour of that
Piles up intolerable pain in the forest's edge
Night's pangs appears in darkness and rhythm
And I fail to recognise that tone.

As if you are the cupster
A decanter full of sweet
You are alone at the edge of the lonely forest
And alone you have emptied the decanter
Full of music.

O'goblet of liquor!
The thirst of wine makes me eager, tired
In the tranquility of night
All around the rattan wood
And crossing the ocean of darkness
Reaching the threshold of moon
That floats undiverted on the wing of deep music
And with the direction of moon
Advances towards the unknown state of sun.

The strong biting of the wine
Makes the music float through wavy ocean
And the music showers like withered feather
Over a land stormed by stars
And makes your ill-body enlivened by sprinkling
Within a twinkle of time.
That runs fast as arrows or meteor does
Over the far forest creating blue oceanic storm
Which is violent and reckless.

All night long you create music
From the invincible abbeys firm and deep.
Gallinule .....
Oh! all pains and grievances go stopped and calm.

O'untired bird! at the edge of the forest of night
Go on, with your song of unbound freedom
We are overburdened being enchained
We can't follow your tone
Our own poisonous bite
Has made our body and soul wounded.

You rank not the timid and ugly
And bear in your knotted heart
A complete music of life and death
So, you are free-winged secluded gallinule
You can cry whole-heartedly
And making the heart empty
We can't.

In the strings of rattan canes
Now the violin of air is being played
Then that goes stopped at a stage.

The moon over the old forest goes down
And the darkness becomes thicker.
I sit face to face at the depth of hour
Shadowed by myriad of pains.

The night showers decaying as the dew of leaves
At the bank of life and death with a dumb pain.

In that dense darkness overcasts
A thirst extinguished gallinule is heard
In the forest at distance
From a tired tone that pierces heart.

Note: The word Gallinule is used here to mean both the bird and the sound of it.

Translated by Chokdar Md Abdus Sattar

Revisiting the World of Nandalal Bose

by Ziaul Karim

Today (December 3) is the 111th birthday of Nandalal Bose (1882-1966), the pioneer of many genres — fresco, genre painting, poster design — in this part of the world; illustrator of the constitution of India, and some of his works even inspired Rabindranath Tagore to compose quite a number of songs.

(First Arts) twice, Nandalal, in a desperate attempt to get a degree went to the Presidency College to study commerce. It did not take him long to realise that commerce did not suit him and he decided not to continue his studies...

The Tagore-Bose relationship lasted for 15 years before Rabindranath, another, and of course most prominent of the Tagores, picked Bose up for Santiniketan. Bose came to Calcutta at a time when the progressive circles of the British and Indian intelligentsia were showing newly awoken interest...



Nandalal's portrait by Abanindranath

margin of the book. In those days, he also did some sketches of characters taken from the famous Indian book of fables 'Hitopadesh'...

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In visualising this mythical character the painter is detached from and outside of what he is drawing and has expelled himself from it — exercising and preserving what is described as 'aesthetic distance'...

The ... pattering rain, and breathing dew's and ... hues and harmonies of evening' and the images of deities, seen in the potters' village, have, no doubt, exerted a lasting influence on this sanniyas-like man — throughout the life his interest in nature and yearning for divine have never lost their intensity...



'Sati' by Nandalal

Right of Education

Continued from page 9
The right of education is a basic right of every citizen. In a democratic society, it is the duty of the state to ensure that every citizen has access to education...

The Visually Impaired

Continued from page 9
People with visual impairments face significant challenges in society. It is crucial to provide them with adequate facilities and opportunities for education and employment...

Anger

Continued from page 10
Anger is a powerful emotion that can lead to destruction. It is important to understand the roots of anger and find ways to control it before it consumes us...

Concept of CBR

Continued from page 9
Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) is a strategy that emphasizes the active participation of the community in identifying, planning, implementing, and evaluating rehabilitation services...

participation of the community. Recommendations
1. Administrative structures and professional information constitute a critical constraint on the effective formulation and execution of CBR programmes.

reserving 3 per cent quota in the non-gazetted posts to be translated in to practical reality by engaging disabled persons in varied occupations, commensurate with their age, professional skill and experience.

Distant Drum

Continued from page 10
A distant drum beats the rhythm of history, reminding us of the struggles and triumphs of our ancestors. It is a call to action, a call to remember our roots and strive for a better future...