

POEMS OF THE MONTH

The long Tunnel

-Simon Zachariah

The train entered into a tunnel
New passengers were excited.
There were shouts of joy at first
But the tunnel was quite long

A silence soon spread around
No more shouts of excitement
Only the sounds of rail joints
Rhythmic sound tup..tup.. tuck

Children started crying loud
Parents comforted them much
One old man comforted them
Pointing the end.. "Sky again!"

കാക്കയുടെ കവിത

-സൈമൺ സഖരിയ

കാക്ക പണ്ടൊരു ചെറിയ കവിത ചൊല്ലി,
കുറുക്കന്മാർ കുറെയേറെ ലൈക്കിട്ടി!
കൊക്കിൽ ഇരിക്കും ഇറച്ചി കുറുക്കൻ കണ്ടു!
വീണ്ടും കവിത പാടാൻ കാക്കയോട് കെഞ്ചി.

കാക്ക ഉടനെ വൻ കെണി കണ്ടറിഞ്ഞു,
'ഷെയർ' ചെയ്യാതിനി നിനയ്ക്ക കവിതയില്ല,
കുറുക്കന്മാർ പിന്നെ ഒട്ടേറെ കാര്യങ്ങൾത്തു നിന്നു,
കാക്ക ഇറച്ചി തിന്നശേഷം പാടി പുതി തീത്തു!

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A Newsletter

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"Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest
gloom, sometimes where Eden's
flowers bloom.."



Channels of Glory – Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah

Another fall season is here! Soon it will be winter. Winter is a difficult season for most people. Our life is also similar to the changing seasons. Whenever I go through difficult times, I remember about how God helped me to survive through all the past difficulties. Now when the world is going through the pandemic of Covid-19, the scientists and world leaders all look to past pandemics through which our forefathers have gone through. When I think about some people – who always argue about God’s supreme power, I compare them with a wooden block floating in a tank of water. Water is the worldly possessions and our reasoning power. Once the water drains out, the wooden block has to come to the bottom and accept the reality that it is not because of its ability, it floated over the water. We have to be humble enough to accept our inability and accept God’s omnipotence. I totally understand how hard

it is for people to live only by trust. But that is the only way to go through the difficult times. I had a student who was blind. He was so efficient and productive even though he was blind. Once he told me the secret of his success. The secret of his success was his memory power. Any time he goes to a building, he remembers the number of steps. Next time when he goes through the same area he retrieves it from his memory and just simply follows the path. He says, “Once I touch the door, I know after four steps, there is a cabinet; eight steps, a table; next to that a chair.” He remembers the grassy patches, trees, flowers, and also he updates the new changes and stores it in his mental GPS system. In the same way when difficult times come, look to your past and see how you survived all the difficult situations. When I go through my medical cabinet, I notice some old expired medicines, and wonder, “When did I had that sickness!” I remember in the TV serial ‘Touched by angel’ one young angel once asked the older angel, “Why do people commit suicide?” And she replied: “Their *today*s are so dark that they cannot see the brightness of *tomorrow*s!” In my opinion, we fail to remember the wonderful ways God has led us thus far. Our trust and faith will depend upon how well we remember, how wonderful God’s providence in the past was. Our forefathers depended on it, trusted it, and told us that is the ‘Only’ way to overcome this troubled sea. It is also important to leave good examples to our next generation. Younger generation may develop a tendency to keep double

personality. In order to avoid argument at home with parents, some children just simply obey their parents without arguing back. With the outcome of new technologies and apps on the phone and internet, parents are not able to catch up with their children. Parents are immersed in the worldly worries. When I used to teach in a junior college, we used to visit the children’s homes and talk to their parents. It was alarmingly interesting to note that some parents have no idea what the children are going through. Adults do not give freedom to children to open up and talk at home. So the children leave the parents alone and try to lead their life hidden from the parents. And later some may end up in the destructive paths of life!

It is important to preach what we practice. I remember my grandma throwing away some pieces of vegetables fallen from the basket of the street vendor. When we asked her, why she wasted a piece of ginger or a green chili pepper, she would say, “We did not pay for that, and it is not ours” That simple statement taught us children, she was a person of integrity and she practiced what she preached. But as the years pass by, most of us have a tendency to deviate little by little. And one day after a great fall, we will look back and wonder, “Where did we all go wrong”? Our thoughts, words, and actions will live many years after we are gone, just like young children remember even today, the story of ‘Johnny Appleseed.’ The question we should all ask ourselves is whether we are trusting in God Almighty and setting an example for the next generation.