

## POEMS OF THE MONTH

**It is sad.**

-Simon Zachariah

Living in darkness while the day is bright-  
Living hungry when food is all around-  
Living ignorant while scholars all around-  
Living sick while healthy ones all around-  
Living poor while wealthy ones all around-

But when you look at all that you have!  
And you see all, what others can't have!  
Then you will be thankful, and happy!

## തേനിലെ ഉറുമ്പ്

സൈമൺ സഖറിയ

ഒരു തവി തേൻ ഞാൻ നിറച്ചെടുത്തു,  
നോക്കിയപ്പോൾ അതിൽ ഒരു കൊച്ചുറുമ്പ്!  
"വഴുതി വീണതാനോ?"-എന്നെന്റെ ചോദ്യം,  
ഒരു വളിച്ച ചിരിയോടെ അതെന്നെ നോക്കി.

തേനല്ലേ, ഉറുമ്പല്ലേ, അതും കണ്ടുറുമ്പല്ലേ!  
ഏതായാലും വീണില്ലേ- വയർ നിറഞ്ഞൊട്ടെ.  
ച്ചുറ്റം ഉറുമ്പായിരം കാത്തുനിൽക്കുന്നു;  
"മതിയെടാ- ഇനി ഞങ്ങൾ കുടിക്കട്ടെ!"

കണ്ടുറുമ്പ് ആർദ്രമായെന്നെ നോക്കി,  
വയറും നിറഞ്ഞു, ഒപ്പം കണ്ണും നിറഞ്ഞു,  
കരകയറാനായി ഇനിയെന്തു മാർഗ്ഗം!  
അധികമായാൽ അമൃതം "വിഷമല്ലേ ചേട്ടാ"

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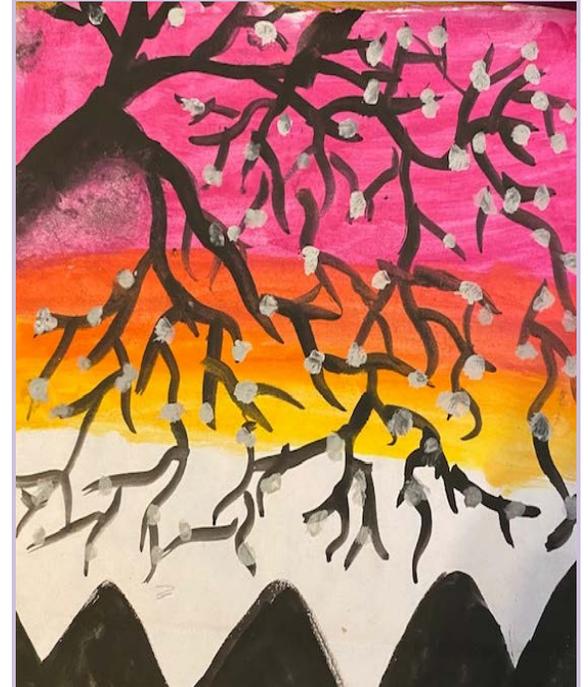
# Channels of Glory

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A Newsletter

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"My village is so colorful!"  
By Sreenandana T. P.



### **Channels of Glory –** **Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah**

Recently I read an article about the photo of human eyes. The author was discussing the future of medical diagnosing based on the details one can see in the photo of human eyes. Apparently one can diagnose various past, present, and future sicknesses just by observing the photo of our eyes. That reminded me about my school days. In those days teachers have many more duties and powers other than teaching. They have to look after the whole wellbeing of each student. This includes disciplining, and corrections of behavioral problems. Each teacher may adopt different methods to fulfill their duties. Usually when a teacher encounters a problem child, they used to interrogate the child in front of the class. Because of the embarrassment, the child often won't be brave enough to face the teacher or his classmates. So he/she will be looking down. Then the teacher will ask him/her to look straight to the teacher's eyes.

In those days, it was believed that the people with guilt feelings will not look into the eyes of other people who suspect him as a criminal. People often used to say "It's written all over his face that he is a crook!" Recently I heard that Delta Airlines are using the photo of the eyes of the customer to exhibit the exclusive travel schedule of a particular passenger. Also I have heard of cameras installed in big stadiums to scan the photos of the eyes of spectators, just to see if any criminals are entering into the crowds so that the police can track and keep an eye on them.

I always wonder about the eyes, ears and the brains of animals, birds and insects. They are all over the world scanning and storing everything that is happening in this world. The only consolation is that they cannot produce those details in the courts; at least for now!

I studied about the compound eyes of flies. Even though they look like two eyes, in fact each eye has multiple small eyes as a group. Who can really imagine how a fly is seeing our surroundings? Likewise who can imagine the brain of a honeybee-remembering the exact location, of the honey and all its details!

Surprisingly the ability of human being also varies very much. The power to observe, memorize, remember, and use all the past experiences varies from person to person. Our parents used to instruct us not to eat our food in front of others. The reason is simple- they may want to have your food which you cannot afford to share with others. Same way they used to tell not to brag about anything to others who cannot

have those blessings. Material possessions, family, salary, health all these are some examples. They used to say that their *Evil eye* or *Evil tongue* may cause harm to you. I don't want to say that those are superstitions or facts. But I consider many of those beliefs as unexplained theories which may have some good reason to practice. But after hearing the new scientific inventions and explanations, I was wondering about the phenomenon they used to call as '*Evil eye* or *Evil tongue*' may be due to a human ability to foresee any catastrophic events coming ahead of time. For example if you see a glass placed at the edge of a table, you predict that it may fall off from the table. In this case one can explain the reason for their prediction. But certain individuals may have very sharp intuition and they may be seeing the future but may not be able to explain the reason. In the children's movie, *Fox and the Hound* the dog 'Copper' explains his power of to detect the smell. He says: "When we are tracking, we are forced to do that!" This why I love the term 'differentially abled' more than the word 'physically challenged'. We will never know our abilities and inabilities till we are tested by time. This is true in the case of judging or assessing others too. We can never predict the future of anything or anyone. In the Bible, Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a mustard seed. Even though it is such a small seed, later when it grows, it becomes the dwelling place of many birds.

Who can comprehend God's creations?

To summarize these thoughts, I would simply say, "Oh God, how great Thou art!"