Appendices

I

dhua (dhuiya) gaan
pratham allah parowar degar
dindukhiya chan surjya kairase tayar
kairase makkate tayar khodar ghar
kata hadis, dalil, koran sarif
madina holo ansider
jumbaghare namaj padhe dinto sukrabar
musalman haon husiyar
jakon chhilam pitar mastake
hawar sane janma nilam mayer uddare
mayer uddare janma layare
paira railam jamine
naya darja uthar mokam bandar sarire
dekhen bhai korane
jedin bandar marano habe
nilbadane bandar ajab habe
natun kapor meraiya gaye
laya jabe bhai kabare
take paisa kisu jabena sathe
sudu jaite hobe khali hate
pratham allah parowar degar
dindukhiya chan surjya kairase tayar
(First praise Allah the supreme
Who has created the world, moon and sun
Created Khooda’s abode at Mecca
In so much of hadis, deeds and Koran
Madina got it’s share
Pray in the mosque the whole of Friday
Be careful, O, followers of Islam
I was in the head of the father
With air entered the womb of mother
Being born, fell flat on the ground
With nine doors and body parts eighteen
See in the Koran
The day the man will die
Punishments will give him a blue face
Wrapping the body in new cloth
They will take it to the grave
Cash and coins will not accompany
Alone he will go with empty hands
First praise Allah the supreme
Who has created the world, moon and sun)

Jabel Ali, Bhangnamari

II  
*dhua (dhuiya) gaan*

prathame allah parowar degar  
din dukhiya chan suraj kairasen tayar  
makkate khodar ghar  
kato hadis dalil o koran sarifare  
madina hoilo ansidar,  
jedin seila pitar mastake

III  
*dhua (dhuiya) gaan*

pagal pagal sabe pagal  
tui kene pagaler khuta  
pagal bine ei jagate bhalo hoi kera  
ek pagal hai shib sanyasi  
teraj kaira kailat kali  
bhang dutura bhang jatha  
bhang dutura bhang jatha  
arak pagal narad mani  
bilate bajay letha  
hariluker pulapan hai sakalo tulsitale rai ata  
pagal pagal sabe pagal  
tui kene pagaler khuta
manpati loiya tara
biswapati garbha kai prasab
bedana prasab karibar
hare daonti pagal nar katite
jatis pagal nam rakhite
sisu pagal dut khaibar
matapita sabei pagal
pathsalate pathaibar
padhar janye mastar hai pagal
chheleder parikshyar pass karibar
parikhyeri pass karle pare khuje nanan chakri
ukil, muktar, jaj, balistar kehoi mahari
hare ukil pagal sabjirate
hakim pagal hukum karte
chor pagal karte churi
pagal pagal sabe pagal
tui kene pagaler khuta

(Mad mad all mad, you are not the only one
Without the mad, who becomes good in this world?
One mad is ascetic Shiv who roams in kailash and kashi
Another mad is Narad saint, who wanders scattering quarrels
Though children of heaven, all keep waiting under the basil plant
Mad, mad, all mad, you are not the only one
The midwife is mad to cut the umbilical cord
The priest is mad to name the baby
The infant is mad to suck mother’s milk
All parents are mad to send children to school
Teachers are mad to teach, students to pass examinations
Lawyer is mad to interrogate, judge to pass judgements
Thief is mad to steal
Mad, mad, all mad, you are not the only one.)

Belasunddin Ahmed
IV  

dhua (dhuiya) gaan

amar man lailaha je balo
thik pathe je chalo
kupathe haiya raji
ajab parba bado
dhuiyar punde aras paro
paro pas ukto namaj tiris roja
sab jagate chharo
amar man gur ajaber katha
amar hriday ase gatha
thaika thaika pran chamka uthe
ki karlam bidhawa
ase hadis koraner katha
hare manilal phiresha ase
gurer habe khara
marbe jilmeter kura,

had, mansa, mani, majak
thakbena hader jora
amar man jamate thako
lagare man bhenge paiya jaba
man behester samne ase sarber bhalo mana
janar pakshye halal bastu
badir pakshye mana ase char korane jana
tai buija man thik pathe
chalre amar pagla mana

(O, my mind, utter the name of Allah, tred the right path
The evil way will lead to severe punishment
Lead a life of devotion with prayers and fasts everywhere
O, my mind, the punishments to come in the grave
Are there in my heart
This makes my soul /life tremble
O, god, what I have done
It is there in the Hadis and Koran
Manilal angel will come and fork us in the grave
Bones, flesh, eyes and brains will be dismembered
O, my mind, apply yourself and you will know everything
When we come before the heaven
Not all get good treatment
All the sins are forbidden in the Koran
To one who knows
Knowing this, O, mind
Tread the right path
O, my mad mind)

Jinnat Ali, Bhangamari

V

dhua (dhuiya) gaan

are kinsi kata chul badani
galai niba chandra har
baper badi chaila jabalo
sader gaina nadile
ekta chaon asilo tako nilo chile
dukha ki mor din thakte
agun dei sei chiler kapale
a marar pulapanek kai bhasa bhangte
bhangena pola pani
dukhaki mor din thakte
agun dei sei chiler kapale
are kinsi kata chul badani
ekta baidani aile dak diya basai
dukan khuila dekhte chay
naira chaira maner sad mitai
baper badi chaila jabalo
a’ sader gaina nadile
dukha ki mor din thakte
agun dei sei chiler kapale

(O, I must get fine hairpin, band
And necklace of variety chandrahar
Go back to father’s home
If ornaments of choice are not given
I had only a child, the kite took it away
Sorrow appears to be my daily companion
Fire to the forehead of that kite
O, for destroying the nest of our young one
Sorrow appears to be my daily companion
Fire to the forehead of that kite
O, fine hairpins
O, call here a seller of hairpins
When she comes this way
I want to see her store
And get some pleasures touching the objects
Go back to father’s home
O, if ornaments of choice are not given
Is sorrow my daily companion
Fire to the forehead of that kite

Belasuddin Ahmed, Puran chaprapara

VI murshidi gaan (fakiranti gaan)
gurur charan bhujib bale re e
e mone asa chhil
chatak railo megher ashe e
kono megh baye jay anya deshe
chatak bache kemane ?
megh bine chattaker marne
o amar sei dasha hoilore
o amar sei dasha hoilore
e mone asha chhil
gachh briksha ropan kaire ami
baisa railam brikshar tale
o phul phutbe bale
phul naphutilo gachhere
o mor dal bhenge parile mastake
o mor dal bhanje parile mastake
e mane asha chhil
ashar nadir pare base
bela achhe danda chari
pari dhari kemane
par nachapil loukare
louka kinarai dubilore
louka kinarai dubilore
o mone asha chhil

(To be at the teacher’s feet
O, such a hope I had
Chatak that I am
Waited in the hope of rain
Clouds fly elsewhere
How the chatak can live
Chatak dies without rain
O, such is the condition of mine
To be at the teacher’s feet
O, such a hope I had
Trees I planted
Kept sitting beneath them
O, waiting for flowers to bloom
O, flowers would bloom I hoped
Trees remained bare
O, branches fell crashing on my head
O, branches fell crashing on my head
To be at the teacher’s feet
O, such a hope I had
Sitting on the bank of river hope
Four dandas of time left
How to reach the other bank
The boat did not arrive
It sank near the shore
To be at the teacher’s feet
O, such a hope I had)

Jinnat Ali, Bhangnamari

VII  

murshidi gaan (fakiranti gaan)

dayakare eso dayal
eso ei adhiner hriday mandire
tumi asile ananda hoi
nirananda biday hoi
ananda deo dayal amare
eso ai adhiner hriday mandire
ami ki diya bhajiba tomar charan o
nai kono bhajan sadhan nai budhi gyaan
o ami bhebe dekhi niropray
murshid bine gati nai
dhariya tolo dayal amare
eso ei adhiner hriday mandire
ese mayar bhave pariya mayar jale
ekta manab tari loiya pariasi bipade
o bhebe dekhi niropray
manab tari dube jay
dhariya tulo dayal amare
eso ei adhiner hriday mandire

(Calling upon you, O merciful
Come to the temple of this servant’s heart
It is joy when you come
It is sorrow when you leave
Give me bliss, O merciful
Come to the temple of this servant’s heart
With what I can worship your feet
Neither have I things nor knowledge
O, I can think of no way
No teacher, no salvation
Lift me up, O merciful
Come to the temple of this servant’s heart
Coming to the world of illusions
Falling in the water of illusions
Taking a human boat has put me in danger
O, I can think of no way
The human boat sinks
Lift me, O merciful
Come to the temple of this servant’s heart)

Jinnat Ali, Bhangnamari

VIII

magan/kula magan gaan

haliyare bhai haliya
hatir kade chariya
hatir kan thal bal kare
nepa bagun gachhe dhare
nepa bagun chiral pat
rakhale khaya karkara bhat
karkara bhat khaiyare
garu charaya pathare
tor grihastar kai gai
baro abal tero gai
tari amra dugdha khai
dugdha khaite nare sare
sat rakhaler nari satkhane pare
an sap dak diya
nari parlo pak diya
huliya balore
ek ser chaul ek teka diyore
je dibo muth muth
tar habo bis phot
je dibo kula kula
tar habo sat pola
IX  

biya gaan

o are gabur tor ki deser bhai bou nai
mukher siri kene uthe nai
o are bali ase bhaibou daki nai
mukher siri amar uthe nai
o are gabur tor ki deser bainta nai
matar alphet keno uthe nai
o are bali ase bainta daki nai
matar alphet amar uthe nai
o are gabur tor ki deser bain nai
gayer siri keno uthe nai
ase bain daki nai

sei janye gaer siri amar uthe nai

(O groom, where is your sister-in-law ?
Why your face is not bright ?
O bride, I have a sister-in-law but not called
Hence my face is not bright
O groom, haven’t you a brother-in-law ?
Why the hairs are not in order ?
O bride, I have a brother-in-law but not called
O groom, havn’t you a sister ?
Why your body is not bright ?
O bride, I have a sisterbut not called
Hence my body is not bright)

X  

biya gaan

murgi beraire araire araire
kachu tulere dalare dala
jadil kachu nagere gala
daur dharmure tetul tola
tetuler bichire hekare beka
gaburer baintar thuta beka
thutat marore char charda bari
aday karore ayor kari
(Hens roam at s distance
Lift orums in busket fulls
If the throat itches from orums
Run to the tamarind tree
Tamarind trees are twisted
So also the chin of the groom’s brother-in-law
Give four stick blows at the chin
And collect coins of income)

XI    biya gaan

haldi tomor konkhane janam
amar janam chhayer karir made
haldi tumi konkhane nagibe go
ami nagmu bala balir gaye go
dubla tumar konkhane janam go
amar janam ghatai pathare go
dubla tumi konkhane nagibe go
ami nagmu bala balir gaye go
tel tumi konkhane janam go
amar janam khulur harir made go
tel tumi konkhane nagibe go
ami nagmu bala balir gaye go
(Turmeric, where you were born ?
I was born under a heap of ash
Turmeric, where you will stick ?
I will stick to the persons of groom and bride
Bent grass, where you were born ?
I was boen in roads and fields
Bent grass, where will you stick ?
I will stick to the persons of groom and bride
Oil, where you were born ?
I was born in the oilman’s pot
Oil, where you will stick?
I will stick to the persons of groom and bride)

XII  

*biya gaan*

*gala bhainga gelo*

*gala bhainga gelo*

*amar gide gahene gala bhainga gelo*

*pan baita ano*

*pan baita ano*

*gider gahener gala bhala karo*

*dena bhainga gelo*

*dena bhainga gelo*

*amar jamai bujaina dena bhainga gelo*

*dena bhainga gelo*

*nali bash kaita ano*

*nali bash kaita ano*

*amar jamai bujaina dena dhuka bajao*

*manja bhainga gelo*

*manja bhainga gelo*

*amar nachon kuchune manja bhainga gelo*

*kalagachh kaita ano*

*kalagachh kaita ano*

*amar nachun kuchune manja dhuka bajao*

*theng bhainga gelo*

*theng bhainga gelo*

*amar para barane theng bhainga gelo*

*bar bash kaita ano*

*bar bash kaita ano*

*amar para beraner theng dhuka bajao*

(Voice is broken
Voice is broken
Singing songs, my voice is broken
Bring betel-leaves
Bring betel-leaves  
Soothe the throat of the singer  
Arms are broken  
Arms are broken  
Our son-in-law knows not  
Arms are broken  
Arms are broken  
Cut slender bamboo  
Cut slender bamboo  
Our son-in-law knows not  
Make supports for the arms  
Waist is broken  
Waist is broken  
Our dancing has broken the waist  
Cut banana trunks  
Cut banana trunks  
Our son-in-law knows not  
Make supports for the waist  
Legs are broken  
Legs are broken  
Moving around the village, our legs are broken  
Cut thick bamboo  
Cut thick bamboo  
Our son-in-law knows not  
Make support for the legs)

XIII  

*biya gaan*

*nausar dal-*

*thakilore thakilore*

*kainar baintara thakilore*

*jitilore jitilore*

*nausar baintara jitilore*

*kainar dal-*

*thakilore thakilore*
nausar baintara thakilore
jitilore jitilore
kainar baintara jitilore

Groom’s party- Deceived, deceived
Bride’s brother-in-law is deceived
Won, won
Groom’s brother-in-law has won

bride’s party- Deceived, deceived
Groom’s brother-in-law is deceived
Won, won
Bride’s brother-in-law has won

XIV biya gaan (song at the time of the bride taking leave)

kaina – biday deo biday deogo
jabasasurbari
alla jeno bhalo rakhe
duakairo amare

kainar may – jaugama go sasurbadi
duakaritomake
sasursasurir khejmat kairo
bhajankairo samir

(Bride– Bid me farewell, bid me farewell
I will go to father-in-law’s house
May Allah keep me well
Pray for me

Bride’s mother– Dear, go to father-in-law’s house
I pray for you
Take good care of father-in-law and mother-in-law
Worship your husband)

XV biya gaan
sosurbabjani gese gomukalmuarrate go
sonarnalman tiya go
sekhanthake anseochitalkatalmachhgo
sonar nalman tiya go
sosur babjani kayje agnay baisa kuto go
sonar nalman tiya go
souri maon jani kayje pateyi baisa kuto go
sonar nalman tiya go
nan jakhani kayje khulaya kariya dhon go
sonar nalman tiya go
akas diya jayo oje dhupani eta chilo go
sonar nalman tiya go
akas diya phatigo chhu diya machho nilo go
sonar nalman tiya go
machh nila bhalai karla hatkhan amar chirla go
sonar nalman tiya go
oitana balte oije sadhu aisa paillo go
sonar nalman tiya go
deon na deon kanya ekojhari pani go
sonar nalman tiya go
dan hate nuta thuiya baon hati deon go
sonar nalman tiya go
dekhina dehki kanya hate kiyon haise go
sonar nalman tiya go
(Father-in-law has gone to Mukalmua hat
O, delicate golden parrot
From there he has brought chital and katal fish
O, delicate golden parrot
Father-in-law asks you to cut in the courtyard
O, delicate golden parrot
Mother-in-law asks you to cut sitting nearby
O, delicate golden parrot
Sister-in-law asks you to wash thoroughly
O, delicate golden parrot
In the sky glides a big kite
O, delicate golden parrot
It sweeps down and snatches away the fish
O, delicate golden parrot
Let it take the fish, but my hand is scratched
O, delicate golden parrot
Before it could be utter, comes the saint
O, delicate golden parrot
O, bride give me a potful of water
O, delicate golden parrot
Holding the pot in the right hand, stretch the left
O, delicate golden parrot
Seeing the hand of the bride why the groom smiles
O, delicate golden parrot)

Sabina Khatun, Mamani Khatun

XVI  

biya gaan

kuar pare pare helenchar gachh
kajal bhomorare
kajal bhomorare
tare madhye bada kusumer phul
kajal bhomorare
kajal bhomorare
daroga babu amak dake ki karane
kajal bhomorare
kajal bhomorare
saheb babu amak dake ki karane
kajal bhomorare
kajal bhomorare
sosur bhasur ami take karesi khun
kajal bhomorare
kajal bhomorare
dese dese amar phaita gese nam
kajal bhomorare
kajal bhomorare

Sabina Parbin, Najima Khatun, Anwara Khatun,
Majeda Khatun, Mamani Khatun  -Kurihamari
XVII  

**biya gaan**

*hatu panit naima nayan daroga*

*hatu sajan kare nayan daroga*

*kumar panit naima nayan daroga*

*kumar sajan kare nayan daroga*

*buk panit naima nayan daroga*

*buk sajan kare nayan daroga*

*gala panit kare nayan daroga*

*gala sajan kare nayan daroga*

*metha panit kare nayan daroga*

*metha sajan kare nayan daroga*

Anwara Khatun, Mamoni Khatun, Sabina Khatun,
Najima Khatun - Kurihamari

XVIII  

**biya gaan**

*beli uthe dalaner upar*

* haya meri anarer kali*

*gaburer baper chhagula dadhi*

* haya meri anarer kali*

*madhye nadit chhirlo nayer kachhi*

* haya meri anarer kali*

*tulo dadhi pakano nayer kachhi*

* haya meri anarer kali*

*gaburer baper chhirana ningti*

* haya meri anarer kali*

*madhye nadit chhirlo nayer badam*

* haya meri anarer kali*

*khulo ningti tulo nayer badam*

* haya meri anarer kali*

(The sun rises above the house
O, my pomegranate bud
The groom’s father has goat like beard
O, my pomegranate bud
In mid river snapped the rope of the boat
O, my pomegranate bud
Uproot the beard and make the rope
O, my pomegranate bud
The groom’s father has torn loincloth
O, my pomegranate bud
Untie the cloth and lift the sail
O, my pomegranate bud)

Sabina Parvin, Najima Khatun
Anwara Khatun, Majeda Khatun

XIX

hudumtola/beng biya gaan

edore bedore megh chaira deo
edore bedore megh chaira deo
dail dhuibar pani nai
chaul dhuibar pani nai
edore bedore megh chaira deo
edore bedore megh chaira deo
dhan khete basiya dhaner mutha dhariya
aisolo sonar megh
daksa moroidiya
edore bedore megh chaira deo
dail dhuibar pani nai
chaul dhuibar pani nai
megh chaira deo
megh chaira deo
hal khete basiya
haler mati vijatiya
aisogo dayar megh
kaitan mure diya
edore bedore megh chaira deo
edore bedore megh chaira deo
(O god, release rain, release rain
O god, release rain, release rain
No water to wash pulses
No water to wash rice
O god, release rain, release rain
Sitting in field, holding paddy plants
Come dear rains
I pray with covered head
O god, release rain, release rain
O god, release rain, release rain
O god, release rain, release rain
No water to wash pulses
No water to wash rice
Release rains
Release rains
Release rains
Raining in the fields
Wetting the fields
Come, O merciful rain
In heavy showers
O god, release rain, release rain
O god, release rain, release rain

XX  bhatiali gaan

ujan deser sujani naiya
hare bhatir dese jaon baiyare
ki ki ainachho banij kariya
o amar naiyare
barir pase kherer na pala
ar kata saiba ami
sasurir jala
seina jalai puira hoilam chhai
o amar naiyare
gharer pase sarpikala
ar kata saiba ami nanadir jala
seina jalai puira hailam chhai
o amar naiyare
ujan deser sujani naiya
hare bhatir dese jaon baiyare
ki ki ainachho banij kariya

(Good boatman of upper reaches
O, you sail away down stream
What things you have brought from trading?
O, my boatman
At the backyard a heap of dry elephant grass
How much I will bear mother-in-law’s torture
I have been burnt into ashes in the fire of that suffering
O, my boatman
At the backyard of the house
Stands a banana plant
How much I will bear the sister-in-law’s torture
I have been burnt into ashes in the fire of that suffering
Good boatman of upper reaches
O, you sail away down stream
What things you have brought from trading?)

XXI  dehatatva

maji asamay ken ghurailire re maji
maji asamay ken ghurailire re maji
loukar jatan karilina man maji
nayer age pachhai mamer bati
maj khane hay dakati
are loukar jatan karilina man maji
o tor bhara louka ghatere baida
parar louka ken dabraili
are loukar jatan karilina man maji
sona diya gadhano louka
nuna jale ken khoaili
are loukar jatan karilina man maji
maji asamay ken ghuraili
loukar jatan karlina man maji
maji asamay ken ghurailire re maji
loukar jatan karlina man maji
(O boatman, at wrong hours why you have turned the boat, O boatman
O boatman, at wrong hours why you have turned the boat, O boatman
You did not take care of the boat, O mind, O boatman
Candles burning in front of and behind the boat
In between is committed dacoity
O, you did not take care of the boat, O mind, O boatman
O, binding your laden boat at the ferry ghat
Why you have oared the other’s
O, you did not take care of the boat, O mind, O boatman
The boat made of gold
Why you have put it in saline water
O, you did not take care of the boat, O mind, O boatman
O boatman, at wrong hours why you have turned the boat, O boatman
You did not take care of the boat, O mind, O boatman
You did not take care of the boat, O mind, O boatman

Abdul Ali, Kalar char

XXII

nao khelar gaan
selam aleikum he o mamin bhai
amar selam dasore charane
sukh basanta diyago kshyanta
ami bale jai

bale lanka bale lanka
selam aleikum he o mamin bhai
amar selam dasore charane
ami ati murkha mati bidya budhi nai
selam aleikum he o mamin bhai
amar selam dasore charane
are dasjane kariben dua
ami bale jai
bale lanka bale lanka
o mamin bhai amar selam dasore charane
are bhul bhranti hoile marjana kariben
selam aleikum he
o mamin bhai amar selam dasore charane

Javed Ali, Bhangnamari

XXIII  gairal/garial gaan

gatete na jaire garial bhai
gatete na jaire garial bhai
nadir ghat bhalo nare
eko basta tulitere garial bhai
ar ek basta tulitere garial bhai
khaisa parlo hater chhata khani
detrarena ja ja salar maish
bapo nai mor baritere garial bhai
maon nai mor kaditere garial bhai
tuila dibo hater chhata khani
eko bhai mor haluare garial bhai
arok bhai mor jaluare garial bhai
ami hailam maisal bandhur dara
ja ja maish tara tari ja

(Go not to the river approach, brother carter
Go not to the river approach, brother carter
The river approach is not good
Lifting one bag, O brother carter
Lifting another, O brother carter
I have dropped the whip
Go, go ,you rascal buffalo go
My father is not at home, O brother carter
My mother is not there to weep, O brother carter
To lift the whip to my hand
One brother is a ploughman, O brother carter
Another is fisherman, O brother carter
I became the friend of one who herds buffalos
Go, go buffalo, go fast)

Raijuddin, Bhangnamari

XXIV  machhmara gaan

jasti asargo mase gange ure chil
kato salar kamchorara gange falai sip
chalo jai machh marite
keho khailo gomer gura keho khailo chera
nadir pare baisa raisi hindu loker mara
duiti machher love
machh mariya hast khusi chaila ase bari
barit jaya galpakare duiti machh faiska gese
machh napaile man bilasi
chaila jay ora bari
aula tamuk tuser agun
feska mara tan jemun tar
beta mare

XXV  machhmara gaan

bhedo machhe aro khay keda
golsa machhe pan chapay
tepa machhe gal phulaiya ray
are katal machher madhye mota
pangkhas machher tin kata
taki machhe bajaise leta
pona uthe bailka bailka bhai
basina khen khenir jalay
guina mirka aro kayuina
ora sur dhare barai taina
dak paira kay ore darkina
gajar machhe uitha bale bhai
ago miya asisna bhai
kani faila uitha bale bhai
ami gosai basina
ar bual machher mukhe chap dari
abar bhetki bajay khunjuri
chit puthi kay nachite pari
rayek machhe uitha bole
maula machhe gay jari
khalsa bale ami jal pairamari
baila machhe uitha bole bhai
ami suiya nej nari

XXVI machhmara gaan

elo panir jal barchhe machher digun bal
machhe machhe gandogal ke rakhchhe khabar
ebar darki chata puthi jukti kare
boale jaiya dhare tule
kato kakila machh haiya railo
sarkari daktar haiya
ebar arkata uitha bale
suno ritha tomar katha bado mitha
pani sukaile ghaira machh habe dipantar
taki machhe saki-suki je khaise palar jata
se jane khabar
hereng kay kareng kata je khaise palar jata
elo panir jal barchhe machher digun bal
(Flood waters come, strength of fish has doubled
Commotion among fishes, who has the information
This time darki, chata, puthi are in argument
Boal joins them
Countless kakila fish have remained
As government doctors
This time arkata rises to speak
Listen ritha, your words are very sweet
When water recedes, ghaira fish will be exiled
Tahi fish whispers, one who has experienced pal
He has the information
Flood waters come, strength of fish has doubled)

Khater Ali, Kuhiramari

XXVII  

nadir gaan

o mor brahmaputra nadire
kichhu khanio daya nai manus bor pratire
desh bhangili, gaon bhangili
bhangili balir charo
are dainer kapal bame gelore
aki sakhi bhanglo paki ghar satheo
o mor akshyasa brahmaputra nadire
kisu khanio daya nai manus bor pratire
kata apan manus niye dure pathaili
paki ghar bhenge kherer ghar karili
kata dhani manus ke garib karili
sona tulya khet matike marubhumi karili
tar ki daya maya kisui nai
o mor brahmaputra nadire
kichhu khanio daya nai manus bor pratire

Harun Ali, Bhangnamari

XXVIII  

nadir gaan

hare are paglare nadi
tui amare karili chhara-chhari
kehari bhangli bhitabari
kehari bhangli jamidari
amar bhangili natunre piriti
hare are paglare nadi
tui amare karili chhara-chhari
kehoi gel mor kochbihare
kehoi gel mor lalmanir hate
bandhu gel mor alipurduare
hare are paglare nadi
tui amare karili chhara-chhari
laine chale rel gadi
matar pare doura douri
urajahaje kare sumsumi
hare are paglare nadi
tui amare karili chhara-chhari
(O, mad river
You have separated us
Someone’s house you have destroyed
Someone’s fields you have destroyed
Broken you have our new love
O, mad river
You have separated us
Somebody of mine went Kochbihar
Somebody of mie went to Lalmani’s bazaar
My friend went to Alipurduar
O, mad river
You have separated us
Train runs on the track
Motor runs on the bank
O mad river
You have separated us)

Abu Bakkar Siddique, Kurihamari

XXIX dharmiya gaan

ekti budhi bas karito bagdade
ekti putra dilex alla tahake
gosolo karaite gelen nadite
hethat kaire kumbhir ekti asilo
jilanike dhaireniya kumbhir palailo
An old woman lived in Baghdad
Allah blessed her with a son
He went to bathe in the river
Suddenly a crocodile appeared there
Caught Jillani and went away
O crocodile, you do not know me, he said
Abdul Kader Jillani I am
The moment the crocodile heard the name
Leaving Jillani behind, it swam away
An old woman lived in Baghdad
Allah blessed her with a son

XXX  dharmiya gaan

khoda tomai dakte janina
dakar moto dakle khoda
keno sunbena
keno sunbena
ek daikasen yusuf nabi
jar preme jeleka bibigo
are pahar puira surma hoilo
are pahar puira surma hoilo
tabu jeleka purlona
dakar mato dakle khoda
keno sunbena
keno sunbena
arak daikasen ayub nabi
jar preme rahima bibi
ar atharo sal kiray khailo
tabu rahima chharlona
khoda tomai dakte janina
dakar moto dakle khoda
keno sunbena

(Khoda I know not how to call you
If called befittingly
Why won’t Khoda listen
Why won’t Khoda listen
One who called was Yusuf Nabi
In whose love fell Jeleka Bibi
Hills got burnt into ashes
Jeleka was not burnt even then
If called befittingly
Why won’t Khoda listen
Why won’t Khoda listen
Another who called was Ayub Nabi
In whose love fell Rahima Bibi
Eighteen years worms kept eating him
Rahima did not leave even then
Khoda I know not how to call you
If called befittingly
Why won’t Khoda listen
Why won’t Khoda listen)

XXXI dharmiya gaan

premer mara jale dubena
haygo, premer mara jale dubena
prem kairase yusuf nabi
jar preme jeleka bibigo
ar pahar pure surma hoilo
tabu jeleka purlo na
premer mara jale dubena
prem kairase ayub nabi
jar premer rahima bibigo
o hay atharsal kiray khailo
tabu rahima chhartona
premer mara jale dubena
(One drowned in love, is not drowned in water
Yes, one drowned in love, is not drowned in water
So loved Yusuf Nabi
In whose love fell Jeleka Bibi
The hills got burnt into ashes
Jeleka was not burnt even then
One drowned in love, is not drowned in water
So loved Ayub Nabi
In whose love fell Rahima Bibi
O, yes, worms ate him for eighteen years
Rahima did not leave even then)

XXXII dharmiya gaan

khoda tomai dakte janina
dakar mato dakle khoda ken sunbena
ek daikesen nabi ali
khodar sathe gesen mili
diyesen parda khuli eske rabbana
dakar mato dakle khoda ken sunbena
ek daikesen musa nabi
tur pahare gelen chali
khodar nure pahar jale
musa jwalena
dakar mato dakle khoda ken sunbena
ek daikesen ibrahim nabi
namruder agune pari
khodar name railen pari
pasam purlen na


dakar mato dakle khoda ken sunbena
ek daikesen ayub nabi
sarba ange kiray dhari
kiray karlo jare – jara
uhu karlen na
dakar mato dakle khoda ken sunbena
ek daikesen jakaria nabi
karate tar matha chiri
dui khanda karilo nabike
uhu karlen na
dakar mato dakle khoda ken sunbena
ek daikesen yusuf nabi
machher pete railen tini
khodar name railen pari
hajam hailen na
dakar mato dakle khoda ken sunbena

XXXIII dharmiya gaan

phul bagane phutlo nabin phul
bagane phutlo nabin phul
se phuleri gondh elo
tribhuban chharaiya parlo
se phuleri nam rakhilo
mohammad rasul, bagane phul phutlo
abdularo pristha hote
ma aminer sekemete
pathailen khoda tare
swariyater mul bagane
sei phul jadi na futito
kichhu paida na haito
na haito aras kursi
jalil rabbul bagane

Abu Bakkar Siddique
XXXIV  dharmiya gaan

ami chaina pani ore jainal
bap tui jaisna oi rane
kal giyase hajrat ali
seto bapre phirlona
oijere kaferer maidan
gele bap tui firbina
ami chaina pani ore jainal
dul duliro paon dabilo
lai sute pran jalilo
ghorai ese khabar dilo
ratre kale madinai
ami chaina pani ore jainal
phul bagane baisa raise
batas deya fatimar gaye
putra soke praner agun
batase ki thanda hay
ami chaina pani ore jainal

Abu Bakkar Siddique

XXXV  dharmiya gaan

ashraful ambiya islamer alisan
janma nilen arabete nabidojahan
ashraful ambiya islamer alisan
sombar din sakale rabiul awale
janma nilen dayal nabi ma aminar uddare
ashraful ambiya islamer alisan
janma nilen arabete nabidojahan
ma aminar chaker jal sudu kare talmal
janmor age maragelo nabijir abbajan
ashraful ambiya islamer alisan
chhay basar bayas holo babar kabar gelo
nidan kale mara gelen nabijir ammajan
Ashraful ambiya islamer alisan

Pachis basar bayas holo khadijaki biye karlo
Khadijake pailen tini praner janer jan
Ashraful ambiya islamer alisan

Challis basar bayas holo hirar pahad dekhte gelo
Jibrail ese nabijike parailen koran
Ashraful ambiya islamer alisan

Tesathi basar bayas holo dayar nabiji mara gelo
Mrityur age adam santan ashraful
Ashraful ambiya islamer alisan

Janma lilen arabete nabidojahan
Ashraful ambiya islamer alishan

(Ashraful ambiya, the light of Islam
Was born in Arabland as Nabi of all times
Ashraful ambiya, Islamer alishan

Monday morning in the month of Rabiul
Nabi the merciful was born of mother Amina
Was born in Arabland as Nabi of all times
Tears welled up in the eyes of mother Amina
Nabi’s father died before his birth
Ashraful ambiya, Islamer alishan

Visited father’s tomb at the age six
And the mother died when he was asleep
Ashraful ambiya, Islamer alishan

At the age of twentyfive married Khadija
Who became the life of his life
Ashraful ambiya, Islamer alishan

At the age of forty went to see the Hira hill
Jibrail cane and taught Nabi the Koran
Ashraful ambiya, Islamer alishan

At the age of sixty three died Nabi the merciful
Before death, Ashraful was the son of Adam
Ashraful ambiya, the light of Islam
Was born in Arabland as Nabi of all times
Ashraful amiya, Islamer alishan)

Arfan Ali, Paschim Bhangnamari

XXXVI  dharmiya gaan

satya bal, supathe chal
are pagla amar man
je pathe paba alla nabik
sei pathe kara agaman
roja namaj panje gana
allar nam kara japana
o nam banao galar mala
are amar paglaman
satya bal supatthe chal
are pagla amar man
je pathe paba alla nabik
sei pathe kara agaman
dekhba jadi alla nabi
pirake banao dhener chhabi
oi rupe rup dekhte pabi
are amar paglaman
satya bal supatthe chal
are pagla amar man
je pathe paba alla nabik
sei pathe kara agaman
baila gese alla o alla
pirer badi murider kaba
abuj manto taon
bujлина are amar paglaman
satya bal supatthe chal
are pagla amar man
je pathe paba alla nabik
sei pathe kara agaman
(Speak the truth, tread the right path
O, our mad mind
The path that will lead to Allah Nabi
Go along that path
Roja, namaj, songs
Recite and repeat the names of Allah
O, wear a garland of his name
O, our mad mind
If you want to see Allah Nabi
Focus your attention on the image of the pir
There you will see Allah Nabi
O, our mad mind
Speak the truth, tread the right path
O, our mad mind
The path that leads to Allah Nabi
Go along that path
Uttered by Allah, O Allah
Pir’s abode is disciple’s Kabba
Ignorant mind that you are
You don’t follow, O our mad mind
Speak the truth, tread the right path
O, our mad mind
The path that leads to Allah Nabi
Go along that path

XXXVII  dharmiya gaan

aire manus ai, nabir pathsalate ai
pathsalate nam lagaya, nabir ummad haore bhai
ai iskule padhago jara, nabir ummad habego tara
ai iskul bhai pass karile auliya tikat pabi bhai
aire manus ai, nabir pathsalate ai
pathsalate nam lagaya, nabir ummad haore bhai
ummadter behesth nabi, nabi karlen ummader dabi
nabi ummad chhara bhaigo arto karo behesth nai
(O man, come to the school of Nabi
Write your name in the school, and become Nabi’s follower, brother
Those who study in that school, Nabi’s follower they become
Passing from the school, o brother you’ll get a ticket to be an Aulia
O man, come to the school of Nabi
Write your name in the school, and become Nabi’s follower, brother
Nabi is the heaven of followers, Nabi gave the call for followers
Nobody gets heaven except Nabi and his followers
O man, come to the school of Nabi
Write your name in the school, and become Nabi’s follower, brother
Nabi owns this universe, Nabi’s light created this universe
Nobody else can lay claim to this universe
O man, come to the school of Nabi
Write your name in the school, and become Nabi’s follower, brother
Those who become Nabi’s followers, get a share of the Nabi
Nobody except the son gets the father’s share
O man, come to the school of Nabi
Write your name in the school, and become Nabi’s follower, brother)

XXXVIII dharmiya gaan

ma babar katha matan jejan chalena
alla, nabijir daya tarai pabena
o haire alla, nabir daya tara pabina
ma baba ati apon ma babake karo jatan
mar kalijai aghat dile khoda sahena
alla, nabijir daya tara pabina
hayre nabijir daya tara pabina
ma baba ati apon ma babake karo jatan
tin kathar sathi paya bhula jayana
alla nabijir daya tarai pabina
hayre nabijir daya tarai pabina
ma babake kasta dile namaj-roja jai biphale
mar kalijai aghat dile khoda sahena
alla nabijir daya tara pabina
hayre nabijir daya tara pabina
jannater thikana khoje tara pabina
ma babar payer niche tale khoje dekha
alla nabijir daya tara pabina
hayre nabijir daya tara pabina
ma babar katha mato chalena jara
allah nabir daya pabina tara
o hayre nabir daya pabina tara
(One who does not follow his parents
Will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
O, they will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
Parents are our dearest, care for them
If mother’s heart is hurt, God does not bear
Will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
O, they will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
Parents are our dearest, care for them
Don’t forget them, finding a friend of whispering words
Will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
O, they will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
When parents are made to suffer, prayers and fasts falter
If mother’s heart is hurt, God does not bear
Will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
O, they will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
They will not get the whereabouts of heaven
Search at the feet of the parents
Will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
O, they will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
One who does not follow his parents
Will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi
O, they will not get the grace of Allah and Nabi)

Arfan Ali, Paschim Bhangnamari

XXXIX  

kandon gaan

ammar kandon jabat jiban
bainer kandon dui char din
gharer paribarer kandon kahak dinto thakena
dukher daradi amar janam dukhi ma
das mas das din maye garve dise thai
rakta mansa khaiya bhai bhabe ailam tai
shwa alam bhebe bole jannat bhai mayer charan tale
tore dekhnna nabir hadis khole
karchen nabi ghosona
dukher daradi amar janam dukhi ma
bidese bipake jadi chhele mara jai
parar loke janar age
age jane may
chheler khabar aina diyo amaro kane
ebar shwa alam bhebe bale
jannat bhai mayer charan tale
tore dekhnna nabir hadis khole
karlen nabi ghosona
dukher daradi amar janamdukhi ma
dukher daradi amar janamdukhi ma

Javed Ali, Bhangnamari

XL  

kandon gaan

sonar chan chanre chan harailam nadite
dudho mitha dahi mitha aro mitha nani
tahar seke adhik mitha basa maoto janani
sonar chan chanre chan harailam nadite
tahar seye adhik mitha basa mainar mukher katha
nimer tale baso basa, nimer chiro kusi
keho tare haira nilo basar mukher hasi
nimer tale baso basa, nimer chiro pata
ghare baisa allar namti mayere sunai
sonar chan chanre chan harailam nadite
manus bale putra beta nije chine guru
mao chariya kemni basa, basa buke maira chil
sonar chan chanre chan harailam nadite
machhe chine gahin pani pankhi chine dal
maye jane betar darad, basa jahar buker chhal
sonar chan chanre chan harailam nadite

XLI         bichhed gaan

dekha deore e hare o dayal chan
tui kun khane lukaili e ek bar dekha dere
anek din hay dekhina tore e
tore na deikha ba kemane rai gharere e
dehe pran thakite dekha deore nayanere putuli
ekbar dekha deore e
jedin haite pran suipachhi i
ami ki ar amar achhi re
amar ei deho pran jati kul man
sab diyachhi tore e ekbar o
hare ei adhini kande bale e hare
dayal rakman chander charan talere
amar ei deho pran jawar kale
paijan dekha tore e ekbar o
ekbar dekha deore e
(O, merciful appear to me once
Where you have hidden, appear to me once
I have not seen you for long
Without your sight, how long the air will be at home
Appear to me once
When the body has life in it
Appear to me once
Since the day my life was engendered
I have not been mine
This my body, life, caste, family, fame
I have given you all
O, this servant weeps
At you feet o merciful
When this body and life are on the verge of leaving
Let me see you once
Once, once o merciful)

Altuf Hussain, Pachim Kuhiramari

XLII  bichhed gaan

amar dayal aina dekhao dekhire
amar shanal aina dekhao dekhi
seje diya gechhe faki i i
angulo kalam banaye
chokher jal karilam kali i i
kaliya kagaj baneye
amar dayaler nam likhi
amar o o o
a’re ekti patra niyo kakere e e
amar dayal chander bari i i
tomar mune diya thut bandhabo kakere
rupar dibo akhi
amar o maj diya o o
sarba anga khaiyo kakere
kisu narakhi yo baki i i
amar akhi duiti raikho kakere
amar dayaler rup dekhi
dayal aina o o

(Let me see if our merciful comes
Let me see if our merciful comes
He has gone away deceiving us
I have made a pen of my finger
And turned tears into ink
Heart into a piece of paper
I have written the name of the merciful on it
O our merciful
O crow, take a letter
To our merciful’s home
Your beak will be decorated
You will get silver eyes
Eat every part of me
Leaving nothing
Except my eyes, o crow
So that I can see the image of the merciful
Let me see if our merciful comes)

Altaf Hussain, Pachim Kuhiramari

XLIII  bichhed gaan

baro dag lagaye chhere gelire
ore kon achin deshe
bidhi jadi dito pakha
haire bandhu uire jaye
kartam dekha
paitam prano sakha
ami kandi baise abirat
buku nayan jale bhase
buku nayan jale bhase
ore kon deshe
hare chatak railo megher ase
haire darun megh baira jaya anya deshe
chatak bachhe kise
jemun megh bine
chataker maranre
e dasha amar hoilo
ore e dasha amar hoilo
baro dag lagaye chhere gelire
ore kon achin deshe
(Stamping a big spot, you have left me
O, you have gone to which strange land
If I had wings
I would have flown
And met you, o friend of my life
I am weeping without end
My breast is drowned in tears
My breast is drowned in tears
To which strange land
Chatak is waiting for rain
Cruel clouds fly to other lands
How can the chatak live
As chatak dies
Without rains
The same fate has befallen me
O, to which strange land)

XLIV   bichhed gaan

ami paro basi i haiyare
thakbo ar katakal, ar katakal
ar katakal parer jala saiyare
amar pajar bhanga bok juraba
dayal tumare dekhiyare
thakbo ar katakal o o
amar antarer ananta jala
betar mala gathi i i
ei jibane keo hoiilona
amar bandhur sebar sati
ami betar mala gale loye
eman kandiye
barayere thakbo aro o
chir jati kande jemun
hare haiya sati
ar pati hara sati kande jemun
chandra hara rati
ami ar katakal thakbo
dayal tomai hara hoiyare
pagal bijay bale kandeo jatho
tate dukh nai
amar ei deho pran sabar kale
tomai jeno paya
amar sheser dine niyo dayal
tomar basuri bajayare
thakbo ar katakal, ar katakal
ar katakal parer jala saiye

(Living in an alien land
How long, how long I shall be
How long to bear the torture of the other
The broken ribs of my skeleton
Will be joined
When I see you o merciful
How long I shall be
Endless suffering from my heart
I have made a garland of all pains
Nobody has come to give my pains company
The garland of sorrows around my neck
I am crying and moving around
As the woman who has lost her husband
Cries in a moonless night
How long I shall be
O merciful, separated from you
Cry one as much
There is no sorrow
So says mad vijay
This body and this mind
I have got for ever for you
On the last day of my life
Take me o merciful
Palying on your flute
How long, how long I shall be
How long to bear the torture of the other)

Altaf Hussain, Pachim Kuhiramari

XLV  bichhed gaan

amar jiban jaibar age
are amar paran jaibar age e
prana sakhigo
aina dekhao tare
are ami jarmer muthan
habo bidaya
sakhi deikhe e
jaya pran bandhure
aina dekhao o
amar jatho chakhere pani
e kuthurai bhariya raikhogo
are amar dayal asle
pao dhuaiyo amar chakher pani diyago
aina dekhao o
amaro marner kale
mathar chul katiya raikhgo
are amar dayal
asle pao muchhayo
amar mathar ar keso diyago
amar marner er kale e
buker cham katiya raikhogo
amar bandhu asle baste diyo
amar katar cham bichhayego
jodi base chamer pare e
amar katha judi pare manego
pagal bijay bale manab janam
amar babe dhanya haiyago
aina dekhao tare

(Before I lose my life
O, before I lose my life
Dear friend
Let me see if he comes
O, I will take leave
Seeing my dear freind
O, I am leaving my dear friend
Let me see if he comes
All my tears in my eyes
Keep them in a pot full
When our merciful comes
Wash his feet with my tears
Let me see if he comes
At the time of my death
Cut and keep the hairs of my head
When the mercyful comes
Wipe his feet with the hairs of my head
At the time of my death
Cut and keep the skin of my chest
When my dear friend comes
Make him sit on it
If he sits on the skin
And remembers me
My life as a human being
In this world is blessed
So says mad Vijay
Let me see if he comes)

Sadek Ali, Bagan Pata

XLVI bichhed gaan

esohe param dayal guru
tomar bhakte daktase
dugkh dibh phul puspago diye
tomar ada pujar samaya hale
diba manophul diye
o tomario charane dibh japa asha a
chhilo amar manete
esohe param dayal guru
tomar bhakte daktase
tomar janye kandite kandite
e amar sat janam bethai gelo
dayal napailam tumai
tore ei janme napai dekha
arki paba jan gele
esoehe param dayal guru
tomar bhakte daktase
are ekbar dekhe deo dekha deo
tore nadekhle pran basenare
ekbar dekha deo dekha deo
are esohe param dayal guru
tomar bhakte daktase

(Come, O supreme merciful teacher
Your devotee is calling
I am ready to worship you with flowers
When the time of worship comes
I will offer flowers of my mind
O, I will chant your name at your feet
This I have hoped
Come, O supreme merciful teacher
Your devotee is calling
I have been crying for you
Over seven births in pain
You haven’t appeared in this life
Will it be after this?
Come, O supreme merciful teacher
Your devotee is calling
O, appear, appear to me once
I cannot live without your sight
O, come, O supreme merciful teacher
Your devotee is calling

Basek Ali, Sialmari

XLVII  ghumdeowa gaan/ gomdeowa gaan

gom bala betara
gom diya jao
khutir madhye paisa ase
guina niya jao
hale leler nao
kal badurer sao
kalur maya baite nai
kar dudu khao
ai chhan badhiya
bhat dimu chariya
baisya aile nao dimu
kharali mase ghora dimu
khuti bhaira paisa dimu
ango mainak gom diya jao
gom bala betara
ango mainak gom diya jao
(O dozing son
Go to sleep
Coins in the pot
Count and take
Mother of Lel
Chick of black owl
Kalu’s mother not at home
Whose milk you will drink?
O moon, grow bigger
I will give plenty of rice
Give you a boat in rains
Give you a horse in summer
Give you potfull of coins
Our son dear, go to sleep
O dozing son
Our son dear, go to sleep)

XLVIII    ghumdeowa gaan/ gomdeowa gaan

nindo nindo kalbadurer saon
kala khemna kala khemna
kalsi kina deon
kalsir madhye goma sap
gom gom kare
tari madhye mainar sasur
dadhi muchur pare
(Sleep, sleep black owl’s chick
Will not eat banana, will not eat banana
Buy a pitcher
In the pitcher a cobra
Hisses and hisses
In it my dear’s father-in-law
Caresses and coils his beard)

XLIX    khelar gaan

ekte ek ekasi
duiye dasamik
tine tulisir pata
chaire gadir chaka
panche pan khawa
chhaye chhabi aka
sate swadhinata
athe atta atta

egharar ekti
barar chhepti
terar kechi kata
choudhyar rupa pata
ponarar pan thali
sollar deba gadi
sottarar sottar enchi
atharar amer gait
uniser gachh
biser lakh
ek lakh

L khelar gaan
uan tu thri
pailam ekta bidi
bidir nai agun
pailam ekta bagun
baguner nai bichi
pailam ekta kechi
kechir nai dhar
pailam ekta hand
hander nai nej
pailam ekta beng
benger nai matha
gelam ami dhaka
dhakat nai gadi
ghuire ailam badi
badit nai bhat
pet sukaiya thak

LI
khelar gaan
aser bacha chai chai
ei maina tor badi kai
amar badi rampur
ami bechi chanachur
chanachurer dam kato
atana chairana
phul tulime rumalat
chithi lekhum kagajat
phira dimu basibar
phirar talat ki
nal kaitari

Saiful Islam, Kalar char

LII
bilai, beng, juni poka ar endurer gaan
bilai kay machh khabona
khabo kata makkai jabo
o bilai kay
makkai jaiya haj kariya
sada tupi mathay laba
bilai kay machh khabona
khabo kata makkai jabo
(Cat says, I will not eat fish
Eat only bones, and go to Mecca
Going to Mecca, doing haj
Wear white cap on the head
Cat says, I will not eat fish
Eat only bones, and go to Mecca)

tai suina kay baya beng
amar ase lamba theng
lampu diya lankai jaya
raban mayra raja haba
o benge kay
bilai kay machh khabona
khabo kata makkai jabo
(Hearing that, says the frog
I have long legs
Leaping, and going to Lanka
I will be king, killing Ravan
O, the frog says
Cat says, I will not eat fish
Eat only bones, and go to Mecca)
ebar kay juni poka
amar ase kisu katha
o putkir bati jolaiya
kerasin teller dam kamaya dibo
bilai kay machh khabona
khabo kata makkai jabo
(This time speaks the glow worm
I have some words
O, using my posterior lights
I will make kerosene cheaper
Cat says, I will not eat fish
Eat only bones, and go to Mecca)
ebar kay endur beta
ami bajabo letha
o raster dare khal katiya
rel gadi paltaya dibo
a endure kay
bilai kay machh khabona
khabo kata makkai jabo
(This time speaks the rat
I will create trouble
O, digging holes at the edge of the way
I will offturn the train
Speaks the rat
Cat says, I will not eat fish
Eat only bones, and go to Mecca)

Harun Ali, Bhangnamari

LIII
distan
karo pus mas, karo sarbanas
(One’s Push (December) month, the other’s doom.)
jenan guru, teman chela
(Like teacher, like disciple.)
hageona rastao chhadena
(Doesn’t pass stool himself, doesn’t give way to others either.)
ek sudu bhasur amar, arak sudu kalokamar
arak sudu tui, arak chudu mui
baser theke kansi sakta
(Twig is stronger than bamboo.)
allai jakhan deye tui phari diya deya
(When Allah gives, he gives ripping open the thatch.)
baira maria bhijar theke ghare aisa gan dhoan
(Better to bathe at home than getting wet outside.)
nai jatui haokna bado, pater tal
(However big the bottle gourd, it is always under the leaf.)
badobari name phata hari payalla kuttai chate
(Dogs lick the broken pots of the rich.)
parer thale dudh bhat dekhe nije gal charano
(Sighting milk and rice in the other’s dish, slap one’s own cheeks.)
mullar daud masjid
(Mulla’s run is to the mosque.)

Jinnat Ali, Bhangnamari
achhe garu nabuai hal
tar dukho sarbakal
(One has ox that does not plough;
his sorrow is for ever.)

jar nai garu
tai duniyar saru
(One without cattle is the smallest in the world.)

haku daku kairona
banda pindar kshaya
allai dile alpte hai
(No desire, no desperation;
it wastes one’s body.
If Alla gives, a little suffices.)

bal bal apnar bal
bhair bal pachhe
gharar jadi bhat thake
magir balo ache
(Strength, strength own strength
Brothers strength comes later
If there is rice at home
The woman has strength.)

dusta loker misti katha
dak diya niya basai kase
katha diya katha niyay
paran mare sese
(The wicked speaks sweet
Invites and makes you sit beside
Talks and listens
Takes your life in the end.)
bhaye bhat deya
bhaufi kare mana
jadio bhat deya
kaitarer dana
(The elder brother gives rice
The sister-in-law forbids
Even if she gives
It is like pigeon’s feed.)

nachbar najanle
mulla gere aganar dos
(Not knowing how to dance
In the house of mulla it is the floor to blame.)

andharat sute
panit mute
bhatat deya uch
nijer duse banda mare
allar deya duch
(Sleeps in the dark
Urinates in water
Bedews the rice
Man dies from his own mistake
Allah, he blames.)

jachle manikya nesta
(Proffered gems go waste.)

fakir anjade bhishkya besi
(More alms than the mendicant deserves.)

gayer fakir gaye bhishkya payana
(The fakir does not get alms in his village.)

sam chalakir bhai
tumi neon nangul jumal
ami neyi gai
(Brother of Sham the clever
You take plough and yoke
I take the oxen.)

gabarer madhye paddar phul
(Lotus in cowdung.)
magna dai achal paita nei
(Freely offered curd
People want to take in cloth.)

hatat nai kara kari
kumla guya base
dukani magi thukna mare
dant nitka hase
(Not a cowrie/paisa in hand
Searching for soft betelnut
The woman shopkeeper throws a blow
He grins.)
asayare kachu
saber guai kichu kichu
(Orum of the month of Asadh
Everybody’s stool has a little of it.)
age dhare hayel
sei dui salai khay gayal
(Who hold the oars in the front
Those two get rebuked.)
age bhage pase
nage ben na nage
(Do it before time
Later it may not happen.)

asa kare ji ghat
biya na haya sei ghat
(The home hoped for
Is not got in marriage.)
bhabiya kario kaj
karia bhaibona
(Think and then act
Not act and then think.)
nangla jhada dhan
showuri jhara baon
(The de-weeder applied paddy field
The mother-in-law disciplined daughter-in-law.)

Kismat Ali, Bhangnamari

LV
distan

bara mase baro phul justi mase kala
ujan matan gahen kaile sukhe thake gala
(Twelve flowers in twelve months
Banana in the month of May-June
Sing as much as you can
The voice will not suffer.)

maske baro jata kamaite paro
maske sath ete jiban thak ar jaik
ek tekat faon
chadhya gosthi niya khaon
(Buy with one rupee
Eat your fourteen generations.)

paot para diya kaija kara
(Put foot on another’s and quarrel.)
nijer paot nejei kuiral maillo
(Direct the axe at one’s own foot.)

ek perai dhan khaya
ek perai han khaya
(One buffalo eats paddy
The other gets the stick.)
amar mathar upre katul thuiya rua khaba
(Put the jackfruit on my head and eat.)

kaitarer aon bhalo baon bhalo
kaitarer gu bhalona
(Pigeon’s songs are good, movements are good
Not its droppings.)

pakhi mare raya, manus mare kaya
(Bird dies taking rest
Man dies speaking out.)

pakhir madhye kayara
manuser madhye hailo bhaira
(Among birds crow
Among men brother.)

jay kay ayre
tar sate jayare
(One who calls
With him go.)

asen bhai basen thai
padhar samay galpa nai
jadi ase galpa
deri karen alpa
(Come brother sit here
No gossiping at the time of study
If you have stories to tell
Delay a little.)

khay khay mak makay
harir diki chok pakay
(Eats and eats, becomes fat
Keeps eying the pot.)

pakhi kemun, jar jar mune jeman
(Birds are like their respective beaks.)
i deser ghura o deser ki
anisa ghura batar diya ni
(Horse of this country, what in the other
Horse you have brought, take it along the way.)
ayil diya haiha jamu
dal diya bhat khamu
(I will walk along the path
Eat rice with pulse.)
maser madhye kayara
manuser madhye bhayara

Kismat Ali, Bhangnamari

LVI

man

amar ekta mugar ase
baser pata khay
kuku kaiya dakhile
bahudur jay
(We have a cock
Eats bamboo leaves
When it crows
The sound travels afar.)

uttar – mobile

LVII

man

chit kaira phalaiya
upar karia dhaira
eman kara kare
manja sudhya nare
jadi hay bhanda kuri teka dimu danda
(Pinning down face upward
Holding up
Do as much as you wish
The whole body shakes
If proved wrong, twenty rupees fine I will give.)

uttar – sil-pata (grinding stone)
dekhile nibar man jay
nile tippar man jay
tiple karbar man jay
karile bhalo lage – bastuta ki ?
(Want to take if you see
Want to press if you take
Want to do if you press
Enjoy it doing – What is the object?

uttar – mobile
tini akshyare jar nam
jangale bas kare
pratham akshyar katile
jubatir nam bale
(Its name in three letters
Lives in the forest
Cancel the first letter
It becomes a girl’s name.)

uttar – harina (deer)
dile khaina
nadile khay
(Does not eat when given
Eats when not given.)

uttar – garur mukher tupa (A mouth girder or
net to prevent a cow or ox from eating)
mamage  kala gai
ghate ghate pani khai
(Uncle’s black cow
Drinks water at different river approaches.)

uttar – barsi (rod and line)

LVIII
man
etukuna dari
gusaite gusaite mari
(A piece of rope
Trying to remove, one is tired to death.) uttar – ghata (road)
rajar badir hatti
din din khay natti
(Elephant of king’s house
Everyday gets kicks.)

uttar – dhenki (wooden rice dehusker)
rare rare judhya kare sar janya har sahay niya
la dhonso hoilo – iar sampurna artha ki ?
(‘Ra’ and ‘Ra’ fight for ‘Sa’ taking help of ‘Ha’
‘La’ is destroyed – what is its full meaning?)

uttar : ra– ram
ra– ravan
sa– sita
ha– hanuman
la– lanka.

LIX

rajar bari ghora
ek biyanei kam sara

uttar – kala gachh (banana plant)
ailo ghugu som sumiya
padhlo ghugh pak chhariya

uttar – jahi jal (throw net)
dui bhaiyer ek dam
ek bhai haraiya gili
arak bhaiyer dam nai

uttar – chati (sandal)
ek thali subari
gunte lage bepari

uttar – tara (stars)
matir talekar budhi
nayena duyena
tao ekta sundari

uttar – rasun (garlic)
hat singel dili
khara hoiya roi
bogale geli khara hoi
bhitere geli khuch khuchay-
    uttar-gadir handyman.

LX  man
tumi asila khale
ami asilam dale
tomar sathe dekha haba mauter kale
    uttar – marich ar mach  (chilli and fish)
mamuge gharer pase
kai bur bur kare
kon betar sadhye ase
jal phalaite pare
    uttar – ukka/huika  (smoking pipe)
mamuge gharer pase
aleo na doleona
rat hoile thakeona
    uttar – hat  (market)
kala kachu jale bhase
had nai tar mansa ase
    uttar – jok  (leech)
allar ki kam
ek gharer ek kham
    uttar – chhati  (umbrella)
it ghugur pit kaan
kun ghugur chhai kaan ?
    uttar – masjid  (mosque)

Arfan Ali, Kismat Ali,
Jilaluddin Ahmed, Harun Ali,
Akram Hussain Sikdar
LXI.  

kiser awaz sabseye misti ? (kista)

ek raja ekdina jante chailen kisher awaj sabseye misti ? mantri ballen
beenar awaj sabseye misti ¼ ar ekjan ballen setarer awajsabseye misti ¼
aro akjan ballen kholer awaj sabseye misti ¼ sakale jakhan bibhinna
badhyajantrer mistito niye gabezana karsilo takhan prasader pandit
sakaler alakshe paket theke ekti rupar taka berkare mejete tung kare
awaj karlo ¼ sakaler dristi takhan tung awaj sristikarir prati padal ¼
pandit hese balal – maharaj takar awaj sabseye misti !

Jinnat Ali, Bhangnamari

LXII  

madbari siskhya (kista)

ekta budhah betir duita pula asilo ¼ chhuta kale bapta maira jaibar
pare kono rakam kam kaj kare jiban nirbas kare ¼ barir bugale ekta
dewani beta din bhaira madbari kaira chale ¼ te ekdina buidha betir bado
pula madbari siskhyar janya madbarer badi jaya madberek kai –
madbarbhai amak madbari sikhao ¼ thik ase, teka paisa deo, tumake
madbari sikhai ¼ te teka paisa niya ekta katha sikhailo – ‘na haile bolbo
keno’ ¼ bado bhai chinta kare jaiga ami to sikhlam, chhoto bhai take ar
thakaiya darker nai ¼ te oko madbari badi pathaiya dise ¼ ar taka pансo
niya oko sikhaise – ‘haileon hoite pare’ ¼ chhoto bhai chinta kare – bado
bhai amito sikhlam – make pathaiya darker nay ¼ make pathaiya dise, te
gese ¼ madbare sikhaiya dise – ‘suta katte sunte pay’ ¼ maye japte japte
badit ase ¼ kisudin par madbare bado betar upare bichar chapaise – je
ami budhir bado betar kache teka ponoroso pay ¼ te manus niya jaya
chherak kaya – e madbare ki tar kase teka pay ? te kay – ‘na hoile
bolbo kunkeno’ ¼ madbarera kaya kathato thiki kay ¼ chhoto bhair kase
kaya kare paiki—‘haileon haite pare’¼ kathato thiki¼ he budha beti, 
tumar betar kache je teka paya thiki¼ ‘suta katte sunte paya’ ? bale 
kathato thiki¼ tar par madbarera kaya ei teka diya de¼ te madbarer 
kase jaya kay ‘ki madbari sikhaile’—madbari sikhaiya teka adaya kara 
dharo¼ madbare kaya eitaito madbari pech —tor kase kemun kaira teka 
napaiya teka adaya karlam¼ 

Belasuddin Ahmed, Puran Chaprapara

LXIII  

bagh ar sial panditer kista

ek birat baro jangal silo¼ sei jangale bahut dharane jib jantu bas 
karto¼ samsta pasu pakhi, jib jantur raja silo ekta masta baro 

bhayankar bag¼ sei bager katha mato samasta pasu pakhi, jib jantu utha 

basa karsilo¼ ei bhave bage rajatwo karte karte ek samay baner raja 

bagta bridha haya¼ jakhan bhagta bridhya haya takhan aste aste durbal 

haya¼ abasese se ar sikar kare kheta perena¼ ekta gatar bhitare pare 

ase¼ kisu din ei bhave thakar par ekdin ekta sial pandit sei baner raja 
pare thaka gatar nikate diya jawa abastai bagar upar najar pare¼ dhire 
dhire gatar nikate jay¼ sial pandit bagtake jingas karse—maharaj apnar 

abasta dekhsi ekebare bhisan kharab¼ bagta kailo— he sial pandit 

manuse tumak pandit bale dake – tumar mathat bes budhi ase¼ tai ajke 
ami baner raja haiya tumake anuradh karsi jikono upaye amake khawar 
jogad kari deo¼ ajkiya satdin jawat kono kisui khai nai¼ sial kailo—thik 
ase – maharaj ami jabinchi – dekhi kisu paya ki na¼ tar par sial pandit 

seikhan thaikya bidaya hoiya jangler bhitar ghurbinse¼ ghurte ghurte 

ekta sundar hariner sange dekha hoi¼ sial pandit harinke bolse—he
harin bhai ei dige ai amar kase ekta bhalo khabar ase ¼ tai sune harine
sialer kase ese bolse— ki he bhai pandit kiser bhalo khabar ¼ sial pandit
bolse age bolo tumi amake bhalo khabar sunar par tumi amake ki
upahar dibar? harin: age bolto ki eto boro bhalo khabar ¼ sial: he bhai
harin tui baro bhagyaban ¼ tar kapalat aj phule gese ¼ amar kapal
ekbare pura ¼ tabe jai hok bhalo kaira sun – aj amar baner raja bager
sange dekha hoisilo ¼ uni amake bolse je amar bayas ses ¼ ami aj
bridha hoie giyasii ¼ tai ei banar rajbarharta ami amar nj hate ekjanke
diye dite chayi ¼ kintu ami jahake dite chayi take ami pasina ¼ takhan
ami jigyasa karlam se ke? takhun bage tomar katha kailo ¼ take kailo je
harin dekhte sunte rupe gune amar pasandniya ¼ tai ami tahake amar
bhar bojata take deite chai ¼ tai amake anurodh karche tumake deke nie
jete ¼ tara tari cholo amar sange ¼ besi deri hoile keoke dite pare ¼
harine sialer phuslanit bhule sialer sange gelo ¼

harin : tabu chalun pandit bhai ¼ dujan ek sathe jai ¼ bager nikat jawar
agei bage kisu dur theke dekhtese je siale ekta hariner sange kare
anche ¼ tai bager peter khida kisu dur hoiasr aru tar phurti kisu sarile
saktio aise ¼ tai maner anande garja uthxe ¼ bager gajneharin bhaye
kampaban hoiya daud diye palaya ¼ takhun siale bagteke bole – he
maharaj apnar bhul hoiye gel ¼ karan ami take chhalana kari baner
rajar luv dekhaiya boro kaida kari enehhilam ¼ apnar kase asar age
apne garje uthlen ¼ tai se palaya gelen ¼ ekhun ami ki karbo ?

Oiran Khatun, Dakshin Singra