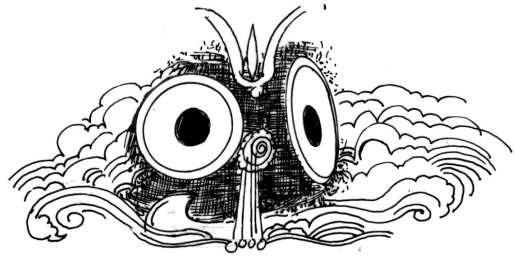




Lord of the Universe

Mohan Patnaik

Hailed all over as the Lord of the Universe
 Why then You shut your Lion's Gate to us
 Are you a temporal God on earth taken hostage ?
 Or really the God of Gods, of Mighty Sea, air and sky
 That move at Your will
 Why is Your Ratna Sinhasan the sanctum sanctorum ?
 Where You are daily worshipped prohibits our entry ?
 Are we Your untouchables or the sinned lot
 Who You deny to feast on your Mahaprasad.



Do You know whose name in mind ?
 We go to sleep ? Do you know with what joy ?
 We pull Your chariot to crush our sin
 The whole earth is Your temple is your temple
 The sky above is Your Neelachakra
 And the twinkling stars are Your thousand names.
 Why then you decided to move back to Neelachal
 When your Nine Days' Stay seem to us a nine days wonder.

Stay, stay with us on the chariot dear
 And make us behold Your grace ever in wonder.
 We shall get for You the purest water
 Down the stream of Nirmal Jhar
 We shall serve You our Sour rice and Pickle
 As food for your three time hunger.
 We can stand all around to protect from rain
 And cover you with our meshed blanket
 To hold You from winter pain.



Kalia, Arre Kalia move not your chariot back
 But stay, stay here over the wide green
 And shine and shine here and
 You shine the world over and help us wash
 Our sins at Your Lotus Feet ever and ever.

Mohan Patnaik, Berhampur