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AZHAR UDDIN SAHAJI

Invoking Macbeth

Speak Macbeth!
 Again
 Come out of your grave
 Take your dagger
 Stab Duncan
 Again
 Give him a second death!
 They say He is immortal
 Will reign till the end of the world
 And folks call him the King!
 Speak Macbeth again!

Call Lady Macbeth too...
 She is needed
 Ask her to invoke
 All the horrors of the dark and white
 For they say He is too powerful...
 Macduffs and Malcolms
 Are bribed
 Nothing would they be saying
 When Porter shall be the king
 Speak Macbeth
 Again!

An Ode to the Poets

All the poets of the world
 Stand in a queue---
 This is your king's command!
 You don't know how to respect a king
 And never love your country!
 You just criticise
 Never see His good deeds!

Poets, shut your mouths up
 Else you will lose your heads
 Your lips will be sewn
 Or would be thrown into a dark dungeon
 Where you will lose your eyesight
 And gradually memory too!
 Your properties would be the king's
 So your wives too
 And all scriptures would be burned!

Poets, beware!
If you want to live in this land
If you want to remain alive
Never say the king is 'naked'---
Keep your eyes shut
Else look shamelessly---
And chant together---
'All hail, the naked king'!

#inmyname

It's in my name
That you find a traitor
I'm always afraid,
Of sedition charges
What will happen
If I don't get a government job?
That's the thing cringes me most!

It's in my name
That you find an invader
Who converted flesh and stones
Killing innocents
Then washing swords in Dettol
Each time...
Such brutal and horror!

It's in my name
That you find a beard, so stinky
That you smell the foul from 3km away
You find rustic slangs
In my dialogue
'Such Uncultured bugs'!

It's in my name,
That you always find beef
In my potholed bag
I carry in the public
And blood oozing out of it
Afraid, I don't carry it anymore
Instead, I carry all the loads on my shoulders
It looks a bit old fashioned
But that's safe!

It's in my name
That you find beef in all my homemade food
You refuse to taste it
In lunch hours...

When we sit together
Though you 'appreciate' a lot!

Who says 'not in my name'?
It's all in my name
That many things operate
And will continue to operate...

#MobLynching

Instead of lynching
Squeeze their blood out
(I'm sure that will be easy for you)
And they will die a slow death.
They will pay the cost of their birth
(They'll have to pay in any case
Since its new India)
For their beard,
Weird names,
'Four wives and numerous kids'.

Then sprinkle the blood across Ganga and Yamuna...
In every field,
Every village, town and city...
Monsoon is coming
They will rise from the earth
They will have a second birth
In India...
In the shape of peepal trees
With cold and peaceful shades...
Will, you cut that down too?



BIO-NOTE

Azhar Uddin Sahaji is a poet and researcher, working as Assistant Professor (Guest) at the Department of English, Zakir Husain Delhi College (M), University of Delhi. He completed his M.Phil. (English) from JMI, Delhi and M.A. (English) from Faculty of Arts, Delhi University.

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