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## S M YAHIYA IBRAHIM

**Migrant (1)**

Me too, a migrant.  
 Though I live  
 in my own country.  
 Endless similarities,  
 we have.  
 You and I.  
 Endless legacies  
 we share.  
 You and I.  
 Boundless aspirations  
 we long.  
 You and I.  
 Boundless dreams  
 we desire.  
 You and I.  
 But  
 Still on my horse's back,  
 I carry an elephant full of misdeeds,  
 which my ancestors did.  
 You say so ...  
 I still carry the smell of Arabia,  
 the odours of Central Asia,  
 and the stink of invader's blood.  
 Though the great great grandfather  
 of my great grandfather,  
 generations ago,  
 did ablutions from the water of Ganges  
 at Maner Sharif\*  
 and offered namaz  
 on the rocks of Bihar Sharif.\*  
 And my great grandfather ploughed the lands  
 on the shores of the River Morhar\*\*  
 and grew pulses, and wheat, and rice,  
 only for his great grand son  
 to be called an outsider!

*\*Renowned Sufi centres in Bihar, India*

*\*\*A local river at Sherghati, Gaya*

### BIO-NOTE

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