

Gesū-e tābdār ko (ġhazal)

by Muḥammad Iqbāl (1877-1938); from Bāl-e Jibrīl (1935); Kulliyāt, p. 299

Meter: =---=/-==/=---=/-==

gesū	EK
tābdār	ringlet, curl of hair (m.)
hosh	twisting, burning, inflaming
ḵhirad	understanding, judgment (m.)
shikār	intellect, wisdom (f.)
qalb	prey (m.)
	heart (m.)
	DO
‘ishq	passionate love (m.)
ḥijāb	veil (m.)
ḥusn	beauty (m.)
āshkār	revealed
	TĪN
muḥīṭ	ocean (m.)
bekirāñ	fathomless
āb-jū	rivulet, brook (f.)
ham-	sharing-
kinār	=kinārā, shore (m.)
	CHĀR
ṣadaf	mother-of-pearl, oyster shell (f.)
guhar	=gauhar (m.), pearl
ābrū	honor (f.)
ḵhazaf	clay pot, fragment of broken pottery (m.)
shāhvār	royal
	PĀÑCH
naġhmah	melody, song (m.)
nau-bahār	fresh spring
naṣīb	fortune, destiny (m.)
dam	breath (m.)
nīm-soz	half-burnt
ṭā’irak	diminutive of ṭā’ir, bird (m.)
	CHHIH
bāġh	garden (m.)
bihisht	paradise (m.)

ḥukm	order, command (m.)
safar	travel, journey (m.)
kār	affair, matter, action, business, work (m.)
jahāñ	world (m.)
darāz	long
kā intizār karnā	to wait for

	SĀT
ḥisāb	account, ledger-book (m.)
pesh honā	to be before, in front of
daftar	office, department (m.)
‘amal	administration, business, action (m.)
sharmsār	shame-faced, modest, embarrassed

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1

gesū-e tābdār ko aur bhī tābdār kar
hosh o ḳhirad shikār kar, qalb o naẓar shikār kar

2

‘ishq bhī ho ḥijāb meñ ḥusn bhī ho ḥijāb meñ
yā to ḳhud āshkār ho yā mujhe āshkār kar

3

tū hai muḥīṭ-e bekirāñ maiñ hūñ zarā-sī āb-jū
yā mujhe ham-kinār kar yā mujhe be-kinār kar

4

maiñ hūñ ṣadaf to tere hāth mere guhar kī ābrū
maiñ hūñ ḳhazaf to tū mujhe gauhar-e shāhvār kar

5

naḡmah-e nau-bahār agar mere naṣīb meñ nah ho
is dam-e nīm-soz ko ṭā’irak-e bahār kar

6

bāḡh-e bihisht se mujhe ḥukm-e safar diyā thā kyūñ
kār-e jahāñ darāz hai, ab merā intizār kar

7

roz-e ḥisāb jab mira pesh ho daftar-e ‘amal
āp bhī sharmsār ho mujh ko bhī sharmsār kar

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GHAZAL

by Muhammad Iqbal

Make your radiant twining curls
more radiant, more twining!
Hunt down mind and thought,
hunt down heart and sight!

Passion too might be behind the veil,
beauty too might be behind the veil.
Reveal yourself,
or else reveal--my self!

You are a fathomless ocean
I am a small stream.
Share your shore with me,
or make me shoreless!

If I am an oyster shell,
in your hands is the radiance of my pearl.
If I am a potsherd--
make me a royal pearl!

If a song of the new spring forms
no part of my lot,
Make this half-scorched breath
a small spring bird.

From the Garden of Paradise why did you send
the order for me to set out?
The work of the world is long--
wait for me, for now!

On Judgment Day
when my ledger is opened,
you too might feel ashamed--
make me feel ashamed, too!