

KURAL

He was the divine poet of the civilised world & was the greatest social philosopher of the ancient world. His masterpiece Thirukkural, is non-religious & it talks the problems of the mankind & gives solatium to it. Every human being should read Thirukkural & should practice it in life.

**MAMALLAPURAM
TOWN PANCHAYAT**

The Garland of Thiruvalluvar

Ever since the Kural's inception, when the Sangam Pandits were thrown precipitously into the Golden Lotus Tank, many writers have sang panegyric praises of this impressive holy book. Traditionally they have been collected together in a sequence of stanzas known as the 'Tiruvalluva Malai,' or 'Garland of Thiruvalluvar,' usually placed as an appendix to Thirukkural.

During my work I came across many writers extolling the work of Valluvar, a selection of which I have gathered together into a new garland, a bouquet containing the dried flowers of aeons ago, & the fresher scents of more modern minds.

The god Brahma, hiding his own true form, was born into the world as Valluvar, who took the three categories of the Vedas Virtue, Wealth and "Bliss and expressed them in the form of the Kural; therefore let my head worship this book, let my mouth praise it, let my mind ponder on it and let my ears listen to it.

Ugra-Peruvaludhi

The Kural is a semi-perforated mustard seed, into which the poet has poured the contents of the seven seas.

Idaikkadar

There hardly exists in the literature of the world a collection of maxims in which we find such lofty wisdom as in Thirukkural

Albert Schweitzer

I wanted to learn Tamil, only to enable me to study Valluvar's Thirukkural through his mother tongue itself.... It is a treasure of wisdom

Mahatma Ghandi

O king, who rules over the land where tame birds fall asleep to the music of the rice-pounders ! The wonder of the thought contained in one of Valluvar's little verses is similar to the drop of water on the tip of the tiniest flower, which reflects the whole length of the tallest palmyra tree.

Kapilar

Thirukkural is as clear as an unpolluted spring. Yes! Thirukkural, the unique book, has come to remove the impurities of this world.

GU Pope

As Vishnu, when he appeared as Vamana, or the dwarf, measured with two steps heaven & earth, so with the two lines of his diminutive veppa-footed kural-verse Thiruvalluvar has measured the universe

Paranar

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**Part
I**

VIRTUE

1
Faith

As 'A' announces alphabets
Divinity begins existence

Without obtaining spiritual intelligence
Humanity studies profitless

The godly heart beats
Through flourishing lives

To follow one's faith
Fends off sorrow

Unwaveringly praising one's faith
Brings us balance

When desires are renounced
Life prospers long

Loving the peerless One
Cleanses anxious minds

Crossing seas of virtue
Enters life's ocean

Those refusing divinity's existence
Deaf, mute, blind

Across life's boundless ocean
Faith escorts believers

2
Rain

Rain's continuance sustains existence
Life's vital ambrosia

Rain produces wholesome food
Thus itself food

Although surrounded by ocean
Rainless nations starve

When fruitful rains diminish
Farmer's ploughs cease

As rain ruins us
Rain raises us

When clouds grow shy
Even grasses fail

When clouds refuse rain
Mighty oceans diminish

When drought dusts lives
Religious ritual perishes

When Heaven retains rain
Charity abandons Earth

As rain maintains rivers
Water sustains life

3

Ascetics

Universal scriptures exalt souls
Seeking celestial enlightenment

Easier to count deathdom
Than quantify asceticism

Our most esteemed leaders
Ceaselessly practice virtue

Where wisdom guides us
Excellence must follow

Those conquering sensorial pleasures
Gain infinite admiration

Greatness solves those problems
Baseness deems impossible

By controlling pentasense successfully
Pleasant living possible

Sayings & proven prophecies
Eventually unveil greatness

When virtuous mountains provoked
Violent volcanoes erupt

Souls fashioned by virtue
Don compassionate robes

4

Virtue

Enlightenment confers fruitful contentment –
Heaven, Honor, Wealth

Whereas neglecting ethics devastates
Virtue rewards magnificently

In every way possible
Practice virtue incessantly

Spotless minds support virtue
Impure minds, vanity

Envy, greed, malice, wrath
Virtue merrily avoids

If proper conduct procrastinated
Death comes friendless

Between Earl & Chauffeur
Karmic rebirth swerves

Deem daily good deeds
Celestial stepping stones

As virtue illuminates us
Sin brings shadow

To performing upstanding actions
Avoid downtrodden vices

5

Family

Honorable households capably entertain
Students, elders, ascetics

Flourishing families happily patronize
Vagabond, pensioner, peasant

Godhead, guest, ancestor, kindred
Happy homes adore

Honest & hospitable households
Preserve familial posterity

Love & virtue nurtured
Enhances happy marriages

When marital tranquility mastered
Celestialism seems unnecessary

Our wonderful family way
Mankind's finest path

Structured domesticity assists society
Praise stable households

Truly virtuous family life
Surpasses even asceticism

Crofts of honest happiness
Lofty as Olympus

6

Wives

Happy, house-proud, economical wives
Husbands deem ideal

Wives without domestic excellence
Life's irresponsible chaff

Worthy wives enrich lives
Worthless wives deprive

Our most majestic women
Command loyal chastity

When women worship husbands
Heaven worships women

Deem them wonderful wives;
Vigilant, attentive, unblemished

When faithful chastity exists
Why gulag wives?

By winning revered husbands
Wives themselves revered

If wives act dishonorably
Men's lionsteps falter

Children of worthy wives
Ornament our lives

7

Children

Parents obtaining intelligent children
Nature's ultimate beneficiaries

Benign children bless families
Safeguarding our legacies

The actions of children
Judge their parents

When kids assist cooking
Ambrosia is created

Toddler's touch brings delight
Children's chatter, joy

Voices of giggling nestlings
Sweeter than flutes

Preparing children for society
Prime parental duty

Intelligence of treasured children
Brings immeasurable pleasure

Children respected in adulthood
Outplume their birth

Improving their parents' reputation
Every child's duty

8

Love

Thro pangingly amorous tears
Lover's confess adoration

Loveless lives pass selfishly
Darlings share everything

As souls animate bodies
The loveless corpsified

Affection begets amour, begetting
Amity's immeasurable excellence

From loving nature springs
Bliss on Earth

Both sinner & ascetic
Capable of love

As sunblaze shrivels worms
Goodness burns lovelessness

Deem the unloved heart
Dead desert tree

The perfect, physical appearance
Pointless without love

Without love, life's quintessence,
Mankind becomes pulseless

9

Hospitality

When benevolent hospitality extended
Domesticity's pinnacle surmounted

When guests are late
Wait for food

To maintain unmarred family
Offer hospitality daily

When tending dignified guests
Households gain prosperity

When guests eat well
Families improve karma

Entertaining incessant guest streams
Applauded as glory

Invitee temperament politely assesses
Appraisement of hostesses

Scroogey families eventually lament;
Unloved, aloof, alone

When ungenerous
Mendicants with money

As sniffed flowers fade
Hostility spoils hospitality

10

Speech

Springs of tender speech
Yield virtuous words

Giving with kind blessings
Increases giftery's value

Accents of virtuous voices -
Sweet, pleasant, cheerful

Speaking pleasure spiraling words
Avoids ingravescent poverty

Mankind's most perfect ornaments -
Humility & mellifluity

With soft, useful words
Virtue conquers sin

Thoughtful & meaningful speech
Blesses & pleases

Pleasant language imparts pleasure
Yesterday, today, tomorrow

Why deliver words harshly
When sweetness delights

Softened tongues luscious fruits,
Piquish speak, unripened

11

Gratitude

Before our true altruism
Heavenly endowment pales

Small & timely assistance
Exceeds the seas

Generosity seeking no reward
Outweighs the Oceans

A seemingly minor gift
Beneficiaries proclaim stupendous

Personalities of gifter's recipients
Measure generous gestures

Never forget helpful friends
Assisting through adversity

Wiping someone else's tears
Earns friendship immemorial

Ignore friend's traumatizing actions
Remember former kindnesses

Fond memories of benevolence
Defy friendship's dispute

Of mankind's hopeless sins
Ingratitude seems worst

12

Impartiality

Merited eminence regards impartially;
Enemies, friends, outsiders

Possessions of proper personages
Protected by posterity

Disown finance unfairly acquired
Despite every advantage

Worth, fame, ineptness, shame
Our legacies determine

Whether winning or losing
Wisdom balances mind

Swerving from unscrupulous thought
Ruins noble souls

Poverties of honest people
By society accepted

Balanced as unbiased scales
Wisdom's illustrious ornament

When equipoise fills minds
Words lilt untilting

Protecting fellow businessmen's interests
Helps ours prosper

21
Sin

As immorality terrifies virtue
Rogues remain unfazed

Fear evil over fire
Sin induces sinning

Those never considering revenge
Don virtue's crown

By dreaming wicked schemes
Our ruin ensured

Blaming sins on poverty
Brings more poverty

Lives content & calm
Never intend harm

Whereas escaping enemies possible
Sin pursues relentlessly

Shadows of evil deeds
Never leave sinners

Avoiding even smallest evils
Brings massive self-respect

Lives deviating from virtue
Into sorrow plunge

22
Community

Charity seeks no recompense -
Who reimburses clouds?

By spending wages benevolently
Money's purpose realized

Between Heaven & Earth
Nothing betters benevolence

Whereas benefactors breathe healthily
Spongers appear dead

Compare dutiful community spirit
With brimming reservoirs

Compare prospering charitable souls
With community allotments

Benefits of noble benevolence
Like life-giving medicine

Dutiful charities assist communities
Whenever credit crunches

When benefactors become indigent
Charitable inability wounds

Benefactors cash-strapped by charity
Accept poverty happily

23
Charity

As destitution induces altruism
Giftery generates return

Even for good causes
Receiving charity hurts

Impoverished nobility never complains,
"I have nothing!"

Beggars possess happy faces
Why pity them?

Before fasting one's body
Alleviate foreign famine

Though money craves investment
Stave off starvation

By sharing food habitually
Fiery hunger defied

Better to embrace benevolence
Before losing money

Deem famished beggar pathetic
Lonely banqueter worse

Better we die painfully
Than live uncharitably

24
Fame

Renown won thro charity
Life's true celebrity

Of our universal languages
Charity widest spoken

Though bodies may perish
Fame lasts forever

Those gaining glorious reputation
Deify their lives

Poverty's prosperity, death's martyrdom
Only ascetics obtain

Unless ear-marked for renown
Better remain unborn

For our fameless lives
Only blame ourselves

Life shames the nameless
While praising fame

Foods from unfamed fields
Diminish thro anonymity

Whereas praiselessness seems pulseless
Famous heart thunders

25
Ruth

Wealth of human kindness
Richest of riches

Compassionate practice & prescription
Conjoins global faiths

Those having loving hearts
Unloved by evil

Compassion shields the soul
Denying dangerous sinfulness

This fertile, flourishing Earth
Rewards kindness subliminally

Those consciously neglecting pity
By Karma forsaken

As wealth brings contentment
Compassion pleases virtue

Though lost riches recoupable
Grace lost forever

As study discovers knowledge
Kindness illuminates Divinity

Recall cowering before bullies
Before browbeating cowards

26
Vegetarianism

Eating flesh fattens flesh
But compassion inabsentia

Like wastrels squandering property
Carnivores lack kindness

Those relishing fleshy ingestion
Resemble bloody murderers

Refraining from consuming meat
Supports compassionate proclamations

For each life digested
Mother Nature screams

For food & finance
Animals brutally slaughtered

As butchery creates wounds
Eating meat unclean

Clever & clear vision
Spurns carcass consumption

Vegetarianism outshines sacred rites
Carnivorous acolytes sanctimonious

Both bird & beast
Applaud vegan feasts

Renunciation

Those disowning their desires
Never suffer distress

Renunciation during unfulfilled youth
Amplifies ascetic pleasure

Dismissing one's pentasensory desires
Realizes renunciational spiritessence

Prefer destitution's stark minimalism
Possessions befuddle mind

When seeking immortal nirvana
Reject petty trivialities

When surrendering one's selfishness
Celestial sweetness surpassed

Sorrow firmly clasps people
Grasping for attachments

True ascetics conquer everests
Delusion snares part-timers

Unless detached from desire
Lives rumble unstably

Most desirable of desires
Desires no desire

Truth

Those valuing vain things
Plagued by delusion

From darkness to lucidity
Faith guides vision

Minds quintessant & doubtless
Obtain celestial domain

Unless natural truth understood
Pentasensory knowledge useless

Wisdom perceives all things
By basic truths

Paths toward divine wisdom
Never lead home

Completely considering life's teachings
Breeds Eden's freedom

When knowledge removes ignorance
Divinity's vision unravels

By choosing true virtue
Bruising ruin debarred

Knowledge dams suffering's streams;
Desire, wrath, infidelity

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Desire

From seeds of lust
Unceasing creatures born

If anything, desire nothing -
Abstinence attains nirvana

To feel oneself content
Surpasses all sensations

When yearning for truth
Spurn burning desires

Want snares the world
Renunciation frees us

As seducing produces sin
Asceticism dreads desire

Souls uprooted from desire
Planted in salvation

Ruthless sorrows accompany desire
Incessant & increasing

When minds defuse desire
Happiness flows unbroken

Extracting desire's rotten cancer
Ensures harmonious life

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Fate

On indolence & industry
Karma acts appropriately

Both folly & prosperity
Engineered by fate

Despite studying polished treatises
Fate sways minds

Both wisdom & wealth
By destiny decreed

Through mortal money making
Fate's pendulum swings

Property's preservation & dissipation
Ordained by destiny

Millionaires control no wealth
Destiny determines spending

However much we study
Fate clouds intelligence

If Karmic benevolence delights
Accept her malevolence

Beneath unavoidable, unassailable destiny
Humanity helplessly whimpers

Part II

Defended, advised, wealthy, adored
Lions amid kings

Courage, liberality, wisdom, energy
Encapsulate sceptered character

Proper princes perpetually brandish
Vigilance, learning, bravery

Deem humanity's true leaders -
Sinless, virtuous, honorable

Acquisition, storage, preservation, distribution -
Administers regal riches

When swerving from vice
Power preserves virtue

Pleasant & accessible protectors
Earn public praise

Protective & dutiful sovereigns
Considered as godhead

Heroical, stoical, thick-skinned kings
Guard this globe

Usefulness, benevolence, rectitude, compassion
Leadership's shining standards

WEALTH

40

Learning

Thoroughly learn one's learning
Then live it

Deem letters & numbers
Humanity's vital eyes

Learned men possess eyes,
Lorelessness only sores

Erudites dutifully delight company
Leaving visitors craving

Deem ignorance the peasant
Erudition the millionaire

As wells spring water
Wisdom brings wits

Happily wandering the world
Increases personal sapience

Through our noble legacies
Learning lives forever

As learning spreads learning
Yearn its increase

Nuggets of studied wisdom
Life's true jewels

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Lorelessness

Half-mindedly engaging learned assemblies
Chess without pieces

Flat-chested ladies crave bosoms
Fools, public speaking

Klutzes silent among scholars
Gain wisdom's acclaim

Uneducated insight occasionally excellent
But seldom respected

Speaking before educated companies
Stupidity shrivels inwardly

Ignorant lorelessness simply exists
Like worthless wilderness

Deem beauty lacking knowledge
Mere painted mannequin

When fools gain riches
Sorrow soon follows

Educated fellows easily outrank
Caste, class, clan

Deem professorship human being
But buffoonery, beast

42

Listening

Riches gained by listening
Chieftain amid treasuries

Before feeding the belly
Feed the ear

As sacrifice gorges gods
Hearing feeds mankind

If illiterate still listen
Wisdom supports existence

Traverse life's slippery slopes
With sapient staffs

As raindrops fill rivers
Aphorisms enrich society

Erudite & diligent listening
Ensures intelligent speech

When ears ignore instruction
Deem them deaf

Those lacking subtle understanding
Mostly mutter immodestly

Feeding bellies before intelligence
Spells social indifference

43

Wisdom

Inner wisdom's inviolable fortress
Wards off destruction

Wisdom watches wandering minds
Protecting against problems

With every word spoken
Wisemen recognize lies

Intelligence listens & elucidates
Simplifying difficult speech

Whereas the flowers fade
Wisdom made forever

To happy social acceptance
Wisdom gains admittance

As sapience possesses foresight
Ignorance envisages nothing

What terrifies an erudite
Humors the fool

Letting wisdom take control
Effortlessly avoids casualties

Wisdom wins the world
Fools own nothing

44

Faults

Call them trustless kings;
Proud, angry, lustful

Greed, inelegance, hedonism, pride
Leadership's undignified faults

If we fear disgrace
Guiltiness amplifies mistakes

Because fault burns indiscriminately
Eliminate one's defects

Lives defenceless against defects
Haystacks before bonfires

As we eradicate errors
Others learn how

When misers make mistakes
Wealth wastes away

Of all our faults
Greed stands tallest

Both pride & misdeed
Yield no good

Contentment in private life
Nullifies enemy scheming

45

Elite

Mature & virtuous friendship
Secure & value

Our best of friends
Soothe distress away

Life's rare, lucky illustrials
Seek, secure, cherish

To crown personal power
Befriend superior peers

As cabinets protect countries
Choose ministers carefully

Adherence of wise counsel
Frightens our enemies

Those accepting sound criticism
Impervious to injury

Advice's avoidance ruins us
Even when enemiless

As money feeds investments
Monarchies need governments

Better gaining many enemies
Than friendship lose

Badapples

Greatness shuns that society
Which baseness relishes

As mud colors water
Associates influence personality

Our friendships mould us
Like influential study

When calculating someone's character
Observe their friends

Consummate conduct & intellect
Chaste company inspires

Purer thought & action
Permeates perfection's pals

Noble minds attract wealth
Noble company, glory

Good mind fosters mankind
Good friend, fame

Blissful thinking conjures virtue
Bonhomie's natural reward

Good company wins support
Wicked company, sorrow

Deliberation

Balance profit against loss
Before making decisions

When wise counsel advises
Anything seems possible

Upon prospective, far-off profits
Defer from investment

Desist from thoughtless adventures
Irresistible disgraces inevitable

When we recklessly attack
Our enemies profit

Those yearning for posipraxis
Spurn unfitting actions

Intelligence deliberates then acts
Hesitancy insults ideas

Though thousands may assist
Shoddy schemes collapse

Not everybody appreciates samaritans
Ascertain recipient personalities

Because societies respect status
Citizens act appropriately

48

Assets

Examine resources before activity -
Personal, allied, enemy

A mind fully prepared
Considers nothing impossible

Most actions blindly launched
Perish before completion

Both arrogance & ignorance
Indicate failure's imminence

If carts are overloaded
Feathers break axles

When climbing narrowing treetops
Beware snapping branches

Benevolence within one's means
Preserves our estate

When expenses outpace income
Minimum wages inadequate

Without counting one's riches
Wealth swiftly vanishes

Those liberally distributing money
Soon beg pennies

49

Timing

As daylight weakens owls
Strike when opportune

Thorough preparation before action
Overcomes all difficulties

Proper means & moment
Bless successful enterprise

By calculating optimum chances
Kings become conquerors

Meditating on appropriate moment
Wins the world

Compare restraining one's revenge
To pre-charge rams

Wisdom binds temper's reflex
Preferring timely vengeance

Until an enemy dies
Maintain due respect

As chances come rarely
Seize them immediately

As Herons fish patiently
Await favorable opportunity

Battlefield

Unless advantageous terrain obtained
Avoid aggressive activity

Everyone gains from fortresses
Even legendary leaders

When choosing useful terrain
Feeble forces powerful

Cleverly placed counter attacks
Panic confident conquerors

Crocodiles omnipotent in lakes
Struggle on land

As ocean disarms chariots
Soil shackles ships

Defending strategically chosen sites
Requires only courage

Engagements in cramped places
Demoralize massive armies

Primitive natives hazard invasions
Even without fortifications

Ferocious, mud-sunk battle tusker
Scrawny jackal slaughters

Decisions

Courage, affluence, character, exuberance
Try thy minister

Faultlessness, modesty, nobility, sinphobia
Preferable ministerial attributes

Scrutinizing seemingly spotless sages
Unearths ignorance always

Weigh positives & negatives
Heaviest determines nature

Only a touchstone deed
Measures our measure

Kinless loners shame insensate
Employing them undesirable

Most foolish of fools
Employ foolish friends

A stranger's unknown quantity
Potentially brings ruin

After testing & consideration
Commit labor's delegation

Trusting strangers, doubting friends
Brings irredeemable sorrow

52
Staff

Virtue, wealth, inclination, respect
Check before employment

Employees protecting widening incomes
O workplace paragon!

Loyalty, intelligence, lucidity, contentment
Acclaimed lackey qualities

Most personas winning employment
Transformed by office

Employ wise, patient associates
Before best friends

Workload's delegation needs contemplation -
Worker, task, timing

Gaffers convinced of competence
Unfetter their staff

Before delegating labor's stations
Consider employee capabilities

Prosperity abandons those kings
Doubting dutiful subjects

As workers execute workload
Bosses observe workers

53
Domesticity

Relations share mutual aid
Even if impoverished

From unceasing, familial love
Springs blossoming prosperity

Liken bankless water tanks
To kinless millionaires

Life amid many relatives
Prosperity's priceless advantage

Hubs of famous families
Happy hospitable homes

Gentile & extragenerous largesse
Swarming relatives engulf

As carrion draws crows
Generosity attracts riches

Rewarding according to merit
Gathers abundant relations

Though family members argue
They easily reunite

When traveling relations return
Welcome them wholeheartedly

66

Decency

Friendship brings global prosperity
Posipraxis demolishes needs

At all times avoid
Actions without benefit

If aspiring for improvement
Deny destructive movement

Infallible judgement obviates disgrace
Even if imperilled

When actions cause regret
Why entertain them

Adverse behaviour saving relatives
Even this avoid

Sinful riches taste bitter,
Ascetic poverty sweet

However successful forbidden deed
Sorrow still stings

Fraudulent gains painfully disappear
Honest advantage prospers

With water holding handkerchiefs
Compare corrupt security

67

Efficiency

Firm & efficient thinking
Renders assistance unnecessary

Thoroughly investigating prevenient future
Often prevents disaster

Only publish completed manuscripts
Embryonia earns embarrassment

Anyone can say how -
Doing is difficult

Excellent & efficient achievements
Awarded regal respect

Projects planned & prosecuted
Procure mankind's desires

When lynch-pins are small
Why despise size?

As weariness affects deeds
Execute actions swiftly

Persistence through sorrowful beginnings
Becomes delightful accomplishment

Only firmness in process
Guarantees universal esteem

Action

Why dawdle on decisions?
Deliberate then decide!

Delay when delay calls -
But never urgencies

Fight when victory beckons
Otherwise ingenuities employ

Unfulfilled undertakings induce devastation
Like smoldering fires

Resources, method, timing, location
Consider before execution

Aim, exertion, obstacles, profit
Balance before activity

Before contemplating particular methods
Consult their masters

As elephants corner elephants
Success breeds success

Before helping a friend
Befriend an enemy

When weak & afraid
Seek strong allies

Envoys

Amiability, breeding, pleasing demeanor
Seasoned diplomatic characteristics

Loyalty, wisdom, worldly speech
Indispensable ambassadorial attributes

Send one's cleverest consuls
Amidst bellicose kings

Envoys must abundantly possess
Sense, scholarship, personality

Deem useful diplomatic speech
Brief, inoffensive, witty

Erudition, energy, eloquence, etiquette
Empowers impressive emissaries

Decorum, timing, delivery, balance
Define chief envoys

Purity, respect, courage, honesty
Complement faithful diplomats

Flawless & focused words
Elucidate royal replies

Good ambassadors glorify leaders
Even facing death

70
Court

Fickle kings are fires
Keep appropriate distance

Ministers contented with frugality
Eventually rewarded royally

Faulty behavior rouses suspicion
Impressions rarely erased

Clever courts cast out
Whispers & winks

From leadership's secret counsel
Ministers distance themselves

Executives combine intention's intuition
With appropriate sycophancy

Avoid giving futile advice
Even on demand

Whether decrepit or relations
Always respect monarchs

Deem wisdom no counter-balance
To base behavior

When ministers grow corrupt
Their ruin ensured

71
Mind-reading

Ministers knowing monarchs' minds
Ornament sea-girt earth

Telepaths discovering doubtless truth
Gods amid mortals

In obtaining telepathic staff
Spare no expense

However human telepaths appear
Their minds divine

When ministers misunderstand ministers
What use ministers?

As mirrors reflect images
Faces echo thoughts

Pleased & vexed demeanors
Advertise mental machinations

Faces of telepathic ministers
Speak silent truths

By our moving eyes
Ambassadors ascertain truth

Ministers make meaningful measures
Through eyes only

Audience

Diligently addressing ascertained assemblies
Proclaim oratorical master

Qualities of expert eloquence;
Timing, deliberation, knowledge

Parading before unknown audiences
Insults performance's art

Be brilliant before brilliance
Ignorant fronting fools

Affording superiors' first words
Life's finest caliber

Slip from mountain path
Blunder before scholar

Only our intellectual peers
Ascertain luminary genius

Lecture to understanding listeners
Water salutary plants

When conversing with fools
Refrain from savantry

Eloquence amidst inferior assemblies
Gutters getting nectar

Performance

Purest eloquence never falters
Before assemblies ascertained

Savants among other savants
Express cognizance convincingly

Before our erudite sages
Bravest warriors tremble

Those confidently sharing learning
Absorb superior knowledge

Studying logic & grammar
Fortifies fearless replies

Some erudites fear assemblies
Like sword-wielding cowards

Senates fear foolish scientists
Like axemad hermaphrodites

What use excellent scholarship
When expression impossible

Intellectuals fearing intelligent assemblies
Inferior to illiterates

Scholars fearing knowledge sharing
Zombies among mankind

Nation

Living components cultivate countries;
Agriculturalists, intelligentsia, merchandisers

Qualities of coveted commonwealths
Wealth, safety, fertility

With wars & woes
Superpowers maintain taxation

Noble nations never know
Starvation, epidemics, enemies

Nescient in noble nations
Factions, murder-gangs, subversives

Excellent states remain prosperous
Even facing ruin

Rainwater, rivers, hills, fortresses
Proper country's constituents

Health, wealth, fort, fertility
Embrace happy nations

Countries with natural resources
Gain prosperity effortlessly

Lands without fitting rulers
Deserts amidst fertility

Fortification

Both attacker & defender
Consider castles important

Water, food, elevation, firewood
Essentials of fortresses

Height, strength, width, inaccessibility
Characterize important citadels

Easily defendable, massive castles
Decays enemy courage

Fortress features demotivate aggressors
Impregnability, defendability, stockpiles

Citadels blend plentiful supplies
With heroic garrisons

Fortresses fend these pressures;
Blockades, mines, assaults

Against vastly superior forces
Garrisons guard fortresses

Castles gain great kudos
Enhancing battlefield strategy

Exquisite castles merely rubble
Without excellent inmates

Affluence

There's nothing like wealth
To parvenu peasantry

As we despise poverty
We adore wealth

Dependable lamps of affluence
Dispel enmity's darkness

Wealth won with integrity
Yields felicitous virtue

Wealth won without mercy
Better left alone

Booty, taxes, unclaimed riches -
Swell regal coffers

We seldom consider compassion
Without wealth's nursemaid

Enterprises of sufficient wealth
Eternal spectator sport

When wealth's weapon won
Enemy arrogance evaporates

From riches honestly acquired
Virtuous pleasures spring

Army

Deem dignified, fearless forces
Regalism's foremost riches

Even facing desperate annihilation
Seasoned soldiers stand

Hoard of roaring rats
Single cobras scatter

Valorous veterans never envisage
Defeat nor desertion

Proper armies stand united
Facing death's fury

Courage, loyalty, honour, tradition
Safe-guard royal armies

Well-trained armies withstand onslaughts
Before counter-attacking storm

Pathetic armies win renown
Wearing splendid uniforms

Medals of triumphant armies -
Independence, wealth, respect

Gigantic battalions swiftly reduced
Without competent generalry

86

Hatred

Horrible plagues of hatred
Foster hostile evils

Keeping peaceful amid panic
Life's highest pathway

Those denouncing hatred's cancer
Emit imperishable glory

When hatred's sorrow ceases
Joys! Unsurpassable joy!

Those renouncing life's hostility
None can conquer

Taking delight in hating
Attracts great ruin

Those imbeciled with hatred
Blind to success

Calm wealth waxes rich
Confrontational coffers wane

Approaching prosperity reduces animosity
Ruin increases malice

As hatred causes calamity
Friendship creates virtue

87

Enemy

Vastly inferior forces harmless
Never oppose impregnability

Glorious generals ecstatically embrace
Witless, weakling foes

Timid, ignorant, miserly, solitary
Easy prey falls

Those angry & discontented
Conquered ever easily

Wildness, blindness, fearlessness, unpleasantness
Pleases our foes

Desire in one's foes
Blind, furious superlust

Our best of enemies
Leave work unfinished

Abandoning one's many-faulted friends
Helps their foes

Timid & ignorant belligerents
Delight potential conquerors

By fighting trifling foes
Fame ignores us

Strategy

Never desire hatred's evil
Even in sport

Worse than warrior's weapons
Wisdom's dysphemistic words

Loners hated by everyone
Life's lowliest wretches

With making new friends
Our world abides

With two opponents approaching
Better one befriend

Neither far nor near
Hold comforting friends

Keep sorrows from friends
Weakness from foes

Sound arts of diplomacy
Destroy enemy joys

Fell the thorny tree
Before growing vicious

Either destroy enemy pride
Or be destroyed

Infighting

Water might be poisoned
Kindred potentially harmful

Before fearing bladed enemies
Beware friendly traitors

When secret foes dissatisfied
Internal dissents arise

Guard against internal adversaries
Betrayal cuts deep

Families harboring negative tensions
Fabricate fatal crimes

When detested by relations
Our destruction inescapable

Fighting families unite superficially
Despite amiable appearances

As hatred consumes kindred
Kinship wears away

Like metal being filed
Feuding families fade

Living with disagreeable souls
Cohabiting with cobras

Disrespect

By never transgressing greatness
One's safety safeguarded

Those disrespecting important leaders
Receive irredeemable evils

When personal destruction desired
Provoke powerful lawmakers

When weakness attacks strength
It attracts destruction

Furious wraths of rulers
Follow us forever

Burns may heal blemishless
Insulting superiors scars

When righteous vengeance approaches
Glorious splendor useless

Willing living legend's dead
Ruins us instead

When exalted noblesse rages
Even kings quake

Peerless powers of protection
Esteemed anger demolishes

Under-the-thumb

Worshipping a woman's whims
Feeds more whimpering

A fawning, sycophantic husband
Embarrasses his sex

Pathetically stooping before lovers
Laudable souls fall

Deeds of blissless husbands
Good society dismiss

Men afraid of wives,
Fear doing good

However flourishing men's lives
Fearing wives undignified

Both whore & harlot
Surpasses sycophantic spouses

Enslavement by craving wives
Eradicates charitable dispositions

Perpetually obeying marital commands
Wastes one's soul

Thoughtful, firm hearted husbands
Doting follies avoid

Prostitutes

Promises of pretty prostitutes
Reduce pitiful clients

Prostitution delays destitution's curse
Wenching wealthy men

To hug a whore
Cuddles a corpse

Society prefers graceful femininity
Before desperate prostitution

Female affection commonly shared
Wisdom deems worthless

If seeking noble fame
Avoid wanton women

Those devoid of virtue
Enjoy feigned embraces

Each succubus's false affections
Ruins senseless fools

Into jeweled harlot hells
Degraded souls plunge

Three disgraces replace riches;
Drink, dice, demoness

Alcohol

When celebrities enter rehab
Fame's foes amused

Drinking liquor to excess
Gains disgusted insult

Boozing upsets our mothers
But wisemen more-so

Modest maidens despise drunkenness
Its horribleness abhorrent

Those purchasing inebriating unconsciousness
Show sense inabsentia

As sleeping echoes death
Alcohol resembles poison

Drinking heavily at home
Advertises private heartache

Drunkards declaring total sobriety
Inebriety soon reclaims

Deem reasoning with drunkards
Lighting torches underwater

Waggoners envy drunken drunkards
Forgetting drinking's evils

Gambling

When gambling seems profitable
Winnings merely fish-hooks

Gain one, lose thousands
Gambling's irrefutable truth

When chronically chance addicted
Wealth enriches enemies

Betting's bloodletting miseries brings;
Poverties, sorrows, shame

Gaming & gambling houses
Shames us penniless

If gambling hooks us
Starvation soon follows

Destinies of Lydian lineages
Destroyed by casinos

Ruin, lies, misery, scroogery
Accompany ceaseless chancery

Dress, wealth, food, clothing
Maliferous gambling destroys

As gamblers lose more
They chance more

Health

When overfed & undernourished
Gas, bile, phlegm

Better filling empty bellies
Before gibbous guts

Measured & moderate dining
Leads to longevity

Agreeable, well chewed food
Renews crucial digestion

Taking food in moderation
Never harms life

Moderate eating vitalizes health
Disease plagues gluttony

Temperate eating stretches stomachs
Causing countless maladies

Learned physicians carefully diagnose;
Cause, cure, treatment

Condition, malady, convalescence, remedy
Doctors concur accounts

Patient, physician, medicine, recipe
Medical science's menage

Lineage

Indignant sense of shame
Nobility's innate integrity

Truth, modesty, proven cordiality
Nobility's traditional attributes

Joviality, eloquence, charity, intelligence
Nobility's illuminating essences

Dignity denies degrading deeds
Even diamond studded

Nobility may lose property
But dignity never

Those disowning ignominious shame
Defend family fame

Aristocratic defects visibly pronounced
Like lunar blemishes

Unloved by good relations?
Question one's ancestry

Seedlings reflect fertile soil
Speech conveys nobility

From modesty comes goodness
From humility, fame

Honor

Far better to die
Than honor lose

Shameful actions guaranteeing fame
The self-respecting spurn

Cultivate modesty in prosperity,
Dignity in adversity

As hairs leave heads
Lives shed status

Those exalted as mountains
Leveled by dishevelment

Those follow their revilers
Never gain benefit

Why worship one's discreditors
Our death preferable

Obsessive fitness delays death
Yet ruins dignity

Hairless yaks refuse life
Wretches commit suicide

Those dying before dishonor
Exalted all over

Greatness

Glorious lives achieve greatness
Anonymity receives destitution

Humanity bound by birth
Divided by deeds

Humbled illustriousness remains high
Elevated baseness low

As women protect chastity
Greatness defends itself

Deeds normally deemed difficult
Greatness capably performs

Adulation of true greatness
Alien to baseness

As rascals win prestige –
Arrogance, cocksurety, pride

As illustriousness embraces humility
Baseness flounces haughtily

Where arrogance is absent
There greatness abides

Where fools pick faults
Jewels quietly cool

Goodness

Those noble in conduct
Invite every virtue

Sublimity exalts perfect good
Sensual delights unsought

Sinfear, affection, charity, truth
Pillar perfect propriety

Penitent sublimity never murders
Saintliness never slanders

When modesty strengthens mightiness
Enemies become friends

Accepting defeat from inferiors
Perfection's true touchstone

When good deeds disabled
What good goodness?

When goodness is abundant
Poverty without disgrace

Deem destiny tumultuous ocean
Perfection unchangeable shore

Earth bares human burden
Because perfection exists

100
Courtesy

Easy & universal accessibility
Global homage adorns

Good paths of courtesy
Affection & nobility

Mankind collaborates thro spiritus
Our corporealm superfluous

When benevolence blends justice
All society applauds

As even anti-banter wounds
Show enemyies courtesy

Nobility energizes Earth's continuation
Baseness promotes collapse

Though chisel sharp intellectually
Automons resemble timber

Even among one's enemies
Deem rudeness unbeseeming

Darkness consumes sullen souls
Even under sunlight

Dirty containers rancify food
Discourtesy pollutes money

101
Scroogery

Those amassing useless wealth
Diamond studded corpses

Ghoulisn ghosts of hoarders
Haunt their hordes

Earning riches over glory
Burdens the world

A miser must realize
Their legacy nothing

Our planet's poorest people
Scroogey, uncharitable Abramovichs

Without charity or fun-fair
Wealth is cursed

Deem billionaires without benevolence
Beauty ageing spinsterly

Compare poisonous communal orchards
With disrespected wealth

Monies of stingy misers
Inherited by strangers

Millionaires experience poverty briefly
Like dry clouds

102

Modesty

Both piousness & bashfulness
Classes of shyness

Food & clothing common
Excellent modesty rare

As lives need bodies
Virtue requires modesty

Modesty must accompany magnificence
Celebrity arrogance nauseating

Unless modesty ornaments greatness
Pride eradicates merit

Only modesty hems in
Greatness without bound

Reserved souls prefer death
Over modesty's loss

Shamelessly conducting embarrassing actions
Prevents virtues' gain

Rudeness bruises one's families
Immodesty injures ourselves

Mankind living life immodestly
Mannequins & puppetry

103

Households

Untiringly raising one's family
Glorious among virtues

Ceaseless zeal & wisdom
Exalts one's family

Families determined on fame
Gain celestial aid

Ceaselessly advancing family prestige
Reaps unexpected success

Around households without blemish
Humanity happily flocks

Those beneficially leading communities
Society's supreme custodians

As heroes dominate battlefields
Competence controls families

Daily seek family improvement
Delay destroys households

Absorbing one's household problems
Wounds us gravely

Families without fair offspring
Misfortune's battle-axe fells

104

Agriculture

Though easier vocations exist
Everyone may farm

Farmers lynch-pin the world
Supporting society's invalids

Only farmer's truly live
Everybody else sycophantic

Self sufficiency never begs
Nor refuses beggars

Patriotic farmers stockpile supplies
Supporting conquering Kings

When farmers fold arms
Even ascetics starve

Drying by one fourth
Prepares abundant fields

As manure surpasses ploughing
Observance outweighs weeding

Compare negligent farmers' fields
With sulking women

When idleness pleads poverty
Mother Earth amused

105

Poverty

Beneath every cringing poverty
Lurks absolute impoverishment

Present & future blisses
Nemesis poverty deprives

Dignified lineage & speech
Craving raglife destroys

Destitution induces improper speech
Even noble born

Miserable poverty's drags behind
Many more miseries

Words of intelligent paupers
Drowned by disrespect

Those absolute poverty afflicted
Disowned by mothers

Poorness that wounded yesterday
May kill today

Sleeping possible amidst flames
But never poverty

As raglives desperately survive
Neighborhood larders drain

106
Begging

By begging the beggable
Begging made blameless

Even cadging becomes pleasant
When aggression inabsentia

When imploring benevolent souls
Begging seems beautiful

When soliciting the supercharitable
Begging actually giving

As supercharity never refuses
Certain beseechers superleech

Before openly charitable souls
Vagrancy's anguish vanishes

Receiving kind, courteous alms
Beggars rejoice exceedingly

The process of begging
Energizes the Earth

Without mendacity benevolent society
Entertains no praise

Never fume when refused
Blame poverty's ugliness

107
Mendiphobia

Better not to beg
From even supercharity

The actions of mendacity
Question existing divinity

Begging boldly in vagabondage
Poverty's oldest folly

Those silent in destitution
Never praised enough

Gruel obtained by graft
Jeweled, ambrosial food

Mankind's most disgraceful tongues
Beg for water

Never beg unwilling souls
Even when desperate

The raft of begging
Cleft by refusal

Begging melts our hearts
Refusal breaks them

Prohibiting beggars slays them
Whilst shaming ourselves

108
Scruples

Baseness assuming human form
Nature's grotesque assemblage

Contemptible personalities happily exist
Untroubled by consciences

Rogues act like teenagers -
However they please!

In outsinning other sinners
Wickedness take pride

From minute to massive
Fear affects sinning

Baseness beats bass drums
Announcing gossipy secrets

Rogues only shake respect
With jaw-breaking fists

Goodness helps neediness easily
Scroogery needs bullying

Jealous low-lives viewing affluence
Spread false accusations

Unlucky scum prostitute themselves
Baseness's purpose realized

Part
III

LOVE

109

Beauty

Her jewelry perplexes me
Celestial? Peahen? Woman?

When stunners return looks
Celestial armies unleashed

In soul enthralling glances
Murder runs rampant

Eyes of gracious ladies
Enslave men's lives

Her eyes confuse me
Death? Deer? Darling

Beneath cruel, arched eyebrows
Throbbing hearts tremble

Cloth blinds rutting tuskers,
Covering panting chests

Powers of conquering warriors
Romantic glances depose

When bambeyed beauty omnipotent
What use jewelry?

Drink's delight needs drunkenness
Love's, merely looks

110

Love-signs

Her dyed eyes duality –
Remedy & pain

One single, stolen glance
Magnifies sexual desire

We look, we pause –
We sigh, circean

Games of tugging glances
Begin budding romances

Furtive, smiling, sideways glances
Confined lust betrays

Warmth exposes arguing couples
Polemic actually love-letters

Feigned angers conceal loveship
Affectionate gazes reveal

When smiles answer gazes
Lovers become comforted

Even the sweetest lovers
Sometimes strangers seem

When the eyes agree
Dispute turns useless

111

Sex

Treasures of pentasensory pleasure
Glittering lovers discover

Only love can dismiss
It's debilitating sicknesses

Soft-armed embraces of love-sleep
Sweeter than Heaven

Separation burns, approaching cools
Love-ship's mysterious fire

Fires of passion surpass
All other desires

Ambrosial arms of lovers
Energize on entwining

Embrace of beautiful lovers
Satisfying as suppers

Bonds of breathless lovers
Form impenetrable bubbles

Love, quarrel, reconciliation, intercourse
Exhilarate salacious couples

As learning reaps learning
Sex increases lust

112

Ladies

Delicate lilies flourish lovely
Yet ladies more-so

Scenes of floral beauty
Decorate ladies eyes

Pearl-teeth, shoot-complexion, forest-scent, lance-eyes
Accentuate bamboo-shouldered ladies

If flowers could see
Feminine beauty envied

Applying too much make-up
Loses lusted looks

Between Helen & Selene
Confused stars flutter

As moons possess spots
Human beauty blemishes

Men prefer female face
To lovely Luna's

All share Luna's beauty,
Mortal handsomeness private

Deem soft female feet
Petals & feathers

113
Vows

Milk mixes with honey
As silk-lips kiss

Inseparable body & soul
Mirrors love's union

Loving eyes desire nothing
But lover's image

We live to love
For separation murders

Hearts charmed by love-darts
Forever & unforgetting

When lovers haunt us
Gorgeous partying impossible

Love-rats haunting women's eyes
Exorcised by make-up

Eat not hot food
Hearts house lovers

When love tortures us
Gossip grows gravelly

Parted lovers remain together
Despite public comment

114
Immodesty

Publicly pleading one's passion
Quashes cautious romance

When passion overpowers us
We publicly explode

Where once was calm
Passion creates panic

Lust's current carries away
Rafts of modesty

When amabandon publicly proclaimed
Evening brings agonies

Eyes consumed by love-rage
Restless, sleepless, lidless

Boating thro lusty sea-storms
Nobility remains chaste

Our tender, public virtues
Veil wanton lust

Pent lust sends lovers
Public places reeling

When fools suffer lustfully
Even strangers laugh

125

Emotions

Does any remedy exist
For rampant lovesickness

Fools suffer panging hearts
For unrequited love

As refuseniks never pity
Why suffer heartbreak

Through craving absent lovers
Eyes consume themselves

Though idols refuse advances
Hating them impossible

When lovers sooth us
Why pretend unpleasantness

Between lust & honor
Love's pendulum swings

When desire not reciprocated
Why chase rainbows

Lovers possess our souls
Wherefore art sanctuary?

Obsessing on unrequited love
Destroys inner beauty

126

Lust

Lust's thundering battleaxe sunders
Chastity's modest bolt

When lust dominates dreams
Minds cannot sleep

Just like our sneezes
Subduing lust impossible

Passion breaks all bonds
Even firmest self-control

When stricken by love
The chase undignified

When wooing becomes weeping
Nobody can prosper

Confronting a cruel lover
Strengthens our hearts

Words of trickish rogues
Break feminine firmness

At point of re-union
Plotted quarrel evaporates

Into each other's arms
Meeting lovers melt

127

Hankering

Assuaging love's incurable curse
Requires soul-searching remedy

When our love unrequited
Its sufferings pointless

As heroes win victories
Lovers come home

Languishing hearts swell enraptured
Imagining returning lovers

When viewing returning lovers
Crooning shoulders vanish

When absent partners return
Our agony departs

Kings feast with queens
After conquering foes

Both demon & angel
Returning lovers seem

Anxiously awaiting absent amourettes
Days become weeks

When one's heart broken
What use reunion?

128

Feelings

Painted eyes gleaming rebelliously
Reveal concealed feelings

Appreciating beauty's simple truth
Love's attractive catalyst

Threads of crystal necklaces
Resemble beauty's charm

Deem beauty's secret smile
Invisible flower fragrance

Departures of secret lovers
Leaves us panting

From the loveliest hug
Unbearable parting born

Afore lovers leave us
We sense separation

One day of amabandon
Feels like weeks

When entertaining shevelled escorts
Attraction's enthusiasm apparent

Screeching & beseeching eyes
Love's vulgar weapon

129

Desire

Philtres of passion's fruit
Surpasses fashionable wine

Mixtures of lust's juices
Drown love's displeasure

However loveless & unscrupulous
Spouses offer security

Previously prepared pretended polemic
Buried on reunion

Like dressing without mirrors
Desire hides faults

We only notice defects
When partners depart

Pretended dislike soon embarrassed
Why feign tears?

As drink delights drunkards
Kisses bliss beloveds

Deem lovemaking flower tender
& equally enigmatic

When lovers feign dislike
Our passions unbalanced

130

Lovesickness

Between fluster & fortitude
Loving hearts meander

Lovers dote on lovers
Even when estranged

Abandoned hearts stalk exes
Leaving friends behind

Loving with feigned sulkiness
Leaves us inexperienced

Souls of anxious lovers
Suffer sorrows unceasing

A broody, lonely lover
By gloom consumed

Obsessed & senseless hearts
Forget even shame

Lovely hearts condemn hating
However much hurting

Hearts refusing love's support
Beat totally alone

When stranger to oneself
Strangers rarely help

131
Quarrels

To test love's distress
Reserve one's emotions

Arguments are salty affairs
Excess spoils relationships

Best embrace after argument
Sulkiness erodes love

Those misunderstandings of relationships
Cut love's root

Flowery eyes feigning tears
Reveal graceful relationships

Love-sex without occasional quarrel
Bruises passion's fruit

When lovemaking seems doubtful
Feigned distress back-fires

Lovers unwittingly serving distress
Deserve no blame

Mountain streams taste delicious
Occasional dislike pleases

As caustic fighting finishes
Only love-sex reunites

132
Jealousy

Publicly parading personal beauty
Turns off lovers

In polemic's piquant midst
Sneezes win blessings

By departing gorgeously dressed
Partners imagine infidelity

Declaring partners *'The Loveliest,'*
Earns *"Among whom!"*

Lovers inseparable in life
Devastated by death

"I thought of you!"
Wins, *"You forgot!"*

When loving jealous types
Every action suspicious

Hiding deeds rousing suspicion
Raises more suspicion

Mind-monkeys imagine tender fingers
Touching other lovers

However pleasant our personality
Jealousy operates separately

Coyness

Even a faultless lover
Receives feigned tears

Though pique-speak causes pain
Quarrels reinforce love

When true lovers argue
Divine bliss arises

Prolonging argument after resolution
Wounds our hearts

Being far from partners
Possesses certain charm

Eating's pause exceeds eating
Altercations transcend romance

When arguing lovers reunite
Vanquished becomes victor

When contending foreheads perspire
Reunion, perhaps, impossible

Prolonging true love's polemic
Prolongs passion's pleasure

Dislike increases love's delight
Bringing rapturous reunion

**PART
IV**

NALATIYAR

134

Finances

Opulent banqueter this year,
Next year beggar

Wealth resembles wheel spokes –
Rising & falling

When sins consume us
Master become mendicant

As only impermanence certain
Pay whenever capable

To provide in prosperity
Avoids malefic privilege

As death strikes randomly
Why hoard money?

Generosity before we die
Justifies our lives

Hoard of gloating scrooges
Time's lightning demolishes

Scroogery among huge riches
Life's crudest destitution

Deem dead misers' money
Hungry bears' honey

135

Ageing

Gallivanting thro ephemeral youth
Ages us unagreeably

Upon decrepit, friendless rocks
Loveless lives founder

Lusting thro feeble age
Destroys one's virtue

Marital lust slowly fades
For stooping spouses

We follow parents heavenward
As they, theirs

Stuff rejoiced in youth
Wiser minds bypass

As fallen fruits decay
Beauty ages away

Youth treats pensioners rudely;
Inquisition, mollycoddle, fuss

Unripe fruit still falls
Live every day

Whether fetus or teenager
Death still merciless

136

Instability

Even wonderful world empires
One day die

Lives rise & fall
Like daily suns

Weddings may become wakes
Lives changes instantaneously

From funeral to funeral
Coffins swallow pallbearers

Marriages commencing on mourning-days
Spent in sorrow

Why grieve decorated corpses
They breathe no more

Raindrops appear & disappear
Births become death-beds

Mountain cloud soon passes
Enjoy bodily fitness

As grass dew fades
Bodies must die

Relations gatecrash lives uninvited
Death empties nests

137

Worthiness

Resting on one's laurels
Invites desperate homelessness

Those chasing elusive wealth
Waste precious lives

Dwell not on criticism
Accept & advance

Our lives are grapes
Enjoy its wine

Those leading worthy lives
Approach death peacefully

Random death denies renunciation
Avoid evil acts

Those pursuing perfect virtue
Receive massive benefits

As seeds become trees
Benevolence blossoms heavenward

Days bring death closer
Un-noticed by most

When begging brings survival
Mendacity seems satisfactory

148

Noblesse

Hungry lions refuse grass
Impoverished aristocrats, baseness

Calibres of famous families
Wisdom, gentleness, cordiality

Renowned families nurture hospitalities
Manners, etiquette, formalities

Those famous family born
Scrutinized & duty-bound

Illiteracy, idleness, honesty, scroogery
Terrify majestic families

Friendliness, liberality, eloquence, cordiality
Nobility's reputable pre-requisites

Derelict mansion's habitable wing
Penniless nobility's dignity

Impoverished nobility still illuminated
Like waning moon

Deem high birth warsteed
Low birth, deer

Dry riverbeds remain aquaterran
Paupered nobility, charitable

149

Nobility

Bright moons bear blemishes
Baronial births abhor

Whether flunking or successful
Nobleness stays blameless

However poor or emaciated
Nobility strives benevolently

Stately sages handle strangers
Like ancient friends

When fools speak publicly
Professors listen pityingly

Bruised sugarcane remains sweet
Insulted nobility, generous

Respect, honesty, abstinence, stoicism
On flawlessness conferred

When ignoring others' faults
Moral treatises superfluous

Baseness despises frequent visitors
Honorable remain hospitable

By befriending elegant greatness
Treasure caves discovered

150

Reverence

Avoid provoking noble souls
Their fury unquenchable

Fools obtaining elite friendship
Waste its wonders

Only sages may deem
Depreciation & esteem

As thunder frightens cobras
Noble enemies terrify

Never estimate personal greatness
Let senates decide

Forenoon shade-fade lowbred friendship
Accrescent noonsun, noble

Tree-shade, beauty, presidential prosperity
Enjoyed by everyone

Since breaking friendship burns
Spurn hasty friendship

Greatest quality of greatnesses
Touches of humility

151

Posipals

When winning positive friendship
Base habits vanish

Our better friends possess
Patience, reverence, graciousness

As wisemen understand suffering
Seek sage friendship

Those who befriend goodness
Alleviate their ordeals

As sewers join Ganges
Fools befriend legends

Moonspots share lunar adulation
Befriending legends beneficial

As milk whitens water
Greatness improves baseness

As stumps defy lawnmowers
Power protects weakness

Base friends form storms
Thrashing life's voyage

Fires burn without bias
Scoundrel proximity dangerous

152
Prestige

After life's full leading
Only celestialism remains

Family may fail tomorrow
Reject today's sorrow

However stable existence seems
Tidal undertow torrential

Compare vital village wells
With charity's rarity

Rivers of noble benevolence
Yield every drop

Sins branding decent citizens
Invisible against criminals

Better a noble enemy
Than ignorant friend

Be courteous amid courtesy
Fierce among enmity

Actions of spotless minds
Steadfast without confusion

Life curses the misers
Lust, anger, delusion

153
Perseverance

Depending on family charity
Shallow water lotus

From saplings forest grows
From nobility, strength

Hungry tigers need frogs
Society, menial labor

Working unswervingly against impossibility
Persistence's first instance

Education, dignity, penance, perseverance
Improve one's breeding

Essential triumvirate of genius
Training, timing, telepathy

Follies of our fathers
Their sons absolved

Remembrance of mighty power
Protects its legacy

What good noble birth
Without personal ambition

Persistence when hunting food
Claims delicious prey

154
Kinship

Babies banish labor's pains
Relations deflect sorrows

Compare beautiful, fruitful trees
With dutiful householders

As branches bear fruit
Households help families

Our friends' mental stability
Influences that friendship

Deem truly unbiased altruists
Humanity's proper royalty

Meager scraps from relatives
Out-flavor enemy banquets

Enemy cuisine taste bitter
Family fare delicious

Friends leap into infernos
For rescuing friends

If suffering follows festivity
Friendship remains stable

When relatives serve food
Blandness becomes ambrosia

155
Befriending

Deem wise friendship sugarcane
Evil friendship, root

Judge people by personality
Not untouchable bloodline

Prefer one's friends dog-loyal
Before elephant unfaithful

Those carving deep friendship
Need many days

Never trust those friends
Closing like lotuses

Friends possessing celebrated qualities
Yield innumerable benefits

Mutual affection improves food
Animosity embitters dining

As canals irrigate soil
Friendships invigorate lives

Death betters terminal disease
Finish insincere friendship

As parting happens painfully
Make mates carefully

156

Friendship

As azure ocean foams
Esteem may sin

Even courting uncomfortable friction
Friends remain friends

Being patient with friends
Life's fairest pleasure

Remaining friends with rogues
Kindles embering heartburn

Troublesome friends are hearths
Handle with caution

Friendship grows like limbs
Drastic severing painful

With wisdom & willpower
Correct mate's mistakes

Although friends' deeds distressful
Loving affection stable

When friends declare enmity
Remain their friend

Scrutinizing newly made friends
Makes us traitors

157

Antipals

However horrible one's home
Selfish friends encamp

As good friends rainfall
Bad friends, drought

Deem clever friends heavenly
Foolish friends, devils

Affectionless acquaintances swiftly vanish
Like burning haystacks

Dimwits declare things impossible
While procrastinating possibilities

Base behavior stays base
However excellent friends

Like young, hungry monkeys
Dissenting friendship difficult

List among dreadful heinousness
Dismissing friend's distresses

Noble friendship olive oil
Goatish friendship, tar

Compare beauty omitting benevolence
With watery milk

Understandings

When enemies seem weak
Commonsense continues cautiously

Wear poverty with dignity
Gossip embarrasses family

As seeds produce plants
Behavior induces Karma

Noble deportment stably unchangeable
Deeming baseness strange

Nationalities never determine nature
Only inner feelings

Act cautious in befriending
Adjust character accordingly

Sage friends bring happiness
Illiterates, teeming sorrows

Only personal exertion controls
Individual social status

Doing business with fools
A necessary wisdom

Shipmates on life's voyage
Enterprise, festivity, benevolence

Ignorance

Prosperity exalts astute minds
Poverty loves dullards

Where erudite minds proliferate
Affluence rarely nests

Rejecting education in childhood
Ensures embarrassing adulthood

Fools address learned senates
Like barking dogs

Buffoons crudely bluster words
Cerebrals converse coolly

Deem wisdom green-leaf silent
Illiteracy, dry-leaf rustle

Driving sticks into rocks
Like lecturing idiots

Milk never whitens coal
Advice, enlighten idiots

Cretins ignoring academic nectar
Flies preferring filth

Fools favor ludicrous banter
Over intellectual debate

166
Idiocy

Spoons cannot taste porridge
Nor cretins, wisdom

Idiots omit wisdom's milk
Preferring its skin

For fools abusing lifetimes
Show no sympathy

Why spend days hating
When lifespan short

Keeping cool when scalded
Shames abusive hecklers

Mankind's most loyal staff
Reproach uncharitable bosses

Scrooges lead confused lives
Addicted to money

Compare misers' mothy wallet
With souring wood-apple

Most ignore charity's existence
Until needing assistance

Despite family funeral finalities
Fools live fruitlessly

167
Foolishness

Life's powerful, unfathomable net
Entangles playful fools

Those who manyana modification
Daily lose admiration

Breeding, morality, learning, longevity
Invisible without respect

Stones for sitting on
Handier than idiots

An angry, abusive fool
Stutters through scalding

Attempting to reform scoundrels
Always brings discomfort

As ants cover tupperware
Desperados crowd misers

Misers, adulterers, sinners, slubbers
Lead meaningless lives

If flattery wins friendship
That flattery false

Humility attracts happy praises
Arrogance, insulting mockery

168

Baseness

Engorged poultry scavenge rubbish
Ignorance ignores morality

Instead of superiors' converse
Idiots prefer sleep

Fools of trifling qualities
Fickly change nature

However glorious giftery's magnificence
Ignorance always ungrateful

As dogs prefer scraps
Ignorance ignores luxury

Wealthy nobility flags humility
Baseness brags regally

Deem meanly minded millionaires
Diamond encrusted slippers

Aggressive, merciless, vindictive, moody
Attributes of wickedness

Whereas excellence respects benefactors
Baseness reviles them

However healthy bank accounts
Ignorance advertises baseness

169

Imbecility

Wisdom avoids wrong ways
Nincompoops perpetually offend

Boetians read many books
Without understanding one

A person's good qualities
Public insults conceal

The prostitute's bodily beauties
Like flashfloods pass

Unless encouraged by force
Baseness never helpful

Noblesse muse former glories
Fools brood abuses

One single, bad blunder
Destroys base friendship

Adorning swine in armor
Never creates war-elephants

Those welching on promises
Perish like leaves

However much money abundant
Deem misers useless

170
Ethics

What use fabulous houses
Without beloved spouses

Oppressive imprisonment moulds opposition
Hardening determined hearts

Lazy & aggressive wives
Murder their families

Putting pleasure before penance
Pensioners stone themselves

Beneath family & penitence
Place money's acquisition

Both study & charity
Surpass sleepless Envy

As seeds becomes shoots
Fathers educate sons

Princes fall, whoresons rise
Nature's senseless strangeness

With one heartless refusals
Our friends slain

As rainfall feeds floods
Money conjures courtesans

171
Courtesans

As petrol powers Porsche
Cash impassions prostitute

Glowing promises of prostitutes
Growing poverty destroys

However great one's status
Whores refuse paupers

Prostitutes proclaim poverty poison
Millionaires, delicious sugar

Strumpets trumpet flowered faces
Attracting honeybee clients

Favors of fickle tarts
Causes heart's confusion

Kerb-crawlers confuse courtesans' caresses
For genuine affection

Harlots offer moneymen friendship
But paupers, enmity

When prostitutes propose marriage
Ulterior motives abound

Many embrace prostitution's illusion
Despite beguilement's transparency

172
Chastity

Loyal & loving lovers
Never flirt publicly

Noble wives bearing poverty
Wear xenial dignity

Shanty-shacks of vestal wives
Considered palatial residences

Gorgeous, forgiving, modest, respectful
Accentuate gracious wives

Aberrant improprieties of prostitutes
Astound decent women

Alongside maiden modesty resides
Femininity's goddessian gorgeousness

Flirting husbands' perfumed scent
Marital continence detests

Virtuous wives remain silent
Thro husband infidelities

Idolized wives remain loyal
When husbands indifferent

Each prostitute & mistress
Erodes matrimonial respect

173
L'amore

Both cuddles & quarrels
Conjure incredible copulation

Promises of returning lovers returning
Terrible weathers destroy

What use gorgeous garland
When partners away

Crimes of callous parting
Weeping sunsets punish

Bow-brows of separated lovers
Slay lustful suitors

For love, gentle lovers,
Endure sickening hardships

When eventide comes heartlessly
Parted partners inconsolable

Through hopeful, hopeless elopement
Love teaches life

Children super-passionately embracing parents
Soon secretly elope

Of all life's sorrows
Love's parting saddest