

Poetry section

River

By- Dr. Nunglekjam Premi Devi

I stepped, step by step
Down to the misty river, tramping
I know not; what actually she was
I treaded and treaded; making my way
Towards the dark misty river, tramping and captivating
Stumbling and slipping, I creep as I carried
Fuzzy silken dim, wishy-washy steps
Down to the misty river, tramping
I know not; what actually she was

I stepped, step by step
Down to the misty river, tramping
I perturbed my uneasy steps, fearing fraught
Not to degrade lounge upon nature's call;
Not to distract faraway laze epitome;
Not to embodied and entangled with, Personification soul spirits;
Laid down unwinding bravely in numbers,
The condensing summary of varied loved souls; as
I treaded and treaded; making my way
I know not; what actually she was

I stepped, step by step
Down to the misty river, tramping
Bushes and prickle; tingling my body temple
Feeble and weak, as I treaded making my way
A gust of chill breeze reached, reaching my amber eyes
Wandering this puff, I rejoiced this charm
This dark musky river, Imphal
Amidst the fuzzy silken dim; serene placid water
Tranquil ling and soothing; rippling waves
Fuzzy silken dim; down this misty river, tramping and captivating
I know not; what actually she was

I stepped, step by step
Down to the misty river, tramping
I was afraid not to favor a last minute gaze;
Gaze at those entangled and twisted fragments of holy woods;
Oh! The brave and vibrant knots;
The fiery flows, sparkling waters, wrapped in between
The towering steep banks; hammering and chastising
Forging and founding; vertiginously her wrinkle banks; as
I treaded and treaded; making my way
Down to the misty river, tramping and captivating
I know not; what actually she was

I stepped, step by step
Down to the misty river; tramping
I assemble all these premonitions; the fondness
I witnessed empathetically, the compassionate;
Humanitarian care; acceptable and unbiased natural virtues
The emotions I carried; far along the ridge
The fair intuition I develop; far along the ridge
Was never a lie; I hunch unknowingly
Ah! What a binding; river and I
That tossed a moral theory; as
I treaded and treaded; making my way
Down to the misty river, tramping and captivating
I know not; what actually she was

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National & International News

4 militants, 2 army jawans killed in encounter in Kulgam

Srinagar, Feb. 12: Four militants and two army personnel were killed while three Army personnel were injured in an encounter in Kulgam district of south Kashmir. The encounter started around 11 pm on Saturday in Nagbal Frisal area of Kulgam, around 70 kms from Srinagar, when teams of police, army and CRPF, acting on a tip off cordoned the area and started a search operation. The exchange of fire continued till 10 am on Sunday. "The encounter started around 11 pm last night and has just concluded. Two army men have attained martyrdom," DIG south Kashmir, S P Pani told ET.

Another senior police official added that three army personnel were also injured and four militants were killed during the encounter. Srinagar based defense spokesperson, also confirmed the death toll and claimed that four weapons were recovered from the spot. According to reports, the Hizb-ul-Mujahideen militants killed at the encounter site were locals and police is expecting huge funeral processions. Locals have started gathering at the encounter site and police and paramilitary forces have resorted to tear smoke shelling to disperse the crowd.

The killing of Hizb-ul-Mujahideen commander Burhan Wani with his two colleagues on July 8, last year, triggered massive civilian protests across the Valley, which police officials claims created another situation for youth to join militant ranks. Many youngsters started to snatch weapons from the police officials to manage a quick entry. Since July, last year, 59 locals have joined militant ranks and more than 60 weapons have been snatched. The counter militancy operations had stopped during the five months of street protests, but have resumed since then and are continuing at a fast pace, as

protests subsided since November last year. J&K chief minister Mehbooba Mufti has urged the J&K Police to persuade local militants to surrender and manage their reentry into the mainstream of development. Police claims that they were successful in persuading few militants to surrender. However, the militants alleged that the government was harassing their families under the garb of the surrender policy. Local Hizb-ul-Mujahideen militant, Zakir, in a video message, warned police of dire consequences, if the latter continued to harass the families of militants.

Contempt notice shows Supreme Court's anti-dalit bias, says Justice S C Karnan

New Delhi, Feb. 12: In what might be a first, Calcutta high court's Justice S C Karnan, facing a notice from the Supreme Court in a contempt case, has lashed out at the apex court, accusing it of harbouring a caste bias against him. In defiance of the SC's decision and sharply escalating the confrontation with the apex court, Karnan accused the CJI J S Khehar-led seven-judge bench of uppercaste bias in initiating proceedings as he belonged to the Dalit community. Karnan virtually alleged that the court order amounts to an offence under the law to punish atrocities against Dalits and tribals and challenged the court to refer his case to Parliament. He said: "The suo motu order against me, a Dalit judge, is unethical and goes against the SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. It is certainly a national issue and a wise decision would be to refer the issue to the House of Parliament." The judge argued that since the order against him was "harsh", the contempt case should be heard after CJI Khehar retired or placed before Parliament if this was not possible. In his anxiety to respond to the SC's February 8 judicial order, Karnan addressed a four-page letter to the SC's registrar general, a post that no longer exists as it was

redesignated years ago as secretary general. Karnan, who has been at the centre of several controversies, was issued a notice and asked to present himself in the Supreme Court on February 13 to explain "scurrilous" allegations against sitting and former judges. In response to the apex court's contempt proceedings, Justice Karnan said: "The suo motu petition is not maintainable against a sitting judge of the HC... I have sent representations to various government authorities regarding high irregularities and illegalities occurring at the judicial courts. I am also a responsible judge to control such high irregularities, especially corruption and malpractice. I have furnished comprehensive proof of unethical practices happening with the respective courts. 'Upper caste judges taking law into hands' He had earlier written to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes, levelling charges of anti-Dalit bias against the chief justice of the Madras high court in 2014 when he was a member of the bench there. Referring to the February 8 order that also stripped him of judicial and administrative work, Karnan said: "The characteristic of this order clearly shows that the upper caste judges are taking law into

their hands and misusing their judicial power by operating the same against a SC/ST judge (Dalit) with mala fide intention to get rid of him." Referring to the "harsh order" passed earlier by a bench headed by Khehar, Karnan said: "Therefore, my deep request is to hear the suo motu contempt after retirement of the Chief Justice of India. In the meanwhile, my administrative work and judicial assignment could be restored. My main contention is only to uproot the corruption prevailing at the Madras high court, and not to spoil the sanctity and decorum of the court." "I (had) issued a list of the corrupted judges wherein an inquiry is mandatory, as such the suo motu petition is not maintainable. The order of the apex court in the suo motu contempt petition is erroneous and has been wilfully and wantonly and with mala fide intention was passed (sic). Therefore, these proceedings may be referred to Parliament, wherein I will establish the high rate of corruption prevailing with the judiciary at the Madras high court." Indicating that he might not present himself before the seven-judge bench of the SC on February 13, he said: "The Supreme Court had not granted stipulated time (for him to respond to the contempt notice), which is highly irregular."

Journalist files complaint against UP minister for threatening to burn alive

Uttar Pradesh, Feb. 12: Journalist Manoj Giri, working with 'Amar Ujala' has filed a complaint against Uttar Pradesh minister Radhey Shyam Singh, who had allegedly threatened the former of burning alive. Giri has expressed fear of getting killed as he is not finding the police doing its job in the right way. Expressing dissatisfaction, Giri said the police have lodged the complaint under normal sections. He is scared that just like the scribe in Bihar's Siwan was killed, he might also face the same fate. Samajwadi Party MLA Radhey Shyam Singh who is contesting elections from Kushinagar's Hata Tehsil is alleged of threatening to set Giri ablaze for not supporting him during the ongoing state assembly elections.

Kailash Satyarthi's stolen Nobel replica recovered, 3 arrested

New Delhi, Feb. 12: The high-profile case of theft at Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi's residence has been solved with the recovery of the replica of the Nobel Peace Prize and other stolen valuables. Three persons have been arrested in connection with the theft, police said on Sunday. It was earlier reported that police had identified the burglars involved in the crime and was working to nab them. District police and Crime Branch teams have been investigating the case. Last week, a gang of thieves allegedly decamped with a replica of the Nobel Medal and the citation, along with some mementos and jewellery, from Satyarthi's Kalkaji residence. Satyarthi had said he was deeply pained by the "unfortunate incident" and added that the theft has strengthened his resolve to continue working for the cause of children. The child rights activist won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014. He shared the prize with Pakistan's Malala Yousafzai. Satyarthi had presented his Nobel Peace Prize medal to President Pranab Mukherjee in January, 2015. The original medal has been preserved and is now on display at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Museum, his office said.

North Korean missile launch is Trump's latest test

Palm Beach, Feb. 12: Embroiled in a legal battle over his immigration order, President Donald Trump now faces a new provocation in the first weeks of his presidency. After a stormy start on the diplomacy front, Trump was trying a more traditional approach of closely cultivating a relationship with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. That approach was quickly tested Saturday night with word of a reported missile launch by North Korea. The firing of a ballistic missile would be North Korea's first such test of the year and an implicit challenge to Trump, who stood with Abe at his Mar-a-Lago Club in Florida when he stood with Abe at his Mar-a-Lago Club in south Florida and said he stood by Japan "100 percent." The provocation comes as the White House continues to weigh its options following a legal blow to Trump's immigration order suspending the nation's refugee program and barring citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the U.S. Seemingly to double down on its approach, the White House is dispatching chief policy adviser Stephen Miller, who helped craft the order, on a Sunday show blitz. He's set to appear on ABC's "This Week," NBC's "Meet the Press," CBS' "Face the Nation" and "Fox News Sunday." While the administration maintains that all options are on the table — Including a Supreme Court appeal

— Trump said on the plane ride down to Florida for the weekend that he was considering signing a "brand new order" as early as Monday to try to bypass the legal challenges. Trump's trip to Mar-a-Lago had begun as a bonding session for Trump and Abe. For most of the day Saturday, Trump and the Japanese prime minister played golf under the Florida sun to get to know one another and show the world the U.S.-Japan alliance remained strong. Then events half-a-world away provided a more significant example of cooperation. After North Korea reportedly launched a ballistic missile, the two leaders appeared for hastily prepared statements in a ballroom of Trump's south Florida estate. Abe spoke first and longest. "North Korea's most recent missile launch is absolutely intolerable," Abe said through a translator. He added that the North must comply fully with relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions, but also noted that Trump had assured him that the U.S. supported Japan. "President Trump and I myself completely share the view that we are going to promote further cooperation between the two nations. And also we are going to further reinforce our alliance," he said. Trump followed Abe with even fewer words, saying in part: "I just want everybody to understand and

fully know that the United States of America stands behind Japan, its great ally, 100 percent." With that, they left the room, a surprise of sorts given that the usually outspoken Trump neither condemned nor denounced the launch. In the opening days of his presidency, Trump's diplomacy had a rocky stretch that included contentious phone calls with the leaders of Mexico and Australia. In contrast, the first visit by a foreign leader at his Mar-a-Lago estate was a friendly weekend of meetings, dinners and golf that suggested the new president was willing to invest time in developing close personal relationships with leaders he feels he can work with. Trump and Abe, both frequent golfers, left Mar-a-Lago early Saturday morning and headed north to one of Trump's golf courses in Jupiter, Florida. Reporters and photographers from both countries did not catch a glimpse of the pair as they played. But Trump later posted a photo of them giving each other a high-five on the golf course and tweeted, "Having a great time hosting Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in the United States!" In a sign of unity, neither Japanese nor White House officials volunteered the pair's final score. Instead, the White House issued a statement saying the day was "both relaxing and productive" and that Trump and Abe had "had great conversations on a wide range of subjects."