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Passing the bridge over *Ganga* from *Kashi*

Dr. Rajnish Mishra

Assistant Professor

Department of English,

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Galgotias University, Greater Noida

Passing the bridge over Ganga from Kashi;

Passing it back, coming back

Within hours.

Seen, I had seen my Kashi

Thus day after day

Of time, in passing

It snatched from me

My city, my soul, my body.

My city

I threw away

Like the fool

Who throws away

His gold

With dust.

Passing roads of time

Through the dust of moments

Lived twice
In past and present;
Collected in pans
Of memory
With brooms of lashes.

What's gone is gone;
Is lost forever.
They say don't cry
Over milk that's spilled
Or hen that's killed
Or time that's filled
With sweet
And sour
And bitter
And salty:
Those moments
Those days
Those years
Of life.