

Poetry Series

Raja Basu
- poems -

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Raja Basu(21st December)

I am working as Protocol Officer at the Office of the Resident Commissioner, Government of West Bengal, in New Delhi. I am responsible for attending the VIPs (the Hon'ble Chief Minister, His Excellency the Governor, the other ministers, etc.) from West Bengal during their visits to and stay in Delhi, like receiving/seeing off in the airport and escorting them during their visit to Union Ministers/other dignitaries or participation in seminars/conferences. While the work sometimes entails strong pressure and challenge, what keeps me driving is the opportunity to serve personalities from the field of public affairs and governance, the field that I have always been obsessed with.

Though now settled in New Delhi, the national capital of India, I grew up in the eastern Indian city of Calcutta (now called Kolkata) . I am separated from my wife and staying with my parents.

Anybody eager to contact me can do it through the following -

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A Homage To The Freedom Fighters Of India

"A Free India" - That was your only passion

Thanks to your sacrifices, today we are an independent nation.

You all were quite intelligent and hardworking

And could have easily led the life of a king

But you chose the life of danger and struggle

To liberate your motherland from the British government's shackle

You relentlessly fought against the world's greatest colonial power

And successfully helped to blossom India's independence flower.

India will always remain grateful for you peoples' supreme service

You are Mother India's golden children, whom we will always miss.

(This poem is a tribute to those lion-hearted freedom fighters of India, who got us independence from the British government in 1947) .

Raja Basu

A Tribute To Queen Elizabeth II Of U.K.

I salute you, Your Majesty The Queen

I am so proud that I am a contemporary of your glorious reign.

Your presence is the backbone of your country, the all beautiful England
You are the constant source of lifeblood for this great and illustrious land.

You represent the ethics and values that earned the Britishers such a worldwide
fame

Without you your beloved country would have been morally lame.

England is so lucky, that it has such a great and noble ruler

Your country's future is rock solid and steady, as it has you as its pillar.

You will live and reign for many more years, that is what we all hope

You might be the Queen of England, but you are respected all over the globe.

We always pray to God for your life's longevity

However, you have already achieved the historical immortality.

Raja Basu

An Ode To My Cell Phone

You are my bridge for keeping touch with everybody

Without you my life would simply have become completely shoddy.

It is for you that I am always in the loop about what is happening in the lives of my friends and relatives

I have all of their latest news, whether it is my best friend's ailment or my cousin's proposed visit to Greece.

You are always there to help me to contact and get contacted, no matter where I am

Whether I am at the office desk or driving in the road, I just give it a damn.

It is for you that I never feel away from my home even while being so far away,

I mean it, dear, now I cannot survive without you even for a day.

Raja Basu

Ancestral Property - The Curse Of The Human Society

It is you who turns a happy family into a stinking gutter
By creating an irreparable rift among brothers.

It is you, who turns siblings into warring enemies
It is you, who robs a home of all its happiness and peace.

It is you who causes the disgraceful scenario where a man consults his lawyer
About how to proceed in the case he is fighting against his own sister or brother.

It is for you that a person can not even talk to his beloved cousin sister, even
when they meet face to face
As their fathers are fighting legal battles, thus turning the sweet relationship
between two cousins into a mess.

When a person leaves behind you for his children, he is satisfied that he has
done something for his descendents
In reality what he does is presenting them with a box full of never ending
problems.

Sorry to say, but we would definitely have had a far better society
If we did not have you as a curse. Got it, Mr. Ancestral Property?

Raja Basu

Arunachal Pradesh – The Picturesque Land Of Dawn Lit Mountains

“The Land of Dawn Lit Mountains”, Arunachal Pradesh is captivating, enchanting and amazing

Representing an out-of-the-world natural beauty that one can imagine only in dreams.

A wonder of the world, Arunachal Pradesh is richly bejeweled with mountains, forests, streams and wildlife

And is the beloved home for Monpa, Nishi, Adi, Apatani, and a host of other interesting and hardy tribes.

A hub of Buddhism, the place boasts gorgeous and magnificent monasteries

Visit the place to taste real natural splendour and tranquility, and regain your mental peace.

Raja Basu

Assange – The Information Warrior With A Cause

Our dear Assange, you are a gutsy information warrior with a noble cause

You are the “Internet Knight” who has made all the world powers to suffer such a huge image loss.

We all salute your dedication, determination and courage

You are one of the greatest things to have happened in this Internet Age.

Words fail me to hail you. All I can say is that you are simply great

You will always remain a darling for the global civil society, I assure you mate.

Raja Basu

Calcutta - My Dear Hometown

Calcutta - my dear hometown, and a city of art, culture and grace
Calcutta - the city that is famous for its gorgeous palaces.

Calcutta - the city of poets, litterateurs, painters, cinema giants and other cultural luminaries

Calcutta - where people of diverse ethnicities and religions stay together with perfect harmony and peace.

Calcutta - the city known for its friendliness and simplicity

Calcutta - the city of people who are known for their genuine hospitality.

Calcutta - the city that might not be that glamorous, but which teaches you how to enjoy life's simple pleasures

Calcutta - the city that teaches you to be humble with people, irrespective of their status and class.

Calcutta - the spectacular city where I was fortunate to grow up

The city which will always enjoy my unconditional affection and love.

I love you Calcutta. You are always there in my heart.

Raja Basu

Dalai Lama – The Gritty Peace Lover

Dalai Lama – the gritty peace lover, for whom “Peace” is not an excuse to avoid conflict and adversity

But a powerful tool to counter his adversaries with composure and dignity.

Dalai Lama – the embodiment of the pride and indomitable spirit of the great Tibetan race

A man who is so humble, and yet carries himself with elegance and grace.

Dalai Lama – the great apostle of love, harmony, compassion and humanity

An angel in the form of human being, who is here to guide us to the heavenly path of holiness and nobility.

(It is a humble ode to the great Tibetan leader on the auspicious occasion of his 75th birthday)

Raja Basu

Darjeeling – The Shangri-La In Eastern Himalayas

Protected by the mighty Mt. Kanchenjunga, and caressed by green carpets of tea gardens

Darjeeling is such a beautiful place, even with its thick fog and rains.

The beloved homeland of proud and self-respecting peoples, such as Lepchas, Bhutias and Nepalis

It is a land of amazing beauty, a land also endowed with eternal charm and peace.

Come here to witness how snow-covered mountains are bathing themselves in fast flowing chilly winds

Come here to observe the thrilling scene of vivacious rivers swiftly flowing through the surrounding rocks and greens.

Come here to relish a colourful flora, which comprises varieties of trees, flowers, plants and orchids

Come here to experience a rich fauna, ranging from Red Panda to singing birds and butterflies.

Come here to know about Mountaineering, one of the world's top sports and many peoples' craze

Come here to see the spectacular Darjeeling Toy Train, the wonder recognized by the UNESCO as an object of world heritage.

Come here to know about the cultivation of tea, which might be your favourite beverage

Or come here just to have an idle vacation, and spend some leisurely days.

Whatever may be your interest and objective, come to this astounding land before it is too late

Otherwise, who knows, not visiting Darjeeling might become your life's greatest regret.

Raja Basu

Dear Facebook, I Am So Indebted To You

You help me to find out all my long lost good friends

The people who many years back used to occupy in my life such a prominent place.

You help me keep touch with my beloved friends, cousins and relatives

We keep ourselves updated about our respective lives with so much comfort and ease.

You help me find out wonderful new friends, who share my hobbies and interests

Whether it is blogging, poem writing, reading or chess.

Trust me dear, I love you so much as I am really so indebted to you

I hope you will soon become more interesting after having features that are new.

Raja Basu

Ecotourism – The Call Of The Day

Ecotourism – A great way to use tourism for generating grassroots level employment

While also strengthening the conservation of the local culture, natural resources and environment.

Ecotourism – A fantastic tool to enhance an area's economic development level

By strategically using the passion of people who love to travel.

Ecotourism – Which ensures that tourism does not destruct a spot's socio-cultural and natural richness

But is rather channelized to further strengthen those jewels of that place.

Ecotourism – A concept that every government of the world should seriously consider

Make no mistake. Ecotourism (aka Sustainable or Responsible Tourism) is an effective means to make this world far better.

Raja Basu

Fight Back, “the Land Of The Rising Sun”

A combined attack of a major earthquake and tsunami – for any other country it would have been a major blow

But the country in question is Japan, which is known for not letting any disaster make its morale low.

“The Land Of The Rising Sun”, Japan managed to stand up from the shambles of Hiroshima bombing

It is a strong-willed nation, for which fighting back a disaster with grit is not a new thing.

History bears the proof of the determination and courage that the Japanese community personifies

And there is hardly any doubt that the great country will overcome the present disaster with aplomb and ease.

The entire world’s sympathy, love and wishes are with you - our beloved Japanese friends, brothers and sisters

Fight back with your natural courage, by displaying for the umpteenth time the indomitable spirit of the Japanese mass.

Your ancestors faced Hiroshima bombing, and constructed a new Japan from the rubble of that devastation

Repeat that valour of your ancestors, and prove once again the resilience and buoyancy of your great nation.

(I wrote this poem on 14th March 2011 following the devastating Tsunami and earthquake in Japan that shook the world) .

Raja Basu

Financial Crisis – The Worst Curse A Man Can Have

It is neither a failed marriage nor a failed affair nor even an ill health

The worst curse a man can have is when he lacks even the basic wealth.

It is the disease that completely damages your self respect sense

As sometimes you are forced to bow down your head only for a few pence.

You find it difficult to make ends meet, when others have the world's pleasure

You are hesitant to spend even 10 bucks, as if it represents the world's treasure.

You are forced to sell family ornaments, which were in your family for years

Your heart breaks down into pieces, as you bid them goodbye with tears.

You approach people for money, with promises of paying it back on time

And fail to do so despite making it your objective prime.

People only find your failure to repay their money, but not your honest endeavor to do the same

And they shout and snap at you without feeling an iota of shame.

They call you everything from 'thief' to 'cheat', without pausing for a thought

Your failure to repay a debt on time becomes your permanent blot.

God, you have given the mankind so many sufferings. So can you please take one of them back, please?

Please ensure that nobody in this world is forced to face any sort of financial crisis.

All the sufferings we face present us with pain, dejection and sorrow

But financial crisis is unique, as it carries a huge load of shame, and gives one's self respect sense a huge blow.

Raja Basu

Happy Independence Day To My Fellow Indians

Wish a Happy Independence Day to all my Indian brothers and sisters
And they include all, from corporate honchos to factory labours.
Let's work hard to make India a country of dream
And for that we all need to work as a team.
Don't let anything to bring any disunity among us
Whether the issue is political, ethnical, lingual or religious.
Let there be no victim of any social or legal injustice
Let there be no room for any corruption and malpractice.
Let there be no poverty, which compels a mother to sell her baby
Let there be no hunger, that forces people into beggary.
Let there be no unemployment, that sinks the youths into frustration
Let's ensure that no Indian child is denied the basic school education.
All these may sound to be utopian, but we must not feel shy
If we are honest in our endeavour, we may achieve that high.

Raja Basu

Hats Off To You, Mr. E-Mail

There was a time when the letter would take days to reach the receiver
And there was always the tension that the letter would reach the destination
never.

It was a time consuming communication method, and very uncertain as well
Whether the letter would reach in time was something nobody could tell.

Above all, writing a letter by hand was always a tiring process
Making people around the world to write letters less and less.

Then we witnessed your emergence, something that caused a revolution in the
way we exchange letter
You provided an option that is not only easier, but in every sense it is so better.

No more a painful writing on the paper, with a pen that my tired fingers find to
be a burden
No more a scenario where I will find letter writing to be worse than falling into a
drain.

Now we just access our email account, and our fingers start playing on the
keyboard
And in no time we write a long mail, without feeling any load.

And the distance does not matter, even if I send the mail to somebody thousand
miles away
It will always take only few seconds to cover the entire way.

No scenario for pasting stamps, or putting the letter into envelope
Just to type and click "Send", and the mail will reach anywhere in the globe.

And yes, no need to send separate mails to separate people when the message is
the same
I just need to "CC" the mail to everybody. So what else do I have to blame?

Our fast life had made letter writing a dying art, and by this time it would have
died
But it did not happen, as you appeared as our guide.

You ensured that we are able to keep touch with one another, and our

relationships remain alive

Hats off to you, Mr. E-mail, you are really an asset of the modern human life.

Raja Basu

Health Is Wealth

Health is our most precious wealth, I hope you agree
No doubt, health is the sweetest fruit of our life's tree.
Money is certainly important, and so is social prestige

But it is a good health that is the source of a constant bliss.
You may have the money to tour the world, but can't if your health does not permit
You can buy all the food of the world, but your bad health will not let you eat.
You might have huge honor in the city, with everybody bowing before you

But you will fail to enjoy it, if you regularly develop health problems new.
In this way the bad health will always play a serious bar
In the way of your enjoying what you have, wealth, house or car.

On the other hand the good health is a source of constant happiness
That will automatically turn your life into one of charm, pleasure and grace.
Take good care of your health, and develop a body that is sound and strong

And ensure a life that is happy and charming, besides being long.

Raja Basu

Hearty Congratulations To Ms. Kiran Desai

Please accept a ton of hearty congratulations, our beloved Ms. Kiran Desai

By being the youngest woman ever to win the Booker Prize you have made we Indians feel so high.

Your achievement is so spectacular, and it has so much boosted our national pride

India is really lucky to have a child like you, so talented and bright.

Your work has genuinely enriched the field of world literature

And has proved India's supremacy in art and culture.

Please keep writing, and keep refreshing our mind

In this world of boredom, your works will bring fresh wind.

(I wrote this poem in October 2006 immediately after India's Kiran Desai became the youngest woman to win the Booker Prize for her work "The Inheritance of Loss") .

Raja Basu

Honing My Poetic Skill

I had not written any poem for long, when my friend told me that day

“Hey Raja, you have not written any poem for long. Very unfortunate, I would say.

A true poet should always keep writing, no matter how much fast his life is

And I request you to write one poem right now. Will you, please? ”

I sat at my desk, and did prepare a small poem

Then called my friend, and to my desk she came.

She read the poem, was happy, and kissed me affectionately

And sat beside me, with her hand placed on my shoulder gently.

“You are so sweet dear, the poem is really so nice.

Thanks a lot for writing the poem! ” She smiled with pleasure in her eyes.

“But what’s the use of the poem? ” I said. “It’s so small.

In fact smaller and simpler than nursery rhymes, meant for babies who crawl.”

My friend gave me a sweet smile, before softly squeezing my left cheek.

“Oh dear, I didn’t know that you are a stupid so big.

The size of the poem does not matter, what matters is the joy of a new creation

And the pleasure of writing a new poem, which is your life’s greatest passion.

You are a poet, and you should regularly come up with a poetic piece

It’s absolutely not necessary that each of them should be a masterpiece.

By regularly writing poems you can keep your creative impulse alive

Like one regularly needs to hone the sharpness of a knife.

By not writing any poem for long you were getting your poetic skill very rusty

For me it was a development as intolerable as a garbage dump so nasty.

Very soon your poetic talent would have become completely blunt and dull

And you would have failed to come up with any new creation, big or small, my dear pal.

Today by writing this small poem you have revived your creative ability

And now it will be easier for you to write poems of high quality.

God has given you the poetic skill. Don't let it gather dust, that's so disappointing

So please keep writing, writing and writing."

Raja Basu

Human Blood

I am the same inside James Brown, a Roman Catholic American

I am the same inside a Buddhist Chinese, named Miao Chan.

I am the same inside a Muslim Arab named Amir Muhammad

And I am again the same inside a Hindu Indian named Akash Chand.

Yes, I am also the same inside you, no matter which religion or country you are from

Who am I? I am that precious red liquid present inside everybody – the Human Blood.

Raja Basu

I Am An Indian

Neither Bengali nor Punjabi nor Tamil nor any other Indian community

I am an Indian who identifies himself with the entire Indian fraternity.

I love and respect every Indian community, and identify with its customs and culture

And know for sure that we all are same, except some apparent differences in our nature.

I believe in a pan-Indian identity, and identify myself with every region of this land

I am quite proud of my so-called own community (the Bengali community) , but on any day I will prefer to carry an "All India" brand.

LONG LIVE INDIA! I LOVE MY MOTHERLAND.

Raja Basu

I Was Working At My Office...

I was working at my office, and was feeling very exhausted
And wanted to do something to get my energy boosted.

And what better ways can there be for that than writing a poetry?
You know, it is a pleasure which you can get absolutely free.

So I took a small break, and composed this small piece of work
And got my mind rid off all its gloom and murk.

I just got back my energy, and resumed my work with passion
I was just charged up with the pleasure of making a new creation.

Raja Basu

I Wish I Could Die

I wish I could die, so that my problems would come to an end in no time
I desperately want to get rid of my pains and sufferings that seem to have
reached their prime.

I wish I could die, as for me good time appears to be permanently elusive
And I am so frustrated that despite a constant effort I have failed to bring luck
within my grip.

I wish I could die, as I can no more struggle with my misfortune
Which appears to be so scorching like the Sun of the mid noon.

I wish I could die, as all my hopes are lost, and all my dreams are shattered
It is such a harsh reality, coming to terms with which is so hard.

I wish I could die, as I am tired of waiting for a better future
And so now I seek a completely new life through a rebirth, which I hope to be at
least a bit better.

Raja Basu

India - The Plethora Of Natural Beauties

'Colourful Personified! ' This is precisely what can be said
When one sees the natural beauties of India, so rich and varied.

It is here that you can see chilly mountains crowned with white snow
It is here that you can experience hot deserts under the Sun's full glow.

It is here that you can find lush green forests with wildlife so rich
It is here that you can see a blue sea with a spectacular beach.

Everything that you find in the world is found in this land
Whether it is a tropical forest or a desert with golden sand.

You just name it and India has the feature
Varieties of natural attractions, exactly at par with India's rich culture.

Proud to say, I am a child of this land
The amazing and beautiful India, my dear Motherland.

Raja Basu

Jaipur – The City Of Magnificence And Past Glory

Jaipur – the city of magnificence and past glory

Jaipur – the city of gorgeous palaces, each of which has an interesting story.

Jaipur – the city of royals, and an epitome of class and aristocracy

Jaipur – the city for History enthusiasts, and also for those who are Polo crazy.

Jaipur – the marvelous capital of India's desert kingdom of Rajasthan

A perfectly modern city that retains its touch with the past with aplomb and élan.

Raja Basu

Jammu & Kashmir – The Paradise On Earth

Jammu & Kashmir – where snow-white mountains are immersed into deep meditation from pre-historic times

Jammu & Kashmir – where mountain streams are flowing with sweet sounds, as if little children are reciting their nursery rhymes.

Jammu & Kashmir – where green meadows, valleys of flowers and apple orchards are eagerly waiting to welcome you

Jammu & Kashmir – where you encounter experiences that are so unique and completely new.

Jammu & Kashmir – where you find colourful birds singing and chirping in dense green forests

Jammu & Kashmir – where you find local people to be always warm and smiling, looking gorgeous in their native dress.

Jammu & Kashmir – the place of magnificent Chinar trees, that stand so tall

Jammu & Kashmir – the land of Santoor (Indian musical instrument) and the world famous Pashmina shawl.

Jammu & Kashmir – the confluence of three great religions – Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam

Visit the place at least once, and get enamoured by its beauty, splendour and charm.

Raja Basu

Life Is A Teacher

Life is a teacher, which teaches how to live.
Life is a teacher, which teaches how to win.
Life is a teacher, which teaches how to laugh.
Life is a teacher, which teaches how to make other people cry.
Life is a teacher, which teaches how to love.
Life is a teacher, which teaches how to hate.
Life is a teacher, which teaches how to win honour.
Life is a teacher, which teaches how to embarrass others.
Indeed, life is a great teacher as it teaches everything.
And in this very greatness lies life's weakness, that it teaches everything.
It teaches how to love, but also teaches how to hate.
It teaches how to help, but also teaches how to harm.
It teaches how to honour (others) , but also teaches how to embarrass (others) .

It teaches how to laugh, but also teaches how to make other people cry.
Wish life were a bit selective in its teaching.
But can't we be a bit selective in taking lessons?

Raja Basu

Mental Peace

Everyone looks for you, like a kid brother looks for his affectionate elder sister

Everyone waits for you, like a devout Christian waits throughout the year for Easter.

Everyone looks for you, like a baby looks for his caring mother

Everyone waits for you, like a thirsty man waits for a glass of water.

Everyone looks for you, like a laid off man looks for a new employment

Everyone waits for you, like a farmer of a drought hit region waits for rain.

Everyone waits for the time when you will come to his/her life, thus bringing ecstasy and bliss

But you are so elusive in today's fast world, Miss Mental Peace!

Raja Basu

My Apologies To My Friend Shanti Khumukcham

I apologize to my friend Shanti Khumukcham, whose trust I broke the other day

It was unforgivable, and I know he will never forgive me. Absolutely no way!

Shanti has been such a nice friend, and I have been so ungrateful

What I have done to him is so appalling and awful.

I have proved myself to be a scoundrel, who does not worth any friend

I am a nuisance, who needs to be despised to no end.

(This poem is my confession of the terribly distrustful act that I have done against my friend Shanti Kumar Khumukcham, albeit a bit unintentionally. I apologize to him. I will always regret losing a genuine friend like him. I hope this confession will help me reduce to some extent the huge weight of repentance that I have on my shoulder) .

Raja Basu

My Collection Of Books

It is my most precious possession, my collection of books
It is my oxygen, no matter how much insignificant it looks.

Reading has been my most favourite habit, since when I was a kid
A good book in my hand, and there is nothing else that I need.

My books are my life, and my collection (of books) my pride
I have books of all types, from Enid Blyton to Oscar Wilde.

I love to get lost among my books, whenever I have leisure
Spending time with my beloved books is my life's greatest pleasure.

Raja Basu

My Cup Of Morning Tea –

I start my morning every day with you
I taste you everyday, but still everyday I feel your taste to be brand new.

Whether it is your taste, your smell, your flavour
Everything is so beautiful, I have turned into your passionate lover.

A born lazy, I find it so hard to leave the bed in early morning
But the moment I remember you, I just jump out like a spring.

You boost up my energy and charge me up for the entire day
And that helps me to remain solid and steady come what may.

That day just becomes bitter for me which does not start with you
I will not even like a cup of nectar in lieu of you.

The day I do not get you in the morning I lose my sanity
You are my dearest friend, my cup of morning tea.

Raja Basu

My Father's Suggestions

"Be practical, otherwise you will never survive in this world, dear! "
This is what my father keeps telling me, while I successfully pretend to hear.

This is a tough world, and I should not have too much emotion
Because then I will have lots of pain, this is my father's opinion.

I have to be practical and sometimes even rude
Otherwise everybody will trample me under his or her foot.

I can sacrifice my interests, but not beyond a certain limit
Because then there is this possibility that people will consider me to be very
timid.

I must see that people can not take undue advantage of my modesty
Because exploiting the modest people is something for which people are always
thirsty.

These are what my dear father always keeps suggesting to his son
Suggestions that are actually the results of my father's perception (about this
world) .

"How selfish! " One might think about my father
Not surprising if somebody feels so, I will say it is expected rather.

But sorry, I do not find anything wrong in my father's being so overtly practical
As I know how badly this world treats the people who are soft and emotional.

It is a tough world, where there is no value for human sentiments and emotion
Being practical in this world is not a choice, but a pure compulsion.

Raja Basu

My Filipino Sister Mercy Ferriols - The Mirth Of My Life

I am so happy and proud, that I have an angel like you as my sister

My life would have been so dull without you, like bread without butter.

I am so ordinary, but you make me feel so special and important

You are so far away from me, and yet I can feel your love and affection every moment.

I pray to the almighty, that I have you as my sister in every birth

Please believe me, you are one of the key constituents of my life's mirth.

Raja Basu

My Filipino Sister Popot (Catherine)

Whether it's East or the West
My sister Popot is always the best.

She is the jewel of the world, and the pride of her brother
If her love is with me, there is nothing that can make me bother.

Raja Basu

My Friend Adarsh Gupta

I first met him as a colleague while working for an Indian private university
Soon we turned into close friends with deep bonding and unity.

And with time our friendship has grown, making him one of my best companions
Today we embody genuine friendship, as per our common friends' opinion.

As a person Adarsh is so nice, gentle, humble and so kind
He is a person who quickly occupies your heart and mind.

Whenever you find yourself in a trouble, he is always there to help you
Whenever you need any suggestion over something, he is always there with
quite a few.

For him friendship is not a formality, but a mission
A mission which he follows with genuine passion.

Let The Almighty always shower him with loads of happiness and pleasure
And provide him with all the best jewels of the human life's treasure.

Raja Basu

My Key To Immortality

All living beings in this world are mortal, and so am I.

There is no way to permanently elude death, no matter how desperately I try.

There will come a day, when I will have to say goodbye to all of you

And will be forgotten by most, while being remembered by just a few.

But.....

I will ensure that my link with this world remains intact even after my death

Years after my death people will remember me, you bet.

I will remain "alive" through all my creations – like my blogs and poems

Which are so insignificant for the world, but for me they are like precious gems.

Every time one will read my poems I will get "alive" for that moment

This way my entity will remain alive, even after my mortal self meets its end.

(22nd February,2009) .

Raja Basu

My Poems Faq

When do I write poems?

Whenever I get time.

Why do I write poems?

Because it is my life's passion prime.

What topics do I get idea from?

Everything, from Computer to Crime.

Why should you read my poems?

Simple, it will get me on cloud nine.

(Finally) How do I rate myself as a poet?

Sir/Madam, it is your job, not mine.

Raja Basu

My Sweet Little Purse

Your size is so small, but your service is so huge
Every time I need money, you are my only refuge.
It is you who makes it possible for me to go out of the home
It is again you who enables me to come back home.
I can buy my favourite books because you are there
I can help my needy friend as your resources I can share.
People salute me when they find how fatty you are
And when you are thin, I find nobody for me there.
Without you my life would have been a curse
Please always be with me, my sweet little purse.

Raja Basu

One Day The Entire World May Become A Single State

A time may come when the entire world will become a single state
And I have a feeling that one day it will happen, though the idea may sound
absurd on today's date.

There will be a single World Government, running the affairs of the entire globe
Spanning from Africa to America, and Asia to Europe.

There will be no "countries", but only "administrative divisions"
And people will have no "nationalities", as there will be no "nations".

Every person will have only one identity – that he is a World Citizen
No matter originally which place he is from - the USA or India or Kenya or
Yemen.

There will be no "international border", as the entire world will be a single
country
With various regions of the world being like the branches of the same tree.

There will be no war, as there will be only one country with not a second one to
challenge its "territorial integrity"
And people across the world will enjoy a life of peace, harmony and unity.

The entire global fund will be spent on development, with not a single pie being
wasted in war preparation
There will be no "war psychosis", as that is impossible when the entire world has
only one nation.

Words like "patriotism", "nationalism" and "nationalist feeling" will be completely
obsolete
And people will find such feelings to be ridiculously "parochial" and "narrow-
minded".

All the people across the globe will live as a single community
Working together for the world's over-all development with dedication and
integrity.

Just imagine what a beautiful place the world will be, if my dream becomes a
reality
I know the dream sounds to be Utopian, but cannot we take at least some baby

steps towards a Global Unity?

Raja Basu

Priyanka – My Dear Sister

I am really proud of you, Priyanka my sister
In the sky of your family you are a bright star.

You have been such a good student, so brilliant and bright
In each and every exam you have ensured success on your side.

A hardworking student, you have always shown dedication and determination
And as a result you have successfully achieved the best of educational
qualification.

Today you are an administrator, an important player in the Indian bureaucracy
You are a policy maker of our great country, and for me it is a source of huge
ecstasy.

You are an important cog in the wheel of our government machinery
It is a great feeling that always makes me feel so merry.

But what makes you so special to me is a characteristic so valuable
You are so successful in life, and yet you are so humble.

I always pray to god that you remain truly happy in your entire life
And never come under the dark shadow of the destiny's cruel knife.

Let the god fulfill your each and every wish
I love and adore you, my dear little sis.

Raja Basu

Sikkim – The Fairy Tale Land That This World Is Lucky To Have

On the lap of snow-white mountains – amidst lush green forests and crystal clear rivers – there lies a fairy tale land

Named Sikkim, it is a land that in the true sense is amazing, magnificent and grand.

Boasting of rich and colourful folk cultures, courtesy its indigenous communities

Sikkim also has a marvelous religious appeal, being a key hub of Buddhist practice.

It is a spectacular land that personifies beauty, enigma, mysticism and myth

It is a piece of land that this world is genuinely fortunate to have been endowed with.

Raja Basu

Singapore - The City I Dream To Visit

One of my cherished wishes is to visit the 'Lion City' of Singapore

It is a city where I have always dreamt to go for a tour.

A city so small in size but so huge in terms of achievement

And holds such a prominent place in the entire Asian continent.

It is a city that represents life, warmth and fun

And has established itself as a unique place under the Sun.

I always dream that someday I will visit this spectacular city

Though I do not know when I will get that golden opportunity.

Raja Basu

The Amazing Himachal Pradesh

Gurgling rivers and streams playing on the lap of White mountains

Lush green meadows, that look greener when drenched with rains.

The Gothic buildings, reminding you of the bygone British colonial time

And reflecting the grand lifestyle that our former colonial masters enjoyed during their prime.

Enchanting apple orchards, accompanied by eye-catching potato fields

Simple but hardworking people, who lead a tough life with a dignified ease.

A marvelous and amazing place, where every day appears to be new

Dear all, this is Himachal Pradesh for you.

Raja Basu

The Confessions Of An Incurable Person

I am a religious fanatic, because I do not respect any religion other than my own – Humanism.

I am not cosmopolitan, because I do not respect any community other than my own – Humanity.

I do not like any language other than my own – the language of unity, understanding and friendship.

I give a damn to any culture other than my own – Human Culture.

There is only one civilization I respect, the ancient civilization I am a part of – World Civilization.

I do not have time for anybody other than my own family – The World Fraternity.

Agreed, all these characteristics that I have are extremely condemnable. But sorry, I will not change. I am incurable.

Raja Basu

The Girl In The Bus

I was in a public bus, coming back from office, with a mind so depressed

It just seemed to me that all hopes in my life had come to an end.

I had just got a call from our family physician, informing me about the tumour in my wife's brain

The problem that calls for a major brain operation, which would cause expenses like water drops during a rain.

My salary is moderate, and I already have so many problems to tackle

And now I have this problem. God! My life has just turned into a hell!

I have never enjoyed a comfortable life, neither I seek one

I just look for a peaceful life, a basic dream for everyone.

But I always have so many problems, I am just bogged down by the same

For me life has become a constant war, while for others it seems to be a game.

I was murmuring to myself, and abusing the destiny,

When the bus arrived at a new stop, to pick up passengers many.

A girl immediately caught my attention, not for her beauty, but for her smiling face that reflected a heavenly glow

She was so merry, as if the destiny has never offered her any serious blow.

Her shining face inspired me to face my life's challenges, and I in fact was ashamed that till just few moments back I was feeling so frustrated

My problems might be serious. But I learnt to face life's challenges from this girl, who can have such a merry face even after having Both of Her Hands Amputated.

Raja Basu

The Himalayan Kingdom Of Bhutan

A diamond on the crown of Himalaya, the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan
A piece of heaven on the earth, the beauty of which will fail any poet's
imagination.

A country that represents genuine peace and tranquility

A country that can teach what is meant by natural beauty.

Equally nice are the people who live in this beautiful place

People who represent humility, dignity and grace.

The country is a spectacular blending of modernity and tradition

Where modern technology happily co-exists with age-old culture and convention.

Making regular visits to this land has become my favourite passion

I love you, The Sandalwood Ornamented Kingdom Of Bhutan.

Raja Basu

The Knowledge Of The World's Best Language

I am so proud that I speak languages so many –
English, French, Hindi, Bengali. Do I have competitor any?

I speak English just like an educated Englishman does
I speak French exactly as spoken by the French mass.
My Hindi is undoubtedly one of the bests of its kind
My Bengali is the best that can come into anybody's mind.

Other day I was going to office, when I heard a commotion so loud
I had to stop my car, as the road was blocked by a huge crowd.
A man came running to me, with appeal in his voice
"Please help me sir, " he said, "I have no choice.
"My wife is hit by a car, and she is badly injured.
I have to take her to hospital, so that she is cured.
Can I please use your car, so that I can take her to hospital?
Please sir! Any delay at this time can make the injury fatal."

"I am so sorry, " I said in a voice sans expression.
"I wish I could help you, but I have no option.
I have to reach office in time, and so I am helpless.
Please excuse me, and look for someone else (to help you) ".

I restarted my car, and resumed my journey towards my office
I switched on the radio, and tried to put my mind at ease.
It was then that I had this realization, something that I did not want to realize
As realization of flaws is not welcome to any person, whether stupid or wise.

I realized that my so-called great knowledge of language should actually arouse
pity
As I am devoid of the knowledge of the world's best language, the Language of
Humanity.

Raja Basu

The Story Of A Deserted Castle

Today I am completely deserted, and stand alone in the midst of a jungle
My condition is extremely bad, and anyday I am likely to crumble.

Today I have no charm or appeal, and to everybody I am so unwanted
And this infamy has been attributed to me, that I have been haunted.

Today I am a poor mansion, one which has outlived its old glory
And I have nothing to boast of, except my old story.

Once upon a time I was a royal palace, a palace with so much pomp and glamour
There were lots and lots of people, thus resulting into huge clamour.

I was always decorated like a bride, courtesy the stupendous royal wealth
I was so happy, so proud of my beauty and health.

Dignitaries would regularly visit me, and would highly praise my beauty
Thus constantly enhancing my deep-rooted pride and gaiety.

I was fully conscious of the fact that I had a social status
I knew that as a mansion I was genuinely attractive and gorgeous.

Alas, today everything is past, that does not exist (anymore)
I cannot hold back my tears, no matter how much I resist.

My pride is long gone, and now I have only an appeal so humble
I just want The Almighty to make me fully crumble.

Raja Basu

The Street Urchin

I was returning to home after having a hard day at office, and was so terribly exhausted

I was so eager for the bath that I was supposed to have after reaching home, and get my energy boosted.

I had already alighted from the bus that had dropped me near my residence, and was walking so hurriedly

My only aim was to reach home at the earliest, where I was being awaited by my dear family.

"Excuse me", it was at this time that I heard the voice, and turned round to find a street urchin.

A little boy of around 10 years, in shabby clothes and having a physique so frail and thin.

"Please do not ask for any alms, I have no time! " I snapped at him in a harsh voice

Harshness is the only way to drive away nagging beggars. There is absolutely no other choice.

The boy looked at me for few seconds, with both confusion and pain in his eyes

And then spoke again, with a smile at his lips that was so innocent and nice.

"Sorry if I bothered you Sir, but I just wanted to give you back your purse

Which had fallen down from your pocket, when you were alighting from the bus".

Raja Basu

To My New Born Nephew

My life had become so boring, with absolutely no charm and pleasure

I was just bogged down by my work, with absolutely no time for leisure.

It was at that time when you arrived, giving me a new occasion to enjoy

Making me laugh, jump and dance, just like a little boy.

You are not a baby, but a bundle of fun, pleasure and happiness

You have rejuvenated my mind, and enabled me to enjoy life afresh.

(I wrote this poem on 29th May 2007 to celebrate the birth of my nephew Pravar – son of my cousin sister Priyanka – on 18th May 2007) .

Raja Basu

To My Niece Miranda Layton

I might not have met you, and might not meet you in my entire life
But still you are my niece, and our relationship can be cut off by no knife.

You are the daughter of my sister, the one who has always been the apple of my eyes
No wonder I have huge love for you, and want your life to be happy and nice.

You are a sweet flower, which I want to fully blossom
So that you can win in this society a position really respectable and handsome.

Wish you a spectacular life, a life full of dignity and grace
A life truly beautiful, and always crowned with success.

Raja Basu

Uttarakhand – The Abode Of God

Mountains, waterfalls, streams and jungles

Which place am I talking about, any guess?

Home for some interesting tribes, like Tharus, Vanrawats and Jaunsaris

And blessed with the Hindu pilgrimage of Kedar Vadri, where people flock in search of religious quest and mental peace.

A place that epitomizes natural beauty, and has had famous residents like Jim Corbett and Ruskin Bond

Yes, you are right, I am talking about the “Devbhumi” (Abode of God) named Uttarakhand.

Raja Basu

Wanna Know A Litte About Terrorists? Well.....

The only religion they believe in is 'Devastation'

Inflicting harm on others is their most favourite passion.

They love to destabilize the entire world

As hatred against the entire human race is their greatest obsession.

And the only 'medicine' effective against these scoundrels?

A ruthless and all out attack, aimed at complete annihilation.

Raja Basu

We Salute You Rahman, The Crown Prince Of Music

A.R. Rahman, the Crown Prince of music, and the King of our (Indians) heart

Your music is as refined as your nature, and precious like a rainfall in a desert.

You had already conquered India, and today you won the world

Trust me, "Oscar" itself is honoured that you have won the award.

I wrote this poem on 24th February 2009, a day after A.R. Rahman won "Oscar" for his music in "Slumdog Millionaire".

Raja Basu

Who Am I?

For me the life of a stray dog is much more valuable than that of 1,000 human beings

For me putting up a fight for the rights of a small fly is one of this world's most important things.

I can risk the life of a human baby for saving just the small tail of a kitten

I remain unmoved with the atrocities faced by human beings, but cannot tolerate the scene of a single dog tied with a chain.

I have no problem if you abuse a person, but I will not allow it if you refer to an animal as "beast"

Who am I? Well, I am an Animal Rights Activist.

Raja Basu

Why I Decided To Be A Blogger

I decided to be a blogger, as I wanted to transform my thoughts into a voice
I decided to be a blogger, as I wanted a platform to express my opinion on
various topics of my choice.

I decided to be a blogger, as I wanted to share with the world my feelings and
perceptions about a number of things
Which range from the US presidential election to global warming.

I decided to be a blogger, as I wanted to be a part of the global civil society
Which comprises thinking people from across the world, ranging from the USA to
Haiti.

Today I am so proud that I am a small player in the global blogosphere
It is a status so thrilling to me, a status that I consider to be so dear.

Raja Basu

Wishing A Happy Married Life To Sourav And Ranjana

Dear Ranjana and Sourav, I wish you two to be the world's best married couple

With your marriage having a success that is simply unimaginable.

Wish you a sweet married life that will never turn sour

And will only blossom like a colorful and scented flower.

(I wrote this poem to wish my dear friend Sourav on the occasion of his marriage to Ranjana in August 2006)

Raja Basu

You Know, Actually I Am ...

I have murdered so many guys
I have blinded so many peoples' eyes.
I have kidnapped so many women
And the other day I hijacked an entire aero plane.

I am always trailed by police
And so you will often find me in disguise
Almost everyday I am conspiring against somebody
And working hard to implement my plans so dirty and shady.
I may be a man who is very very gutsy
But at the same time I am a bad guy, with a mind very very nasty.

Oh, please don't get shocked, ladies and gentlemen
Actually I am only a popular screen villain.
All the activities mentioned above are the ones I do in movies
In real life I am an innocent person, whose favorite pastime is to play with his
kids.
Please believe me, I have never caused any harm to anybody, except myself
(LOL)
Rather, if possible, I am always there to help (you) .

Raja Basu

Your Company

The road was long, but your company ensured that I had no exhaustion

There was scorching heat, but your company ensured that I had no perspiration.

The place I was going was very very far away

But your company ensured that there was absolutely no delay.

You gave such a great service to this poor and humble chap

I am sure that you are this city's best cab.

Raja Basu