Još Malīḥābādī: Paiġambar-i Fitrat
The Prophet of Nature

transliterated by Walt Hakala and Till Luge translated by Till Luge

tāroṅ ne jhilmilā ke jo cheṇā sitār-i ṣubḥ gāne lagī caman meṅ nasīm-i bahār-i ṣubḥ The stars having scintillated, when the sitar of the morning was excited Began to sing in the garden the spring breeze of the morning

> guncon kī cašm-i nāz se ṭipkā khummār-i ṣubḥ ubhrā ufuq se jām-i zamurrud nigār-i ṣubḥ From the dalliance of the eye of the rosebud leaked the intoxication of the morning Risen from the world, the cup of emerald, the embellishment of the morning

 $\check{s}\check{a}\check{e}r\;k\bar{\imath}\;r\bar{u}\dot{h}\;\acute{i}sq\;k\bar{\imath}\;hamr\bar{a}z\;ho\;ga\check{\imath}\bar{\imath}$ dunyā tamām jalwah-gah-i nāz ho ga $\check{\imath}\bar{\imath}$ The soul of the poet has become the confidant of passion The entire world has become the place of the manifestation of dalliance

šam'en hū'īn khamoš, chukne lage tuyūr ulṭī niqāb carkh ne, jhalkā zamīn pĕh tūr The candles became silent, the birds started to chirp The skies overturned the veil, the hill[s] sparkled on the ground

sīnoṅ meṅ ahl-i dil ke hūʾe qalb cūr cūr ānkhoṅ se ruḥh pĕh dauṛ gayā ānsūʾoṅ kā nūr In the chests of the people of the heart, the hearts were all in pieces The light of the tears has run from the eyes onto the cheeks

> daryā bahe, caṭak gaʾīṅ kaliyāṅ gulāb kī phūṭī kucch us adā se karan āftāb kī The rivers ran, the rose's buds burst open Burst open/into tears, somewhat due to the blandishment of the sun

sabze pĕh lahr ā'ī, jinoṅ ḥhez ho gayā jhoṅkā har ik nasīm kā gul-rez ho gayā A wave came over the greens, which sprung up/were aroused Every single breeze's gust became flower petal shedding

> šab kā sukūt laḥn-i dil-āvez ho gayā rang-i ḥayāt valvalah-angez ho gayā The silence of the night has become a captivating tune The color of life is exciting enthusiasm

tanvīr khandah-zan hū'ī tārīk rāt par ḥusn-i azal kī chūṭ paṛī kā'ināt par The refulgence became derisive of the dark night The radiance of the beauty of eternity fell on creation

> bād-i saḥar ke jām pĕh qurbān hazār jism dāman tamām šabnam-i tāzah se jis kā nam A sacrifice on the cup of the morning wind, a thousand bodies All fresh dew, the wetness of which skirted [it]

jhonke nahīṅ yĕh carḳh se hai bāriš-i karam har sāṅs ġusl detī hai sīne ko dam bĕdam There are no gusts, this gracious rain is from the skies Every breath bathes the chest, unceasingly

thī rūḥ men jo šab kī kasāfat, vŏh dhul gaʾī gahrī jo sāns lī, to girah dil kī khul gaʾī That impurity of the night that was in the soul has become laundered When a deep breath was taken, the knot of the heart was loosened

vāraftagī kī sīnah-i mašriq meṅ hai umang har cīz meṅ ḥayāt kī paidā hai ik tarang Joy is in the eastern chest of [the sun's] orbit In every thing a ripple of life is born

> girdon kī āb o tāb se hotī hai 'aql-dang halkā sā abr, abr men yĕh campa'ī sā rang Dumbfounded by the luster of the skies The pastel-colored cloud[s], this yellowish color in the cloud[s]

jām-i zamurrudīn men maujen šarāb kī šabnam men cubh rahī hai kiran āftāb kī Waves of wine in cups of emerald The sunbeam is striking the dew

dūlhā bane hū'e hain šigūfon se būstān kundan banī hū'ī hain pahāron kī coṭiyān The gardens have become the grooms of the blossoms The summits of the mountains have become golden

tāroṅ kā bazm-i carḥh pĕh bāqī nahīṅ nišāṅ ānkheṅ haiṅ band, sākit o ṣāmit hai āsmāṅ No trace is left of the stars' meeting with the skies The[ir] eyes are closed; the sky remains silent

> hāthoṇ pĕh āftāb-i daraķhšāṅ li'e hū'e jis azal kā dil meṅ tasawwur ga'e hū'e

Received on the hands was the resplendent sun In the heart of the eternity of which they were pictured

raqṣāṅ hai baḥr, anjuman-i āftāb mĕṅ jis tarḥ rūḥ-i sukr ho mauj-i šarāb meṅ The ocean glitters/dances in union with the sun In the way the intoxicated soul does in the wave[s] of wine

lahren hain yā hai zulf-i dotā pec o tāb men galtān hai rūḥ, bād-i ṣabā kī ḥabāb men Either waves or twisted locks are in the writhing The soul is wallowing in the bubbles of the wind of the morning breeze

maujeṅ ravāṅ hūʾī haiṅ kucch us soz o sāz se jis tarḥ koʾī cauṅk paṛe ḥhwāb-i nāz se Waves have been flowing, somewhat due to [their] inflammation with passion In the way someone woke up from the dream of dalliance

šamʿeṅ bujhātī āʾī haiṅ ṭhandī hawā kī rau parvāne sar-nigūṅ haiṅ dhūʾāṅ de rahī hai lau The candles have been extinguished, [by] the stream of cold air The moths are depressed; the flame is smoking

yĕh vādiyoṅ meṅ phel rahī hai siḥr kī ẓau yā ā rahī hai sar ko jhukā'e 'arūs-i nau This shining of the morning is spreading in the valleys Or [like] a new bride is coming, [her] head bent down

ānkhoṅ meṅ dil-farīb tabassum li'e hū'e kākul hai cašm-i surḥh pĕh sāyah ki'e hū'e Having taken on an alluring smile in [her] eyes There is a lock, casting a shadow on [her] red eye

a'e još! dekh ġor se, yĕh raqṣ-i rang o bū thī kab se tujh ko partav-i jānāṅ kī ārzū Oh još! Look closely, this dance of color and scent Was, since when, for you, the reflection of the desire of the beloved

> hāṅ dekh! yĕh tabassum-i gul, nāz-i āb-jū! kūkū kī yĕh ṣadāʾ-i dil-afroz kū bakū Yes, see! This smile of the rose, dalliance of the streamlet This heart-igniting voice of the dove, from street to street

ānkheṅ uṭhā, ʿilāj-i dil-i dard mand kar pai-ham ṣadāʾeṅ ṣalli ʿalā kī buland kar Turning a blind eye to the cure for the pain of the heart Again and again, voices exalting "[Allāhuma] ṣalli ʿalā [Muḥammad va āli Muḥammad]" yěh saḥn-i gulistān meṅ harī dūb kī adā yĕh vādiyoṅ kī os meṅ ḍūbī hūʾī hawā This blandishment of green grass in the yard of the rose garden This air, drowned in the dew of the valleys

yĕh koʻilon kī kūk, papīhe kī yĕh ṣadā rukhsār-i gul pĕh rang, halkā sā dhūp kā This shriek of the (Indian) cuckoo, this voice of the (Pied Crested) cuckoo The color of the pastel-colored light on the cheek of the rose

rangīniyān yĕh silsilah-i kohsār kī yĕh tang ghāṭiyon men ṣadā āb-šār kī These colors of the chain of mountains ranges This sound of waterfall[s] in narrow valleys

yĕh āb o tāb-i cādar-i āb-ravān, yĕh nūr nuzhat kā yĕh hujūm, laṯāfat kā yĕh maufūr This luster of the running waterfall, this light This crowd of delight, this abundance of exquisiteness

> yěh dāman-i nasīm meṅ, sarmāyah-i sarūr bikhre hū'e zamīn pěh motī yěh dūr dūr In the skirt of the breeze, this capital of exhilaration These pearls, scattered far on the ground

yĕh jhalkiyāṅ sī pardah-i zulmat meṅ nūr kī yĕh maʿrifat meṅ ġarq, ṣadāʾeṅ ṯuyūr kī These flashes of light in the veil of darkness These voices of birds, immersed in 'mystic' knowledge

> kucch kah ke najm-i ṣubḥ se yĕh ul-widāʿ-i māh yĕh kunj kī nasīm-i ḥhunuk, yĕh harī giyāh Having said something to the star of the morning this [is] the farewell of the moon This cool breeze of the bower, this green grass

yěh nahar kī taṛap kĕh ṭhahartī nahīṅ nigāh! yĕh phankṛī kā nāz, kĕh allāh kī panāh This restlessness of the canal that does not stop the gaze This dalliance of the flower petal that [is] Allāh's refuge

> ṣaḥn-i zamīṅ pĕh šab kī siyāhī li'e hū'e yĕh āsmān, afsar-šāhī li'e hū'e The blackness of the evening has taken over the courtyard of the world This sky has taken over the afsar-šāhī

kundan se yĕh kalas, yĕh dil-āvez kohsār

yĕh dil-kušā caman, yĕh faraḥ-baḥhš lālah-zār This ball of gold, this captivating mountain range This delightful garden, this joy-bestowing bed of tulips

> šākhon kā dil-barī se lacaknā yĕh bār bār yĕh mĕhr kā jamāl, nah pinhān, nah āškār Through the loveliness of the branches, this bending time and again This beauty of the sun, not concealed, not disclosed

yĕh āsmān, jalwah-garī par tillā/talā hūʾā yĕh ḥusn-i lā-zavāl kā parcam khulā hūʾa This sky was the coating on the manifestation This banner of eternal beauty of was opened

> a'e šaiķh! tū nahīn hai ḥaqā'iq se bahrah-yāb fitrat-parast još par aur is qadar 'ĕtāb Oh šaiyķh! You are not prosperous of truths And so much reproof of nature-worshiping još

fitrat bhī terī tarḥ se hai ṣāhib-i kitāb is dīn kā saḥīfah-i zarrīn hai āftāb Nature, too, is like you, owner of the book The golden revealed book of this faith is the sun

> khāšāk kah rahā hai jise tū, vŏh phūl hai nādāṅ! ṣubāḥ-i ġuncah-kušā bhī rasūl hai! What you call rubbish, that is a blossom Fool! The bud-opening dawn, too, is a prophet!