

# Gems from Guru Arjun's Hymns\*

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*ja kau muskal at banai dhoi koi na de  
lagu hoi dusmana sak bhe bhaj khale  
sabho bhajai asra cukai sabh asrao  
cit avai us parbrahm lagai na tati vao  
sahib nitania ka tan  
ai na jai thir sada gursabdi sac jan*

(1 rahao)

- SGGS: 70 (17.8.26)

When troubles come and ye have no one to turn to  
When enemies are on your tracks and your kinsmen flee away  
When all hopes have fled, all hopes are shattered  
Let thy thoughts turn to Him, who is the Maker,  
And no ill will harm thee.  
The Master is the strength of the feeble  
He doth not come and go, He is forever where He is  
The truth the Guru's words will reveal to thee.

*je ko hovai dubla nang bhukh ki pir  
damda palai na pavai na ko devai dhir  
suarath suao na ko kare na kich hovai kaj  
cit avai us parabrahm ta nehcal hovai raj*

When thou art weak and frail  
Without raiment to wear without food to eat  
When no one casts a dime in thy apron  
Nor any one gives thee comfort  
With no one to help thee, nor dost thou succeed in anything thou doest,  
Let thy thoughts turn to Him who is thy Maker  
And thy affairs will ever remain stable.

*ja ko cinta बहुत बहुत dehi viapai rog  
grasat kutamb paletia kade harakh kade sog  
gaun kare caho kunt ghadi na baisan soi  
cit avai us parbrahm tan man sital hoi*

When worry upon worry besets thy mind  
When thy body is riddled with disease  
When thou being obsessed with thy wife and thy kinsmen  
Art sometimes happy in hope, other times in despair  
When in agitation thou wandereth in the four corners  
Without a moment's rest, without a moment's sleep  
Let thy thoughts turn to Him, who is thy Maker  
And the body and mind will become whole.

*kam karodh mohi vas kia kirpan lobh piar  
charey kilvikh un agh kie hoa asur sanghar  
pothi git kavit kich kade na karan dharia  
cit avai us parbhahm ta nimakh simrat taria*

When lust, anger and attachment have thee in thrall

When like one full of greed thou art ever in want

When thou hast committed the four sins

(Thou has drunk of the grape, committed theft, fornicated and murdered)

And in the company of devils, become a demon

When neither books of wisdom nor song nor verse

Fall upon thy ears

Let thy thoughts turn to Him who is thy Maker,

And within the twinkling of an eye wilt thou be saved.

*sasat simrit bed car mukhagar bicare*

*tape tapisar jogia tirath gavan kare*

*khat karma te dugne puja karta nae*

*rang na lagi parbrahm ta sarpar narke jai.*

Books of wisdom thou might know by heart and recite

Prayer and austerities of the yogis and all the pilgrimages perform

Twice perform the six good acts (learn and impart learning to others

Sacrifice and make others given sacrifice, give alms and accept charity)

Bathe in holy water and worship

If thou lovest not the Lord with all thy being,

It is all in vain and for thee there is but hell.

*raj milk sikdaria ras bhogan bisthar*

*bag suhave sohane cali hukam apha*

*rang tamase baho bidhi cai lag rahia*

*cit na aio parbrahm ta sarap ki jun gaia.*

Empires, kingdoms and baronies may be thine

And all that give power and pleasure,

Thine to orchards green and glorious full of fruit trees

And power without any limit

Sports and pastimes to keep the mind amused.

If thy thoughts turn not to Him who made thee

Without doubt for thee will be the life of a serpent.

*bahut dhanadh acarvani sobha nirmal rit*

*mat pita sut bhaia sajan sang parit*

*laskar tarkas band band, jio jio sagli kit*

*cit na aio parbrahm ta khad rasatal dit*

Much there be of wealth,

Good living and gentle ways

Much love for mother, father, sons, brothers and friends

Armies of footmen and archers, and many to give thee salutation

Many to say 'long may thou live'.

If thy thoughts turn not Him who made thee

Though shalt be dragged down to hell.

*kaya rog na chidar kich na kich kada sog*

*mirat na avi cit tis, aihnis bhogi bhog*

*sabh kich kiton apna jie na sank dharia*

*cit na aio parbrahm jam kankar vas paria.*

Thy body be free of fever and without scar  
Thy mind free of care and sorrow  
Without ever the thought of death  
Night and day thou enjoyest life  
And takest all as thine own  
Without any hesitation or reserve  
If thy thoughts turn not to Him who made thee,  
For thee will the servitude of hell's demons.  
*kirpa kare jis parbrahm hovai sadhu sang*  
*jio jio oho vadhaiai tio tio hari sio rang*  
*duha siria ka khasam ap avar na duja thao*  
*satgur tuthe paia Nanak saca nao.*  
Those on whom the Creator bestoweth mercy  
He placeth amongst the company of holy men  
The more he is with his companions  
The more he loveth the Lord  
He is the Lord of good and devil  
There is none besides  
O Nanak, by His Grace shalt thou find Him  
Who is the True Guru and whose Name is truth.

(Guru Arjun, *Sri Rag*)

