



“ You taught me how to live without the rain.
You are thirst and thirst is all I know.
You are sand, wind, sun, and burning sky
- Benjamin Alire Saenz ”

Everything is meaningless

When you are rich
All are with you
When you are poor
No one is with you
When you are in power
You have unknown friends
You will forget your known friends
Who helped you when you were down
Everything is meaningless
Dead are happier than living
Those who haven't seen evil
Are better than both
God has made everything beautiful
There is a time for everything
Guard your steps when you go
To the Holy House of God
Don't be quick with your mouth
Don't be hasty in your heart
Let your words be few
Much dreams and many words, all meaningless
Don't let your mouth
Lead you into sin
Whoever loves money
Never has it enough
The abundance of a rich man
Permits him no sleep
Too much money is evil
All these are meaningless
The man who fears God will avoid all extremes.

(Ecclesiastes 7:18)
Do not pay attention to every word
people say.
(Ecclesiastes 7:21)
A good name is better than fine perfume.
(Ecclesiastes 7:1)
- MANGALIEKA

Last night

Last night
I dreamt of you
and the fiery flies
danced in a glow
last night was just a dream
And all is lost without you

- BERTHOLAMUZE NISANSALA DHARMASENA

CHRISTMAS 2011

Dawn of another Christmas is on in 2011
And heading for another in 2012
After carrying a cross from last 2010
World celebrated 2011
As the Baby Jesus had the shadow of the cross
When he was born presumption of a worldly king
They talked, saw and felt Him at that time
He became our God, Holy Trinity complete
A Christmas is another nuisance for sinners
As they cannot spit against his own brother
They say to share thy happiness with others
Their hoardings get lesser what a bother
Yet, meaning of Christmas is togetherness
No ups or downs in man opportune for kindness
Enough crosses carried in past eleven months
Do charity at the last lap to enjoy the year 2011
- Malathi Perera

Tableau

Piercing the background of a deep,
dark night
A star sprang extraordinarily bright
O'er hills and plains it glided along
A heavenly aura; angelic songs
Lingered in the air; as it passed on.

Peace on earth,
goodwill to man
The angels sang.
It paused above a cattle shed
Within it a new-born babe was laid
The Lamb of God-meek and mild

To redeem the world –
the Christ-child
The young mother gazing
On the Godhead she bore
The older man Joseph rapt
In bewilderment and awe

Cattle lowing, sheep bleating
A donkey braying close.
Shepherds huddled uncomprehending
What it all was.
Thus the Christmas tableau

This simple birth of Christ
Which the world celebrates
In quite a different style
- JEANNETTE CABRAAL

Elephants

It is important not only to look after the elephants who
Are in captivity, but also the elephants who are in the wild.
Recently an elephant in the wild came limping to a village area.
He had been injured by a trap gun set up to catch animals
Like rabbits etc. This kind of injury to elephants could be avoided
By not setting such traps in areas where elephants roam.
Further the elephant-human conflict arises because of two reasons.
Man has encroached on to the jungle areas which are part of the elephant habitat.
Man has come into those areas, sometimes to build homes and sometimes for illicit
timber felling.
There is no one to speak for the elephants, when these people build homes in these
Jungle areas, and later get attacked by elephants.
Elephant habitats should be protected and no building allowed in these areas.
Further when there are severe droughts in the regions where elephants
Dwell the authorities should inspect these areas and provide food and water.
Elephants are part of the natural wealth of the country and therefore
They should be looked after. Seeing to their needs in times of drought
And food scarcity will certainly go a long way to prevent human-elephant conflict.
Another solution would be putting more elephants into the sanctuaries.

- GERTRUDE DE LIVERA

