This Braj Bhasha verse is selected from the *padāvalī* (collection of songs) of the poet-saint Sundardas (1596-1689). Through the metaphor of rainy-season (*pāvāsa*), this verse presents the state of a woman (*virahni*) who is separated from her lover.

राग मल्हार

हम पर पावस नृप चढ़ि आयी।
बादल हस्ती हावाई दामिनि गरजि निसान बजायी।
पवन तुरङ्गम चलत चहुँ दिशा बूँद बान झर लायी।
दादुर मोर पपीहा पाइक मारे मार सुनायी।
दशै हिशा आई गढ घेयों बिरहा अनल लगायी।
जइये कहाँ भाणि कैं सजनी रजनी दुन्द उठायी।
को अब करे सहाइ हमारी पिय परदेशहि छायी।
सुन्दरदास बिरहनि अयाकुल करिये कौन उपायी।

hama para pāvāsa nrpa carhī āyau,
bādala hastī havāi dāmini garajī nisāna bajāyau.
pavāna turangama calata cahū diśā būnda bāna jhara lāyau,
dādura mora papīhā pāika mārai māra sunāyau.
daśahu diśā āi garha gheryau birahā anala lagāyau,
jaiye kahā bhāgī kaiṅ sajanī rajanī dund uṭhāyau.
kō abā karai saḥāi hamārī piya pardeśahi chāyau,
Sundardāsa birahanī byākula kariye kaūn upāyau.

King rain has waged war against me.
Taking his cloud-elephants and forces of lightning, roaring he sounded the cattle-drum,
His rainstorm like horses are walking everywhere and showering rain-drops like arrows.
(His) frogs, peacocks and cuckoos like foot-soldiers are shouting war-cries,
(He has) covered the fort from all sides and burned the fire of separation.
There is no way to escape, O friend! (because) the night has also revolted against me,
Who can help me now, because my lover lives abroad,
Sundardas says the separated-woman is anxious, what solution can be made?