18. AT TIMES

At times, at times, in remembrance faintly old scenes reviving,
Things once so near and so far—heart-vision, eye-vision
striving.

At times, at times, in desire's parched sands, caravans come
halting,
With tokens laden to seal all bargains of lovers' driving.

For eye or heart what repose, what slaking of joy and anguish?

GHAZAL

1 Sometimes, sometimes, images of the past swell up again, very
faintly, in memory,
Those contests of heart and sight, those as it were nearnesses and
farnesses;
Sometimes, sometimes, in the wilderness of longing, things like
caravans come and stop,
All those things as it were of affection, all those symbols as it
were of union.
5 How can there be rest to eye and heart, where any lessening of
joy and grief?

GHAZAL

1 Kabhi kabhi yad mein ubharte haiin naqsh-e-mazi mise
mit-se,
Vo azmaish dil-o-nazar ki, vo qurbaten si, vo faisile-se;
Kabhi kabhi arzii ke sahra mein ake rukte haiin qafile-se,
Vo sarih baten lagii o ki si, vo sare unwahi visial ke se.
5 Nigah o dil ko qarar kaisii, nishii o gham mein kami
kahii ki?
Each time I see her love springs anew by some fresh contriving.
This lonely pleasure is hard to bear; that was kinder torment
When inward grief kept a bond of kinship with all men thriving.

Between stern censor and rake what gulf can be found this evening?
One left the tavern just now, the second is just arriving.

*When she meets one, every time love of her has a new beginning.*
*Very heavy is this solitary pleasure; much lighter, much more agreeable.*
*That hidden pain thanks to which the whole world was a comrade.*
*You yourself say, is there any so great difference this night between profligate and censor of morals?*

10 *This one has come and sat down in the wineshop, that one has got up and come from the wineshop.*

Vo jab mile haiñ to un-se harbār kī hai ultat na'e sire se.
Bahut girāñ hai ye 'ais̱h-e-tanhā, kahīn subuktar, kahīn gawārā
Vo dard-e-pinhāñ kē sāri dunyā rafīq thī jis-ke wāṣṭe se.
Tumhīn kaho rind o muhtasib meñ hai āj shab kaun farq aīsā,
10 Ye āke baîthe haiñ maikade meñ, vo uthke ā'e haiñ maikade se.