26. AT THE PLACE OF EXECUTION

We too shall see the goal of hope's long race;
Patience, my heart: night's length will pass, and we
Shall see tomorrow rise with shining face.

The drinkers' thirst once sharpened, we shall see
How long the fiery grape can be denied,
Or flask and cup kept under lock and key.

AT THE EXECUTION-GROUND (Song)

1 We too shall see where is the destination of the road of longing,
This night will pass over us too, we too shall see this tomorrow:
Be still, oh heart, we too shall see the beauty of its charming face.
Just let the thirst of the wine-drinkers become really sharp.

5 We too shall see how long they will suppress the fervour of the grape-wine,
We too shall see how long they will keep away cup and flagon.

SAR-E-MAQTAL (Qawwālī)

1 Kahān hai manzil-e-rāh-e-tān, unnā ham bhi dekheinge,
Ye shab ham-par bhi guzregi, ye fardu ham bhi dekhenge:
Thahr, ai dil, jamāl-e-rū-e-zebā ham bhi dekhenge.
Zarā saigal to ho-le tishnagī bāda-gusārōn ki,

5 Dabā rakkheinge kab tak josh-e-ṣahbā ham bhi dekhenge,
Uṭhā-rakkheinge kab tak jām-o-mīnā ham bhi dekhenge.
One challenge from that street where love must hide—
And we shall see who stops for idle saws,
Or ventured once can bear to turn aside!

Today true men go out to try their cause;
Let the adversary come with legions, meet us
At the place of death—we shall see then whose the applause.

Companion, night's last hour cannot defeat us;
We shall see yet the flame it has choked down,
The star that is to flash from morning's crown.

Let a summons have come into the assembly from that Street of
Reproach,
We too shall see whom the babble of futile counsel will halt,
We too shall see who will have strength, having gone, to return.

10 Today men of heart go to test their spirit and faith;
Let them bring an army of rivals and enemies, we too shall see them—
Let them come then to the execution-ground, we too shall see the spectacle.

However heavy be this last hour of night, companion,
We too shall see the light that is hidden in this hour,
15 We too shall see the star that will shine on the summit of morning.

Sa lá ā to chuke maḥfil meñ us kū-e-malāmat se,
Kise rokeğā shor-e-paṅd-e-be-jā ham bhi ḍekhenge,
Kise hai jāke lañt-āne kā yārā ham bhi ḍekhenge.

10 Chale haiñ jān-e-Imānī āzmānī āj dil-wale;
Vo láeñ lashkar-e-aghyār-o-ā'dā ham bhi ḍekhenge,
Vo eñ to sar-e-maqṭal, tamāsā ham bhi ḍekhenge.
Ye shab kī ābhirī sā'āt girān kaisi bhi ho, hamdam,
Jo is sā'āt meñ pīnān hai ujalā ham bhi ḍekhenge,
15 Jo farq-e-ṣubḥ par chamkegā tārā, ham bhi ḍekhenge.