31. AUGUST 1952

At last half-promise of a spring has come—
Some flowers tear open their green cloaks and bloom,
And here and there some garden nooks begin
Their warblings, and defy the wintry gloom.

Night's shadows hold their ground, but some faint streaks
Of day show, spreading each a rosy plume;

AUGUST 1952

1 Evident at last have become possibilities of spring,
   In the flower-garden a few mantles have been torn;
   It is still the reign of autumn, but here and there
   Corners in the garden path have become song-uttering.
5 Night's darkness has remained in the same place, but
   A few colours of morning have become feather-scattering.

AUGUST 1952

1 Raushan kahīn bahār ke imkān hū'ē to haiṁ,
   Gulshan men chāk chānd gīrībān hū'ē to haiṁ;
   Ab bhi khāzān kā rāj hai, lekin kahīn kahīn
   Goshe rah-e-chaman men ghazal-khwān hū'ē to haiṁ.
5 Thahrī hū'ī hai shab kī siyāhī wahiṁ, magar
   Kuchh kuchh sahar ke raṅg par-afshān hū'ē to haiṁ.
And in the gathering, even if our own blood
Or breath must feed them, a few lamps light the room.

Tilt your proud cap! for we, the world well lost,
Never need fear what comes from Heaven's grand loom.

Caged eyes will open when dawn fills the garden:
Dawn's breeze they have had pledge and promise from.

Desert still desert, Faiz—but bleeding feet
Have saved some thorns at least from its dry tomb.

Though in them our blood be burned, or our life and heart,
In the assembly some lamps have been lighted.
Yes, till your cap, for we, having thrown away everything,
Now have become independent of the time's revolutions.
The caged race's eye will open in the garden morning,
With the morning breeze there have been promise and pledge.
Desert is even now desert, but with the blood of the feet, Faiz,
Some mimosa-thorns have been watered.

Maḥfil men kuchh charāgh furozān hū'ē to hain.
Hān kaj karā kulāh kē sab kuchh lutāke ham
10 Ab be-nayāz-e-gardish-e-daurān hū'ē to hain.
Ahl-e-qafas kē ṣubh-e-chaman men kʰuḷegī āṅkh,
Bād-e-ṣabā se va'da-o-paimān hū'ē to hain.
Hai dasht ab bhi dasht, magar khān-e-pā se, Faiz,
Serāb chaṅd khār-e-mughlīān hū'ē to hain.