

Life Fights Time

Asoke K. Bhaduri

Time plods tearing over the city,
Amuses itself with destruction
With a huge invincible hand
It smashed,
Smashed window panes
Shattered all the human frames and doors
Chipped corners of houses
Jerked up their plasters.

And,
Skirts to expose the swollen sores
Beneath.

It warped and cracked the
Asphalt caving pavements
Tears down the wooden, and
Stone paving blocks
In the great blazing holes.

But life from all the cracks
Of the ravaged homes
Stares at the exhausted time
With thousands of the stubborn,
Mocking eyes.

Life always learns anew,
To jump in great roaring.
Lorries and phrenetic motor
Over the potholes in the roads,
Laughs at time, and
Takes notes of destruction of the old.
Life works at building the new-
broken hammer, the destroyed houses
And declares a boldly halt.

Time, then despairs
Before the ant-like work of man
Clambers to the surface, with light
Sets up with eyes
Everything that time wishes to ruin.

Prof. Asoke K. Bhaduri is a retired professor of Political Science with an unflinching interest in Literature. He has also taught at Bidhan Chandra College, Asansol, West Bengal, India and was a Visiting Faculty to Kazi Nazrul University and University of Burdwan. He has also been a Teaching Counsellor and Regional Observer for the Regional Study Centre of IGNOU, Durgapur.