

## The Old Man

Asoke K. Bhaduri

The old Man coughs  
Instantly so  
And when he stops,  
A soft wheezing in his chest, ripples  
Like in a damaged accordion in his heart.

Happy as he is and must be so  
As he munches soft cold grains of wheat.  
A Patient he is,  
Under the sweet care  
Of this great benevolent world!

**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.