

IMPERIAL JAPANESE POEMS OF THE

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PERIAL

JAPANESE POEMS

OF THE

MEIJI ERA

F. A. LOMBARD

萬古一色

言相記あやま

ふ心れま

ふ心れま

ふ心れま



Graciously received
by
Their Imperial Majesties
The Emperor and Empress of Japan
and acknowledged to Professor Lombard
August fourteenth
nineteen hundred and fifteen

IMPERIAL
JAPANESE POEMS
OF THE
MEIJI ERA

IMPERIAL JAPANESE POEMS

OF THE

MEIJI ERA

TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE

BY

FRANK ALANSON LOMBARD

Professor of English Literature and Education, Doshisha University ;

Lecturer in English Literature, Imperial University,

Kyoto, Japan

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FOREWORD

A loyal nation is a ruler's praise; and no more exalted praise can be given the memory of Emperor Meiji than the loyalty of the Japanese people.

The following humble attempt at translation has been prompted by no thought that it could either add to or detract from his honor, but by a sincere desire that his personality might find wider utterance for those who are touched by that simplicity which is greatness and who may thereby be led the more to appreciate the ideals and aspirations of Japan.

In the translation of these *tanka*, selected from among many by the sovereigns of the Meiji Era, the original syllabic structure of thirty-one syllables, in lines of five, seven, five, seven, seven, though strange to the English ear, has been preserved; and rhyme, entirely lacking in the Japanese, has been for the most part disregarded as tending to detract from the essential simplicity of the verse.

Grateful acknowledgment is here rendered Mr. Yoshimatsu Yoshioka for aid in the initial translation, Professor Genzo Miwa for kindly criticism, the

Honorable Iichiro Tokutomi for material used in the introductory sketch, Kitagaki Sheisho for the work of illustration, my friend and colleague, Dr. Kichiro Yuasa, for the artistic presentation of the initial poem as a cover design, and many others for that encouragement to which is due in large measure whatever success has been attained.

FRANK ALANSON LOMBARD,

Kyoto.

February, 11, 1915.

The floating leaflet
On the winding meadow stream
It's story telleth :
.....
Bright the mapled hillsides gleam.

INTRODUCTORY SKETCH

OF

EMPEROR MEIJI

The personality of any man is that which is of most enduring interest to other men. Especially is this true when the man has occupied some high position or accomplished some great work for the world.

The years of the Meiji Era (1868-1912) brought Japan from obscurity into the fellowship of nations; and at this time, when the new era of Taisho is about to be graced by the coronation of His Imperial Majesty, Emperor Yoshihito, any effort whereby the personality of His Revered Father may be allowed further self-revelation to those of other tongue as well as to the people of Japan, is most fitting.

New Japan herself is Emperor Meiji's clearest word unto the modern world; but other utterances of his may help to a better interpretation of this people; and with that purpose this translation of characteristic poems of the Meiji Era has been attempted.

Emperor Meiji was born in 1852, one year previous to the coming of Commodore Perry. From that time, until his accession to the throne at the age of sixteen, he lived amid the political confusion

which attended the restoration of sovereignty by the Shogunate to the Crown.

Few rulers have been placed in more trying circumstances or in circumstances demanding clearer vision—firmer faith; and few, so young in years, have responded so royally to the efforts of devoted councillors. In 1871 General Saigo wrote of affairs in the Imperial Household: “The Emperor is happiest when among attendants of the *samurai* class. He dislikes the influence of women at the Court; but will stay from morning till night at his studies. He spends all his time in the study of Japanese, Chinese, and foreign books.—He is attired more plainly than the nobility, and works harder than men of the middle class.—Of strong physique, he has also an indomitable will. He has decided to convene the principle officers of the government thrice a month that they may discuss affairs of state before him. The Emperor has put aside all pomp and arrogance, and cherishes most sincere friendship with his subjects.”

These words, from one who knew intimately the inner life of the Court and who was influential in its shaping, are significant for they call before our imagination a youth industrious in study, simple in conduct, and sympathetic of heart, yet strong in that which constitutes authority. In the memory of those who knew him best during later years, Emperor Meiji lives as a man of such strength of will that into his presence even the Elder Statesmen

did not come without trembling; and yet he tried sincerely to have them speak freely, voicing his own judgment only after mature deliberation. He would tolerate no ill-considered proposals but a frank and open statement advanced with loyal and sincere motives was ever welcome; and to the fact that he always spoke his heart and even engaged the Emperor in debate, Prince Ito owed the confidence he enjoyed.

It was not an easy thing to obtain the Emperor's consent to any important proposal relating to affairs of state; but, when consent had been once given, his decision never wavered; and his ministers could without hesitation devote themselves to the execution of his purpose. He was generally reserved, partly by nature and partly by intent, but never by artifice or strategy. Though those whom he most respected seldom received words of praise, he loved many of his associates deeply as is evidenced by acts of consideration and most touchingly by the words of delirium during his last illness. With all his firmness, there was a marked spirit of fairness, a complete lack of partiality so that, as Viscount Inouye used to say, he was a model Constitutional Sovereign.

His position, hemmed in by the ceremony of the Court, prevented the outward display of many of the most striking of his personal characteristics. They are evidenced in the poetic words with which he found delight and in which his heart found

utterance. Simplicity, sincerity, sympathy, and faith characterized this man of industry, will, and devotion to duty. To him a little child was a great ideal; and his sympathy he strove to make world-wide. As though conscious that the circumstances of his life made it hard for him to feel with others in their misfortunes and privations, he not infrequently subjected himself to physical discomfort that his sympathy might be more genuine because founded upon experience.

His faith was truly religious; and with his superb confidence in that Divine Royalty of which he felt himself to be a part, there was a marked humility which counted himself but a channel of divine favor for the sake of the nation and its people.

まぶころを

歌ひあげたる

言の葉は

ひとたびきけば

わすれざりけり

Songs from hearts sincere,
Though heard but once in passing,
Touching souls atune,
Can never be forgotten,
Or lost, however simple.

曇りなき

心のそこの

しらるゝは

ことばのたまの

ひかりなりけり

Without a shadow,
Cloudless, floweth ever clear,
The light that shineth
Forth in crystalled words that make
Bright the depth of hearts sincere.

曇りなき

人のこゝろを

千早ぶる

神はさやかに

照らし見るらん

The God, who seeth
All things in secret hidden,
The cloudless bosom
Of man, sincere and faithful,
Will flood with light revealing.

目に見えぬ

神の心に

通ふこそ

人の心の

まことなりけれ

With the unseen God,
Who seeth all secret things,
In the silence—
Communes from the earth below,
The heart of the man sincere.

鬼神を

泣かするものは

世の中の

人の心の

まことなりけり

Even to weeping,
The heart of the man sincere,
Moveth the bosoms,
Of spirits in peace on high,
Afar from the storms of earth.

さゝれさえ

ゆくこゝちして

山川の

浅瀬の水の

早くもあゝるかな

How swiftly floweth
From its height, the mountain stream!
The very sand-grains
Of its bed in motion seem
Swiftly flowing, flowing free.

おもふこと

ありのまにまに

つらぬるが

いとまなき身の

なぐさめにして

I have no leisure ;
Yet 'tis sweet, the fleeting thought
From out of chaos
Into order fair to bring,
Shaping songs with feeling fraught.

言の葉の

上に匂ひて

ゆかしきは

人の心の

花にてありける

The flower of the heart,
Alone by its sweet perfume
In secret distilled,
Embalmeth in fragrance rare
The words of the poet-song.

思ふこと

つくろふことも

まだしらぬ

をさなころの

うつくしきかな

Quickly flowing thoughts
In the garments of fashion to hide
As yet all untrained,
Than the heart of an innocent child
On earth can ought be fairer?

進みたる

世に生れたる

うなるにも

むかしの事を

先づ教へなむ

Unto the children,
Born in these progressive years
At which we wonder,
First of all the tales of old,
Full of glory, should be told.

幼子の

もの書くあどを

見ても知れ

習へばならふ

しるしある世を

Behold the baby,
Practicing with zealous care
His letter-writing ;
And from him a lesson learn :
Effort brings its sure return.

つく杖に

すがるともよし

老人の

千年の坂を

こえよとぞおもふ

The old man leaneth
On his staff; why grieve ye sore?

I would that he should
Totter on, life's hill-slope o'er,
Yet a thousand seasons more.

ことそぎし

昔の家の

つくりさま

今も田舎に

のこりけるかな



Within the country
Hamlets, God be praised, to-day
Still linger, here and
There, the simple, sweet old ways,
In homes old-fashioned.

さゝやかに

見ゆる家居も

かたつふり

ひとりすむには

こと足りぬべし

Though small his dwelling,
Within that simple, bending dome,
The snail, contented,
Finds an ample space for home,
Scorning not his station.

今はとて

學びの道に

怠るな

ゆるしのふみを

得たるわらはべ

All study scorning,
Think not now your tasks are done!
Your parchments given
Prove the strife is but begun,
Though to-day your hearts are proud.

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The dust that floateth
In the air, slow settleth down,—
A weight that lifts not
From the shoulders, once so strong,
Bending now beneath their wrong.

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The hands that measure
Time, perchance may feebly falter ;
And man, misguided,
Err, his charted course to alter,
Taking wrong for righteousness.

-

世の中は

たかきいやしき

ほどほどに

身をつくすこそ

つとめなりけれ

Or high or lowly
Be thy station, 'tis thine own ;
Thy best is duty.
Do it then without a moan,
Thereby making life sublime.

•

天を恨み

人を咎むる

事はあらじ

我あやまちと

思ひかへさば

Resent not Heaven,
Nor on others cast the blame.
Thyself consider,
And behold the fault which springs
From the heart of secret things.

さしのぼる

朝日のごとく

爽かに

持たまほしきは

心なりけり

Like the morning sun,
In beaming brightness climbing
Up the eastern sky,
The mind of man should ever
Shine forth in cloudless splendor.

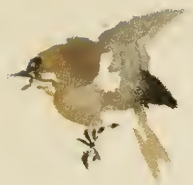
あくがる、

人の心を

久方の

空にさそひて

たつ雲雀かな



High in the heavens,
Above all earth-born shadows,
Soareth the skylark,
With music sweet alluring
The hearts of longing mortals.

大空に

そびえて見ゆる

高根にも

登ればのぼる

道はありけり

E'en to the summit
Of mountains that rise on high
Into the heaven,
A pathway ascendeth,—
Alone by the climber gained.

雪に堪へ

嵐にたへし

のちにこそ

松のくらゐも

高く見えけれ



The burden of snow,
The wild blast of the storm-wind,
Give dignified grace
To the pine-tree that bravely
Through the strife so long standeth.

雨だりに

くぼみし軒の

石見ても

難きわざとて

思ひ捨てめや

Beneath the eaves,
Where the trickling raindrops fall,
The stone is hollowed ;
Seeing that, the hardest task
Possible appears at last.

おもふこと

貫かむよを

まつほどの

月日はながき

ものにぞありける

Long are the years,—
The days and months of waiting,—
While we ever strive,
Our cherished purpose seeking
To realize completely.

いぶせしと

思ふ中にも

えらびなば

くすりとならむ

草もこそあれ

Amid the grasses,
That to us seem filthy weeds
By careful seeking,
Oft' o'er-shadowed by the reeds,
Healing herbs of grace are found.

白玉を

光なしども

思ふかな

磨き足らざる

ことを忘れて

The lustreless gem,
In its whiteness, despise not,
Forgetting the fact
That your hand the hard labor
Of its polish neglected.

弓矢もて

神のをさめし

國人は

事なき世にも

こころゆるすな

In peace remember
That of old the gods did rule
With bow and arrow ;
And the noble arts of war
Cherish still in honor high.

身にはよし

はかすなりても

つるぎ太刀

研きな忘れそ

大和心を

Though ye are girded
No more with the gleaming sword
Ready for battle,
Forget not, in idle sloth,
Yamato's keen soul to whet.

鞭うたば

紅葉の枝に

ふれぬべし

駒をひかへん

岡どえのみち

Along the mountain,
Where maples skirt the pathway,
Lest whip should injure
The bending brilliant branches,
I'll curb my restless steed.

國のため

あだなす仇は

くだくとも

いつくしむべき

事なわすれそ

Brave with holy zeal,
In mortal strife desist not ;
Yet, howe'er thou strike
The foe who wrongs thy country,
In wrath remember mercy.

國のため

斃れし人を

惜しむにも

おもふは親の

こころなりけり

Whene'er I sorrow,
Thinking of our soldiers slain
— In bloody battle,
In my soul I grieve the more
For their parents weeping sore.

世と共に

かたりつたへよ

國のため

いのちをすてし

人のいさをは

No lip should falter,
But to lip repeat the names
Of those who offered
Life for country's sake, that they
Here may live forever more.

はし居して

月見るほども

たゝかひの

にはの有様

思ひやりつゝ

Looking at the moon,
I stand on my veranda ;
Yet, e'en there my thoughts
Fly forth to fields of battle :
How fare my valiant soldiers ?

おもほえず

夜を更かしけり

國のため

たふれし人の

もの語りして

Swiftly pass the hours,
While unheeding still I sit
Late into the night,
Talking of the men who died
Bravely for their country-side.

子等はみな

いくさのにはに

出ではてゝ

翁やひとり

山田守るらむ

Unto the battle
Forth have the children all gone,
Forth to the battle,
While on the lonely hill-farm
Toileth the father alone.

照るにつけ

曇るにつけて

思ふかな

我が民草の

うへはいかにと

In sunshine's brightness,
Or the gloom of cloudy days,
My only question :—
How, o'er hard or easy ways,
Fare the people, my people ?

夢さめて

先つこそ思へ

いくさん

向ひしかたの

便りいかにと

Awaking from dreams,
To my mind there first cometh
The question supreme :—
Of my soldiers what tidings
From the field of the conflict?

神垣に

涙手向けて

おがむらし

歸るをまちし

親も妻子も

To die is glory ;
Yet before the soldiers' shrine,
All pale with waiting,
Low, in sacrificial tears,
Parents, wives and children kneel.

静かにも

世は治まりて

よろこびの

盃あげむ

時ぞ待たるゝ

I long for the time
When the earth at peace shall lie
 Beneath a calm sky,
And they raise the cup of joy
Full of gladness unalloyed.

廣き世に

交りながら

いかなれば

せばきは人の

心なるらむ

Wide is the dwelling,
The dwelling in which men live,
Wide as the world 's wide ;
Yet narrow- the hearts of men ;
Alas, I but wonder why !

あさみどり

すみわたるたる

大空の

ひろきをおのが

心どもがな

Would that my human
Heart, as the cloudless heavens
Blue in their shining
Depths, through the boundless spaces,
Broad in its sympathy were.

千萬の

民と偕にも

樂しむに

ます樂みは

あらしどと思ふ

Among the millions
Of my people, far and near,
To share a pleasure
Is, o'er every other joy,
One beyond all magnitude.

更くる夜の

霜ふむ人も

有るものを

火桶にのみや

より明かすべき

Those there be who toil,
Treading the frozen midnight,
While at ease I sit
Warm through the long night-hours
Close to my braiser fire.

萩の戸の

花にやとれる

月かげは

賤が桓根も

へだてざるらん

The moon, that shineth
On my hedge in fragrant flower,
As brightly shineth
On the fence of rustic rails
Near some humble cottage-door.

桐火桶

かきなでながら

思ふかな

すきまおほかる

賤が伏家を

Warm by the braiser
Of kiri-wood I'm sitting,
Yet am I thinking—
How cold within his cottage
The poor man feels the wind blow.

久しくも

わが飼ふ駒の

老いゆくを

惜しむは人に

かはらざりけり

As for a subject,
Much I grieve when now I see
My trusty fav'rite
Growing old and weak of knee,
Worn in service's loyalty.

あやまちを

いさめかはして

親しむが

まことの友の

ところなりけり

If there be error,
In gentle intimacy
Of love to counsel,
The heart of loyal friendship
Grows ever nearer, dearer.

ひらけゆく

道に出でても

心せよ

つまづくことの

ある世なりけり

Though on the level
Well-known pathway of to-day
We lightly travel,
Care is needed lest we fall,
Tripped by error's hidden stone.

庭草に

水そそがせて

月をまつ

夏のゆふべは

思ふことなし

In summer evenings,
While I wait the rising moon,
And garden plants are
Being watered, fresh and fair,
Anxious thoughts no more molest.

しばらくは

をさな心に

かへりけり

よみならひにし

書をひらきて

The books of childhood,
Which of old I used to learn,
I read to-day; and,
As their faded leaves I turn,
Am a boy again, a boy.

つかさ人

まかでし後の

夕まぐれ

こころしづかに

書をみるかな

Through hours of evening,
When from the busy office
Have gone the toilers,
Alone with heart of quiet
I read my volumes over.

秋の夜の

長くなるこそ

嬉しけれ

見る卷々の

數を盡して

The autumn evenings,
I rejoice to notice, now
Are growing longer,
So that I my books may read :
Favorite volumes o'er and o'er.

司人

ささぐるふみは

多かれど

花見るほどの

ひまはありけり

Many the papers
Officers eagerly bring,
 Needing attention ;
Yet my leisure still I find
Flowers to view with quiet mind.

ぬばたまの

夢にふたゝび

むすびけり

涼しかりつる

松のした水

Again in dreams, I
Dreaming quaffed from eager hand
The water springing
Pure from out the gleaming sand,
Shadowed cool 'neath bending pines.

そのもりや

ひとり見るらむ

昔わが

あつめし庭の

秋草の花

Upon the autumn
Grasses, blooming where in days
Gone by I planted
Them within my garden ways,
Lonely gard'ners, silent, gaze.

今の世に

思ひくらべて

いそのかみ

ふりにしふみを

讀むぞたのしき

I turn the mystic
Pages o'er; and joy to find,
 Within their keeping,
Secrets, garnered in the past,
Opening wide the present's door.

千早ぶる

神ぞ知るらむ

民の爲め

世をやすかれど

思ふ心は

God must know my heart
That for the peace of the nations
Prayeth ever—,
For the sake of the people,
For the sake of the people.

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As I older grow,
The teachings of my parents,
Deep within my heart
And deeper ever sinking,
Impress their truth profoundly.

あしはらの

國とまさんと

思ふにも

青人草ぞ

たからなりける

Whene'er I treasure
Seek for thee, Fair Land of Reeds,
The richest jewel
Still I find, to meet thy needs:—
People bourgeoning with deeds.

國をおもふ

道に二つは

なかりけり

いくさのにはに

たつもたたぬも

The soldier fighteth
For his country on the field ;
He also serveth
Who at home doth ever yield
Fruits of faithful industry.

國民は

一つ心に

守りけり

とほつみおやの

神のをしへを

I know full surely
That with single heart our Land
Obeyed the bidding
Clear of those High Gods who rule—
Ancient Sires of men who live.

としとしに

おもひやれども

山水を

くみてあそばむ

夏なかりけり

Year by year I think
Of cooling mountain streamlets ;
Yet when summer comes
I have no time of leisure
To draw their flowing waters.

おのがじし

つとめををへし

後にこそ

花のかげには

立つべかりけれ

Do thy duty first ;
Then only may'st thou linger
In the shadow sweet
Of flowers that are shedding
For thee their balm and perfume.

波風の

静かなる日も

船人は

楫に心を

ゆるさゝらなむ



0

The man on duty,
Standing at the vessel's helm,
Must watch nor slumber,
Though the winds in zephyrs blow,
And the waves lie calm below.

世の中の

人のつかさど

なる人の

身の行ひよ

ただしかなむ

The man who ruleth
Still should keep within his heart
A standard holy,
Set to guide the humbler folk,
Prone to follow not obey.

夏の夜も

ねざめかちにぞ

あかしける

世のためおもふ

こと多くして

In summer, even,
Oft' I lie the short night through
In sleepless planning,
Burning still my study lights
While my Country's good I scan.

まつりごと

出でてきくまは

かくばかり

暑き日なりと

おもはざりしを

The heat I felt not
When my mind with cares of state
Was taken wholly ;
But in leisure hours of late
Prostrate, petulant I lie.

我心

およばぬ國の

はてまでも

よるひる神は

守りますらひ

Beyond my watch-care,
God will guard that distant spot,
In light and darkness,
Where the mind of man knows not
What of ill may be its lot.

罪あらば

朕を罪せよ

あまつ神

民はわがみの

生みし子なれば

Oh God in heaven !
If there be a deed of sin,
Thy wrath to merit,
Punish me ; the people spare,—
All are children of my care.

國民の

一つところに

つかふるも

みおやの神の

みめぐみにして

Not for grace of mine,
As one in heart they serve
Their country, but for those
Ancestors, high and holy,
Who rule benevolently.

つたへきて

國の寶と

なりにけり

ひじりのみよの

みこどのりふみ

Our fathers' precepts,
Handed down from ages past
By rulers holy,
Have become a Nation's treasure,
Held in reverence closely claspt.

むらぎもの

心をたねの

をしへぐさ

おひしげらせよ

やまとしゑねに

Throughout Yamato
May there grow abundantly
That wisdom-yielding
Herb which springs from secret seed,
Pregnant in the heart of man.

わがそのに

しげりあひけり

外國の

くさ木のなへも

おほしたつれば

The roots of grasses
And of trees from foreign lands
With us shall flourish,
When with fost'ring care we tend
Daily the gardens of Japan.

目に見えぬ

神に向ひて

恥ざるは

人のこころの

まことなりけり

Before the presence
Of the unseen Diety
May stand the mortal
Whose true heart's sincerity
Guardeth from all fear of shame.

うつせみの

世のためすすむ

いくさには

神もちからを

そへざらめやは

God of Victory !

Thou wilt aid the army brave,

Fighting not for me,

But for mankind o'er the earth,

For the progress that shall be.

とこしへに

民やすかれと

祈るなる

我世を守れ

伊勢の大神



God of Ise! Hear
My life-long supplication :—
Peace forever send
Through me unto my people,
For this my reign empowering.

POEMS
OF
EMPRESS DOWAGER
SHOKEN

大宮の

うちにありても

暑き日を

いかなる山か

君は越ゆるらむ

E'en in the Palace,
Where shadows deep are lying,
Hot are the shadows ;
What mountain's sun-baked path-way
Now toils my Royal Husband ?

みがかずば

玉もかがみも

なにかせん

まなびの道も

かくこそありけれ

Unpolished lying,
Of what use are precious gems
And silver mirrors?
Still on learning's pathway steep
Toil alone brings fair increase.

磨かすば

玉の光は

出でざらむ

人の心も

かくこそあるらし

The unpolished gem
No slightest lustre showeth
To prove it of worth ;
The mind of man neglected
Reflects no light of wisdom.

白 妙 の

衣 の 塵 は

はらへども

うきは心の

曇りなりけり

Easily we brush
The fallen dust from garments
 Gleaming white and fair ;
But from the mind beclouded
How hard to sweep the shadows !

とりとりに

造る髪挿の

花もあれど

匂ふ心の

うるはしきかな

Howe'er they fashion
To their slightest wish the flowers
Which deck the hair,
The fragrance of the bosom
Alone is beautiful.

過ぎたるは

及ばざりけり

かりそめの

言葉も仇に

ちらさざらなむ

Gone beyond recall
Is the thing that has happened ;
By thy breath let fall
Not a word that is thoughtless,
Like a leaf on the river.

人の見ぬ

時どて心

ゆるびなく

身のおこなひを

まもりてしかな

When no man seeth
Thy silent, secret doings,
Be not neglectful ;
Guard then thy conduct strictly,—
Respect thyself in judgment.

花の春

もみぢの秋の

さかづきも

ほとほとにこそ

酌まほしけれ

Drain not to its dregs
The sweet wine-cup that floweth :—
The cup of the spring
With its bloom or of autumn
When the maple-fire gloweth.

たたかひの

かちのたよりを

きく毎に

みいくさの人の

身を思ふかな

Whenever I hear
The good news of victory
In battle attained,
I think of our sailors brave,
Our soldiers at the fore.

いかならむ

薬すゝめて

國のため

いたでおひくる

身をば救はむ

To heal the wounded,
Who for Country's sake have bourn
Sad blows and greivous,
Healing gifts beyond all thought
Must be poured forth lavishly.

持つ人の

心によりて

瓦ども

玉どもなるは

黄金なりけり

That which becometh
Roof-tile or precious jewel,
As is the spirit
Having and holding it fast,
Such is the gold which men seek.

みだるべき

折をばおきて

櫻花

まづ笑むほとを

ならひてし哉

Learn first how to smile,
Like the cherries that blossom
In beauty so rare,
E'er they scatter disheveled
By the storm-gusts that tear.

金剛石も磨かずば

玉の光は添はざらむ

人も學びの友により

善きに悪きに移るなり

E'en as the precious diamond,
 when left unpolished,
No gemlike lustre showeth,
 its worth to token;
Nor good nor ill attaineth
 the soul of mortal,
Apart from friendship's shaping,
 life's crudeness broken.

時計の針の絶間なく

廻るが如く時の間も

日影惜しみて勵みなば

如何なる業かならざらむ

E'en as the hands of time,
 in their ceaseless circles,
Moment by moment measure
 unending ages ;
The mind of man, in ceaseless
 endeavor striving,
Will reap at last in infinite
 lore its wages.

水は器に従ひて

其様様に

なりぬなり

人は交る友により

善きに悪きに移るなり

As is water in a dish,
 be it square or round,
Shaped according to that form,
 by that nature bound ;
So is man by those with whom
 keeps he company
Shaped and moulded good or ill
 for eternity.

おのれに優る善き友を

選 び 求 め て

も ろ 共 に

心の駒に鞭うちて

學びの道に進めかし

Better than thyself select
 friends of noble part,
Emulate their virtue true
 from a sincere heart ;
Spur thy spirit's lagging steed
 over wisdom's height,
Using them to strengthen thee
 unto greater might.

1 Magokoro o
Utai agetaru
Kotonoha wa
Hitotabi kikeba
Wasure zari keru.

* *

2 Kumori naki
Kokoro no soko no
Shiraruru wa
Kotoba no tama no
Hikari nari keru

* *

3 Kumori naki
Hito no kokoro o
Chihaya furu
Kami wa sayaka ni
Terashi miru ran.

* *

4 Me ni mienu
Kami no kokoro ni
Kayō koso
Hito no kokoro no
Makoto nari kere.

5 Oni gami o
Nakasu ru mono wa
Yononaka no
Hito no kokoro no
Makoto nari keru.

* *

6 Sazare sae
Yuku kokochi shite
Yama kawa no
Asase no mizu no
Hayaku mo arukana.

* *

7 Omou koto
Ari no mani mani
Tsuranuru ga
Itoma naki mi no
Nagusame ni shite.

* *

8 Kotonoha no
Ue ni nioite
Yukashi ki wa
Hito no kokoro no
Hana ni zo arikeru.

9 Omou koto
Tsukurou koto mo
Mada shiranu
Osana kokoro no
Utsukushi ki kana.

* *

10 Susumi taru
Yo ni umare taru
Unai ni mo
Mukashi no koto o
Mazu oshie nan.

* *

11 Osanago no
Mono kaku ato o
Mite mo shire
Naraeba narau
Shirushi aru yo o.

* *

12 Tsuku tsue ni
Sugaru tomo yoshi
Oibito no
Chitose no saka o
Koeyo tozo omō.

13 Kotosogishi
Mukashi no ie no
Tsukuri sama
Ima mo inaka ni
Nokori keru kana.

* *

14 Sasayaka ni
Miyuru iei mo
Katatsumuri
Hitori sumu niwa
Koto tari nubeshi.

* *

15 Ima wa tote
Manabi no michi ni
Okotaru na
Yurushi no fumi o
Etaru warawabe.

* *

16 Tsumorite wa
Harau ga kata ku
Narinu beshi
Chiri bakari naru
Koto to omoe do.

17 Toki hakaru
Utsuwa no hari no
Tomosureba
Kurui yasuki wa .
Hito no yono naka.

* *

18 Yononaka wa
Takaki iyashi ki
Hodo hodo ni
Mi o tsukusu koso
Tsutome nari kere.

* *

19 Ten o urami
Hito o togamuru
Koto wa araji
Waga ayamachi to
Omoi kaesaba.

* *

20 Sashi noboru
Asahi no gotoku
Sawayaka ni
Motamahoshi ki wa
Kokoro nari keru.

21 Akugaru ru
Hito no kokoro o
Hisakata no
Sora ni sasoi te
Tatsu hibari kana.

* *

22 Ōzora ni
Sobiete miyuru
Takane ni mo
Noboreba noboru
Michi wa ari keru.

* *

23 Yuki ni tae
Arashi ni taeshi
Nochi ni koso
Matsu no kurai mo
Takaku miekere.

* *

24 Amadari ni
Kubomishi noki no
Ishi mite mo
Kataki waza to te
Omoisute meya.

25 Omō koto
Tsuranukan yo o
Matsuhodo no
Tsukihi wa nagaki
Mono ni zo arikeru.

* *

26 Ibuseshi to
Omō naka ni mo
Erabi naba
Kusuri to naran
Kusa mo koso are.

* *

27 Shiratama o
Hikari nashi tomo
Omō kana
Migaki tarazaru
Koto o wasurete.

* *

28 Yumi ya mote
Kami no osameshi
Kunibito wa
Koto naki yo nimo
Kokoro yurusu na.

29 Mi niwa yoshi
Hakazu nari temo
Tsurugi tachi
Toki na wasure so
Yamato kokoro o.

* *

30 Muchi utaba
Momiji no edani
Furenu beshi
Koma o hikaen
Okagoe no michi.

* *

31 Kuni no tame
Ada nasu ada wa
Kudaku tomo
Itsukushimu beki
Koto na wasure so.

* *

32 Kuni no tame
Tareshi hito o
Oshimu nimo
Omōwa oya no
Kokoro nari keru.

33 Yo to tomo ni
Katari tsutae yo
Kuni no tame
Inochi o suteshi
Hito no isao wa.

* *

34 Hashi i shite
Tsuki miru hodo mo
Tatakai no
Niwa no arisama
Omoi yari tsutsu.

* *

35 Omo oedzu
Yo o fukashi keru
Kuni no tame
Taoreshi hito no
Monogatari shite.

* *

36 Kora wa mi na
Ikusa no niwa ni
Idehate te
Okina ya hitori
Yamada moruran.

37 Teru ni tsuke
Kumoru ni tsukete
Omō kana
Waga tami kusa no
Uewa ikani to.

* *

38 Yume same te
Mazu koso omoe
Ikusa bito
Mukai shi kata no
Tayori ikanito.

* *

39 Kami gaki ni
Namida tamukete
Ogamurashi
Kaeru o machi shi
Oya mo tsumako mo.

* *

40 Shizuka nimo
Yo wa osamari te
Yorokobi no
Sakazuki agen
Toki zo mataru ru.

41 Hiroki yo ni
Majiwari nagara
Ikanare ba
Sebaki wa hito no
Kokoro naru ran.

* *

42 Asamidori
Sumiwatari taru
Ōzora no
Hiroki o onoga
Kokoro tomo gana.

* *

43 Chiyorozu no
Tami to tomo nimo
Tanoshimu ni
Masu tanoshimi wa
Araji tozo omō.

* *

44 Fukuru yo no
Shimo fumu hito mo
Aru mono o
Hioke ni nomi ya
Yori akasubeki.

45 Hagi no to no
Hana ni yadoreru
Tsuki kage wa
Shizu ga kakine mo
Hedate zaruran.

* *

46 Kirihioke
Kakinade nagara
Omou kana
Sukima ōkaru
Shizu ga fuseya o.

* *

47 Hisashiku mo
Waga kau koma no
Oi yuku o
Oshimu wa hito ni
Kawara zarikeri.

* *

48 Ayamachi o
Isame kawashite
Shitashimu ga
Makoto no tomo no
Kokoro narikeri.

49 Hirake yuku
Michi ni idete mo
Kokoro seyo
Tsumazuku koto no
Aru yo nari keru.

* *

50 Niwa kusa ni
Mizu sosogase te
Tsuki o matsu
Natsu no yūbe wa
Omou koto nashi.

* *

51 Shibaraku wa
Osana kokoro ni
Kaeri keru
Yomi narai nishi
Fumi o hirakite.

* *

52 Tsukasa bito
Makadeshi nochi no
Yūmagure
Kokoro shizuka ni
Fumi o mirukana.

53 Aki no yo no
Nagaku naru koso
Ureshi kere
Miru maki maki no
Kazu o tsukushi te.

* *

54 Tsukasa bito
Sasaguru fumi wa
Ōkaredo
Hana miru hodo no
Hima wa arikeri.

* *

55 Nubatama no
Yume ni futatabi
Musubi keru
Suzushi karitsuru
Matsu no shita tsuyu.

* *

56 Sono mori ya
Hitori miruran
Mukashi waga
Atsumeshi niwa no
Aki kusa no hana.

57 Ima no yo ni
Omoi kurabete
Iso no kami
Furi nishi fumi o
Yomu zo tanoshiki.

* *

58 Chihaya buru
Kami zo shiruran
Tami no tame
Yo o yasukare to
Omō kokoro wa.

* *

59 Tarachine no
Mioyano oshie
Aratama no
Toshi furu mamani
Mini zo shimi keru.

* *

60 Ashihara no
Kuni tomasan to
Omou ni mo
Aohito kusa zo
Takara narikeru.

61 Kuni o omou
Michi ni futatsu wa
Nakari keru
Ikusa no niwa ni
Tatsu mo tatanu mo.

* *

62 Kunitami wa
Hitotsu kokoro ni
Mamori keru
Tōtsu mioya no
Kami no oshie o.

* *

63 Toshi doshi ni
Omoi yaredomo
Yama mizu o
Kumite asoban
Natsu nakari keru.

* *

64 Onoga jiji
Tsutome o oeshi
Nochi ni koso
Hana no kage ni wa
Tatsu bekari kere.

65 Nami kaze no
Shizuka naru hi mo
Funabito wa
Kaji ni kokoro o
Yurusazara nan.

* *

66 Yononaka no
Hito no tsukasa to
Naru hito no
Mi no okonai yo
Tadashi kara nan.

* *

67 Natsu no yo mo
Nezame gachi ni zo
Akashi keru
Yo no tame omou
Koto ōkushite.

* *

68 Maturigoto
Idete kiku ma wa
Kaku bakari
Atsuki hi nari to
Omowa zari shio.

69 Waga kokoro
Oyobanu kuni no
Hate made mo
Yoru hiru kami wa
Mamori masuran.

* *

70 Tsumi araba
Chin o tsumi seyo
Amatsu kami
Tami wa wagami no
Umishi ko nareba.

* *

71 Kunitami no
Hitotsu kokoro ni
Tsukauru mo
Mioya no kami no
Mimegumi ni shite.

* *

72 Tsutaekite
Kuni no takara to
Narini keru
Hijiri no miyo no
Mikoto nori fumi.

73 Muragimo no
Kokoro o tane no
Oshie gusa
Oi shigeraseyo
Yamato shimane ni.

* *

74 Waga sono ni
Shigeri aikeri
Totsu kuni no
Kusaki no nae mo
Ōshi tatsure ba.

* *

75 Me ni mie nu
Kami ni mukai te
Haji zaru wa
Hito no kokoro no
Makoto nari keru.

* *

76 Utsusemi no
Yo no tame susumu
Ikusa niwa
Kami mo chikara o
Soe zaramé yawa.

77 Tokoshie ni
Tami yasukare to
Inoru naru
Waga yo o mamore
Ise no ōkami.

* *

80 Ōmiya no
Uchi ni arite mo
Atsuki Ii o
Ikanaru yama ka
Kimi wa koyuran

* *

81 Migakazuba
Tama mo kagami mo
Nani ka sen
Manabi no michi mo
Kaku koso arikere.

* *

82 Migakazu ba
Tama no hikari wa
Ide zaran
Hito no kokoro mo
Kaku koso aru rashi.

83 Shiratae no
Koromo no chiri wa
Harae domo
Uki wa kokoro no
Kumori nari keru.

* *

84 Tori dori ni
Tsukuru kazashi no
Hana mo aredo
Niou kokoro no
Uruwashiki kana.

* *

85 Sugi taru wa
Oyoba zari keru
K̄arisome no
Kotoba mo ada ni
Chirasa zara nan.

* *

86 Hito no minu
Toki tote kokoro
Yurubi naku
Mino okonai o
Mamori teshi kana.

87 Hana no haru
Momiji no aki no
Sakazuki mo
Hodo hodo ni koso
Kuma mahoshi kerc.

* *

88 Tatakai no
Kachi no tayori o
Kiku goto ni
Mi ikusa hito no
Mi o omou kana.

* *

89 Ikanaran
Kusuri susume te
Kuni no tame
Itade oikuru
Mi oba sukuwan.

* *

90 Motsu hito no
Kokoro ni yorite
Kawara tomo
Tama tomo naru wa
Kogane nari keru.

91 Midaru beki
Ori oba okite
Sakura bana
Mazu emu hodo o
Narai teshi kana.

* *

92 Kongō seki mo
Tama no hikari wa
Hito mo manabi no
Yoki ni ashiki ni

Tokei no hari no
Meguru ga gotoku
Hikage oshimi te
Ikanaru waza ka

Migakazu ba
Sowazaran
Tomo ni yori
Utsuru nari.

Taema naku
Tokino ma mo
Hagemi naba
Narazaran.

* * * *

93 Mizu wa utsuwa ni
Sono sama zama ni
Hito wa majiwaru
Yoki ni ashiki ni

Onore ni masaru
Erabi motome te
Kokoro no koma ni
Manabi no michi ni

Shitagai te
Nari nunari
Tomo ni yori
Utsuru nari.

Yoki tomo o
Morotomo ni
Muchi uchite
Susume kashi.

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