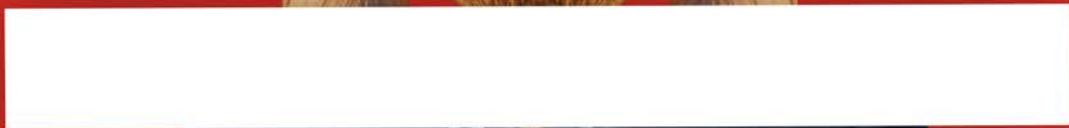


KIKAZARU

Japanese
the monkey who hears no evil



GIRNAR HOUSE
BOARD FOR STUDENT
PUBLICATIONS

FEB 2019

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A HELPING HAND



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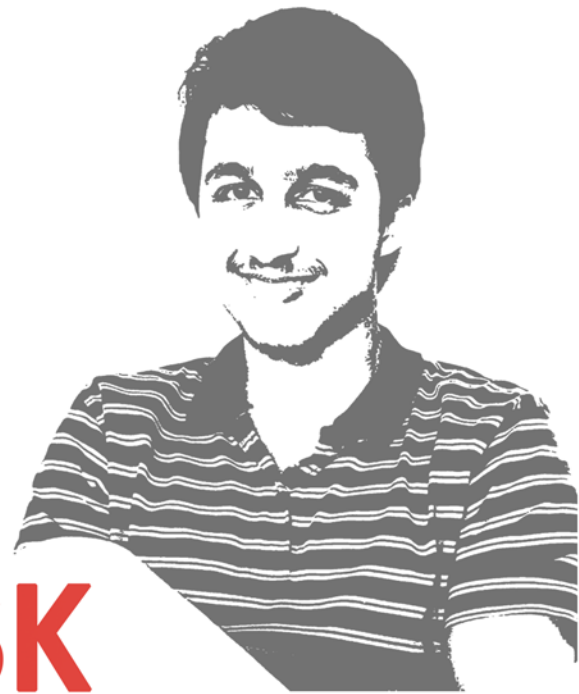
A DEMOCRACY WITHOUT A VOICE



3

आत्म दर्पण





FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

It was Thomas Gray's poem Ode on a Distant Prospect of Eton College that unintentionally immortalized the saying "Ignorance is Bliss". The actual line read, "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis a folly to be wise." The two have different meanings altogether. While the first simply means that foolishness is the path to happiness, the second localizes it "in a world of foolish people".

Funnily enough, as if to prove Gray's point, we ignore the conditionality and in doing so, choose the meaning that we can use to justify our own foolishness. This magazine seeks to prove that ignorance is NOT always bliss.

Kikazaru is the Japanese name of the wise monkey that hears no evil. A simple lookup on Wikipedia would suggest that in the modernized world, the image of the 3 'wise' monkeys "is often used to refer to looking the other way, or feigning ignorance". In each of the 3 pieces of art in this magazine, one can see how ignorance can lead to unpleasant and avoidable situations; hence the title couldn't be more appropriate.

A Helping Hand explores the contributions of us IITians to Indian society and tries to answer whether we as IITians are fulfilling what the country expects from us. In doing this, we dispel some common misconceptions about our Alumni.

In A Democracy Without a Voice, we demonstrate how political murders are often passed on as deaths "in the name of the country". It is truly deplorable how society chooses to be blissfully unaware of unflattering truths.

Finally, Aatma Darpan is a qawwali in a modern avatar which brings out the inner battle of a drug-addicted individual. Through the poem, two inner voices battle each other for dominance and we see his journey from vanity to self-realization, finally arriving at a resolute reincarnation of his own self.

I advise you to be prepared for some harsh truths. We hope that this magazine is a fulfilling experience.

Yash Harshajit Sheth

A HELPING HAND



BEYOND


P E S S I M I S M

Former President APJ Abdul Kalam opined in 2006, "IIT takes the best students and delivers the best to the world, but the direct benefits for the nation in terms of knowledge products and intellectual property is rather minimal." Some editorials have a stricter outlook. One reads, "There is no injustice if they are either charged higher fees or are made to pay for the education in some other form." Too many editorials and opinions seem to convey that we, IITians, take more from our country than we give. This article serves to examine whether this really is the case.

According to a report by the Business Standard, IIT fees cover only 26.5% of the total amount spent on an IITian. Considering that the fees paid annually on an average by an IITian is Rs. 59500, the expenditure on a student is Rs. 224530, which means we are indebted each year by Rs 1,65,000. An average student, placed with a CTC of Rs. 8.5 Lac, pays Rs 1.7 Lac as income tax- so the debt is repaid within a year. But can our debt be captured entirely in monetary terms?


Our thinking is greatly influenced by Indian culture and tradition and much of this influence cannot be captured tangibly. This is aptly summarized in the words of Shashi Tharoor, when he says, "India shaped my mind, anchored my identity, influenced my beliefs, and made me who I am.." Further, as IITians, we also derive benefits from the luxuries IIT has to offer, namely connections, competitiveness, and opportunities. Although these too are intangible contributions, an attempt can be made to quantify them in terms of their importance to the end result. According to the placement statistics of 2016, 87% of undergraduate students at IIT Bombay were placed on-campus and 3% of students were placed off-campus.

On average, 6% opted for higher education. Clearly, an IIT education charts your future. We do owe if not entirely, surely a fraction of our success to our country and it is something that cannot be repaid through tax payments. This is aptly summarized by Prof. Milind Wakankar of the HuSS Department, IIT Delhi when he says, "Students should definitely think about contributing towards the society. We should produce more responsible and sensible students. They must certainly question their actions when they hold a position of responsibility."




Now that it is established that our contribution to society is, in fact, an important feature of our responsibility towards our country, we try to answer the difficult questions: What impact do we expect IITians to bring to the society? And further on, are we succeeding in bringing about such an impact?

According to an article published in The Wire, “The chief architect behind the creation of the IITs, Jawaharlal Nehru, had envisaged these institutes as cornerstones in building the industrial, scientific and technological edifice of the nation.”To contribute to India and the World through excellence in scientific and technical education and research”, reads the Vision of IIT Delhi. It is clear we are expected to be nation builders, through innovation. To analyze further, we started looking for statistics on alumni impact (albeit on a very pessimistic note, as the initial perception was that there is a lack of data). However, we stumbled upon a goldmine in the form of Zinnov Management Consulting’s 2008 study conducted on 4573 IIT alumni, which summarized their economic, social, research and entrepreneurial contributions.



The combined annual revenue responsibility of alumni is of the magnitude USD 1 trillion globally. As a comparison, the same figure for MIT stands at USD 1.9 trillion. Notably, 50% of the yearly increase in this figure is contributed to by alumni based in India. The ‘job-creation’ figure for an IIT alumnus stands at 100 jobs per alumni, but what is more interesting to note is that 71% of these jobs are created in India. Regarding social impact, 8% of the total alumni strength are involved in roles related to social transformation, with 2 out of 3 among these working with social bodies. The widely held perception that most IIT alumni shift abroad is also unsubstantiated, with 66% of alumni presently located in India. To sum it up, there is a return of Rs 15 for every Rs 1 spent on the IITs by the Government of India.



The statistics are conclusive: IITians are contributing to nation building. But are we innovating? The Global Innovation Index (which is ironically invented by an IIT alumnus) ranks India 57 on a list topped by countries like Switzerland and America. While the country expects us to innovate, why are we poor innovators?

This question was answered by Raghuram Rajan, IITD alumnus and Professor at Booth School of Business at a conference in 2016, when he said, “The differences in innovation between India and America lies not in the quality of individuals or that of undergraduate education, but in the research setups. If India caters to its graduate population by investing in laboratories and equipment, there is no reason why we shouldn’t have 1 in 6 CEOs, 1 in 6 Nobel prizes....”

What he meant to illustrate was that prestigious American institutions invest a larger chunk of their endowment in avenues of research and development. Engineers working in laboratories across America thus have access to better equipment, which translates to a better productivity in innovation than engineers in India.

There is clearly a need for investment in innovation driven research activities in India. Only then can we innovate and fulfill the Vision our alma mater holds for the country.

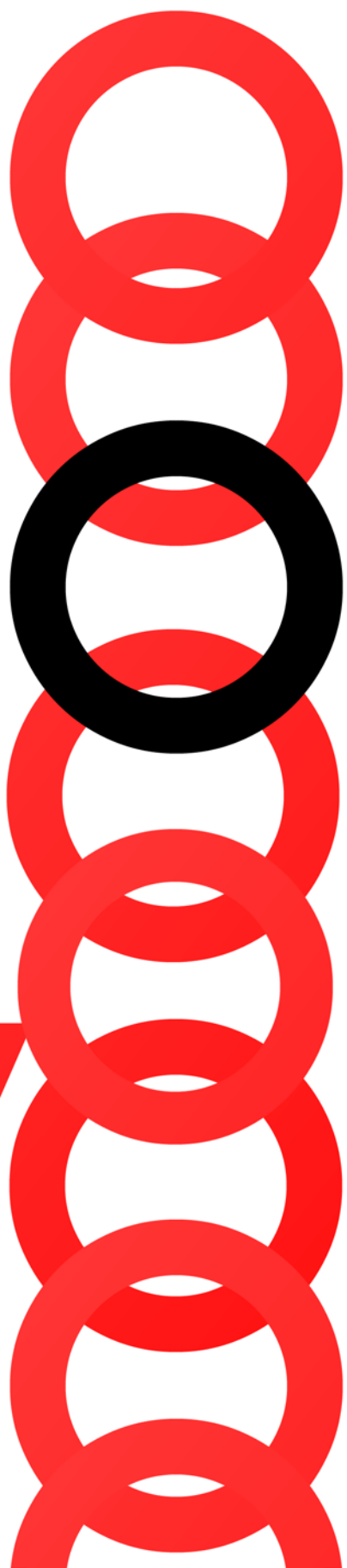


To conclude, we IITians are contributing enough to the society but we don't have the productivity that other countries have achieved. If you hire excellent and motivated workers to build a house, but you don't give them the materials they need, can you expect them to build one?

DEMO

WITH

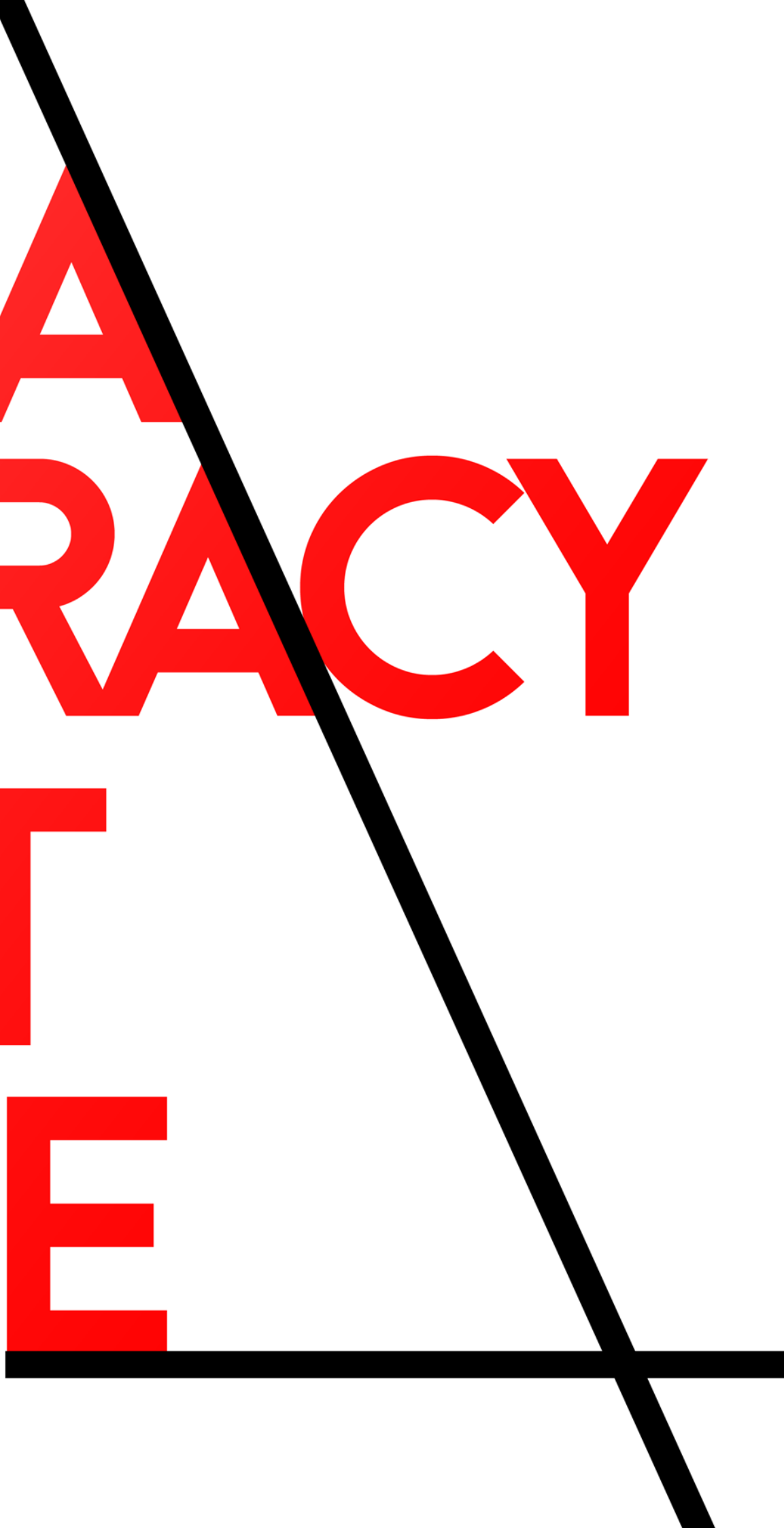
A VO



**A
CRACY**

UT

ICE



1

Mistakes. Lies. More mistakes. More lies.

People simply don't realise where to stop, especially when the stakes are high. This story is about Justice Aloy, who died of a heart attack 5 years back when he was to decide upon the fate of Tami Hash, a prominent political leader. Was this a coincidence or a conspiracy? Let us walk through the story of Tami Hash and ask ourselves, to what extent can the all-powerful lend a deaf ear to the shrill cries of the common man.

Year 2019. In a widely publicised media report, Republic TV joins the dots, from Roshia's murder and Aloy's death to Hash's acquittal. Their conclusion: Jail Tami Hash. And why not? It is clear for all to see what had happened; how the wheels of justice had been punctured under the weight of Tami and his associates.

Protests break out across the country, most of which are directed against the PM, since a protest against Tami is invariably a protest against him. Hash's party members have begun distancing themselves from the controversy, deviating from their defiant stance that they had ever-so-confidently displayed before. N. Modi, his closest friend remains mum on the issue (not for the first time, even on this week's Chai Par Charcha).

But this silence can't be prolonged; something has to follow.

So who is Hash? Hash was born in a prominent Baniya Gujarati family. At a very young age, he joined the SRS and became a full member while in college. He rose quickly through the ranks of PJB's student wing, became its General Secretary and forged ties with Modi, the person who one day would be elected as the PM of India. At a time when the Congress ruled the chips in Gujarat, Tami and Modi's strategic planning ensured that the PJB triumphed in the Gujarat elections of 1995. Modi soon wrested control of the Gujarat PJB and in 2002 became CM, while Tami became his close friend and ally. Modi's clout in PJB also got Hash an MLA ticket to the Gujarat Assembly.

Year 2005. Roshabuddin and his wife were murdered in what police claimed was an encounter killing, claiming that both of them were in fact operatives of the LeT. The deaths were largely ignored by the media until late 2006 when a senior crime journalist, Prashant Dayal, recreated the events preceding Rosha's death. How did he know about what had happened? While having drinks with a few police officers, a drunk inspector had boasted about orchestrating the death of an anti-national element.

Dayal conducted his own investigations, using his contacts scattered throughout Gujarat and the words of a loosely-lipped policeman and published in *Dainik Bhaskar*, a theory detailing what had happened.

Dayal speculated that Roshabuddin was an extortionist who was pressurizing marble traders in Rajasthan, close to Tami Hash. Tami Hash is alleged to have tasked top IPS officers to eliminate Rosha. He was shortly arrested along with his wife when they were travelling in a bus from Hyderabad to Sangli and was taken to a farmhouse outside Ahmedabad where he was shot, while his wife was raped, strangled and cremated at a farmhouse in Illol.

Simultaneously, Rosha's brother filed a petition in the Supreme Court. Eventually, murky details began to emerge. After several hearings in the SC, the case was transferred to the CBI after it determined that the killings had been extrajudicial.

Over the next few years, the CBI documented evidence against several police officers and more importantly, records of over 300 phone calls made by Hash to various officers of the police service. Subsequently, Hash was arrested and charged with collusion, while his IPS aides were jailed.

Finally in 2013, the CBI assigned the case to CBI judge Justice Utpat. Remember that 2013 was a time of PJB's resurgence, and Hash's appearance in court in relation to a murder case would have seriously damaged Modi's prospects. Hash never attended any hearing, prompting Justice Utpat to reprimand him for non-appearance. He set a final date of verdict and ordered Hash to be present in court. Just one day before the trial, he was transferred to another case.

2



The second judge to be assigned to the case was Justice Aloy. Aloy ordered Hash's lawyers to ensure that he would be present at hearings when he was in the state, and set the date of the next hearing to 15 December 2014, when the verdict would be given. Interestingly, Aloy had received, from a Bombay High Court judge, an offer of more than 100 crores in exchange of him giving a favourable verdict. He had turned down the offer. Should he have taken it?

Because on 30th November, Justice Aloy travelled from his hometown to Nagpur for a wedding, along with two of his friends. He had not planned to go initially, but had changed his mind on their insistence.

But on the morning of 1st December, Aloy's family received phone calls telling them that Aloy had died of a heart attack in the night. He had been taken to a private hospital in Nagpur after he complained of chest pain. The caller told them that a post-mortem had been conducted and the body would be transported to them. What was weird was that the calls were made by Ishwar Baheti, an SRS worker. How and why did he know about Aloy's death?

3

4

Stunned, members of Aloy's family prepared to travel to Nagpur, but were stopped by the caller, who claimed that the body was already on its way.

When the body reached home, the family noticed bloodstains on Aloy's shirt. His belt was twisted in the opposite direction, and the pant clip was broken. Yet, the post-mortem report read that Aloy's clothes were dry, without bloodstains. How was the shirt bloodstained if Aloy had a heart attack? In addition, Justice Aloy had a sound medical history. Even for issues such as acidity and cough, he had consulted his sister, who was a doctor.

Back to 2019, Republic TV's exposé highlights many mysteries that remain unsolved to date. Among them:

1. Aloy's mobile phone was returned by Ishwar, not by the police. The mobile phone only contained one message, "Sir, stay safe from these people". Rest of the calls and messages were deleted.

2. The two judges who had accompanied Aloy only made contact with the grieving family after 1 and half months. When they did, they warned the family not to pursue the matter further as there could be a threat on their lives.

3. How and why was Aloy taken to hospital in an auto rickshaw, when the auto stand nearest to Ravi Bhavan, where Aloy was staying, was around two kilometres away from it. People do not get rickshaws near Ravi Bhavan during the day, how did they find one during the night?

4. A post-mortem is conducted to determine the cause of death, only after the family of deceased person requests it. Why was it conducted in such a haste without informing the family members? The post-mortem report on its own had several red flags. Every page of the post-mortem report was signed "maiyatacha chulatbhau"—or the paternal cousin brother of the deceased. Aloy had no paternal cousin brother. Who signed the report was another question on its own.

5. The post-mortem report also noted that as per the police, "Aloy died on 1/12/14 at 06:15 am after experiencing chest pains at 04:00 am". The time of death cited in the report—06:15 am—appeared incongruous, since, according to Aloy's family members, they had begun receiving calls about his death from 5 am onwards.

It's not difficult to believe that Tami Hash has created a lot of enemies within his own ranks. Fast forward 5 years down the line, at the ongoing All-India PJB convention, several people raise the issue that Hash's involvement in the 14 year long murder case has had a negative impact on PJB's poll results and that it would be in the party's best interests to suspend Hash, at least until the 2019 elections are over. It is a move even Modi can't not avoid; Hash is suspended from all of his duties at the PJB until 2020.

5

अब तो इस तालाब का पानी बदल दो
ये कमल के फूल कुम्हलाने लगे हैं।
कैसे मंज़र सामने आने लगे हैं
गाते-गाते लोग चिल्लाने लगे हैं॥

~ दुष्यंत कुमार

Meanwhile, a PIL filed in the SC, now under the leadership of CJI Ranjan Gogoi, reopens the encounter case against Hash, leading to his arrest. A separate bench is commissioned to look into the death of Justice Aloy.

After ten hearings spread over 6 months, the bench investigating Aloy's death rules that he could not have had a heart attack; in other words, Justice Aloy was murdered. The same bench begins probing into the orchestrators of Aloy's death, starting with Ishwar Baheti.

Baheti proves to be a weak nut; he breaks down in court, confessing that Aloy had been murdered (was there ever a doubt?) and points his fingers at Hash, who he says had communicated to him through his SRS superior. Based on the evidence, Hash is convicted and put on Death Row, while his IPS aides are jailed for life.

For the tenth time that morning, Rohan's alarm rang. He scarcely moved from his crescent-shape position on the blue sheeted orthopaedic mattress, clutching his winter blanket so tightly, it seemed he was being pulled away from something he held dear. Had he retired earlier that night, he would have been up by now. It was already 7:00 AM, thirty minutes late for the morning routine. To his despair, this was just another alternate reality he lived in every night. A world where every shrill cry did not resonate in vacuum alone.

Republic TV didn't release any report and all independent cries against the mighty were suppressed, just as they have been for the past 70 years. These shrill cries have failed to knock even the doors of the masses, as they are still unaware of all that transpired. Even those who knew, never had the courage to break open from their cages of insecurity to challenge the winds against the dangling fear of the inevitable lathi charges and poisonous tear gas attacks.

Until his dreams turn into reality, the killers are still among us. Is it a disgrace on us citizens? Or is it a disgrace on the system? Can political murders be passed on as "deaths in the name of the country?" It's for you to decide.



आत्म

२

पर लगे हैं स्वर्ण देख, उड़ रहा हूँ चाँद पर
हासिल हुआ है इंकलाब, बेबसी की छाँव से।
तुम चलो हम चलें, फिर चले ये कारवाँ
इस ज़मीं की बात क्या, हम चूम लेंगे आसमाँ।।

३

जानता अणु नहीं तू, सर्वशक्तिमान हूँ
विलास की नदी में मैं, बह रहा अपार हूँ।
यही है बंधु सखा इसी से, जीवन का यह साझ है
मदिरा की धुन पर अब, ये ताण्डव साकार है।।

दर्पण



हाल क्या समाज का, मैं आइना दिखा रहा
बुरा है जो उसी को मैं, फिर बुरा बता रहा।
तमस में तू झुल रहा, फँसा दलदल से प्याले में
घिरा हुआ है चारों ओर, घड़ियालों के साए में।।

२

ये साथ तेरे उस वक्त, निगल रहा तू ज़हर जब
कल बाधा की आढ़ में, भटकेगा दर-दर बेखबर।
बेखबर खयाल रहता, होश ना यह क्या हुआ
जाने फिर वह कौनसी, सुबह होगी इनके नाम से।।

४

५

भीषण लगी है आग, ज़हन झल्ला उठा है ताप से
 रूह को सहलाने का, मर्ज़ बस अब जाम से।
 जाम-जाप-जप रहा मैं, अविरोध की आस में
 लुप्त हो चुका हूँ अब, मदिरा की रास में।।

६

तूने जो यह गदगदी का, पर्दा उठा दिया
 आरोहण के चरम से, एक क्षण में कायर बना दिया।
 इस पिंजरे को तोड़ने का, क्षम नहीं है बाहों में
 मर जाऊँ मैं मिट जाऊँ अब, कश रहित रह ना पाऊँ।।

७

ज्वाला जली है शान की, ज्वाला सजी है आन की
 ज्वाला उठी है मान की, आत्म-इम्तिहान की।
 उत्साह और प्रकाश से, स्वराज चुम आऊँगा
 गाँठ बाँध ले ये तू, बेबसी लाचारता से लौट कर मैं आऊँगा।।

कितने हैं मरीज, कितने फँस रहे हैं जाल में
देख-देख कर के सारे, हो लिए एक चाल में।
सामने सबूत, इनकी ज़िंदगी गुज़र रही
आधी निंद्य हाल में, आधी अस्पताल में।।

६

क्या कभी खयाल आया, तुम गहन नशे में हो
घर पर तुम्हारी हो ज़रूरत, बेखबर फँसे तुम हो।
जान कर भी जान को, नहीं बचा सकोगे तुम
इससे हताश बात क्या, कभी खुद से पूछो तुम।।

८



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are you blissfully
Unaware?