

English translation of Faiz Ahmed Faiz's legendary poem "Bol"

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Roman Urdu

Bol Ke Lab Azaad Hain Tere
Bol Zubaan Ab Tak Teri Hai
Tera Sutawaan Jism Hai Tera
Bol Ke Jaan Ab Tak Teri Hai

Dekh Ke Aahangar Ki Dukaan Mai
Tund Hain Sholey Surkh Hai Aahan
Khulne Lage Quffalon Ke Dahaane
Phela Har Ek Zanjeer Ka Daaman

Bol Yeh Thora Waqt Bohot Hai
Jism-O-Zabaan Ki Maut Se Pehle
Bol Ke Sach Zinda Hai Ab Tak
Bol Jo Kuch Kehna Hai Keh Le

English Translation

Speak, as your lips are free
Speak, as your tongue is still yours
Your upright body is your own
Speak, as your life is still yours

Look into the blacksmith's Shop
Flame blazes, the iron is red hot
Locks begin to open their mouth
Every chain's link springing wide

Speak, this brief time is long enough
before the death of body and tongue

Speak, the truth is still alive;
Speak, say what you have to say.