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Chanda Vasooli

Shobha Diwakar

Any festival is good enough
For the collection of 'chanda'
Holi , Ganesh utsav, Dussera
Groups of men knock at your door
There is hesitation to give
The demand is enormous
To dress the show
Holi, dressed in choli
In mod, modern, modernity
Ganesh is turned into a fishy idol
Beyond... imagination in ultra modern fold
Dussera dresses the deities
In gold and silver ornaments
Banarsi and chiffon saries
Adorned with heavy lacy borders
As wild as dreams
A social festival fostering culture
Rests on the laurels of your 'chanda'
Your ' perspiring earnings,' labor lost
On festive occasions
Only to be drowned in the deep blue sea.

Strapped

A spider on the wall did crawl
Slow and steady with every fall
Long and slender, thin and frail
On the wall it did trail
Small in body tough in mind

Stealthily crept upon the blind
Up the ceiling then it ran
Hid itself behind the fan
Then it crawled when all was clear
Wove a silken web oh, dear
Invisible silk delicate yet strong
Tying it mutely from wall to wall
Unaware the fly was trapped
Swiftly then the spider crept
It clawed and clutched the food was right
The fly was trapped it could not fight
The white silk covered the fly so tight
Like a mummy, it lay wrapped and dried
The spider later would enjoy it
For its dinner that very night