

Translation of Jaiprakash Kardam's Poem "Shabd" in English

"Words"

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Words' magicians

Show words' miracles

Words' players

Play with words

Words' scholars

Show words' scholasticism

Words' merchants

Decorate words' shop

Words don't have any language

Any tongue of their own

Words don't have any charm

Or power of their own

Words say

What they are made to say

Words are Liege Man

Words don't have their own existence
Words don't have any meaning,
Until words are words.

Translation of Jai Prakash Kardam's Poem Bonai in English

“Dwarf”

I was said- achromous

So that I

keep showing reverence for

Yours ethos sanctity

Was declared- untouchable

So that I would not

Hang together with you

I was called-Harijan

So that I always

Feel subordinate

Never could try

For upliftment

For centuries

This intrigue of yours

Kept prospering

You absorbent, I absorbed
You great, I satellitic
You master, I continued to be a servant
But today
Ambedkar's invocation
Has awakened
My consciousness
Has taught
The lesson of self-support and self-respect
Has taught me
How to stand with dignity
They seem dwarves now
Who made me dwarf.

Work cited:

Tinka Tinka Aag : Jaiprakash Kardam, Pub. by Samyak Prakashan, New Delhi- 63. 2004.