

# **on trivia**

a collection of poems on trivial things but  
very vital for our lives

by

**paul g**

## on trivia

trivial things that really don't matter  
anything at all in our human lives  
claim a lot of lives and destroy  
precious edifices built through centuries

it could be to decide who the leader be  
or one religion is more authentic than others  
or one race far superior to others  
or to decide who should control the power

stop a minute, just ponder a while  
does it really matter a bit to any of us  
why pull the trigger at another man  
or explode a bomb that blasts and destroys

such loveable and kind creatures, we men are  
ready to forgo, suffer and serve others  
turn ferocious, violent and cruel to kill  
our own brothers, look around at the mishaps

aren't we pawns in the hands of the others  
who want power or sell arms and ammunitions  
or even creeds and isms to fill their pockets  
can't we see how trivial things we fight for are

paul g

## on joy

when we want to get something very much  
but destiny takes it away from our reach  
we pursue it taking lots of pain  
finally we are able to lay our hands on it  
that pleasure we get is called joy

when someone ill treats us  
and is cruel to us for no fault of ours  
when he is served by destiny  
a bad stroke of luck and suffers  
that pleasure we get is called joy

when someone we wanted to interact  
in a friendly way to us but kept off  
being afraid or inhibited to make the first move  
makes a friendly gesture to us unexpected  
that pleasure we get is called joy

we wait for someone or long to hear from him  
we long for a phone call or even a letter  
then after the anxiety and the wait  
there comes the message we wanted all of a sudden  
that pleasure we get is called joy

paul g

## on faith

to believe that there is someone up above  
to care for us, to look after our things  
to provide for us, to chastise us and tame us  
is the greatest confidence to live in this world

to believe in ourselves and in our ability  
to trust in god and our calibre and stamina as well  
that everything will be cared for and looked after  
and we will reach where we set out in life

we are emissaries sent out to great and unique  
roles to play in the destiny of us and of this world  
all men are equally important and not more  
in the eyes of the maker and life is so precious

to believe in the unknown and unrevealed  
to trust in the great power up and around  
that we must be sure there exist and work  
is the key to faith in god and in ourselves

when we see so many wonderful things around  
when we see miraculous providence in our lives  
how can we suspect and forget even for a moment  
and loose the precious faith so vital for survival

paul g

## on a solitary voyager

as the evening sun cast its red tint  
on the rippling waves of the vast sea  
a man was rowing his canoe briskly  
where is this solitary voyager rushing

his gaze is focused on the next island  
his strokes of paddles are determined  
his lips are moving with the tune of  
boduferu, the song of the people of maldives

why is he rowing so fast ahead  
may be he wanted to meet some one  
his sweetheart waiting for him there  
with all her love to be bestowed on him.

he may be rushing to take food to his family  
to hungry children and wife from his toil  
of the day and earning from his fishing  
casting net or using hooks and line.

will he be able to reach the other shore before  
the red globe sinks beyond the sea and casts  
the spell of darkness on him and his small world  
solitary voyager went on rowing as fast as he could

paul g

## on hunger

the gnawing in the stomach when nothing is there  
when there is no food nobody to give it or no money  
is the stark reality before man from birth  
and it is going to haunt us till we go into the grave.

if only man knows the pain of hunger and the lack of food  
we would never waste any food or destroy food grains  
or cook more food than that we can consume and waste  
food is so precious as long as it can solve the hunger of others

there is only one solution to hunger, to work to earn money  
to have as much food as one needs to eat the hunger away  
and to save some food for tomorrow that one doesn't starve  
even if there is no money to buy food that day too

hunger is knowledge and realisation that there are others  
as hungry as us all over the world from russia to ethiopia  
if only one knows the hunger we will think of giving  
a morsel to a fellow who had it not and hungry as hell

humanity should fight hard against global hunger and starving  
that the money spent on arms, ammunitions for bombs  
as well as for the luxurious banquets and parties must be  
diverted to wipe away hunger from the face of the earth

paul g

## on health

sound health is the dream and desire of everybody always  
but it is a mental state of well being and often a mirage  
pain and sickness we feel only when we acknowledge it  
as a reality by our thought and succumb to it mentally

the magical recipe for good health is easy and in our reach  
eat enough, rest well, exercise regularly, one should do  
avoid booze, grass, smoking, chewing betel, pan and sweets  
eat as much fruits the gift of nature and drink pure water

to play a game and win it is the sign of sound health  
to exercise the body and relax the mind, games are good  
lawn tennis to cot tennis, all ball games except rugby  
boxing, greeko-roman style of wrestling and mad racing

all that look appealing and appetising is not good for tummy  
from canned drinks to cokes and pastries on window display  
vegetables are good for health, if eaten raw, the better  
fruit juice is the most perfect drink to milk and lessy

only in a healthy body a healthy mind dwells for sure  
only healthy persons can work and has the urge to live  
take care, mind the health or the doctor would mind it  
to stay healthy remember to eat enough, rest well & exercise.

paul g

## on budgeting

time and money the most precious things to get today  
must be dealt carefully or we will have to regret later  
lost time never comes back and fool and his money is  
welcome everywhere and part with each other very quickly

make a budget on what we spent sorting income and expense  
try to save as much money sticking to budget estimates  
money is power and without which we are as good as dead  
we are valued by the world on the money with in our grip

it is hard to get big money by just means, so save up  
every single penny to accumulate to become a fortune  
too much money is always a botheration and too little  
is a draw back, so budget and preserve as much as we can.

time, tide and fortune waits for nobody for a long time  
make the best use of time when lady luck knocks slowly and  
benignly on our doors that we make the best use of chances  
though every dog has his day it may be even a half day

write down what we will do with the money and how time to be spent  
we can programme our time and track down how money is lost  
so that we can curtail unnecessary wasteful expenditure  
and use time and money constructively to reach our goals.

paul g

## on slumber

is almighty god always in slumber  
too old and deep in eternal sleep  
to close his eye on innocent blood  
spilled in tianenman square and kashmir  
in bosnia and wherever a bomb blasts.

why does he let tamil tigers kill  
and get slaughtered for a lost cause  
when i.r.a is setting bombs for his sake  
serbs slaughtering their own countrymen  
an innocent blood shed in the bargain

was he resting as usual when hitler  
annihilated his chosen people for fun  
when saddam strolled in and set fire to precious oil  
why does he leave the reins to some one  
so crazy, so fanatic to decide the destiny of the world

he is waiting till some lunatic  
would aim his scud missile to heaven  
or p.l.o set a time bomb under his throne  
we can only implore and beseech  
for justice to be done and a little peace

paul g

## a travelogue

would you believe that i have been to the lost paradise  
you think paradise is where you live and regained  
the real paradise is a place where you see  
things you can't see and not through the eyes.

you hear the music reminding the oldies and dead singers  
because they sing there themselves playing tunes  
which they sang to reach there and be eligible  
i heard lennon, beethoven, mozart, and k s george

when you go under water we see fish, like butterflies  
gem like corals and batik designs at the bottom  
harmless fish like dolphins, mantas and even sharks  
water plants, most beautiful of flora and fauna

the kind of games they play are superb and not risky  
no one to win or lose and no one to watch or cheer  
checkers and bluff and ping-pong and frisbee  
snorkelling and floating on the sea on air-mattresses

to reach there you don't need a visa, only a passport  
if you go yourselves you won't come back, if others send you  
you won't see them again and through out the trip  
terrible head-ache we get, lucky my love i come back and see you.

paul g

## on disco

thunderous music all around us  
people dancing as in aerobics  
jumping, writhing, moving sideways  
to the tune of drums and guitars  
all are in an ecstasy and high

can we forget the reality around  
and go for a high on grass and booze  
with compact discs and high metal songs  
that drives one crazy, make one even jump  
oblivious of the world around us

working up with the music on  
thudding and jumping moving sideways  
turning round and stamping the feet  
catching the partner, gabbing also  
is all part of disco and even more

lights and music synchronising  
people dancing psychedelically  
no one caring as to what they do  
there is no style all on their whims  
name of the dance is disco for sure.

paul g

## on spirit

with a touch on the spark plug  
current starts flowing  
ignition must only be done for  
right current to pass through

from one end to another  
it should not be prevented  
once it is initiated and must  
go on uninterrupted

if the switch is not put on  
the spark plug would not be ignited  
the real spirit has to be  
put in man through his forehead

man substituted it with spirit to drink  
that caused a lot of calamities and peril  
wives beaten up, children neglected  
families broken and hearts bleeding

spirit can only destroy the wrong spirit  
which is the intervention of the devil  
to malign the vulnerable human mind  
which is the greatest power in man

paul g

## on loneliness

a lonely cat  
on a full moon day  
far away on a lonely island  
went on mewling  
yearning for the mate

i too feel the same  
marooned on a forlorn island  
with only fond memories of you  
with the rising moon above the sea  
my heart also rise up to you

shine like the beaming moon  
with your loving smile  
that my thoughts and desires  
are near you as ever they are  
never leaving your face from my mind

if you were near me  
along with this overflowing goblet  
wine and love go together  
but love is a lost dream  
when you are so far away from me.

paul g

## on devil-incarnate

the day he incarnated in the world  
there were tornadoes, earthquakes and land-slides  
there were train-derailments and even floods  
and bomb-blasts and many a calamities

one poor man held the reins of time  
that earth did not break apart or disrupt  
hanging his life on the balance of life and death  
that many less people die in the bargain

does the world need him now than ever  
when isms have failed to save nations  
iron ladies and strong leaders failed  
not able to control or contain the strife

yes he will be sitting in the cockpit  
that prophesies are fulfilled and come true  
that the final conflict takes place  
between good and evil that good wins

he will seem to be the promised one  
to redeem the humanity and the world  
from the turmoil, travail and calamities  
or to put a yoke, on all that is good

paul g

## on transit -inn

in between heaven and hell, there is a place,  
it is purgatory, the transit-inn where our fore-fathers are  
some in the bottom of the sea like uranium, others in forests  
like gold and radium, rain and fire melt it and make it pure

up in the sky they set a rainbow one end in the water  
the other in the forest, where the treasure lay buried  
if we dig at the right place the pot of gold is for us,  
if we dive in the sea the gold from the sunken sub are ours

rainbow has seven colours, but we see only one to four  
depending on our eyesight, to see butterflies in the sky  
it is a very pleasing sight and a symbol of short span  
where the rain will fall in the sea and out of the forest

where is the heaven, hell and the paradise, where all  
good souls will have supper with heavenly father,  
enjoying the sweet aroma of food and divine music  
where angels fan each other with wings and feed each other

mundane life is the heaven and hell for all of us  
if we fulfil our dharma and go after one goal, heaven  
we could reach paradise, place for the risen souls  
though we make our own hell or heaven here with our deeds.

paul g

## on paradox

the fun is that doctors can't heal themselves  
and their mothers may rot before they die  
lawyers cannot solve their own problems  
psycho analysts can't analyse their own mental state

the fun is that librarians may not read a single good book  
government employees always sleep, at night on beds  
and on table during the day, but watchmen never sleeps,  
teachers can't teach their own children, though they may try

the fun is that barmen can't fix their own cocktails  
a baker can't taste his own pastry, cooks don't eat good food  
washer men never wear good cloths, those they get for washing  
a tailor can't stitch a good dress for himself and family

the fun is that policemen cannot protect their home  
a mechanic may never own a car, judges always do  
judge but not their own kith and kin and funniest of all  
pilots and soldiers are the highest paid but the first one to die

paul g

## on initiative

what make us going when going on is hard  
when every odds are against us, people deter us  
from our chosen paths pushing and stamping us down  
it is a sense of goal that keeps the initiative in us

think of what we want to be and long to be that  
hope that we are already there on the dream goal  
feel full enthusiasm and vigour to reach there  
this is our life, the most important for each of us

make a plan to reach where we set out and keep going  
making advances, each step planned meticulously ahead  
dodging and budging always pushing straight to the goal post  
we need lot of initiative to go on when going on is hard

we might get pushed down, somebody may try  
to annihilate us when the goals are same, just lie low  
let wounds heal but keep on going always ahead  
and it is our own initiative that makes us go

initiative comes from inner happiness and desire to reach  
our chosen goal, the most important thing for us  
it is the true manifestation of love of love for ourselves  
and for those whom we love so much and live for

paul g

## on habits

habits make us what we are and even more  
bad habits break us and our lives to smithereens  
make a habit of living with a sense of goal in our lives  
doing and giving more than that we get in the bargain

make a habit to make the right sort of friends  
to believe in divine providence and faith in our own abilities  
to smile and be pleasant to others with whom we interact  
to learn the reasons of our defeat and avoid it later

make it a habit to keep our minds open for new ideas  
and to keep going when going on is hard with self initiative  
to judge and see reality as it is and not as it is projected.  
to control the mind to concentrate on all that we do in life

make it a habit to rein the imagination that goes roving wild  
to control and contain the feelings and bad emotions  
and to use our will power to do great feats in our lives  
to use conscience that we don't do bad or harm anyone

make it a habit to bubble with enthusiasm to live and do  
all possible deeds to reach our goal giving and getting co-operation  
to budget our money and time, two precious things to waste  
to live, eating, working, resting and relaxing in a healthy way.

paul g

## on defeat

failures are there always in our lives, but only fools  
keep lying down where they had fallen for others to put aright  
if we move around we are sure to fall down once in a while  
and competitors might try to push or pull us down on the road, the world.

to see why we failed, the reasons behind it and check the causes  
before we make future advancements is really learning from defeat  
the only advantage out of failure, a thing to forget and ignore  
is to learn from that and to gain the greatest of wisdom.

The pang of pain that we feel when we fail in our attempts  
avoid the paths and means that we had employed  
to be more careful in future and avoid further pitfalls  
that we don't blunder again and make the same mistakes twice

the order of the day is cut throat competition, to survive  
the conflicts that snub off all that we tried to bring up  
we have to be extra careful treading on the path of our lives  
not to fall into the same pit that we had fallen before, twice

experience is the greatest teacher and failures and defeats  
must be stepping stones for achievement in future if we really try  
to analyse the reason why we failed in the past and its reasons  
optimists take defeats as stepping stone and pessimists, grave-yard

paul g

## on concentration

mind is like a horse without reins and rocket without limits  
if we can't control and harness it to make it stick to what we do  
at the reality, and on the present moment we live and concentrate  
nothing can be done well or achieve or reach any goals in life

thoughts are like monkeys hopping and popping in and around  
to discern and select useful ones, helpful for our lives and goals  
is the first step to gain concentration of endeavour and avoid  
all those thoughts detrimental, or frivolous and superficial.

feelings and associations affect our mental state and thoughts  
to keep the mind that would hop like a monkey on what we do  
and when we have finished our work go for recreation and resting  
to keep the senses alert to perceive the reality around us

keep to the track, sticking to our goals in life and go ahead  
stop looking side ways or behind to brood over the past  
which is dead and gone, we should analyse the causes of failure  
so that our steps ahead and future action could be improved.

temptations are many, attractions to the eyes are varied on the way  
shut off the mind's eye on trifles trivia and gaudy  
unnecessary and unhelpful things on the way, look straight at the goal  
and keep going with the headlight of concentration flashing on it.

paul g

## on religion

blind men leading blind men to realms  
where no one has trodden or has any idea  
making fanatics out of us all to believe  
all that they teach and dance to their whims

did any of them see what heaven, hell are like ?  
when they taught about a purgatory in the middle  
or about bathing in ganges to wash away sins  
or worshipping god on sundays, not to eat meat on fridays

now my brethren are killing each other to show  
that their god needs a temple where there is a mosque  
to show that the pope is the supreme not the patriarch  
or to pray to allah, jehovah or om whom no one has seen

are we not the children of almighty god who made us  
whether our names are different or of some other caste  
why hate others and force our religion on some one  
when god does not care about the temples, mosques or churches ?

let us all hold hands together forgetting differences  
and profess to be brothers and sisters who love each other  
forgetting religions thrust on us by others for their livelihood  
and love god and our fellowmen, which is true religion.

paul g

## on love

twinkle in eyes, rose ness on cheeks  
manifestations of love are manifold  
good nature forms part of it and follows  
when one is in love it flows outside

if love cannot be acknowledged or expressed  
if others see that one is in love with someone  
that may create problems for both the pair  
then love is tension and frustration too

real love may lead to marriage or may not  
but to fall in love is always pleasant  
love that is reciprocated by the other  
is great experience of fun and joy.

most beautiful sights are pair in love  
be it man, animal, birds, fish or trees  
butterflies, peacocks or courting birds  
blooming flower or ogling of a maiden

paul g

## on disabled

crippled and blind, deaf and dumb we call them  
so many are the people disabled in the world  
is it their fault that they are like that  
they too are our brothers and sisters to be loved

we see disabled people begging on the street  
some of them sell lottery tickets and even milk  
what is the difference between these two people  
one is seeking sympathy while the other is earning

we should be empathetic to all the disabled people  
no point in showing sympathy and an empty hand  
we should help disabled people to help themselves  
and to take care of themselves and their lives

any disabled person can be made to come to mainstream  
to work and earn his bread, like any other people  
if proper training be given and put to on the right track  
blind or lame, deaf or dumb people can lead a full life

love and empathy must be our attitude and outlook  
to every disabled person around us who strive to live  
train them and help them to lead a fruitful life  
that is what god wants us to be, to be charitable

paul g

## on all

when

no idea  
can't say  
it may be before  
it may be now  
or it may be later  
only god knows, no others

where

no idea  
it could be anywhere  
under water in the sea  
or on solid terrain  
or up in the red sky  
only god knows where

how

it may be moving  
clockwise or anticlockwise  
up or down as it moves  
can't say how fast or slow  
because no one can stop  
only god knows when, where and how

paul g

## on remedy

time of vaccinations and vasectomy are over,  
prevention or cure is not possible for aids  
if somebody really gets it from some one  
there is only one solution, isolate them

one may be innocent, but his or her spouse may not be  
a girl may be a virgin, if she get raped by one with aids  
or an innocent child gets it from its parents  
or through blood transfusion or syringe or razor

let blossoms be bloomed only through holy matrimony  
husbands should keep the wedding ring on their fingers  
and woman hold their thali always in their bosoms  
and be loyal to each other till they are separated by death

don't barter or sell our sisters for solid cash  
the in-laws may bring in foreign aids or other calamities  
don't desert our children in boarding and hostels  
and spend spare time in clubs, bars and brothels

be loyal to our spouses and never be unhappy, remember  
sex with strangers is not love making but buying death  
let what god united be never separated by man  
never discard wives for a better model or vice versa

paul g

## on dedication

his name is there on my tongue  
praising him my heart beats  
when i tick i will always praise him  
when the battery is down i will sleep

he is always there in hearts  
i will always remember him  
i will take his message all over  
and win many hearts for him

he is my model and mode of life  
all my actions are for his sake  
as he is placed in my heart  
with my tongue i will always praise him

i will leave the life of filth  
i will desert the life of sin  
and join his gang to support  
him and his father for ever

paul g

## on mistakes

i make lots of mistakes  
of omission as well as commission  
even when i am so careful  
i can't keep avoiding them  
they are there to disillusion me

if i don't make mistakes  
i may grow proud and arrogant  
i may become reckless and over bold  
may not take enough precautions in life  
and take serious things as trivial

to put humility on my countenance  
to put caution in my movements  
to put a rein on my enterprise  
i am aware that i make mistakes  
they are there to balance my nature

if somebody says that he is error-free  
he is misleading himself and others  
no one is hundred percent error-proof  
as computers even go wrong sometimes  
to err is human, to forgive divine.

paul g

## on fear

fear is the key  
to make people do  
what they would never do  
with any other baits or lures

when some one is afraid  
they loose all their composure  
may do things without being aware  
but do feats impossible  
as those who make them wish

what do we fear so much  
loss of life, power and prestige  
loss of love from people we love  
we are apprehensive about the future  
and, more than anything, our freedom.

fear balances life's equilibrium  
if it was not for fear we would be fiends  
atrocities would increase world wide with out it  
fear makes us die many a time, but it has to be there  
of god, of authority, of others and ourselves.

paul g

## on rain

listen to the falling rain, look at the way it is poured  
in every drop of water i love you more than ever  
it is raining, it is pouring, cats and dogs on my roof  
i love the rhythm of rain, much better than an orchestra

when i was a baby, i thought of walking in the rain  
but my mamma warned me, not to get wet and fever  
that was an old story, listening to the falling rain,  
my love, be with me to listen to the purring of rain

when rain drops are showered on the greenery of trees  
and soak them wet by the tears of our mother nature  
it purifies the atmospheric pollution and washes away dust  
nature cry through rain, for molesting her treasures

rain water reaches the sea ultimately, where it came from  
the clouds cry, as the perspiration of our mother nature  
along with rain i would like to go back in to the womb  
of mother nature who cleanses away the dirt, by her rain

sometimes it might rain like hell turned upside down  
bringing destruction to man because we disrupted the ecosystem  
by cutting trees, setting fire to precious oil wells and bombing  
mother nature cries through rain like my tears of joy for you.

paul g

## on irony

the irony is that  
when all booze is bitter  
terrible to gulp down the throat  
men drink it deliciously to get the kick  
and a terrible hang over the next day

the irony is that  
at the top speed in a car or bike  
we can't control or pull the brake  
or slow down at the brink of an accident  
still we want to drive at the top speed

the irony is that  
if we have sex with strangers  
it may mean begetting bastards  
or getting aids or clap  
but people are crazy for new chicks and guys

the irony is that  
we can't take anything with us  
when we die and leave this world  
but people are greedy amassing wealth  
more than they ever need or should have

paul g

## on almighty

you were there before, now and ever after  
none knows what you are or what you will be  
men called you many names, om, allah, jehovah  
but you are all in one and one in all

omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent is you  
all creation is so important and dear to you  
not a leaf falls without your knowledge  
nor anything will happen without your consent

you made man crown of creation and king of all  
you loved him so much that you gave him free will  
power to shape his destiny and all about him  
he ill used it and joined hands with your enemy

you know everything in and out of all our minds  
you know what will come and all our destiny  
please bring an end to all the strife and hatred  
conflict and competition, to establish the lost love

we men are so fed up with the lack of love in us  
we lost the love that you implanted in our hearts  
we hate you and brother that you gave us to love  
restore love in us that we can love you and others.

paul g

## on music

rivulets flowing, waves lolling on the sea shore  
birds chirping, rain falling, snow dropping  
these are the music of the nature  
to soothe man's ailing and aching heart

what have we got as music these days  
drums banging, guitars bellowing  
organs howling, all make the ear sick  
music has become a tool in the wrong hand

man and woman dancing to your tune  
dirty ideas conveyed into innocent minds  
driving dirty ideas into children's mind  
rebellion and destruction preached to man

rock music rocks one around  
pop music pops one up  
classical music soothes the mind  
and we enjoy them when they are all over

music can do wonders in the world  
to drive love and wisdom into man's head  
to make him human again from the brute  
to soothe and console his ailing heart.

paul g

## on purpose

where do we go from here next, where to  
are we boats without rudder and sail  
let loose in the deep blue sea of life  
with no one to pilot it or anchor it

this our life is a precious gift from god  
never sleep nor slumber till you reach  
that heavenly golden shore to his bosom  
only then man's purpose in life is fulfilled

we all got to leave behind something  
foot-steps on the beaches with sands of life  
work out a plan to reach the heavenly bliss  
and stick to it even if you got to change a bit

our eyes looking up to god's face, hands out-stretched  
to give and take, our foot firmly on the ground  
walking in the direction of heaven from where we came  
without trespassing or looking behind and side ways.

paul g

## on riches

does money alone make man really rich  
then why does he go pursuing after it  
avaricious and greedy like a pig in a piggery  
he will do any terrible thing to get money

to have a mind full of hope about future  
with faith in self and god that all will be cared for  
to understand others, to have co-operation  
harmony and enthusiasm in all that we do

why do men go chasing after the rainbow  
to see the oasis he saw was just a mirage  
look into yourselves open your mind's eyes  
and you will find the key to all real riches

what should we do with the riches, a gift of god  
not to sit and hatch it, but give away  
then only we will know the value of real riches  
only by giving out riches we get real fulfilment.

paul g

## on money

is money the root cause of all evil  
if people have it more than enough  
they spend it in bars and brothels  
for fun and frolicking  
for show off and pomposity  
for gambling and racing

if people have it too little  
they do any atrocities like  
stealing and even paid killing  
cheating and stabbing from behind  
black mailing and drug pushing

many a kuwaiti's have been ransacked  
many an innocent man got killed  
if only man gets rid of that greed in him  
god's kingdom will come and reign in him

we should get rid of the greed for money  
money must not be for money's sake  
golden mean is to have as much  
money as to lead a happy and content life.

paul g

## on wedlock

when the right key is used to open  
the lock that had been locked before  
much pain and blood-shed may take place  
that pain begets the greatest of happiness

woman is the lock and the key is man  
to open the pandora's box to find love  
well, when the love is found at last  
man's life in this world is fulfilled

to get love we must give up ourselves  
utterly into divine hands that he may  
equip us with the right sort of key  
and lead us to the lock that has to be opened

that lock is my missing rib that god took  
when i was in slumber on the sands of time  
i go on searching and searching, never finding  
my love, who is so close in front of me always

i want to clasp your hands, look into your eyes  
ignite you with my key so that the current flows  
out through to the earth so that i become a tree  
and that tree bear many a good fruit.

paul g

## on games

the fate of a ball is so unfortunate  
it is kicked from all sides  
suffering on the power play  
in the court, that is this world

man tries to show his might on you  
by kicking you, smashing you  
spiking you, serving you and even  
poking at you with a long stick

your destiny is to get kicked  
from all four sides by the players  
the referee is there to control  
their mighty thrust on you and around

your fate is to burst at last  
when the last kick is served on you  
well, no worry, you are made for that  
all must come to an end some day

air keeps you filled that you won't burst  
case prevents the air from escaping  
when the mighty thrust is served on you  
do suffer, for they know not what they do.

paul g

## on crying

crying does man come to this world  
that is why we have this crying world  
man crying out with hunger and pain  
crying for the lost ones and for no gain

crying makes the world so smooth and fine  
dripping tears do cleanse human mind  
as cascades of 'kuttalam' can make on clean  
sight of tears do always instigate the kind

dynamic life starts with the cry as a child  
crying only makes the world so dynamic  
cry and you will be a man happy and mild  
for, every crying there is always a laughter

if man only knows how to laugh and laugh  
he can never know the fun of laughter  
cry you ought to do that you may learn  
the difference of pain and gain, grief and fun.

paul g

## on flower

a flower has been budding in my heart  
when it blossomed it was a red flower  
it is not red because of the blood smeared  
so that it could wish every one “all the best “

even the bramble and briers do blossom  
the most beautiful blossoms are on thorny cactus  
and lasting ones bloom on wild orchids  
i know not the span of my flower or its aroma

i don't want my flower to be like the “nishagandhi”  
it blooms in the dead of night and dies that night  
though it spreads its fragrance none smells in sleep  
i am glad that my red flower is seen though not smelled

my flower has the pollen and i know not what else  
many a butterfly has visited it in their short span  
they have helped my flower to become a fruitful fruit  
with seeds that will germinate into other fruits.

paul g

## on hope

when i lost the zest for life  
when i thought that my endeavours are in vain  
you came like a white dove, sailing  
and landed on my mind, you hope

what will man's destiny be if there is  
nothing to look forward to in life and future  
if one can't forget about the yesterdays  
and look at tomorrow with much optimism

when the mind is turbulent and worried  
when everything that we try go astray  
like ashes from the cigarette is put in the ashtray  
you help us to shed and rid our negative self

hope, alight on us like a white dove  
so that we can contain the anxiety  
to hope for the best and sustain the pain  
with the hope that all will be all right.

paul g

## on gold

all that glitters is not gold  
all that sparkle may not be pure  
all that smile may not be friends  
all that laugh are not out of fun

why do women ornament themselves  
when they are the crown of creation  
why there is so much greed for gold  
when the real gold is in our hearts

gold can be traded for money and power  
money brings power that amasses gold  
this is the vicious circle to be broken  
greed must go away from human heart

gold makes man greedy, that makes him wicked  
wickedness makes him aggressive and fierce  
that brings death and destruction for many  
many an innocent life is lost and blood shed

when will all these atrocities cease to exist  
only when love comes to human hearts  
then god will come and stay in his mind  
and all the greed and lust for gold vanish.

paul g

## on doing more

friend, what right have you got to ask more  
when you haven't done even for what you are paid for  
you cannot bargain for getting more reward  
unless you put in more than that you receive

don't you see the immortal edifices all around  
were they dropped from heaven all of a sudden  
it took a lot of man's sweat, labour and pain  
to build a pyramid or even the immortal tajmahal

you don't have to bargain to your boss for more  
he will pay you with glee more than you expected  
if you do more than that you are supposed to do  
all will be sorry to lose you or get rid of you

genius is not born on a day all of a sudden from the blue  
much effort and more sweat had been shed by men  
to make this world what we see as it now is  
both for creation of new things and destruction of old.

paul g

## on love

thanks to love we all came to live here  
when love prevails in us we will out live  
when love is slain with in us we will die  
leaving behind all that we loved and wanted to love

we go searching for our love, the missing rib  
searching for it in every nook and corner far and wide  
we see the glimpses of her in every girl and women  
in the baby girl to the damsel and even the old hag

when at last we find her we try to lure her  
impress her and even seduce her, baiting her  
as in the “chairy tale” she slips away and  
the brute in us rises up to trample her frailty

one should compromise, stop searching to find  
stop molesting to respect, stop seducing but loving  
and realise that it is the greatest gift to man  
that is love and femininity in girl, women and mother.

paul g

## on conflict

blood-shed, lives lost we see so many dead bodies  
they are those of our brothers and sisters who have  
a different label or alien ideology that we disagree  
that we try to annihilate them and get rid of them

strife is so common, competition gave way to conflict  
we are not shocked, nor astonished and feel indifferent  
to all atrocities and even react like the ministers  
saying that we are shocked, when we don't give a damn

aren't we the keepers of our brother, is it his fault  
that he has a different brand or name than that of us  
aren't we all, the offspring of one man in different mothers  
we all have a common heritage as well as unifying bond

long ago we shed our tail, got rid of our animal fur  
now get rid of those two horns on our bald forehead  
and the tails on the wrong sides for wagging and wagging  
and be a brother to our fellow men, to love and care for him.

paul g

## on accurate thinking

can we see what the reality is like  
when we carry the dark glasses of prejudices  
inhibitions, superstitions and complexes  
when we are so much misguided about the truth

none can go wrong if we always care to ask  
why is this so ? how is this like this ?  
when is this so ? where is this like so?  
and finally who said it so, not to be deceived.

to see the naked truth, peel off prejudices  
and make the senses perceive reality as it is  
we may hear different points of view and opinions  
but always ask is it true, viable and accurate

pray “asatho ma sath gamaya” to the divine truth  
and “tamaso ma jyothir gamaya” to the divine light  
how can we keep our eyes so shut and closed  
when the reality is so much plain and clear

there is only one truth and one reality around  
it is crystal clear if we care to perceive it  
although truth and light are painful to accept  
take it in as there is no substitute for truth.

paul g

## on bathala island

bathala is the queen of the sea  
full of tranquillity and peace  
far from the madding crowd  
away from the chaos of the world

one can just go and relax there  
and forget about the world outside  
and dance in the sun and sea and  
of course can have a good holiday

can dive without dying in the sea  
see sea fish face to face not away  
good to do snorkelling in the sea  
and have a nice time in the coral reefs

there are cottages to sleep and rest  
one can relax there and cogitate  
not of the mess one left behind  
but of the good days that are coming

all can rest without restrictions  
no bells, no schedules or programs  
to keep one rushing mad all the time  
can take everything easy and just relax

paul g

## on my child

my child  
why did i beget you  
into this gloomy  
miserable world  
with only suffering and pain

there is nothing  
i can offer you  
nothing i can assure you  
for even i know not  
what it would be from now on

if you can be a sunshine  
where there is only gloom and disdain  
if you can be a bit of radiance  
for those who are gloomy and depressed  
then your debut is really welcome

please spread your innocent love  
natural naïve way of caring  
into my future days  
that i can be happy  
that i got someone i really needed

paul g

## on cap

protecting from too much exposure you save us  
getting scorched yourself in the bargain  
that is your fate to suffer for other one's sake  
i find you in my mother, sister, wife and mother nature

cover me properly so that adulteration cannot contaminate  
pollution cannot pollute, vermins cannot eat up  
mine is all yours and you are mine, there is a bond  
and let that bond be not broken till we are dead

i give you only suffering, but you tolerate me  
i give you only pain, but you shed tears and forget  
i try to subjugate you, you become my subordinate  
but realise, we are all on the same boat, you and me

if i can keep you happy, content and fulfilled  
my mission in this world is accomplished  
and let us be proud of the outcome of it  
that we offer to the world and humanity as a whole.

paul g

## on consumerism

old are the days when the consumer was the king  
today he is hunched up on a throne of thorns  
if he opens his eyes the ad people will get him  
if he opens his ears the music mongers break ears

they have contaminated everything from food to poison  
we eat factory made chicken, made-to-order apples  
gone are the days when eating was a joy and relish  
today we eat so that we don't starve to death

we can't look at reality without tinted glasses  
they have distorted every thing from women to nature  
if one reads what they print, he feels like killing himself  
if one sees what they show on the screen one feels like murdering

shall i close my eyes not to see the distorted reality  
shall i shut my mouth so that i don't eat any venom  
shall i close my ears so that i don't hear the thunderous music  
till i get away from this confounded place to my abode.

paul g

## on friendship

true friends are heavenly gifts to man  
to hold his hand and lead him on  
to spur him, to spank him and to pat him  
to orient our lives to the right direction

since man is a social animal we all require  
some one to open up and to show how our heart is  
to ask opinion as well as to discuss problems  
to put the minds together to plan and to get support

god gave us parents when we had been children  
brothers and sisters in our adolescence  
a loving girlfriend in our puberty  
and finally a wife and friends to guide us

when more than people put their heads together  
for a common purpose, if it is with a common end  
there would be tremendous power to win, to achieve  
defend, protect, to recapture to love and be loved

paul g

## on sight

to see the beauty of the world  
to enjoy all that's in nature and admire  
to see friends, smiling and cheering  
and ultimately to see you my love

i have been wearing glasses for  
long sight, short sight, lack of sight  
like power glasses, contact lenses  
and the thick dark cooling glasses

well, it is better to wear glasses  
than to see mother nature deprived  
by robbers who cut away the forest  
contaminated the greenery with venom

when i see you my love  
my heart throb with joy  
when you smile i am overjoyed  
with my sight i only want to see you.

paul g

## on mother

i bow before thee mother with respect for the pain  
that you begot to make what i am now and even more  
to bear what i was, to hope for what i ought to be  
and to tolerate what i am now, a chip of the old block

it is pain that i always gave you for the love and joy  
that you spread in my life and made me carry along  
trudging on this unsteady path of my life to eternity  
forgetting you most of the time with a mirage in front

when you presented me to the world and as i was a kid  
you offered your life in the balance of life death and survived  
to see me get through, to win my prize and price for worth  
when i join my wife and discard you for a new model

you are always forgiving and forgetting all that i gave  
that is you mother, personification of love, sharing and giving  
you are the all encompassing, all ways of caring and loving  
nourishing and life-giving mother nature of the entire world.

paul g

## on nature

oh ! mother nature you lavished on us  
your bounty of tranquillity, beauty and peace  
but we molested you, contaminated you  
deprived you and annihilated your presents

rivulets lullabying, sun scintillating  
beaches beautifying, waves lolling on the shore  
greenness tranquillising, nature you were so motherly  
benevolent, pacifying, inspiring and creative

we killed your greenness to cultivate killer drugs  
we cut your trees for building coffins  
we ill used your beaches for nudism and pornography  
drug pushing and peddling, wantonness and crime

we want you to be restored and make a home coming  
to you mother nature, to search for my roots  
which were cut off through self annihilation  
like the home coming prodigal son, i am back to you.

paul g

## on jaundice

my eyes are coloured and partially blind  
i am afflicted with jaundice all over me  
all my input is prejudiced and wrong  
so that the out-put too is evil and wicked

did i have jaundice when i came down here  
expelled from my mother's womb and so mum ?  
they patted me from behind that i could breathe  
they kept me upside down so that i could cry

why do i cry these days when i see myself  
so much changed, so much that i know me not  
with two horns on my head, and teeth protruding  
with two tails one for wagging and the other, waging

when will i know myself, what i am made for  
when wisdom come to stay in my thick head  
and unlock the love locked up in my heart's core  
and to give you, to get final bliss and joy.

paul g

## on providence

i saw a running child falling down on the road  
and i saw a fuel bottle slipping from his hold-all, not spilling  
one bullet-like vehicle went past him, not touching  
and the boy got up, collected his things, i see providence

i know the lad is country-bred, not knowing the rules  
customs and practices of the city road, he could have  
got wounded, killed, trampled or crushed to death  
he never knew the risks involved, but providence took care

providence is from the life giver for preserving life,  
cannot work when there is hatred to kill the brother  
lust to hurt the mother, sister sweet-heart and wife  
nor in the man wallowing in self-pity killing himself

in days of old they called him the guardian angel  
but now i know that you are the outstretched palm  
and i trudge in that palm, unsteady and not sure  
and when i slip and fall off from the ring, i die.

paul g

## on heaven

where flesh with all its evil cravings cannot enter  
where there is god and only joy and benevolence  
where there is only light and no darkness of evil  
where dwells the sprit of god and chosen men

can't we have heaven here on this earth as well  
at least for a day and see what it looks like  
there won't be shooting , fighting, bomb blasts and riots  
there won't be starvation, murder, rape and robbery

why is it not possible for heaven to come on earth  
when i want what my neighbour has, and i envy him  
when i hate my brother, when i am greedy and selfish  
there is no place for love in my heart and for heaven

evil has reached its culmination, man perishing  
on booze and grass with all possible vices  
and with nuclear weapons, guns and ammunition  
we are squatting on our own grave and the hell we choose

stop, think and realise where we are heading  
see what we are missing and the hell we are creating  
we are the makers of our own hell or heaven  
why can't we bring heaven down here by loving each other ?

paul g

## on birthday

one more birthday has come, i am more close to my grave  
grown more mature and bold, but old as well in the bargain  
life was not bad though there were tough times as well  
in the past one year and how it will be ever after from now.

should i throw a party for my friends as all others do  
squandering so much precious money for celebration and pomp  
just because i have grown one more year, who really cares  
when so many people starve with out a morsel for their food.

my birthdays will be important to me if only when I  
take stock of the past one year to see achievements and loss  
balancing as to which side is heavier : gains or losses  
and if achievements are more my life was worth lived.

what will my life be in the coming year if i complete it  
because i cannot make plans for the future which is uncertain  
many an important thing happened in the past years  
and many more will come in the years that are coming.

I want to be a better human, more concerned about others  
and loving them spreading the message of love to everyone  
as love is the last thing we can find in today's world  
that should be my mission from now on till i die.

paul g

## on vices

when many things go wrong in life  
when life takes a bad turn sometimes  
people resort to some means to forget  
they turn to drugs, sex and alcohol

out of some weakness or to conceal it  
to keep the mind away from worry or depression  
to forget the pain of failure or shame  
many resort to vices, a sort of escapism

when the subordinate is scolded by the boss  
when a fabulous sum is lost in business  
to drown sorrow and disappointment  
people drown themselves in booze and grass

if one can think of the providence of god  
placing problems in his care and guidance  
praying for some solace, some solution  
then men don't have to indulge in vice.

vices are a vicious circle, a quagmire  
once you are in there is no escape  
they are promoted by business mafias  
life is too precious to be destroyed by vices.

paul g

## on computer

old minister on a tour to america, was shown the computer  
the greatest of its kind with every information stored in that  
he did not believe or like it but was given a chance to test it  
could ask it a question anything in the universe.

he had called home just before, and his father ploughed the field  
he asked the computer where his father was right then  
the computer said that his father went fishing on a boat,  
old minister sneered at the computer and said his father was tilling.

they said the computer would never go wrong not a bit  
so they gave an advanced program to verify the answer  
the computer came up with the answer to the question  
after the lights blinked on the monitor it was shown.

the answer was that the father of the minister had really  
gone fishing, on a boat but his mother's husband  
was out ploughing the field with his bullocks  
the computer would never go wrong, they assured the minister.

paul g

## on sea

unfathomed, unlimited in scope, the scintillating waves  
the blue water with myriad creatures and corals in it  
is one of the mysteries of the universe and a wonderful  
sight that turns the imagination on and makes man thinking

blue mystery, turbulent on the surface, with currents  
underneath sea holds many a secret of mankind  
of adventure, love, romance and wars, untold stories  
lay buried in the coldness of her depths and belly.

rain comes from her and all the vital water sources  
food comes from her in the form of fish and plankton's  
fuel for the whole humanity and gold to build fortunes  
uranium to build bombs that would even demolish humanity

sea is synonym of peace, serenity and tranquillity  
but at times it turns violent and voluptuous, destroying  
consuming everything that comes to its reach and hold,  
huts and beaches and many a human life is lost in the gale

when we look at you we know the value of serenity  
broadness and depth unfathomed, we humble fry are  
just trash with our canoes and ships when we travel  
in the bosom of the all encompassing sea, mother of land

paul g

## on wars

when two thirds of the whole humanity do not have enough to  
eat, wear and live in, billions are spent for bombs  
guns, missiles and shells, to feed soldiers and to buy tanks  
wars are the curse of humanity with blood-shed and lives lost

destruction on mass scale, suffering for innocents, bereavement for  
spouses, parentless ness to children, but millions to war mongers,  
arms dealers and super powers, despotic dictators and the lot  
destruction to nature and even the ozone layer and oil wells

why do men bring destruction to themselves, suffering and loss  
wasting precious money and resources for development  
just to prove one is stronger and much superior to others  
or to snatch away power or property from someone at gun point

destroy the nuclear weapons as clinton and yelsin agreed to do  
send back the soldiers to farms and factories and colleges  
melt the guns and grenades to make spades and sickles to work  
use the uranium as energy for construction not destruction

let us all love each other, not making wars with one another  
let us not covet other man's precious things and snatch them away  
let us not try to prove that we are better and stronger than  
our neighbour, but love him and there will be no wars any more.

paul g

## on chair

all are always fighting all along for the chair,  
why do they feel so jubilant when they sit on it  
don't they know that they are just nobody once out  
no one will show that respect they were showing before.

many want to sit on the chair even when it is just  
a hot squat as always guns and bombs are aimed at them  
the quest for the chair is so much that people will do  
anything to get it, even getting rid of the rivals.

chair and all its attractions are just momentary  
no one likes others to boss over them or command  
though they pretend to respect the one on the throne  
in their hearts they will be scoffing at the one on throne.

if only the fight for power and the chair are over  
half of the atrocities in the world would be over  
power makes men mere brutes that they even play  
with the destinies of themselves and those around them.

power brings responsibility to do justice as well,  
to be considerate and thoughtful of others' welfare  
and to be a servant of those over whom one master  
power should be acquired and not imposed or inherited.

paul g

## on criticism

when we see someone doing wrong or making a mistake  
we feel like saying that straight at his face harshly  
and to make him realise the mistake which he made  
is a usual tendency in man, but does that do any real good

we all do things that we think are apt and most perfect  
for the circumstances such that we would never think  
what we did is wrong and can easily justify our actions  
as correct as any man would do in such a case

if we try to see the point of view of other people  
and can be a little bit tolerant of what they do  
with understanding, then we will stop criticising others  
and creating an enemy who would hate us for our words

never say some one is wrong to his face even when we are sure  
it does no good denouncing anybody or criticising them  
show patience and understand that he could do no better  
if good, say that he did well and all right that he did that

speaking no ill of any one, but always good of every one  
will make us sought after, acceptable anywhere anytime  
the moment we criticise someone we create an enemy  
who will surely strike back and so avoid criticism at all.

paul g

## on smile

like a blooming flower a smile is so beautiful  
it brings rainbows on the clouds of human nature  
cheer and love is bestowed when some-one smiles  
and the smile makes someone welcome anywhere.

think the best of everyone and not any ill  
love others and love to be with them that we smile  
when we see a friend or even some one we really hate  
smile breaks the barricades of cast, creed and colour.

a man with a smile is welcome any time any where  
it takes less muscles to smile than to frown  
smile at someone and we have a friend in the making  
smiling faces have no enemies only friends as one can.

why not smile, while you can, as all cannot smile at others  
as people are full of strife, hatred and violence around  
none can keep their minds radiant that they can smile  
and be happy unless they have peace in the core of their minds.

love, peace and tranquillity goes together in human nature  
fill minds with peaceful thoughts full of love and joy  
love everyone and feel no ill of any one even enemies  
that is the secret to keep smiling and happy in this world.

## on loving

what is between us two humans if there is no bond of love  
we have nothing common among us if we cannot love each other  
if only love is there in us we can live happily ever here  
that is the relation we have to love and live together.

when there is no love in our hearts, hatred creeps in  
it makes our hearts ache and bleed and hurt our inner selves  
by hating others we are harming ourselves and no one else  
when we hurt others we get a stab of pain in our hearts too.

we loose our love with selfishness, greed, jealousy or superstition  
that makes us miserable creatures for us as well as others  
tune in our hearts to be loving, to live and lead a happy life  
then nothing negative will come to dwell in the nooks of our mind.

love is three-way, one to god, one to brother, the other to ourselves  
this triangle encompasses love and when hatred creeps in to our heart  
love escapes from the triangular heart and can never be replaced  
except with sacrifice, selflessness and doing good deeds for others.

love is like a river, it flows, as we get it we should pass it down  
love should not be blocked in the heart, it should flow with blood  
to others and to its giver, the almighty that life remains dynamic  
and worth living in this world and worthy of the life hereafter.

paul g

## on giving

if my hands are full, i cannot receive more  
unless i give away what i have with me to others  
only by giving i have the right to receive more  
give with glee that i can receive with contentment.

only by giving to others i have a right to their love  
love is the mutual bond that binds humanity together  
to get love i've got to give love as it is reciprocal  
only by giving, love it returns to us as price of giving.

we have only right to live in other peoples heart  
when we give them something to remember us back  
nothing is left unpaid and we will also receive back  
as much or even more than that we gave to others.

this is the age, when love is lost from human hearts  
that they take, that they have not paid for or destroy  
those things that others treasure and have to pay for it  
costly prices, sometimes with our lives and that of others.

stop a minute and think over, why do we have to be greedy  
when we have more than enough, why snatch away from others,  
be content with what we have and give to others when we have more  
so that peace comes back to stay in this world with full of love.

paul g

## on dowry

old man married his daughter off  
after six months she delivered a girl  
the husband got angry, came and shouted  
old man gave plenty of dowry again

he told the in-law to keep all that money  
he would need it to marry away his daughter  
because, the old man too got the same way  
lot of dowry when he married his wife

to buy a husband or sell a bride  
in the marriage market, lots of money is spent  
those folks who can't afford, can't marry  
many an innocent virgin stay unmarried

when woman is the treasure, harbinger of luck  
that comes into man' life with marriage  
then why ask dowry and place her people  
into unnecessary trouble to raise a dowry

love should be the bond of marriage and not  
money, that would make husband a servant  
of the woman if he married her for her money  
and many a bride burned for less dowry.

## on goal

sipping cold coffee in the coffee house  
i mused on all that it could mean  
what life meant to me and i to my life  
it suddenly popped up in my mind

this our life is really so short  
enjoy each moment that comes our way  
do not make too much out of our life  
as this life ends only in a life time

forget about all the yesterdays  
think of what we can offer tomorrow  
don't worry, contain the anxiety  
for today is in our reach and not ended

none can be too sure of what one's future would be  
being a ball kicked and tossed around  
from the court of good to evil and back  
by the almighty god and all powerful devil

but assess up all that one wants in life  
work out a plan to reach there and check it  
keep going till one reaches that goal in life  
even if going on is hard don't look back.

paul g

## on separation

when we are far apart, not communicating  
i feel so lonely and desperate not seeing you,  
not hearing you, not knowing you and loving you  
now i know how much i love you and miss you

life was so much fun when we were together  
i relish the taste of food that you cooked me  
in my ear echo the lullaby you sang to make me sleep  
and the caressing that you did to make me awake

how shall i fill the void in my heart, created  
because you are not there by my side  
how can i cry when you are not there to console  
how can i live a moment with out thinking about you

i asked the clouds to take my love across  
i ushered a pigeon to fly over to you with my love  
i tried the phone, email and even the fax, not got you  
and it could no way bridge the chasm of our separation

distance has made you more dear to me and more  
now i know how much i love you but never told you  
I realise how much i really miss you and i have to  
tell you that i am dying to be with you always in my life.

paul g

## on bliss

to attain bliss we must undergo a frenzy  
many a bad trip or uncertain highs will come  
one could reach an ecstasy and let go the bliss  
not knowing that ecstasy can never lead to bliss.

bliss! when am i going to attain you without substitute  
like in marriage through orgasm, in death frenzy  
the fear that where one would be going whether from the  
frying pan to fire or as smoke upwards to high

to see thy face, to hear the music of your voice  
to feel thy divine caress, to taste you and eat you  
to be graceful and full of grace and to be loving  
humble and cheerful is all what i want in the bargain

i let loose my grace and tried attaining bliss  
we were far apart, me searching for the pot of gold  
at the rainbow's end and it was always a mirage  
at last i found her to attain the bliss, my grace.

paul g

## on circles

is life a vicious circle ?  
trapped in the vicissitudes  
never escaping from its portals  
as long we live in this world  
full of misery, suffering and agony

the life circle has many an orbit  
some of them are full of fun and joy  
some are with pain, misery and suffering  
as this circle rotates and revolves  
pain and joy come one after another

none can have sheer pleasure alone  
sorrows too creep in when the circle rotate  
only by tasting real pain and suffering  
can one know the thrill of joy and fun  
there is no life with just pain or joy

no man is audacious enough  
to will to have only happiness  
we are all frail earthen vessels  
and one day we must come to an end  
when the circle around us is broken

circle encircles human life around  
within its circumference life is full  
when two circles merge with each other  
another life is born to perpetuate life  
another circle launched into its orbit.

## on growth

born as babies we die as old men and even much earlier sometimes  
to grow from baby to child, child to boy or girl, to become a man  
many a long way had to be trudged and experience things so much  
growth can be both happy and painful or even be a mixture of both,

as one grows one learns to discard many things that were dear  
try to understand the mysteries of the world not revealed or known  
but pretending to know all when a boy but half as sure as a man  
and realise that one knows virtually nothing when an old man

growth is change, shedding the old self and becoming somebody new  
nourishment should be there for the body as well as the mind  
observing, reading and talking to wise people makes the mind grow  
but one should be careful when imbibing something new

the axiom for growth is to eat well exercise regularly and learn hard  
keeping control of ones mind even when everything goes crazy around  
not to loose ones head when people praise one and condemn the next  
moment

praise and criticism are part of the same coin and not really worth it

try loving everyone, not hating anyone even when there is temptation  
keeping the mind steady on the goal of one's life and never wavering  
doing more work than the pay received, taking in the good side only  
forgetting the bad things and people is the right way to really grow.

paul g

## on offspring

offspring are there to perpetuate life  
chips of the old block, though they are  
innocent, they are born in to this world  
then they are exposed to all viciousness

future of the world depends on them  
civilisation has to continue with them  
they must be made to imbibe all values  
that had been passed from generations.

they must be trained in the best way  
both mentally, physically and spiritually  
it is the duty of parents to see that  
their children are prepared to face it all.

they should be given love that they can love  
they should be taught to give consideration  
for others and fair play in the game of life  
so that they can love their neighbour as they.

they must be trained in the right attitude  
so that they show valour and courage also love  
and face hatred, jealousy and strife, all along  
well equipped to fight their way in today's world.

paul g

## on a pen friend

we are so distant, but very near  
this letter tells you that i am your pal  
the barriers of distance, sex, religion broken  
because we are pen friends, though never met each other.

i would love to know more about you  
your interests, hobbies and all about you  
write me more what you feel like, think like  
your tastes and liking and all that you care.

to show interest in others is to win a friend  
and i am interested in you to know you more  
to see whether we are of the same wave length  
if you feel like write me more about you

i will tell you what i am like, a connoisseur  
full of wit and good humour, loving friends and foes  
love writing, not the least accounts, by my profession  
i am destined to write and i love working with computer

i love everything in nature, sea, forests. rivers  
books, movies, music are all that i am interested  
i love travelling, making friends and talking  
but writing poetry is my craze and hope you like it.

paul g

## on co-operation

a twig can be easily broken, but a bunch of them tied together  
it is difficult to break and therefore unity is strength  
when there is cooperation things can be done and achieved fast  
each for all and all for each is the motto of cooperatrion

to get others cooperation we must give our time and energy  
to other people first, that they feel inclined to help us  
in our dire needs and when we really need help from someone  
by cooperating and helping mutually we grow and progress in life

the order of the day is cut throat competition and conflict  
none can survive the warfare of aggression in market and field  
can't we stop annihilating and blasting to smitherness  
our adversaries and we also fall into the pit along with them

love should replace hatred, good must dwell evacuating evil  
in the core of our minds, mutual love should come and dwell  
then only cooperation can grow and we too in the bargain  
cooperate to fight enemy of humanity, evil and hatred

when every ism and saviour have failed why don't we try  
cooperation as a social set up and inspiration to society  
to do that we have to shed selfishness, ready to give others  
so that we can get later, union is like onion, never peel it.

paul g

## on repetition

old minister on a tour to america  
was given a dinner party in his honour  
he was requested to make a speech  
a few words not more than half an hour

while at home if he gets the mike  
he would go on speaking at a stretch  
not less than four hours at least three  
they knew too well his bad old ways

poor chap not knowing what to say  
because he can't say in half an hour  
anything much, so asked his secretary  
to make him a speech for half an hour

the party started with a bang and he  
stood on his feet with the speech that took  
to his dismay two and a half hours and  
found everyone dozing and yawning of boredom

furiously he asked an explanation from the secretary  
she said that speech was for half an hour  
but had kept all five copies that she typed  
which the minister went on repeating on and on.

paul g

## on loss

i win to lose  
and lose to win  
all that i count as precious  
i am losing  
all is maya and nothing is real

is there anything as my own  
can i count on anything as true  
i will have to leave behind  
all that i hold dear when i die  
and move to the world of lost.

why should i be avaricious  
greedy like a pig in piggery  
amassing wealth i cannot use  
things that i never need  
and frustrate over things i can't get

i may have to go this instant  
if my name is next in the roster  
no point in clamouring over the loss  
when i don't really lose  
because nothing is mine and i can't take it

when death beckons me  
when i kick the bucket  
there is nothing i can take with me  
to the other world of which we hear  
so much but know really so little.

## on death

the only thing  
that is certain  
is death.  
we will have to go  
from uncertainty to eternity

every moment  
i get closer  
and i know  
i cannot avoid  
the only reality death

death is the only thing  
that is sure to happen  
in my future days  
with the ups and downs  
of the tides and fortune

will i be missed  
will tears be shed  
who all will come  
for my funeral  
decides the worth of my life

i should leave behind  
footprints at the landmarks of time  
and in the hearts of people  
that i be remembered  
even after i am gone.

paul g

# on son of god

son of man  
itinerant preacher  
with just one cloak to cover his nudity  
having friends from the humble folk  
with no place to rest his head

teaching to love ones brother as oneself  
never to retaliate but to show the other cheek  
not to lust even in thoughts  
to forgive seven seventy times  
to love the enemies and even pray for them

if he comes now  
he will be afraid to step into the palatial churches  
not get a chance for an appointment with the pope  
not even with a bishop, unless he kisses his ring  
would get fed up with the sermons and long masses

will be surprised to find  
that two third of the whole mankind  
is just his followers  
not knowing him really, but practises  
strange customs and modes of worshipping

they hate each other, the followers  
having so many brand names  
denouncing the other factions as fake  
offering sacrifices in golden chalices  
wearing magnificent robes which he never had

he did not come for all these  
he came to save your perishing soul  
win you over from the clutches of the devil  
to make you born again and reach heaven  
confess your sins and believe that he died to save you

**paul g**

## on kerala

“paradise”, god’s own lost paradise  
full of sun fresh air and sea  
tranquillity and serenity synchronise  
this is kerala, god’s on land

you have come to the right sort of place  
to have a peaceful and relaxed holiday  
free from the hustle and bustle of cities  
pollution and traffic jam of your home town

there is no hurry or worry for lack of time  
you can do whatever you want, whenever you like  
just relax, no deadlines, no schedules, no timetables  
for a holiday in kerala the real paradise

the sea is all yours to explore and see  
her wonderful belly full of flora and fauna  
fish, corals, rocks and beautiful blue lakes  
at the beaches of kovalam you can bathe in the sun

all is always for better, your coming too  
you will be relaxed, rejuvenated and full of life  
to face the home and work with another perspective  
of fun, love and joy are what we offer you

**paul g**

## on retiring

here goes out a man leaving the portals of his profession  
a just man who stood like a rock in turmoil and torrent  
was mellowed and friendly whenever he wanted to be  
he stood for principles which he practised as he preached

he had to be harsh at times, rash as well as strict with others  
integrity was his synonym, he never betrayed his conscience  
planning things to split details, checking every loophole  
all that he did became perfect even when others messed it up

knowledge is weapon and courage his armour plate  
he fought like a warrior in academic battles and boards  
when people tried to be mean he had to defend himself  
that was what others thought his real self and face

does integrity and principles count anything to anybody  
in today's stinking world of corruption and greed  
yes, it means a lot for people like him and others  
this world would have been a far worse place without them

we won't know the value of a diamond without having it cut  
gold won't shine unless melted on fire and purified  
we never know the worth of him without having close contact  
all I wish is peaceful, happy and long retired life

**paul g**

## on a college

resplendent with beauty and glamour she shines like a queen  
among all other pedagogues who are adulterating education  
seeking the oasis, the seat of wisdom many a weary student come  
to find it a mere mirage and quagmire that suck them in

i too was like a lotus eater worked there for many long years  
waiting for the fulfilment of my life and its redemption  
but vampires were sucking my blood and pecking at my mind's core  
and they had set booby traps and landmines for me to fall

i saw my fellow prisoners boasting that they have reached  
right at the top of the world but their footholds gave away  
and many of them fell with grapes half bitten in their mouths  
and they pretend that they have never jumped nor bitten

it is an intricate micro cosmos with fights, feuds and backbiting  
vengeance and fights for chairs and chicks with utmost meanness  
among them we see a tint of goodness and shades of sunshine  
evil is always at war there with good but never really winning

when i am far away from you, now i know how bewitching  
you had been behind the thick coat of makeup and cheap perfume  
teaching values that you don't practise, some ignorant blind men  
leading other blind men, custodians killing the golden goose

**paul g**

## on skunk

he is the worst stinking man i interacted with  
not that he had a foul smell, but a foul mouth  
he changed my life inside out not by advising me  
but by keeping a watchful eye to criticise me

spitting venom like a rattle snake, poisonous words  
flow out mellifluously with a drool and a splash of spittle  
there is hatred in his eyes and coolant in his veins  
he means what he says but always the wrong meaning

why are there such people around, bad and disgusting  
it is to balance the good and evil, god created them  
that good in good people shine forth like gems  
that they are purified in fire like gold to shine

why does he lead such a wretched and miserable life  
finding fault with others as if he is perfect  
jealous of others when they are better off than him  
he is afraid to try it and covets others having what he wants

sadism is a synonym of his attitude, belligerence his style  
no man will forget the beast in him, ever in his life  
but i am eternally grateful that he was there behind me  
i am now what i am just because he is what he is

**paul g**

## **no intoxicating**

all booze is bitter, terrible to gulp down  
making us dizzy with a hangover the next day  
loss of money, pride, reputation and goodwill  
why then do we devour it with delight and greed

booze is the invention of the devil in hell to destroy  
people on earth with gluttony, craze and lunacy  
very sober people may do vicious atrocities  
when they are drunk and devoid of reasoning

when do we start drinking though, 'tis no good  
when friends compel us or when we get it free  
when somebody wants us to do them a favour  
to motivate us they treat with booze or dames

when someone is drunk he is devoid of reason  
to man handle the wife or starve the children  
he may stab, steal or kill and commit atrocities  
if he is not drunk, he would never imagine do

alcohol is venom, never brew, serve or drink it  
it does no good to anyone to be drunk but too bad  
resist the temptation to drink when offered one  
no to liquor, the enemy of man, harbinger of evil

**paul g**

## **no smoking**

fire at one end and a fool at the other end  
smoking is the curse of humanity and more  
a futile exercise with no benefit whatsoever  
but a relish to the unlucky idiot, the smoker.

when do we start smoking or learn the habit  
when we are teens growing and experimenting  
full of fun and adventure, to shine in front of  
girls we admire and want to impress and attract.

the price of smoking is pain, t.b. and cancer  
loss of money and health, peace of mind even  
sometimes the precious pride, as one may do  
begging for a fag or ask others for a cigarette.

smoking is the stepping stone to worse evils  
like taking drugs, snuff or chewing the pan  
drinking may follow suit to smoking as part  
a vicious circle, quagmire with no escape.

say no to cigarettes, never try it, it is no fun  
put a note 'i won't smoke' in the pocket  
on the wall of the bedroom or in the wallet  
away with tobacco, always no to smoking.

**paul g**

## on forgiveness

in the torrents and rain of a midnight's gale  
one young priest was woken up from his sleep  
by a phone call from a hospital for confession  
for a man wanting to die with last sacraments

despite the rain father drove off in his old car  
reached the hospital and sat to hear confession  
it was the father who got benefited out from it all  
a painful memory was removed from his mind

dying man said, he killed a couple by crashing  
head on their car by his truck in gale and rain  
thirty years ago leaving only one survivor, a son  
it was that priest who waited so long to see the killer

father had to forgive the dying man in confession  
absolved him, getting final sacraments the man died  
the traumatic pain and ill feeling from the father's mind  
was healed too, by forgiving, his trauma too got healed

paul g

## on impulsive behaviour

i had an email from a cousin recently  
about a man who parked his newly painted truck  
in his courtyard and went home upstairs  
when he came down he was taken aback

his four year old son banged with a hammer  
made dents on the shining paint of the truck  
he got so furious and snatched off the hammer  
banged on the kids hand, fingers becoming pulp

when got over the fury he took his son to a doc  
he tried his level best to save the fingers but failed  
amputated them and the kid recovering from the pain  
said he was sorry and when his fingers would grow

father got shocked and dumbfounded to say a word  
committed suicide ashamed and unable to face the son  
when angry don't be hasty or impulsive to react  
may do the wrong thing and end up in trouble

paul g

## send off

superintendent paul, the office manager retiring  
send off celebrated with so much of pomposity  
greetings, felicitations and all sorts of fan fare  
“a very good man, so generous and so kind”.

permission granted to all just for the asking  
all bills sanctioned with out making queries  
even if no leave taken, nor came to office  
can sign attendance, all acclaim, praise lavished.

making the reply speech he revealed frankly  
“i was transferred from my old office in capital  
as punishment, the minister himself ordering  
dumped in this godforsaken remote countryside.

allegations too numerous, questioned a union leader  
when he signed attendance without coming for work  
for not signing false vouchers and sanctioning fake bills  
contractors all annoyed, got me transferred here”.

paul g

## on plight

how terrible is the plight of the people of afganisthan  
when bombs are dropped on them and get slaughtered  
for no fault of theirs, they are forced to suffer and flee  
their home-land and perish in the viciousness of war.

there is terrible fighting going on for acquiring power  
over the war torn, mountains and arid desert lands  
where nothing grows except poppies and marijuana  
where land mines were strewn, remnants of past wars.

are they responsible for blasting the world trade center  
how are they party to the terrorism of osama bin ladan  
what will this war prove in the annals of human history  
who will have the last laugh, be it bush or bin ladan.

let us all come to our senses and react in indignation  
where does it all lead us to, conflict and hating others  
making the world into two segments or even more  
mankind hating and trying to eliminate each other.

a morsel for the hungry man and his starving family  
a piece of cloth for the naked child and all fugitives  
these must be the priorities than squandering millions  
the war mongers spent for eliminating each other.

paul g.

## on frugality

“stop”, yelled mathaichan  
auto came to a halt in front of the bar  
he gave ten bucks to the driver as fare  
who demanded another ten more  
mathaichan got furious and threw the ten  
told him to get lost and glided in to the bar  
after four pegs and fully drunk  
he squirmed at the bill the waiter placed  
shed two hundred bucks with out fuss  
where as the bill was only for one fifty.

door bell chimed twice  
mrs.pereira opened the door  
it was the fisher woman  
with her assorted collection of fish  
she selected tuna six  
was hesitant to pay the twenty she asked  
fisher woman pleaded she has to buy food for kids  
pay the fish merchant as well and asked thirty  
mrs.pereira won't yield or melt, paid twenty  
mr.pereira gulped it down in the evening  
with the scotch whisky that coasted a thousand.

high on the shining brand new black shoes  
a cobbler ushered him to fit a tire sole to his shoes  
demanded twenty bucks, but alex bargained and paid ten  
the other day he bought the air shoes  
from a posh shoe show room in town  
the beautiful sales girl there trapped him  
to buy the brand new shoes for a thousand bucks

we all feel so frugal to bargain for a single buck  
with a cobbler, fisher women or auto driver  
when it comes to spending for fun or thrill  
in a bar or jewellery or hotel or theatre  
show no sense of frugality whatsoever.

thanq

paul g

