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Dr R P Singh

Project Penultimate

A soft concurrence
and a murmur
the sinews and veins
in unison
raise tone
showing black strip,
coughs the sense up
in black soot.

Why this exasperating stuff
all mundane work for extra pennies' sake
or the worldly listing
of fame!

Why the tranquillity
muffled and choked

and the senses
tortured and tensed .

The fellow traveller
looks with a qualm
a mixed *rasa*
often some balm.

A cocktail of perspectives
desires
and attitude
I drink.
I see the project penultimate
the last journey alone.



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Dr Ravindra Pratap Singh

Dr R P Singh is a Professor of English at the Department of English and Modern European Languages, University of Lucknow. Professor Singh is an award winning playwright and poet. His plays; *Flea Market and other Plays* (2014), *Ecologue* (2014), *When Brancho Flies* (2014), *Shakespeare ki Saat Ratein* (2015), and *Antardwand* (2016) have received critical acclaim, and wide popularity. *Banjaran : The Muse* (2008), *Cloud ,Moon and a Little Girl* (2017), *Pathik and Pravah* (2016) and *Neeli Aankhon Wali Ladki* (2017), *Adventures of Funny and Bana* (2018) represent his poetry.

He is the recipient of Swami Vivekanand Youth Award – Life Time Achievement 2020, Mohan Rakesh Puraskar (2016), Saraswat Samman (2018), S. M. Sinha Smiriti Award (2017) and Bhartendu Harischandra Award (2017) for his creative writing. Other awards conferred upon him include- Shikshak Shree Samman, Government of U.P. (2015) for innovations in teaching, and commendable contribution in Higher Education, Dr. Baba Saheb Prize for Excellence, 2011 and Dr. Ambedkar Fellowship Award – 2006.



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