

## FOR CHEDDI B. JAGAN

"Thou shalt lie down  
with patriarchs of the ancient world - with kings,  
the powerful of the earth - the wise, the good,  
Fair forms, and hoary seers of ages past,  
All in one mighty sepulcher."  
(THANATOPSIS, W.C. Bryant)

You astride  
those chained-tenements:  
mule-boy dreaming of lawned-bungalows  
canecutter asserting his Voice  
in native alphabets.

You astride  
those forbidden fenced-yards  
white images of regal sanctity,  
jostling words with Governor  
Colonial Secretary  
King, Queen...

Your scroll has empowered  
the voiceless  
the nationless

You are not dead  
but paged mightier, brighter  
in each babe  
each age...

Rooplall Monar