

# POETRY

## Raindrops

Raindrops are gushing  
Through the Lotus Tower, and  
Through the streets of the  
City of Colombo, to  
The green Beira Lake.  
At last it comes rushing,  
Unexpectedly,  
And abundantly  
Disrupting the lives of  
The city dwellers and office-goers.  
There's so much of rain here now  
Rushing down a drain spout  
Filling all the gutters.  
Yet the drought stricken earth  
Far - far away is yearning for  
A crystal droplet.  
I wish you got your share of rain soon-  
I'd send you rain if I could.  
- **Inoka Samarawickrama**

## Death, the Buddhist view

In the universe where there is birth  
There is also the end, the death  
Since life appeared on earth  
Most dreadful to man in death  
Not pleasant to average man  
Occurs within the life span  
The key that unlocks life's mystery  
Started with inauguration of history  
Death really and truly is certain  
Facing death is the prime concern  
It is a strange land in turn  
From where no traveller returns  
Birth and death is a natural feature  
None is exempt from this law of nature  
All are subject to destiny of death  
Some day coming upon everyone an earth  
It's a long journey to unknown destination  
How much you struggle, is beyond examination  
Life and death are two ends of same process  
With nothing performed in between in excess  
Death is a part of life in its wider sense  
With its purpose, we understand life hence  
Everyone born to this earth  
Die sooner or later before next birth  
It is a tedious way to doubt  
Demanding a life of morality throughout  
When its control is beyond one's ability  
Naturally he is inclined towards morality  
Pondering frequently over death  
Will reduce amassing wealth  
Death also leads to cleansing of mind  
Not only craving but also greed and pride  
Death uproots pride and varsity  
Selfish feelings, also notions of superiority  
Occasional focusing of mind on the subject  
That all are equal, no one can reject  
For the rich and poor, high and low  
At death they reap what they sow  
- **Rupa Banduwardena**