

Anthology of Narayan Gadagkar



Presented by

My poetic Side 

Dedication

The poems are dedicated to my late mother Padmavathi who was an singer of devotional songs

Acknowledgement

I acknowledge the motivation of my beloved friend Dr Mahendra a plastic surgeon

About the author

The author is a freelance GIS enthusiast, Geologist and mentor in GIS and Remote sensing. Retired from Govt service in India as Dy Director General in Geological Survey of India. Has a passion for penning poems on varied fields of love, emotions, feelings, relations, professional intimacy, friendship, struggle, achievements.

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Ratan the Titan

.....Narayan Gadagkar

Your Voice Your Identity

You lived a life of honour and dignity
Your voice is your identity
Melody was splendid and bounty
The voice has enthralled the billions across
Yet being so humble, was your magnanimity
You were the national treasure
Left behind memories galore
Your Voice permeates the minds of many
Resonates in the hearts of lot many
More than seven decades in music world
Forty thousand songs in thirty six languages
What a feat of accomplishment
Although around us, you will not be seen
But the Nightingale in you lives on and on
.....Narayan Gadagkar

Festival of Colours

Festival of colours an Indian Holi celebration
Spread over the world through Indian diaspora
Many nations apart from Indian
Celebrate this festival with tons of fun
Rainbow colours and the source is one
Red, blue, magenta, yellow and green.

Arrival of spring, farewell to winter
Truly it is a festival of great wonder
On the full moon day in the month of March
When Sun and moon raise with full intensity
Fun and frolic with spray of dainty colours
Sing, dance, play the drum and be ebullient.

Lord Krishna epitomized the dark tone
While Radha the white and fair one
Engrossed in divine and eternal love
Sprayed the colours with joy and glee
Both looked alike with same hue
and sent the message loud and clear
be it oneness , equality or uniformity.

..... Narayan Gadagkar

My Second Birthday

Born in India flown to London
Don't know what's going on
Mom and Dad say its relocation
Hard to understand for my tiny brain
Have in mind a stark confusion
Familiar faces why not seen?

Parents are in for celebration
They say for them its special day
For me each day is lovely day.
Room Decked with balloons
Flowers ribbons and festoons.
Cakes and pastries adorn the table
There it glows the birthday candle.

My entry into this so called
Beautiful world is two years old
Hopefully it will be true what is told.
I have grown from infant to toddler
From lying in the crib to wiggling limbs
Tummy to side and always ready to roll
Flopping, crouching to bunny hopping doll.

They sighted me roll, sit, crawl and walk
Babbling with Da Da Ta Ta words alike
Now they are waiting for my first talk
Eager to hear me how I wish and what I like
Be sure I will do it at my own pace and strike
Will thrill you at my ease and not unlike

Teach me guide me how to be good
To everyone in my neighborhood
Be sure my lovely mom and dad

Will make you always glad and proud
Pray for me that I will be bold
To face any challenges lying ahead

..... **Narayan Gadagkar**

Me and My Heart

Me and my heart never move apart
Care for each other since the start
Health and well being of my heart
My top priority after I touched forty
I held high esteem of this great pump
Fist size tiny organ works day and night
Relentlessly pumps the blood to all parts
supplies nutrients , oxygen, the life support
Keeps alive the organs, tissues and cells
And of course me and myself

The blood pressure was a bit more
Vessels pulsing the blood with vigor
But I have reined in the damage for sure
However what puzzled is the fatty deposit
In a short span cholesterol piled up aghast
Clogging its arteries was so quick and fast
Oh! slender vessels what caused the stenosis?
Resulting into ghastly atherosclerosis.

No fried foods, no fast food no saturated fats
No cheese butter and no processed meats
Alas! how lipids made their way in my body
Yoga exercises not missed a single day
Although the bad episode in London passed by
Mystery shrouds the mind as what went wrong
Oh! tiny amazing pump, you saved my life
Both survived now to care for each other for life
Almighty has bestowed to rejoice the new lease of life .

.....Narayan Gadagkar

Twenty Twenty Three be it Corona free

Twenty twenty three let it be corona free
Three years passed with agony and misery
Let this year get rid of corona virus fear
The great grand son BF7 of omicron
Has devastated China Korea and Japan
Hope it's march further will not move on
Let the safety guard be on with mask adorn
The face again and no hesitance to vaccine

Let twenty-three see end of Russia-Ukraine war
Neighborly amicability let not mar
Borderlines between nations fade and reappear
May better sense prevail among the rulers
Let people across live with love and fervor

Illness, hospital, the health misfortune
withstood wild paws of chilling
pain
Let the heart be keen to forget
Old longings in fulfilling new desire
Let the grace of New Dawn appear
Old Year's strife and struggle disappear
Like a swiftly flowing stream

The year gone by we shall not dwell
Let Misery and pain shall not swell.
Let memories be figments of past
People always wish good ones to last.
Let us watch a New Year is here
Expect good and bad at our door

With resilience be ready to bear.

Life's one year somehow sailed past

Life's New Year had dawned at last.

Let's Wait with hope, and not in fear,

For the swiftly approaching New year

Its bright dawning draweth near.

.....Narayan Gadagkar

Companionship @ 35

35 years ago when we met
On 28th January tied the knot
Professional career took the start
Geologist and Meteorologist
Got paired as a GeoMet.
One looked deep into earth
Other gazed at up above the sky
Albeit occupations distant apart
And Professional focus had a contrast
Ensured harmony in family life ever intact

Frequent relocations pushed us apart
 Disruption was often a recurrent
Children at the mercy of baby sitters
Employed spouses had a set of jitters
Till the kids turned as adults.

When contentment creeped in
Said no to desire for more penny.
Aspired a relaxed life after
 three decades
Employment voluntarily ended.
And a new innings commenced
Concern for health took a new lead
relegating other matters to backyard
 Narayan Gadagkar

Wheelchair Whammy

No broken spine, no fractured femurs
No Parkinson, no torn ligaments
Not paralyzed from the waist down
Why this guy needs Wheel chair
Hopefully co passengers wonder
I was sitting in numb despair.

For the physically disabled young and old
For super senior citizens week and tired
who needed it the most I used to pity
I never thought I will need it at sixty
My impaired heart made it necessity
Watched those did not need at ninety
Envied them for being hale and hearty.

Alas! now I became an object of pity
All along the corridors in airport
When my beloved walked as an escort
Guilt of being privileged haunted me most
Wheel Chair was my constant blight
Felt public mocking at my plight
Sensed people stare at me curse me
Since I was short circuiting the queue.

Remembered the life of great intellect
Stephan Hawking the physicist, cosmologist
Paralysed due to motor neuron disease
Who mesmerized with his thoughts on universe
Spent the entire life in wheel chair
What's so great for me to spend few hours
Moving in airport walkway corridors.

.....Narayan Gadagkar

Tragedy around sunken ship

The adventurers, tourists very enthusiastic
Descended for a glimpse of ship gigantic
Sunk century ago, into deep floor oceanic
To move around the wreckage of Titanic
In a submarine deep in north Atlantic
Met with ill fate with implosion catastrophic
Shattered the hopes of many, a tale horrific.

Spirit of adventure undoubtedly limitless
Passion to explore the sea fathomless
Obsession of super rich and the famous
Spend such a huge whopping money
The adventure worth for flush wealthy?
Ventured into unchartered territory
To the force of sea an undeniable mystery.

How different it is ? to see the wreckage
The scene of sunken ship's breakage
From a movie or TV screen footage
Than through windows of submarine
But for endangering the precious lives
Adding one more debris and dross
Titanic joined by Titan in ruins.

.....Narayan Gadagkar

Toddler Turning Three

Turning three in British land

Born in India the motherland

your infancy was a wonderland.

Entered the world in peak of pandemic

When the pall of gloom was so horrific

For us it was full of anxiety and panic

Your arrival was gracefully fantastic.

From lying in the crib to wiggling limbs

Tummy to side and always ready to roll

Flopping, crouching to bunny hopping doll.

Sighted you roll, sit, crawl and walk

Babbling with Da Da Ta Ta words alike

Just born to baby to infant to toddler

Now a tiny kid poised for a preschooler.

Staying thousands of miles away

Can't be with you on this special day

To wish, Video call is the only way

Virtual world has taken sway

Celebration of thee Birthday

The event for us is a virtual reality

Looking for an augmented reality.

..... Narayan Gadagkar

Chandrayaan -The Glorious venture

**Queen in the night sky at her majestic door
Lunar voyage to the far distant shore.
Chandrayaan has zoomed into a grace,
With dreams and hopes of millions interlace.**

**In the celestial tapestry of night's grand design,
Where galaxies, stars, planets, and satellites entwine.
India's Chandrayaan, a voyage to gracious embrace,
A fete of lunar dance of science and technology in space.**

**On wings of ambition, through the cosmic sea,
You have sailed to the moon, your destiny shall be.
Vikram the Lander has soft-landed on rugged terrain,
Pragyan the Rover will sense your rocks and mineral grain.**

**On the moon's surface, a mission to find treasure,
Not gold not diamond but helium gas unique and rare
Sparse on mother Earth, but hopefully abundant there,
A potential source of future energy in Lunar atmosphere.**

**As you have touched with gentle embrace the south pole,
Unravel the composition of rock regolith and mineral.
Let the rover navigate through craters and rugged terrain,
Send strong signals to unveil the mysteries of moon's origin.**

**Chandrayaan, you're a beacon of success and pride,
Where the million space enthusiasts dreams coincide.
May your monitored endeavors inspire generations anew,
To know the unknown moon , kindle a zeal to pursue.**

.....Narayan Gadagkar

From prison's gloom to Lord's revelation

In the month of Shraavana on the night of Ashtami
When appeared in the sky, the sparkling star Rohini
Under despair were the divine couple, Vasudeva Devaki
Tied with shackles in a prison with moments of panicky.

In Mathura's prison dungeon dark and grim, a prophecy whispered
A child divine with radiant glow would be born and a star would shine
Krishna, the eighth child is born, a destiny woven in cosmic design
In shackles and darkness, his birth unfolded wisdom divine.

Vasudeva was anxious and with divine intervention
Dared to tread through monsoon rage and incessant rain
Yamuna river graciously yielded path ahead, Vasudeva sailed
with Krishna on his head, in Yashodha's arms infant exhaled.

To mother Yasodha, he was her delight, mesmerised everyone
With childhood pranks like stealing butter from neighbours' home
With love and worry the mother implored to open the mouth
Yashodha flabbergasted only to see the cosmos within.

With love, affection, wisdom and innocence crystal clear,
Krishna gave a glimpse of the whole universe without any fear,
To Yasodha's amazement, to all those who were present near,
A lesson on vastness of universe, reality and illusion exist forever.

.....Narayan Gadagkar

So Far So Near

So far and so near after an year
Life and death fought each other
Life remained always darling dear
Haunts of death did often appear.

The Lungs filled with lots of fluids
The Heart gradually got impaired.
Yes, Blood supply to arteries blocked
What an agony befalls, recalls one who faced.

Those horrendous five to six hours
Lungs struggle to get their share
Oxygen level nosedives, such a rare
evil event happened, do not remember.

Nick of time ambulance at door steps
Zipping through the city's busy streets
With ceaseless siren, red flashing lights
Stopping the traffic at busy moments.

Straight on to a Surgeons' desk
A heart so strong, now fragile, torn
In the arteries was there a block
Catheter moved and balloon blown
Plaques and the chunks were torn
Stent made the blood flow to start again

In the hospital's quiet Intensive Care unit
With tubes, IV connectors, gadgets, monitors
Doctors, Nurses checked the vital parameters.
The battle for life, far from over and done.

When BP was low, Oxygen level was low

Strength was low, survival chances were low
Doctors' confidence level too was low.
Only the spirit to live was high, wow!

In the midst of this heart-wrenching strife,
The Almighty bestowed new spark of life
Death and demon moved away in despair.
Life zoomed with new zeal and renewed vigor.

.....Narayan Gadagkar

A Nation's history etched in deep sands

**A nation with a history vast palaeolithic to neolithic
Bronze age to iron age, stories were graciously etched.
Fifteen thousand years ago started off, with Natufian culture
Credited with the record in human history of first agriculture
A treasure they hold so dear, despite the conqueror's fear.**

**Assyrians, Babylonians, in the past they valiantly fought,
Their resilience against invaders, aggressors' lessons taught.
Stood steadfast against Persians, Romans and Mongol might,
Yet they endured the assault through day and endless night.**

**Next the Ottoman Empire's shadow cast its ugly shade,
Nevertheless they ever let loose their spirit fade.
They had a strong will to survive and retain the ethnic pride
Which they rightfully deserved and cannot be denied.**

**In the devastating days of second world war's cruel face,
Persecuted and suffered a holocaust, a harrowing disgrace.
Through the years of turmoil and chaos they found their way,
Rehabilitated to their ancient land, where strength holds sway.**

**Nation they are bestowed with, was seventy percent desert
In six decades built robust army and new nation of self-respect.
Surrounded by adversaries they stand with unmatched strength,
In the field of science, space technology they scaled new height.**

**The tiny nation with galaxy of noble prize winners
In fields of chemistry, economics, peace and literature
In medical research too, awards are fetched by doctors.
The citizens made the desert bloom with flowers and citrus fruits.**

Resilient citizens with self-respect untamed and named,

**In the latest warfare, innovation and strategy unmatched,
In the ranks of war heroes, the brave women boldly stand,
With valour and honour across the land if they get provoked.**

.....Narayan Gadagkar

Conquest in calamity

In the tectonically active rugged Himalayan terrains
seated are the most dynamic, rising young mountains.
Geotechnical Challenges abound in the tunnel construction
due to the geological aspects and structural deformations.

In Uttarkashi of Uttarakhand, beneath the earth's embrace,
A tunnel roof caved in, trapping forty-one souls in confining space.
For sixteen long days and nights, in darkness they did stay
Desperately hoping for a miracle to happen to see the light of day.

Amidst the eerie silence, their robust hope remained unbound,
In the depths of great despair, a flicker of hope was found.
Over the ground, a symphony of concerted efforts began to swell,
Rescue agencies rallied around, with their determination to quell.

Round-the-clock, relentless, the rescue mission soared,
In the labyrinth of challenges, their resolve remained untoward.
For the tunnel trapped workers a lifeline in the darkness zoomed.
Through a pipeline in the tunnel, food, water, and medicine delivered.

Sixteen days and chilling nights in the dungeon of limited sight
Forty-one brave hearts remained steadfast and unbroken in their plight.
Their collective strength, patience with unwavering hope shining bright
A story of courage for all to see the trapped ones, stood tall and upright.

Finally, the day when the first ray of light pierced the gloom,
A cheer arose, rat miners punctured the tunnel, dispelling doom.
One by one, they emerged unharmed, from the rocky debris and rubble
A testament to human spirit, that in adversity too, life can bloom.

.....Narayan Gadagkar

Twenty Twenty-Four needs Peace More

Welcome year twenty twenty four
Bless this world with peace many more.
Conflicting nations now stand at four
Let harmony and tranquility be at their door.

May the ravaged lands find a light,
And Ukraine, Russia end their fight.
Rivalry, battle between Israel and Hamas
may end with ease and both embrace peace.

Year Twenty Twenty Three was corona free
Omicron's new variant JN1 has made an entry.
Let the new variant wane without causing pain
Misery of past pandemic not to repeat again.

AI, a domain soaring high, a tool so vast,
Its generative, creative tools unsurpassed,
Search engines, human speech to robotics at last.
Let emotions and sentiments remain intact
With humans exclusively and never part.

Halt IT layoffs and let new opportunities arrive.
Jobs aplenty for the youth, pathways to thrive,
As new year dawns, let's not get stuck in the past
Welcome and celebrate the event with big blast.

.....Narayan Gadagkar

A Temple reborn-Glory restored

**In the heart of a nation, where devotion holds sway,
Ram echoes in the minds of millions who chant and pray,**

**A tale unfolds, reverberating through time's endless fray.
Reclaiming an eleventh century temple, a historic quest,
A Ram temple is reborn, where Lord Ram's legacy rests.
In Ayodhya which is resanctified and decked up to its best.**

**For five centuries, patience draped in silent prayer,
Echoes of a past existence silenced in temporal winters
Historical and archaeological evidences emerged
Existence of a temple, the excavation facts proved.
With the consecration a new temple reality unclenched
For millions of devotees, their souls got quenched.**

**Shri Ram, embodiment of India's true spirit unmatched
The discipline commitment, truth and honesty imbued
Justice, ethics, morals, exemplary human qualities unbound
An ideal king living Dharma's flame in celestial theme
Rama Rajya an idealistic governance of kingdom fame
Ram's legacy full of love and compassion, a cherished name.**

**May the temple stand tall and proud, A beacon of hope
May it inspire us to live a life of values, to the letter
Ram an obedient son, tender husband, affectionate brother
Gallant warrior, wise and able ruler, diligent protector.
In the embrace of these values, the spirit of India will grow.
An imposing temple built, will forever sheen and glow.**

.....Narayan Gadagkar

Lord Shiva and Cosmic Eternity

**When the matter and energy are in state of
constant transformation
Creation and annihilation find eternal trace
Shiva and Shakti entwined in celestial dance
Mimicking the eternity and cosmic stance
Material Worlds are born and vanish in space
Mystic spirit leaps into the spirit embrace.**

**Shiva is benevolent and omniscient maha yogi
On the snow clad Mount Kailash living an ascetic life
Has the other side, living in unison with Parvathi the wife
Patron God of yoga, meditation and arts and dance.
In this great cremation ground, so called our World
Where the souls come and perish perpetually
Our Lord Adi Yogi sits in deep meditation.**

**With iconic attributes serpent Vasuki around the neck
Adorning crescent moon, Ganga flowing from his head
Destroying evil to ashes with the third eye on his forehead
Ready to fiercely fight the demons with trisula in his hand
Musical device the Damaru to resonate the primordial sound**

**Rigvedic deity Rudra to the blue throat Neelkantha
of oceanic churn one who drank the poison Haalaala
Bearer of dripping and flowing Ganga, Gangadhara
Aadiyogi immersed in himself the transcendental reality
Self and formless, a metaphysical and spiritual reality.
Lord Shiva being worshipped for his cosmic eternity.**

.....Narayan Gadagkar

When school bell rings

School bell rings and children zoom to classes
From loud noise and din to eerie silence descends
Sitting on the desks, students with pen and note pad
Standing near the black board with a chalk in my hand
The waning moments may sulk me for quite some time.

From being a student more than five decades ago
to becoming a teacher since over two decades
School bell ringing sound resonates in my mind often
What has changed is only the notion and perception
From being a student to being a teacher, sense of duration
varied for a boring subject to topics that fuelled captivation.

I knew, children mocked me when I was facing the board
That's all because I was strict and at indiscipline I fumed.
I never yelled at them and to any one I was never unkind
As I was aware of the pre-teen pranks and I brushed aside
Since we too did the pranks when I was a student, I realised.

Following the right footsteps of my beloved father
I had a dream and passion to become a school teacher
Mathematics I chose, a subject to me always so dear
From algebra, geometry, trigonometry to equations linear
Coefficients and Variables to derive polynomials of nth order.
When I bid adieu, the memories, and formulas flock together.

..... Narayan Gadagkar

Geologist of Eminence

**In the heart of Earth's ancient lore,
A Geologist of eminence, now no more,
Whose footsteps treaded peninsular India
Enlightened many geologists with new idea
On Bastar, Dharwar cratons with sediment covers.**

**With two decades hard work in Central part
More than a decade worked in southern part
He delved deep into the Bastar craton apart
Dharwar craton too was close to his heart
Godavari rift in between too, he had deep insight.**

**Hammer and lens in his hand in the field
Mineralogy and texture he used to unfold
Gazing under microscope in laboratory indeed
An expert in both domains, a fact unmatched
A Geologist of eminence both in lab and field.**

**No cravings for fortune, nor for fame and name
In science's realm and solace he found his claim.
A true saint of scientific creed and diligence breed
Geology of India's vast face imbued in his mind
In his legacy, Geoscience shall live with glow indeed.**

**His Memory was sharp, and had analytical grace,
A rationalist, scholastic against tradition's sway,
Reason, logic, and knowledge were his gateway
And he paved his path in his own noble way
His demise has left Geologist community at dismay.**

.....Narayan Gadagkar

An election where a billion vote

**In the land where rivers weave and mountains rise,
Where ancient temples abound and kiss the skies,
A mammoth task begins, to record a nation's voice,
When more than a billion people cast their choice.**

**From Himalayas' peaks to Kanyakumari's shore,
From Thar desert through jungles to Sundarbans
A majestic dance of democracy, mammoth and grand,
Spreads its wide wings across this vibrant land.**

**Spanning over kilometers more than three million
Over thirty Latitudes and Longitudes of a vast nation
Always on its toes is the Central Election commission
Each step and each move made by a meticulous plan**

**In the robust and sturdy EVMs, the votes are cast
In seven phases and two months, since nation is vast
The security personnel and police remain alert and vigilant
Ensure peace and smooth franchise in each polling booth.**

**Battle lines are drawn between the political parties
One side promises of freebies and guarantees
Other side assures booming economy and developments
A fierce contest between the dynasts and nationalists
Citizens to choose with wisdom and discernment.**

.....Narayan Gadagkar

Ratan the Titan

Where business tycoons glorified with wealth
Popping of names in Forbes billionaires list
Here stands a person who defies, a beacon of light
An entrepreneur par excellence and an industrialist
of excellent integrity, modesty and humility at its best
Gracefully lead the India's largest conglomerate
Czar of make in India car industry, a story to narrate.

Titan of Indian Industry with Iconic brands Jaguar
For the less privileged, designed affordable Nano car
With hard work and diligence built a multibillion empire
For a million young dreams created jobs much more
A committed industrialist and an ace entrepreneur.

He dreamt beyond profit and saw beyond gain
Cared other's sufferings and tried to lessen pain
Always on toes to fund charitable trust chain
To promote health care, research and education
From salt to steel, pin to plane road to aviation
He diversified industry growth time and again.

What matters not just the wealth he amassed
But a blend of business and ethics he imbued
Love care and compassion he exemplified
A philanthropist with gentle hand and broad mind
Gave away much the fact society needs understand.

A Titan of industry and business, a soul so kind
Shining light, He's left behind a legacy of highest kind
He's gone from sight, but still inspires from his story
A life of service he lived and a life of glory.

.....Narayan Gadagkar