

M Kamaluddin Ahmed's Poems

Disangmukh

In the confluence
Of the Brahmaputra and the Disang
Bhupen Hazarika's remains keep calling out

Covering a prejudiced sky
In your laptop
Far away at Guwahati
The silk-cotton flowers were abloom

Yet just moments before
We passed across countless silk-cotton blooms

The coloured clods
Were clung
Onto the silty soil

Disangmukh today
Remains hanging
To a single point of time
We can't say it's inspiring
Nor can we be sure
That it weighs down our hearts

Perhaps someday
Disangmukh shall lie
Topped down
In our dreams

Silk-cotton vultures

Without any live location
Prakalpa Ranjan and I
Reached Disangmukh

The silk-cotton blooms
Had reddened up the sky

We were just about to fill
The bags of our minds
As much as possible
With silk-cotton flowers

From within us
Two vultures
Sprang up

Perhaps so long
They'd been hiding
Among the silk-cotton trees

Life
Made up by the blending
Of red and black
Is slowly
Fading away

Translated by **Krishna Dulal Barua**

An accomplished Assamese poet-critic and translator **M Kamaluddin Ahmed** (*born 1966*) is a University Professor. His poems have been included in collections published by Harper Collins and Penguin.

Krishna Dulal Barua is a prominent translator and writer based in Nagaon, Assam. He received the Katha Award for translation in 2005.