Urjin Khurelbaatar

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Urjin Khurelbaatar is a renowned Mongolian lyricist and poet, literary researcher, scholar and journalist. He was born on 11 June 1954 in Togrog sum of Gobi-Altay province. He received a PhD in Mongolian language and literature and in journalism. He is a member of the Mongolian National Academy of Sciences, a full member of the World Academy of Chinggis Khaan, and a professor of literature. His publications include 20 books of essays and poetry, such as „Poetic Practice of D.Namdag’s Works”, „The Editor in Chief’s Writings”, and „Wanton Moon”. He became well-known due to his pop-rock lyrics performed by many Mongolian pop-rock bands and singers. His books of poetry, „The Seam of the Sky”(1995) and „The Seam of the Ground”(2001), contain his first attempts in haiku writing. He recently wrote 108 haikus about the four seasons, which have been translated into English, Chinese, Russian and Hungarian. He is presently the Rector of Tugeemel College. He is also Chair of the Mongolian Academy of Journalism, a member of the Board of Directors of the Mongolian Writers’ Association, and the Head of the National Center of Literary Criticism.

**ХАБАР ХАЙХУЙ
SEEKING THE SPRING**

1.
Толгодын цаанаас
Лимбийн ая эгшиглэнэ
Ингэ савирна

Beyond the hills,
the melody of a flute.
A mother camel drops her milk.

丘のうしろ
笛の音
母駱駝乳をしたたらす

2.
The voice of Heaven is far away
and the women are stepping out,
pounding the dark grass.

The young camels bellow,
and rain drizzles
from the tip of my thoughts.

The dried up bed grows damp,
and the withered grasses stir.
The mares are foaling.

The news of the springtide
reveals the moon,
a gentle scent.
6. Хар уулын энгэрт
Хайлаас модод ногоорчээ
Хадаг ургана

On the slopes of dark hills
the elms were turning green,
growing offering scarves.

7. Болжмор жиргэнэ
Тариан түрүү соёолоход
Сэтгэл нэг уясуу

The lark is singing,
the first grains are sprouting,
and hearts are softening.

8. Илжиг бидэн хоёр
Тээрмийн чулуугаа тойрно
Арвай соёлно

The donkey and I
turn the millwheel,
grind the barley.

Author: Urjin Khurelbaatar
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Japanese translations: Ban’ya Natsuishi

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