

Valedictory Verses

Presented to the Honourable and Exalted Mr Arnold Sahib, Professor
Government College, Lahore

by Master Shugan Chand, English Teacher,
Oriental College, Lahore.

1. Sad appear today the trees of the garden Their branches are bent, their
fruits fast dying.

2. People's hearts are full of grief at your parting Their tempers are out
of sorts at your going.

3. On hearing of your intent to return home all those are grief-stricken
Whose hearts have been the abode of your exalted qualities.

4. The Sun and Moon are also journeying from the East to the West
For they, too, have heard of your wish to go West.

5. The world offers you the souvenir of "Peace be with you" When it
sees you going from India to England.

6. The fame of your art and knowledge has spread to the skies Both
angels and humans are convinced of your greatness.

7. To offer as a sacrifice to you have brought The Seven Seas all their
pearls collected together.

8. It is your light that is reflected by the Sun and the Moon From your
lofty brow shines the grandeur of God,

7. He wishes to scatter at your feet All the wealth that is carried by King
Karoun.

8. The Oriental College is greatly indebted to you For you have been the
gardener of this great garden.

9. When he heard that T.W. Arnold is returning to Blighty Constantly in prayer is this broken-hearted poet, Ajiz.

10. May you reach home safe and sound And may you be blessed by God with an auspicious son!

11. May you and the Mem Sahib and the Miss Sahib Stay happy in this world and have life everlasting!

Your most obedient servant and well wisher
Shugan Chand English Teacher
Oriental College Lahore.

Footnote: This valedictory poem, presented by Master Shugan Chand to Professor Thomas Arnold at the farewell ceremony held at the Oriental College, Lahore, on 16 February 1904, has been translated by Dr S.A. Durrani. The translation was recited by the great-grandson of Sir Thomas, Master Sebastian Barfield (then aged 15), at the Arnold

Day Conference. - Ed.

سکے جاتے ہیں ولایت ڈیڑھ سو آرٹلڈ + ہے دعای سرور دعا و خستہ جگر
اپنے لہو بخین خوشی کا اور بے آرام + لطف حق سے ہر غایت کیند فزندہ لہ
آپ ہی اور ہم صحت اور مسرت بدمع + خوش رہیں عالم میں عمر خیر برآں ہوا

Your most obedient servant
and well wisher.

Shugan Chand English
Teacher Oriental College
Lahore.