

Mo Ko Kahan Dhundhe Re Bande

Hindi poem by Kabir
English translation by Rabindrinath Tagore
music by Narayan Waldman

-- from <http://wahiduddin.net> --

capo 3

Written in phonetic transliteration... o as ocean, u as in but, aa as in father, n is a virtually silent nasalized sound as in sing, oo as cool, ay as in may

Am Fmaj7 E7 Am
Mo ko kuhaan dhoondhay ray bunday

Am Fmaj7 E7 Am
Mo ko kuhaan dhoondhay ray bunday

Am Dm E Am
Mo ko kuhaan dhoondhay ray bunday

Am Fmaj7 E7 Am
Mo ko kuhaan dhoondhay ray bunday

Hindi Lyrics:

1. moko kuhaan dhoondhay
2. ray bunday
3. moko kuhaan dhoondhay
4. ray bunday
5. moko kuhaan dhoondhay ray bunday
6. moko kuhaan dhoondhay ray bunday

English Lyrics:

1. where do you seek me
2. here I am
3. where do you seek me
4. here I am
5. here I am, here I am
6. where do you seek me, here I am

Movements:

1. start on left foot, circle walking left, right hand on heart, left hand on back (heart) of person in front of you
2. individual spin to the left
3. start on left foot, circle walking left, right hand on heart, left hand on back (heart) of person in front of you
4. individual spin to the left
5. individual spin right, moving slightly outward (while singing the higher verse)
6. eight steps in, holding hands, raising arms, letting go and fully extending arms to the heavens.

Optional 2-finger chords on 3rd and 4th strings (first number is 3rd string fret, second number is 4th string fret... number of frets above the capo):

5/7 2/3 4/6 5/7
Mo ko kuhaan dhoondhay ray bunday

5/7 2/3 4/6 5/7
Mo ko kuhaan dhoondhay ray bunday

9/10 10/12 7/9 9/10
Mo ko kuhaan dhoondhay ray bunday

5/7 2/3 4/6 5/7
Mo ko kuhaan dhoondhay ray bunday

Attunement:

Born in Benares around 1440 to Muslim parents, Kabir became a disciple of Ramananda, a Hindu ascetic. His poetry depicts the influence of both religions on him. He was a weaver by profession, but in the eyes of his followers he was both a Sufi and a Brahman saint.

The following translation is from *Songs of Kabir* translated from the Hindi by Rabindranath Tagore, the Indian poet and philosopher who won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1913. In 1915 Tagore's translation of the *Songs of Kabir* was published and introduced these mystical poems to the world outside of India.

O servant, where dost thou seek Me?
Lo! I am beside thee.
I am neither in temple nor in mosque:
I am neither in Kaaba nor in Kailash:
Neither am I in rites and ceremonies,
nor in Yoga and renunciation.
If thou art a true seeker, thou shalt at
once see Me: thou shalt meet Me
in a moment of time.
Kabir says, "O Sadhu! God is the
breath of all breath."

These lines are quite similar to Jesus' words in the gospel of Luke 17:20-21 -

And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

And also strikingly similar to these verses from the Qur'an:

wheresoever ye turn there is the face of Allah. --- 2:115
We are nearer to him than his jugular vein --- 50:16
He is with you wherever you are --- 57:4

moko (rhymes with "so so") = me
kahan (ku haa n) = where (u as in **but**, aa as in **father**, n is a virtually silent nasalized sound as in **sing**)
dhundhe (dhoond hay) = search (oo as in **cool**, n is a virtually silent nasalized sound as in **sing**)
re (ray) = O' (r is rolled as spoken in Spanish, ay as in **may**)
bande (bun day) = servant, or in a poetic sense, mankind

mai(n) (my n) = I , myself (ai as in **aisle**, but sometimes pronounced like e in **men**)
to (rhymes with so) = Lo (soft t as spoken in Spanish almost a d,)
tere (tay ray) = your (soft t as spoken in Spanish almost a d, o as in **ocean**)
paas (paas) = near (aa as in **father**)
mei(n) (may n) = in

(see <http://www.boloji.com/kabir/mysticsongs/km1.htm>) --

Where do you search me?	Moko Kahan Dhundhe Re Bande	मोको कहां ढूँढे रे बन्दे
I am with you	Main To Tere Paas Mein	मैं तो तेरे पास में
Not in pilgrimage, nor in icons	Na Teerath Mein, Na Moorat Mein	ना तीरथ मे ना मूरत में
Neither in solitudes	Na Ekant Niwas Mein	ना एकान्त निवास में
Not in temples, nor in mosques	Na Mandir Mein, Na Masjid Mein	ना मंदिर में ना मस्जिद में
Neither in <i>Kaba</i> nor in <i>Kailash</i>	Na Kabe Kailas Mein	ना काबे कैलास में
I am with you o man	Main To Tere Pass Mein Bande	मैं तो तेरे पास में बन्दे
I am with you	Main To Tere Pass Mein	मैं तो तेरे पास में
Not in prayers, nor in meditation	Na Main Jap Mein, Na Main Tap Mein	ना मैं जप में ना मैं तप में
Neither in fasting	Na Main Barat Upaas Mein	ना मैं बरत उपास में
Not in yogic exercises	Na Main Kiriya Karm Mein Rehta	ना मैं किरिया करम में रहता
Neither in renunciation	Nahin Jog Sanyas Mein	नहिं जोग सन्यास में
Neither in vital force nor the body	Nahin Pran Mein Nahin Pind Mein	नहिं प्राण में नहिं पिंड में
Not even in the ethereal space	Na Brahmand Akas Mein	ना ब्रह्माण्ड आकाश में
Neither in the womb of Nature	Na Mein Prakuti Prawar Gufa Mein	ना मैं प्रकृति प्रवार गुफा में
Not in the breath of the breath	Nahin Swasan Ki Swans Mein	नहिं स्वांसों की स्वांस में
Seek earnestly and discover	Khoji Hoye Turat Mil Jaoon	खोजि होए तुरत मिल जाउं
In but a moment of search	Ik Pal Ki Talas Mein	इक पल की तालास में
Says Kabir, Listen with care	Kahet Kabir Suno Bhai Sadho	कहत कबीर सुनो भई साधो
Where your faith is, I am there.	Mein To Hun Viswas Mein	मैं तो हूं विश्वास में

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