

**To:
Lord Ramakrishna**

**I survive in your proclamation,
The Master!**

Prabhu Bandhu Das

**Scathed by the dauntless Decree of Fate
As my declining youth passes its days
Peregrinating through livelihoods transient
With an ever astounding experience
To realize the Master's proclamations' essence
I begin to feel in my inner mind
The truth of the Master's saying:
'Money is clay, and clay is money!'**

**Yes! monetary affluence is like a dump of clay!
And only spiritual affluence makes to stay!
Monetary affluence is the whim of the Providence!
'Tis more transient than even the mortal beings!
The told and untold tales of power and wealth
Had brought out the truth time and time again!**

**The inexperienced, haughty and indiscreet youth
Ignorant of the truth of the implications and significance
Of the Master's saying
Defied the Master's verdict!
And visualized that education
Coupled with merit and intellect
Are the only indomitable tools
To bring about success!**

**Now at the fag-end of my youth
I find these are not enough!
And amidst life's fatalities and fiascoes
The blessings of the Master are echoed!
And as the end of the journey
Gets nearer and nearer
To the inevitable and the ultimate
Destination of life
All of a sudden I realize**

With a gasping mind and heart
That the tools of success
Preconceived in the inexperienced youth
Are only but a façade of success
Veiled in a morbid suit
Of downright superficiality absolute!

And across this facade
Lies a huge chunk of emptiness
Of my mind and heart
Which shivers in a fear
Of gradual decay and decomposition
Of my mortal existence
Once adorned with youth and dreams
And aspirations endless and intense!

A scanty success
Filled me with hyperbolic feelings
About youth, beauty and success!
But traversing life's major path
In an endless failure
As a playmate in the eternal game
With the invincible Providence
In a meager survival
Unveiled the truth
Of the Master's message eternal:
"All wealth is but a lump of clay!"
All that matters in this mortal life
Is mental uplift and realization
Of the truth -
The truth of being happy and contended
With the wealth of the mind and heart!

I take this chance to salute You
The Master, Lord Ramakrishna!
To feel the truth of your proclamation
As for a time I wake up
From a long mental hibernation!

--- The End ---