

Baktashi Blues

Ali Naki

With thanks to Aykut and Nuray Akalin

1. Eser

Biz bu gülistânın bülbülleriyiz
Bahçe-i rindânın sümbülleriyiz
Nafi Baba'nın gülleriyiz
Seyyid Ali Sultân kullarıyız, kullarıyız

Biz gayret ile maksuda ereriz
Fırsat bulup gülistâna gireriz, cana gireriz
Açılmış gülleri bir bir dereriz
Seyyid Ali Sultân kullarıyız, kullarıyız

Biz secde ederiz cemâl-i yâre
Vuslata olamaz başka bir çâre
Kementle bağlanıp çekildik dâre
Seyyid Ali Sultân kullarıyız, kullarıyız

Biz münkiri müminlerden seçeriz
Mal ü cânı terk eyleyip geçeriz, canı
geçeriz
Mürşid elinden kevseri içeriz
Seyyid Ali Sultân kullarıyız, kullarıyız

Biz el ele verip Hakk'a gidelim
Gelin gönülleri tavaf edelim
Güncî Pîr'in gülbank'ını çekelim
Seyyid Ali Sultân kullarıyız, kullarıyız

1st work (Each line repeats two times)

We are the nightingales of this rose garden.
We are the hyacinths blooming here.
We are the roses of Nafi Baba.
We are the servants of Seyyid Ali Sultan.

We attain our goals with astonishment.
At just the right moment we enter the rose
garden, and the soul.
We gather the blooming roses one by one.
We are the servants of Seyyid Ali Sultan.

We prostrate before our beautiful Beloved.
There is no other way to attain union.
We are roped with a lasso and dragged.
We are the servants of Seyyid Ali Sultan.

We discern the sinful from the faithful.
We abandon wealth and life and pass on.
We drink the water of Kawthar
from the hand of the spiritual guide.
We are the servants of Seyyid Ali Sultan.

Let us join hands and go to God.
Let us circumambulate our hearts.
Let us recite Günci Pir's Rose Prayer.
We are the servants of Seyyid Ali Sultan.

2. Eser

Ben melâmet hırkasını
Kendim giydim eynime
Aru namus şişesini
Taşa çaldım kime ne
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
Taşa çaldım kime ne
Ali, Ali, Ali, Ali
Taşa çaldım kime ne

Sofular haram diyormuş
Bu aşkın şerabına
Ben doldurur ben içirim
Günah benim kime ne
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
Günah benim kime ne
Ali, Ali, Ali, Ali
Günah benim kime ne

Sofular secde ediyor
Mescidin mihrabına
Dost cemali secdegahım
Secde ederim kime ne
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
Secde ederim kime ne
Ali, Ali, Ali, Ali
Secde ederim kime ne

Kâh giderim medreseye
Ders okurum Hak için
Kâh giderim meyhaneye
Dem çekerim aşk için
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
Dem çekerim aşk için
Ali, Ali, Ali, Ali
Dem çekerim aşk için

2nd work (Each couplet repeats two times)

The khirka of blame,
I chose it for myself.
The empty bottle of reputation,
I dashed against a stone,
Ah, what does it matter?
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
I dashed it against a stone,
Ah, what does it matter?
Ali Ali Ali Ali
I dashed it against a stone,
Ah, what does it matter?

The pious have said it is forbidden,
This wine of love,
But I pour it, and I drink it,
The sin is mine, what is it to anyone?
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
The sin is mine, what is it to anyone?
Ali, Ali, Ali, Ali
The sin is mine, what is it to anyone?

The pious prostrate themselves
toward the mosque's mihrab.
The face of the Beloved is my place of
prostration
I prostrate; what is it to anyone?
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
I prostrate; what is it to anyone?
Ali, Ali, Ali, Ali
I prostrate; what is it to anyone?

Sometimes I go to the madrasah.
I study for the sake of Truth,
Sometimes I go to the tavern,
And take a sip for my Beloved,
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
And take a sip for my Beloved,
Ali, Ali, Ali, Ali
And take a sip for my Beloved,

2. Eser (Devamı)

Kâh çıkarım gökyüzüne
Seyrederim âlemi
Kâh inerim yeryüzüne
Seyreder âlem beni
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
Seyreder âlem beni
Ali, Ali, Ali, Ali
Seyreder âlem beni

Nesimi'ye sordular ki
Yârin ile hoş musun?
Hoş olayım olmayayım
O yar benim kime ne
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
Canda sultanım Haydar
Haydar Haydar Haydar Haydar
Canda sultanım Haydar

Ben melâmet hırkasını
Kendim giydim eynime

2nd work (Continued)

Sometimes I ascend to the sky,
Where I can watch the world,
Sometimes I come down to earth,
And the world watches me,
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
The world watches me,
Ali, Ali, Ali, Ali
The world watches me,

They asked Nesimi,
Are you happy with your beloved?
If I'm happy, or I suffer,
what does it matter?
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
You are the sultan in my soul, Haydar
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, Haydar
You are the sultan in my soul, Haydar

The khirka of blame,
I chose it for myself.

3. Eser

Ötme bülbül ötme, şen değil bağım
Dost senin derdinden ben yana, yana
Tükendi fitilim, eridi yağım
Dost senin derdinden ben yana, yana
Ya Dost, ya Dost, ya Dost, Dost
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar ben yana, yana
Ali, Ali, Ali ben yana, yana
Hay Dost, hay Dost, hay Dost
Ben yana, yana

Deryadan bölünmüş sellere döndüm
Vakitsiz açılan güllere döndüm
Ateşi kararmış küllere döndüm
Dost senin derdinden ben yana, yana
Ya Dost, ya Dost, ya Dost, Hay Dost

Kırk yıl dağda gezdim geyikler ilen
Haberin duyarsın peyikler ilen
Yaramı sarsınlar seyikler ilen
Dost senin derdinden ben yana, yana
Ya Dost, ya Dost, ya Dost, Dost
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar ben yana, yana
Ali, Ali, Ali ben yana, yana
Hay Dost, hay Dost, hay Dost
Ben yana, yana, Haqq

Abdal Pir Sultan'ım, doldum eksildim
Yemeden içmeden sudan kesildim
Zülfün kemendine kondum asıldım
Dost senin derdinden ben yana, yana
Ya Dost, ya Dost, ya Dost, Dost
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar ben yana, yana
Ali, Ali, Ali ben yana, yana
Hay Dost, hay Dost, hay Dost
Ben yana, yana

3rd work

Don't sing, nightingale, don't sing,
my garden is not happy.
Friend, I am burning,
In the turmoil of Your trials.
My wick has run out, my wax used up.
Beloved, I am burning,
in the turmoil that You brought me.
Beloved, Beloved, Beloved...
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, I'm burning, burning.
Ali, Ali, Ali, I am burning, burning.
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, I'm burning, burning.

I once was an ocean. Now I'm many streams.
I'm a rose that bloomed too soon.
I've turned into the ashes of fires long-gone.
Beloved, I am burning,
in the turmoil that You brought me.
Beloved, Beloved, Beloved...

I wandered for forty years.
with the deer in the mountains,
Someone will bring news of me.
Someone will splint my broken bone.
Beloved, I am burning,
in the turmoil that You brought me.
Beloved, Beloved, Beloved ...
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, I am burning,
Ali, Ali, Ali, I'm burning, burning
Oh Beloved, Beloved, Beloved, I'm burning,
burning, with the Truth

My Abdal Pir Sultan, I am full and empty,
Cut off from food, drink, and water.
Caught in those tresses, I was hanged,
Beloved, I am burning,
in the turmoil that You brought me.
Oh Beloved, Beloved, Beloved...
Haydar, Haydar, Haydar, I'm burning, burning.
Ali, Ali, Ali, I am burning, burning
Beloved, Beloved, Beloved,
I am burning, burning.

4. Eser

Seherde bir bağa girdim
Seherde bir bağa girdim
Ne bağ duydu, ne bağbanı (x2)
El sundum güllerin derdim (x2)
Ne bağ duydu, ne bağbanı
Ne bağ duydu, ne bağbanı

Seherin kapusunu açtım
Seherin kapusunu açtım
Sanırsın Cennet'e düştüm (x2)
Yâr ile تنها buluştum (x2)
Ne bağ duydu, ne bağbanı
Ne bağ duydu, ne bağbanı

Seherin bülbülü öttü
Seherin bülbülü öttü
Öttü de murada yetti (x2)
Teslim Abdal yükün tuttu (x2)
Ne bağ duydu, ne bağbanı
Ne bağ duydu, ne bağbanı

4th work

At daybreak, I entered a garden,
At daybreak, I entered a garden,
Neither the garden nor the gardener knew.
I reached out my hand to pluck the roses,
But neither the garden nor the gardener knew,
Neither the garden nor the gardener knew.

I opened the gate of the dawn,
I opened the gate of the dawn,
I thought I had fallen into Paradise,
I met my Beloved in that deserted place,
Yet neither the garden nor the gardener knew,
Neither the garden nor the gardener knew.

The nightingale of dawn began to sing,
The nightingale of dawn began to sing,
It sang and so a wish was granted,
Teslim Abdal took up his work.
Still neither the garden nor the gardener knew,
Neither the garden nor the gardener knew.

5. Eser

Allah bir Muhammed Ali
Nazar eyle bari bana
Ez-ü celalin aşkına
Çektirme şol zarı bana

Pirlere niyaz ederiz
Yalan dünya nideriz
Ölürüz hasret gideriz
Göster şol didarın bana
x 2

Muhammed Ali'dir server
Varıp kapısına yalvar
Dileyene muradın ver
Irak eyle narı bana

Pirlere niyaz ederiz
Yalan dünya nideriz
Ölürüz hasret gideriz
Göster şol didarın bana
x 2

Erenler Şah'tan gelirler
Ali derler Pirimize
Şahı merdan erleriyiz
Münkir ermez sırrımıza
Şahı merdan erleriyiz
Münkir ermez sırrımıza

Pirlere niyaz ederiz
Yalan dünya nideriz
Ölürüz hasret gideriz
Göster şol didarın bana

Kalender Abdal yerinir
Aşk hayaliyle sürünür
Cenneti rıdvan görünür
Şol güzelin kaddi bana

Pirlere niyaz ederiz
Yalan dünya nideriz
Ölürüz hasret gideriz
Göster şol didarın bana
x 3

5th work

God manifests as Muhammad and Ali,
Turn at least one loving gaze toward me.
For the sake of Your power and love,
Do not make me suffer this wound.

We bow in supplication to the Pirs,
We say, "What is this lying world to us?"
We will die and still go on longing,
So let me behold that Countenance.
x 2

Muhammad Ali is the leader
Go and beg at his door.
Grant their wishes to those who ask,
Keep the fire far away from me."

We bow in supplication to the Pirs,
We say, "What is this lying world to us?"
We will die and still go on longing,
So let me behold that Countenance.
x 2

The saints come from the Shah (God).
They call our Pir "Ali".
We are the brave men of the Shah.
The denier cannot reach our secret.
We are the brave men of the Shah.
The denier cannot reach our secret.

We bow in supplication to the Pirs,
We say, "What is this lying world to us?"
We will die and still go on longing,
So let me behold that Countenance.

The Kalendar Abdal writhes in pain.
Struggles in the dream of love.
Heaven's blessing is visible.
It's beauty weighs upon me.

We bow in supplication to the Pirs.
We say, "What is this lying world to us?"
We will die and still go on longing,
So let me behold that Countenance.
x 3

6. Eser

Yine dertli dertli iniliyorsun,
Sarı turnam sinem yaralandı mı
Hiç el değmeden de iniliyorsun.
Yoksa ciğerlerin parelendi mi

Yoksa sana ya düzen mi düzdüler,
Perdelerin tel tel edip üzdüler.
Tellerini sarmadan mı süzdüler.
Allı da turnam, telli de turnam,
Sinem de yarelendi mi
Yoksa ciğerlerin parelendi mi

Havayı ey deli gönül havayı
Ay doğmadan şavkı tutmuş ovayı
Türkmen kızı gater etmiş mayayı
Çekip gider bir gözleri sürmeli

Kuru kütük yanmayınca tüter mi
Ak gerdanda çifte benler biter mi
Vakti gelmeyince bülbül öter mi
Ötüp gider bir gözleri sürmeli

Dere kenarında yerler hurmayı
Kılavuz ederler telli turnayı
Ak göğsün üstünde ilik düğmeyi
Çözüp gider bir gözleri sürmeli.
Karacaoğlan der ki geçti ne fayda (x 2)
Bir vefa kalmadı ok ile yayda (x 2)

6th work

Again you moan and moan in sorrow,
My yellow crane, is my heart wounded?
Without a hand upon you, still you lament,
Or are your very lungs torn to shreds?

Or was it that they set a snare for you,
And strand by strand they tore your veils,
Is your crest spun of shimmering threads?
My crimson-crested crane, my be-ringed crane,
Is it my heart that has been wounded,
Or are your very lungs torn to shreds?

Sing the melody, O wild heart, sing,
Before the moon has risen, its light has seized the plain.
The Turkmen girl has set the leaven to rise,
And off she goes, kohl-eyed, with a single glance.

Dry kindling does not smoke until it burns,
Do twin beauty marks appear on a white throat for nothing?
Does the nightingale sing before its time has come?
It sings and flies away, that one with kohl-dark eyes.

By the stream they sit and eat their dates,
They take the crested, ring-adorned crane as their guide.
On the white breast they loosen the button at the collar,
And off she goes, that one with kohl-dark eyes.
Says Karacaoğlan: now that it's all passed, what use is it?
No loyalty remains in bow or in arrow.

7. Eser

Can yine bülbül oldu
Can yine bülbül oldu
Har açılıp gül oldu
Medet, medet, medet
Har açılıp gül oldu

Göz kulak oldu her yer
Göz kulak oldu her yer
Her ne ki var ol oldu
Medet, medet, medet
Her ne ki var ol oldu

Gönül ol bahre daldı
Gönül ol bahre daldı
Dilim tutuldu kaldı
Medet, medet, medet
Dilim tutuldu kaldı
Girdim anın zikrine
Girdim anın zikrine
Azalarım dil oldu
Medet, medet, medet
Azalarım dil oldu

Ferhat bugün ben oldum
Ferhat bugün ben oldum
Varlık dağını deldim
Medet, medet, medet
Varlık dağını deldim
Şirin'ime varmaya
Şirin'ime varmaya
Her canibim yol oldu
Medet, medet, medet
Her canibim yol oldu

Geç ak ile karadan
Geç ak ile karadan
Halkı çıkar areden
Medet, medet, medet
Halkı çıkar areden
Niyazi dön buradan
Niyazi dön buradan
Durma sana gel oldu
Medet, medet, medet
Durma sana gel oldu

7th work

And again the soul became a nightingale.
Again the soul became a nightingale.
The thorn blossomed, became a rose.
Please, please, please,
Whatever blossomed became a rose.

Everywhere became an eye and an ear..
Everywhere became an eye and an ear
All that came to be, came to be Hu.
Please, please, please,
All that came to be, came to be Hu.

My heart plunged into that sea.
My heart plunged into that sea.
I was speechless.
Please, please, please,
I was speechless..
I entered His remembrance.
I entered His remembrance.
My limbs became tongues.
Please, please, please,
My limbs have become tongues.

I became Ferhat today.
I became Ferhat today.
I pierced the mountain of existence.
Please, please, please,
I pierced the mountain of existence
To reach my Şirin,
To reach my Şirin.
Every side of me became a path.
Please, please, please,
Every side of me became a path.

Go beyond black and white,
Go beyond black and white,
Take the people out of the way.
Please, please, please,
Take the people out of the way.
Niyazi turn back from here.
Niyazi turn back from here.
Don't hesitate, you've been called.
Please, please, please,
Don't hesitate, you've been called.

8. Eser

Dün gece seyrimde batın yüzünde
Hünkar Hacı Bektaş Veli'yi gördüm
Elif taç başında Haydar, nikap yüzünde
Aslı imam, nesli nesli Ali'yi gördüm (x 2)

Geçti seccadeye oturdu kendi oturdu
Cemali nurundan çırağ uyandı
İşaret eyledi Haydar, sakiler sundu
Bize Hak'tan gelen doluyu gördüm (x 2)

İçtim ol doludan aklım yitirdim
Çıkardım benliğim kurban, ikrar getirdim
Menzil gösterdiler Hu Dost, geçtim oturdum
Kemberbest bağlamış Haydar belimi gördüm

Mürşid eteğinden tutmuşum destim
Bu idi muradım Haydar, erişti kastım
Bilmem sarhoş muyum neyim, ben meyim
mestim
Erenler verdiği doluyu gördüm

Kalender Abdal'ım koymuşam seri
Canım kurban ettim Haydar, gördüm didarı
Erenler serveri Hu Dost, gerçekler eri
Hünkar Hacı Bektaş Veli'yi gördüm
Aslı imam, nesli nesli Ali'yi gördüm

Dün gece seyrimde batın yüzünde
Aslı imam, nesli nesli Ali'yi gördüm

8th work

Last night, in my vision, on the inner face of being,
I beheld Sovereign Hacı Bektaş Veli.
An Elif-shaped crown on his head, a veil over his face,
I saw the true Imam's lineage, the progeny of Ali.

He stepped on the prayer rug and sat in his place.
From the radiance of his beauty the lamp was lit.
He signaled, and the cup-bearers offered drink.
I saw the brimming cup that came to us from Haqq.

I drank from that goblet and lost my mind.
I sacrificed my "I-ness" and gave my vow.
They showed me the station; I took my place.
I saw my waist bound fast with a sash.

I have grasped the sleeve of my guide;
this was my desire, my aim attained.
I do not know if I'm drunk, nor what I am—
Enraptured, I saw the fullness the saints bestowed.

I'm Kalender Abdal; I've laid down my head.
In thanks I offered a sacrifice; I beheld the Visage:
The chief of the saints, of the true human beings.
I saw Sovereign Hacı Bektaş Veli.
I saw the true Imam's lineage, the progeny of Ali.

Last night, in my vision, on the inner face of being,
I saw the true Imam's lineage, the progeny of Ali.