**PER AJIE – A TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST IMMIGRANT WOMAN**

1. Per Ajie

In my dreams

I visualize

Thy dark eyes

Peering to penetrate

The misty haze

Veiling the coast

Of Guyana.

Knewst thou then

‘twas to land

Far-flung from home

Thy bark the seas

Had skimmed

Bearing thee

Thy Kismet to fulfill

Of Sweat and toil?

1. Per Ajie

Did bangled-ankles

Well thy sea-legs bear

While Sahib’s gaze

Thy exotic

Gazelle beauty

Of face and form

Envelope.

If later

Thy chastity

He violated

‘Tis nought

‘Tis no shame

To thee

If a man turns brute

A lotus-soul defiles.

1. Per Ajie

I can see

How in stature

Thou didst grow

Shoulders up

Head held high

The challenge

In thine eye.

Yet none dared

Tell of Sahib

Whipped in fields

Lest

On kith and kin

Of outraged

Woman

Descend vengeance!

1. Per Ajie

Somewhere ‘neath

Guyana’s skies

In Guyana’s soil

Two blades you caused

To grow where first

‘twas

But only one.

Hail dearest one

Thy tears

Shed for

Ganga-desh

Have watered

The blades

Thou didst sow

In my land.

1. Per Ajie

Couldst thou but see

The land’s abundance

Of growing things

And thy offsprings

Steeped in thy Philosophy

To bend before

The tempets’s blast!

O’er thy head

By burdens hallowed

Malas

Of brightest hue

We place

In reverence

Seeking ever

Thy benediction.

By: Rajkumarie Singh

(April: 1970 (2012=42 yrs old)