

The Bazaars of New Road

Morning sun is shining
saris drying
at the factory down the lane.

Families rising
children inquiring
about the adventurous day.

Nannies packing sweet breads
for afternoon snacks
Amas sipping morning tea.

Boys act silly, girls giddy
Bubas checking for the keys
For it is time to leave.

Walking and cycling
Driving and riding
Street traffic bustling.

Overhead doors opening
merchants ready

for the steady shopping day.

Shop men working

ladies prepping

the crowded displays.

Fabric unboxing

shelves stocking

shimmering patterns sway.

Uncles perch

Aunties search

the bazaars on main.

Women barter

for dresses and garters

bracelets jingling in disarray.

Jewelry glistening

mothers listening

to young men's stories of the day.

Bags overflowing

girls' faces glowing

thick air is muggy today.

School supplies bought

on the back lot

for the young ones starting new grades.

Stacked cones of fragrant spices

shiny pots in all sizes

Clanging as they sway.

Young bellies hungry

lunch is warm *kachori*

munching and feeding birds at play.

Clouds forming

Wind turning

families seeking cover from pouring rain.

Showers slowing

Patrons returning

For the final errands of the day.

One more stop
to honor forefathers
pujas at the temple along the way.

Vendors closing
Streets clearing
exchanging goodbyes of *Namaste*.

Ghara is calling
warm baths filling
dinner ready by the fireplace.

Fathers complaining
Too much spending
Mothers sighing tiredly.

Grandmothers greeting
Grandfathers sleeping
*Kukur*s guarding eagerly.

Moonlight soothing
children snoozing
dreaming of the next holiday.

BACK MATTER

Nepal is a landlocked country between India and China, surrounded by the Himalayan Mountain range. Nepal's capital is Kathmandu. Nepalese people often celebrate holidays by buying new clothes, housewares, special food, and spending time with family and friends. A popular shopping destination in Kathmandu is on New Road.

GLOSSARY

Amas: mothers.

Bubas: fathers.

Ghara: home.

Kachori: deep-fried stuffed pastry.

Kukura: dog.

Namaste: a greeting of hello and goodbye.

Pujas: the act of worshipping.