44 0 % N 90 THE HAND OF LOVE If birds refuse to sing, If water refuses to dance, If grass refuses to grow, Then what will become of the earth? How monotonous, how spiritless being shall be, If love refuses to smile and hope refuses to shine, If joy ceases to exist and feelings are restrained to occasional pangs of pain. I complain of those who breathe despair

and with the heaviness of snow settle on all terrain and freeze the air.

How glorious it was to have kissed the palms of love. Yet how painful for one to kiss the hands of another whose power dictates it.

But the earth and the sun are empassioned lovers and like our hands are joined together as dew drenched branches, which attracted by the warmth of one another, entwine to give forth a multitude of fruit and red flowers.

Pace

POEM BY ZHALEH

TRANSLATION BY FARIDEH.M. 10.1.1988