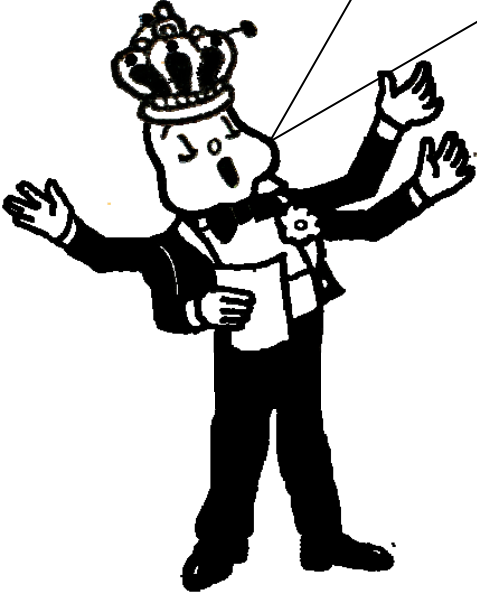




“Ah! Hoooo!”.....“Himalayan odyssey”
“crossing the barriers”..... “the healing touch”
“the brotherhood of man”... “let’s put the little things right”

It’s all here!!!!!!



HIMALAYAN ODYSSEY
by
THE KENAKI SINGERS OF INDIA

Adapted from an informal entertainment organised by members of the Commonwealth Expedition, Comex 9, from Canada, India, the United Kingdom and Zambia in 1979, at The Gaiety Theatre in Simla, Himachal Pradesh, this programme continues the celebration of *The Green Pennant Awards* (*‘the little green flags’*) *‘identifying the spirit of adventure with crossing the barriers that divide people’* and is taken from *‘the Story of Comex in Song’* as recorded on the road. To acknowledge the special roles played by Canada (the largest country in the Commonwealth) and India (the largest democracy) it is presented in two sections: by the KENAKI SINGERS OF INDIA – mainly in Hindi and in the Indian tradition – and by the KENAKI SINGERS OF CANADA in English and in the Western idiom. The leading song in both, *‘little green flags’* the theme of the expedition, is sung (pre-recorded) by African voices (the KENAKI SINGERS OF ZAMBIA) and played on bagpipes by the late Pipe Major Angus MacDonald MBE from Edinburgh Castle. *‘Let’s Put The Little*

Things Right’ is a ballad - performed by King Kamilo and the Ants to the tune of Gregory’s Frolic, also played by Pipe Major Angus MacDonald. The Africans sing *‘little green flags’* following a brief extract from His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh’s speech at the inauguration of The Green Pennant Awards in London on 18 December 1980. Kenaki is an anagram of Ki Kehna which means *‘what can I say’* - an expression of excellence.

Leader

Kamal Kant Sharma

Music Master

Mahadev Deshpande

Translation and arrangements

Vachaspati Sharma

Special Translator and Singer

Poonam Talwar

Lead Singer

Pallavi Laxman

Sarod

Gulfam Ahmed

Flute

Kailash Sharma

Synthesizer

Vinod Kumar Babli

Vocals

**Poonam, Payal Sharma, Sharmishta Singh
and additional volunteers**

Recordist

Depak Samson



INTRODUCTION

Singing on a mountain, or dancing on a mountain,
Manifestly is the same thing.
And as the people of Himachal know how to dance,
They naturally know how to sing.
These irrepressible thoughts settled deep in my mind
To some great purpose - who can tell?
A little poem perhaps, to uplift the spirits
Of so many old friends as well!

It was a tabla player, who played '*the healing touch*' -
In honour of posterity -
And commanded his fingers to race over the *thals*:
Surfing, inspirationally.
Gaon Ki Jyoti, the notes cried, to friends long forgotten -
Memories in the mists of time –
Evocative scents, of coffee beans and baking bread,
Recovered in the mores of rhyme.

What, one might wonder, were the tabla player's own thoughts?
What was he thinking about then?
The people, the places, the hospitable faces!
Or the questions: Why? How? or When?
But wait, I remember, for was I not there too,
A *pahari* like all the rest?
We sang our hearts out, and did indeed dance as we sang:
A Himalayan Concert. Ah yes!



KING KAMILO AND THE ANTS



AN OPERATIONAL CONFERENCE

ACTION!

LET'S PUT THE LITTLE THINGS RIGHT

(King Kamilo speaks the *verses* and the King & children (ants) sing & dance the *chorus* - to the tune of Gregory's Frolic: 'Let's put the little things, the teeniest-weeniest things right; Let the bells ring it, everyone sing it. That's right! Let's put the little things right. That's Right!')



We have entered the nuclear, or space age perhaps,
The journey to Mars is in sight;
Time now for thinking, to stop ourselves blinking:
Let's put the little things right. Chorus



National emergencies, rumours of wars,
Men wrestle with these day and night;
Clarion-call speeches - the pity of these is
They don't put the little things right. Chorus





Unrest, agitation, in a world of inflation;
On these our own sanctions must bite:
Till the God of creation, and new revelation
Comes to put little things right. Chorus



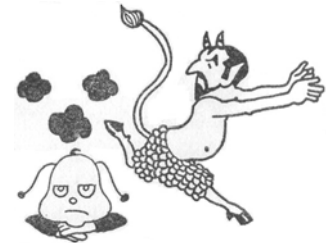
Every beginning must have its own end,
Success still depends on foresight;
Keep the object in view, sift the false from the true,
In putting the little things right. Chorus



To wake up in the morning, bad tempered and yawning,
Will hardly lend strength to the fight.
The moral of this is, a kiss for the missus,
Ah! That's putting little things right! Chorus



Moaning and groaning, eternal postponing,
Puts the devil himself to flight.
Ranting and raving, or cringing and craving,
Will not put the little things right. Chorus



Office at seven, at eight, nine or ten!
Cheerful and breezy and bright!
Arrive an hour late, and then slink through the gate -
A small thing, but simply not right. Chorus.



Watching files gaily, grow visibly daily,
On your bottom you'd rather sit tight;
And let all those letters, insidious fetters,
Prevent little things ever being right. Chorus





The telephone tinkles! Smiles bursting with wrinkles
Of course! Right now! With my might!
Like silk turned to cotton, that promise forgotten,
Will not help put little things right. Chorus



To avoid each decision, with subtle derision,
And trust things will turn out all right:
Then claim all the glory, in another man's story,
Let's put the little things right! Chorus



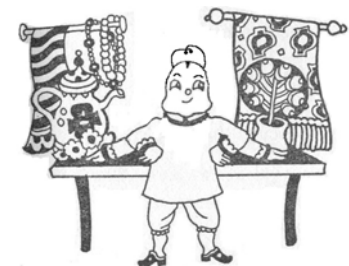
To shout and to bellow, and blame the next fellow
When courage is shocked by a fright;
An offering votive, let love be the motive
For putting the little things right. Chorus



Sooner or later, each little dictator
Will fall from a jolly great height;
Their epitaphs cite them, and history indict them,
For not putting little things right. Chorus



In company, factory, or small village store,
Fair dealing's a joy and delight.
Erupt them, corrupt them, shock or upset them -
The little things cease to be right. Chorus



The cynic, the wit, the critic or the nit;
Each one has his own brand of kite:
To sneer and to chatter, confound the whole matter
Of putting the little things right. Chorus





Write them, recite them, ad infinitum,
Little things that shed little light;
But put them together, and then decide whether
We ought to put little things right. Chorus.



LITTLE GREEN FLAGS (The symbol of Comex with the Asoka Wheel and the personal cipher of Prince Philip)

Played on bagpipes by the late Pipe Major Angus MacDonald MBE from Edinburgh Castle, incorporating words spoken by Prince Philip, sung in English by John Mwesa and the Heritage Singers of Zambia, and later arranged for tabla and sarod by Kamal Kant Sharma and Promod Shanker *as a Raga for the Commonwealth.*

KENAKI

Adapted from ki kehna - an expression of excellence meaning 'what can I say?'
Theme song of the Kenaki Singers.

TOGETHER UNAFRAID

Travelling on the Old Silk Route, now the United Nations Asian Highway and more commonly known as The Long Dusty Road

VILLAGE LIGHTS (GAON KI JYOTI)

A Ballad celebrating the villages of India

HOW MANY

Describing the events of every day in the manner of mediæval singers, or Indian qawals

MY FRIEND

A tribute to the bullock drivers of India

THERE MUST BE A REASON

For everything, but who can tell you why? Inspired by a Brahman tabla player and a Franciscan Priest

TABLA WALLAH

The indispensable musician seated in the humblest corner and bringing a wealth of meaning and understanding to every occasion



RIVER OF DESTINY

The rivers of India reflecting the image of life, and anyone who gazes into their depths - forever moving onwards and yet forever standing still

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO US?

If the world stopped turning, if the stars ceased to shine and the waters ran dry: what would happen to us?

SILVER TRAIN

Twelve silver vehicles travelling from London to Delhi, and then on to Himachal Pradesh and the Nilgiri Hills or Blue Mountains of South India: a remarkable journey later extended by rail (courtesy of Indian Railways) and named the Commonwealth Express covering 16,000 miles of India. The final verse reads

“The miles have gone behind us, far away but still remind us
That some journeys have a beginning but no end.
‘Til that final destination, every man in every nation
Learns to call a wayside brother blessed friend’.

The Commonwealth Expedition, Comex, (1965 – 2002) was initiated by the late Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru, in 1963/4 ‘to organise a new consciousness in the Commonwealth’ (the healing touch), launched under the patronage of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in 1965, and supported by the first Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tengku Abdul Rahman, the Prime Minister of Singapore, Lee Kuan Yew, the first Secretary General of the Commonwealth, Professor Arnold Smith of Carleton University in Canada, the President of Zambia, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, Margaret Thatcher.

**'IT IS A LONG TIME SINCE THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS PLAYED
TOGETHER UNAFRAID ON THE FORECOURT OF BUCKINGHAM
PALACE AT THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD . THOSE DISTANT
ECHOES STILL CONVEY A SIMPLE MESSAGE: FOR NOW,
TOMORROW, AND FOREVER:**

**TOGETHER LET US GO WHERE THE GREEN PENNANT FLIES
AND FRIENDSHIP'S BANNER RAISE
TOGETHER UNAFRAID**



This programme salutes the inauguration of the Green Pennant Awards on 18 December 1980, and is under preparation for broadcast in Canada and India. The above is the Indian version. The changes for the Canadian version are: Canada for India, Piano for Tabla, Keys for Thals, names of Canadian performers and a selection of songs from TSOCIS. After a conference with King Kamilo, the Ants (children) go into action with LET'S PUT THE LITTLE THINGS RIGHT, each verse and ant introduced by the King.

