

**Songs sung during 1st National Conference on Perspective for Women's Liberation
Movement in India, December, 1980 in Mumbai**

Our army has come

Defying Oppressive customs,
Tossing aside tradition,
We have come!
Dalit, Battered housewives, worker, farmer
In an army together,
We have come!
To end dowry, rape, misused authority,
To stop wife-beating and cruelty,
We have come!
To wipe women's suppression,
To remove class oppression,
To free this humanity-
In a rally we have come!
From farms, mines, factories and offices,
In spite of owner's threat and dread
We have come!
Look! Look! You blind exploiter tyrant-
Women's army has come!
To destroy Injustice, to restore dignity, we have come!

*Originally written in Hindi by Vibhuti Patel in March, 1982.
Translated into English by Dr. Joy Deshmukh*



AWAKE WOMEN OF THE WORLD

Awake Women of the world awake! Awake O World
awake !
Upon the throne of justice must you a huge protest make.
 Arise Women arise!
 Cut traitors down to size.
Rise, shout, you have to be heard yet,
Wear away this tradition-woven net,
To destroy cruel oppression-here they come!
To end an age of destruction-here they come!
 Come all women, Come we ask,
 To get freedom is your task.
 Today we will all unite,
 A lamp of woman's freedom we will light.
With friends, with workers
Women-here they come!
To free humanity-here they come!
To march to victory-here they come!

*Originally written by Kusum Thakar & Sonal Shukla.
Translated by Dr. Joy Deshmukh*

Written for a demonstration against the gangrape of teenage construction worker.

WE WILL NOT FEAR ANYONE

Shield of organization, sword of unity,
Will we take in our hands,
We will not fear anyone!
Now we will not fear anyone!
Walls of custom they have built – let them build.
Nets of slavery they have laid-let them lay.
We will not be fooled by masks,
Now we will not fear anyone!
Calling us idols of love, sacrifice, they install us in temples:
let them install.
Then making us servants they trample upon-let them
trample.
To assert our humanity,
We'll go ourselves.

We will not fear anyone!
Now we will not fear anyone!
With struggle and strife will we relate ourselves-
O yes we will!
With the downtrodden will we make friends-
O yes we will!
With the exploited, hand-in-hand we will advance.
We will not fear anyone!
Now we will not fear anyone!

*Originally written in Marathi by Nirmala Sathe
Translated by Joy Deshmukh.*

Written in 1979 at the time of First all Maharashtra Feminist conference at Pune.

VICTORY WILL BE OURS

We will fight,
Ahead will we go,
Against cruelty a new dawn to bring.
Will we stay together so,
Atrocities away we will wipe,
Rape afar we will drive,
Violence and beating to stop
Now we will strive.
With unity will we destroy
This reign of foot and plunder,
A new dawn to bring
Will we always stay together?
Those who wish our movement to fail,
Worry us with sticks, bullets, shackles and jails
If to face them, today we our strength gear
Victory will be ours. For sure! for sure! for sure!

*Originally written in Hindi by Soanl Shukla & Vibhuti Patel,
translated into English by Dr. Joy Deshmukh.*

In October, 1982, this march song was written for a demonstration by Forum Against Oppression of Women against rape and murder of a daughter of a textile worker by a railway policeman.

WOMANHOOD HAS AWOKEN

It has awoken O awoken this Womanhood!
At the door of dawn, a ray of red is stood.
 It's our world now! It is our world
 No more tears, fated and age old-
O we will change the thoughts of our world's womanhood
It has awoken this womanhood!
 This world has awoken O so fresh,
 It has been cleared, this centuries old garbage mess
Thousands of chains have broken for good
It has awoken O awoken this Womanhood!

Based on old revolutionary song in Hindi. Translated by Dr. Joy Deshmukh