2Qs – 2 Question Poems

2Qs are poems with a two question format. Such structure existed in many languages for a long time. Formally the 2Qs structure of two stanzas each consisting of three lines of 5 to 9 syllables and fourth line “why?” was created in the Telugu language by Tirupathi Reddy Chandrupatla in 2007. He wrote over a hundred of these poems and these are published in the Sunday edition of Andhra Prabha, daily newspaper in Hyderabad, India since January 2008.

Few of these published poems appear in the following pages. The English translations indicate the idea but do not follow the structure stated above.

Tirupathi R. Chandrupatla
Buddhists
2Qs

Buddhists are
Mild people
Why trouble them?

If they turn against
And revolt
Why run away?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
Beautiful Wife

2Qs

In order to find
A beautiful wife
Why such an intense search?

If they say “What an ugly
match for a beautiful one!”
Why worry?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
While in Trouble
2Qs

When others are
In trouble
Why turn away?

When all troubles
Approach you
Why say “No one to help me?”

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
Position
2Qs

With blind faith
In the veil of power
Why boss over others?

When job’s gone
And prestige with it
Why crawl and cry?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
Fertilizers 2Qs

For a bigger yield
Of what you grow
Why use chemicals?

For that reason
You say new diseases have come
Why?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
As a student
You pay tuition
Why neglect studies?

Later in life you say
I should have studied then
Why?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
History
2QS

You make a great effort
To learn history in curricula
Why?

The mistakes of the past
You commit again
Why?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
Prices

2Qs

To get more
Profits
Why raise prices?

With unsold
Inventory
Why run into losses?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
River Bank
2Qs

After careful
Planning of the house
Why build it on the river bank?

With raging floods
And house washed away
Why cry?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
Weed Flowers
2Qs

Saying that
Weed flowers 'r beautiful
Why keep weeds?

If crop yield 's
Too low
Why worry?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
Place of Worship

2Qs

You build temples
To show faith in God
Why?

In temple administration
And its conduct
Why have conflicts?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
The Guru
2Qs

Just because
He wears right robes
Why call him a guru?

If he does not posses
The deep knowledge
Why follow him?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
Plateful
2Qs

Saying that
I am hungry
Why serve yourself a plateful?

Saying
“I can’t eat all this”
Why throw away a big chunk?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
Dark Clouds
2Qs

When dark clouds 'r
Spread out in the sky
Why roam outside?

It rains and
You get wet
Why say “it didn’t dry?”

Chandrupalta Tirupathi Reddy
Crooked Plot

2Qs

In order to eliminate
The rivals
Why use wily plot?

If rivals use
Same on you
Why disappear?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
Change

2Qs

You make slogans
To bring change
Why?

If you can understand
What you have
Why there 's need for change?

Chandrupalta Tirupathi Reddy
Auspicious Time
2Qs

When a hand is broken
At auspicious time
Why say “it’s only left hand?”

If same thing happens
At an ominous time
Why say “hand is broken?”

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy
Quality

2Qs

“Giving quality product Is our motto”
Why say such slogans?

If you cannot deliver
A quality product
Why exist?

Chandrupatla Tirupathi Reddy