



ka Samadoon

Afartaas dalaynta leh murtida, Dararo meelaynta
 Iyo Doorran Tiirron Mudhbaxan, Deercad dhaleygiis ah
 Dahab tayah, ah shaalooy dunlooy, Malabkii doocaan ah
 Iyo tii Rabbay Daayin ahe, Deeqliis igu raacday
 Iyo taanan deyn karin iyadoon, Laygu dihin iilka
 Iyo doonnanaystaye dabuub, Duugleh hadhitaanka
 Iyo seben dawaaddeed khad taan, Qun ula daaweystey
 Nudantayaan dacfaray saabintiyo, Dabaqyo seesaasha

Cabdulqaadir Xaaji Cali Xaaji Axmed (1962-2001)

from Samadoon

...These lines in ‘d’ wisdom swelling
 The poem with milk
 Chosen Outstanding Support born of the finest camel colour
 my gilded words a shawl of fine thread
 honey from Yemen this poem of God everlasting
 whose generosity has placed it in me
 that I cannot forget until I lie in the grave
 my poetic engagement the verse long lasting
 that will remain whose ink I befriended
 I mastered plaiting it as a wicker basket
 with its lid and holder.....

*translated from Somali
 by Martin Orwin.*

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