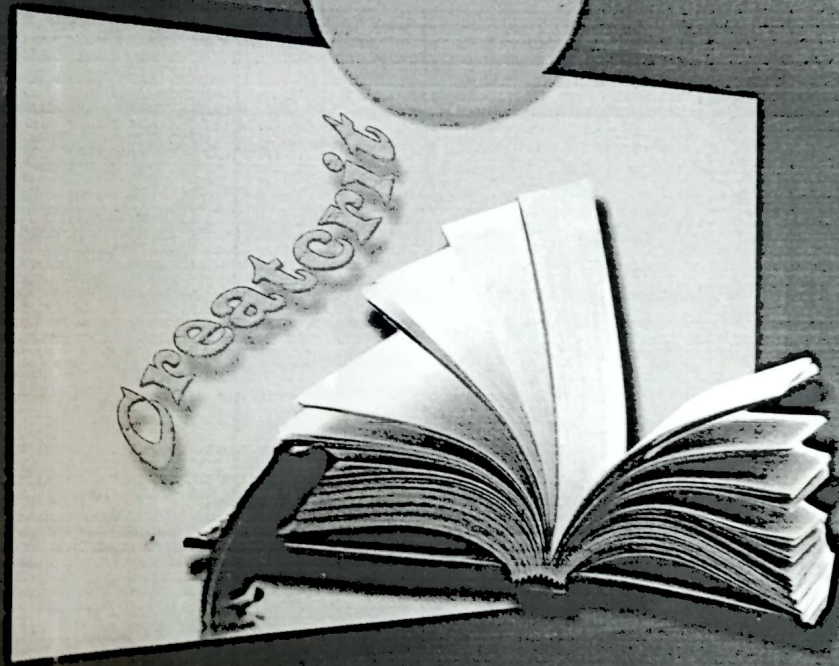




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## Lalon Shah's Use of Proverbs in His Poetry

Jyotirmay Roy

Asstt. Prof., Dept. of Bengali, Birpara College,  
Alipurduar (WB), PIN- 735204  
e-mail: jyotiroy.12@gmail.com

**Abstract:** *Lalon Shah (1774-1890) is one of the prominent spiritual figures in Indian subcontinent. More than two thousand songs, poems and riddles are there whose authorship scholars attribute to him. These forms of composition are still on the lips of the ordinary people in greater Bengal. Even after one hundred and fifty years his works evoke spiritual sense in people's minds. The saint's works are imbued with deep philosophy of life expressed in a lucid and simple language. His songs have a distinct tone that mesmerizes one and all. His songs are known as baula songs. These songs are like collage of social life even though they are basically about this and after life. Almost every song reflects experience of folk life. While doing so the poet has made ample use of proverbs and legends that too make it rich aesthetically. Not only that he has used proverbs as was used in folk life he has also revitalized it and used in his compositions. Moreover some of his own sayings have made inroads into common men's mind in such a way that they have become proverbs. Values and inner significance of his proverbs cannot be dismissed.*

**Key-words:** *Lalon's philosophy, folk literature, proverb, folk song, society, history.*

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