## Animal Poaching by Palak Chadha

Not so far away

A seal sits upon a rock

Suddenly it is shocked

A Boom, Boom, Boom

Cuts through the atmosphere

A human, a gun in its hand

A look of madness in his eyes

The seal slips and SPLASH!

A sprinkle of red in the vast blue

Its life, its soul sucked out

Its skin, the only thing left in the human's hand

The human turned the skin into

Shoes, a purse and a belt

The seal that once sat upon a rock

Now sat on a woman's shoulders, a man's hip

And warmed a child's feet

Not so far away

A dolphin swims in the water bay

Calm, kind and sweet

With a kiss on the nose they greet

Repaid with a slash to the throat

Is this something to gloat?

A blanket of crimson laid across the sea

Cheers of glee

Erupt from the fishermen

Another kill. Hooray!

The predator has caught its prey.

Now the dolphin swims in silence

Not in the sea but on a glass plate

Or it rests on the hook as crab bait

Food for humans, food for crabs

The end is written in the dolphin's fate

Not so far away

Is that day

Where our tears

Will be greater than our cheers

Where we will cry for the empty oceans

And the bare forests

When will our emotions prevail?

When will our humanity shine?

When will we realise that we are the monsters

That we need to kill

We are not fine

Change. Change is what we need

Otherwise our animals will bleed

To death they will suffer

And who will we blame

The environment? The nature of life?

When will we end this strife?

Not so far away

Is that time

When we will try our best

To catch a glimpse of a nest

Our world will bear the burn

Of an abandoned forest, ocean, river

When will we learn?

The sooner the better

Otherwise our pleas will turn into a dead letter

Stop this nonsense

Till when shall we sponsor

The death of animals

Stop poaching!

The end of our animal friends

Is soon approaching