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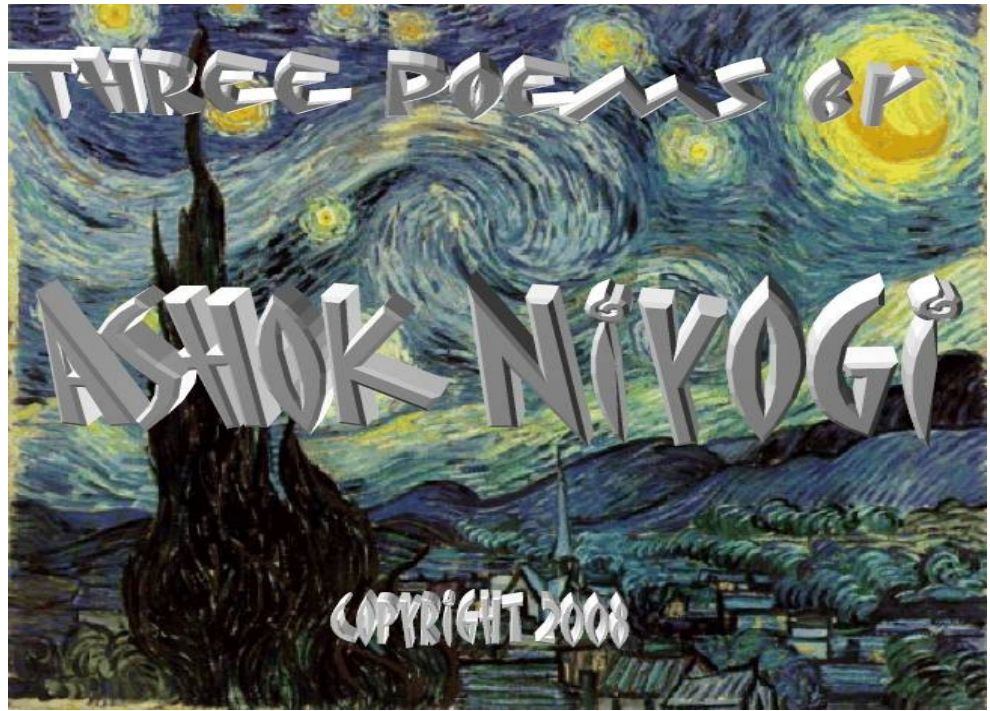
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## Golden Temple

carp

orange red  
silver grey  
white

carp gulp up  
the eleventh day moon  
and open their mouths again

to light wavelets  
on the nectar

a temple all golden  
waxes and wanes  
in crests and troughs

on Bose speakers  
my heart is a harp

## Border

razor wire rolls  
rip serpentine fog

lights  
green yellow and red  
sing high voltage  
barbed wire

thin angle-iron  
meanders  
to the map-maker's whim

corn fields  
are already in night

our fog beats a retreat  
to their bugles  
electrocuted  
by our song

overhead  
a flight of swallows  
swoops in from our east  
banks  
and flies  
on into their sky  
their red  
setting sun

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## Memorial

what struck me first  
is how far away  
the firing positions were  
from the walls with bullet-holes

which now need preserving in wooden frames  
rather innocuous  
as a backdrop for tourists with digital cameras

such mayhem  
must have required good aim

and then I am engulfed in shame

all my life I have tirelessly endeavored  
to teach myself and train  
that I could pick up the guns  
of those that massacred  
and learn their language  
so that I could write to them

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**Ashok Niyogi** has published a book of poems, *Tentatively*, and has been extensively published in print and on-line magazines and in chapbook form in the USA, UK, Australia, India, and Canada. At retired for several years, he cashew farms, writes and travels. He divides his time between California, where his daughters live, Delhi, and the Indian Himalayas.