**LIQUOR (SORO)**

Liquor really you are so powerful

Without you I will be very sorrowful

Only with your help I won the heart of that beautiful dame

And finally our hearts were sealed and I won the game.

I was unable to ask her hand for dance

Only a peg of Macieira gave me a chance

On the stage too I had no voice

Only a drink made me rejoice.

The happiness and strength of mankind is the drink

In times of sickness and weakness great comfort it brings

Why do you drink beyond limit, Oh man

And lose your self-respect and sense?

Government is determined to ban you, my beloved friend

But man will surely find a way and it will not be your end.

If bars are stopped, private “gadios” will flourish

Mixed with water you will be sold and forever cherished.

If making liquor is stopped

Selling illicit liquor will prosper

The Queen of the house, lady no doubt

Making heaps of money, adulterating liquor throughout.

Even the women merrily gulp down

Seeing their husbands coming, they hide in the godown.

But I promise, never to leave you, my friend

Through all ups and downs, I’ll be with you till the end.

**Melquiades Rodrigues**

“gadios” => Konkani word for small, local liquor selling shops.