PART ONE

Before the Taliban

سورې سورې په ګولو راشي د بې ننګئ أواز د رامه شه مئينه

Sorey sorey pa golo rashey Da be nangai awaz de ra ma sha mayena

Rather I receive your bullet-riddled body with honour Than news of your cowardice on the battlefield

(Traditional Pashto couplet)