

FROM THE EYES OF AN INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER.....

**The spirit rises, the soul is entwined;
A beautiful sight beyond imagination of the mind.**

**So green that the eye cannot believe;
difficult for even a skilled artist to weave.**

**A land of shades of green colour; of valleys and hills;
of customs, traditions & kings making it so special.**

**Red rice, mushrooms, buckwheat, ferns and Asparagus are in plenty;
for it is indeed a land of nature's bounty.**

**People are sweet, simple and nice;
free from all malice, evil and vice.**

**Love for Soja, Doma and Aeze is strong;
and indulgence in Arra and Chhang is common knowing that it a
little bit wrong.**

**Beautiful are the women so elegant and smart;
whose sweet way of talking can flutter many a heart.**

**Children with rosy cheeks and small wondering eyes;
look like little angels from the skies.**

**Of monasteries and monks and Buddhism and Drongs;
of little monks in red robes and maroon coloured gowns.**

**Monasteries are a wonder with colourful paintings on the walls;
replete with symbolism and colourful balls.**

**Of dragons and patterns and designs of all kinds;
of animals & flowers which rarely one can find.**

**On entry the gongs and drums are heard in the air;
the prayers and the mantras are chanted with so much care.**

**The divine experience, incense and the game of dice;
will help you make choices that you can divinely decide.**

**Yaks, snow and prayer flags of five colours fluttering in the air;
are a sight that is undoubtedly so very rare.**

**People are a model of commitment & work;
and hard work and loyalty which they rarely shirk.**

**Which land is this you will wonder;
for it is quite a land like no other.**

**For all live in harmony both nature and man;
Yes it is indeed -----the Royal Kingdom of Bhutan (Druk yul)**

Penned by:-

Rakhee Gupta Bhandari, IAS

Resident Commissioner of Punjab.

**When she was International Observer to Bhutan
from Election Commission of India,
New Delhi.**