

## Ode to the Open Road

I saw it on Facebook. It sounded good,  
A seven-league stroll through a vast neighbourhood.  
Perenjori to Morawa; quite far, no doubt,  
Of course, I was hoping this walkabout  
Under the skies in the great outdoors  
To champion a most worthy cause\*  
Might make me new buddies - and win me applause!  
It began on a Friday, gazing in awe  
At a mighty Cathedral designed by Mons Hawe,  
Priest-Architect. (*He preferred the Bahamas,  
His beard and humble monastic pyjamas  
To purple robe and accolade,  
But obediently, he plied his trade,  
Using those skills as an architect  
Many "sacred sites" to erect.*)  
Ironically, the most sacred sight  
We encountered en route in warm sunlight  
Did not involve buildings, but nature's splendour,  
Previewing spring in floral agenda,  
And fellow souls living beautiful lives  
(*On long walks outdoors, conversation thrives.*)  
Yes, historic buildings at either end  
Of our two- day walk were a true "God-send,"  
As, united, we sighed our gratitude  
For sanctuary from conflict rude,  
Away from all that is over-rated,  
Enjoying the simple understated  
Pleasures of life on nature's floors,  
Far from the horror of senseless wars.  
Thanks to the planks of Monsignor Hawes!

\*Preservation of the unique and lovely churches designed by Monsignor Hawes in the 1800s. For more info -

<https://www.monsignorhawes.com/>