Colour Line

Asian Dub Foundation

Today, the color line is the power line, is the poverty lineRacism and imperialism work in tandem
And poverty is their handmaidThose who are poor and powerless to break out of their poverty
Are also those who by and large are non-white, non-western, third world
Poverty and powerlessness are intertwined in color, in race
Discrimination and exploitation feed into each other today
Under global capitalismWe are back to primitive accumulation, plunder on a world scale
Only this time, the pillage is accompanied by aid
Sustained by expert advice and underpinned by programmes
And policies that perpetuate dependencyThe IMF, the world bank, structural adjustment programmes
General agreement on tariffs and trade, gatt
Are just a few of the organizations, schemes, projects
Which under the guise of developing the third world, plunder itTrade agreements and commodity price-fixing
Patents and intellectual property rights
They lock them into paralytic dependencyThere is no such thing as illegal immigrants
Only illegal governmentsBlack is not just the color of our skins
It's this color of our politicsThere is no such thing as illegal immigrants
Only illegal governmentsToday, the color line is the power line, is the poverty line

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