

Pathya Vat

Asian Tsunamis

x Tsunamis wash
a away and crash,
a hit shore and smash
b some people's lives.

x We watch and hope
b chaotic sea
b threateningly
c will not expand.

x As debris breaks
c ties to the land
c we comprehend
d in pure horror.

Pathya Vat:

1. Cambodian form.
2. Syllable Count: 4 per line
3. Rhyme Scheme: 2nd and 3rd line rhyme. If more than one quatrain, the rhyme is picked up from the 4th line of the previous stanza. x-a-a-b x-b-b-c x-c-c-d etc. x=unrhymed.