

RANDOM THOUGHTS



K. K. V. PERINGOTTUKARA

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CRITICAL APPRECIATION

INTRODUCTION TO 'RANDOM THOUGHTS'

By Capt. Subhash S. Bhandarkar

I have known **Shri K.K.V. PERINGOTTUKARA** for a long time and we have been colleagues and friends for many years. After writing books of poems in Malayalam, he has now forayed into English writing. His command and usage of the English language is outstanding and he conveys his thoughts and feelings in an exemplary manner. He weaves a rich tapestry of words and turn of phrase which enthralls and delights the reader. His philosophy of life combined with aspects of his sterling character clearly emerges from his rich prose and lilting poetry to captivate, enchant and enthuse the reader.

In this selection, there are four Essays and fifteen Poems written by Shri Peringottukara.

In '*ALONG THE ALANG COAST-LINE*', the author gives a philosophical perspective of the world's biggest ship breaking yard. A ship which once proudly and regally sailed the seven seas over a span of many years, at the end of her economic lifespan, is finally laid to rest at Alang - the graveyard of ships. Shri Peringottukara is saddened and despondent over the event but consoles himself that nothing is spared by the eternal wheel of time. Just as man is 'reborn' or 'resurrected' so also the ship doesn't perish but is 'recycled'.

In '*BUSINESS – NOT AS USUAL*', Shri Peringottukara elaborates on the ethics and principles of doing good business. He emphasizes

the value of honesty, integrity and fair play in the business field and suggests that these qualities will pay rich dividends in the long run. As he says, “A good businessman, apart from being a dedicated service provider, must be a far-fetching visionary, for the gradual upliftment of the socio-economic status of the people”.

‘*INDEPENDENCE THROUGH INTER-DEPENDENCE*’ was written by the Author on our 50th Independence day – the golden jubilee of our Independence. On this auspicious occasion, Shri. Peringottukara beseeches us to reaffirm the oath that we shall, at any cost, safeguard the prestigious image and integrity of our nation. He further emphasizes that the ‘Independence’ shall under no circumstances be confined by any boundary of Caste, Creed, Tribe or Religion including Region. In other words ‘Independence’ is best possible through ‘Inter-dependence’!

What a noble vision indeed.

In ‘*RANDOM THOUGHTS*’, Shri. Peringottukara captures the reader’s attention by painting a mosaic of enchanting scenes with the help of colourful words and delightful phrases. While idly lounging on his verandah on a beautiful autumn evening, the author reflects on the ways and means to lead a productive, fruitful and happy life. In this essay, Shri. Peringottukara explores some deep, profound and philosophical concepts for embarking on the road to lasting peace.

The ‘*15 POEMS*’ penned by Shri. Peringottukara capture the author’s moods, experiences and views on a wide range of topics. With diverse titles such as ‘A Realization’, ‘Grant it Not’, ‘The Kite’, ‘Invocation’, ‘One Family’ etc, Shri Peringottukara uses all the literary tools at his command to convey among other things, his passion for life and all things living. To quote from his poem ‘One Family’:

*“Above creed, breed and species;
Beyond time, space and seas,
‘Love’ – the only religion – exists
That unites the universe, ours!”*

I wish Shri Peringottukara all success with this publication of Poems

and Essays and look forward to his future works in the literary field.

POEMS OF CREATIVE IMAGINATIONS

***PARAS MANI TRIPATHI (IRS), Assistant Commissioner of
Customs, Bhavnagar.***

Poetry comes spontaneously to a sensitive person. As a gifted poet, Shri. K.K. Venugopalan has brilliance of thoughts and excellence in language. He has successfully expressed his intensely felt emotions and feelings in his 4th Book of Poems “Random Thoughts”.

Random Thoughts is a collection of beautiful poems and a few articles, all in poetic language itself, from all walks of life and deals not only social stuff but also moral, psychological, devotional and emotional issues of the contemporary life.

Though the title given by the poet is ‘Random Thoughts’, these thoughts are full of ethical values and moral teachings. In his poem “Under the Blanket” the poet has meticulously and thought provokingly presented, one of the greatest lessons of life as:

Life, no more a life – when
None to love and to be loved;
None to wait and weep for!
– What a perplexed phenomenon:
Life – like a flower, ephemeral!
Love – its nectar, eternal!?

The apt analogy for life and love that has been brought out by the poet in last two lines of above stanza is highly commendable and shows the level of imagination and creativity with which poet is gifted.

Social issues are another important theme of his poetry. The poet is extremely saddened with the present day social disorders like discrimination based on cast, creed and tribe, so also the stigma of terrorism. In his poem “For a While” he exhorts us against such disorder and inhumanity:

“Those who worship a

Creator, in need,
Respect also His
Creations indeed!
God finds rest
Seldom at the height
Nor in the Church,
Temple and the Mosque;
But in the hearts
Of the poor folk,
And the acts of
All the 'goodness' sprout!!”

Similarly in the same poem, he cautions:

“Spreading panic and
Terror is the sin,
As is wilful act
Full of venom in!
Never deserves a
Pardon for this err.
Crime against God? –
Punishment pricks hard!”

His writings are synchronized with both creativity and imagination and are amazingly didactic too.

I am sure the collection of the poems and the articles will certainly touch the hearts and minds of the readers, and urge them towards respecting the nature, life and humanity.

The Poet has successfully published three compilations of poems in Malayalam which are much liked by the readers. I wish him all the best for his fourth anthology “RANDOM THOUGHTS”.

SOME THOUGHTS ON ‘RANDOM THOUGHTS’

K.K. Vijayan, Trivandrum

I had the privilege of going through the collection of Poems and passages written by Shri. KKV Peringottukara. It was a task stretching the limits of my limited language armoury. The joy and satisfaction of completing a task, above one's catch and capabilities would always be rewarding and relaxing.

It is human thoughts that created everything man made. Thoughts created the greatest literary works, romantic poems, poems in stone like the ones at Khajuraho and Ajantha and all the political ideologies. The Nuclear bombs, Man's journey to the Moon and Penicillin all are products of human thoughts.

The author's thoughts walk us through different periods of life, as he sees them through an unbiased, detached and poetic mind and makes us wonder about wonders of life, nature and universe. When those thoughts are reflected in paper, penned through a lucid pen inked with words of the right flavor, texture and tone we have creations like this, giving a unique experience.

A common theme I noticed in the poems is 'birds'. Birds are, a very good example, for we humans to emulate. "The Birds of the sky, do not sow or reap". Most of us spend our lifetimes sowing and worrying about reaping for ages to come, not just tomorrow.

Birds are capable of flying high and they are at ease at the low ground too. Some of us remains low for all the time, others at height are incapable of thinking about ground below. Flexibility and adaptability are the lessons the birds teach us.

Similar thoughts, vision and philosophy can be seen in the Articles too. Looking at an abandoned ship at Alang, the author reminds us how short lived the life is. Only a sculptor can create a poem out of a way-side Rock; only a philosophic mind can look at the world through a wrecked ship.

Apart from the style and class every article gives us some thing to take home. Independence comes only through interdependence. If

we all realize this, life can be much more enjoyable.

‘Business – Not as usual’ speaks about realities of modern business. Eroding values is a curse of the century and a by-product of material advancement and spiritual ignorance. The same value erosion is felt in every walk of life or at Home.

It was good experience to go through the above. I wish Mr Venugopalan (KKV Peringottukara) all the very best in his further endeavours.

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