



A STUDY OF P. LANKESH'S POEM 'MOTHER'



Dr. Arunkumar Nooli

Assistant Professor
P. G. Department of English
Shri K. A. Lokapur Arts, Science and Commerce College
And P. G. Studies in English and Commerce, Athani

ABSTRACT

The research paper is a study of P Lankesh's poem 'Mother'. The original poem is originally written in Kannada language and translated into English by K. N. Sridhar. This study is based on both the original poem titled as 'Avva' in Kannada and the English translated version of the poem. The poet P. Lankesh has presented the value and importance of mother in family and women in society. In the mother

(Avva) is compared to mother Earth in a satirical and metaphorical implication, where many Indians do respect mother Earth and further it made me go deeper into the poem. The poet describes the situation of rural women in Karnataka.

KEYWORDS

Kannada, Avva, Value and Importance, Mother Earth, Satire. Metaphor, Rural women, Karnataka.

RESEARCH PAPER

Introduction :

Avva (Mother) poem deals with how a rural woman lived her entire life and compared to mother Earth. Mother is treated as a Servant in her family and a slave in society. It leads to the patriarchy. This research paper shows the values and importance of mother in her family. Palyada Lankeshappa originally knew as P. Lankesh, who was born on 8th March, 1935 in Konagavalli, Shimoga, Karnataka. He was a versatile Kannada poet, playwright, novelist, translator, screenplay writer, Professor, Critic and Journalist. He is popularly known for his Kannada tabloid 'Lankesh Patrike', which was a household name during 1980 until his last breath in 2000. He has contributed considerable numbers of poems, stories, plays, fictions and essays in both Kannada and English. He wrote a good number of poetry in Kannada, 08 books on criticism, 03 plays and essays on various issues of that time. He made a remarkable contribution to the Kannada film Industry by winning the National Best Director award for his film Pallavi in 1976.

He pioneered a novel in Kannada called Biruku, later adopted as a film 'Pallavi' in Kannada. Lankesh translated two most read Greek books Oedipus Rex and Antigone into Kannada. It shows his mastery over two languages. In this poem 'Mother' P. Lankesh Speaks about where mother is expressed that mother is not only his but also everyone's mother. This poem can be interpreted in the view of Children as it deals with the values and importance of every mother should be known by her children. When it reads the first line of the poem where the poet calls her own mother, but when the poem is completed then she becomes everyone's mother.

The significant contribution of the poem is the poet P. Lankesh ponders how much of his mother is still alive in him after he has lived a criticized life in the city for so many years. In the first stanza the poet compares his mother to mother Earth, it shows how both mothers are important for being humans.

*Black, fertile land,
a stretch of green leaves,*

*and a fest of fair flowers, my mother;
stronger with every burn,
with more suffering,
more fruits and flowers,
kick of her kids, heavenly bliss;
resting the basket on the ground, she
groaned, closed her eyes, didn't open again. (26-27)*

Mother earth is black and productive soil with an expanded green flora and flowers where mother finds out her happiness and satisfaction from all the pains that make her stronger than previous days. When she gets hurt by her own children she becomes happy and thrilled, where she worked bare handed till her death. The poet's mother was rustic woman who lived an uncomplicated life.

In the Second Stanza, the poem speaks about a mother's attitude towards her family and the society. She works hard with bare hands in the field to get a livelihood for her family. Every mother in this land never thought about herself and never cared for herself. She behaves very strong and protective.

*Youth spent in tattered saris,
her hands tilled the lands,
watered the fields, and raised
pepper, jower, corns and grains;
treating her fields like tender buds,
she grew sacks full of corns
to please her man, win a hug and bracelet; (26-27)*

Every mother watches over the fields by spending her early days in rural clothing. The poem is an emotional expression of poet's remembering of his mother, who is died recently. This poem explores the sensitive and intense feeling of a son and attachments that son has towards his mother. P. Lankesh seeks to awaken us to the fact that the whole world is ignoring mothers in general.

In the third stanza, P. Lankesh describes that Mother died while working in the field, she worked till her last breath. Every one's mother cannot shatter by work and never become old; she lived her whole life to care for her family.

*Like the wild bear,
she bore her kids, reared her husband,
and, saved some money for hard times;
like the hurt bitch,
she growled and fought too;
petty, cheap, she picked faults,
bickered like a baboon;
she did everything, to save
her house, husband, kids.
She would flare: when her son
went wayward; and her husband
sniffed here and there. (26-27)*

Mother works throughout the day ignoring her starvation to feed her own children, but she couldn't even get proper food. In addition to, the poet speaks the selfishness and sacrifice of the mother. How the wild bear cares its children like mother also cares her children with dignity which they don't want to lose at any cost. Rural life of the Karnataka is shown in this poem to interpret the ideals of mother and her plight for selflessness.

The narrative of the poem 'Mother' by P. Lankesh is an attempt to study the mother's unswerving devotion to her children. The poem is based on the personal experience of the poet P. Lankesh in his life. Rural woman of India is subjected to a form of expression in the hands of patriarchy. This poem belongs to soft and rustic life of a rural woman described basically as a mother by the poet.

WORKS CITED

1. Indian Literature, 'Mother'; Bi-monthly Journal, vol. 280 (March/April 2014), page 26-27.