

Editorial

Edmond and Jules say, “One of the proud joys of the man of letters --if that man of letters is an artist to feel within himself the power to immortalize at will anything he chooses to immortalize. . . God creates lives; the man of imagination creates fictional lives which may make a profound and as it were more living impression on the world's memory.”

Literature immortalizes lives and memories: be it the dark lady of Shakespeare's sonnets or the picturesque countryside of the Lake District in the poems of Wordsworth. English literature is extraordinarily rich and endowed with exquisite gems of literary creation that cover the entire world within its range. Global in character, it is uniquely varied in essence; linguistically, culturally and in the genre. American literature, Indian English literature, African literature, etc. are some of the variants of English literature that has contributed to its enrichment and universality. Beaded onto a single thread of a global language it sparkles with the ethical and cultural distinctiveness of the various nationalities it represents.

The fictional lives portrayed and characters drawn in these various narratives and pertaining to various genres echo the authentic life and society of the times; yet their appeal is eternal and universal. In fact thoughts of a bygone era help us to comprehend life today. It helps in nurturing a taste and talent for the 'Letters', developing the sense of perception, comprehension and appreciation of literature.

Contemporary life is chaotic and complicated; literature mirrors life endeavouring to create a symphony out of chaos, and give meaning to our existence. It is history in the making that chronicles not mere dates and figures but a tale of human hearts and souls with all their agonies, struggle and tribulations. If it delves deep into the heart of misery, it also soars upward in celebration of the human spirit.

With so wide a spectrum and so great an obligation to man and life, literary endeavours require the generation of a favourable environment to grow. Creation of literature is as essential as its critical appreciation and appraisal that prepares a fertile ground for discussion, assessment, and innovation, nurturing new talents and further development. Research in literature is neither a futile and fruitless enterprise nor is it a child's play. It requires patience, critical insight, objectivity, knowledge, labour and a genuine love for literature.

Literature is people's history in the making. Let's make history together by sowing the seeds of good thought and ideas along with a judicious and accurate employment of intellect and emotion.

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