

## Editorial

Dear Readers,

It is my privilege and pleasure to present to you the current issue which has a range of interesting and insightful papers on William Shakespeare, possibly the greatest author who has penned in English.

Like all literature enthusiasts, I have a special interest in Shakespeare and feel that the Bard remains as relevant today as he was in his own times! Shakespeare holds a unique place in the world of literature and continues to enthral people across various cultures. His works reflect profound insights into the human condition as a wide range of thoughts, emotions and situations in diverse socio-political conditions find articulation in his works. This universality of his writings has inspired countless artistic renderings across time and space. Shakespeare continues to inspire passion and debate even 400 years after his death. As Ben Jonson rightly remarked: “He was not for an age but for all time!” With this perspective, the present edition brings together some pieces on a few plays of Shakespeare. We have a variety of papers that begin with C.A. Lal’s analysis of *King Lear* wherein he gives us a historical overview as also some fresh perspectives on this well-known tragedy. T.R. Murali Krishnan gives us some insights and critical observations on a lesser-known political tragedy, *Coriolanus*, based on the life of a legendary Roman leader which gives us an idea of the politics of that ancient era. Besides acquainting us with the plot and characters of *Much Ado About Nothing*, the Paper written by Shaila Mahan reflects on the enduring relevance of this witty and fascinating comedy. In addition to these three pieces, P.N. Ramani gives us an absorbing summary of *The Merchant of Venice* and based on that he has designed some interesting and engaging tasks on the characters and structure of the famous comedy. Finally, T.S. Chandra Mouli provides a comprehensive interpretation of *The Tempest*, the last of the Bard’s plays regarded by many as his most mature creation which revolves around the key theme of colonisation. Hope the writings on Shakespearean plays would set the tone for further interesting and absorbing issues.

Regards,

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