

A STUDY OF THE POETRY OF R.PARTHASARATHY

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Abstract

The poetry of R. Parthasarathy is important not only for what it says but also for how it says. This brings to our mind the symbolic expression. The complex human feeling are best explained through the fusion and transmutation of various poetic devices. He is a man of cultivated taste, he writes imagistic verse of austerity. He is a man of cultivated taste, He revises and drops certain lines in order to make his poetry more suggestive and significant. But very rarely he re touches image which as it were serves as a nucleus to his poem. Adil jussawalla makes an interesting study of image in R.Parthasarathy's poetry: The strength of his poetry lies almost entirely in its visual juxtapositions and the starting image. His lines don't sing. He cultivates the deliberately prosaic style, an undertone of rhythm itself. So at their best his poems become memorable individual images themselves.

Keywords: Study, poetry style rhyme etc

In the modern world, which is characterized by deep erosion of human values and abundant outburst of frustration, isolation and materialistic hypocrisy, quest has acquired all the more significance and it stands revealed through several ways the search for meaning, for greater identity, for wholeness, for mooring being heroic etc. This search makes a kind of quarrel in the artist creative writer. He encompassing different theories and ideologies in his work, perplexes the critics. He frequently shifts his perspective and outlook on life as he feels himself in exile.

Such a sense of exile is a dominant feature in the poetry of many Indian poets who now live or have lived for long periods abroad. A.K. Ramanujan G.S. Sharat Chandra, Shiv K Kumar H.O Nazareth Vikram Seth are some of the poets whose name can be mentioned in his regard. These Indian expatriate poets do not write from the position of a distinct foreign community, such as the exiled black or west Indian novelists but their writings reflect the perspective of someone between two cultures. They may look back on Indian with nostalgia statically celebrating their liberation or asserting their biculturalism, but they also look skeptically and wryly on their new homeland as outsider, with a feeling of something having

been lost in the process of growth. The ability to tolerate, accommodate and absorb other cultures without losing the consciousness of being Indian marks a quarrel in them.

R.Parthasarathy (1934-) too belongs to this group of poets. He has expressed his feeling of alienation and disappointment in England as reasons for their return to Indian and attempt to find a vital relationship to its culture. This causes a ceaseless quarrel in him and he expresses it in his poetry. Like a quarrelling self, he began and remained critic of existing Indian society while seeking its renewal and transformation He gives more emphasis to the loss of rootedness through his English language education and poetry which place a wall between himself and the tradition of Tamil culture His poetry is the articulation of poet's colonial tensions, of an exile who has alienated himself from his culture and has gone whoring after his English gods. His poetic career marks three different phases of development in terms of the poet's outlook on life as well as his predominant response to changing environment.

The study giving an overview of modern Indian English poetry holds that all the contemporary poets including R.Parthasarathy have a major concern with self probing poetry They have a sense of alienation They all seek their roots in Indian soil. All the poets are bilingual and have a search for identity as their main theme They have a love for experimentation and personal emotions. They have a great love for experimentation and personal emotions. They have a great love for irony and verbal play and they tend to explore complex range of human experience which is often the experience of the poets themselves. This shows that parthasarathy expresses himself vigorously in his poetic lines.He lives and breathes in Indian context despite his being abroad. He also shows his deep concern with the contemporary Indian poetry written and being written in English. In this manner , poetry flows as a forceful tributary to form a big stream of Indian English poetry. There is novelty of themes and individuality of treatment as it is common in the poetry of the most of the modern poets both in India and abroad.

As far as Parthasarathy's poetry is concerned, there is the conflict of two cultures in which he was forced to live for a certain period and found solace in "Home Coming" The first part of Rough passage deals with the question of language and identity and so suffers The essential and existential questions that are asked at the deeper levels of the quest for identity are who am I? What am I doing here? and where do I come from? A sense of loss and purposelessness and an oppressive need to know the answers to these fundamental questions put him in a condition whereby all actions impossible. Fear and doubt, which arise in his mind in this existential situation, are the consequences of the recognitions of plurality, a plurality that tugs in various directions.

The cultural gap between the East and the West created the entire story of conflict in the mind and soul of great poet An honest expression of this cultural gap and pouring forth of the English of the confliction soul makes the poems of Parthasarathy an honorable literary exercise The conflict provides him with an opportunity of reveling the same psychic reality of the human living. He exclaims:

How long can foreign poets provide the staple of your lines
Turn inward Scrape the bottom of your past”

So, it is quite clear that R. Parthasarathy wants to recreate the high traditions of the Tamil past He is very much dissatisfied with what is happening around him. The high literary tradition of Tamil is broken by the lustful and vulgar onslaughts on the Tamil language. Actually Parthasarathy became an object of his own ironic situation. Despite his Dravidian fascination ,his feet were chained in English language. He saw that his own poetic personality was under an enigma. His learning in English and his pride of his Tamil tradition found themselves at the cross roads. Finally, he decided in favour of “Home Coming” after a lot of struggle the exile. Actually,R. Parthasarathy wanted to have the pride of his native culture in his writings. In the field of English writings and among the English people, he found himself alien and suffered from rootlessness. Despite all his learnings and teachings in English he had and still has a lure towards his Dravidian glory.

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