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Book Review

The Nativist Vision of Life in the Works of Basavaraj Naikar

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The writers, the editors and the learned contributors write, read, and evaluate a text as a matter of volition. They are intensely impressionable private one with the inimitable personal responses to life. They think, feel, record and register such feelings in compositions. Their thoughts are in print as men speaking to men. They re create in manifold ways their ideas. They imitate meaningful discourses with fellow human beings in plain and inclusive ways on the subjects of regionalism, historical, political, social and legendary stories of India, geography and social milieu. Folklores, life of people in the times of kingdoms, wartimes, and colonial period. The rich volume entitled *The Nativist Vision of Life in the Works of Basavaraj Naikar* is edited by P. V. Laxmiprasad. The gift of editing is an art. It is an inspiration and there is a divinity moving around him and guiding him to undertake the work of editing the research articles by creative and critical minded with fervor for extending the horizon of literary world. “A Bond Beyond Bondage: Guru Shishya in Basavaraj Naikar’s *Light in the House*” produces total impressions that only binding force of love that is central and perennial is the Guru-disciple kinship. Guru has a sacramental function leading the disciples from all bondage to ultimate freedom. Hemalatha’s efforts have given a new light of reason by giving directions to critical thoughts. “Celebrating Siddhabharath: His Greatness and Spiritual Quest in Basavaraj Naikar’s *Bird in the Sky*” establishes a phase of expansion effected through metaphysical realm of wisdom and illustrated by the life of Siddhabharathi to extol the supreme excellence of his teachings manifested in his exemplary life. Anita Arul has picked the essentials and put them in the right format. “The Essence of Spiritual Light through Jnana Marga in Basavaraj Naikar’s *Light in the House*” dramatizes the impulses resulting in mental illumination and the much needed gale of change by virtue of chronicling

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the noble deeds of Sharif. The literary compositions serve as a leverage of intellectual stimulus by means of models of good doctrines and moral of impressions defining the path of uprightness and meaning away from the ways of darkness. The fictional account of the Saint Sharif, Mrs. Malathy observes, benefits the sea of humanity, coloured up with local legends and folk memory. “Magic Realism and Hagiography in Basavaraj Naikar’s *Bird in the Sky*” Singh picks up a catalyst of peace, one great saint and breathes the air of mysticism, mystery and miraculous happenings into the life of a saint. Like Siddhartha, he embarks upon a long journey of his life initiating mission mode of reviving the energy of masses towards the rewarding end. “The Concept of Realism in Basavaraj Naikar’s *Bird in the Sky*” by Candy D Cunha explicates in uniquely coloured vibrations of facilitating the sustenance of morality through the portrayal of a living saint and the subject of self-sacrifice and renunciation in order to save people from the forward things. “*The Bird in the Sky: A Study of Spiritual Amelioration of the Society*” by Naveen Mallam is a perfect epitome of the oddities and challenges man encounters in life. Siddhartha Bharathi serves as a tool for holistic development of the disciples and arouses a deep sense of multi dimensional insights, intrinsically linked with the human behaviors impacting sovereignty of the society. “Role of Songs in the Portrayal of Shariff Saheb as Mystic Balladeer in *Light in the House*” by a critic Padmaja holds an unparalleled attraction of the Guru for us in the journey of productive zeal for transmitting weighty thoughts to the world. He is very sanguine by nature, very benignant, wonderfully diligent firming up the affinity and strengthen his bond with the disciples. His core services determine his vision of progressive ideas as a veteran patron. “Female Heroism of *Queen of Kittur* : A Post-Colonial Reading” touched up by Kamala Rajan has much efficient perspectives on the quality of shoeing mental and moral strength, courage and prowess of a historical figure Chennamma under colonial yoke submitted to social critique. “Existentialistic overtones in *The Sun Behind the Cloud* make a genuine speculation on the charitable king Babasaheb who satisfies the basic needs of people in his palace and embraces a plain living being reduced to the state of poverty. The critic Ramya adding to the greatness of subject of the existential problem and the majesty in the past life. “*Light in the House: The Saga of the Kabir of Karnataka* by PV Asha expostulates and

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reasons out earnestly with Sharif Saheb, a partaker of divine nature escapes the world of corruption and diligently adds to our faith, the multiplication of grace and peace and exceeding precious promises that end lives in our hearts of inner purity. “The Ascetic as the Light of the World: An Analysis of *Bird in the Sky*” Jyothimol warns and preaches every one with teachings and wisdom to present every man perfect. To continue in the faith grounded and settled when people are sometimes alienated by the wicked works of enemies, one must be well fortified with all might according to the Divine powers. Sushma Jenifer insists upon the sense of spirituality which must be innate in humanity from a study of mystic elements in *Light in the House*. She observes that it speaks volumes about the standard of human personality and the overall development to constitute morality – driven human society. A transmission of brilliant illumination of spiritual experiences into the absurd unchanging world in *Bird in the Sky* lights up the minds of the readers and urges mankind not to be guided by the forces of disintegration but to direct people to get wisdom and understanding. A flash of brilliance in the distinguished critic Lily Arul Sharmila is much obvious and she feels her passion for elaborating her ideas on the subject of spiritual anchor and transcendental reality which is the major concern of the author. “Miracles in the Lives of Ramalinga Vallalar and Siddha Bharathi and their Ideals: A Comparative Study, the article propagates and globalizes the ideas drawing parallels in the life history of saints in Tamil Nadu. A robust framework on the history of the saints is very memorable and so holy land India continues to draw sap from her earth realm. “Female Heroism in Basavaraj Naikar’s *The Queen of Kittur* ascribes to the high merit of Basavaraj Naikar for his constituting a character of Rani Chennamma who is an embodiment of patriotic fervor. She battles against British exhibiting her passion for the nation. The critical prowess of a reputed critic, Nagamani is much obvious in her engagement with the formidable line up of preserving the stature of interpretative skills. Her potential in calling wisdom out of the creative art and propagating to the reading public is quite inexhaustible. “*Bird in the Sky: A hagiography that Aviates the Souls to Fly High*” is enriched with the pertinent observations of Sheeba S Nair on the registered anguish and anger of Nair who lashes at the caste discrimination to do much for improving the quality of life with a sense of equality. These ideas are contributed to the

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transition in human society by means of an effective tool, literature. “Cultural Construction of Power: Writing/ Narrating Caste and Religion in *Light in the House*” contemplates on the heinous and perilous influences of caste and religion and also suggest the mechanism for saving the society from its dying human values with reversing of force, recovery and transformation. Nithin Varghese underscores the need to exercise the democratic ideals. “Historical Rehabilitation of an Indian Nationalist Hero in the *Sun Behind the Cloud*” beautifully renders the sequences of Naikar’s ideas on country’s history for one nationalist hero Babasaheb with the narratives of Bhaskar Rao’s personal life. John Paul insists on the primary facts to awaken the spirit of national fervor with the search for ascension. In yet another paper, “*The Sun Behind the Cloud- A Study of King Bhaskar Rao’s Fight for Freedom*” is a perfect execution of Naikar’s views on the brave hero –a towering personality aspiring for the light and spirit to the rising India with poise of the elaboration, expansion and development. “Ideological Clash between Chauvinism and Imperialism – A Thematic Study of the historic novel *The Rani of Kittur* marvelously brings out the brilliance of rising indomitable sun like Jhansi Rani in Indian history. Radha Mishra heightens the effects of heroism in the Rani of Kittur who goes forward, combines multiple strengths, makes complete constant efforts, crosses the barriers, surmounts over the difficulties and clears the clouds to illumine the minds. “Liberation with Immortality: Spiritual Liberation in *Bird in the Sky*” by Judith Sophia stresses upon the existential dynamics through spiritual liberation. Multifarious issues evoke her critical analytical frame of mind infusing spiritual values in her article rooted in abundance of philosophy with the acceptance to claim the divine traits of Siddha Bharathi. “Eternalizing Cultural Memory through Parallel in Literary Narratives” is a manifestation of transcendental force through the emblem of cultural heritage. Sumathi Sivakumar discusses the cultural richness. “Leadership Lessons from the Life of and Achievements of Kanakadasa in *The Golden Servant*” is a paper by Sumathi Sivakumar. She discusses the top notch leadership attributes highlighted by Kanakadasa’s personality. She admits multiple implications of and the layers of significance to focus primarily on the perceived qualities of leadership for the progressive features of human living. Kanakadasa’s life which is on fascinating, vital matter of onward progress lingers on linear acceleration.

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“The Colonial Encounter: Critical Analysis of the Sun Behind the Cloud” is a subject of permanent interest which led India to be on rise in the graph through the individualized, personified experiences. Suffering is an essential condition of human awakening. Suffering leads to spiritual aspiration and mental illumination. Such subject invigorates the Indian minds to form unique characteristics of the souls of India. Shreeja upholds to take extreme measures of verbally and critically to offer everlasting hope in the Indians and evolve the self assertive human spirit. “The Location of Culture: A Reading of *The Sun Behind the Cloud*” stands distinct to proclaim the greatness of critic Charles Joseph who has acted upon his linguistic competence to employ his critical acumen. “Philosophy of Life in Bird in the Sky” echoes a system or doctrine emerging out of the study of nature, understanding of meaning in life and an innate thirst for spirituality. All these are manifested in the character of Siddha Bharathi who professes and embodies for the sovereignty of man. The critic, Palakurthy Dinakar possessed with vivacity and skill in presentation subtly increases the principle things in the sphere of criticism. “Representing the Past: Realism and Historicity in The Sun Behind the Cloud” Anju S Nair selects the realistic details of past history and imperialist attitude with the sardonic outburst of the baneful colonial systems and the major concern of fortifying country’s cultural heritage. Her reaction is not shallow but it is a perceived and conceived analysis of the contemporary world.

In conclusion of this review, every piece of writing serves the worthwhile purposes, wisdom, a spontaneous uprising of the mind fair and good excels fully as light excels darkness. That which is crooked can be made straight by the excellence of knowledge gained through literary art to give life. Just as any other transited phase of the post modern world, the literary front also experiences the huge extension of literary impulses and the expansion of the creative yeast with the well modified trends. The Indian creative genius, Basavaraj Naikar contemplated and produced wisdom with his unassailable tempo and fervor to nourish the roots of Indian literature and writings in English. The volume “The Nativist Vision of Life in the Works of Basavaraj Naikar edited by the academician par excellence, on the high echelon Dr. P.V. Laxmiprasad is caught into the currently formed web of critical and theoretical tools. It is indeed very pleasant about the newly evolved texture of the art of criticism in Indian

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Writing in English. The culturally resonant and the refined faculty of the editor epitomize the well integrated knowledge to cherish the hopes to raise social consciousness which is a key plant for human emancipation in society thereby extending the scope of literature.