

21 Emotions, Dr. Megha Bharati "Meghall", Swarup & Sons, New Delhi, August 2014, Rs. 100

This collection consists of twenty one poems definitely inspired by the vividness of life. About all the facets of human life and emotion have definitely found some space for itself in this piece of magnificent work by Megha Bharati 'Meghall'.

"...arising from my heart I hope the emotions will be able to touch yours"- a two lines striking preface by the poet itself presents her magnetizing power of attracting and binding the readers as a writer.

It would not be wrong if this collection '21 Emotions' is addressed as a perfect painting which depicts the human life and emotions with intense details. The treatment of human beliefs, texture of philosophy and practical life is beautifully blended by Meghall.

Meghall, besides being an Assistant Professor at the Department of English at Kumaun University, Almora, is also a professional singer, lyricist and musician and thus much of her experience in this field of art seems to have greatly influenced her poetry too. Her poem- 'Like A Maiden's Song' talks of purity, melody and serenity, and in 'Melodies Lingered' she talks about the power of music that has the capacity to freshen this exhausted world. She writes-

Singing in the dusk, a darkling,
Freshened many powers;
Melodies lingered in the air,
And soothing came in showers.

Her inclination for similes and metaphors and use of symbols is also an imperative part of her writing. This is well noticed in the poems such as "About To Rain", "Absence"

In the absence of flowers-
What would be my garden like!
In the absence of Cupid's attentions-
What would be my ardent love like?

The poet is exceptionally gifted while unveiling the real life and emotions of a human being. What makes the collection more attractive is the variety of themes it covers- from romantic love to patriotic love, from humanity to nature love. Each poem be it- "What's New", "Melodies Lingered", "A Turn From The Left", "I Dream", "The Smile" "Like a Maiden's Song", "Petals", all carry the message of a never losing hope. The work strongly presents the optimistic ideology of Meghall. As her poem "The Smile" concludes-

And hence you have to promise-
even if the boat tears or in water it dies
You will never ever lose your smile

Meghall inspires to live life to its fullest, through her poems. She conveys a deep message which though is known to all of us, all the while but most of us get deviated and happen to neglect our inner strength. She calls for this strength to help us mould our lives into the shapes that we expect, when she concludes her poem "What New?" with the following lines-

...It's you who would actually find-
 What's new in the moon?
 What's new in the sun?
 What's new in a day?

The connection between the readers and the poet is quite strong and seems to become an established personal relationship, when she discusses her feelings and emotions through her poems, such as "My Specs", "Like Other Poets",

Am too young to be a poet, they say
 Does poetry come with age?

..... Is it not that, when born you learn the beats from your heart,
 And the rhythms from your mothers when she holds you close all the while?

Romance finds its space in two of the poems "A Turn From The Left" and "Love's Recess". Meghall comes out with a matured and poised thought on love and romance in the poem "Love's Recess"-

Life moved in the moonlit night
 Breath coming in and going out
 Processes in process
 Except my love's recess.

And presents a moving picture of a beloved having lost her lover forever in the very first poem of the collection "A Turn From The Left"-

Life took a turn from the left- in the car....
 And it all changed.
 You had pushed me out of the door
 Saw you going down the cliff!
 All of a sudden-
 Realities were devastated
 Dreams conked out
 With me, Just memories remained.

While selecting the words for presenting her poems, Meghall has very carefully selected the simplest and most effective. The words have surfaced quite naturally and effortless fluency in her thoughts confirms that Meghall is a natural poet.

This effort of the poet definitely deserves sincere appreciation. Dr. P. K. Singh has quite aptly observed and mentioned the tough potential in Meghall's work when he

wrote in the foreword that –" Meghall's poems have the potentiality to establish her as a famous poetess of India like Sarojini Naidu....her poems are an oasis in desert"

Meghall's poems depict pure and intense emotions which make the collection immensely readable. This work by Meghall is indeed a significant contribution to the world of poetry, particularly in a phase where the book stores are full of novels and very rare collection of poetry are seen.

N. K. Jain

Erratum

In the previous issue of Dialogue Vol. X, No. 1, June 2014, in the column editorial, it was stated that SAARC 'came into existence in 1980'. It was printing error, it should be read "1980's". We apologise for the error.

- Editors

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