

A REPORT ON OUR THYGASWAMY SIR S.Pavithra,

(Leader, Maroon Team)



தமிழறிஞர்
பேராசிரியர் இரா.தியாகசுவாமி
நினைவு கூறும்
வானாகி நின்றாய்
கவிமலர் வெளியிடுதல்
11.12.2011



I went to Prof. Thyagaswamy Sirs house on 11/12/11 at 2.00 pm with some eagerness and sadness. There our KAP leader Velaian Sir received me with kindness. His face reflected deep sorrow. The people gathered there also looked very sad. It was the great occasion of the release of a poetry book honouring the late Professor R. Thyagaswamy.

I sat along with the friends and admirers of the late Professor . Perhaps I was the only person who did not have the good fortune of meeting the great man. However, when I looked at his photograph I was touched by his bewitching smile. The graceful face seemed to convey some message to me. Was it, " Study well; be good to all; do your best to the society"?

Then, by 2 p.m., began the meeting under the chairmanship of the industrialist Mr.Sindhukumar. The poetry book 'Vanaki Nintai' was officially released. The first copy was received by the loving wife of the great Tamil scholar. I was really surprised when my name was called to receive the second copy. I found it a great honour.

Thereafter, the people close to the Professor shared their pleasant memories. From their talk only I was able to know more about the great man. He was so well read that he was able to speak on any subject with authority! So he was called 'Walking Library' or 'Nadamadam Noolakam'. This covetable title was given by Mulankuzhi Muthamil Mantram. He had the good habit of gathering paper cuttings which contained important information. They have become valuable reference materials for students and research scholars. For example, our Velaian Sir used them as research material for his M.Phil thesis. Later I went round the remarkable library.

I understood that the late Professor's hobby was reading books and listening to radio. Both the habits made him a profound scholar. The speakers particularly spoke about his oratorical skill in Tamil. Even as a student he was praised by the late Arigner Anna whose eloquence was incomparable. As a professor at Christian College, Martandam, he was respected and admired by students as well as by his colleagues. He was in great demand as a guest speaker in educational institutions and public meetings. In order to develop the skill of public speaking among the youth he started a literary association called 'Martandam Ilakkia Peravai'. He had been a pillar of support to the Kumari Arivial Peravai till his last moments. In spite of his brilliant scholarship, unequal eloquence and wide contacts, he remained very humble.

All his life he lived for others. Humility was part of his noble character. He never thought of name and rewards. After knowing about his life I am reminded of

a quotation I read somewhere, “Great men are like meteors who burn themselves to light the earth.” I bow my head and pay my obeisance to this great man. He is in every respect a role model to all of us.

Velaian Sir has done a fantastic work by releasing a book in memory of this wonderful man. The function ended by 3.20pm. My heartfelt thanks to Velian Sir for having given me the opportunity to know about a great personality of our place. I pay my respects to Prof. Thyagaswamy with this simple poem:

His life was simple

And character very humble.

In knowledge he was ocean

And in thoughts enduring waves.

His words echoed love

And smile brightened the lips.

He had kindness in his heart

And knowledge in his speech.

Service was his motto

And eloquence earned kudos.

A shining star among friends

And a happy man in the family.

True, he is no more physically

But his name will remain eternally.

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S.Pavithra, (Maroon Team)