CHRIST (Deemed to be University)

Department of languages

The Department of Languages organized a webinar in the Kannada language on ***Bendre saahitya prastuta odu (Charche/ samvaada)*** on 10 July 2020. The resource person was Dr. K C Shivareddy, a well-known writer and thinker of Kannada.

He gave a wonderful insight of Dr. D.R.Bendre's works in Kannada.

D.R Bendre was born on the 31st of January 1896; He was amongst the most famous of Kannada poets of the Navodaya Period. He is praised as the gifted poet; and also was the second person among eight recipients of Jnanapeeta Award for Kannada.

Bendre is usually considered the father figure of modern Kannada poetry. His poems are linked to the Kannada poetic tradition through the use of folklore, the vachanas and the *Kirtanas*. Apart from native prosodic forms he has native imagery, folk beliefs, references to Indian mythology and the language spoken by the common people.

Dr. Shivareddy mentioned that Bendre's poetry collection of ***Nada-Lila*** is among his remarkable collection of poems. All the features of Navodaya poetry like patriotism, the reformatory zeal, and critical attitude, Indian culture, consolidation of traditional strength, mystical faith and assertion of a poet's individuality can be found in this collection.

Bendre used diverse techniques for spiritual lyrics, classical style for sonnets, and traditional as well as colloquial idioms for pastoral and folk lyrics. Symbolism is characteristic of his poetry.

His poem ***Pataragitti*** which is sung as a nursery rhyme is about the colors of temptation**.** ***Belagu*** poem is symbolic of all pervading peace. In ***Kuniyonu bara*** all diverse currents of thought meet in great confluence. Apparently, all of Bendre's poems could be set to music and abound in alliteration; but there was always a hidden layer of meaning which only a trained poetic mind could decipher.

- Report by Rathi M T