



KALAINGAR M. KARUNANIDHI WHO BROUGHT CHANGES IN TAMILNADU POLITICS THROUGH HIS WRITINGS

K. Annie Winslet
Research Scholar
Department of History
Women's Christian College
Nagercoil- 629001

Dr. V. Divya
Assistant Professor
Department of History
Women's Christian College
Nagercoil 629001

Abstract

Kalaingar's writing work was vast Like the long history of Tamilnadu. Kalaingar has brought fame to Tamil through his works such as Plays, Poems, Movies, Essays and Novels. This essay explores the social ideas found in the Kalaingar's work. From the start of his manuscript at the age of fourteen to the age of ninety four, he included self-respect in the minds of common man through his novels, poems, films and dramas. Social justice and social equality are the ideals of Kalaingar who lived and showed that the non-differentiated society.

Key words -Rationalism, innovations, popularized , undisputed, elimination

Introduction

“The policy at any level never made kneel and never intended to put the proposed leg back!”

-Murasoli

Kalaingar M. Karunanidhi is the undisputed and never to be forgotten Tamil leader in Indian politics. From a young age he began his writing work to bring any changes through writing art. He was an artist who has adorned films, plays, poems, essays, short stories, novels and history with social and political awareness. As an acclaimed creator he still shines alive with his work today. He wrote 21 plays including Palaniyappan, Thokkumedai, Udaya soorian, Cheraan Chenkuttuvan and story lines for flims including Rajakumari, Parasakthi, Manthirakumari, Malaikallan and many songs, and novels including Puthayal, VaanKozhi, Thenpandi singam. He had been the undisputed king of the creative field for 64 years^{1A}. Murasoli is the first child of Kalaingar and was one who went to meet many eniemies in the field^B. Today Murasoli magazine

which is enthusiastically supported by the people. Who follow the DMK, was earlier published as a pamphlet in Thiruvavur^C.

Rational

At the time of Kalaignar in the society where racism is so deeply ingrained the rational human world will be helped to eradicate casteism and superstition. So Kalaignar often mention about the rational. Rationalism is important not only for the removal of the scriptures of caste and religion for the establishment of an unequal society by pointing out economic differences. Kalaignar considered rationality important in society economy and politics.

Atheism

“Religion corrupts the knowledge of man. Religion helps to divide people instead of uniting them religious does not force to men to focus on morality at all. Religion does not have rationalism”^D

E.V.R. Periyar

Karunanidhi denounce religious as a guide of life. He condemns religion for making some changes in the way people live their lives. Religion it self is about making some changes to human organs from person to person^E. In the novel on vellikizhamai, Naina the character of the story is ridiculed for following a religion based on certain actions such as being an muslim shaved and a Hindu pierces their ear.

Women Welfare

Periyar advocated the gender equality as an alternative to the marginalization of women as impure where men and women are equal and have all the same rights. Karunanidhi accepted the principles of Periyar and implemented various schemes for the welfare of Women. In the Parasakthi movie he wrote about how a widow was treated by the male dominated society. Then in the Pensingam movie made it clear how a women can claim achievements alone. In 1989 Karunanidhi gave women the right to property. He enacted a law to provide thirtythree percentage reservation for women in Government Offices, Panchayat Councils, Government Organizations and Cooperative Organizations etc.

Kalaiganr and Poems

Speeking about Kalaignar’s poems, M. Mehta says that “Kalaiganr’s poems are neither traditional nor new”. Because in his poems all the grammatical style like “Yaappu, Ethukai, Monai” as well as all the Nayangal were he apply. At the same time he did not hesitate to adopt the tradition of innovation.

“The first example without a precedent in the history of tamil literature is the Muthamizharingar Kalaignar” – Vairamuthu

The title of his first collection of poems "சென்னைச் செவ்வாய்" is a testament to his poetry. Kalaignar's "சென்னைச் செவ்வாய்" is a collection of 1707 pages of poetry. The book features 210 poems written by Kalaignar for 68 years from 1936 to 2004.

Novels

Kalaignar thought that art should be a tool to improve life and not be a mere entertainment useless rhetoric. Based on that the 16 innovations that he gave to Tamil world are to develop rationality to emphasize the elimination of caste system and religious evils, to condemn hypocritical life to praise the fruits of Tamil pride, and to indicate the equality of men and women in married life. His first novel "கிண்கிண" highlights the brutal life sacrifices of the main characters in the superstition, it would be illuminating to point out the hypocrisy of hypocrites.

In the novel "கிண்கிண" express the suffering of the people belonging to the rust community and the need of those people to get rid of the inferiority complex. Most importantly, he has emphasized the idea that intermarriage should increase in this novel. The novel "Then Pandi Singam" won the Tamil University prize for Karunanidhi. This novel written in a beautiful style not only narrates the historical events with statistics but adapts them to contemporary context to make the society aware. Though his novel "சுந்தரம்" the Karunanidhi has matured the understanding of the society about widow remarriage.

Drama

Kalaignar Karunanidhi's drama are a testimony to the immense potential of the Tamil world. He is adept at setting the deep ideas he wants to express in plays on stage that easily appeals to the general public. Social reform, abolition of superstition, political messages etc. are interwoven in his plays these later supported his political ambitions.

"Nothing else has the power to change minds as quickly as drama that's why I used drama as a tool to spread political ideas without spoiling the culture"

- Kalaignar M. Karunanidhi

Kalaignar wrote and staged the first play "Pazhaniyappan". It was staged in 1944 at Thiruvarur Baby talkies. Later this play was staged all over Tamilnadu under the name of "சென்னைச் செவ்வாய்". Examples of his social reform dramas are "சிவகாமன் உமகய்யா டாண்ட் சமயத் தாண்ட்" similarly dramas like "சென்னைச் செவ்வாய்" propagated against superstition. The play "சென்னைச் செவ்வாய்" featured the famous verse beginning with "it is a cottage that kept the sharp edge of a yard lined with sword". It is significant that Karunanidhi donated the collected amount to the Tanjore stricken victims through this play written based on "சென்னைச் செவ்வாய்" Following that Kalaignar Karunanidhi wrote many literary dramas like "பசுச்செவ்வாய் பிழைத்தல் பிழைத்தல் பிழைத்தல்"

A play like “*जीपतनअंतनत जीमेपलंत व्यससंपं*” by the Kalaingar was meant to satirically criticize the congress party for the election campaign. After DMK got the rising sun as its symbol Karunanidhi composed a play called “*नकीलैववतपंद- जव*” popularized it. In this way, Kalaingar has skillfully used drama as a tool for social change, rationalization and for electoral political campaigning.

Movies

After the Dravidian Movement started gaining strength, it used all the tools available to reach the people very cleverly. Film is such a powerful tool. Kalaingar excelled as a story writer, narrator, lyricist and producer in the film industry. The movie “*ராஜகுமாரி*” released in 1947 was the first movie in which Kalaingar wrote the dialogues^F. In 1950 the Kalaingar joined the Salem modern theatres at a salary of rs.500 as a writer, where he worked in new films.

In 1952 the movie Parasakthi, scripted and written by the Kalaingar, marked a turning point in the history of Tamil cinema. It was this film that introduced Sivaji Ganeshan, a famous actor in Tamilnadu. The socially oriented dialouges in “*பராசக்தி*” took the film industry to a ^Gnew direction.

Reasonable – Parasakthi, Rajakumari, Malai kallan

Political – Puthumai piththan, Kuravanji, Arasilangkumari, Vandikaran

Social Progress -Maruthanattu Ilavarasi, Panam, Naam, Thirumbi par

Feminism – Manamakal,1 Raja Rani, Iruvar ullam, Pasaparavai

Literature – Abimanyu, Boombukar, Uliyin oosai, Ponnar Shankar.

Letter Writtings :

Some politicians writing the essays in letter form as a technique. M. Varatharasan was the first person who started this initiative in tamil. It was followed by C.N. AnnaDurai who named it “Udanpirappukalukku Kaditham” and he handle it very beautiful. Kalaingar who started follow the Anna to write the letters to the Udanpirappukal. He usually starts the letter with greeting “Udanpirappe” to the party workers. Also he wrote some letters to certain people with the title of old friend and ex friend.

Kalaignars letters examine political news as well as national events and trends in economic, cultural and social fields, caste abolition, abolition of superstition, ligustic sensitivity are the main elements in his letters and the influence of Tirukkural and sangha literature is strong. He used short stories, allegories, cultural leaders, historical heros, writers etc. as a strategy to explain his ideas he wanted to convey could easily reach the heart of the reader.

Conclusion:

Karunanidhi awakened the marginalized people of the society through his writings. He made people feel the need for such social changes by impressing historical events on peoples mind through his drams. For the duration of eighty years of writing he created an un precedented development in Tamilnadu.

^A Ramasamy E. V., Pirakiruthavatham pg.12

^B Karunanidhi M. Nenjukku needhi, vol I pg.448

^C <https://www.murasoli.in>

^D Karunanidhi M. Opp.cit

^E Karunanidhi M. Opp.cit pg.66

^F Karunanidhi M. Opp.cit pg.95

