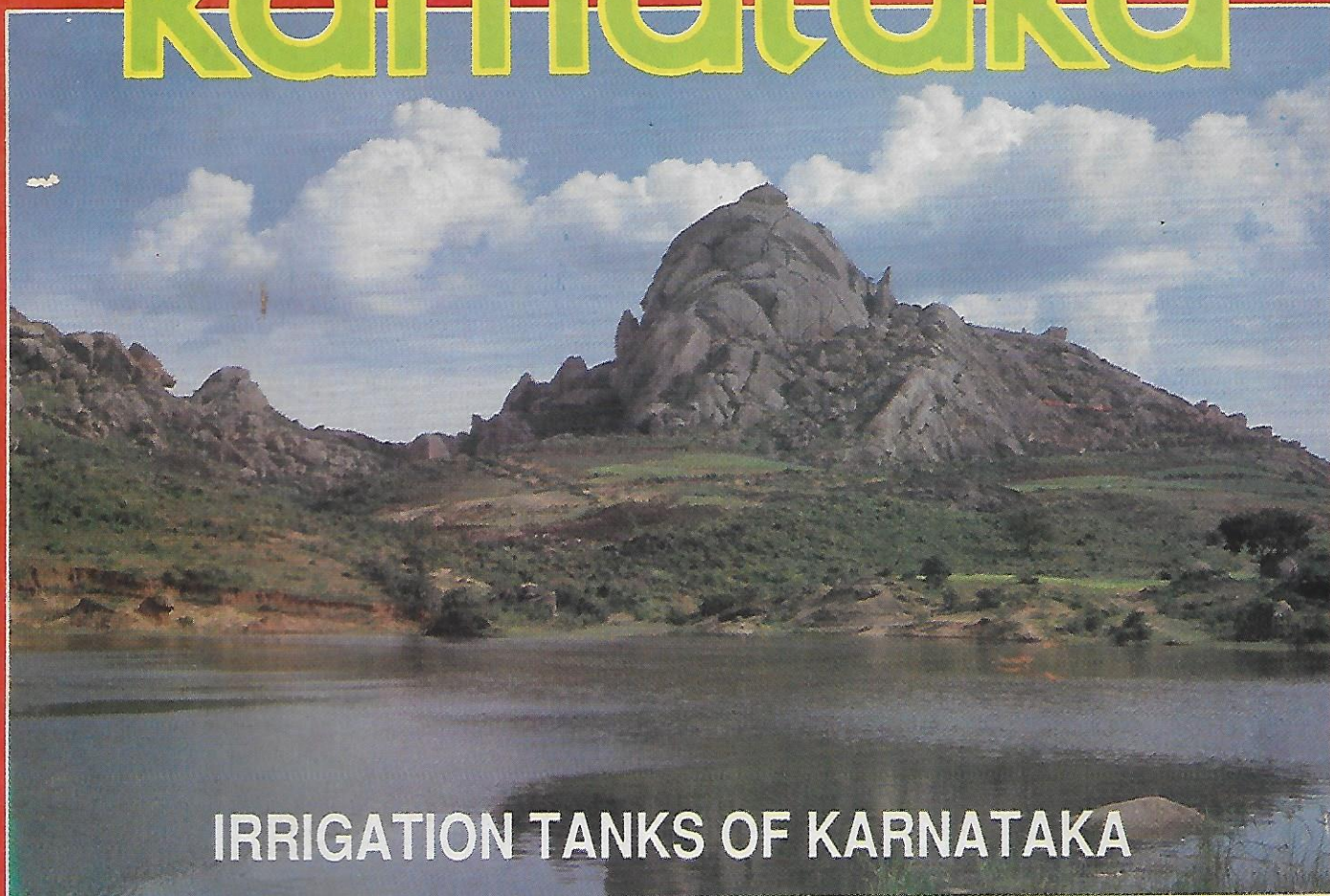


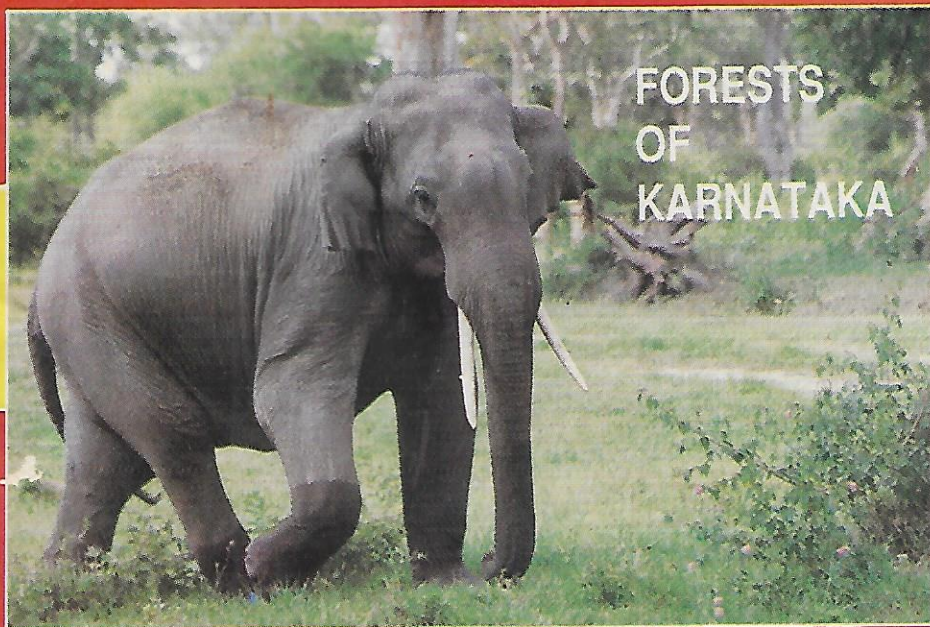
November 1994

MARCH OF karnataka



IRRIGATION TANKS OF KARNATAKA

RAJYOTSAVA SPECIAL



FORESTS
OF
KARNATAKA



KANNADA
WAS HIS
BREATH

MARCH OF Karnataka

Volume 32 November 1994 No.11



Cover Story 2

Irrigation Tanks of Karnataka

-Prof. G.S. Dikshit

Lexicography 6

Lexicography in Kannada

-Prof. G. Venkatasubbaiah

Tribute 10

Dr. Siddaiah Puranik

Kannada was his breath

-Prof. G.S. Siddalingaiah

Time 13

142-year old clock ticking on yet

-Dr. Peterwilson Prabhakar

Cause of Kannada 15

A Pioneering Deputy

-M.B. Patil

Property Right 18

Property Right to Daughters-An important step towards Equality

-K.S. Geetha

Handicraft 23

Wood wins Artist's soul

-Krishna Vattam

Tourism 25

Karnataka Tourism marching Ahead

-Rahman Azer

Forest wealth 31

Precious Forests of Karnataka

-Vishveshwar

Psychiatry 35

Dr. Ashok Pai

Psychiatrist Extraordinary

-V.R. Bhat

Changing Scene 38

Changing face of Karnataka

-Dr. Suryanath U. Kamath

Centenary 44

Veerakesari Sastry

Lion of Freedom's Battle

-E.R. Sethuram

Crossword-V 49

-Naresh

Quiz-III 50

Prithvi

Sports 51

Gabriel

Top Sports Star Forgotten

-Sporty

Chief Editor
I.M. Vittala Murthy IASEditor
B.M.ChandrasekharaiahSub Editor
PuttarajuEditorial Assistance:
Hameed KhanPublished by
The Director of Information and
PublicityGovernment of Karnataka
17, Infantry Road,
Bangalore-560 001
Phone: 2261754, 2269261,Printed at
Abhimani Prakashana
No. 2/4, Dr.Rajkumar Road
Rajajinagar 3rd Stage
Bangalore-560 010.
Phone: 3353141.Annual Subscription
Rs. Twenty Five Only
Subscription amount may be sent
either through M.O. or D.D. drawn
in favour of the Director,
Department of Information and
Publicity,
Bangalore- 560001.Views expressed in the articles are not
necessarily those of the Government.

Cover Credit

Front Cover and Inner Pages

Art by A. Moses

Transparencies:

Chandravalli Tank

by S. Nagaraj

Other Photos: Information Dept.

Dr. Siddaiah Puranik

Kannada was his breath

-Prof. G.S. Siddalingaiah

Dr. Siddaiah Puranik was a great literary figure dedicated to the cause of Kannada language and literature. Himself a popular Vacanakara, his work for encyclopedia and dictionary and other literary publications is quite well known. His contribution as a poet is very significant. To the last he worked as a dedicated soldier for the cause of advancement of Kannada in all spheres of life



Dr. Siddaiah Puranik had not been enjoying good health recently. He was suffering from slip disc. When one of his friends made enquiries about his health he quipped that his regular term of life span had expired and he was enjoying only the grace period. He said that he was mainly depending upon the accessories to see, hear, walk and munch. Apparently he was commenting on the spectacles and the dentures etc., she was using. In fact his lady who was down from paralytic stroke was sitting quiet, by his side, during

that time. His 'Spare parts', I wonder had any reference to them both!

Till the day of his death, Dr. Puranik was deeply interested and involved in literature and the cause of Kannada.

He was born on 18-6-1918 in a village, called *Dyampura* Raichur District. His parents were poor but the rich cultural background of the parents and the family helped this village boy to bloom into a highly talented writer and scholar.

Goal-Vidya

An instance that took place

during his boyhood days is worth mentioning. One day his class teacher wanted to judge the aptitude of his students, asked them to write down briefly, on their slates, what they actually want to achieve. The teacher went through the answers of all the students. When Puranik's classmates varied in their answers from cash, fruit and food etc. Puranik made his teacher sit up by his answer he wanted *VIDYA* (knowledge). Probably the seed was already sown for the future literature.

Throughout Sri Puranik was a hard working student. He mastered Kannada, Sanskrit, Urdu and English languages.

He was a graduate from the Usmania University of Hyderabad and was selected as a probationary Tahasildar of the erstwhile Hyderabad State in 1943 and worked thereafter in several capacities of the revenue department. He opted to the services of the State of Karnataka and retired as Transport and Labour Commissioner of the State.

He served the cause of people. Services rendered by him in the capacity of Deputy

Commissioner of Coorg and Belgaum Districts were memorable.

His love for Kannada was not accidental. He was aware of the problems of the Kannada speaking people of the then Hyderabad State which was under the rule of the Navab. Urdu was the State language and the Kannada speaking people of Gulbarga, Bidar and Raichur Districts were denied of their just rights.

With the guidance and co-operation of the persons like Manvi Narasinga Rao he founded Kannada Sahitya Parishad of Hyderabad area and organised a number of cultural Programmes. Dr. D.R. Bendre, Dr. R.S. Mugali, Dr. V.K. Gokak, Prof. B.M. Srikantaiah, Prof. T.N. Srikantaiah, Prof. A.N. Murthy Rao, A.N. Krishna Rao, Prof. V. Sitaramaiah are a few of the literary luminaries who toured those areas and delivered lectures on Kannada literature and culture and inspired them. The then Chief Ministers Sri. K. Hanumantaiah and S. Nijalingappa were also invited to inspire people of that area. Three annual *parishad* conferences were also organised.

The credit should go to Dr. Puranik. Soon after the unification of Kannada speaking areas, this Parishad was merged with Kannada Sahitya Parishad and the fund of that organisation was donated to sahitya parishad to organise a series of lectures in the name of Manvi Narasinga Rao.

Dedicated work

Dr. Siddaiah Puranik never missed any opportunity to serve the cause of Kannada in general and the people of the state in particular. Whether it was starting a scheme of Encyclopedia of Kannada of the Mysore University or the Kannada-Kannada Dictionary of the Kannada Sahitya Parishad he used his good offices. He had his hand in the publication of Kannada books like *Vacana's of Sarvajna*, *collection of Vacanas*, *Jaimini Bharata*, *Harishchandra Kavya* which were made available to the people of Karnataka at a subsidised rate. It was for this reason that the Government of Karnataka utilised his services, even after his retirement and nominated him as a Member to the committees namely, Border Committee, Sarojini Mahishi Committee, the Authority of Kannada and the Kannada-Kannada Dictionary Committee of Kannada Sahitya Parishad.

Dr. Puranik took keen interest in Gokak agitation and later served on that committee also. His interest and the involvement in the welfare of Kannada language and people had endeared him to the people of Karnataka. He was thoroughly aware of the problems of the Kannada speaking people working in various factories of the State and Central Governments and was always ready to respond to the needs of those people. He was taking active part in the agitations also.

Eminent speaker

Dr. Siddaiah Puranik was

one of our eminent orators. Whether it was Kannada, Urdu or English, he would speak with the same eloquence and efficiency.

The preparation he would make before giving any talk made his lectures very important and the facts and figures he would present were authentic. Whether it was the problem of Krishna or Kaveri waters, the plight and challenges of Kannada speaking people of Kolar and Bangalore districts or the problems concerning the medium of instructions he would speak very effectively with upto date facts and figures. And the lectures would be memorable because of the poetic touch the speaker was capable of.

Even though his health was failing he never shirked from the responsibilities and he accepted the presidentship of *Vikasa Vedithe* during later days.

Dr. Siddaiah Puranika was not only known for his love for Kannada. He belongs to the tradition of Administrators like Masti Venkatesha Iyengar, Navaratna Ramarao and H.L. Nagegowda. In addition to the administrative skills they have contributed to literature and culture also. Dr. Puranik's talent as a writer and *vacanakara* have been praise worthy.

Ocean of Vacanas

Dr. Siddaiah as was stated earlier was fortunate in having a creative atmosphere at home. He nurtured it with wide reading *Sharanas* and their *Vacanas* lured his talent and the result was important work called *Sharanacharitamrita*. This was

written for the benefit of adults. It includes biographical notes and the achievements of more than sixty *sharanas* starting from the 11th century *Madara Channaiah* to the genius of the modern days. The simplicity and the clarity of expression makes this work vivid to all the people. Abundant information, the book contains, makes this work a small encyclopedia of *Sharanas*.

Dr. Siddaiah Puranik had published five other biographies. The books on Siddarama and Galib are written for the children. The book on Galib gives a vivid biographical account of the poet, Galib. The book on *Allamaprabhu* is more concerned with the achievements of Allama than his biography.

Hardekar *Manjappa* highlights the achievements of Manjappa who was called the Gandhi of Karnataka.

Basava and his message is another important biography. Dr. Puranik highlights the importance of the message of Basava and its relevance to life. Dr. Siddaiah makes use of all the material available on the controversial aspects of the life of Basava and tries to establish the greatness of Basava.

Kavyananda

In his pen name is 'Kavyananda' Dr. Puranik has published seven collections of poems, *Modalu Manavanagu*, *Aibhaktam Vibhakteshu* and other poems. They are very popular for their thoughts content and lyrical quality. The poem, *Modalu Manavanagu* has been famous for its humanism and singing quality. His expression falls in line with

Kuvempu and Sali Ramachandra Rao and are good examples of modern Kannada romantic poetry. Love of life, hope and humanism are the chief sources of his poetic genius.

Dr. Puranik's contribution to children literature is note worthy. His first collection of poems, *TUPPA ROTTI GE GE* brought him the central government award. *Ajjana Kolidu Nannaya Kudure* and other poems are very popular among children. The three poems which unfold the pictures of the fruits, dishes and the sweets that are very special to Karnataka are very interesting.

Dr. Puranik had written a historical novel. He had published two collections of short stories also.

His *vacanas* appear to be special contribution to Kannada literature. He had published three collections of *Vacanas*. And his signature line is *Swatantra Dheera Siddheswara*. He has dedicated the first collection of *vacanas*, *vacanodyana*, to Totada Siddhalinga which is very significant.

Vacana movement which reached its pinnacle in the 12th century had vanished soon after Basava was made to leave Kalyana. It took four centuries to revive the *vacana* movement and Totada Siddhalinga was the person who revived it with a change.

Vacanakara

Actually *vacana* was not meant to be a literary form for the *Saranas* of 12th century. Their

concern for life compelled them to open up a new path which revolutionized the life of that century. *Saranas* were a dedicated group of like minded persons who had the fortune of having the leadership of Basava who was a highly talented writer. The concern they had for the people made them choose the language of the people and establish a dialogue to bring in a sea change in life. Rich traditional background of literatures helped them evolve *vacana* movement which is unique in many respects. Soon after Basava was made to move out of Kalyana. *Vacana* movement melted into the thin air. It had to wait for Totada Siddhalinga to get revived in the 16th century. Though Siddhalinga wrote *vacanas* and revived that form, his *vacanas* lack the social concerns and obligations of the *vacanas* of 12th century could write *vacanas* Siddhalinga only as a literary form to meet the religious needs of the day. When we think of the *vacanas* of 20th century, we must be aware of this limitation of the form.

Lyrical quality

Dr. Siddaiah is not the first *vacanakara* of modern Kannada. Kuvempu, D.R. Bendre, S.V. Ranganna, S.V. Parameswara Bhatta and Siddaiah Puranik are a few important names who have contributed significantly to this field.

Vacana form appears to suit to the lyrical talents of Siddaiah. His first collection of *Vacanas* is full of flashes of lyrical poetry. Humility and introspection of the poet make these *vacanas* simple

and effective. This collection brought him the national recognition by receiving the *Bhilwara award*. And this award was instituted by the *Bharatiya Bhasha Parishad* of Calcutta for the best book of the year in Indian Languages.

His second collection is *Vacananandana* and is dedicated to Dr. Shivakumara Swamiji of Siddhaganga. What is strange (with this collection) is that most of the *Vacanas* tend towards set metrical forms, and the poetic quality is very much lacking.

But the third collection, *Vacanaarama*, appears to be Dr. Siddhaiah's mature work. The memories of *Gitanjali* and *Fruits Gathering* appear to be lurking in

the mind of the poet. But the outcome is really remarkable.

This collection has been dedicated to *Akka, Anna, Allama* who are known for their excellence. The introspection and the bliss of contentment of the poet, add to the lyrical qualities of the *Vacanas* and make them unique among modern *Vacanas*. It is interesting to note that atleast a few of *Vacanas* of this collection show the qualities of 12th century *Vacanas* and make Siddhaiah Puranik a significant *Vacanakara* of modern Kannada.

Living reference

Dr. Siddaiah Puranik had been honoured by the Sahitya

Academy of the State. He was a recipient of the *Rajyothsava award* also. He was honoured by the Karnataka University with honorary doctorate in 1974. He was the President of *Akhila Bharatha Kannada Sahitya Sammelan* held at Gulbarga.

He was a living reference book as far as the development of Kannada and the problems of Kannadigas. His eruditions never stopped. We have lost an abundant granary of information with regard to the subject discussed. *Ali Askar Road* in which he was living had almost become a place of pilgrimage to the people who had taken up the cause of Kannada and Kannadigas.

* * *

142-year old clock ticking on yet

-Dr. Peterwilson Prabhakar

Basel Mission constructed the 'Shanti Church' at Mangalore during 1882 and installed a clock on its tower in 1852. That clock is ticking along merrily even after these 142 years



St. Paul's Church with Clock Tower

An anonymous author of a late medieval Kannada inscription from Moodabidre described the South Kanara District, saying that it is like a lotus in the "centre of the salty ocean". Mangalore popularly known as the gate way of South Kanara, and also the district headquarter of Dakshina Kannada District was always a pioneer in the Tile Industry, printing trade, hotel business and a banking etc. We also see the first protestant church as also the tower clock in the district headquarters Mangalore.