

Classic Poetry Series

K. S. Nissar Ahmed
- poems -

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K. S. Nissar Ahmed(5 February 1936 -)

K.S. Nissar Ahmed (Kannada: ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ನಿಷ್ಕರ ಅಹ್ಮದ್, born February 5, 1936) is a prominent Indian poet and writer in Kannada language. His full name is Kokkare Hosahalli Shekar Nissar Ahmed. His father K.S. Haider was a sanitary inspector and a teacher before joining the Revenue Department in Bangalore. He is a post-graduate in Geology, worked as an Assistant Geologist in The Mysore Mines and Geology at Gulbarga before coming in touch with Kuvempu and was invited to the Kannada poet's meet during dasara festival in 1959. He worked as a lecturer in geology in Central College, Bangalore and then in Chitradurga. Later he taught in the Sahyadri First Grade College in Shimoga for two terms during 1967-72 and 1975-1978.

He is better known for Nityotsava (ನಿತ್ಯೋತ್ಸವ). In 1978, when the first audio cassette in Kannada light music was released, the song Nityotsava became popular, not only because of the tune, but also because of the lyrics.

Works

Nissar Ahmed has translated Chilean poet Pablo Neruda's poems under the title Bari Maryadastare (ಬರಿ ಮರ್ಯಾದಾಸ್ತಾರೆ - Only Decent People) into Kannada. Ahmed's poems such as Kurigalu saar naavu kurigalu (ಕುರಿಗಲು ಸಾರ ನಾವು ಕುರಿಗಲು), Bharatavu namma desha (ಭಾರತವು ನಮ್ಮ ದೇಶ) (translation of Sir Mohammed Iqbal's Saare jahaan se accha (ಸಾರ್ ಜಹಾನ್ ಸೆ ಅಚ್ಛಾ)) and Benne kadda namma Krishna (ಬೆನ್ನೆ ಕಡ್ಡಾ ನಮ್ಮ ಕೃಷ್ಣ) reflect the multifacetedness of the poet. His poem Nimmodaniddu, nimmantaagade (ನಿಮ್ಮೊದನಿಡ್ಡು, ನಿಮ್ಮಂತಾಗಾಡೆ) painfully narrates the dilemma which he had to go through to retain his religious roots.

Awards

Pampa Award

Rajyotsava Award (1981)

Nadoja Award (2003)

Padma Shri (2008)

Honorary doctorate from Kuvempu University

Hakku

K. S. Nissar Ahmed