

FATHOMLESS OCEAN

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WOMEN – THE TREASURE CHESTS OF WISDOM

Dr. GOMEZ SOPHIA

"Nothing is more enchanting than a woman who holds to her principles unflinchingly, incorruptibly and without affectation and whose fidelity to her principles is as natural, modest and feminine as everything else about her."

Alexander Fadeyer.

Women are a precious gift from the Omnipotent to the world. They are creative, sensitive, compassionate, intelligent talented and equal to men. They can never be walked on, disrespected bullied or belittled. Numberless women through their classic clarity and practicality have paved the way to overcome all obstacles, to live a bold victorious life. They possess the keys to identify and explore the empowered. They have been glorified by their achievements. They wrote with light and knowledge dispelling the error and superstition that cloud minds of many people. They were ones who fumed off conflicts and trials to fit into a pattern. Their writings reflect vital issues which stimulate the readers. Their intellectual measure attained a high level of development.

In women everything is granular and sumptuous as a pearl, they are penetrating, exuberant, blazing and vibrant. On practiced tongue and skilled hands their language becomes beautiful expressive, flexible mellifluous and picturesque. Their outpourings of the soul appealed to the innermost sense and reached all latitudes. Rural women who have come a long way, have fought a good fight and tilled the path for the freedom they enjoy today. No more shall one speak of lingering discrimination. Women from rural background had dreams and goals. They were aggressive with challenges to do great things. In the field of literature there is a new awakening in rural based feminists too. They wrote with simple elegant language where words reflected their thought and made one more sensitive to the pulse of life. They could climb any height. Decades saw them grow with cultivated developed talents.

Nirupama Borgohain who has published thirty six novels and novellas is the recipient of the Central Sahitya Academy Award for 'Abiyatri', started her writing career as a schoolgirl. She succeeded in depicting the harsh realities of rural life as well as those of the sophisticated or middle-class Urban life, from a female perspective. Her voluminous contribution to literature is highly appreciated. Kamala Markandaya who has successfully achieved a world wide distinction by Asian prize for her literary performance, pictures women who face crises in life with courage and confidence. She sinks deep into her characters to bring to the brim the emotional and spiritual responses of women.

The knowledge amassed by the labour of the 21st century women in all fields keeps accumulating and grows deeper, broader and sharper. Soon it would form the foundation for the endless energies. A host of women have emerged from rural background to seek, to discover all aspects and spheres of the surrounding world. Inexhaustible springs of creation are sealed in a woman. She passes on its experiences ardour and convictions to the younger generations. Women with their prodigious diligence have reached the pinnacle of fame and pervaded the world. Their contribution is limitless. The farther they reach, the more necessary they become to transform the life of human society.

The Grandeur and Pride of Tamil Nadu is Hallowed. Yes, two minor planets in the solar system have been named Senthilir and Sharanya. These two girls were in class eleven of Avila convent Coimbatore when they significantly contributed to science. Invigorating the natural powers of their intellect, they have scaled a New Peak. They have reached the highest point of intellectual greatness. Senthilir and Sharanya have valuable priveleges, not only of obtaining a knowledge of science but of raising our Motherland India and its state in deep south, TamilNadu, to the brightest pillar of pride and glory. These two blazing torches, Senthilir and Sharanya – the minor planets shed light of knowledge as they move in the orbit of the solar system.

Senthilir and Sharanya after winning the natural science talent competition at Bangalore were invited to participate in a science competition at The United States of America. At the international Science

and Engineering Fair held at Cleaveland, Ohio, Senthair and Sharanya were honoured with the Fourth Grand Award and a special award of 500 dollars each. They said "*We were thrilled and excited as we met many noble Laureates there*".

On their return to India they were overwhelmed with a message from Lincoln Laboratory, MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) which informed them that their names were taken to the skies, to the Solar System that is, the minor planet 17091 was named after Senthair and another planet 17092 has been named after Sharanya in recognition of their achievement at The U.S.A Science Fair. Their joint presentation of a Research Paper on "*Suppression of branching pattern in Eucalyptus Tress*" has brought forth this tremendous and torrential success – a triumphant historical feat indeed!

"*At first we could not believe that solar planets have been named after us and that too by a prestigious Institution like Massachusetts Institute of Technology*" said the Duo.

Their arduous search has been rewarded, their brilliant talents serve as a model to their age group, to strive to seek and to succeed. Let us hope that many such women rise to earnest activity, towards an expansion and development of the faculties. Precious are the opportunities offered to the women of this Century. Let us hope that they walk in the sparks of the bright flashes of these Torches of Wisdom, advanced knowledge and Universal Glory.

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