Critical Analysis of *Poetry Manifesto* by Vihang A. Naik

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Poet, Writer and Artist

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**Abstract**

This paper is an analysis of the book “Poetry Manifesto” by Mr. Vihang A. Naik. We came through each and every poem of the book, and observed that Mr. Vihang A. Naik is a man of vision, has great modern poetry writing skills and great command over words and their effect after placing in a sequence which forms a poem.

**Keywords:** vision, representations, reality

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Critical Analysis of *Poetry Manifesto* by Vihang A. Naik

**Rakesh Kumar Verma**

Poetry in present days is going through new phase of writing. Current active poets are developing their skills for modernization of their work. It can be seen as a good-bye to the old trends of poetry. It’s a new era and poets believe in the new experiments. One of such emerging poets is Mr. Vihang A. Naik, who listed himself as a sounding modern poet among the poets. His recent works sows the same temper and passion in the English literature. City Times & other Poems, in the year 1993 was Mr. Naik’s first collection and starting of new era of poems diverting form the tradition way of writing.

Recent encounter with the book, “Poetry Manifesto” by Mr. Vihang A. Naik bound me to suggest you that “Go, get lost inside his glory of thoughts, which starts as a blink, against the surface of vast and silent sea, and would ready to rise as storm of thoughts and charms”. Being playing his part in the flourishing world of modern art of poetry Mr. Naik lightened the modern way of thoughts, having a great command over the words, he shown the way to the end of life, one can feel from the lines

“To battle for the breath
After celebrating the festivals of joy…..”

By passing through Mr. Naik’s work in the book titled “POETRY MANIFESTO” suddenly I remembered the great voice of Rabindranath Tagore which mesmerized me through his poetry entitled “Where the Mind Is without Fear”. Mr. Naik’s work shows same fearless efforts to carry a message from the narrow streets of city life seeking a revolution for change, as the same Tagore’s poem truly reflects:

“Where words come out from the depth of truth
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection……..”

Some of the poems from Naik’s collection seems to lack flow and unable to create the actual picture of modernization which actually poet wants to pass through the flood of his words, but the way of presenting his thoughts in less words makes it different and unique in the present context, although it becomes quit difficult to understand for common people but people with thoughts and perfection in same fields may easily understand his art of writing. By passing through this book it was a common feeling that one can observed, that his work is a picture of Nulumbo (Kamal) coming out from the desert, splitting the shadow of complexity.

The book contains different poems representing uniqueness of his writing style, which touches each part of life, un-doubly pictured in poems titled “INDIAN SUMMER”, “THE BANYAN CITY”, “AMBAJI”, “NEW WEBSITE” and many more. The book
explored the new way of spirituality through the poems “THE SONG OF MENAKA” and “A SONG FOR MENAKA”.

Looking deep inside this book, one can divide it in aspects of life.

The Representation

The quality of representing thing in this book automatically catches a fire, individually or collectively some of poems represent the misery of people facing different situations as brilliantly expressed in the poems titled “Indian Summer”, “THE BANYAN CITY”, “SUMMER HILL DEVDARS”, “GUJARAT”, “AMEDABAD” etc. Another phase of this section may include his work for representing the different situations and feelings of human and their life which a reader can easily observed from the poems “A STAGE”, “HERO”, and “FAILURE”. Some of the lines which attract anyone’s attention are;

“lighting
the world of difference

best conviction clang
mighty heads wonder

an intermission
of meaningless talk
of this and that”

These lines truly shout for equilibrium among the people, among the society where there no justice and rightful place for deserving gems, starts like a drama played on a stage, where actors act and drama ends with a compromise with everything for they had fought for pursuing their life. “Vihang A. Naik throws light on the life of a city in all its shades, glory, and misery in his CityTimes and Other Poems.” - Deepkia Verma at Writing Geeks.

The author also showed some eyes for carrying a message for people, who accepts failures through his poem “FAILURE”. The poem gave a direction to evoke that desire of life which serves in constructive ways to life, not for one but for all. The lines can be used as a meditation for people distressing from failures;

“stuffed with NONSENSES
you have EYES
CANNOT see
you can touch
CANNOT feel
your VICTORY is PAPERBALL
in dustbin”
The Grounds of Reality

Mr. Naik’s poetry style is deeply rooted in the ground of reality; he thinks and documents the things in a unique manner, for example one of his poems “BEING CONTEMPORARY” says about necessity of education but also mentions that if you are educated that good but being certified is must, to be appointed for job. The book create a very good view of real world, touching the all the shades of life where it is about the pain of unfertile fields or barren women, whether about the love affair in “ENCOUNTER” or about the truth of life in “THE FINAL ACT”. Here some lines from “the final act” I as reader, would like to admire his depth of thoughts, and glory of words which truly caught me at place to think about my play, these lines are;

“After learning to smile when all at once the wisdom
dawns that you are no other than a fool
playing your part. After endless
interpretations of that hollow word
called life. Thinking about life after death.
Would it be worth it to be a man once again?”

Vision to Poetry and Poet

In true sense of poetry, this book may lack one step but the vision of the book about the subjects it carries to carry a message are extremely good. The book mentioned its own vision of poetry, breaking the all chains of tradition and literature, from ancient to modern age. The section named “ARE YOU LOOKING FOR THAT POET” itself raised the issue of not following the same trend of writing. The book presented poet as a man and poem playing a women, relating it to the life. Talked about the readers responses, and pictured that a reader how predicts a figure formed with mesh of words, which successively decorated by his mind to see the wisdom of thoughts of a poet and admires his vision. Sometimes it may fill readers mind with guilt and frustration too.

The book talks about the deep grounds of humanity which author wants to carry through his poems, avoiding the mythical and fictional stories of mermaid, and any other thing, easily observed in poem “ARE YOU LOOKING FOR THAT POET”.

“Vihang Naik’s poems are intuitive, thoughtful, philosophical and creative pieces, where the poet displays a confident command, mature, with a fine balance of emotional intensity, irony, ranging across themes and places with experimentation.” - Dr. Vishwanath Bite at The Criterion (December 2012 .Vol. III. Issue IV).

Other section of this book effectively carries the message of poet, regarding the life, affairs, aliveness of poem, character of pen in writing, and many other things which really can bind anybody to worth reading.

“The image of memory like a candle, lighting up a darkened room is truly exquisite and symbolic of vibrant hope” -The Journal of Literature & Aesthetics (India)

In this book author has presented his ability to imagine things from dead to alive, expression to characterization, for all visible things; such as he assumed poem as
women. Greatly expressed the value of modern poetry which can out flow from any part of life where it is railway platform in “PLATFORM” or “EPIC”.

“Naik has established himself as an imagist while maintaining knowledge grounded in realism and emotional intensity.” – Reutter (Founder / Editor) at Fox Chase Review

Through this book author registered himself in the list of some of thinker who believe in thinking beyond boundaries of literature, and made the messenger of their vision to local objects of daily life. Shout for the revolution in the field of literature through his unique style of poetry, the intension of this book clearly played its role.

“…when broken hearts bleed pain in darkness without the relief of compassion, the voice of an exceptional poet introducing exceptional work is not something the world can afford to dismiss….” Argha Ghosh at Spectral Hues

Mr. Vihang A. Naik is man of vision, has a great modern poetry writing skills and great commands over words and their effect after placing in a sequence which forms a poem. It’s an unbelievable thing to notice that with a single sentence the author delivered the full message to readers. The art of placing words in different ways to carry different meaning, with simulating the actual meaning and potential of author is really wonderful.

“Poet Vihang A. Naik has been able in delicately placing the expression of the objects of the visible world which have become invisible due to various reasons and changing habits, in a sophisticated position which strikes the soul and gives them a tragic force to rethink.” Mr. Shahikant Nishant Sharma, (Editor) International Journal of Research.

Collection of poem in the form of book by Mr. Naik is an outstanding poetry work, raising the issues related to life, touching the hearts of people in locality, makes a bridge between the moving and nonmoving tings, sighting them as they are watching and feeling the pain of human. It’s a collection of thoughtfulness, intuitiveness of Mr. Naik in philosophical and creative manner, which shows his strong arms in carrying the desired message with confidence and with full maturity of speech. He also showed cool balance in emotions, irony under the umbrella of different themes, in different context in varying experiments.

Works cited


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