

What's in Folklore is NOT in "Grilling"

The hallmark of the present century can be seen condensed in a single word, that is, "questioning" which stands inadvertently against the status quo of human entity enshrined into the affairs of "believing" since time immemorial. These two keywords – "questioning" and "believing" – have thus always existed in human world simultaneously; all questions which receive answers finally turn out to be a belief system and any belief which fails to give an answer to the inquisitiveness unexceptionally invites a series of questions. This way the world continues proliferating in endless multitudes making human life an ambit of exuberance and exposition limitlessly, regardless of the fact that in one age it is the "questioning" that dominates and, in the other, it is the "believing" that does so.

Tradition and culture are the results of questioning altitudes having encountered somewhere in the past; they gradually become the part of a belief system with the gradual passage of time. All the beliefs are not necessarily the blindfolded itinerary or etiquette; rather they have much more to offer or to say about human life and its affairs. The method of questioning says "to move" on and on, and the establishment of belief says that one should come back and revisit all that has been known in the past, for there seems to be a way which gives more satisfying dimensions to the human world than the so-called modern mind unremittingly entrenched into "warfare" of questioning incessantly beyond any sensible code of conduct and its acceptability.

In this regard, it is very interesting to see the world of Folklore through which an attempt is accelerated today in the literary domain to understand the "tradition", the "culture" and the "ethos", not just in order to decode its exclusive identity (community-wise) but to possibly reach out where the lost keys of 'happiness' and 'harmony' could be discovered and reinstalled into human fabric in order to restore the long cherished dreams of peaceful life. The modern century's general tendency "to drill" or say "to grill" everything uninhibitedly stands against the long established values of the folkloric worlds. The Folk thus seems to come out as a great force/threat/challenge to the "dissenting voices" which are epitomized as the only true way to approach the human life and expect it to be settled on the qualities of "freedom" and "fraternity". But, surprisingly, both seem to be absent from the grip of the approach straight-jacketed into *questioning* everything which has led the "shift" from Centre to the Margin. In this context, it becomes more crucial to witness the (present-day) yardstick which brings forth the study of the "folklores" to the centre (from the margin) but it is the same study which dismantles its very modern approach of ridiculing/grilling over all that is the past (or the traditional).

Thus, the current edition, that is, December 2022 of the *Ad Litteram: An English Journal of International Literati* (ISSN 2456 6624) invites research papers and other writings which deal with the rigorous scrutiny of the folkloric world being the result of the dissenting voices which automatically get themselves annihilated in the pristine and perpetual rootedness of the former's cultural legacy and heritage. The following points of references may be kept in mind while drafting the layout plan of the research paper and its final execution, but it must be kept in mind that they are mere points of references which do not bind one to remain confined within them:

1. Folklore and the dissenting voices
2. Placing the folklore into the grilling altitudes
3. Folklore - Tradition and Rootedness
4. Folklore - Study as Margin and Centre together
5. Folkloric World – An Antidote to the Mushrooming of the Superfluous “Questioning” mind
6. Folk and the Human Mind - An Ambit of Cohesion and Coherence
7. Folk is not easy to understand
8. Folklore: The Way to Harmony amidst the Mess
9. Folklore: Not Just Eulogizing the Past, but Preserving the Same
10. Folklore: Voice of the Inner Equilibrium
11. Centre and Margin are the Myths: The Study of Folk as the Centre regardless of time and age
12. Folklore: Threat to the Modern Sensibilities
13. Folklore: The Only Path to restore the Concord
14. Behind the tradition stands the Titanic Design of Integration: A Folkloric Worldview
15. Folklore as the Phoenix