

STAMMER (satchidanandan)

(A reading by Abdul Rasheed.k, HSST ENGLISH- DHOHSS Pookkarathara, Edappal)

The poet sees stammer not as a handicap, but an effective mode of communication. Stammer is actually a digestion time for the listener between the words of a speaker or it is the silence between a word and its meaning. Limp or lameness is the silence between word and deed. Here the reference is to the contemporary society where words and deeds are never in consonance. The poet also tries to wound our pious inaction on many burning social issues. We are reminded of an affluent society where words and deeds never contradicted and they lived in perfect harmony. We can only dream of such a society as our people fiddle when the Rome burns.

It is often said that language is for communication. Human language is very complex because we can communicate very difficult and complicated ideas with the help of our language. Communication without language is also possible, which may have a fixed meaning and very limited scope for exchange of ideas.

Ambiguity is a very close friend of language. We can conveniently rename it as STAMMER. We stammer when we feel that the language we use is not sufficient to communicate our ideas OR the the language we use is not being properly understood. Therefore we can say that stammer is an attempt for meaningful communication or a megaphone diplomacy, which is an attribute, certainly laudable

Stammer actually opens up a different possibility for communication, which must be properly explored by linguists and poets. A poem can be given different interpretations by different readers and critics, which the poet might not have thought of. When a poet employs his bag of tricks to cherry pick an apt word or phrase for parturition, he stammers numerous times to God. It is actually the prayer of the poet to God to beget the best of his off springs. When we read the same poem we also stammer, trying to attribute different meanings to different words and phrases. Here both the poet and the readers are engaged in oblation. This kind of a brainstorming by the writer and the reader is absolutely necessary for the existence of any literary genre.

It goes without saying that the traits of creator will be reflected in his creation. It is almost an accepted fact that God might have stammered during the creation of man. This stammer is exactly reflected in man as well. (The concept of God itself is different strokes for different folks)

Any how the stammer of God during the creation of man has given the language of man its ambiguity and variety. This unusual attribute of language is a boon to poets and literary figures. Their literary outputs are read and interpreted by attributing variety of meanings and connotations by readers and critics. Thus poetry is made bright eyed and bushy tailed, repeatedly asserting the fact that poetry is worth its weight in gold.