

Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati

Land endowment
revolution

Boodhana Puratchi

(Play)



Editions ASSA

Editor's Notes

What is a play? A play may be said to be a composite whole of the country's state of affairs; a play draws us into its fold by unfolding events that reflect the nine shades of emotions; literature and music are intrinsic elements of a play; a play gives publicity to good intentions for the country's betterment.

All of us take great delight in witnessing artistic events because these have many elements to please us. In particular, if one were to talk of a play, the nine shades of emotions, good dialogues, excellent acting, music, dance and pleasing scenes find a place in it. At least some element in it would be a crowd puller. If a play propagates an ideal objective and succeeds in doing good, it would be equivalent to a 'gold flower acquiring fragrance'. Since a play impacts the spectators directly, it turns into a good means of propaganda. These days plays enjoy a high level of patronage in the country.

Some plays may be enjoyed by witnessing them in person. Some are best enjoyed only by reading them. But this play '*Land endowment revolution*' by Kavi Yogi Shuddhananda Bharati is highly enjoyable to read and to view as a performance on stage. '*Land endowment revolution*' is a wonderful play that is highly pleasurable to read and perform. Even as we read it, we become involved with the unfolding events and identify with the characters. A play that displays this quality of identification with the audience is an example of an excellent play. Kavi Yogi Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati, the great classical Tamil exponent is doing yeoman service for the country.

A contemporary play that is in tune with the times and does good, that's '*Land endowment revolution*'! It is a play that will surely bring success in many ways. It may be read, gifted to friends and enacted by those having the means. Yogi Shuddhananda Bharati will continue to write such good, contemporary plays and we shall continue to publish them. We are confident that the country will appreciate them.

A warm thank you to Savitri for her beautiful translation and Maha Shakti for her help in editing this book. Through their meticulous work, they were able to help me fully express the thoughts of Kavi Yogi Maharishi Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati about *Land endowment revolution*.

It is with great pleasure that I offer to the world *Land endowment revolution*, and I hope it will touch the hearts and souls of many. In eternal gratitude, thank you, Kavi Yogi Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati for having transmitted *Boodhana Puratchi*.

With the blessing of *Aum Shuddha Shakti Aum*.

God is Love!

Christian Piaget

Courage!

*The night is through,
The chain of slavery
It is already broken –
I am full of courage!*

*Peace in the morning,
A golden sun rises
Like a lion superhuman
To accomplish my dream.*

*A hopeful smile,
Docile as a child
Who plays in the infinite
With a fiery star.*

*My journey is over;
I enjoy time;
The universe is my nest;
Of eternal spring.*

Peace Anthem

*Peace for all, peace for all
For all the countries peace
Joy for all, joy for all
For all the nations joy
A rosy morning peace
A smiling summer joy (Peace for all)*

*All for each and each for all
This is the golden rule
Life and Light and Love for all
For all that live our love (Peace for all)*

*Work and food and clothes for all
Equal status for all
Health and home and school for all
A happy world for all (Peace for all)*

*No idle rich, no more beggars
All are equal workers
No more tears, no more fears
The heart is full of cheers (Peace for all)*

*No atom scare, no fat mammon
No room for war demon
Like leaves in trees, like rays in the sun
We are one communion,
One Divine communion (Peace for all)*

*The good in you is good for all
Your life is life for all
The God in you is God for all
Your love is love for all (Peace for all)*

*For he or she or it or the rest
This collective life is best
This Universal Life is best
North or South, or East or West (Peace for all)*

*Peace for plants and birds and beasts
For hills and streams and woods
Peace in Home – land and air and sea
Dynamic peace we see
Peace for all, peace for all*

Immortal Peace for All

Song of Unity

*Unite. Unite, Unite, Oh Souls
Unite and play your roles
Unite in mind, unite in heart
Unite in whole, unite in part
Like words and tunes and sense in song
Let East and West unite and live long
Trees are many; the grove is one
Branches are many; tree is one
Shores are many; sea is one
Limbs are many; body is one
Bodies are many; self is one
Stars are many; sky is one
Flowers are many; honey is one
Pages are many; book is one
Thoughts are many; thinker is one
Tastes are many; taster is one
Actors are many; the drama is one
Nations are many; the world is one
Religions are many; Truth is one
The wise are many; Wisdom is one
Beings are many; breath is one
Classes are many; college is one
Find out this One behind the many
Then life shall enjoy peaceful harmony*

Presentation of
Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati
11th May 1897 – 7th March 1990
The wise one to the cosmic age

Although more than 90 years old, in his school in the south of India, *Kavi Yogi Maharishi* (great divine visionary, wise poet), Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati worked like a young man of twenty. When he was asked his age, he answered: "My age is Courage!"

The Yogi wrote several hundred works in English, French, Tamil, Hindi, Telugu and Sanskrit: five thousand songs, and fifteen hundred poems in French. The magnum opus of the man conscious of the presence of God in him, *Bharata Shakti*, (in 50,000 verses) described his ideal: only One Humanity living in communion with only One God in a transformed world! *Bharata Shakti* is a monumental and unique work. The Yogi depicts the gasoline of all the religions, of all the prophets and saints, all the approaches of *Yoga* and all the cultures on an allegorical fabric. It is a book for any age which all spiritual researchers and all nations should read and meditate on. This work was completed and appreciated by Sri Aurobindo, the Mother, Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore, Romain Rolland, Annie Besant, Bertrand Russell, George Bernard Shaw, Dr. Suzuki and so many others. It installs the author among the great, men such as Dante, Homer, Racine, Shakespeare, Vyasa, and Valmiki.

Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati is the greatest Tamil poet, having translated into this language: *Gita*, *Upanishads*, *Veda*,

the *Bible*, the *Koran*, *Avesta*, the *Buddha-Dhamma-Sangha* and *Tattvartha Sutra*, the life and teachings of Lao-Tseu and Confucius. From their original languages, he also translated into Tamil *The Divine Comedy* of Dante, the tragedies of Racine, the comedies of Molière, the dramas of Corneille, Shakespeare, Goethe and the novels of Anatole France, Victor Hugo, Alexandre Dumas and others.

Shuddhananda's works are innumerable. Malcolm Macdonald, who chaired the Congress on the Unity of the Conscience in Singapore, said in his short speech about him: "He is such a remarkable man, having such a diversity of raised gifts, that it is difficult to know where to start and where to finish when one speaks about Kavi Yogi Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati. Few men have achieved as many things in only one human life." His name appears moreover in the Encyclopaedia of the World's Great Men, which says: "Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati is the author of literary works of varied styles: works epic and lyric, melodramas, operas, comedies, pastoral, romance, novels, biographies, commentaries on famous works and texts. *Bharata Shakti* is his magnum opus." He had a presentiment that he would receive the Nobel Prize for Peace or for Literature but did not live to see it. His commitment is summarized in his book celebrating his life, "*Experiences of a Pilgrim Soul (Expérience d'une Âme de Pèlerin)*."

God I loved and lived in him,
Making His commandment
Leave to Man his entire talents
This is my will!

Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati
Editions ASSA, Christian Piaget

This play

This play is dedicated to our country India that flourishes under the tri-coloured flag. The voices of Nehru and Vinoba are being heard in our country today. Nehruji is giving emphasis to socialism. Socialism stands for equal justice; to till the land according to one's needs and obtain food; to make work and livelihoods common property and enable everyone to lead a happy life. The injustice of some people amassing wealth and prospering with the labour of many people is abolished – these are the salient points of equal justice. Vinobaji's land endowment movement is a great pillar of support to achieve this end. Land endowment is the donation of land by landowners to the landless people. A bloodless revolution for equal justice takes place. I wrote this play '*Land endowment revolution*' on the basis of this principle. I dedicate this play to the land endowment movement.

Yoga Samajam, Vadalur,
Shuddhananda Bharati

Land endowment revolution

Play

By Yogi Sri Shuddhananda Bharatiyar

Dramatis Personae

1. Dayalan – Karuna’s lover, leader of the land endowment volunteers, chief of the Gandhi Seva Centre.
2. Karuna – Dayalan’s lover, woman of great virtue, intelligent, volunteer in the cause of the land endowment movement
3. Kalathur landowner – Karuna’s father; an ostentatious fellow.
4. Gajamba – His wife.
5. Karamadai – Estate owner
6. Mandiresan – His son – a reformed rake.
7. Meena – Mandiresan’s lover, dancer.
8. Immikaruppan – Estate owner’s accountant.
9. Velaiya, Velayi, Kadhiresan – labourers
10. Policemen.
11. Workers, others. (Primarily 12 characters)

Land endowment revolution

(Sarvodaya)

1. Solemn vow of service

(Gandhi Seva Centre is decorated with flowers and fruits. A humble abode made of coconut palms stands in the middle. Inside, on the map of India an image of the Mahatma is seen with Nehru to his right and Vinoba to his left. A group of volunteers sit facing the map; Dayalan is their leader. All of them are singing even as they are engaged in weaving. Then a car arrives. Karuna descends from the car and enters. She sits amongst the volunteers calmly)

Assembly song

(Raga: Senchuruti – Tala: Rupaka)

Let's serve the country
That's divine service

With love in our hearts and very honest speech
Let's serve the country
That's divine service.

In the footsteps of Gandhi
On the path discovered by Vinoba
For peace to prevail everywhere
For the joy of energy to flower
Let's serve the country...

For milk and honey to glow in the country
For good crops to grow
For the hardworking people to live a life of dignity
Let's all serve the country...

In order to eat and clothe ourselves
Let's all work together
Wife, children, kith and kin
All are ready to volunteer
Let's all serve the country...

Let's provide education that banishes ignorance
For people to live without poverty
and fulfill their obligations
To break the bonds of slavery and be happy
Let's all serve the country...

The earth belongs to all
Its wealth is for all
God is pure energy
His shrine is for all
Let's all serve the country...

For love and ethics to flourish
For mankind to be happy inside and outside
For happiness to prevail
For our hearts to unite
Let's all serve the country...

(As this song is being sung, Karuna descends from the car
and sits amidst the volunteers. Dayalan greets her with a
smile and gestures with his hands, telling her to sit)

Everyone: Jai Mother India! Jai Mahatma Gandhi! Jai
Jawaharlal Nehru! Jai Vinobaji! Jai Sarvodaya!

Jai Sarvodaya! Jai land endowment movement! Jai Hind!

Dayalan: Friends of Sarvodaya, our duty lies in action, not speech. Mahatma's actions gave us our freedom; independent India bloomed with a people's government. Equal justice is its taproot. The land endowment movement is like 'water and fertilizer' that nurtures the plants of socialism and equal justice; henceforth, only those who work have the right to eat in our country. Let's engage in land revolution!

Everyone: Victory to land revolution! Only those who plough the land to live shall live; others may engage in worship and eat and merely follow.

Dayalan: Yes! Let's make Valluvar's verses the basis of our life. Let's abolish the very word 'no' from our lives.

Everyone: Those who are hamstrung by poverty
Shall see their lives blossom
with bountiful land!

Dayalan: Absolutely true. Mother Earth is showering wealth on us with her benign hands. If we work with a will, we can be happy and prosperous.

One volunteer: We are ready to work; but there is no land.

Dayalan: Now there will be; the land endowment movement is being intensified. Land will become community property. No one will be

allowed to retain more land than what is required for one's needs. It's robbery to accumulate and lock up more than one's needs. The world belongs to the people of the world. Let's acquire 10 crore acres of land immediately!

Everyone: All over the world,

The rights of mankind ensure that everyone enjoys the rights gifted by God.

May each one take advantage of them according to one's needs, that's ethics (*Yoga Siddhi, Gospel of Perfect Live*)

Dayalan: Wonderful! This is indeed the breath of equal justice. This is the heartbeat of land revolution. Come, let's go on foot. Let's ask the rich for land; let's hand over the land given by the rich to the poor for them to earn their livelihood. A landless life brings no prosperity.

Everyone: Fields and wells,
Humble dwellings and cattle,
And manual labour bring joy.

Dayalan: That is indeed our goal. For people born in the world, there must be land to till and earn a livelihood. Cattle to plough the land, wells for irrigation, houses to live – all these are required. Wind, rain and sunshine are common to all; the earth's soil which is one of the five elements must also belong to all. Everyone has the right to bathe in the river water and to taste and drink it. In the same way,

everyone has the right to plough the land, plant crops and obtain food to eat. Spinning, weaving, bundling of cotton threads, working the land, living in well-ventilated dwellings – these are common to all.

Everyone: Spinning and weaving,
Gathering the threads,
Tilling the land and living in ventilated spaces
bring joy.

Dayalan, volunteers: We have attained this joy. Let's now strive to attain the other.

Come,

Brave warriors, come and join the team.

Welcome friends who are unfazed by hardships!

Humble volunteers, come and join forces with us.

Devotees with pure minds, come and join us!

Noble persons with no desire for name and fame and ready to live for others, welcome!

Good people who toil for others' well-being, come!

Generous persons, come immediately!

Everyone: Come, hardworking people!
Come, all those who invest money to develop industries

Come, all those who wish to see the country, the home and the world flourish!

(Workers sing and jump at the back)

Dayalan: Friends, harvesting has been completed in Tamil Nadu and we see heaps of grain on the threshing floors. This year has seen good rain, there is good produce.

Everyone: But still there is no end to poverty – the workers' hunger is unappeased.

Dayalan: Look, the workers have started to sing and dance on the Kalathur estates. Let's go there and see what's happening.

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