

ISSN : 2454-3365

THE LITERARY HERALD

AN INTERNATIONAL REFEREED ENGLISH E-JOURNAL

A Quarterly Indexed Open-access Online JOURNAL

Vol.1, Issue 2 (September 2015)

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Siddhartha Sharma

www.TLHjournal.com

sharmasiddhartha67@gmail.com

Book Review**Sonnet Mondal.****PRISMATIC CELLULOID****New Delhi: Authorspress, 2014.****ISBN 978-81-7273-749-8****Pages: 122, Price: 195.****Reviewed By:
Javeed Ahmad Rather****A Collection of Mellifluous Poems**

Sonnet Mondal is an Indian poet, born and brought up in West Bengal. He has authored eight books of poetry. In March 2015 'The Cultural Trip London' listed him among the Top Five Literary Entrepreneurs of Indian English Poetry. He is the youngest Indian to have represented India at the historical 'Bridges Poetry Event' 'Struga Poetry Evenings', Macedonia and the most recently he has represented India at the 'Uskudar International Poetry Festival', Istanbul, Turkey organized by the Government of Turkey.

The methodology and the hallmark of beauty possibly is the earliest imprint which is stamped in the minds of generality of the people which compels them to read certain book. P. Coelho could be right in saying that 'Beauty Is the greatest thing which seduces the mankind' or the popular lines of Keats 'Beauty is truth and Truth beauty' or 'First in beauty should be first in might'. As a matter-of-fact the poetic world is the world filled with love and beauty but it was not enough for me to read the Prismatic Celluloid, a poetry collection by Sonnet Mondal but his unalike visions allied to inequality, war, politics, love and beauty. Mondal has delightfully jolted his readers by such heartbreaking feelings, put down in his book. He himself has described this book as a collection of photographs that pitch light on our varied unlit thoughts as for instance his first poem "Words from Hell Dweller" sought out the usual meditation of men about Hell, in which he draws an aching imagery of Hell. For him it leaves no room for guilt and no path to flee back to earth. It's dweller is confined from all around alike Dr. Faustus. Akin to him his "Thoughts and Emptiness" mirrors the inward struggle of a poet as he tries to choose between two different emotions. Or his another poem "Promotion" which precise the hard actuality of how people tend to raise beyond from friends in life as their situation in life enriches. "Life is promoting us each moment ;/The more we go higher the more we realize/That we are losing space.

Mondal in the phraseology of Marlowe attempts to impel us to look toward the struggles and nuisance of our life without taking any account behind phantasm of felicity and peacefulness in "Discarding Umbrellas".

Nevertheless, his treatment and contemplation of love separate him from romantic poets and put his feet chained with the feet of classical poets like Pope who was fascinated by the stealing of hair lock of certain aristocratic lady. Mondal appears to be like him when he get into superheated about his beloved's hair-locks. His sensuous imagery has a profound sublimity. As he writes in "Tradition of Lust" "Removing locks of her hairs, through her eyeballs, /A watery haze kissed of aloof; /Turned me blind towards her concealed whims". Our eyes get set on lover who is lost somewhere in deep dusk of beloved's tresses. With such breathtaking articulation poet turns to be the Pluto of love, when he blends love and profound gentle and noble ideas in his poem. Further in a poem "Africa - Soldiers and Survivors" is sharp rendering of war and violence in Africa. The poet is jaded with the health of society, as of war and violence which is a intimidating chaos of the exclusive world. We can perceive his satire at its best as long as he conjures up readers with inequality, brutality amid the pictures of Africa. He writes: The hairs of the African lions have grown thick/ To cover their ears from sounds of bullets/ And cries of orphans. Poet is dismayed by the disunited world since the racism and casteism. The world where bullets show it's allegiance to annihilate people. It tread as far as a target of haunting dog is concerned. Death in war is conceived as spiritless and grotesque. In a hopeful manner poet holds one's breathe for a day absent of conflict and contention. Advancement of affection and agreement is incomparable solution to this. His elbow greases to operate love as an arm upon hostilities and loathing. His poems "Unseen" and "Iran 1980" for instance.

The best facet of the poetic collection, *Prismatic Celluloid*, is its warp and woof literalism chord which demonstrates the usual daytime of an ordinary mass.

(The author is presently doing Masters in English at Central University of Kashmir.)