

# SURADA'S POETRY



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# SURADA'S POETRY

Valluvar Tamil Peedam

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*Surada's Poetry*

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## The Poet's Word

Now and then the English renderings of my poems have appeared in many dailies.

Selections from my poems have been included in the syllabus of several Indian Universities. The vernacular version of these selections is available for perusal in the respective provincial languages.

The Universities of Malaya and Singapore have made selections from my poems for inclusion in their syllabus.

Recently I paid a visit to Sarja, the Arab country. There I was pleased to hear that my poems have Arabic and Urdu renderings.

My poetic ideas were condensed in a booklet, namely, *Poems of Surada* and it was released on my 74th birthday.

My esteemed friend Thanjai Prof. A.K. Moorthy has beautifully transcreated this collection into English with remarkable depth in all aspects. It is a fitting release on the occasion of my birthday.

M/s. Valluvar Tamil Peedam, Chennai has come forward to publish this English version with a neat get-up in time.

On this happy occasion I feel elated to express my heartfelt thanks to both the transcreator Thanjai Prof. A.K. Moorthy and the publisher Mr. A. Thiruvasagan, Chennai.

Chennai-78.  
15-11-2004

Poet Surada.

*Poet Surada*  
*Biographical Sketch*

*1. Birth and Education.*

<i>Date of Birth</i>	:	<i>23-11-1921</i>
<i>Birth Place</i>	:	<i>Palayanur, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu.</i>
<i>Parents</i>	:	<i>Thiruvengadam (Father) Shenbagam (Mother)</i>
<i>Sister</i>	:	<i>Vedavalli</i>
<i>Real Name</i>	:	<i>Rajagopalan</i>
<i>Education</i>	:	<i>School Final</i>
<i>Teachers</i>	:	<i>Arumughapather Singaravelu Nayinar Meeyakonar Rengasamy Pillai Govindaraj Natar Sami Velayutham Pillai</i>
<i>Grammar teacher</i>	:	<i>Sirkali Arunachala Desikar.</i>
<i>Wife</i>	:	<i>Sulochana.</i>
<i>Son</i>	:	<i>Poet Kalladan.</i>
<i>Daughter-in-law</i>	:	<i>Rajeswari Kalladan</i>
<i>Grand children</i>	:	<i>Ilangovan Ilanchezhyan.</i>

## 2. Chronology

\* In 1942 the dramatic troupe *Munnamthamizh Nilayam* was formed to propagate Self-Respect Movement ideals.

\* In 1944 he wrote the dialogue for the cine film *Mangayarasasi*. It was his maiden attempt, a very successful one.

\* In 1946 his first work *Savin Munnamtham (The Fatal Kiss)* was published.

\* In 1954 his poems were published serially in *Murasoli*. He created *Suradha* generation.

\* In 1955 he started *Kaviyam (Epic Epic)* the poetic weekly, first of its kind in the world.

\* In 1956 his tiny epic *Pattatharasasi (The Queen)* was published.

\* *Ilakkiyam (Literature 1958)*, *Oorumoradam (Procession 1961)* and *Vinmeen (The Star 1964)* followed the Epic.

In 1965 his famous *Thenmazhi (Puzhi (Honey-shower))*, the work was brought out. It received *State Award* in 1969.

In 1966 he became the President of the Great Forum of Tamil Poets.

## *Surada's Poetry*

*\* In 1968 he started the poetic bimonthly in his own name.*

*\* In 1971 he wrote poems in Ananda Vikadan, the famous Tamil Weekly with good response from readers.*

*\* In 1972 he received the title Kalaimanani (Expert in Art) from the State Government.*

*\* In 1978 he received the Pavendar (King of Poesy) Bharadidasan Award (Rs. 10,000/-, 4 Sovereign Gold Medal) from the State Government. It was constituted by M.G.R. Ministry.*

*\* In 1980-82 he toured twice the South Asian countries, Singapore and Malaya.*

*\* In 1982 his 60th Birthday was celebrated. A purse of Rs. 60,000/- was presented. A souvenir was also released. In the same year His Holiness Kundrakudi Adikalar conferred on him the title Kavi Arasar (King of Poets) and a Gold Medal was also presented in the philanthropist King Paari Festival held at Kundrakudi.*

*\* In 1987 the 1st World Tamil Conference was held at Malasia. He participated in it as Chief Guest. The Forum of the World Tamil Poets was formed. He became the President.*

*\* In 1989, he toured Sarga, one of the Arab countries.*



## Surada's Poetry

*In the same year a telecast entitled The Best Tamil Poet was made for 40 minutes by Doordarshan. It was a singular honour done to him.*

*\* In 1990 he received Bharadhidasan (Art) Award from the State Government. It was constituted by Kalaignar Karunanidhi Ministry in connection with the Bharadhidasan Centenary. In the same year he received the Maha Kavi Kumaran Asan Award from Kerala.*

*\* In 1993 he received the Rana Award (Rs. 10,000/-) from Rana Endowment, Erode.*

*\* In 1995 he received the coveted Raja Rajan Award (Rs. 1,00,000/-) from the Tamil University, Tamil Nadu.*

*\* In 1999 he received the Kalaignar Award (Rs. 1,00,000) for his outstanding service to Tamil as poet.*

*\* In 2000 he received the Adithanar Award presented to the elder Tamil Schlor. This award has been instituted by Dinathanthi group of Tamil Newspapers the founder being C.P. Adithan, the Father of Tamil Journalism.*

### 3. Summing - Up.

*\* His first short story Kavi Amaran was published in Prasanda Vikadan, the famous weekly edited by Narana Duraikkannan.*

## *Surada's Poetry*

- \* The first two lines in his first poem are:  
Remove the sufferings of the people  
That raise their head as the middle finger.*
- \* Acronym: Surada, shortened form of Suburathinadasan, a poet of Bharadidasan's generation.*
- \* Asst. to Poet Bharadidasan and Namakkal Poet Ramalingam for some time.*
- \* He acted as Minister in the play Puratchi Kavi (Revolutionary Poet) staged by Muthamizh Nilayam.*
- \* The scholar writer V. Ramasamy heard his composition and asserted that he was another Bharathi.*
- \* Asst. Editor, Thalaivan (Leader). He wrote poems and short stories in it.*
- \* He also wrote poems in series in Sivaji, edited by the famous poet Thiruloga Sitaraman.*
- \* Several plays were broadcast by Tiruchi Radio Station. They were popular.*
- \* Poet K.S. Krishnamoorthi introduced him to the cine field.*
- \* So far he has presided over 1000 Poets' Forum. 2000 poets have sung under his Presidentship. This forum has become a regular feature and it has been*

*conducted in all places: moonlight, boat, river, aircraft and ship.*

*\* His poems have been translated into several Indian languages including English. The Present edition Surada's Poetry is the first of its kind ever brought out to focus his potent Poetic personality. It is a transcreation of the Tamil Edition.*

*\* His works have been prescribed as text books in the leading Universities : Madras University, Kerala University, Malasia University and Singapore University.*

*\* Surada Night has also been conducted.*

*\* His son, Kalladan, also a good poet has received the V. G. P. Award given for the best poet.*

*\* His grandson Ilangovan has received an award from Thiru Vi. Ka. Association, Karur for his TV Performance.*

*\* He has composed lyrics for more than 100 films. He has written dialogues for films, the famous being Mangayarkarasi.*

*\* Educational institutions and associations have been set up in his name.*

*\* Work is in progress to compile all his works in one volume like Shakespeare's collected works.*

## *Publisher's Note*

*This popular edition is a transcreation of the Tamil edition published in 1995. Thanjai Prof. A.K. Moorthy, erudite Editor, Anna's Speeches and Writings and also a lover of Poet Surada has done this job with meticulous care and exemplary zeal. He has written a scholarly critical analysis to the transcreation work as well. Simile Poet Surada has given his assured assessment of the rendering in his own way.*

*We feel extremely happy to publish this standard work for the use of both Tamil and non-Tamil readers. For easy access to research, a biographical sketch, an index, glossary and a thorough bibliography have been appended at appropriate places.*

*In fine we thank wholeheartedly Prof. A.K. Moorthy and Poet Surada for their succinct analysis and assessment. We solicit constructive criticism on the work from readers and scholars.*

Chennai-78.  
15-11-2004

Rajeshwari Kalladan

## A. Critical Analysis.

*Introduction : Surada (Suburathinadasan) is a matchless modern Tamil poet. He is rightly called the simile poet just as we call Anna, our beloved, alliteration Anna. It is an honorific expressed in the right sense. He belongs to the proud poetic generation of Pavendar Bharadidasan, (the King of Poesy) after Bharathi, the people's poet or the great poet. The title Peoples' Poet was convincingly conferred by Anna (C.N. Annadurai, the great intellectual of Tamil Nadu) in his radio talk under the same title, 1948.*

*Period : The transcreation work under criticism is in free verse. It spreads over a period of 50 years from 1946 to 1995. It is a popular edition for lovers of Surada, containing the extracts of his poems that he had composed during this period now and then.*

*Classification : The work contains altogether 142 captions. Each caption is followed by excellent extracts. They may be classified as follows :*

- (1) Nature -29
- (2) Ethics and Philosophy - 10
- (3) Literary Forms - 4
- (4) Arts - 10
- (5) Education -56
- (6) Men and Matters -13
- (7) Love and Life - 17
- (8) Self -3.

## **Surada's Poetry**

*Of them the longest is Love and the shortest is The Fruit and Corpse. The first caption is Nature and the last one is I Know Well. His Select Thoughts also is a caption that follows the last one.*

*Sources : They are books and periodicals. The books are the poems of the poet himself. They are 9. The periodicals are 28. Most of them are prominent Tamil Journals. One of them is the Poet's bimonthly, bearing his own name Surada. Some cine lyrics, blessing poems and (radio) Poet's Forum poems have also been included in the edition (vide bibliography and biographical sketch).*

*Caption : All the 142 captions used in the compilation are short and suggestive. They convey the central idea of the extracts of each caption.*

*Salient Features : Broadly speaking, there are two kinds of poets in Tamil : one the poet of refinement and the other the poet of redundancy. The former creates classics. The latter composes mere ceremonial songs or cine-lyrics which are ephemeral in nature. Poet Surada belongs to the former category by dint of his innate genius.*

*What creates a sense of awe in our minds is good poetry. Naturally it touches our hearts. No doubt, Surada's poetry does this job dynamically.*

*Simile is part and parcel of his poetry. It is clothed in fresh novelty. It is the very key note of his poetry.*

## Surada's Poetry

*He treats all subjects in a masterly manner- be it love, nature or intercaste marriage. He follows the rich Sangam tradition of tranquility in the treatment. His poetry is full of fine ideas as well.*

*He solemnly submits that he neither copies anyone nor commits plagiarism. The critical analysis clearly confirms his submission.*

*Lastly, his poetry is a living example of Anna's three Cs with regard to Tamil Literature, namely, **Compassion** (கனிவு), **Clarity** (தெளிவு) and **Courage** (துணிவு).*

*Style : The style is the soul of a writer. It expresses his potent personality. Surada's poetry is an explicit expression of his exploratory personality for the sake of high truths and ethics. It is marked by originality of thought, sublimity of expression and pervading perfection mixed with clarity and simplicity. In addition, there is a rich vein of humour and wit in his poetry which is a flash of his poetic genius. To conclude we can proudly say that Poet Surada has a distinctive style which is totally different from others and it is **Surada's Style**, veracious in nature.*

*Message : The message is this : "Think always highly and write sublimely in you own way for the glory of Tamil and the Nation."*

*Prof. A.K. Moorthy.*

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## 1. Nature

*The cuckoos coo to mark the advent of summer.  
Beautiful and colourful is the bough.  
The parrots learn the melodious Sangam Tamil.  
The trees stand bearing the canopy of leaves.*



*The rivers are covered with a blanket of flowers.  
The gracious blossom drops the sweet honey-dew.  
The fertile mud is filled with black paddy corns.*

-Periodical Surada, 01.06.68

## 2. The God

*Fear is the god of the aborigines.  
Veracity is the god of the enlightened poets.  
Oh! Parthiban, the ruler in the middle is also the god.  
In the present world the scientist is esteemed as the god.*  
-Book Harbour.

## 3. The World

*The oral word (singing) is the conveyance of travellers.  
The comfortable shade is the bower of Nature.  
The earth is the book of the masses.*

## 4. The Earth

*The point we place on the letter is mei, the consonant.  
The house of the white ant is its mound.  
This mound where the snakes sleep  
are the very ears of the earth.*

## 5. The Land

*That which is not earth is the sand.  
The seashore is the mattress of the sea-land (Neidal)*

## 6. The Time (Seasons)

*Cold connotes coming into being.  
It is the cause for the living  
creatures of the world to come forth from the embryo.  
So it is called the cold season.  
During this season cold wind blows mercilessly.  
The floating cloud becomes pregnant.  
The young ones come out from the fish spawn in the pond*



*The hot season is the one giving out scorching heat.  
Both the mild hot season and the severe hot one are the  
children born out of the furious red rays of the sun.*



*April and May go by the name the mild hot season.  
It is the best season for the cuckoos.  
The dirty beetles peep out their heads in the buds  
just spread out.*



*August and September constitute the cloudy season.  
The age of this season is sixty days only.  
During this uniform season the watery cloud  
takes out its slow procession.  
The northern wind makes its way frequently.*



*The morning dew season follows the evening  
dew season in succession.*

*In this perilsome season, the breeze gently breaks out.*



*The severe hot season brings forth unbearable heat.  
The arrival of summer marks the blowing of hot wind.  
Everywhere the cheating mirrage is prevalent.  
The skylark and other birds sing in ecstasy.  
The jasmine and other buds blossom out.*



*It was the (golden) period  
when the enlightened learning of Tamil literature  
was the focus. This is also the period  
when sensual sex embrace is the climax.*



*Dew means chilling.  
The dew makes everyone shiver.  
because of its shivering nature,  
we call it dew-drop.  
Born before, just like the elder brother,  
the evening dew season is the preceding  
morning dew season.  
And it makes all of us shiver daily.  
(In Tamil the seasons are six. In English they are four  
Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter)*

## 7. The Sun

*All the cosmos is the pretty pattern of beauty.  
The blue sky is the highway of the red rays.  
The largest solar glow is a gold plate  
spitting out radiating flame.  
It is the round mark cast on the cosmos.*



*The sun is burning without oil.  
It is the morning glory of the cobalt blue sky.*

-Lyrics.

## 8. The Heat

*Heat is essential to both growth and revolt.  
To pull on the force of life  
is needed a ceaseless urge.  
What gives that urge?  
It is heat.*

-Periodical Tamilnad, 14.04.92

## 9. The Moon

*It grows like the company of the good people.  
In a few days her wet body weakens.  
It is the beautiful aircraft  
stirring the sweet-wording poets.  
It pins its love on the heaven.  
It is a pretty virgin wandering nakedly.  
It is the mute crawling in the noisy cloudy sky.  
Oh! It is a silver tortoise.*

*It is waning with wasting pallor.  
It bleaches out the darkness of the night.  
It is as pleased as a mother's heart.  
It is like a disc in shape.*

### 10. The Breeze

*The rivers spread out their wavy water.  
The big peacock spreads out its tail feathers.  
The waxing breeze spreads out  
the fragrance of blossoms.*

### 11. The Cloud

*Just like the waves arranged in layers,  
The wet cloud in the sky  
goes with gentle continuing gait.*

### 12. The Rain

*It is the flowing hair bathed in oil.  
It falls down like a white thread of water.  
Oh! Long live, the sweat of the sky.*



*The rain water pours down like a string of harp.  
It is nourishing mother's milk to all plants.*



*Lightning is the loud laughter of the cloud.  
The rain is the sweat cleared out by the clouds.  
To the herb and shrub the rain is the life-giving water.  
It is the nourishing water to both sesame and oats.*

### 13. The Water

*The cloud rolls out from the salty sea.  
The pure white rain is the spit thrown out by the cloud.  
It falls down like the string of harp.*



*It is the nourishing milk to all plants.  
What we call lake, river, dark sea, pond and tank  
are five waters belonging  
to the beautiful family of waters.*



*The lover said, "Love is the haste of youth".  
The love said, "Rain water is the harvest of the sky"  
-Periodical Urimai Vetkai, (The Urge of Freedom)  
1974 Pongal Number.*

*Anxiety is nothing but the ship sailing on tears.  
The yacht is nothing but a plate floating on the river.  
-Periodical Urimai Vetkai  
1975 Pongal Number.*

*The perennial cloud gapes out.  
The needle like lightning flashes out instantly.  
The cloud weeps like a child.  
Ah! The rain water is made available to us.*

*-Book The Wall and the White Wash*

### 14. River Ponni

*Oh! Ponni, when were you born?  
As is the blood, so are you casteless,  
Do you have the water garment to hide your body?  
Is the pebble, a gem of your garland?*

*-Lyrics.*

## 15. Mother Cauvery

*You are the milk drunk by the greens.*

*You are the limbs extended from the mountain Kudaku  
(Karnataka)*

*You have attained vast glory as the three Tamil Kings  
(Chera, Chola and Pandiya)*

*The yield and wealth of the South is really in your hands.*

-Lyrics.

## 16. The Plough

*The story of moisture is the cloud.*

*The story of plough is the world.*

-Book Honey-shower.

## 17. The Ocean

*The heaven is the open umbrella of this world.*

*The gentle feminine benignity is the blue of the ocean.*

-Book Honey shower.

*The waves of the black ocean are*

*just like the gait of the intoxicated low people.*

*The foams are just like the song of the Sangam poets.*

*A little white crow on the edge of the colourful sea.*

-Bopal Tamil Sangam. Special Number (1966-67)

*The rising sea is a measure of fathom.*

*The waves are its cymbals.*

-Book Honey shower.

*The surging sea calls forth all the rivers.*

*It eats incessantly the salt only.*



**Surada's Poetry**

*The long sea is the glory of the brine  
denoting the fringe of the sea-land*

-Periodical Surada, 1.12.70

*The human law is one of rejection.  
The law of the sea is one of approbation.*



*Oh! An undrawn painting  
the lotus bud of the pond.  
You are inseparable from land.*



*The false sea is fenceless.  
It has borrowed its colour somewhere.  
It goes by the name dark sea.  
It is the body of water tending to swallow the land.*



*The ancient king embraced many a woman  
to be cheerful.  
Likewise the lord of water (sea) embraces  
the wriggling and curving rivers.*



*The spotless white river  
is the darling of the bankless dark sea.*



*Oh! The dark sea calls forth.  
It is the mirror of the blue sky.*





*Behold the sea of snow flowing briskly in the valley.  
Both the darkness of mind  
and the darkness of the noisy sea are the same.*

*-Periodical Literature 15.3.61*

*The beautiful cradle is swinging.  
The singer is singing in high pitch.  
The Lord of sex is embracing the darling earth.  
And the sea is his salt house.  
It is the watery street  
where the loving fish play freely.*

*Periodical Literature. 15.3.61*

## 18. The Forest

*The forest yields products and gives fruit.  
It gives also the cool shade  
to the parrot pair for their conjugal pleasure.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

## 19. The Rose

*The cobra is born with its fangs.  
The entire rose is born with its thorns.  
It is the blossom where the moth sleeps.  
It wears the new idols as the saree.  
Its base thorns are the sharp nails.*

## 20. The Honey

*The frothy overflowing honey !  
It is the sweat of the blossom.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

### **Surada's Poetry**

*What is fathom? It is a measure of the depth  
of the breathing dark sea  
lying in the uncut valley.  
The honey sleeps in the pit  
of new yawning blossom.  
And it is the most precious.*

*-Periodical Thennagam, 01.06.71*

## **21. The Fruit**

*All the juicy fruit is the bulging of the bower*

*-Periodical-Surada, 01.07.68*

## **22. The Fish**

*The waves of the swelling sea are like an army  
emerging endlessly even after slaughter.  
The fish are the boundless riches  
which the vast sea provides.*

## **23. The Face**

*The ornament to the face is the tender forehead  
The ornament to the head is the lotus face.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

## **24. The Eye**

*There is a path in the sky  
for the glowing circling moon.  
There is a royal street on earth  
for the chief of Cholas.*

*The street is the path of justice.  
It is the highway of the chariot.  
It is also the fortress of fiery-eyed soldiers.*

*-Periodical Surada-01.06.68.*

*The word becomes clear by the prefix.  
The day becomes clear by the emerging sun.  
The field becomes clear by the corns.  
The eyeball becomes clear by the eyebrows.*

*Intellectual Anna Number, 1968.*

*The bund protects the field carefully  
just like a mother.*

*The eye is the best organ of the body.*

*Periodical Thennagam, 05.06.71.*

*We work out maths with the aid of figures.  
Love blossoms and ripens at the mercy of the eyes.*



*“Speak with your magic eyes.  
Oh! My sweet” said the lover.  
The love bird spoke with her enchanting eyes.  
The most handsome youth learned sex.*



*The eyes resemble the gate of the glass house.  
When engaged in love, they look like a white flower.  
When showing kindness, they look like a lamp of silver.*

*Periodical the Idealist, 15.05.58.*

*Surada's Poetry*

*Maths is born out of figures  
Love is born out of the eye and mind  
of two young people.*



*There is no other organ better than eye.  
There is no other sea better than eye.  
There is no other attraction better than eye.  
There is no other fire medium better than eye.*

*Periodical The Idealist, 15.05.58*

## 25. The Teeth

*Oh! The full Moon. Listen.  
Your body is a biscuit of gold.  
Your are the family of pearl like teeth  
belonging to Kurunthogai, the Sangam Literature.*



*Relations are a serial story.  
The tusks of elephants are teeth signifying fame.*

## 26. The Lip

*The lips of a damsel open often.  
It is a close arrangement of sixteen teeth.  
And it is a string of pearls  
kept safely in a coral casket.*

*Book The Queen.*

*The fruit-like door closes  
the pearl like teeth.  
Oh! The beautiful reddish mouth  
proclaims to the world  
the rich three aspects of Tamil (Muthamizh)*

*Periodical Murosoli, 28.01.55.*

*Your mouth is always red.  
You always seem to me the cool moon.  
Now your laughter is silvery  
We are now in embracing joy.*

*Book Harbour.*

## 27. The Mole

*The undying glory, is the best relic.  
The mole is the scar evolving of its own accord.*

*-Book The Wall and the Whitewash.*

## 28. The Blood

*The products of the sea are pearl, coral, salt and shell.  
The mature blood is a product of the body,  
the very nourishment of food.*



*Both the blood and its contents  
are the rivers running in the vessels.*



*The gem in the market,  
The blood in the body.  
Blood for war and blood for revolt.  
It is the cry of history.*

## 29. The Womb

*Until marriage it is an empty bag.  
When swallowing white sweat (sperm)  
It is womb.*



*The lovers' cot is a chamber of privacy  
The womb is a good chamber  
where the spirits of life mingle.*



*Womanhood succeeds girlhood.  
The girlhood is the period of maturity  
in which the womb is implanted in her body.  
It is the little bag unstitched by the tailor.*

## 30. The Woman

*When the bud matures, it is a blossom  
When a girl matures, she is a woman.*



*The sand heaped on the floor slants down  
Likewise the breasts of a teen ager  
come down naturally.*



*Adorn your hair-knot with flowers.  
Place a round mark on the forehead.  
Paint your deer-like eyes with black.  
All these are the features of your hair-dressing.*



*The beauty of waist plays two balls.  
She is noted for her charm.*

*She walks like a swan.  
She is a maiden of fine complexion  
and creeper - like waist.*



*She has a waist waning like a miser's wealth.  
She is a pea-hen of proud gait.  
The maiden has such a fine moon-like face  
that it receives the relentless radiant rays  
of the rising sun.*



*The pride of the land is the paddy  
Shame is the pride of maidenhood.*

-Periodical Surada, 01.04.69.

*The black cloud is a mixture of heat  
water wind and smoke.  
The snow and the ripe red fruit are in plenty  
Your body is a bunch of spongy soft flowers  
full of nectar.*

-Book Honey-shower.

*The paddy and the sugarcane  
are the beauty of the land  
The lotus is the beauty of the lake.  
Good thoughts are the beauty of the mind.  
Oh! Damsel, you are the beauty of the couch.*

-Book Honey-shower.

### **Surada's Poetry**

*The forest-land is hard to live.  
It is the land fit for conjugal union.  
The agri-land is smooth to live.  
Your excellence of complexion  
should have easy access to it.*

*-Periodical Surada, 01.05.68.*

*The elephant's tusk is the translation  
of the crescent moon.  
The translation of the parent is the child  
The translation of poverty is the poor.  
The translation of the sky  
is the beauty's glance.*



*The ageing of time is called the period.  
The period of girl-hood is just like crops  
growing up erectly.  
The period of maiden-hood suitable for wedlock  
is just like the paddy corns bending down gently.*

*-Book The Wall and the Whitewash.*

## **31. Woman's Right**

*Woman should get their lion's share.  
A widow should remarry.  
The freedom of thought and the freedom of writing  
should easily reach them.  
Nay, all of them should learn all arts in this land.*



### 32. The Garment

*The cloud is the apron of the sky.  
The enemy's blood is the apron of the valorous spear.  
The lust is the apron to the wicked  
who is mad after women.*

*-Periodical the Breeze, 22.09.62.*

*The apron of the earth is the rivers.  
The lover is the apron of the loved.  
The white cotton is the apron of the wet wound.  
The apron of the blossoms is the sweet honey bees.*

*-Periodical The Breeze, 22.09.52.*

*You say it is snow.  
I would reply it is the sweat  
thrown out by the moon.  
You say it is bier.  
I would reply  
it is the cot  
that has lost its legs  
You say it is fruit.  
I would reply  
it is the family of seeds.  
You say it is the blue sea.  
I would reply  
it is the garment of the maiden earth*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

### 33. The Saffron

*The Saffron!*

*It makes ties more stronger.*

*It is the symbol of re-union after solitude.*

*It makes beauty more beautiful.*

*It is the saffron worn constantly*

*as an auspicious mark on the forehead.*

### 34. The Flowing Hair

*When the blue wave is gently moving,*

*the determined abyss is the sea, said she,*

*Your beautiful black flowing hair*

*is the hanging root*

*of the Danian, replied he.*

*-Periodical The Freedom  
Pongal Number, 1974.*

*Oh! The full moon*

*You are the blossom*

*Your body is a bar of gold*

*You have Kurunthogai teeth*

*You are a heap of pearls.*

*Your curly and black flowing hair*

*is the wealth of Nedunthogai,*

*The Sargam Literature*

*-Periodical Mukkani (The Triple Fruit)  
Pongal Number, 1963.*

### 35. The Fear and the Freckle

*The blemish is in the mind,*

*The freckle is in the body.*

*The fear is a shock of the mind.*

*The freckle is a beautiful mark of identity.*

*-Periodical Surada, 01.04.69.*

### 36. Civilization

*If there are no clouds,*

*there is no rain,*

*If there are no upright people,*

*there is no ethics.*

*If there are no cobras,*

*there is no pipe of the snake charmer.*

*Above all, if there is no civilization,*

*there is no repute.*

### 37. The Prostitute

*She is the seller of the lips*

*If you roll your money, she will roll her body.*



*Learning is deep,*

*The sea is deep.*

*The mind of the prostitute*

*is deeper than the sea.*

### 38. The Lamp

*The lamp (light) dispels darkness.  
The shade at its base  
is the saree worn by her.*



*The lake is the nourishing milk  
of the paddy field.  
You the burning lamp!  
You are the sun  
burning with oil,  
You are the serial story of the fire.*



*It is our domestic wick lamp.  
It gives birth by mouth.  
It drinks water by its tail  
and drives out darkness.*

### 39. The Widow

*The maiden without her husband  
and the sea without a ship  
are the same.*

### 40. The National Liberation

*To the kissing lovers  
What is significant?  
It is the liberation of the country.  
Let us start with valorous clarion call.  
Let us laugh away the death at war.*

## 41. The Nation

*I became flesh.  
The flesh became life.  
I became a Tamilian.  
Oh! The honey sweet country you bear me.  
Oh! The country of sweet Thirukkural,  
You are the bearer of the blue sky  
My cradle is your bosom.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*Oh! Motherland.  
I even eat the bran to honour you.  
Oh! Sweet Motherland.  
I even stand on fire  
in order to liberate you.  
Oh! Lovable Motherland.  
I even accept the poison of the enemy.  
Oh! Valorous Motherland.  
I never fear death  
in the dauntless deed of saving you.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.03.68.*

*Oh! Motherland  
You have gloriously evolved  
from the land of the forest  
the land of the mountain  
and the land of the sea.  
You have the honour to be  
the land of the breeze.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.03.68.*

*Surada's Poetry*

*History is a scar of every country.  
It is the struggle to drive out  
the pitiable poor economy of the country.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*Never deviate from the path of virtue.  
Never forget your Motherland.  
Don't exploit.  
Don't lose self-respect.*

*-Cine Lyric.*

*The land of perfect Tamil is the best land.  
It is the home of Nature.*



*The sun is burining without oil.  
It is independent by nature.  
In this world, the land of perfect Tamil too is  
capable of functioning freely.*



*Our land is a land of even-breeze  
It is full of learned men and artists.  
In the ripe knowledge  
it is the oldest land.  
It will never retreat,  
come what may.*

*-Lyrics*

*If you die, die for the right.  
It is the historic valour of Tamilnadu.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*The angular Tamilnadu  
is the land of the mountain  
It is older than any other land,  
It is the granary of the paddy.*

*-Periodical Tamilnadu  
Pongal number, 14.01.62.*

*All men find pleasure in food,  
The great poets find food in pleasure.  
Other languages are not as sweet as Tamil,  
There is no land without change.*

*-Periodical Tamilnadu  
Pongal number, 14.01.65.*

*The field sleeps gently  
touching the water of the channel.  
There the message of plough is imminent.  
In the nourishing milk of the mother  
both the family story and history  
will be a judicious mixture.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

## 42. The Limit

*If the limit of the wave exceeds  
the parts of the sea-land will be ruined  
If the limit of art exceeds,  
the social thoughts  
will get charred.*

### 43. Betrayal

*The little forest fire is the laughter  
of red orchard flower.*

*Oh! Parrot,*

*The greater fire of the country  
is utter betrayal.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

### 44. Deceit

*One may get other's property by robbery  
destruction theft and cheating*

*The wealth earned blamefully  
will ever avenge you.*

*It will never sleep until it is done.*

*-Poem sung under the title Not Doing Evil  
on 13.01.68 at Madras Radio Station.*

*The honey dew sleeps in the soft blossom.*

*The lily sleeps in the sunshine.*

*The arrows sleep in the middle of the bow,*

*Ah! Deceit sleeps in utter guise.*



*Even if crises corner us*

*and even if unhappy events rock us*

*let us simply laugh them away.*

*Deceit never enters*

*in the laughter of laudable people.*





*The Vangai tree gives room  
for the peacock to sleep.  
The mad elephant will destroy  
the millet under its feet.  
The bund will indicate  
the water of the fields.  
The land of the forest will explain  
the prosperity of the country.*

*-Periodical Surada, 01.12.69*

### 45. Hatred

*The dirt of fire is smoke.  
The dirt of thought is hatred.*

### 46. The Evidence

*When the eye and the object mix it is sight.  
In this world it is the sight only  
the reliable evidence.*

### 47. The Town

*Is it the pleasing park  
or the house, a beauty of the town?  
No, certainly not.  
At least it should have a few men of  
exemplary conduct and culture.*

### 48. The Tamils

*The complexion of a Tamil is fairly red  
Redness means youth of darkness.*

*-Periodical Literature, 20.05.58.*

*Surada's Poetry*

*The Tamils of global fame will examine  
everything critically.*

*They will codify and classify it.*

*It is their natural talent.*

*(Three aspects of Tamil and five divisions of land)*

*-Periodical Epic, 09.03.56.*

*Oh! Tamils of today live a life of fame  
just like the Tamils of yore.*

*Protect the perfect Tamil.*

*Cast off the cheating attitude.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*We have become weaker.*

*We have been degenerated.*

*We have forgotten Tamil.*

*We write this, explain this  
and speak of this.*

*Oh! Even our own brethren  
oppose us determinedly.*

*-Book-The Queen.*

*The Tamils are an exclusive throng.*

*They are proud like the yak.*

*It is the Tamil who gives a feast  
even if the honey goes dry*

*(It shows the high culture)*

## 49. The Tongue

*"Which is the heavenly ambrosia?" asked he.*

*"It is the falling rain," said I.*

*"The face is sweeter than the honey," said he,*

*"The Tamil is the sweetest", replied I.*

*-Periodical Tamilnadu, 14.04.62.*

*Mate : An unlettered man is a dead log of wood.*

*Maid : He is worse than the vomitted food.*

*Mate : Even the candy and the honey taste bitter.*

*Maid : It is due to the result of  
hearing the virgin Tamil music.*

*-Periodical Malaimani, 12.06.53.*

*One who renders remarkable service  
to the nation and the language*

*like his ancestors*

*is like an apple of the eye.*

*He is also like the kernel of the seed.*



*My tongue is Tamil, the gracious.*

*It is the reservoir of honey.*

*My tongue is Tamil, the gracious.*

*It is the nourising milk to me.*

*-Book Honey-shower*

*All my mind, thought and action are Tamil,*

*I should say.*

*It is all my voice, song and taste, I should say.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

### **Surada's Poetry**

*I give my heart to the utmost morals.  
Daily I enjoy seeing painting.  
Even if an array of an army comes to ruin Tamil,  
I shall never fear.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*If you fear swimming,  
can you take pearls at the deep sea?  
Just like the sheeps's hasty grazing  
one who has superfluous learning,  
cannot realize the three aspects of Tamil (Muthamizh)*



*"The lip is the sharp split of the diamond," said I  
"It is for praising Tamil", replied she.*



*The learned sayings of the wise  
are stamped (standard) gold.  
A feeling of one's own language  
is the basic feeling.*



*If the oral language grows,  
the mother tongue also grows  
If mother tongue wanes,  
self - respect also wanes.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*Those who saved the head,  
the leg and the hand  
(heroes and patriots) are no more.  
In history the saviour of Tamil never dies.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

## 50. Justice

*If the shadow of poison is cast  
on the food mixed with ghee,  
Death is imminent  
Likewise if justice is blemished, truth will die.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.03.68.*

*The morals preached by the ceaseless men  
of high calibre will go on for ever.  
They will never be weakened by any force in life.*

## 51. The Right

*The rule of the citizens of a country  
is the right governance.  
Here the people who landed from other countries,  
dominated us for a long time.  
What rights do they have?*

## 52. Caste and Creed

*Religion will go if reasoning grows.  
The more the reasoning,  
the lesser the religion.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

## *Surada's Poetry*

*If there is no revolt,  
there is no renaissance  
A poetry without a novel idea  
will not last long.  
A caste and religion-dominated  
country will rarely progress.*

*-Periodical Malaimani.*

*Those who think  
they are high by birth and colour  
are all wicked and fantastically foolish.*



*Let us breathe our last  
for the good of the country.  
Let there be a society  
without caste atrocity and domination,  
which are really the rock-like obstacles.*



*All caste, religion, sastras  
and the difference of the rich and the poor  
are hostile forces of the old order.*



*Be bounded by love.  
Just like adding copper to gold  
let the intercaste marriage go on.  
Then all the caste will disappear  
just like water drops fallen on the red hot iron.*

### 53. Socialism Capitalism and Conciliation

*The sunshine, the rain and the wind  
are all the socialism granted by God.  
The group which exploits the country is capitalism.  
If the poor revolts,  
comes the conciliation.*

-Cine Lyric.

### 54. Culture

*What we cultivate is culture.  
If high culture should be fostered  
then wounding other's feelings should go.  
Simultaneously, the most glorious acts  
also should be done.*

### 55. Festivals

*The sweet festivals are the best means  
to gather at a place  
the people scattered everywhere.*

### 56. Pongal

*(Festival of Labour)*

*The speech and writing of a fitting person  
is indeed a festival of labour  
It is a service done to one's mother tongue.  
The festival at home is the fruit of the people labour.*

### *Surada's Poetry*

*It is the festival of cooking sweet rice  
for prosperity.*

## 57. Unity

*If truth and love unite,  
even the glowing fire becomes the good sandal.*

-Lyrics.

*Finally justice will triumph.  
Believe it firmly.  
Unity is the backbone of the country.  
The wicked enemy's attack is  
just like a fragment of fuel wood falling on fire.*



*Refuting always everything is never a talent.  
A good heart lessens vices softly.  
If the country should progress,  
let us have a feeling of national integrity*



*The people of frustration only create  
discord in society without any norm whatsoever.  
If qualities of generosity and peace be on the decrease,  
the social solidarity will be at stake.*

## 58. Co-operation

*If summer changes, there is cold.  
If co-operation exists, it will stimulate growth.*

## 59. History

*Birth and death in this world are common occurrences.*



*The true history of a man's life is his own abilities.*

## 60. Industrial prosperity

*It is not enough if we worked  
at the paddy fields for long.  
In addition we must also carry on  
other trades to agument wealth.*



*The family prosperity protects health.  
The excellence of music protects the song.  
The vocabulary protects the language,  
Oh! The industrial property protects the country.*



*A good Tamil lexicography,  
Tamil music, agriculture and engineering  
we need all these  
fields of knowledge.*



*Not only the strength of the shoulder  
but also the industrial growth  
are essential to the country.  
It is useless if mere muscle  
growth takes place.*



*The textiles give us clothes.  
The field of grammar aguments prosody.  
Engineering creates new buildings.*

## 61. Science

*Love of mother tongue and its nourishment  
should go hand in hand.*

*We should always aim at critical studies.*

*We should also foster science.*

## 62. The Radio

*The radio is our hand.*

*It is the tiny kitten of science*

*If you sneeze it will also sneeze,*

*If your sleep, it will also sleep.*

## 63. The Weaver

*The poet is aged by time.*

*The weaver is more aged than the poet.*

*He is an adept at making*

*decorative work in clothes.*

## 64. The Cricket

*The cricket is a field game.*

*Oh! It shows the disabled movements*

*of the old age in a new way.*

*Understand this!*

## 65. Film World

*The cine-world is a pitcher of honey  
It is a world of enticing beauty  
It induces the youth  
It stirs sweet desire often  
It is a university*



*It is a staircase with  
ascending and descending steps.*

## 66. The Story

*All story is word cracks.  
Fables are nothing but hardened imagination.*  
-Periodical Surada.

## 67. The Prose

*Every occurrence in the country is a short story.  
The style of poetry of good people is ambrosia.  
The prose is like the public food.*  
-Book Harbour.

## 68. The Writer

*A good writer is like a sugarcandy.  
His writing is like the tap root.*

## 69. Books

*If one likes to do something good  
to the country through epic,  
it is useless, as well as worthless  
to produce works of ephemeral nature in plenty  
like white ants during one's short period of life.*



*A writer during his life time should produce  
a great work with fresh ideas.  
It should be respected by the great people.  
It is the only way to sustain glory for ever.*



*Oh! The ancient literary works.  
They are the ships to go deep into the sea.  
Oh! the didactic works.  
They show us the right path.*

-Book Harbour.

## 70. Dance

*The dance is an undelivered speech.  
It is the very breath of our Mother Tamil,  
It is indeed an intricate art.  
It changes the eye into the tongue.*

-Periodical Surada, 01.12.69

## 71. Art

*The grazing zeal for the sheep  
The writing zeal for the creator  
The selling zeal for the merchant  
The working zeal for a few people  
The fire zeal for the blacksmith  
All these kinds of zeal are but natural in all these cases  
But it is hard one to be endowed with  
real zeal for art.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.08.69*

*Reading is an art  
Writing poetry is an art  
Arranging flowers is an art  
Even gently touching a girl is an art*



*If sales increase  
the yield also will increase  
If imagination blossoms  
many arts will blossom  
excellently in the country*



*Beauty in thought.  
Intoxication in beauty.  
Intoxication creates new desires.  
The new desires create  
relationship and intermingling.*

### *Surada's Poetry*

*Production is the delivery of a living creature.  
By mingling the domestic art grows.*

*-Domestic Art Annual Number.*

*The drum was sounded.*

*The harp was played.*

*The daughter of the celestial beauty,  
the darling of every one, danced on the stage,  
No doubt the characteristic sign dance  
is an absolute art.*



*The country is in need of wonderful arts.  
Suffering never burns the mind of an artist.*



*The galloping of the deer in the land of mountain  
and the display of the rising waves  
are all wonderful arts.*



*The objects done with the aid of nature and nurture  
are all important arts.*

## **72. The Song**

*There is no change without correction,  
Change and write.*

*The meaningless song is undigested food.*

*It is just like the unwanted caste and creed,*

*-Periodical Tamilnadu, 14.01.65.*

*The seed becomes the tree.*

*The tree blossoms and gives fruit.*

*The poem is a similar effort.*

*Only those who have keen intellect  
can bring out a revolution in literature.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.05.68.*

*If the height becomes horizontal, it is length.*

*If the mind is made mature, novelty results.*

*Tears are at the height of affliction.*

*If you give life to words, poetry blossoms.*



*If minds mingle, love springs up.*

*thought becomes sweet.*

*Those who have the essence of learning,  
compose poetry of achievement.*

*Indeed, they are the greatest people.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.04.68.*

*The epic enthral emotions.*

*It brings about a dream of learning.*

*The eyes become bright.*

*Even if you sing of a sinner (Satan-Pradaise Lost)*

*His name will go for ever in literature.*

*-Periodical Surada, 01.05.68.*

*When you bake bread*

*The cavity hole finds a place  
in the centre of its own accord.*

*Likewise, in the epic, the ideas will never  
jump into it from somewhere.*



*The poem is a literary form  
textured by prosody.*

## *Surada's Poetry*



*The best poetry of the best poets  
not only enthrals but also enlightens you.*



*The moon is a single entity.  
It gives light to the whole world.  
Likewise the wise poetry shows the wise idea.*



*It is a good policy to provide medicare  
to the whole country.  
Likewise the idea is a measure of poetry.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.04.68.*

### **73. The Poets' Forum**

*To the learned, the poets' forum is a well of honey.  
It is the cawl to the unlearned.*

### **74. Simile**

*Idea is of paramount importance in poetry.  
The simile is a must.  
It is the life force of poetry.  
It adds profundity to poetry.*



*A poetry without simile  
is like an eatable without salt.  
The unblossomed lotus*



*is like a maiden without grace.*



*To strike a comparison,  
An allround ability is needed.  
An industrious person alone  
is endowed with that ability.*

*Excellence is largely wanting in the case of  
saltless food and simililess poetry.*

*-Periodical Tamilnadu, 14.01.65.*

## 75. Learning

*Chastity gives fame  
Love gives joy  
Learning improves knowledge.  
Two cutting knives fear each other.*



*When we are in mother's womb  
Where are the caste and creed?  
Which thing in the world is so permanent as learning?*

*-Periodical The Procession, 15.05.63.*

*There is more nectar in the lotus.  
There is more taste in the pure Tamil word.  
There is darkness in the mind of the commoner.  
But there is more clarity in the mind of the learned.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

## 76. Valour

*The death of light is darkness.  
The effect of valour goes by the name heroism.*

## 77. Industry

*One who realizes the truth is beyond difference.  
There is no difference, either high or low, in birth.  
There is no harvest in the field if we do not sow.  
There is no progress in the life of a lazy man.*

*-Lyrics.*

*The centre of the sea is the cloud.  
The centre of the dream is the eye.  
The centre of life is the body.  
Industry alone is the centre of life.*



*One who lives in the world without industry  
is like the sterile flower of the sugar-cane.*



*If there is more imagination,  
then learning should be improved.  
If we are fond of success,  
we should work ceaselessly.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*The mate: Can a widow be married again?*

*The maid: Let the viable seed grow.*

*The mate: Can one progress in life without industry?*

*The maid: How can a pearl reach the shore of its own accord?*

*-Book The Dynamic Youth.*

*We spin the cotton in order to get yarn.*

*Any country can advance only by industry  
and not by mere preaching.*

*-Book Harbour.*

*The result of beating is cotton.*

*The result of the penning of the learned is poetry.*

*The result of the fire is the oven.*

*The result of the tuning of the harp is music.*

*The result of the fertility of the soil is the paddy and  
grass.*

*Likewise raise yourself by your own effort.*

*The world will always go after the great people.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.05.69.*

## 78. The Sweat

*Surprise: It is the explanation of a new feeling,*

*Surada's Poetry*

*Sweat: It is the expression of salt water of the body.*

## 79. Enthusiasm

*Have enthusiasm in mind.*

*Have industry in life.*

*Drive sleep away.*

*Defeat will fly away.*

## 80. Merit

*The title given by the people of merit  
will stand for ever*

*-Book Honey-Shower.*

*Those who are like the bunch like coconut,  
will have an act of arrogance.*

*They will never have merits.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.04.68.*

## 81. Intellectual Acumen

*Who can conquer the learned?*

*It is the poet.*

*In the art of governance*

*Who can be dominant?*

*It is the people of high intellectual acumen*

*-Minister Panruti Felicitations, 04.03.73.*

## 82. Novelty

*The cereals are always viable.*

*The extraordinary talents and novelties never die.*



*The crest of fame is novelty.*

*Novelty induces feeling,*

*Novelty is needed in poetry.*



*Novelty is the excellence of intellect,*

*Novelty gives fame.*

*Novelty takes leadership.*

*Novelty is constant.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

### • 83. Action

*A few persons will do all.*

*They will do them imperfectly.*

*A few people will do only one thing at a time.*

*They will do it perfectly.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*Truth will lead us to good.*

*Action shows the great to us pinpointedly.*

### 84. Fame

*The gold and the damsel are the incarnation of Beauty*

*The fame only is the ornament of  
the enlightened knowledge.*

*Influence will cross four or five destinations only.*

### **Surada's Poetry**

*The good fame will even cross beyond nation.*



*The glory pierces through all directions.  
The higher fame lives long by overcoming death.*



*To come closer, good relations are needed  
To grow larger, rising fame is required.*



*If all the excess becomes water, it is the sea.  
If all the remainder becomes knowledge, it is fame.  
The poets are for all praise.*



*The sweat of the blossom is honey.  
The eyes that war everyday are the fish's.  
Oh! Damsel, False fame dies.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.07.68.*

*The learned limited the boundary of Tamilnadu  
by means of milestones and seas.*

*The ancient poet wrought a faultless fame  
by the clever employment of the choicest words.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*Light means dignity or respect.*

*It is the influence that one has during one's life time.*

*To put it clearly, fame only is eternal.*

*-Periodical Thernagam, 03.06.71.*

*I always pen a poem of popularity.  
There are an enthusiastic throng of poets to follow me.  
The conceived girl will give birth to a child  
My kernels also will be the nourishing mother to my fame.*  
-Book Honey-shower.

*What is called joy is faith.  
What is called sorrow is also faith,  
To examine critically the fame and glory  
serves as a warning to indicate  
the danger awaiting us.*



*The egg floating on the flood  
will quickly perish.  
But the fame of a leader (Anna)  
who finds a place in the minds of  
the people will never perish.*

-Periodical Surada, 01.10.69.

*It is the corn field that gathers paddy.  
It is the tree that gives us cool shade.  
It is the deer that eats the green grass.  
Likewise the greatest man is one  
who gains glory by adding novelty.*

-Periodical Surada, 15.05.68.

**Surada's Poetry**

*If there is water, there will be foam.  
If there is shade, there will be cold.  
If there is car, there will be wheels.  
If there is excellence, there will be fame.*

*-Periodical The Freedom,  
Pongal Number, 1974.*

*In the world the relics left behind  
by good people are the fame.*

*-Periodical Surada, Anna Number*

*Let your learning be fertile,  
Poetry will come.  
Learn what is to be learnt.  
Ability will come.  
Let wealth accumulate,  
Prosperity will come.  
Let your abilities multiply.  
Fame will come.*



*"What is the sheet you spread" asked he.  
"I spread my flowing hair as mat." replied she.  
"The trees never forget to spread their flowers?" said  
he.  
"A few people fail to gain glory" replied she.*

*-Bopal Tamil Sangam  
Special Number, 1966-67.*



## 85. GIFT

*He will give freely to those who seek his aid.  
He will have pleasure with his wife every night.  
He finds more pleasure in giving his wealth.*



*Only a few people will speak jokingly and jocularly.  
Only a few people will give when their coffers are full.*



*If sleeping is considered comfort,  
then we can see the food only in dream.  
If receiving becomes habitual to a great extent,  
how can we help others?*



*A rebuking person will never find  
a place in peoples' heart.  
A plagiarist will face defeat one day or other,  
A pretender's greatness is short-lived.  
The world will never forget the giver's name.*

*-Book Harbour.*

## 86. Greatness

*None achieves greatness by birth.  
There are people who achieve*

*greatness by their excellence and exemplary deeds.*

## 87. Sacrifice

*Luther King gave his life  
to insist on global ties,  
The generations of people  
who sacrifice their lives  
will be ever remembered.  
Sacrifice is the limit of an individual's love.  
A lynch-pin to the car!  
A son of mercy to reform!  
He is the sacrificer.*

*Sung under the title-Sacrifice,  
Madras Radio Station 13.04.67.*

*Father and mother give us the body.  
In the world, death is the epilogue,  
A selfish act is for one's fortune.  
Losing one's comfort is sacrifice.*



*The fish keenly looks at its young ones lovingly,  
The best act is the sacrifice of mother fish.  
The sacrifice of a wife is to save the foetus  
in her womb with all care.  
The sacrifice of a family is to help learning,  
Throwing the lethal spear at the enemy  
pinpointedly is the sacrifice of a hero.  
Breast feeding is the sacrifice of a mother.  
The best sacrifice is to give like KING PAARI.*

*-Radio Broadcast, Madras, 13.04.67.*

### 88. Thought

*It is the literary form of poetry  
that we write  
to instruct the people of the world,  
It is the body of poetry as well.*

### 89. Deities

*To the tillers of the soil  
the bund of their fields is the deity.  
To those who adore God,  
the unblossomed lotus is the lazy deity.*

### 90. Philosopher

*The Vellalas (a sect of Tamil community)  
are those who control flood.  
The people call one the philosopher  
who give one's heart and soul to God everyday.*

*-Book Harbour.*

### 91. Saint

*The saint is irrespective of respect and reverence  
that come about after one's demise.  
The saints, as we do, never seek the family relations.*

## *Surada's Poetry*

*They love wisdom,  
They live for love alone.*

### 92. Instability

*It is the bubbles  
that the benevolent river water creates.  
It lives for a few seconds only.  
Our body too is like that.*



*Earth means atom,  
Just like the potter's bowl  
Our body is a combination of atoms (elements)  
Thoughts are abstract  
Yet, they may be considered atoms.  
If you die even after ninety years,  
you are burnt.  
What is the result?  
The ash alone remains..*



*Life is short and uncertain.  
Where is Nakeerar, the fearless  
a member of the learned body, the Tamil Sangam?  
Where are the Cholas and Cheras (Tamil Kings)?  
Where is Alexander, the great?  
Where is Appar (the saint poet)  
who opposed the god of death relentlessly?  
All have gone!  
Life exists as long as we breathe.  
The last cradle to us is only the bier.*

### 93. Addition

*All pictures are the addition of colours:  
The savings is the addition of money.  
The vast epic is the addition of poetry.  
Gaining of victories is the addition of fame.*



*The lily and the lotus are the addition of the pond.  
The rivers and the lakes are the addition of water.  
The chanting of mantras is the addition of lies.  
Both joy and sorrow are the addition of life.*

### 94. Subtraction

*The chaff is the subtraction of paddy,  
The smoke is the subtraction of fire.  
The sticky dirt is the subtraction of teeth,  
The skin is the subtraction of fruit.*

### 95. Division

*All the learned sixty four arts  
are the division of the great brains.  
The lips of the mouth are the division of our face.  
The long limbs are the division of body.*



*Mother, father, sister, brother, son, wife and child  
are all the division of society  
made solely for cohesion.*

## 96. Multiplication

*The blood is the multiplication of the battle-field.  
Thinking is the multiplication of mind.  
The boiling water is the multiplication of a volcano.  
The light is the multiplication of the sun.*



*The water is the multiplication of the earth.  
The tears are the multiplication  
of the sufferings of the poor.*

## 97. Arithmetic

*Arithmetic is the ancient clock.  
There is no Time without arithmetic.  
There are no lives without embryo*



*The period of human gestation is ten months.  
We are born as calculated.  
We live for some time in this world.*



*We somehow render our account  
and die in due course.  
Everything is arithmetic.  
What else is possible in this world without arithmetic?*

## 98. Beauty

*She gave sweet honey to word.  
She gave cold to the spring water.  
She gave red mouth to lily.  
Oh! She gave ornament to beauty itself.  
The scenes of nature go by the name grace.  
The form of nature goes by the name beauty.*

## 99. Desire

*We have dark outlook,  
We long for everything.  
The saints have graceful outlook.  
They never have desire.*



*It is said that the world came into being  
from sound (Saiva Siddhanta)  
The people of such a world  
began their life in desire.  
We are equally controlled by joy and sorrow.*

## 100. Anxiety

*All the wise sayings are standard sovereigns.  
Love for one's language is a basic feeling.  
All the didactic expositions are rich experiences.  
The unfulfilled desires are anxieties.*

*-Book Harbour.*

## 101. Love

*Nothing is so intoxicating  
as the sweet love in this world.*

*It is the paradise of men.*

*A longing for love is a respectable forgotten thing,*

*-Periodical Tharagai.*

*"The waves are the belching of water", said he.*

*"The Tamil arts prolong life", replied she.*

*"A day will come when we can build houses*

*on the celestial moon (Men have landed on the moon)*

*Oh! Damsel, You tell story by your enticing eyes", said  
he.*

*The pristine beauty laughed like a flower bud.*

*"Everything is possible by women," said he.*

*On hearing this praising remark,*

*she bent her head like a squeezed saree.*



*"My name is Annam," said I.*

*"Don't you feel hungry?" said he.*

*I cast a rosy smile.*

*"The river Cauvery is deep," said I,.*

*"Love is deeper," said he*

*"Why does the cock crow?" said I.*

*"Why do your eyes strike me like an army?" said he.*

*-Periodical Surada, 01.05.68.*



*The fighting sword and the sweet kiss  
are the art fostering valour and taste.  
The world is made of five elements.  
Of all the arts in this world, the art of fostering love is  
the foremost art.  
Love is the exposition of domestic art.*

*-Domestic Art Annual Number, 1974.*

*As the refrain accompanied by saranam  
(the following part) in music,  
the lover embraced the lady love in ecstasy  
-Periodical The Freedom Pongal Number, 1974.*

*The ancient Tamil work mentions a kind of love  
it is called "Iyinthinai".  
It is the sweetest love that finds a place  
in the mingling of hearts.  
And it is the elixir of life.*



*The feast removes appetite.  
But love is an ailment rather pallor  
caused by warm bubbling feelings.  
There is no remedy for it.  
Mantras are of no use.  
The marvellous maiden alone cures it.*

*Surada's Poetry*



*He wanted an upper storey.  
She showed the sand dune.  
"There is a room", said she  
"I require the centre of it," replied he.*



*She gave water.  
He gave her his heart.  
She responded simultaneously.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.03.68.*

*The midday is hot.  
The firebrand is hotter.  
The desert is the hottest.  
But the pangs of separation of love burns all these things.*  
*-Book The Dynamic Youth.*

*By his flowing sweet words  
He said, "Oh! My darling,"  
She turned with a longing desire",  
The handsome youth cast a look of love on her.*  
*-Periodical Kanchi Pongal Number, 1966.*

*Even if you are away for some time,  
I shall get worried a lot.  
The sorrow of solitude will make me short.  
Nay! I shall become boiling water*  
*-Periodical Surada, 15.04.68.*

*The painting gives beauty.  
The body gets nourishment from food.  
The firm spirited love causes the secretion of ambrosia.  
And the life also prolongs.*

*-Periodical Surada. 01.05.68.*

*Even the long mature sugarcane  
is not as sweet as the kiss.  
In the sleep of love, there is a lull.  
Certainly, it is the desired rest.*

*-Periodical The Epic, 28.10.55.*

*"Flower means the lotus," said she.  
"You are so beautiful as the lotus," remarked he.  
"The park is cool," said she.  
"You are like that park in protecting me" remarked he.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*The bough is not bough  
if it is not intertwined  
with leaves and flowers.  
If there is no artistic sense,  
Love becomes loathsome.*



*To the cuckoo, the mango tree is the summer shelter.  
To the doves, the tower is the cooing centre.  
To the peacock, the land of mountain is the playfield.  
The couch is the choicest bed of the lovers.*

## Surada's Poetry



*In valour there is victory for only one,  
In the feats of love the victory is for both.*



*Army is the symbol of valour.  
Prudence is the symbol of glory.  
Moisture is the symbol of water.  
Love is the symbol of exclusive joy.*



*The handsome youth drew a line by his eyes.  
The angelic beauty drew a line by her toe.  
This beauty of arrow-like eyebrows charmed him greatly.  
He entangled her by asking water for the hi-ccough.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.03.68.*

### 102. Memories

*The nail needs nourishment from within  
The sweet memories blossom spontaneously.*

*-Periodical Surada, 01.05.68.*

*The night dreams of the eyes  
become the memories of the morning.*

### 103. Friendship

*The blossomed flowers of the bough  
do not shrink like the flower of the pond (lotus or lily)  
The friendship of the great will never shrink.*

### 104. Affection

*Affection is a flower blossoming ever in the mind.*

*The moon is a flower grown by the sky*

*-Book Harbour.*

### 105. Taste

*The world is a continuation of memory*

*The story of the germs is life.*

*To be away is separation,*

*What we like most is taste.*

### 106. Wedding

*Wedding! It is the seed of red rays*

*Emerging out from the aged world.*

*It is the cause of sprouting lives.*



*Shame is an ornament of womanhood.*

*Wedding is a key to life.*

*-Book The Wall and Whitewash.*

*Wedding is an auspicious event.*

*It is fit enough to be a guide to each other*

*and to have conjugal pleasure*

*It purifies society.*



*In Tamil, wedding (Manam) connotes the fame.*

*The excellent fame embraces a few only.*

*Wedding connotes also fragrance.*

*It is the very breath of the blossom.*

*Blossoms never marry like us*

*The life without conjugal relations is indeed futile.*

## 107. Intercaste Marriage

*We adopt mixing in land  
If we create the same mixing  
in the minds of the people,  
there is room for intercaste marriage  
Caste will die its own natural death  
by intercaste marriage.  
To mix is to have relations.  
There is not a single sustance in the world without blend  
(In the case of plants and animals breeding is a must)  
-Periodical The Idealist, 01.07.58.*

*If love becomes fruitful  
and if people accept  
intercaste marriage, castes fell down.  
The Sastras and Kotras will become blind.*



*Intercast marriage is like Neidal ( the land of the sea)  
Love marriage is like Kurinji (The land of the mountain)  
Reform marriage is like Marutham (The land of agricul-  
ture)*

## 108. Tali

*(Sacred Cord)*

*So far we were alone.  
To day we are united.  
Let us have pleasure and pain alike.*

*This is the principle of the sacred golden cord.*

*-Book The Wall and the Whitewash.*

### 109. Husband

*He hears what his wife says.*

*He pleads with her every day.*

### 110. Wife

*Next to mother is wife.*

*A good wife is the cause of family.*



*Every man on earth has books,*

*Wife and babbling children.*

*It is a singular feature.*

*Books give knowledge.*

*Children and wife give pleasure.*

*Without wife the family life will not be really sweet.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*The wife lives as close as the year and month.*

*She is the light of the family.*

*She is the guide as well.*



*Of Agam (love life) and Puram (valour life)*

*The authority of love is the wife.*

*She is the fitting boat to cross the river of pleasure.*



*The wife of the moon is the star.*

*Thought is the wife of reasoning.*

*The river is the wife of the surging water.*



*The prosperity of a country  
is in the hands of good leaders.  
So also the prosperity of the family  
is in the hands of good wives,  
the women of spear-like eyes.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.03.68.*

*The help of a friend never lasts long.  
It is the help of the wife that goes on for ever.*



*Unlike the cracked betelnut,  
the wife in her destined life  
plays her part prominently.*

## 111. The Cot

*The throne (King's Cot) was in the past.  
The drum cot was in those days.  
The kings' rule became democracy.  
Now we do not have these two kinds of cot.*



*After attaining womanhood,  
the bridegroom is a necessity.  
After marriage the cot (bed) is essential.*





*Life ceases after all pleasures.  
It claims only six feet of earth for rest.  
First we are in the cradle.  
When we breath our last,  
We are carried on the legless cot (bier),*

*-Cine Lyrics.*

## 112. Nuptial Night

*It is a joyous first night  
for the newly married couple.  
They enjoy all sensual pleasures freely.  
They have sex as the climax.*

## 113. Silence

*Silence is the apron of ignorance of a fool.  
King Paari is the human cloud.  
The bird is a higher class.  
The rain is the sweat of clouds.  
Silence is the cork of lips.*

*-Book Harbour.*

## 114. Kiss

*Kiss is a war of lips.  
It is a routine rehearsal.  
It is fomentation without warmth.*

## 115. Pleasure

*Anyhow poverty should go.  
If not it should be made to go.  
Then only all the people of the country  
will enjoy pleasure.*

*-Periodical the Epic, 10.02.56.*

*Arson, atrocity and vengeance all these give pain.  
What is then pleasure?  
It is an event free from all evil.*

*-Madras Radio Broadcast, 13.04.68.*

*Pain pricks sharply.  
So it is compared with needle.  
Pleasure unites the world.*

*-Radio, Madras Broadcast, 13.04.68.*

*It is a pleasure to learn ancient Tamil.  
It is a pleasure to go on tour to various countries.  
It is a pleasure of life to accept novelty coming in.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

*Pain is a full stop to pleasure.  
During the pulsating youth,  
all the pleasures are a non-stop.*

## 116. Joy

*Love affair is the joy of the two people.  
The festival affair is the joy of all.*

### 117. Family

*Night and day are natural family.  
Number and letter are the literary family.  
Song and dance are the dance family.  
If you rear more children,  
then your family will be  
like a boat dashed against a rock.*

### 118. Mother

*Mother gives us all  
like a proverbial coconut tree  
Solitude is the story of separation.  
Motherhood is the story of the germ of embryo.*



*The womb of the irrational beings is the earth.  
The womb of the rational beings is Mother.*

### 119. Child

*The lotus and the lily are water flowers.  
The tender shoots like children are the nascent flowers.  
If you lose faith, there is no friendship.  
To those who are drenched completely,  
there is no question of being wet.  
To salute for everything is meaningless.  
There is no better philosopher than the child.*

-Lyrics.

*The harvest of the learned is thinking.  
Likewise the harvest of parents is the child.*



*Other treasures protect selfishness.  
The child wealth protects mother.  
It is the fortress of family life  
to both father and mother  
It is also an enviable treasure.  
Where there is child,  
it is the abode of bliss.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.03.68.*

*The movement of the eye is love.  
The movement of the lovers' cot is conception.  
The movement of the cradle is the child.  
The child is like a tender leaf.*

## 120. Cradle

*The cradle is the boat of every beautiful child  
It is the swing as well.*

## 121. Family Planning.

*Don't be desirous and hasty in giving birth  
to children, a male and a female one after another.  
It is an unacceptable mistake.*



*It is the planned family  
that gives you solace and solemnity.  
A learning with a fake degree  
and a life without culture and planning  
lose all significance.*

*-Book Harbour.*

*Giving birth to many children lengthens the list.  
Giving birth to good children adds greatness  
to the country.*

*-Felicitation Poem.*

*Wealth brings prosperity to the family.  
It is not by rearing children.  
A family that rears children constantly  
cannot be contented.*

*-Book Harbour.*

*Every child is the result of sex.  
It is harvest of sex urge.*

*-Book The Wall and the Whitewash.*

*A good country is one  
which has less laws and more rights.  
A good (prosperous) family is one  
which has one or two children.*

*-Book The Wall and the Whitewash.*

*There should be restriction in rearing children,  
if we want to have really family prosperity  
and social solidarity.*

*If not, the family prosperity will be a waning moon.*

*-Periodical, Surada. 01.10.69.*

## 122. The House

*The daughter-in-law is like water.  
The aunt is like a fire.  
If such is the case,  
It is the darkest house.*

## 123. Life

*The war life is a life of valour.  
The life of beauty is a rare combination of  
kindness and virtue.  
The plough life is an exalted example  
to the whole world.  
If upright life is crooked,  
there will be crookedness  
both in land and mind.*

*-Preface to Bharath in the Battlefield.*

*Cutting is killing.  
If you add beauty, it is art.  
If affection and virtue combine, it is a blissful life.  
Sleeping is utter laziness.*



*One who thinks that he can live  
without limits is not a responsible man.  
One who thinks that he should live within limits  
is a respectable man of society.*

*-Book Harbour.*

*The snow of the month Thai  
will never be hot.  
Tamil poetry never tastes bitter.  
There is affable anity in a life  
that discerns truth in everything.*



*Behold the growth of the seed in the tree.  
Behold the growth of the flame in the light.  
Behold the greatness of mind in fame.  
Behold the greatness of life in pleasure.*

-Lyrics.

*Life is a judicious mixture of affection  
and affliction, poverty and riches.*

## 124. Hero

*The plough man is the hero of the plough field  
The wicked man is the hero of national crisis.  
The scientist is the hero of wonders.*



*The poet is the hero of imagination.  
The eye is the hero of dream.  
The merchant is the hero of selling,  
Oh! Pure man is the hero of liberation.*



*The poet's duty is to write poetry.  
The bard's duty is to tune the harp.  
The wife's duty is to look after the family.  
Above all, the duty of a good leader  
is to create good laws or rules.*

*-Book Harbour.*

*An intellectual is one who dives deep  
into the white sea called the big brain  
to take pearls.  
He is a rare birth.  
In this world he is the hero of fame.*

## 125. The Nectar

*The sky feels evening swoon.  
The bee feels the swoon of nectar.  
The evening swoon gives joy.  
The nectar swoon ruins life.*

*-Periodical Surada, 15.04.68.*

## 126. Ethics

*Who is the great man?  
It is he who creates world classics.  
Whoever may be the great,  
the index is ethics, because the ethics alone  
(good conduct) is the embodiment of life.*

*-Periodical Surada, 01.05.68.*



## 127. Frugality

*Frugality is needed from the gate to the kitchen.  
It is essential that we should reduce  
our desire, dressing and all.*

*-Radio-broadcast, Warfront, 23.10.65.*

*To restrict discomforts, we should follow  
the principle of frugality.  
An enthralling and glamorous life is of no use  
either to the individual or to the nation.*

*-Book Harbour.*

*A great intellect is vitally necessary  
for a life of name and fame.  
Frugality will help us to live a comfortable life.*

*-Book Harbour.*

*In the name of liberal attitude,  
it is not advisable to spend money extravagantly.  
Extravagance is the seed of epidemic poverty.*

*-Book Harbour.*

*The frugality (economy) of prose is poetry.  
The frugality of emotions is humility.  
The shame of a damsel is the frugality of love.*

*-Book Harbour.*

*Surada's Poetry*

*To pray piety is needed  
To save intelligence is needed.  
Which is preferable?  
Piety or frugality.  
It is frugality.*

### 128. Nothingness

*Illiteracy should be eradicated,  
Eminent epics should be produced.  
All should have equal rights  
to achieve all the things.  
Nothingness should go once for all.*

### 129. Poverty

*I have no funds.  
I have no lands.  
I have no house.  
I have nothing of my own.  
This is not poverty.  
The loss of intellectual acumen only is poverty.  
If you grasp this crisp idea,  
you will get rid of the feeling of  
nothingness or poverty completely.*

*-Book Honey shower.*

*Just like the pricking thorns of the mature rose,  
Both poverty and affliction pierce life.*



*The tree drops leaves.  
Its branches look like a sieve shade.  
Oh! Parrot, it is a sign of poverty.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

### 130. Appetite

*Sleep appeases mind.  
Food appeases appetite.*



*All the rhythm is the feminine voice of the song.  
All the red torches are the lights  
mad after consuming oil.  
The high people fear blame terribly.  
The low people fear the pinching appetite only.*

*-Book Honey-shower.*

### 131. Anger

*Cunning spoils certain people.  
The tears spoil some poor people.  
Jealousy spoils some people.  
Anger spoils some others.*



*The fury of the river is called flood.  
The fury of the king is called valour.  
The fury of the wind is called storm.  
The wrath of the ocean is called calamity.  
The maiden is as pristine as gold.  
Her anger is called dislike (feigned aversion)  
The fury of the fountain is called the water-fall.  
The anger of the great people is called the curse.*

### 132. Blemish

*If the mind becomes dark  
just like the colour of the pregnant cloud,  
then deceit forms.  
Wherever you dig, there spreads water.  
Likewise all the fault of the wicked men  
rests in their act.*

*-Radio Broadcast, Madras, 13.04.68.*

### 133. The Prisoner

*The lover is a prisoner of protection  
The husband is a prisoner of life.  
The poet is a prisoner of imagination.  
The reader is a prisoner of book.*

*-Book The Wall and the Whitewash.*

### 134. Affliction

*The words uttered once cannot be easily withdrawn.  
Though you weep a thousand times,  
can it lesson your affliction?*



*All affliction will prick like the sharp end of a needle.  
-Radio Broadcast, Madras, 13.04.68.*

*A rolling pebble gathers no dirt.'  
A man who cuts his coat according to his cloth  
never suffers.*



*Affliction makes you struggle.  
It brings you to street.  
Both the tears and the water are the same.  
Yet, the tears are the swing of sorrow.*

*Though a rare deed is impossible,  
follow the multitude.  
You will be assured of success.  
If not, everyday the pains of sorrow  
will knock at your door.*

### 135. Tears

*Toddy distils from the throat of  
the spathe of the coconut.  
Both sorrows and sufferings that thrust away  
the irritating eye brows, come out.  
They are the flood of salty tears.*

Surada's Poetry



*The bounty plundered from a country is also a tear.  
Abusing, chopping and the like acts cause,  
of course, tears.*

*-Book Harbour*

*The bad principle that one's own interest is great  
also causes tears.  
If one's love and a knowledge of mother tongue go down,  
they also cause tears.*

*-Book Harbour.*

*All affliction of mind is tears.  
What flows from the eyes are tears.  
It is unfit to get salt.*



*The water of the ocean and the river Cauvery  
cause flood.  
The tears are the index of the afflicted people.*



*Those who are disappointed in love  
shed their own tears,  
Those who are afflicted with diseases  
shed also tears of pain.*



*The tears of those who brave sufferings  
amidst threats and tests are too the tears  
applauded unanimously by the world  
Alas! The pretending tears will instantly go dry.*

### 136. Ageing

*The ageing of wind is storm.  
The ageing of ovary is fruit.  
The ageing of seedling is the corns.  
The ageing of friendship is affection.*

*The ageing of the person taking rest is sleep.  
The ageing of the black flowing hair is crane-white foam.  
The ageing of the person losing all wealth  
is never-ending poverty.  
The ageing of the man is the death of youth.*

-Book Harbour.

### 137. Death

*When great people die,  
we seldom include them among the dead.  
We never forget them  
for they are immortal.*

*A laughing man forgets anxiety.  
The evil doer weeps.  
The dead man opens the eyes of those men  
who think as though  
they are going to live.*

-Cine-lyrics.

*The compiler seldom tastes.  
The initiator never finishes.  
One who divides never lives long.*

### Surada's Poetry

*The people born in this world are short-lived.*

-Cine-lyrics.

*The birth is the preface.*

*Speech is the mothertongue.*

*Forgetting is sleep.*

*Death is the epilogue*

-Cine-lyrics.

### 138. Corpse.

*The past is the corpse.*



*The dried leaf also is a form of death.*

*It denotes also the corpse.*

### 139. Cemetery

*The cremation ground is the place  
where the dead are burnt.*

*It is a fireplace*

*where the organs are burnt.*

*It is a small plateau consisting  
of scattered teeth and bones.*



*What a variety of men !*

*What a variety of deaths!*

*Finally all of them surrender to cemetery!*



*The saint is totally indifferent to astrology.*

*The cemetery finds no difference between the good and  
the bad.*



## 140. What I saw

Surada's Poetry

*I saw the bower of cloud in the sky*

*I saw the one world in my dream.*

*I saw the unlit lamp in the eyes.*

*I saw the spirit of joy in love.*

-Periodical Porwal, 16.03.57.

*I saw great scholarship in imagination,*

*I saw the motherland of dreams in the eyes.*

-Periodical Surada, 01.03.68.

*I saw a stain on the moon.*

*I saw the feigning of youthhood in embrace.*

*I saw cold and warmth in the sandal paste.*

*I saw the dried leaves being devoid of moisture.*

-Periodical Porwal, 16.03.57.

*I saw the suffering of the sugarcane in the sugarmills.*

*I saw the parrot-green trees on the banks of rivers.*

*I saw coil in leaves.*

*I saw the mind of the poor in the coil.*

-Periodical, Porwall, 16.03.57.

*I saw the treasure house of knowledge in the learned.*

*I saw the sufferings of the poor in their eyes.*

## 141. Myself

*It is my habit to say anything with an air of novelty  
and with my own knowledge.*

*I never commit plagiarism.*

*I am proud to say*

*I am "the male form of Sendamil" (perfect Tamil)*

\*

*First I saw sweetness in my mother's milk.*

### **Surada's Poetry**

*Oh! Mature moon.  
As a result I came up in life.  
Then I saw the sweetness of Sendamil.  
As a result I became the poet of Tamilnadu.*



*I have no iota of mania for fame.  
Nay! I have no even average jealousy  
I am a poet,  
More than that I am a good man of this land.*



*The great men are those who give laudable ideas  
The coward dies a hundred times in life.  
What is the apple of my eye?  
It is Tamil.  
Good poetry is my very breath.*

## **142. I Know Well**

*The pride of self is like a trail of water left by a fish,  
I know.*

*The fame only in this world is immortal, I know.*

*-Periodical Surada, 01.03.68*

*Those who gain victory face defeat some time, I know,  
Nothing will result from empty talk, I know.*

*All the gold is the core of the bosom of the earth, I know.*

*All the fame is an intellectual ornament, I know.*

*-Book-Harbot*

## Select thoughts

Surada's Poetry

*Love is the sea port of life.  
If we say that life is sleep,  
then love is a dream.*

*Desire long to get anything.*

*Sacrifice thinks of giving something.*

*One's office (power) is just like a white wash done on  
the wall.*

*One who is the fountainhead of love, will help  
others even in the midst of tears.*

*What is love? It is the action of both mind and body.*

*If your respect the conviction,  
then there is no room for reasoning.*

*Simile is not something born out of imagination.  
It combines two existing things already in vogue.  
The forceful simile based on convention in Sangam  
literature is left in the middle. The result is the growth  
of excessive imagination.*

*The more you stop wondering foolishly, the more you  
become wise.*

*There are able men who ascertain the weight of a  
body even while lifting it.  
Likewise there are Solomons who judge a man at mere look.*

*The creator expresses his own abilities.  
The compiler expresses others' abilities.*

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2. Thuraimugham (Harbour)
3. Savinmutham (The Fatal Kiss)
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5. Pattatharasi (The Queen)
6. Thodatha Valibam (The Dynamic Youth)
7. Uthatil Uthadu (Lip on Lip)
8. Varthai Vasal (The Gate-way of Words)
9. Amudum Thenum (Ambrosia and Honey)

### Periodicals

#### *Daily*

1. Thinathanthi
2. Thinamani
3. Malaimurasu
4. Tamilnadu
5. Swedesamithran
6. Murasoli
7. Porwal
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9. Thennagam

#### *Weekly*

1. Kumudam
2. Anandavikadan
3. Kalki
4. Kungumam
5. Idayam Pesukirathu
6. Thinamani Kathir
7. Elakiam
8. Urimai Vetkai
9. Kaviyam
10. Thendral
11. Mukkani
12. Ilatchiavathi

*Surada's Poetry*

**Bimonthly**

1. *Oorvalam*
2. *Surada*

**Monthly**

1. *Kanchi*
2. *Kudumbakkalai*
3. *Deepam*
4. *Amudasurabi*
5. *Kalaimagal*

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2. Cricket - கிரிக்கெட்
3. Dance - நாட்டியம்
4. Film World - படத்துறை
5. Garment - ஆடை
6. Lamp - விளக்கு
7. Poets' Forum - கவியரங்கம்
8. Radio - வானொலி
9. Saffron - குங்குமம்
10. Song - பாடல்

#### II. Education - கல்வி

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2. Addition - கூட்டல்
3. Affection - அன்பு
4. Affliction - துன்பம்
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6. Anger - கோபம்
7. Anxiety - ஏக்கம்
8. Appetite - பசி
9. Arithmetic - கணக்கு
10. Beauty - அழகு
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12. Caste and Creed - சாதிமதம்

13. Cemetery - இடுகாடு
14. Civilization - நாகரிகம்
15. Cooperation - கூட்டுறவு
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20. Deceit - வஞ்சகம்
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24. Evidence - சான்று
25. Fame - புகழ்
26. Fear and Freckle - அச்சமும் மச்சமும்
27. Friendship - நட்பு
28. Frugality - சிக்கனம்
29. Gift - ஈகை
30. Greatness - பெருமை
31. Hatred - பகை
32. Hero - தலைவன்
33. Industry - உழைப்பு
34. Intellectual Acumen - மதிநுட்பம்
35. Learning - கல்வி
36. Limit - வரம்பு
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38. Multiplication - பெருக்கல்
39. Nothingness - இல்லாமை
40. Novelty - புதுமை
41. Pleasure - இன்பம்
42. Plough - ஏர்

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44. *Prisoner* - கைதி
45. *Right* - உரிமை
46. *Sacrifice* - தியாகம்
47. *Silence* - மௌனம்
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55. *Unity* - ஒற்றுமை
56. *Valour* - வீரம்

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2. *Deities* - சாமிகள்
3. *Ethics* - ஒழுக்கம்
4. *God* - கடவுள்
5. *Instability* - நிலையாமை
6. *Justice* - நீதி
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3. Simile - உவமை
4. Story - கதை

V. Love and Life - காதலும் வாழ்க்கையும்

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2. Cradle - தொட்டில்
3. Family - குடும்பம்
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8. Joy - மகிழ்ச்சி
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8. *Science* - அறிவியல்
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## Glossary

*Agam - love- centred life ; a major division of Tamil literature containing 400 songs, Agananooru. (a composition of 400 songs).cf. Puram*

*Alexandar, the Great (356 - 323 BC) - King of Macedonia, one of the great generals of the world, founded Alexandria, invaded India in 326 BC., student of Aristotle .*

*Appar - (570 - 655 AD) - Otherwise known as Thirunavukarasar. One of the three saint poets in Tamil. He composed praising songs on God Siva. They are included in Thirumuraigal 4,5 and 6 (Classified Works). He opposed the god of death relentlessly.*

*Ayinthinai - love-centred morality among the Tamil people of the following lands: the land of mountains, the land of desert, the land of forests, the land of agriculture and the land of seas, natural geographical divisions.*

*Cauvery - Mother Cauvery, the perennial water source of Tamil Nadu.*

*Cheras - a dynasty of Tamil Kings ruled Chera Territory.*

*Cholas - A dynasty of Tamil Kings ruled Chola Territory.*

*Ethics - The study of morals.*

*Golden period - the Sangam period more than 2000 years old when all arts and sciences flourished well.*

*Ilavenil - Spring, March-May.*

*Kar - rainy season, October - December.*

*Koothir - Autumn, September - November.*

*Kotra - a sect in Tamil Community*

*Kudaku - the mountain in Karnataka, the source of River Cauvery.*

*Kurunji - one of the five divisions of Tamil land chiefly consisting of mountains.*

*Kurunthogai - one of the eight anthologies in Tamil dealing with love. Poet Surad's usage of Kurunthogai teeth means the beautifully arranged teeth of the damsel.*

*Lord of Sex - Cupid. In Tamil literature he is mentioned as manmathan (handsome youth)*

*Luther King(1929-1968) - Martin Luther King Jr., a Gandhi in America, fought for the rights of the oppressed people, received the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1964.*

## **Surada's Poetry**

*Mantra - word chanted inwardly in meditation.*

*Marutham - the land of agriculture, one of the five divisions of land in Tamil, chiefly consisting of fertile fields.*

*Mei - consonant in Tamil.*

*Munpani - pre - winter, December*

*Muthamizh - three kinds of Tamil: literary Tamil, music and drama.*

*Muthuvenil - summer, June - August.*

*Nakeerar - a fearless Sangam poet who dared to say that even the poem composed by Lord Siva had a flaw in it.*

*Nedunthogai - a lengthy composition in Tamil. Poet Surada draws a metaphorical usage to show that the tresses of the damsel is long and the wealth of the land also is laudable.*

*Neidal - the land of the seas, one of the five divisions of land in Tamil*

*Kaviarangam - poets' forum.*

*Paari - the celebrated munificent Tamil King.*

## Surada's Poetry

*Palai* - the land of desert, one of the five divisions of land in Tamil.

*Pandiyas* - famous Kings of Pandia Territory (Madurai)

*Parthiban* - a medieval period Tamil ruler.

*Pinpani* - post-winter, January - February.

*Pongal* - the festival of harvest and labour celebrated with pomp by the Tamils all over the world.

*Puram* - valour - centred life, a major division of Tamil literature containing 400 songs, Purananooru (a composition of 400 songs). cf., Agam.

*Renaissance* - resurgence in Tamil literature.

*Revolt* - romance and novelty in Tamil literature.

*Saiva Siddhanta* - the great Tamil philosophy ever produced, the chief exponent being St. Meikandar.

*Sangam Literature* - the famous Tamil literature of 2000 years old denoting the golden period. It mainly consists of ten idylls and eight anthologies.

*Sangam Poets* - the celebrated poets of Sangam period.





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