

# **An Investigatory Study on the Characteristic Features of Language in the Novel "Charitha Thunak"**

*Kusum Herath<sup>1</sup>*

## **INTRODUCTION**

The novel "Charitha Thunak" (1963) written by K. Jayathilaka (1929-2011) is regarded as an important milestone about the evolution of the modern Sinhala Novel. This novel which emerges the perfection of the story writing art of an intuitive novelist is a story entwined with the traditional rural life. While formulating his creation with an artistic continence and profound humanism, it appears that the use of objective language has been properly inveterated with the experiences of the writer. The assistance acquired by the writer with the use of the language in illustrating the characters, situations and occurrences of the story written about three brothers of the same family, seems to be fascinating.

## **PURPOSE**

The objective of this research is to conduct an investigatory study about the characteristic features of the language used in the composition of the novel "Charitha Thunak". The significance of this research is the ability to investigate information regarding the success acquired by the writer employing the usage of rural language. The research problem is to ascertain as to what extent the language will be important for the success of a novel. Methodology of this research is the use of primary and secondary data for the study.

## **APPROACH**

The novel "Charitha Thunak" was associated as primary data while scrutinizing the classical works composed by authoritative erudites about the linguistic features of the novel as secondary sources. The research question was to examine to what extent the use of language has been instrumental in making the novel popular due to the writer use of a unique

variety of Sinhala spoken in the rural agricultural community. Starting with command on Jayathilaka's use of language we made a selection of utterances to discuss what level the use of language is appropriate.

## **FINDINGS**

The fact that the novel "Charitha Thunak" has effected a strong influence on the presence of modern tendencies in the composition field of Sinhala novels was identified as the outcome of the research. Usage of the rural language has contributed amply towards the success of the presentation of facts in the flow of the story. Further, the influence gained by the subsequent writers in their creations was observed.

## **CONCLUSION**

We conclude that the novel has been successful due to usage of rural language cognitively appropriate for the present day demand. It could be identified that the novel "Charitha Thunak" has been successful in creating modern tendencies in the field of composition of novels. Based on this pilot study we aim conduct further research on how utterances and dialogs represent a social class, social status and geographical location in another one of Jayathilaka's novels, *Punchirala*.

## **REFERENCES**

Jayathilaka, K. (1963): Charitha Thunak, Pradeepa: Colombo

## **KEYWORDS**

Sinhala novel, rural language, modern tendencies, artistic continence

<sup>1</sup>Department of Sinhala, University of Kelaniya.kusumherath7@yahoo.com