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F O R W O R D

Evoking the ancient symbols of Kathakali Dances Mr. Padmanabhan Tampy is doing a most useful work. In the process of evolution India has to solve many problems. One of the most difficult is to combine progress with real honest understanding of the great Past.

For this we have first of all to remove carefully the dust of ~~the~~ ages. We have to learn to protect the Beauty and Wisdom concealed in ageless attainments from voluntary and involuntary desecrations.

Very often modernistic achievements link with the most ancient revelations. Without prejudiced denials one may recognise beautiful treasures bestowed on us by our forefathers. Only ignorance thinks that everything new is baseless and has no roots.

Is it not wonderful that Kathakali Dances are so appreciated now-a-days by western connoisseurs as well, as if something entirely new has been discovered? A deeper admiration will arise, when ancient symbols will be interpreted with knowledge and benevolence.

We think that Mr. Tampy is just prepared to be such an interpreter. He is born in the domain of Kathakali, he loves his motherland and has a fine artistic understanding, besides possessing the rare quality of good will.

The sacred art of dance is alive in India. Not only great artists, widely known, but a score of talented young dancers revive this old noble tradition. In many schools gather a young generation. They will know how to

venerate ancient treasures and create a new beauty.

The rhythm of life has become very complicated; only music, dance and other branches of Art can ennoble the errant mankind.

With special hearty feelings let us greet all that brings joy.

"He who does not know the Past, cannot think of the Future."

"India, we know thy ever-living Ancient Wisdom, we shall remember thee with the same tremor as the most precious first flower on the spring meadow".