

MESSAGE OF THE BEAUTIFUL

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Every cultured, educated society takes a keen interest in the encouragement and promotion of the Arts.

Art is the culmination of man's higher creative expression, Art is the living flame that plays over the inert mass of lifeless facts, Art liberates us from the often unbearable drudgery of everyday life and transports us into a new, rich and inspiring realm.

Art stimulates our latent higher creative capabilities and open up vistas into the innermost workings of our higher self. It provides us with the means to unfold and beautify our everyday life and mould our habits and behaviour.

Who can dispute the powerful influence of beauty and harmony on our everyday life, even if we are not conscious of it most of the time? How much more will be its benign influence if we consciously partake of these vibrations and take an active interest in all the realms of the beautiful, in all the domains of Art. The younger generations are especially susceptible to these subtle influences and respond readily to the language of Art.

The instinct to beautify our life, our dwellings and surroundings is inherent in all the communities regardless of their relative state of development. Even primitive tribes give much of their leisure to these higher creative expressions in the form of music, dance, song, weaving of beautiful textiles, carving and decorating their utensils and embellishing their dwellings. They cultivate these higher urges of self expression in every possible way and they delight in their artistic achievements.



Art is not a luxury, Art is an indispensable, indivisible part of our everyday life whatever the mode of it may be. If we but realise the tremendous influence Art and Beauty have upon our habits and behaviour, we would try to bring beauty into our lives and let beauty exert its blessed influence upon us and the younger generations. To look for beauty, harmony and greater perfection in whatever we do, whatever we think, whatever we create will generate and release many hitherto slumbering potentialities and forces within us and contribute immeasurably to a much richer and satisfying perception and experience of life.

Plato said: "From Beautiful Images we shall go to Beautiful Thoughts, from Beautiful thoughts to a Beautiful Life and from a Beautiful Life to absolute Beauty."

Ananda, the beloved Disciple of Gautama Buddha once asked the Master: "Master, does not half of our holy life consist of Friendship with the Beautiful, Association with the Beautiful and Communion with the Beautiful?"

And the Master answered: "Say not so, Ananda, Say not so, it is not half of our holy life, it is the whole of our Life."

The Mysore Chitrakala Parishat and its Art School the Chitrakala Vidyalaya have been trying to build up and enrich our artistic life and have made a very important and valuable contribution to the life of our community.

Its members have shown a spirit of dedication which is very admirable and worthy of praise, struggling against great odds to further their ideals and establish these organisations on a firm footing.



The initial phase of their programme is now nearing completion and the first building is almost ready to house the numerous cultural activities of the Parishat.

I sincerely hope the general public, the citizens of Bangalore and greater Karnataka will appreciate the efforts that have been made for the good of the community by these institutions and help in whatever way possible this important nucleus of cultural and artistic endeavour.