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Ponniyin selvan book in malayalam

Ponniyin Selvan book cover

No Tamil novel has been as celebrated and fondly remembered as Kalki's Ponniyin Selvan in the last century. This in spite of its size — running into a thousand pages — and the numerous characters that walk them. The fascination for the Chola prince, which accounted for its stupendous success when it was serialised has not waned, what with the epic story adapted to various forms, except perhaps celluloid. MGR wanted to make a film out of the story but various constraints, including finance, tied his hands. Director Maniratnam is said to have even decided the cast but gave up.Kalki, the magazine of the celebrated author's branch,has published the novel several times — once with the original illustrations by Maniam, later with the drawings of Vinu, again with the illustrations of Maniam's son Maniam Selvan and recently by Veda. The market thrives with Ponniyin Selvan of all shapes.Bombay Kamran, noted theatre personality came up with an audio book (CD) paththagam), several voices delivering the chaste Tamizh dialogue as writer Kalki had written. The descriptive parts also form the part of the reading. Here the CDs are three in number with volumes 1&2 and 3&4 in one CD each and segment 5 in one. It has music and rerecording done with great care to make the listening interesting. R.T. Chari, who encouraged Bombay Kamran in this endeavour to bring out the 'Old Paththagam', said that he enjoyed the production immensely. Listening while travelling across the U.S.English translationsThe novel has also been translated into English by the fans of Kalki's magnum opus. Recently, I came across the Kindle Edition of Ponniyin Selvan translated by Sumedha Mankandan and published as Ponn's Beloved by Indreads. There are three more translations, which include by H. Subbulakshmi Narayanan (Son of Ponn!), C.V. Karthik Narayanan (Trinity), Pavithra Srinivasan (Westland) and Indra Neelameggham. There is also one titled Ponniyin Selvan Retelling by G. Chandramouli. There are a couple of kindle editions of the novel in Tamil too. These offer free reading in Kindle unlimited. The most surprising is Ponniyin Selvan as comics (English and Tamizh) as well as pictorial presentation recently. These are available in Amazon.in and also in popular book stores. There are no book fairs without the Ponniyin Selvan spread. Swaminathan of Vasantha Prasuram says that visitors still ask for Ponniyin Selvan and that's why the scramble to make it available in so many forms. At home, my mother, who loved historical novels, was never tired of reading Ponniyin Selvan. Even when she lost the vision in one eye, she kept revisiting some of her favourite portions. It was such fun to see her get so animated and emotional when someone asked her to say something about the novel.Household namesI know that Vandiyathevan, Azhwarakaliyaan, Kundava, Arulmozhi Varman, Aditha Karikalan, Nandini and the two Pazhuvettarayar Brothers, Kandambaran, Poonkuzhali, Seridan Arundan, Sundara Chozhar, Sembian Maadavi, Ravidasan are household names in many cases. Recently, I decided to check this out with readers of different age groups. Sivakumar in his mid-twenties says that he had read Kalki's Parthiban Kanavu and was impressed with it. He, of course, wants to read Ponniyin Selvan but the size is forbidding. But some day he will take the plunge because he has heard so much about it. Shyamala Rangasathan, a regular and reader of all popular Tamil authors for a long time says that she finished the volumes when she was in school. She did it in two days. "Just couldn't put it down," she recalls. She also recalls the wonderful experience she had while watching an action and emotion-packed scene staged from Ponniyin Selvan during the Kalki Pavala Vizha celebrations.Mohan Santhanam, a musician and book lover, started reading Ponniyin Selvan only when it was serialised in Kalki recently. He was spellbound by the author's description about the places and events. He has collected them and is yet to complete the book. According to V.R. Krishnan Kalki is a trend setter in writing historical fiction. He made it as interesting and engaging as the contemporary genre. He specifically points out that apart from its racy narration, the author mentions several places of worship, temples and the poets of those periods. He marvels at the way the characters of Nandini and her dubious allies have been woven into the main stream. The attempt to dig into the magnum opus was a huge success. Magic Lantern did it first during the centenary year of Kalki at the open air theatre of YMCA and later in 2014 and 2015 on stage with grand props and competent artists. The show ran for five days, all of them to housful audience.Compliation of excerpts from the play and views of popular personalities from various fields is available in YouTube. There is another troupe, which stages the Ponniyin Selvan. TVK Cultural Academy being the auspices.Having seen the perenial demand for Ponniyin Selvan, I look forward to the day when a 3D film is made. Sure, it would be a great challenge but will be a fitting tribute to a work, which has proved to be immortal, to use a cliché. There is nothing as fascinating as Indian literature. While Paulo Coelho, Khaled Hosseini and Ayn Rand's works interest almost every other bookworm, novels written by Indian authors are arresting enough and depict love, longing and loss apart from social issues just as well. Sometimes, even better.From Urdu and Kannada to Bengali and Malayalam, India is replete with authors who represented the diversity and culture of the country through their words in their novels. Not to forget, most Indian authors also narrated the plight of their women protagonists in stories apart from underscoring the nuances of relationships.For example, Karuthamma and Pareekkutty's long lost love story in Malayalam author TS Pillai's Chemmeen. As for those who fancy detective novels, you always have Feluda to go back to. Rabindranath Tagore's Gora is a beautiful love story with some burning topics (relevant even today) thrown in, while Kalki Krishnamurthy's Ponniyin Selvan is a historical saga that you might indulge in if you prefer reading stories of did dynasties and empires.Most of the books written by acclaimed regional authors are available in English translated versions. In this article, we list the best regional novels that you must pick up in quarantine to soothe your soul.Here you go.Umrao Jan Ada Written by Mirza Hadi Ruswa and first published in 1899, Umrao Jan Ada is often considered as the first Urdu novel. Journey through the old, archaic Lucknow in Umrao Jan Ada as Ruswa takes you through the palaces of the nawabs and the grandiose atmosphere. Umrao Jan Ada is the story of a courtesan in Lucknow. Her life wasn't easy as Umrao, born as Amiran, was kidnapped and subsequently sold to Khanum Jaan, the head of a kotha. Throughout her years in the kotha, Umrao learns classical poetry, music, dance, Urdu and Persian. Happiness and tragedy follow Umrao simultaneously as her life has been detailed meticulously in this novel that is definitely worth a read. Khushwant Singh and MA Husain translated the novel from Urdu to English.The Adventures of Feluda 15 or 60. Age is just a number as far as Feluda is concerned because his adventures appeal to readers at any given point of time. Prodosh Chandra Mitter, fondly known as Feluda, is a fictional Bengali private investigator, created by the legendary author Satyajit Ray. Accompanied by his cousin Topshie and the joyous crime writer Lalimohan Ganguly or Jatayu, Feluda traverses cities including Jaisalmer and Shimla to untangle mysteries. Sonar Kella (The Golden Fortress) and Joi Baba Felunath (The Mystery of the Elephant God) are some of the acclaimed Feluda stories that Satyajit Ray wrote. While separate novels of Feluda stories are available in English, you may also read several volumes of The Complete Adventures of Feluda, translated to English from Bengali, by Gopa Majumdar.Prothom Protishrut Bengali author Ashapura Devi weaved magic with her women protagonists as she described their predicament and sorrow in every short story. Prothom Protishrut, translated to English as The First Promise by Indra Chowdhury, is a path breaking novel by Ashapura Devi. Eight-year-old Sayabati, a child bride, is the heroine of the novel. Ashapura Devi narrates Sayabati's struggle as she fights against family control and social prejudices in a patriarchal society. Prothom Protishruti also won the Rabindra Puraskar and the Jnanpith Award.Chemmeen TS Pillai's Malayalam novel Chemmeen documents the story of Karuthamma, a Hindu woman of the fisherman community and Pareekkutty, a Muslim man. Owing to the norms of the society, Karuthamma is subject to scrutiny after her community members discover her affair with Pareekkutty. Soon after, Karuthamma is married off to Palani, who trusts his wife irrespective of being aware of her past. All is well until one night, Karuthamma meets Pareekkutty while Palani is at the sea. Will she betray Palani after her encounter with her past? Chemmeen, translated from Malayalam to English by Anita Nair, is a beautiful story of love and everything else that surrounds it.Bharathpura Written by UR Ananthamurthy in Kannada, Bharathipura is based on the practice of untouchability and the caste system in India. Jagannatha, the protagonist of the story, is an 'enlightened' modern Indian. All hell breaks loose after Jagannatha makes an attempt to take 'untouchables' inside the Mangamatha temple. Translated to English from Kannada by Sushieela Punitha, Bharathipura highlights the complications related to social justice in India.Godaan Premchand, celebrated for his modern Hindustani literature, is an acclaimed author best known for his novels such as Godaan, Mansarovar and Idgan. Books apart, Premchand has also written several short stories such as Do Balaan Ki Katha, Kafan and Boodhi Kaaki. Through his stories, Premchand highlighted the issues that the poor and the urban class battled as he wrote about corruption, poverty and colonialism. In Godan, Premchand writes about the story of 'peasants India' as he narrates the plight of the hungry and impoverished sections of society. Poverty does not bring them down because their optimism and hopeful attitude keeps them alive. The novel has been translated to English as The Gift of a Cow by Jai Ratan and P Lal.Devdas Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay's Devdas is every romantic novel lover's favourite. It is based on the tragic love story of Paro, Devdas and Chandramukhi. Devdas and Paro are childhood friends but are separated after his studies. After several years, Dev returns and falls in love with Paro. But tragedy strikes after altercations arise between both the families and Paro is married off to a zamindar. Devdas, heartbroken, finds solace in a courtesan, Chandramukhi, who eventually falls for him. Devdas, however, suffers for Paro and takes to alcohol. The story ends with a cataclysmic conclusion as Devdas dies at Paro's doorstep.GoraSet in Calcutta (now Kolkata), in the 1880s during the British Raj, Rabindranath Tagore's Gora is a classic. It is based on two parallel love stories of Gora and Sucharita, and Binoy and Lolita in the backdrop of politics, society and religion. Gora was translated into English by WW Pearson in 1924.Ajeeb Aadmi English by Ponniyin SelvanSet in Tamil Nadu in the tenth century, Ponniyin Selvan is a historical Tamil novel by Kalki Krishnamurthy. It narrates the story of Arulmozhiwarman, who later became the great Chola emperor Raja Raja Chola I. Translated to English by Pavithra Srinivasan, Fresh Floods is the first part of the five volumes of Ponniyin Selvan.ALSO READ: Where to travel to post Covid-19? Try these 10 Indian destinations made famous by BollywoodALSO WATCH: In Depth: How tourism, hospitality sectors have been hit by coronavirus lockdown

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