



Vamshavriksha

S.L. Bhyrappa , Sushuma Chandrasekhar (Translator)

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The Uprooted is the English version of the well-known novel in Kannada entitled Vamshavriksha by the celebrated novelist Dr. S.L. Bhyrappa. This novel created a stir in the Kannada literary world, making its author a celebrity overnight. That is the magic, the hypnotic spell of this highly absorbing social novel depicting poignantly the human story of a young widow torn between her love and her child. The novel is the creative and artistic presentation of the psychological and philosophical dimensions of the genealogy as the preserver and the transmitter of cultural values and norms. In a family dominated by traditional values; the remarriage of the widowed daughter-in-law comes as a shocking external assault and the discovery of the real origins of the head of the household builds up the dramatic climax of this novel. Acclaimed by discerning critics as a modern Indian classic, this novel has been translated into several Indian languages-an eloquent testimony to its being truly a great Indian novel. This Kannada novel bagged the coveted literary award of the Karnataka State Akademy of Letters in 1967. The Kannada Film based on this novel won the prestigious Golden Lotus Award of the Government of India in 1972.

Vamshavriksha Details

Date : Published 1995 by Manas (first published 1965)

ISBN : 9788185938769

Author : S.L. Bhyrappa , Sushuma Chandrasekhar (Translator)

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From Reader Review Vamshavriksha for online ebook

Vishwa Manava says

Being raised in a family where you have lot of respect towards culture, relations and in the meantime not neglecting self contentment, i like this book for several reasons...I always wanted to know the main tree of my family and discussed about this several times with my family. This book gave me some kind of inspiration to research on on my vamshavruksha.

The story line in this book is way ahead of what the situation in society at that times.

Very beautiful language SLB has used in this novel. Really like the character srinivasa shrothri, kathyayini and sadhashivaraya. I feel like i have seen/might see these characters in real life. As usual the narration and the style of writing is top notch.

Entirely a very good book except for the climax which i think is very predictable.....

Abhilash V says

One of the masterpieces of SL Bhyraapa. The Theme of a book is the clash between the traditional values and Modern world. Looks like a lot of research as been put before writing a book.

This is one of the must-read books for everyone to understand our Dharmic culture and its importance. The Two characters which impact while reading are Srinivasa Shrotri and Kathyayini's.

SLB has captured a lot of sensitive issues which still holds good in this present time. At the end of the reading, you will be left with the thoughts of who am I, What is the purpose of life and what is my family tree. Thank you for such a wonderful masterpiece.

Nagaraja L says

A duality of "Dharma" and "Nature" has been captured in this novel so directly that it will let you think deeper about the righteousness. Involving the naunces of following the genological tradition against the modern urbanised thinking , it highlights the societal perception of issues such as second marriage.

Through his witty and modernised thinking SLB's Vamshvruksha is still applicable in its relevance even today.

Goutam Hebbar says

Very good book

Ashish Iyer says

I read this Kannada book in Hindi. It was very well translated. Vamsvriksha means family tree. This book talks about dharma and tradition. The story is multilayered and each character has different perspective. It was very interesting how characters were expressing their feelings.

Vamshavriksha portrays the moral dilemmas when long established social patterns are questioned in the name of the individual fulfillment. The most sensitive topic shown in a very diplomatic way, the author reaches the peak in understanding the emotions of a woman and a mother. At the vortex of this upheaval is Katyayani who transgresses the taboos against widow remarriage, jeopardizing her relationship with her son and linking together the destiny of two emotionally scarred families that are striving to preserve their integrity and their lineage. Vamshavriksha is a sensitive exploration of love and loss, tragedy and triumph, interwoven with spiritual, historical and cultural insights. The book also talk about polygamy, purpose of marriage, life and lineage through various characters.

I love the character Srinivasa Shrothri for upholding his dharma. Love the way author describes Kapila River, Mysore outskirts and Chamundi hills. It was really interesting in last 50 pages where the story took drastic turn.

This book was written in 1965. You can imagine how Bhyrappa was way ahead of his time. The story is so gripping and it is thought provoking.
Must Read.

Manjasha Mahadevappa says

Keep in mind the time this book came out first. It's a proof why SL Bhyrappa is such a respected writer... Many who weren't brought up in traditional family environment may find it hard to relate. But a matured and intelligent reader will have no problem appreciating it. Language and imagination is not the kind I like but it still manages to tell a gripping and thought provoking story in simple words. There are many thoughts and questions which are only hinted upon but neither developed nor elaborated. I guess author intentionally let them open so that readers can answer them for themselves. For someone like me who loves abstract art forms, it made the whole experience that much more fun... B V Karant himself chose to make movie based on this book. No more words needed!! :)

Srinidhi Kasagar says

Amazing characters!! Hats off to SLB Sir. What a novel!! I can not express my feeling after reading this book. Karnataka and kannada readers should really feel proud to have such a great person.(I read the original kannada book - not this english translated version)

Koustubh says

This book takes on many of those stereotypical views of the society with deep research on those sensitive subjects which are not debated with ease in the society.. This book makes one to think and change their views with proper reasoning..

Rushikesh says

I am not sure what I liked the most about this translated book. Is it Uma Kulkarni's amazing and free flowing translation from kannada? Or the strong character building by eminent writer Mr.S.L.Bhairappa? Or it is the frankness of narration or its the background drama or its the theme? I feels Its combination of all of this.

Till now I had read only one other book written by Mr.Bhairappa (aavaran) and that did not make me his an at all, rather I was quite reluctant to read this (or his any other book) earlier. But thank goodness, that I kept aside my prejudice and read this amazing book.

I would say its a must read book!

Tejaswi says

One of the best book I've ever read on Indian culture and tradition . I personally liked Srinivasa shotriya character as he always had uphold the Dharma. I liked the writer the way he poetically described the Mysore outskirts , chamundi hill and Kapila River. After finishing the book, Readers might tend to questions themselves with their own life, Who am I?.. What am I?..

Ramachandrarjs says

What a fantastic and amazing book!!! The story is decades ahead of its times...lovely style of writing...inspiring characters...especially Sadashiva rayaru and Srinivasa shrotri...didn't let me put it down till I completed...no wonder He deserves Saraswati samman!!!

Sowmya says

It was amazing!! I still can't fully grasp the turn of events and their interpretations - the story has a multi-layered structure. Nevertheless, a very engaging read!

Pradeep T says

This is the book that everyone must read in order to understand what is Dharmic culture, what it takes to protect and practice one's own lineage or Vamsha, does this Vamsha actually really exists, Can anyone name their Lineage or Vamshavruksha from the beginning of their lifetime?? This is like a jignasa that continues forever and ever without a proper answer. Probably one wouldn't get the answer even now.

SL Bhyrappa had amazingly captured this sensitive issue in this book. Infact It keeps its readers glued to the book. The tumultuous feelings of the protagonists in this novel is a treat to read from the book.

Vamshavruksha a brilliantly written book, that questions everyone about their true Vamshavruksha or a family tree. Nobody on this planet can ever mention which one is the first seed of their Vamsha or Family.

Even if they are able to find it out, Can they guarantee tht their true religion or dharmic values are kept intact in all these centuries?? This is the crux or heart of the novel.

From both Srinivasa Shrotri and Kathyayini's point of view, they are right in their own terms. Situation and Circumstances have led them to behave in such a way. I sensed a satisfaction of achieving something after completing the novel. We are fortunate enough to read such a gem of works.!! Must read for everyone.

Anirudh says

This was a difficult book to read for a few reasons but in the end it was enjoyable.

Hemanth Kumar M says

Sensible matter narrated in diplomatic way. Must read.
