

Evaluation Report

Name of the Researcher : B. Kavitha

Title : An Analysis of the Poetry of Langston Hughes: The Voice for the voiceless

The Ph.D thesis entitled “An analysis of the poetry of Langston Hughes : The voice for the voiceless” is indeed an original and intellectual attempt. The subject of the thesis, Langston Hughes, is novelist, poet, playwright, and social activist, belonging to Black People's America, deceased half a century ago. The researcher has planned well and executed the research work satisfactorily.

Poetry is an Imaginative awareness of experience. Johnson opines that poetry is the art of uniting pleasure with truth by calling imagination to the help of reason. Mill considers poetry to be the thought and words in which emotion spontaneously embodies itself. Being the people's poet, Langston Hughes sought to reeducate both audience and artist by lifting the theory of the black aesthetic into reality through his poems. He tried to depict the real lives of the blacks in the lower social – economic strata. He criticized the divisions and prejudices based on skin colour within the black community. He stressed the theme of ‘black is beautiful’ as he explored the black human condition in a

variety of depths. His main concern was the uplift of his people, whose strengths, resiliency, courage, and humour he wanted to record as part of the general experience. His seeking has been to explain and to illuminate the Negro condition in America, and obliquely that of all human kind. He confronted racial stereotypes, protested social conditions, and expanded African American image.

In the first chapter, the researcher has described the life of the Blacks in white America, before and after the great war. She explains how the poetry of Langston Hughes portrays the everyday life in Harlem. She has also explicated clearly the concern of Hughes for Human conditions, and especially the African American condition. In the second chapter, the researcher depicts how Hughes delineates the cruelty and the pain endured by the African-Americans. She has also written about Hughes' relentless fight against exploitation and his championship of the workers of all colours and races. The third chapter stresses Hughes' strong belief in revolution and appreciates his message that communism is the all over cure for the economic and social evils. The fourth chapter is devoted to an examination of Hughes as a prophetic visionary. Hughes had a vision that the blacks would get equality with the white people. In the last chapter, the researcher has summed up the points discussed in the previous chapters convincingly. Hence, it could be concluded that the thesis is a well organized one. The researcher has used apt style

and logical arguments. Moreover, she has used proper citations. Therefore, I have no hesitation to state that the thesis of B. Kavitha is highly commended for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in English.

Athens, 13 February, 2013

Andreas L. Katonis

University of Thessaloniki, Greece