

**From Fragmentation to Integration in Select Works of  
Uma Parameswaran**

By  
**J. Abiraami**  
**10PH057**

Supervisor  
**Dr. (Tmt). S. Kalamani**  
Department of English

A Thesis Submitted to  
Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and  
Higher Education for Women  
Coimbatore – 641043

In Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of  
**Doctor of Philosophy in English**  
**July 2014**

## **Certificate**

This is to certify that the dissertation entitled “**From Fragmentation to Integration in Select Works of Uma Parameswaran**” submitted to the Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in English, is a record of original research work done by **J.Abiraami** during the period of her study in the Department of English, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore under my supervision and guidance and the dissertation has not formed the basis for the award of any Degree / Diploma / Associateship / Fellowship or similar title to any candidate of any other University and it represents entirely an independent work on the part of the candidate.

**Signature of the Head of the Department**

**Signature of the Guide**

**Signature of the Dean**

## **Declaration**

I do hereby declare that the dissertation entitled “**From Fragmentation to Integration in Select Works of Uma Parameswaran**” submitted to the Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in English, is a record of original research work done by me under the supervision and guidance of **Dr. S. Kalamani** M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. (Avinashilingam), Associate Professor and HOD in-charge, Department of English, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore and that it has not formed the basis for the award of any Degree / Diploma / Associateship / Fellowship or similar title to any candidate of any other University.

**Signature of the Guide**

**Signature of the Candidate**

## **Acknowledgement**

The researcher offers her profound thanks to God Almighty, for the abundant blessings showered on her to complete her study.

The researcher owes her gratitude to Dr. (Thiru). T.S.K.Meenakshi Sundaram, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for providing her the opportunity to carry out her research.

The researcher records her sincere thanks to Dr. (Tmt). Sheela Ramachandran, M.Sc., P.G. Dip., Ph.D. (Avinashilingam), Vice-Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for the best wishes bestowed upon her for the study.

The researcher expresses her deep sense of gratitude to Late (Thiru). T.K.Shanmuganandam, B.A., B.L., former Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for his blessings and motivation. The researcher expresses her sincere thanks to Hon.Colonel. Dr. (Tmt). Saroja Prabhakaran, M.A., Dip.Ed. (Madras), Ph.D.(Mother Teresa), former Vice - Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for the blessings bestowed upon her for the study.

The researcher expresses her gratitude to Dr.(Mrs).Gowri Ramakrishnan, M.Sc.,(Madras), M.Phil., Ph.D. (Avinashilingam), Registrar, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for her support during the course of the study.

The researcher is indebted to Dr. P.Santhana Krishnan, Director, Research and Consultancy, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for his inspiration and for being instrumental in organizing research conventions which have been of immense help and value.

The researcher also owes her thanks to the former Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Dr.D.Lalitha, Professor and Head, Department of Tamil (Retd.) for her support and encouragement.

The researcher conveys her gratitude to Dr. B.Neelavathy, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Professor and Head, Department of Tamil for her encouragement during the study period.

The researcher expresses her special thanks to Dr. (Tmt). S.Maragatham, Dean, Faculty of Engineering for her support and encouragement during the period of her study.

The researcher records her thanks to Dr.(Tmt).S.BaghyaLakshmi, M.A., Dip.Ed. (Madras), M.Phil., (Bharathiar), Ph.D. (Avinashilingam), former Dean, Faculty of Humanities and former Professor and Head, Department of English for her encouragement.

The researcher expresses her profound gratitude to her guide Dr. (Tmt). S.Kalamani, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. (Avinashilingam), Associate Professor and HOD in-charge, Department of English, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore for her guidance, support and encouragement. The researcher takes this opportunity to place on record her indebtedness to her guide.

The researcher expresses her heartfelt thanks to Dr. (Tmt). S. Anantha Lakshmi, M.Sc., M.Phil., Ph.D. (Avinashilingam), Prof. and Head, Department of Science and Humanities, Faculty of Engineering for her encouragement and support.

The researcher wishes to thank all the faculty members of the Department of English and Department of Science and Humanities (Faculty of Engineering) for their constant support rendered throughout the study period.

The researcher expresses her sincere thanks to the librarians of the following institutions for permitting her to utilize the Library facilities and for the ample resource materials provided – Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, SCILET, The American College, Madurai and Bharathiar University, Coimbatore.

The researcher expresses her profound sense of gratitude to her beloved parents for their words of encouragement and prayers. The researcher also conveys her thanks to her husband T.N.Dhyaneswar and her son T.N.D. Praneshraj and daughter T.N.D. Preethika for their moral support rendered during the study. The researcher expresses her sincere thanks to her friends and well wishers for their constant support and prayers.

## **Content**

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>II</b>	<b>Fragmented Identity</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>III</b>	<b>Alienation and Nostalgia</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>IV</b>	<b>Assimilation and Multiculturalism</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>V</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>157</b>
	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>175</b>