Fiction

Centuries-old customs alive and well in Southern India

Fusing cultures requires a delicate balance for newlyweds Hindu Mohan and Christian Karen. Necessity moves the young couple from Cleveland, Ohio to Secunderabad in Andhra Pradesh, South India. Sights and sounds come alive as the reader moves about the vibrant countryside. Cultures of the orthodox Hindu come to life in seldom-viewed, rich, provocative rituals, including Seemanthum. This fascinating love story also transports the reader to vibrant Tirupati, Kancheepurum and Calcutta's Kalipuja.

The newlyweds strive to protect their love as Nobel prize-winner Rabindranath Tagore said in his poem *Gitanjoli* – "steadfast the lamp burns, sheltered from the wind."

"A very beautifully written story which demonstrates the author's deep understanding of the cultural differences between East and West and how pure love can transcend them. As an Indian settled in the US, I could relate to the nuances expressed by the author while dealing with the thought processes of the characters molded by their respective cultures. A very captivating novel written in exquisite detail."

- Ravi Gutala, San Jose, California

Jane Richardson has "captured most of Indian lifestyles, mentalities and mannerisms so well."

- Sarala Bhatt, Marlboro, New Jersey

"India's spectacular ancient architecture is vividly portrayed. Steadfast the Lamp returned me to this exotic land. I again watched the rice grow, smelled spices, and thrilled to fascinating sights while learning about various cultures. An exciting, informative fast-moving book."

- M.R. Immormino, Architect, Shaker Heights, Ohio

"Another world-class novel. A beautifully poignant love story. This is a story you don't want to end."

- G. Wyckoff, Author, Cooperstown, New York

Jane Richardson, considered by India's late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and India's late President V.V. Giri as the most widely traveled person in the Asian subcontinent, has lectured on this region for over 25 years. This is her fourth book on India.

Learn about Indian life, customs and culture in this fast-moving, captivating novel.



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