

# **A HOT NOON IN MALABAR -- KAMALA DAS**

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# THE TEXT

This is a noon for beggars with whining  
Voices, a noon for men who come from hills  
with parrots in the cage and fortune cards,  
all stained with time, for brown kurava girls  
with old eyes, who read palms in light singsong  
Voices, for bangle-sellers who spread  
On the cool black floor those red and green and blue  
Bangles , all covered with the dust of the roads,

## TEXT CONTD...

For all of them , whose feet , devouring rough  
Miles , grow cracks on the heels, so that when they  
clambered up our porch, the noise was grating  
Strange..... This is noon for strangers who part  
The window-drapes and peer in, their hot eyes  
Brimming with the sun , not seeing a thing in  
Shadowy rooms and turn away and look

## TEXT CONTD...

So yearningly at the brick-ledged well. This  
Is a noon for strangers with mistrust in  
Their eyes ,dark silent ones, their voices  
Run wild, like jungle-voices. Yes this is  
A noon for wild men , wild thoughts, wild love. To  
Be here, far away , is torture.Wild feet  
stirring up the dust, this is a hot noon, at my  
home in Malabar, and I so far away.

# INTRODUCTION TO THE POET

**Kamala Suraiya or better known as Kamala Das is a well known female Indian writer writing in English as well as Malayalam, her mother tongue.**

**She is considered one of the outstanding Indian poets writing in English, although her popularity in Kerala is based chiefly on her short stories and autobiography .**

# ANALYSIS

A Hot Noon In Malabar is an intensively emotional and personnel poem.It's one of her typical works evoking malabar landscape and its lush greenery.

This poem very powerfully evokes her sense of belonging to the Malabar of her childhood and Malabar and the Alappat tharavad form the core symbols of this poem.In this poem she retraces her lost childhood in the tides of time but it still remains etched so deeply in her heart.

## ANALYSIS CONTINUED

Recollecting the old days, she remembers the totally unrestrained and unrestricted life she had lead in Malabar.Kamala das have chosen words carefully to recreate and pour out the same feelings that had made those days memorable and extraordinary.The intimacy with which she potrays her feelings are prominent and very clear to visualise.It helps in creating a panorama of varied experiences she had in her childhood.

For Kamala, Malabar stands for the exotic people bringing along with them bundles of mystery that arouse curiousness.Her verses in the poem underlines those experineces which she's devoid of now apparently and longs for them.

## ANALYSIS CONTINUED

Thus, the hot noon in Malabar was very pleasant for the poetess. She wishes to spend the noon amidst those wild men, wild thoughts and wild love. It was a torture for her to be away. She had wild thoughts in that hot noon Love instinct grew in her. She became passionate in that hot noon.

The home of the poetess in Malabar became noisy and dusty in that hot noon.