

**ARROWS
AND
DESTINATION**

V. GOVINDASAMY. B.E.,

**PUBLISHERS
MUTHAMIZH KALAI MANDRAM
TIRUCHIRAPALLI**

ARROWS AND DESTINATION

Commentary on some passages
in Kahlil Gibran's "The Prophet"

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KAHLIL GIBRAN

Lebanese - American poet, philosopher and artist. He was born in Bsherri, Lebanon on January 6, 1888. When he was twelve his mother took him to live in Boston but he returned to Lebanon three years later to study Arabic. After his mother's death in 1903, Gibran's sister supported him while he worked at painting and writing. He later went to Paris to study art and finally settled in New York city where he died on April 10, 1931. He was buried in Bsherri.

His principal work in English are, *The Madman*, *The Forerunner*, *The Prophet*, *Sand and Foam* and *Jesus, the Son of Man* besides 6 other books in Arabic.

The Prophet is a mystical work Composed of prose and poems. Gibran wrote many books and executed paintings and some sculpture, but it is for *The Prophet* that he is best known. Published in 1923 with illustrations by the author, *The Prophet* was the best seller and has been translated into more than twenty languages. A series of twenty eight related prose poems, the book touches on such topics as Love, Freedom, Prayer and Death. Gibran's mysticism evident here as in all his works, reveals an intense preoccupation with the spiritual and visionary.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL DATA

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V. Govindasamy Pillai hails from Thanjavur District. He was born in an agricultural family and rose to prominence from humble origins. After Completing his High School education at Thanjavur and higher studies at St. Joseph's College, Trichy, he obtained his graduate degree in Engineering from the Government Engineering

College, Guindy, Madras. He began his Career as a Junior Engineer. Gradually he achieved higher positions and retired as Superintending Engineer of the Rural works and Highways Department, TamilNadu.

Though by profession, an engineer, he is deeply interested in literature. He is a man of lofty thoughts and progressive ideas. He is well read in religious texts and he strives for a universal religion. Basically he is a humanist who desires that opportunities should be made available to all alike.

In this book, he successfully projects the mind of Kahlil Gibran and offers appropriate Commentaries on some of the important passages of the great Lebanese thinker.

Other works by the Same Author :

1. The establishment on earth of the Kingdom of God is in your hand.
2. Selections from "The Art of Living" by Swamy