

# **INSPIRING LIVES**

Edited by

**Dr. G. NAGESWARA RAO**

**PEARL PUBLICATIONS**

*R. Sreenivasan.*

# INSPIRING LIVES

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**PEARL PUBLICATIONS**

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## PREFACE

The heights by great men reached and kept  
Were not attained by sudden flight  
But they, while their companions slept,  
Were toiling upward in the night.

— *Longfellow.*

The Two World Wars have knocked out all idealistic thoughts from mankind and substituted in their place cynicism and a feeling of despair. The degeneration appears to be incurable and no amount of preaching or precept can give a sense of direction to the young and inspire them to constructive effort. The only hope seems to lie in directing the attention of the young to the examples set by the great men and women of the world in many fields of human activity.

Gandhiji's devotion to truth and non-violence and his service to the down-trodden, Abraham Lincoln's fellow-feeling and deep concern for the lot of the slaves, Edison's untiring efforts to meet the challenges of the unknown, Helen Keller's courage in overcoming her physical inadequacies and her determined service to the blind children of the world, Winston Churchill's rare and almost infective courage, Rabindranath Tagore's large humanity and provocative creative output, Mother Teresa's saintly life and dedicated service to the destitute, J. C. Bose's pioneering work in understanding the feelings of plants, Albert Schweitzer's concern for the superstition-ridden simple Africans and Martin Luther King's courageous, non-violent struggle against discrimination - these are enough to inspire the worst pessimist into positive hopeful endeavour.

This anthology comprising a variety of portraits has been entitled *Inspiring Lives* in order to underscore their beneficial influence on the minds of the young readers.

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**INSPIRING LIVES** : Edited by  
Dr. G. Nagaswara Rao

contains short and inspiring biographies of great men and women. Gandhi's devotion to truth and non-violence and his service to the down-trodden, Abraham Lincoln's fellow-feeling and deep concern for the lot of the slaves, Edison's untiring efforts to meet the challenges of the unknown, Helen Keller's courage in overcoming her physical inadequacies and her determined service to the blind children of the world, Winston Churchill's rare and almost indefatigable courage, Rabindranath Tagore's large humanity and wonderful creative output, Mother Teresa's saintly life and dedicated service to the destitute, J.C. Bose's pioneering work in understanding the feelings of plants, Albert Schweitzer's concern for the superstition-ridden simple Africans and Martin Luther King's courageous, non-violent struggle against discrimination — these portraits underscore the beneficial influence of eminent men and women on the minds of the young readers.

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