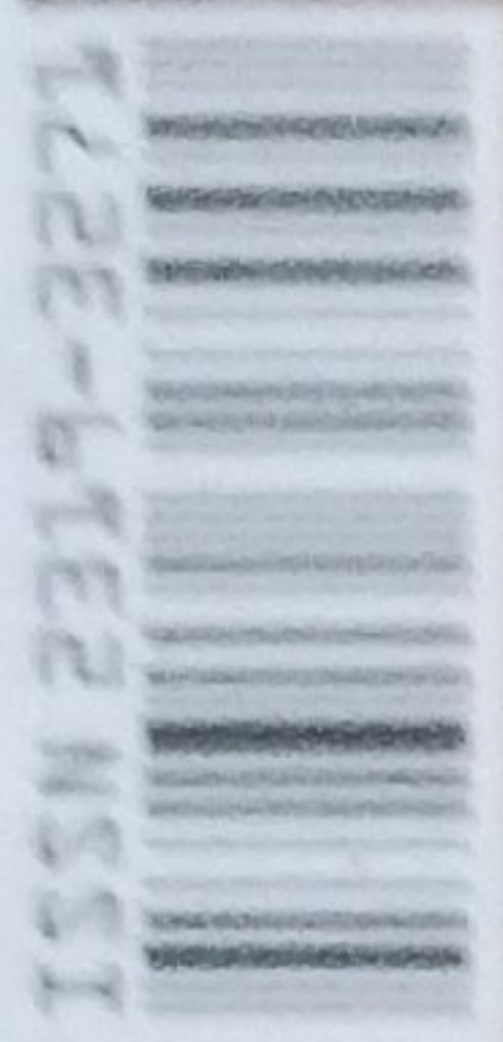


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MALAYALAM LITERARY SURVEY

2022 October-December



In Memoriam T.P. Rajeevan

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Ecological consciousness in ritual practices

Swapna Antony

Translated by **Faheema Shirin R.K.**

The existence of a society is rooted in the firm foundation of the tradition that combines beliefs, rituals and cultural practices. The kernel of most rites lies in the social consciousness, cosmic consciousness and the conception of God of a people who lived in harmony with nature. As an extension of the ancestral tradition, which worshipped the five classical elements, and spirit and wildlife, attributing divinity to them, our rituals and practices look at all living beings with impartiality. Our all-encompassing outlook towards nature enables us to perceive all living beings, including cows, snakes, elephants and rats, as divine entities. This belief is based on the animistic concept of believing in the existence of the 'atman', or the spirit, in all living beings, not just humans.