

P R E F A C E

In the extensive field of Dharmaśāstra Literature, the Smṛtis occupy a very prominent & important place & the entire edifice of several comprehensive and invaluable digests & commentaries is mostly based upon them. But unfortunately, these later secondary works - the digests & commentaries on Dharmaśāstra (& not the Smṛtis) - became very much popular among the scholars of Dharmaśāstra. Consequently, the original Smṛtis receded in importance & in course of time, some of them, even suffered the lot of being lost, due to want of study & propagation thereof.

The reconstruction of lost texts of such Smṛtis, has become a pressing need of the present century, when there has been a revivalism of the study of the original texts, in their historical perspective, in the light of digests & commentaries. With utmost zeal and determination, Mm.P.V.Kane has successfully brought forth, in the historical manner, the several aspects of Indian Culture, reflected in these original & secondary works of Dharmaśāstra. In the course of his study, he could not undertake, due to scarcity of time & space, several projects, which he deemed to be valuable & necessary. One of such projects, recommended by him & incidently noticed by me, during my 'search for research', has now taken the shape of the present thesis, being humbly put before the world of Oriental scholars, to evaluate the merit & contribution of the revered sage Devala - the author of the lost

original Smṛti-work. Moreover, Śaṅkarācārya's reference to this work, as embodying the Sāṅkhya philosophy, awakened great curiosity & interest of mine, in this lost work & impelled me to find out, in entirety, the said contribution of Devala to the Sāṅkhya system.

The present thesis is bound in three volumes :

(I) Volume I contains

Part I (Section I - Introduction & Section II - Text)

(II) Volume II contains

Part II (Sources & Variants)

(III) Volume III contains

Part III (Critical Study) and Part IV (Appendices)

The standard rules of transliteration have been followed throughout the thesis. A straight horizontal line above 'n' (\bar{n} for \tilde{n}) is used for \tilde{n} instead of a wavy line, it is not available in the type-writer.

In course of this research work, I have taken assistance and guidance from several scholars, to whom I am highly obliged & I express my deep sense of gratitude to all of them.

I am highly grateful & indebted to my revered guide -
Mm. Dr.A.N.Jani, a versatile & profound oriental scholar of Baroda, (formerly the Head of the Department of Sanskrit & Director of the Oriental Institute of Baroda, presently a Senior Scholar in the

Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya), for his valuable guidance & assistance, in the various stages of the present research work. He has not only gone through the entire thesis, but also made valuable suggestions, by discussing several intricate points, connected with it. Though his time was very much engaged in many important activities, as the Head & Director, he was kind enough to spend his valuable time, for my sake, whenever I approached him. I acknowledge my hearty vote of thanks to him.

I am also very much obliged to Mm. Dr. S. G. Kantawala (Head, Department of Sanskrit and I/c Director, Oriental Institute), for taking keen interest in my work, giving active co-operation and encouragement and making useful suggestions to me, whenever I consulted him.

This thesis would not have seen the light of the day, unless there was a facility of the extensive library. I am, therefore, especially thankful to the Authorities of the Oriental Institute and Smt. Hansa Mehta Library of Baroda, for allowing me to consult the printed books and manuscripts, in their possession.

With admirable skill, Shri N. N. Shah, has very nicely and almost accurately typed the entire thesis, within the stipulated period. The labour, involved in the typing work, with transliterated passages, diacritical marks and technical tables, deserves to be properly appreciated. In spite of his having heavy load of work, he undertook and successfully completed this laboursome & time-consuming typing work, within a short period. He deserves my hearty thanks.

I am thankful to the University Grants Commission for giving me financial assistance, by way of Research Fellowship and Contingency Grants.

I thank all my teachers, friends and well-wishers - especially the members of the Department of Sanskrit and the Oriental Institute - for their co-operation and assistance.

It is needless to mention that I have received assistance & guidance from my maternal uncle - Shri J.S.Padeshastri, who would not even like to have a conventional reference to him in this thesis, due to his spirit of selfless action and dedication to God. I have no words to express my deep sense of gratitude to him.

Baroda,

30th September, 1982.



(M.L.Wadekar)