

SYNOPSIS OF THE THESIS

CHAPTER –I

INTRODUCTION

The present chapter contains an introduction to the *carita-kāvyas* in general. It focuses on the tradition of the *carita-kāvyas* and analyses the reasons of the significant growth of such poems in Sanskrit literature.

CHAPTER –II

SURVEY OF THE CARITA-KĀVYAS OF CLASSICAL PERIOD

The present chapter embodies a critical survey of the *carita-kāvyas* beginning from the *Buddha-carita* of Aśvaghōṣa in historical order. The salient features of the important *carita-kavyas* like the *Vikramāṅkadeva-carita*, *Śrīkaṇṭha-carita*, *Naiṣadhiya-carita*, etc. are given as a background of the present study. The *mahākāvyas* or the epic poems of Jaina poets who have made significant contribution to this tradition of Sanskrit poetry, have been also surveyed and their notable features are described.

CHAPTER –III

CARITA-MAHĀKĀVYAS OF MODERN PERIOD

The present chapter contains the important features of the *mahākāvyas* such as *Kṣātrapati-caritam*, *Bhīṣma-caritam* *Rādhā-caritam* etc. of modern period i.e nineteenth century.

CHAPTER –IV

CARITA-KHANDAKĀVYAS OF MODERN PERIOD

The present chapter deals with *khandakāvyas* in the modern period of Sanskrit. All the available *khandakāvyas* are given place and their analyses have been made in the present chapter.

CHAPTER-V

CARITA-LAGHUKĀVYAS OF MODERN PERIOD

The chapter deals with the minor poems composed on the lives of great persons and their salient features are presented.

CHAPTER – VI

CARITA-KĀVYAS ON WOMEN

The investigation has brought to light the fact that the Sanskrit poets have written some *mahākāvyas* on lives of celebrated women like Ahalya, Sita, Radha, Queen Victoria, Indira Gandhi, and Maharani Lakshmibai et al. The chapter comprises the remarkable features of all these poems in particular for their specialty and significance.

CHAPTER – VII

CARITA-KĀVYAS: A CRITIQUE

This chapter contains an appraisal of the poems surveyed in the thesis with a critical analysis of the salient features of them.

CHAPTER – VIII

CONCLUSION

This chapter contains the concluding remarks.
