

-: P R E F A C E :-

Naisadhiyacaritam is an abstruse poem and as such it is a challenge to the commentators to exhibit their scholarship. (CP. ^{यथा विद्वत्परा}). So far the commentator Nārāyana alone was considered as the one who tried to crack the hard nut in this field. Now he will be second commentator, because Cāndūpandita (CP's) commentary excels other commentaries.

The two earliest commentaries, on ^{the} Nc are written in Gujarat, (1) Sāhityavidyādhārī, or in short Vidyādhārī by Vidyādhara (=V) and (2) Naisadhadīpikā by CP.

While V, primarily, brings out the literary beauties in his simple style, making the poem a hand book for the beginners, CP's main purpose is to bring out the pedantic aspect of the poem with the full equipment of the traditional Sanskrit learning. And hence he has done the proper justice to the unparalleled ^{le} scholarship of Śrīharsa.

The present thesis is an attempt to edit the first half (Pūrvārdha i.e. cantos 1.17 only) of this learned and most important commentary, unpublished so far. The introduction, however, takes complete commentary into consideration.

There were 4 mss available to me. (1) Baroda MS. (= B.) from ^{the} Gujarati Department, Faculty of Arts, M.S. University, of Baroda, Baroda (2) (3) (4) ^{Poona mss =} P₁ and P₂ from ^{the} Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona (out of which, P commences from canto XII and hence it is ignored at the present stage, because it does not fall under ^{view} purview of my study). The Ms. B being local and easily available, I have accepted it ^{as the} vulgate text and P₁, P₂ are collated with it. After scrutinizing, I have come to the conclusion that though P₁ and P₂ come from the same family.

P

P₁ is a miscodex and P₂ is better and gramatically correct,

I have followed following method in preparing the text

(1) The thesis consists of two parts, Part I introduction and part II the text.

(2) Under each verse separate numbers are given in the foot notes to indicate variant readings, additions, omissions and emendations.

(3) The variant readings are given below each page. (or verse?)

(4) The words of the original verse in the text are underlined to differentiate them from the explanations given in the commentary.

(5) The brackets used by me are as follows:-

[] For addition (from P₁ P₂.)

() For correction and omission, ^{or words}

(6) Whenever, B has dropped any portion ^{of} the com. I have supplied it from either P₁ P₂ or from the original verse.

(7) There are a few cases where the readings would not be listed on one page. In such cases the remark 'contd.' is given on both the pages. Wherever the commentary of a new verse starts on the same page, I have drawn a horizonted line to separate ^{one} the verse from the ^{other} succeeding one.

For chapters- 4 and 5 ^{of} the introduction I have consulted the critical text of the commentary of V. prepared by Dr. A.N.Jani, Director, Oriental Institute M.S.Uni. Baroda who is working ^{on} the project of preparing a critical ^{edn.} of Vidyā-dharī.

In this connection to thank him will be asthane because he is my guide (and father). I am fortunate that I had the opportunity to work for my Ph.D. ^{under} the ^{able} acute guidance of Dr. A.N.Jani, Ex-Head of the Dept. of Skt. ^{and} Director ^{of} Oriental Institute, Baroda.

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