

SANSKRIT LITERATURE OF 21ST CENTURY : A CRITICAL SURVEY

A Synopsis Submitted to
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda
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in Sanskrit

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SYNOPSIS OF THE THESIS

STATEMENT – 1

THE RELEVANCE OF THE PRESENT WORK AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO SANSKRIT LITERATURE

The present work - Sanskrit literature of twenty first century is first of its kind. It is, to the best of my knowledge, attempted for the first time. Sanskrit literature is progressing day by day. Many competent and enthusiastic writers are trying their best to enliven and enrich this divine language with profound zeal and commitment. So the Sanskrit literature is not lagging behind. In the twenty first century we find many mahakavyas, khandakavyas, fictions, biographies, dairies, prose works, radio plays and literature for children, short stories, poems, lyrical poems, gazals, travelogues, and other new forms. They are written keeping in mind modern sensibilities. They are in fact the products of modern time. It is interesting to say that all these forms were not in the classical age. Though some traditional trends are still continuing and the poets of our time are also composing great literary works following the principles given by the ancient rhetoricians like Bhamaha, Dandin, Vishwanatha and others, still we observe change and innovation in their creativity. The modern writers of Sanskrit compose their works keeping in mind the needs and problems of the present day society. It is not true that Sanskrit writers are only composing eulogical verses and they are purely in traditional form by using the popular metres like *Upajati*, *Anustup* etc.. In our time we see that the messenger poems or *dutakavyas* are not composed in the imitation of the great poet Kalidasa. There is novelty both in structure and content. An ardent critic will not miss this kind of innovation that is made by the writers of today with the aim of making Sanskrit language simple, sweet and popular. We find plethora of modern songs composed in the tune of modern movie songs. There are plenty of fictions which are in fact good contribution for which we should feel proud of. An area of modern Sanskrit literature that has been continuously enriched and attracting the attention of the modern readers of twenty first century is the field of translation. Many important and outstanding works especially novels have been translated into Sanskrit from other Indian languages like Odia, Kannada, Hindi, Tamil, Bengali etc.

Shivarajavijaya is the first novel in Sanskrit language i.e. translated from Bengali. Pandit Sri rama Dave has translated *Nirmala* of Premachand and other works. Four novels of S.L.Bhayarappa have been translated into Sanskrit. *Jala aur Jwala* of Harishankara Parasai is translated from Hindi into Sanskrit. *Chitralekha* of Bhagavaticharan Varma is translated from Hindi into Sanskrit. This shows the unique feature and progressive nature of modern Sanskrit literature. In the present thesis I have made an attempt to critically evaluate the literature of writers of twenty first century and to bring to light the significant contributions of the creative writers of the present century. I, therefore, confidently put forth my view that the present thesis is relevant and the study will contribute significantly to the contemporary Sanskrit literature. It will be quite useful to the researchers, students and general lovers of Sanskrit literature.

STATEMENT - 2

METHODOLOGY, SOURCES AND ORIGINALITY

I have divided my study into nine chapters with specific headings keeping in mind the systematic presentation of the contents. The analytical and critical methods have been adopted in the preparation of the thesis.

I have fully drawn upon all the relevant published and unpublished literature.

I have studied all the available Sanskrit literature of twenty first century.

To the best of my knowledge, an attempt is made for the first time to make analytical, critical and comprehensive study of the Sanskrit literature of twenty first century.

The study is presented in the following nine chapters.

CHAPTERS

CHAPTER I : - INTRODUCTION

The present chapter will embody an outline of important literary works written by the prominent poets and writers of twenty first century along with their biographical information.

CHAPTER II : - MAHAKAVYAS AND KHANDAKAVYAS

In this chapter the criticism of some available *mahakavyas* and *khandakavyas* will be attempted. I will also try to assess these epics from the perspective of their theme, language, structural presentation and literary merit.

CHAPTER III : - FICTIONS

There are more than ten fictions which are available to us during the period of my investigation. I will attempt to evaluate them from literary perspective. Analytical study will be presented in this chapter.

CHAPTER IV : - SHORT-STORY COLLECTIONS

An analysis of some selected contemporary short stories will be attempted in the present chapter.

CHAPTER V : - DRAMA LITERATURE

We have collected more than twenty five plays mainly one act plays. A comprehensive and critical study will be presented in the present chapter.

CHAPTER VI: - POEM COLLECTIONS

The Sanskrit poets have always preference for poetry. Therefore even in the present time we get a good number of poem-collections which dominate other forms of Sanskrit literature. In the present chapter a critical study of contemporary literature will be given.

CHAPTER VII: - MISCELLANEOUS

There are other forms of literature like Travelogues, Radio plays, Autobiographies, Dairy etc. I will incorporate my study of all these forms of modern literature in the present chapter. This chapter will mainly focus on the modern works types of which are not found in the classical age.

CHAPTER VIII: - TRANSLATED LITERATURE

The present chapter will discuss the merits and usefulness of the literary works which are translated from non-Sanskrit Indian languages like Odia, Kannada, Tamil, etc.

CHAPTER IX: - CONCLUSION

In the conclusion a summary and the findings of my investigation along with my observations and critical remarks will be presented followed by a select Bibliography, Indexes and some Appendices.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Bibliography will contain a detailed list of the primary and secondary sources and research articles that are used for the present research work.

APPENDICES

The appendices will contain a list of the technical terms and meanings in English, list of good sayings, list of newly coined words and year wise list of Sanskrit works of twenty first century.

INDICES

In the indices, a list of the table of content with their page numbers will be given.
