

P R E F A C E .

With keen interest and desires, I took a liking to work for the degree of Ph.D. in Sanskrit, mainly because I aimed at acquiring higher qualification and a good deal of knowledge from the vast and unfathomable ocean of SKT literature.

Fortunately enough, it was a happy coincidence that I was awarded U.G.C. Research Scholarship for three years, to work for the degree of Ph.D., soon after I passed M.A., from M.S. University, Baroda. I had a good chance and encouragement to take research-work on hand, under the scheme of U.G.C. Scholarship.

Gadādhara^ṭ is one of the commentaries on Ne. of S'rīharṣa, written by Gadādhara. This comm. was in the manuscript form and was not critically edited, so far, as it was very difficult and complicated too, to edit such a lengthy work. However, this was an opportunity to me, to have such editorial work as the topic for the degree of Ph.D. As the text is unpublished, the work of editing it critically, is undertaken by me.

The earliest Ms. is found in Gujarat. It shows the popularity of this comm., as well as scholarship and interest of Gujarat. This comm. is critically edited for the first time, with the help of available Mss.

For editing Gāḍādhara, I consulted and collated three extant Mss., two of them were obtained from The Oriental Institute, Baroda, and one from the Jain Bhandar, at Dabhoi.

The thesis is divided into two parts -

A and B

A - Introduction.

B - Critical Text.

PART:- A In this section, I have discussed following topics-

- (1) Description of Mss.
- (2) Information regarding life, work, date, scholarship, language, and style of the commentator.

Due to paucity of time, at my disposal, I was compelled to restrict my work upto the first half (cantos I to XI), inspite of my wish to bring into light, the whole work. I hope that in future, if given a chance, I may take up the remaing half for editing.

Prof. (Dg.) Arunodaya Natavarlal Jani, (M.A., Ph.D., D.Lit., Kavyatirtha, Retd. Head of the Department of Sanskrit and Retd., Director of the Oriental Institute, M.S.University, Baroda), has rendered me his kind help in many ways, in undertaking and completing this thesis. He has heartily encouraged me to elaborate my thesis. Fortunately enough, I could gain benefit of his deep knowledge, intelligence and competence. Inspite of paucity of time, he spent his precious time in giving me apt and deft guidance, in my research work.

He also helped me in obtaining two Mss. from the Oriental
 Institute, M.S.Uni., Baroda, and one Ms. from the Jain
 Bhandar at Dabhoi. I, heartily wish to extend my sincere
 gratitude to DR. A.N.JANI, though words are not enough to
 express my gratitude to him. I lay under a debt of his
 obligation, for my first venture.

I also give lots of thanks to the organizer of the
 Jain Bhandar of Dabhoi, and to authorities of the Oriental
 Institute, M.S.Uni., Baroda, to permit me to use the Mss.
 for my research work.

I hope, this work proves to be useful to the students
 of Sanskrit.