



## PREFACE

Swami Vivekananda (1863-1902 A.D.) is a great Indian religious leader, a great representative of Indian culture, a true interpreter of ancient lore of knowledge, a practical Vedantist and an outstanding Karmayogi. He has influenced, inspired and guided many intellectuals as well as laymen for leading a better life. The life and message of Swamiji have been a constant source of inspiration to many Sanskrit poets. Being influenced by his life and philosophy some Sanskrit poets have composed poems on his life and philosophy. Sri Swami-Vivekanandacaritam composed by Pandit Tryambaka A Bhandarkar is one of them.

This epic poem is also one of the excellent biographical poems composed so far in modern Sanskrit literature. It occupies a special place for its intrinsic merit, originality, superb presentation, lucid style, fine language and an appropriate blending of poetic elements. As is very clear from the title, life and activities of Swami Vivekananda is dealt with in this poem in a proper order. It does not contain simply a catalogue of events of Swamiji's life; it does not also exaggerate the achievements of swamiji as it is found in many Sanskrit poems. Here is a fine blending of fact and fiction which brings a true *ramāṇiyatā* to the heart of connoisseurs.

An attempt is made for the first time to make a critical study of the *Swāmi Vivekānandacarita mahākāvya* in English.

All the Sanskrit works composed on the life of Vivekananda have been collected and prepared a critical literary study of said *mahākāvya* and the researcher has brought to light the valuable contribution of the poet Tryambaka A Bhandarakar.

The present study is supposed to bring a systematic account or Vivekananda's life-history from the present Sanskrit *mahākāvya*.

As far as my knowledge is concerned nobody has attempted to prepare a comprehensive literary study of the above stated Sanskrit *mahākāvya*. The study will be first of its kind in English.

In the preparation of the present thesis I have fully drawn upon all the available literature that is published and non-published. An acknowledgement has made in proper place of the thesis.

I have studied the text and the relevant literature and have tried to express my own views after critically evaluating the text.

This study is presented in the following chapters based on original text.

## **INTRODUCTION**

<b>CHAPTER –I</b>	<b>ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF MAHĀKĀVYAS</b>
<b>CHAPTER-II</b>	<b>LITERARY WORKS ON SWAMI VIVEKANANDA</b>
<b>CHAPTER-III</b>	<b>LIFE, DATE AND WORKS OF THE POET</b>
<b>CHAPTER – IV</b>	<b>SUMMARY OF THE CANTOS OF THE MAHĀKĀVYA</b>
<b>CHAPTER-V</b>	<b>LIFE OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA AS GIVEN IN THE MAHĀKĀVYA</b>
<b>CHAPTER-VI</b>	<b>LITERARY EVALUATION OF THE POEM</b>
<b>CHAPTER-VII</b>	<b>DESCRIPTIONS AND NARRATIONS IN THE MAHĀKĀVYA</b>
<b>CHAPTER-VIII</b>	<b>RELIGIOUS AND PHILOSOPHICAL IDEAS DEPICTED IN THE MAHĀKAVYAS</b>
<b>CHAPTER-IX</b>	<b>CONCLUSION</b>

I feel, it is my first and foremost duty express a deep and heart felt sense of gratitude reverence and indebtedness to my revered guide Prof. R.K. Panda. Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Pali, & prakita M.S.U. Baroda, who has ably guided me through the thick and thin of this venture. Without his consistent encouragement, guidance and advice this work could never have reached its completion. In spite of heavy pressure work he spent his precious time in the discussion various debatable points. It is certainly a pleasure to

work with him in an atmosphere most democratic. I owe him more than what I can express by words.

I am also highly grateful to his family and his wife Dr. Sweta Prajapati, Research Officer of Oriental Institute, M.S. University, Baroda, who has given me all her support.

I should never forget to thank my mother Meenaben Padhiar and my father Pravinkumar Padhiar, my mother in law Veenaben Padhiar my father in law Bhikubhai padhiar, my brother Chirayu and Bhabhi Pooja my brother in law Devendra padhiar, and my well-wishers who have help me in various ways for bringing my thesis to completion.

Lastly I would like to thank my beloved husband Nilesh Padhiar, Lecturer, of Narmda College, Bharuch.

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