

STATEMENT – I

RELEVANCE OF THE PRESENT WORK AS WELL AS ITS CONTRIBUTION TO SANSKRIT LITERATURE

The *Vaiyākaraṇabhūṣaṇasāraḥ* (VBS) is a text on the philosophy of Sanskrit Grammar written by Kauṇḍabhaṭṭa, a scholar of great reputation. It is a commentary on *Vaiyākaraṇasiddhāntakārikās* alias *Vaiyākaraṇamatonmajjani* composed by Bhaṭṭojidīkṣita. The VBS systematises the philosophy of Pāṇinian Grammar in a logical manner. It is helpful to understand the techniques and methods of Pāṇini who popularized the scientific system of grammar through his pioneering work *Aṣṭādhyāyī* containing almost four thousand aphorisms. The text is written in highly sophisticated *Navya-Nyāya* style. The writer profusely makes use of *Navya-Nyāya* technical terms throughout the text. Kauṇḍabhaṭṭa has explicated some grammatical concepts, critically examined and discussed the view points of his contemporary philosophers like Mīmāṃsakas and Naiyāyikas who have also attempted to deal with the grammatical categories. He also strongly refutes and substantiates the theories propounded by his predecessors. The refutations of the views of the Naiyāyikas and Mīmāṃsakas along with the analysis of the theories of the Vaiyākaraṇas are very systematically presented by Kauṇḍabhaṭṭa. Therefore, the text is dialectical by nature. It is a type of *Vādagrantha*. The text is terse and creates difficulty in understanding the complicated philosophical issues dealt with by the author. But, the merit of the text lies in the fact that it explains the philosophical concepts involved with the grammar very clearly. So the treatise become very popular and it has been prescribed in the syllabus for the study of both *Navya-Nyāya* and *Vyākaraṇa Śāstras*. No doubt, the text is unavoidable for the study of Sanskrit grammar.

The VBS itself is a commentary, but more than 14 commentaries, to the best of my knowledge, are written in Sanskrit and Hindi. In the present research work, I have given an analytical study based on the six commentaries available to me on VBS. The available commentaries are *Śāṅkarī* by Śaṅkara Śāstrī, *Darpaṇa* by Harivallabha, *Kāśikā* by Hari Śāstrī, *Bhaimī* by Bhīmasena Śāstrī, *Narasimha* by Kandāla Veṅkata Rāmakṛṣṇa and *Nirañjanī* by Rāmayatna Śukla. In spite of the popularity, profundity and significance of the text, an analytical study of the complete text focusing mainly the explanations of pertinent commentators covering all the aspects of the text in English is not attempted till date. It was a long felt desideratum. I have therefore, undertook the present study and endeavored to fulfill the need to the best of my capacity though I understand limitation of my capacity and the availability of the resources during the research work.

The original text of VBS has fourteen chapters. However, I present my study in the following seven chapters. I have tried my best to make use of primary and secondary sources related to the topic of the research and reviewed the related literature carefully and critically. I have strictly followed critical and analytical methods and the standard format in preparing the present thesis. The study is an original contribution and quite relevant in the present age when the scientific study of the critical texts in the light of the commentaries is hardly attempted. The present study is based on my own understanding, observations and insights.

It is a fruit of long pen stacking effort and perseverance. The significance of the present study lies in the fact that it is not fragmentary belonging to any one aspect of the text. I have given due importance to the view points and the explanations of the commentators which was not given in the earlier researches. Apart from the philosophical and general grammatical aspects I have examined the text from the point of view of communication.

STATEMENT - II

METHODOLOGY, SOURCES AND ORIGINALITY

I have divided my study into seven 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 the entire text of VBS in the light of all available commentaries.

To the best of my knowledge, an attempt is made for the first time to make an analytical, critical and comprehensive study of the entire text of VBS in English from the perspective of communicative language.