

FOREWARD

Purushartha Sudhanidhi is a matter of pleasure and pride that we are able to present to the world of learning an important work on Advaita Vedanta, viz. 'The Brahmasutravrtti' of Jnanendra Saraswati. There is no doubt that this will be welcomed by all scholars interested in philosophy, and particularly in Advaita Vedanta.

There are many scholars, logicians and philosophers who manifested their work based on Upanishads. Badarayana wrote the aphorisms of Vedanta (Brahmasutra) to systematise the thoughts of Upanishads.

The teachings of the Upanishads were collected and presented in poetic form in Bhagavadgita. These three namely (Upanishads, Bhagavadgita and Brahmasutras are together called as 'Prasthana-Traya'). Many scholars commented about Prasthana-Traya; one among the scholars is Sankaracharya who has to his credit many voluminous works, the most important among them being the Brahmasutra-Bhasya, Upanishad-Bhasyas, and Gitabhasya. These commentaries on Prasthana-Traya made Advaita one of the most influential systems of Indian philosophy.

The Vrtti:-

The language and style of Jnanendra Saraswati's work are clear, lucid and perspicuous. The Vrtti is neither too elaborate nor too concise. It elucidates many points of Advaita philosophy and helps even novices in the field to grasp essential teachings of this school. Thus Jnanendra Saraswati has rendered a precious service to the world of scholars by his lucid and very valuable Vrtti on "Brahmasutras".

Smt. S.N. Ramamani Srinivasan has taken considerable pains to prepare this edition. It is based on four manuscript preserved in India. The manuscripts are complete and written in Telugu, Devanagiri.

The editor's deep knowledge of Indian philosophy and her mastery on Sanskrit have come to her help in deciding many readings which are difficult to decipher in the original manuscript. Her accumen in elucidating the main points of Advaita exegesis is evident in her notes and Sanskrit introduction.

I should mention here the good and expeditious work of officials of Adayar Library, Madras, and Saraswati Mahal Library, Tanjore. It is a pleasant duty to acknowledge our beloved vice-Chancellor Shri (Dr.) Mandan Mishra and Registrar Sri Sambaih for extending their timely help and encouragement for the research work.

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(Sri R. B. Pandey)
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