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Review: [untitled]

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Reviewed work(s):

Lilāvati of Bhāskarācārya with Kriyākramakarī of Śaṅkara and Nārāyaṇa. Being an  
Elaborate Exposition of the Rationale of Hindu Mathematics by K. V. Sarma

Source: *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, Vol. 98, No. 3 (Jul. – Sep., 1978), p. 321

Published by: American Oriental Society

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/598745>

Accessed: 10/10/2008 08:58

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contribution to the evolution of Indian culture for the last 3,000 years.

The author deals, in particular, in his work with the Kirātas, Austric and Dravidian elements in Indian civilisation, the Licchavis, the Newāris, the Bhoṭas, the Boḍos, the Nāgas, the Kuki-chins, the Khasis, the Ahoms, the Thākuris, the Mallas, the Gorkhas, the Koch empire, the Garos, the Ghuṭias, the Dīmasas, the Tiprās, the Jaintyas, the Meitheis and Manipur history and literature, the Khasi literature, the Indo-Mongoloids kings of Chittagong and Arakan, etc. etc.; subjects seldom dealt with, but so important for the better understanding of the history of Northern and, particularly, North-East India.

This reviewer wishes to add one remark to this excellent study which seems to be not out of place: he came to the conclusion, in connection with his studies on the spreading of gnostic Sanskrit literature, that probably through the Meitheis and Manipur literature, many Sanskrit *śūbhāṣitas* of non-Buddhistic origin, were incorporated into the Pāli gnostic literature of Burma and, in particular in the Pāli Lokanīti, Dhammanīti, Mahārahanīti, Suta-vaḍḍhananīti and Rājanīti and from there found their way to Siām, Cambodia, Lāos, Xiengmai and other Indianized kingdoms of South-East Asia.

The veteran Indian indologist, Professor Suniti Kumar Chatterji, should be once more wholeheartedly congratulated for his pioneering work and thanks should be expressed to him for having agreed, despite his advanced age, to review, correct and enlarge the first edition of his most interesting and excellent book.

LUDWIK STERNBACH  
COLLÈGE DE FRANCE, PARIS

*Lilāvati of Bhāskarācārya with Kriyākramakari of Śaṅkara and Nārāyaṇa.* Being an elaborate Exposition of the Rationale of Hindu Mathematics. Critically edited with Introduction and Appendices by K. V. SARMA. Pp. xxx + 496. Vishveshvaranand Indological Series 66. VISHVESHVARANAND VEDIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE. 1975. Rs.70.00.

The Lilāvati of Bhāskarācārya, born in A.D. 1124, the renowned astronomer of Bijapur has, for more than eight centuries now, continued to be the most popular textbook on mathematics among the students of Indian mathematics and astronomy. The all-India popularity of the work is apparent from its numerous manuscripts, preserved in different Indian scripts, found all over India and the more than one hundred commentaries on it in Sanskrit and the other Indian regional languages. The text itself was published several times before and trans-

lated into English, as early as in the 19th century. However, the very interesting Kriyākramakari, the joint commentary of two mathematicians of Kerala—Śaṅkara and Nārāyaṇa who lived in the 16th century—, was never published before. This commentary is, perhaps, the most elaborate exposition of the Lilāvati. The speciality of the commentary, which extends to about 500 pages in close print, lies in its endeavoring to analyse mathematical theories. Thanks to K. V. Sarma of the Vishveshvaranand Vedic Research Institute, who very carefully and skillfully edited this commentary with the original text, we are now in the possession of a new essay which supplies "the rationale" behind the numerous formulae set out in the Lilāvati.

Besides presenting a critical edition of the Kriyākramakari, with an informative introduction, K. V. Sarma supplied five appendices including a glossary of over 300 technical terms used in the Lilāvati and its commentary with their English equivalents. This glossary is of particular value not only to mathematicians and astronomers interested in this branch of research, as far as India is concerned, but also to Sanskrit philologists.

The publication, well printed and beautifully presented, will help to get an insight into the working of the mind of early Indian mathematicians and astronomers and is a lasting testimonial to the erudition of its editor.

LUDWIK STERNBACH  
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*Kāvyaḍarśaḥ. Ācāryadaṇḍiviracitaḥ. Suvarṇaṇākhyaḥ Saṃskṛtahindivyākhyāyā Sametaḥ.* By DHARMENDRA GUPTA. Pp. 68 + 428. Delhi: MEHARCAND LACCHMANDAS. 1973.

In JAOS 95.3, pp. 569-570, two books of the same author on the "Critical Study of Daṇḍin and His Works" and "Society and Culture in the Time of Daṇḍin" appeared. The present volume is the by-product of the previous studies on Daṇḍin by D. K. Gupta. It contains the Sanskrit text of Daṇḍin's Kāvyaḍarśa with the author's own Sanskrit commentary on the text and a detailed exposition in Hindī. In addition, it contains an introduction to Daṇḍin's poetical doctrines. The volume contains also a bibliography on Daṇḍin's writings and on poetics in general.

The volume is well and carefully printed and can be considered as a useful companion to the above-mentioned two studies by D. K. Gupta.

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