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VaradjÆbikj Pari, aya Camp£ of Tirumaljmbj: A Study

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Introduction

Sanskrit literature is wide and vast in its characters. The literary divisions of Sanskrit literature are mainly classified into three; Padya, Gadya and Mi¿ra. Mi¿ra is called Camp£ and the term Camp£ in Sanskrit literature is the combination of prose and poetry. A number of works in Camp£ literature can be seen in Sanskrit literature. The Camp£ typically comprised a comprehensive composition of grand scale. It employed both metrical and non-metrical language with almost equal emphasis, while its prose was adorned with ornate and lyrical qualities. This paper will discuss about the VaradjÆbikjpari,aya Camp£ of Tirumaljmbj.

The Author

The author of Varad_iÆbik_ipari,aya Camp£ is Tirumal_imb_i (16th A.D) century. According to some scholars, Tirumal_imb_i was a poet of the royal court of Acyutar_iya (1529-1542 CE). Impressed by Tirumal_imb_i's qualities and beauty, Acyutar_iya made her his queen. She was named O¶uva Tirumal_imb_i. She served as a reader in the royal court, tasked with presenting poetic and other literary works to both the ladies of the royal family and the courtiers¹. She was clearly states about the authorship of the work as;

see, ed. Madhavandha, *Great Women of India,* Almorah .1982,p.334

विविध विद्या प्रगल्भ-राजाधिराजाच्युतसार्वभौम प्रेमसर्वस्वविश्वा सभुवानिरुपाधि- कमहोपकार निर्माण धर्म निर्मल हृदयया, निखिललिपिविलेखननियत वितरणकृतहस्त हस्तारविन्दया, विरिंचि चंचल नखा चल समुदञ्चित विपञ्ची प्रपञ्चित पञ्चममधुरिमोद व पिकस्वरकण्ठस्वरया, विपुल तलातलविहारविनोदसाकारावतीर्णशतमर्णसन-वरवर्णिनी मणिनिर्णायिकया, नानादेशप्रतिष्ठिातानेक विरचित वाजपेय पौण्डरीकसर्वतोमुखमहाध्वर द्विजवर वितीर्यमाणशीर्विशेषपरिपोषित भाग्यसौभाग्यया, नियतरिक्षतकवि कुटुम्बया, तिरूमलाम्बया निर्मितं वरदाम्बिकापरिणयन्नाम चम्पूकाव्यम्, आचन्द्रतारकम् अभिवर्धताम्।

VaradjÆbikj Pari,aya Camp£

Among the Camp£s in Sanskrit literature, Varad¡Æbik¡pari,aya Camp£ is an excellent creation written with a touch of imagination and emotion along with historical background. The story of the marriage between Vard¡mbik¡ and Acyutar¡ya is depicted in this work. Its plot is relatively short. The work begins with an invocation and then describes the lineage of Candravam¡a kings (Candra, Pur£rava, ËyuÀa, NahuÀa, Turvasu, Timma, l¡vara, N¤siÆha, Acyutar¡ya,Ve'ka¶¡dri). This work reveals various historical events related to the prominent kings (N¤siÆha, Acyuta, Ve'ka¶¡dri) of the Third Dynasty of Vijayanagara Empire i.e. Tulavar Dynasty.

Descriptions in the Work

Descriptions of socio-cultural elements are the major feature in a literary work. It includes several things like nature, emotions, character and so on. The work is start with the prose section as a Ma'galicara, a for the salutation of Candra;

अस्ति खलु समस्त-जगदानन्द-मूल-कन्दलम्, इन्दीवर-कुल-तपः- फलम्, इन्दिरारमण-हृदान्तर-सत्त्वपरिणतिः, शंकर-किरीट-शृङ्गाटक- प्राङ्गणोपलाल्य-शैशवः, सलिलराशि-लहरी-लासिका-नटन-विलासारम्भ- गुम्फित-कुसुमाञ्जलि समञ्जस-किरण-मञ्जरीकः,निखिल-दैवत-कुल-जीवन-कला-सारणी-समुदय-सुधासार-कासारः, वैसारिण-केतु-जीवातुः,ओषधी- पतिर्नाम ।³

² Suryakantha, VaradjÆbikjpari, aya Camp£, Caukamba Sanskrit Series, Varanmsai, 1970, p. 151

³ ibid,p.1

It could be collecting various descriptions throughout this work. The prose part predominates in VaradiÆbikipari, aya Camp£. But this prose is also not merely descriptive but is also completely capable and eloquent in the expression of heartfelt feelings. For example;

तदात्वेतमेनम् अनितर- सुलभानुभावार्चित रमणीयवेषम् अनुसर्पणीय सहजप्रभावम् अप्रमेयगाम्भीर्यमपि आविर्भवदनल्पदाक्षिण्यम्मूर्धनिदृशो- र्वसन्तमिव वसन्तम् अनुग्रहमिव विग्रहवन्तम् अदनीकान्तमवलोक्य विजृन्मितसम्भ्रमाणां, किञ्चितपसृत्य परस्पर मुखार्पितमुखं किमप्या- लपन्तीनां परिचारकसीमन्तिनीनाम् अविश्रान्तकन्दलदाभरणरणितानुबन्ध-तुमुलैरालाप- कोलाहलैरप्यं- विद्यित नियमक्रमा, क्रमेण ध्यानावसान एव समुन्मीलितविलोचना तमाभि- वीक्ष्य, तत्क्षणाभिवृद्धसाध्वसा परिवृत्य चित्तमिव तस्य सविधमणिस्सम्भमवलम्बितवती।

In this scene, the affectionate feelings are expressed as the hero is charmed by his first sight of the heroine, looking at her with wide eyes. The heroine, feeling embarrassed, hides behind a pillar upon discovering the presence of her friend.

The biggest feature of the prose part of Campukivyas is their compactness. In Campukivyas, compound-filled ornate prose style has often been used. This specialty is also seen in Varadi/Ebikipari, aya Camp£. Tundarcde; a has been described in detail by the poetess in a single sentence, which is an example of her command of language and deep bond; "अर्यममरीचिविकचानीचगोचरसन्तनीरन्ध्रवसुन्धरा रूहान्तरसन्दृश्य- मानप्रसूनरजः सन्दर्शितेप्सितसरणि स्मरणीयधरणीतरूणीसिन्दूरितसीम-न्तसौन्दर्यान् निरन्तरान्धकारितदिगन्तरकन्दलदमन्दसुधारसबिन्दुसान्द्रतर घनाधन वृन्दसन्देहकरस्यन्दमानमकरन्दबिन्दुबन्धुरतर माकन्दतरूकुलतल्पकल्पमृदुलसिकता जालजटिलमूल तलमरूवकमिलदलघुलघुलयकलितर मणीयपानीय शालिकाबालि-काकरारविन्द......5"

While describing the nature sequences of Tundar¢de¿a through the poetess, various trees rich in flowers, leaf and fruits - orange, grapefruit, clove, palm, mango, birch, dates, champak, a¿oka are described;

⁴ Suryakantha, *VaradjÆbikjpari,aya Camp£,* Caukamba Sanskrit Series, Varanmsai,1970,p.106

⁵ ibid,p.18

सरससुकुमारनारङ्गमातुलुड्लवङ्गतमालतालहिन्तालरसालपूग

प्ननागनागनाग-

केसर्जभूर्जखर्जूरचम्पकोशोकक्रबकतिलकबक्लषण्डपि चण्चिलाराममण्डलमण्डितो₋पकण्ठान् ।^६.

One of the interesting descriptions of this work is about the river Kiveri. She used various AlaÆkiras for the beautification of the descriptions; पन्नगराजमूर्तिमिवप्रशस्तपावनवृत्तिम् शमिजनचित्त वृत्तिमिव रणनिपुणमृतरूचिं शर्वाणीमिव सह्यगिरीशदृढतररसानुभवां सर्वरसाधी-शैलूषीमिव बहुशस्तरङ, गनटनशोभिताम् बहुलहरिलसितां अध्यात्म उपनिषद्वरपदस्फुटालक्ष्यहंसगतिं प्राज्ञनृपसम्पदामिव प्रसाधितदक्षिणाशां नीरदमालिकामिव कुमारीं पाथोरसावधूतस्धामाधुरीं नियतोत्कूलश्यामलतान्वितां पावनतापसितज हनु पयोधिराजप्रधानान्तः पुरीं पातक- वातन्धयमयूरीं कावेरीमतीत। Here poet used the ¿leÀopama for the description of the river Kiveri.

The description of the beauty of woman is a very common feature in Sanskrit poetry but the physical beauty of a man is a very rare one. A beautiful description about the physical appearances of Acyutar;ya can be seen in this work. Tirumalimbi's very precise description of Acyutariya's physical beauty is unique in its kind. The author had expressed her creativity through the description of Acyutariya as the follows;

> श्रीनृसिंहकुमारोऽयं सिंहसंहननोऽभवत्। सिंहमध्यतया तस्य चित्रं किमिव साम्प्रतम् ।।

Some descriptions about the rituals (Jitakarma and Nimakarma)⁸ and a specific belief regarding the marriage of kings can be seen in this work.

In the poetry sections of the work including the descriptions of nature, war and some love themes. A keen observation done by her is about the morning and evening shade of the trees as follows;

> स्थितां पुरस्तादतिदुर एवं क्रमेण च स्वस्व वशं प्रपन्नाम्। वोढ़ा नवोढ़ामिव सानुरागश्छायां तरूः क्रीडगतामतानीत् ॥

⁶ Suryakantha, *VaradjÆbikjpari aya Camp£,* Caukamba Sanskrit Series, Varanmsai,1970,p.15

⁷ibid,p.27

Suryakantha, Varadį Ebikį pari, aya Camp E, Caukamba Sanskrit Series, Varanmsai, 1970, p. 149
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It also deserves a special study covering its literary, philosophical, and socio-cultural aspects. In the Varadi, Ebiki pari, aya Camp£, Lord ViÀ, u is mentioned by various names at different places. For instance, it is mentioned that N¤simha, a form of ViÀ, u, married Ombami, who was the daughter of Rimi, mbiki from the solar race, and they found happiness together. Later, N¤simha prayed to God Acyuta, another name for ViÀ, u, for a son. During her pregnancy, the queen dreamt of Lord ViÀ, u, who blessed her with the birth of an excellent son. The queen indeed gave birth to a son and named him Acyuta, after God Acyuta. These accounts suggest that Vaishnavism, the worship of ViÀ, u, was widely practiced during the time of the Varadi, Ebiki pari, aya Camp£.

Language and Style

In the current work, the author demonstrates remarkable mastery of the Sanskrit language. She likely has memorized numerous lexicons. Through her descriptions, readers can compile an exhaustive list of synonyms for various words in Sanskrit, such as lotus and sword, found within the text. In the case of this work, however, mixing prose with poetry helps lighten the reader's burden. The monotony of prose sentences is broken by the resonant arrangement of words and sentences, and the slowness brings some relief. She had composed poetry with AnuAJup, Ërya, Indravajri, Upendravajri, Upajiti, Drutavilambita, NarkuJa, P¤thv¢, PuApitigra, PraharAi,i, MaµjubhjAi,¢, Mandjkrinta, Milin¢, Vasantatilaka, Viyogini, Rathoddhata, áird£lavikr¢Jita, áili¢ī, áikhari,¢, Svigata and, Hari,¢ which shows the skill of the poet in composing poetry in various stanzas.

Rasa

Poet used \acute{a} ${\tt m}'g_i$ ra as the major Rasa for the work. The feeling of bravery is felt through the description of the victory march and wars done by N ${\tt m}$ siÆha through the V¢ra. Other Rasas used by her are Raudra and Bh¢bhatsa.

⁹ ibid, p. 146

Conclusion

Tirumalimbi was an excellent writer in Sanskrit literature in the 16th century of India. Varadiæbikipari, aya Camp£ is interesting because it's filled with many literary elements. The topics she writes about need to be looked at from different angles, including critical and comparative views. The style of language of this work is interesting to read. One can get a clear picture about the socio-cultural features of that particular dynasty. On the other hand it could be considered this work as a historical one. As a good Camp£ work in Sanskrit literature this work is very significant. It can be seen in history that women's writing has not received enough attention. So this work is important for all times.

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