

An Inquiry on Historiography in the works of Kavisamrat Viswantha Satyanarayana of Telugu Literature

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The chronology of Indian history has been subjected to individual motives, purposeful means and narratives based on partial research of colonial historians. Unfortunately, the same has been studied by the Indian generations without much inquiry in to the authenticity of periods and another side of the incidents of Indian history. Jnanapeeth awardee Kavisamrat Viswanatha Satyanarayana is one among the earnest Indian writers who strived to trace out the authenticity of historiography of ancient Indian history through narrating the saga of Indian dynasties right from the beginning of Kaliyuga.

Sri Viswanatha's aim behind writing "Purana vaira Grantha Mala" in 12 volumes was to challenge the western historians writings on Indian history with special assertion on the distortion of chronology and Indian history as well. His argument begins with the comparison between Indian theories of creation of the human history with Western theory. The former theory speaks about the creation of the universe dates back 195crores of years as per Panchang; whereas later theory narrates the history from 2000years before the birth of Jesus Christ as per Bible. He mentions that the beginning of Kaliyug and the end of Dwapara yug with Kurukshetra war. Purana Vaira Grantha Mala is based on the stories of Indian dynasties.

The 12 books speak about the political history of India against the western narrations of Indian history. Sri Viswanatha quotes from the early works of T S Narayana Sastry, Sri Nadimpalli Jagannatha Rao and Sri Kota Venkata Chalam while arguing about wrong identification of Sandrakotus as Maurya Chandra Gupt. Sri Viswanatha puts forth that if Sandrakotus was Chadra Gupt of Gupta dynasty, then only the chronological equations of Indian history would be same from both Indian and Western narrations. European historians misled the Indian history by the misinterpretation of Sandrakotus as Maurya Chandra Gupt. In the process of proving their narration Ramayan and Maha Bharat were labelled as mythology and unfortunately educated Indian of colonial period too believed the western historians leaving behind Indian proofs from Kalhana's *RajaTarangini* and Kalidasa's *Jyothirvidabharanam*.

The present paper is a sincere pursuit to put Viswanatha's Telugu writings on the national platform that helps our historians in their research in tracing out the authenticity of the popular Indian history of western writers. The works of Indian narratives on Indian freedom movement are in good number but there are very few works available on ancient Indian history. The present paper on Purana Vaira Grantha Mala is about the political history of Magadha in which the fictional fabric of interplay was used as tool in bringing out the factual political history of Magadha and its allies as well.