PREFACE

Advaitavedānta propounded by Śrī Gauḍapādācārya, and elaborated and widely popularised by Śrī Śaṅkara, is a spiritual discipline culminating in the realisation of ultimate reality. Dharmarājādhvarīndra's Vēdāntaparibhāṣā is the most authentic Paribhāṣā, of Advaitavedānta, which focuses on its epistemology and ontology. The present thesis is a study of Advaitavedānta with special reference to Vēdāntaparibhāṣā.

Any comprehensive study of this kind warrants a historical overview, which is carried out in the first chapter. A brief biographical account of the author and description of his works form the second chapter. The following chapters from three to ten correspond to the respective chapters of the source book and contain detailed analysis of the cardinal tenets of Advaitavedānta. These eight chapters are entitled Pratyakṣa, Anumāna, Upamāna, Śabda, Arthāpati, Anupalabdhi, Viṣaya and Prayōjana respectively. The eleventh chapter presents a critical analysis and also the findings evolved from the study of Vēdāntaparibhāṣā. Every effort has been made to retain the true spirit of the source text while making objective critical comments. The twelfth chapter is the conclusion which is the summation of the thesis that attempts to place Vēdāntaparibhāṣā unequivocally as the most valuable compendium of Advaita epistemology and metaphysics.
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