CONCLUSION

In order to know the personality of Sarasvati, the goddess of learning and eloquence, we have many informations which are generally collected from the sources like the Vedas, the Brahmanas, the myths and the legends of the epics, Puranas and the upa-Puranas. These, of course, throw an enlightened ideas on the transformation of the Vedic river Sarasvati into a goddess of learning, speech and music. This goddess is not only worshipped by the Hindu devotees in India, but also she is also said to have secured a predominant place in the Buddhist world. Even, she appears to manifest herself as the bestower of knowledge and symbol of purity.

It is however, emphasised that in Hindu, Buddhist and Jaina iconography she is found to be represented in several forms with different variety in emblems, vehicles as well as attributes. In Hindu, Buddhist and Jaina sculptural representations she is generally found as either standing or siting poses. Various iconographical texts refer to her as a white, blue, red, and black colours. It remains not only a mere literary theory, but has also taken iconographical forms with different colours. She is found two-armed, six-armed, eight-armed or multi-armed. The texts of the three principal religions of ancient India are however, not unanimous as to her attributes, which include manuscript, lotus of different colours, rosary, lute, water-vessel etc. She is generally associated with various vehicles like swan, peacock, lion, ram etc.
Whatever may be the fact, the goddess of learning and eloquence is generally known to have been worshipped by the Buddhists with great consideration. In fact, the cult of the goddess Sarasvati became so popularly accepted by the Buddhists during its Tantrayana phase that her worship was not confined only in India, but spread out into Nepal and Tibet, Japan and Java. In all these countries she appears to manifest herself as the goddess of learning and eloquence holding lute (vina) in her hands. In the sculptural representation she is white-complexioned and shown as either standing or sitting poses. She is also associated with swan or peacock.

However, it is emphasised that from the very early periods many verses and scriptures on Sarasvati have been composed by Indian poets, sages and common people in view of fulfilling the intellectual attainments. She is still worshipped by every one on the first day of starting his educational life.