PREFACE

Kerala had made substantial contributions in the field of traditional Sanskrit learning related to Vedas, vedīgas, kīvya, nīgakas, and a number of other ēśtras like the darāgas, tantras, ēlpa, ēurveda and jyotiāa. The vast literary output as well as the profound learning displayed in most of the works, particularly those in the form of commentaries, bespeaks this intensity of the learning.

Hindu astronomy (both observational and computational) starts from the siddhāntic period i.e., fourth century AD onwards and continues up to the nineteenth century. There are three major limbs of astrology as siddhānta, saēhit; and phalita. The last section phalita is only a part of this science. The literal meaning of jyotiāa is light that spreads. Varhamihira defines it as a light that illuminates the items in a dark place ‘iEELpù’EBEH̀ nùOE <‘E’.

Related to the predictional part, Bāhajjītaka of Vārāhamihira is considered as a systematic work and it has been treated as the standard work on astrology written in twenty-five chapters. Many commentaries are available on it in different languages.

In Kerala the work Bāhajjītaka is strictly followed and studied well by scholars and there are a number of commentaries
from Keralite scholars on it. Among them, Daṣidhyīye of Talakkūṭṭer Govindabhaṭṭatiri is the first systematic Keralite Sanskrit commentary on Bhaṭṭa. Govindabhaṭṭatiri of Talakkūṭṭer was a renowned scholar and commentator in Kerala, especially on astrology. He lived in between 1237 to 1295 AD at Talakkūṭṭ near Tirur in Malappuram district.

Daṣidhyīye deals with all allied subjects of astrology briefly but in extent meaning in ten chapters that was sufficient to explain twenty-five chapters of Bhaṭṭa. The Daṣidhyīye commentary is of immense help in the fields of praṇa, jītaka, muhurtta, nimitta and gaṇita. It found useful in the study of hori and the field of astrology in general. That is why such a topic selected for a detailed study.

A critical study of Daṣidhyīye commentary is going on through this thesis. This thesis consists of seven chapters. Commentary literature especially based on Kerala, astrological works and commentaries of Kerala, life and works of Talakkūṭṭer Govindabhaṭṭatiri, methodology of Daṣidhyīye,
critical study of Daśādyāya and final observation are inclusive throughout these chapters respectively.

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