Lalita-sahasranama is the gem of Tantrasastra, as it eulogies Sakti, an important member of the Hindu pantheon. Again it is the Saubhagyabhaskara¹ which illuminates the LS by lucid and detail expression of each and every name of the Goddess Lalita. Thus its position is raised higher than other Sahasranāmas. In the LS, itself it is said "among the texts on Sahasrānamas, ten Sahasrānamas on Goddesses viz. Ganga, Bhavānī, Gayatri, Kalī, Lakṣmī, Sarasvatī, Rajarājesvarī, Bāla, Śyāmālā and Lalita are leading ones. But the LS is the best among these texts on Sahasrānamas².

LS is the key to open the treasure of the knowledge pertaining to the Tantrasastra. Almost all the fundamental doctrines of Sākta philosophy are described in it. So it can be the best guide for those who are desirous to know the fundamentals of Tantrasastra.

A complete study of the Lalita-sahasraṇama is not done so far. It is attempted here for the first time in the light of Bhāskararāya's commentary viz. Saubhagyabhaskara. Here an attempt

1. It is the commentary on the LS written by the eminent scholar on Tantra viz. Bhāskararāya, pub. by Nirnayasagara Press, Bombay, 1919.
2. Lalita-sahasranāma, III, st.70-71.
is made to present the various aspects like Kundalini, Nirguna Brahman, Parasakti (i.e. primordial energy) etc. of the Goddess, with a view to enlightening the devotees for their spiritual advancement. Thus it is perhaps the first comprehensive and critical study of the Lalita-sahasranama.

STATEMENT - II

The present study is done with the help of Bhāskararāya's learned and extensive commentary viz. SaubhāgyaBhāskara. I have also arranged topicwise the thousand names of the Goddess Lalita and a critical study is presented for the first time. Thus the work attempts to present in short the fundamentals of Sakta philosophy.

I have studied all the available works written on the IS in different languages and also the other relevant works on Tamraśastra so that my study of the text is complete. I am indebted to all the scholars whose works are listed in the bibliography.