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(S. SMITHA)
The coronation had important constitutional significance. The assumption of royalty implied recognition by the king of his responsibility. Here is a close similarity between the ancient Hindu kingship and medieval monarchy. In the Vedic period the king took an oath that his rule would be just and according to the rules of Dharma. Similarly the kings of Vijayanagar took the oath in the same spirit. -Prof. T.V. Mahalingam in Administration and Social Life in Vijayanagar, Madras, 1969, p 11.

Krishnadévaraya, hailed as Sáhíti-samarángapa-sárvabhauma, is a brilliant star in the galaxy of the kings who ruled Bhárata-dása in general and South-India in particular. A multi-faceted, versatile personality, his deeds contribute much to the overall impact of the Vijayanagara Empire in the fields of politics, religion, literature, arts and economic activity. The very fact that he is being remembered even 500 years after his coronation shows the niche he carved for himself in the hearts of people. It is a matter of coincidence that this thesis is being submitted when his 500th year of coronation, is being celebrated. Indeed, the present work may be considered as a humble tribute to such a great Emperor.
"You cannot understand the occurrences that belong to past ages, or those that are in course of present transaction, without reference to the scenes by which the actors are themselves surrounded. The conditions of time and place must be taken into account in every narrative, and every page of history bears evidence of the large extent to which the great actors in the drama of public life have been guided (often controlled) by the circumstances of surrounding locality; in other words, by considerations which are involved in the geography, or topography, of a particular region. This is true not merely of those great external events, such as battles, by which the fate of a nation is decided, or treaties, by which the future limits of states are determined; but also of many amongst the subtler calculations and reflections which belong to (if they do not constitute) the soul of history, of those prior considerations which herald the course of external action". -William Hughes, F.R.G.S in the lecture ‘Geography in relation to History’, Longman, Green, And Co; London; 1870