I had the opportunity of studying the Nalacampū of Trivikramabhaṭṭa in my B.A. course and the Rāmāyaṇacampū in my M.A. course. During the period of my study, there developed a keen interest in me for studying the Campū poetry seriously. So with consultation with my supervisor I decided to take up a critical study of the Varadāṃbikāparinayacampū (VPC) of Tirumalāṃbā.

The VPC of Tirumalāṃbā is one of the important Campūkāvyas in Sanskrit. The authoress happened to be the queen of Achyutarāya, the king of Vijayanagara in Deccan. Historical evidences provide the information that the king of Vijayanagar ruled during the sixteenth century A.D. On the other hand queen Tirumalāṃbā chose the family of her in-laws as the theme of her Campū. Hence, the VPC comprises the description of Acyutarāya’s forefathers and the life of Acyutarāya up to the birth of his son. This Campū of Tirumalāṃbā emerges as an appealing one due to its being enriched with so many literary elements. The subject matter of Tirumalāṃbā’s work also demands treatments in various aspects, as well as in critical and comparative lines. It also deserves a special study comprising the literary, philosophical and socio-cultural aspects.
With this idea in mind, in this dissertation entitled "A CRITICAL STUDY OF THE VARADĀMBIKĀPARIṆAYACAMPŪ" which is divided into five chapters, an attempt has been made to examine the contents of the VPC from different perspectives.

In preparing this dissertation I have mainly based on the first edition of the VARADĀMBIKĀPARIṆAYACAMPŪ edited by Prof. Suryakanta Sastri, which was published by M/S Chowkhambha Vidyabhavan, Varanasi – 1, in 1970. The references of Varadāmbikāparināyacampū made herein, pertain to this edition of Prof. Suryakanta Sastri. However, an immature researcher like me can only understand the difficulties in undergoing studies even at the absence of a dependable commentary on the text.

With these prefatory words, I, with all humility, place this work in the scholarly world for assessment. I am fully aware of the defects. I shall be highly rewarded if the learned finds something interesting in it.

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