PREFACE

Bhavabhūti is a gifted poet. His dramas are very much popular in Kerala. Eminent Scholars have commented upon his plays. Rasamanjari commentary on Malatimadhava by Pūrṇasarasvatī is important among them.

Rasamanjari commentary was published in the Trivandrum Sanskrit series by K.S. Mahadeva Sastri in 1953. The work is not available now. There are several manuscripts of Rasamanjari in our libraries. This study is mainly based on the manuscript (No.853 to 856) at Govt. Sanskrit College, Tripunithura.

Several studies on the work have come out. Sri. T.G. Mainkar in his Studies in Sanskrit Dramatic Criticism has studied this commentary along with five other commentaries. It was published in 1971. Similarly Sri. V.V. Mirashi has made a special study on Bhavabhūti and published his findings in bookform in 1974. All these studies have helped me a lot and I am indebted to them.
It is for the first time that Rasamañjari has been subjected for an independent study. I have tried to fix Pūrasarasvatī in the historical context as also to compare Rasamañjari with other commentaries of Malatimādhava.

I am heavily indebted to my supervising teacher Dr.K.G. Paulose for his sincere co-operation and guidance. Several other scholars, my colleagues and friends who encouraged me in all possible ways deserve my gratitude.

Prof.M.R. Vasavan, Principal, the Librarian and other staff of Govt. Sanskrit College, Tripunithura extended all facilities to me for this study. I am thankful to them.

I am fully conscious of the limitations of the monograph for which I crave the indulgence of the world of scholars.

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30-05-2005

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