

## P R E F A C E

For over four decades, preceding the transfer of power, the Indian political scene was stormed by several leaders and illustrious personalities. Late Shri Hardekar Manjappa, who hailed from North-Karnataka was one of those who played a significant role in the political and social life of Karnataka through his books and journals which are written in Kannada. But there has been no systematic study of his political ideas and activities and the significance of his participation in the public life of this part of Karnataka. Though the 'Hardekar Manjappa Smāraka Granthamāle' has published Rāshtra-dharmadrashtāra Hardekar Manjappa (1966) and some English translations of his works which are certainly a valuable contribution to an understanding of the 'life and mission' of the man, there is still vast scope for studying the work and thoughts of Manjappa who was also a freedom fighter, writer and above all a free thinker.

Efforts have been made in the present thesis to analyse and evaluate, in an objective manner the political ideas of Manjappa. As stated earlier, Manjappa was not only a writer, thinker but also a nationalist who endeavoured to train the people of this part of Karnataka all

along his life through his books and journals like Dhanurdhāri, Khādi Vijaya, Udyoga, Sharna Sandesh. But what all he wrote was in his mother-tongue—Kannada. Had he written in Hindi or English he would have attained not only national but also international stature. But he was not after name and fame. It is because of this, he never identified himself with any institution or body and thus became a real follower of Satyagraha Dharma of Gandhiji, purging it of its political application. This point of focus and frame of reference should make this a fruitful study.

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