The aim of this work is to draw upon the fulness and grandeur of the epic poem Madhurāvijayaṁ. An attempt to analyse the writings of Gaṅgādevī carefully and systematically, shows that these writings are rich in historical accounts of Vijayanagar empire. There is, of course, no dearth of research papers or book-lets on this epic poem; but a single and systematic study of the Madhurāvijayaṁ in its literary and historical perspectives, has, to my knowledge, not yet been undertaken. With this in view, I have taken up in this thesis a comprehensive study of the Madhurāvijayaṁ.

Indeed, Gaṅgādevī stands out among the poetesses in the field of Sanskrit literature. Intelligible in itself, Gaṅgādevī's writings need no further elucidation for the learned to understand and appreciate them. But, for further clarification of Alaṅkāras, Rasa-delineation etc, the Sanskrit commentary "Bhāvaprakāśikā" by Subrahmanya Shastri has been frequently referred to in this work.

This work presents a critical study of the Madhurāvijayaṁ in its historical and literary perspectives. Thereby it attempts to show how Gaṅgādevī reinforces the historical facts and restores literary aspects. This is what may be considered to be the contribution of Gaṅgādevī to the world of secular sanskrit literature. It is hoped, the foot-notes given at the end of each chapter will add to the usefulness of the work.
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