CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS
Dr. Paturi was a distinguished person in the literary world and the world of books. He lived in his works and writings resplendently like a 'Karmayogi'.

He was born in Peda Palem of Tenali Taluq, Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh on 20th August 20th, 1907 and his father and mother are Dharinamma and Sri Burraiah. Nagabhushanam received his primary education at Kuchipudi and Pedapalem of Tenali Taluk. From third form to S.S.L.C., he had his education in Edward High School, Nidubrolu. He did his Intermediate during 1927-28 in the Loyola College, Madras and Divyagnana Kalasala, Madanapalli for one year (1936-37). He also learnt Hindi and obtained 1st Rank in the examination conducted by Dakshina Bharata Hindi Prachara Sabha. At that time, the Andhra Desa Grandhlaya Sangam (ADGS), started library science classes for the public. Nagabhushanam attended those classes in 1934 and got himself trained in Library Science.

The Andhra University Library provided facilities for course studies in Library Science in summer vacations. He studied in those classes for two years and obtained diploma in 1938. In the words of his teacher, Prof. C.G. Viswanadham the germ of library service was already there in his blood which could sprout and get nourished by the scientific approach to Library Service. Also he said if Tamil Nadu could be proud of an idealist in Library Service in late Dr.S.R. Ranganathan, the Andhra Pradesh can equally be proud of a pragmatist in library service in Nagabhushanam.

Till 1938, the Chief Organizer of Library Movement was Mr. Iyyanki Venkataramaiah, who had encouraged literary taste among the promising
youth and entrusted and moulded them into powerful and constructive workers for the spread of literacy. After him came Nagabhushanam who was equally enthusiastic, efficient and steadfast in his divine mission of spreading literacy marking a golden era in Library movement. The Andhra Library movement and literary movement are fortunate in securing the selfless and dedicated services of such a noble person as Nagabhushanam said Prof. Ranga in paying fitting tributes to him on his 60th birthday.

Even while he was in elementary school, he established a library called 'Bala Saraswathi Bhandaram'. At high school, he conducted Adult Education classes for two years at Machavaram, Bapatla. When he was at Loyola, Madras, he was volunteer for all India Congress Conference. He participated in Anti-Simon Commission agitation. On a call by Mahatma Gandhi he gave up his love for studies to become a full-fledged Gandhian.

In 1928, along with Mellacheruvu Venkateswarlu, Nagabhushanam established 'Sevashramam'. Under the aegis of this institution they had carried a National educational school, they preached the philosophy of Kahaddar and use of indigenous things, propagation of Hindi language, taught the advantages of naturopathy, encouraged animal husbandry, organized sevadalam, took up publication of books and ran a hand written journal. He got a new building constructed, procured books in thousands, he himself donating a splendid gift of 1000 books. This magnificent work metamorphosed into a knowledge-spreading center for 40 villages around Pedapalem.
CONCEPT OF BOAT LIBRARY

He realized that people have free time while they embark on a journey by boat. He clinched the opportunity and started the Boat library so that people can use their journey time in a productive way. People used to read the books and journals loud in the journey so that even the illiterate and ignorant could acquire knowledge. Nagabhushanam felt that Vijayawada was the right place to pursue his life mission of library movement in a wider arena. Library is not a mere repository of books; it is the quintessence of the best thoughts and aims and aspirations, dreams and delusions of people, which were shattered by the vicissitudes of life. The portals of library mould many a life in the right direction as we interact with the best brains. Thus libraries are instruments of social change.

SOCIAL REFORMS

He devoted his life and energies for the same. But he was connected with many aspects of Gandhian constructive programme. He was a lifelong promoter of Khadi. In order to promote social equality, Nagabhushanam advocated and participated in interlining programmes. He encouraged girls to go for higher studies. Girls’ education is one of the means to improve the status of the girl child in society. He set an example before others by educating his own children up to the post-graduate level. The agricultural workers, and even the small and marginal farmers were victims of exploitation as they were illiterate and ignorant. Hence Nagabhushanam encouraged adult education programmes in the rural areas. The three R's were helpful in spreading awareness among these people.
In order to create social awareness and to increase the commitment in the wider canvas, he invited experts from different social sciences to share their expertise and experiences with the librarians. Thus he envisaged that librarians must be experts with social commitment. Library movement became an instrument of social change.

**SARVOTTAMA BHAVANAM**

In June 1938, Nagabhushanam had been elected as the Secretary of the Andhra Desa Granthalaya Sangham. With a view to organizing this Association as model institution on firm foundation. Nagabhushanam purchased a land near Patamata Lanka and raised a beautiful building in 1949 and christened it as Sarvottama Bhavanam as mark of his respect to that patriot and great educationist Gadicherla Harisarvottama Rao. He published books written by Harisarvottama Rao on ‘Adult Education’ and Goteti Jogiraju Scientifically written books on Agriculture through Sarvodaya Press which he started in 1950. He started Granthalaya Pustakasala in 1944 for procuring rare books. He published three volumes of Veeresalingam works and Dr. C.R. Reddy’s ‘Musalamma Maranam’.

Nagabhushanam, is indeed an ornament of Andhra Pradesh. On the occasion of the opening ceremony of Sarvottama Bhavanam, he honored Goteti Jogi Raju, an expert Agricultural Scientist, Yendla Sriramulu, a Veterinay Doctor and Kalipatnam Kondaiah, a man of letters. On the day of the opening of Bapuji Mandir, he felicitated Unnava Lakshmi Narayana and Cherukuvada Venkata Narasimham. His sense of gratitude towards Gadicherla Hari Sarvottama Rao is evident from the fact that the building of the Andhra Desa Granthalaya Sangham being named Sarvottama
Bhavanam. Nagabhushanam is a highly evolved soul and as such engaged himself in the satvic and noblest of Pursuits till his last, he has now moved into history. Kalaprapurna Paturi Nagabhushanam published more than 100 books. He authored some books, translated some other and got many written by eminent writers. By dint of his diligence and perseverance, Nagabhushanam has become an expert in Library Science, written books on the subject, taught many to become able and willing librarians, who are the true torchbearers of gnana to the people of rural India.

Nagabhushanam remained a lifelong student. He believed that learning makes a man more vigorous. He lived true to this belief until his last breath. The Library movement in Andhra was the most praiseworthy and prestigious public movement. Adult education, rural libraries and village re-construction formed part of its functions. Paturi Nagabhushanam, succeeded Iyyanki and earned momentum to the movement. "The Andhra Library movement and the Adult Education programmes are indeed fortunate in securing the self-less and dedicated services of such a noble person as Paturi Nagabhushanam", said Prof.Ranga on the occasion of his 60th birth day celebrations. For the last 40 years till he breathed his last, he had dedicated his entire life for the library movement and literacy movement.

On the eve of Independence, Nagabhushanam felt that Vijayawada was the right place to pursue his life mission of library movement in a wider arena. Library is not a mere repository of books; it is the quintessence of the best thoughts and aims and aspirations, dreams and delusions of people, which were shattered by the vicissitudes of life. His
close association with Gadicherla Harisarvottama Rao, a doyen of library movement, further enhanced his dream for a larger movement. His constant interaction with Harisarvottama Rao lifts an indelible impression on his work and ideas.

Pathuri Nagabhushanam was a volunteer at the Madras session of Indian National Congress, as a student at the Loyola College, Madras. He was an active member of the agitation held at Madras during the boycott of Simon Commission. In 1930, he was arrested for participating in the Salt Satyagraha and he was imprisoned for 1 year at Alipur camp Jail in Ballary as a political prisoner. Manikonda Satyanarayana Sastry was his co-prisoner. In 1932, he took part in the Civil Disobedience Movement and was imprisoned for six months. In 1942, he took part in the Quit India Movement after which he went into hiding for a few months. During that time he served as a courier to distribute and carry pamphlets and magazines.

Pathuri Nagabhushanam served 15 years a state board member of Andhra Pradesh Gandhi Memorial Fund. He was closely associated with the likes of Dr. J.N. Melkote, Ramananda Tirtha, Jamalapuram Kesava Rao, Madapati Hanumantha Rao, K.V. Narasingha Rao and Suravaram Pratap Reddy. As a “Gandhi Tatva Pracharak” (a Preacher of Gandhian Principles), he took leadership of the Vijayawada Branch and propagated the importance of Khadi products, spinning, improving the state of the Harijans and small scale industries that can be carried on at the village level. He was a role model to everyone else with his approach of during his works on his own. He was a person who attached a great value to hard
work. On the occasion of the Birth Centenary Celebration of Mahatma Gandhi, he translated 10 books on Gandhi into Telugu and brought out books on Gandhi’s life in a lucid style as gift to the boys and girls of the day. He was a true Gandhian in action as not only he wore Khadi Products but also the ensured that even his wife did the same.

In 1950, he founded the Sarvodaya Press at Vijayawada and ran it with great integrity. He appointed women for doing the hither to works of men i.e., setting of letters, binding and Printing. Then he helped women earn financial independence. He was the pioneer in recruiting women personnel in the press. He also ensured the construction of buildings for libraries in 28 villages. To house the Head Office of Andhra Pradesh Library Association, he bought one acre of land in the hub of Vijayawada in 1939 and with the help of donors, he constructed Sri Sarvottama Bhavanam in 1949 and Bapuji Mandiram in 1958. To create a shelter for the staff he constructed Jogi Raju Bhavanam in 1960 and Ramineni Sadanam in 1983.

**LIBRARY MOVEMENT**

As the Secretary of Andhra Pradesh Library Association for five decades, he was responsible for the spread of libraries in each and every district of A.P. He ensured that the association enjoyed permanent and valuable funds so that the activities of Association can go on without any hindrance. He ensured that the APLA always enjoyed the best infrastructure among all the Library Associations in India. The Voice of Library movement ‘Grandhalaya Sarvaswam’ Monthly was brought out by him being the editor of the magazine from volume 12 to volume 48. The magazine is still published as the one and only magazine on Library
Science at the National level winning accolades from everyone for the last 9 decades. He Organized Training Programmes for the Volunteers of Libraries at various places in the State. Besides this, in 1966, he started the Certificate course in Library Science recognized by the Govt. A.P.

He organized the centenary celebrations of Gadicharla at the head quarters of various districts. On this Occasion he brought out a 400 page book with the title “Vande Mataram”. It is to the total credit of Sri Paturi that many students, academicians and scholars have benefited from the knowledge bank made available to them at the Sarvottama Library founded by him.

After the glorious period of Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya, the founder of the “Andhradesa Grandhalayodhyamam” (Andhra Desa Library Movement) Paturi Nagabhushanam led the Library Movement forward for five decades and gave it a clear sense of direction and purpose. Without craziness for power or authority, like a true yogi with sense personalized in his nature, he could visualize and the course of Library Movement and take it forward.

If the whole of A.P. called him as “Grandhalayodyama Rupa Silpi” (The Sculptor of Library Movement), or the Andhra University honored him with the honorary title of ‘Kala Prapoorna’, he considered these honours not as personal awards but as recognition of the Library Movement. 20th August, 2007 is his birth centenary.

KARMA YOGI NAGABHUSHANAM

Exactly forty years ago (1936) there entered a fairly, tall, slim, unassuming, rustic like person, clad in brownish handspun dhoti, Kurta and angavastram into Andhra University Library. Dr. M.O. Thomas was
then the librarian to whom this person was introduced, perhaps by Abburi Rama Krishna Rao. Within minutes Dr. Thomas rushed to my room together with the newcomer and directed that I attend his request and left the visitor to my care.

This enthusiastic visitor was no other than Paturi Nagabhushanam, who had come to seek admission to the school of librarianship, Andhra University. Within minutes of conversing with him I could envisage the depth of sincerity, and love for men and books characterizing his outlook. His general academic background did not deter him from learning the science and art of Librarianship, because he was obsessed by the desire to disseminate knowledge and information among his people specially in the rural areas of Andhra Pradesh, which was then part of the erstwhile Madras presidency. So he became a student of Librarianship and I one of his teachers in the formal sense.

None could conjecture at that time that Nagabhushanam would attain the heights of a pioneer in Library Service to his countrymen, almost on the lines of a Panizzi and Edward Edwards of England; Herbert Putnam and William Warner Bishop of U.S.A. Leibniz of Germany. Nagabhushanam, with his conviction that one informed individual is an asset to the State, programmed a kind of Library Service which penetrated the hearth and home, the hamlet and cottage on the banks of the Godavari and Krishna in the Andhra Pradesh. To carry head loads of books transported by means of country boats, to the door of people and create a new dimension to their way of life was given to Nagabhushanam, who possessed a stout heart and equally a stout mind to implement a
programme of that type when the state had not stet the field. It was much later, in early 1950's that Public Libraries Act (PLA) came into operation and forged ahead what the missionary of Library Service had planned and commenced.

We have been hearing off and on about the silent but effective work and progress of Nagabhushanam. He has become a real Karma Yogi, for a true Karma Yogi performs tapas not for his, but for the good of others, and does not expect any kind of appreciation or reward from any quarter, so has been Nagabhushanam. It is only very appropriate but rather late that the Andhra University could confer the Honorary Award of ‘KALAPRAPURNA’ on him.

Let me assure my readers that I, as a teacher does in the least claim to be responsible to produce a Nagabhushanam, for the germ of Library Service, was already there in him, which could sprout and get nourished by the scientific approach to Library Service. On the other hand, I confess that Paturi made me a good teacher of Library Science, as I always believe that a teacher in Library Science only instructs the concepts and ideologies, the methods and functions of Librarianship and never assumes that he or she, who comes in contact with his teaching, would become a Nagabhushanam. So I tell my students even today that I do not teach in order you pass your examinations but in order that you may comprehend the dimensions and philosophy of Librarianship, its capabilities in the service of the community. This is what Nagabhushanam has taught me and confirmed my conviction.
If the Tamil Nadu could be proud of an idealist in Library Service in late Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, the Andhra Pradesh can equally be proud of a pragmatist in Library Service in Paturi Nagabhushanam. He will remain forever, in the annals of Library history of India, an inspirer and true saint of the community.

**A MAN OF PERSPIRATION**

Idealism inspires man and man aspires to attain the ideal, to transcend the real and to rise above his environment. Not merely inspiration but also perspiration should be there in order to render a person attain his ideal in life. Paturi Nagabhushanam has been a man of inspiration and aspiration, no doubt, but above all he has been a man of perspiration, a man of toil and a man of soil. Work, work and work alone has been his worship. It is his selfless work that raised him from an ordinary person to an extraordinary person of service to humanity through library Movement, especially in Andhra Pradesh.

We are very young in those days when Nagabhushanam was directing the excellent library at Pedapalem, his native village in Guntur district and thus he used to give impetus to our cultural appetites by providing us books of various interests.

His fulfillment of life lies in his services to the cause of Library Movement in Andhra Pradesh.