

His first and astronomical work is always designated by himself as his *Karaṇa* or *Karaṇa grahāṇām*, and we know only from Bhaṭṭa Utpala, Albírúní, and others, that its title was *Pancasiddhāntikā*, a name derived from its being founded upon the five *Siddhāntas*. Albírúní in speaking of *Karaṇas*, as a kind of astronomical work, defines them as works forming a sequel to the *Siddhāntas*, or as Reinaud seems to interpret the Arabic word *tábi*, being subservient to the *Siddhāntas*.^{*} That, however, is not the common acceptation of the term; a *Karaṇa* differs from a *Siddhānta*, in this respect, that in the latter the calculations refer to the beginning of the Yuga, in the former to the S'áka era. As to the word itself, it means simply, "calculation," as is proved by the juxtaposition of *grahāṇām*, one might say "mathematical operation."—About the contents of the *Karaṇa Pancasiddhāntikā* Albírúní (*Mém. sur l'Inde*, p. 332) expresses himself thus: "Varáha-mihira has composed astronomical tables, in a small volume, to which he has given the title of *Pancasiddhāntikā*. One would be led to suppose that these tables contained the substance of the five forementioned works (*the 5 Siddhāntas*), and that they are substitutes for those; but that is by no means the case." Now, the manner in which Varáha-mihira speaks of his treatise,[†] and the numerous quotations from it, given by Utpala, leave not the slightest doubt about the nature of the work, and show that it was, like other *Karaṇas*, a book with a regular text, in his favourite *Āryá* metre.[‡] The tables Albírúní mentions may

posing even that the passage stands at its right place, which is far from certain, it is readily explained by the supposition that he edited the *Horá* and the *Sanhitá*, as a whole, at the same time, or that he wrote after completing the whole at the end of each part, or volume, those notices which, in a certain manner, correspond to our prefaces.

^{*} Reinaud, *Mémoire sur l'Inde*, p. 335.

[†] See *Brh. Sanh.* I. 10; V. 18; XVII. 1; XXIV. 5.

[‡] Cf. Colebrooke, *Algebra*, p. XLVII. and note. In passing, it may be remarked that the *Āryá* metre seems to have been in general favour in the days