

which gives out a wealth of information and helpful suggestions to ensure a steady progress. Along with the Sanskrit verse I have given a free translation and a running commentary, wherein I have not confined myself to the direct bearings upon the words of the verse. These verses have great suggestive wealth which, when made available, can profitably be made use of even in our day-to-day marketplace activities.

A word of advice – The seeker should carefully read three or four verses everyday, and cogitate over them while pursuing his mundane activities. Only guidelines are given here. Deep, independent thought by the reader is a must, only then will there be satisfactory results.

It has been a painful ecstasy, all through the preparation of this manuscript. Painful because the commentaries were written during a confusingly long period of the last three or four years. I had first brought out the opening hundred verses in a volume but thereafter, the pressure of work being so great I could not find the necessary leisure for cogently expressing the pregnant suggestions of these brilliant verses of Ācārya Śaṅkara.

In order to drive home the philosophical meaning of these subtle verses, while talking to my students, in Sandeepany Sadhanalaya, I often had to repeat and at moments I had even indulged myself in lengthy digressions. These lectures were taped.

All these furlongs of tapes were carefully and laboriously taken by Miss Kanta (Hawaii) with her tape-recorder and they were all industriously transcribed by two diligent members of the Mission – Śrī Bhatia (Godrej) and Śrī Radhakrishnan (Railways). These voluminous manuscripts were sent to Uttarkashi when I was last there and to chop and slice them into shape was in fact more laborious than dictating the entire lot afresh.

In the final editing and preparation of the manuscript, Miss Bharathi Naik helped with great devotion.