Prologue

Devarși Kalānātha Śāstrī

It would be a matter of immense satisfaction for hundreds of thousands of devotees of Lord Hanumān to know that the holy text of forty sacred verses of *Hanumān-Cālīsā* dedicated to the great *rāmabhakta* Hanumān who is worshipped as a godhead in India for so many centuries is now published with not only its translation into English but also a gloss, annotation, and expansion of its content rendered in English accompanied by a Roman transliteration, musical notations, relevant notes, prosodic analysis, etc. which anoints it as a *śāstra*. We all know that *Hanumān-Cālīsā* commonly believed to have been written by Gosvāmī Tulasīdāsa-jī is also believed to possess occult powers, its chanting results in divine blessings, hence it is treated as a talisman recited in sacred performances by devotees in many parts of India.

Looking to this religious significance of this text Svāmī Rāmabhadrācārya-jī, a revered saint of *Rāmānanda* Sampradāya, a great scholar of Sanskrit and many other languages, the life-time chancellor of a university in Chitrakoot devoted to the education of differently abled people, wrote an erudite and elaborate gloss of Hanumān-*Cālīsā* called its Mahāvīrī Ţīkā which not only annotates the verses of the text but also elaborates and embellishes the content of it in the praise of Lord Hanumān with so many valuable quotations from many Sanskrit texts and other vernacular texts. This Mahāvīrī Ţīkā should have exhilarated thousands of readers and devotees for over three decades as it was published in 1980s and then went out of print over these years.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that Srī Nityānanda Miśra who is himself a scholar, an engineer, a versatile genius and a disciple of Srī Rāmabhadrācārya-jī Mahārāja took up the task of reproducing this *Mahāvīrī Ṭīkā* not only by translating it into English but also by supplementing it with Devanagari text and its Roman transliteration along with musical notations and other annotations. In this way the *Hanumān-Cālīsā* assumes a global acceptability in so many ways since it will help its chanters and singers all over the world in chanting and singing it with deeper understanding.

Mr. Miśra gives English translation of the verses with word-to-word translation of some portions, reproduces quotations of numerous verses of *Kavitāvalī*, *Rāmacaritamānasa*, *Vinayapatrikā*, *Hanumān-Bāhuka*, etc. cited in the *Mahāvīrī* <u>Tīkā</u> by giving their Roman transliteration and also translates them into English. He enriches the <u>Tīkā</u> with notes and references also. The alphabetical index in the end would also prove helpful for referencing.

This elaborated edition of *Hanumān-Cālīsā* titled as '*Mahāvīrī*: *Hanumān-Cālīsā* Demystified' comprising the text, its wonderful commentary, gloss, annotations, notes, etc. will certainly exhilarate hundred thousands of devotees and other readers also. The editor-translator Srī Nityānanda Miśra and the publisher Nirāmaya publishing house both deserve profuse felicitations on this new arrival. I send my cordial good wishes on this occasion.

Devarși Kalānātha Śāstrī Member, Sanskrit Commission, Government of India Chairperson, Modern Sanskrit Chair, Jagadguru Ramanandacharya Rajasthan Sanskrit University Chief Editor, Bhāratī—Sanskrit monthly (Formerly President, Rajasthan Sanskrit Academy; Director of Sanskrit Education and Language Department, Government of Rajasthan) C/8, Prithviraj Road, C Scheme, Jaipur 302001

राष्ट्रपति-सम्मानित

देवर्षि कलानाथ शास्त्री

(भूतपूर्व अध्यक्ष, राजस्थान संस्कृत अकादमी एवं निदेशक, संस्कृत शिक्षा एवं भाषा विभाग, राजस्थान सरकार) अध्यक्ष, आधुनिक संस्कृत पीठ, ज.रा. राजस्थान, संस्कृत विश्वविद्यालय प्रधान सम्पादक ''भारती'' संस्कृत मासिक सदस्य, संस्कृत आयोग, भारत सरकार

मो: +91-फोन: (0141) अध्यक्ष, मंजुनाथ स्मृति संस्थान सी-8, पृथ्वीराज रोड जयपुर-302001

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PROLOQUE

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