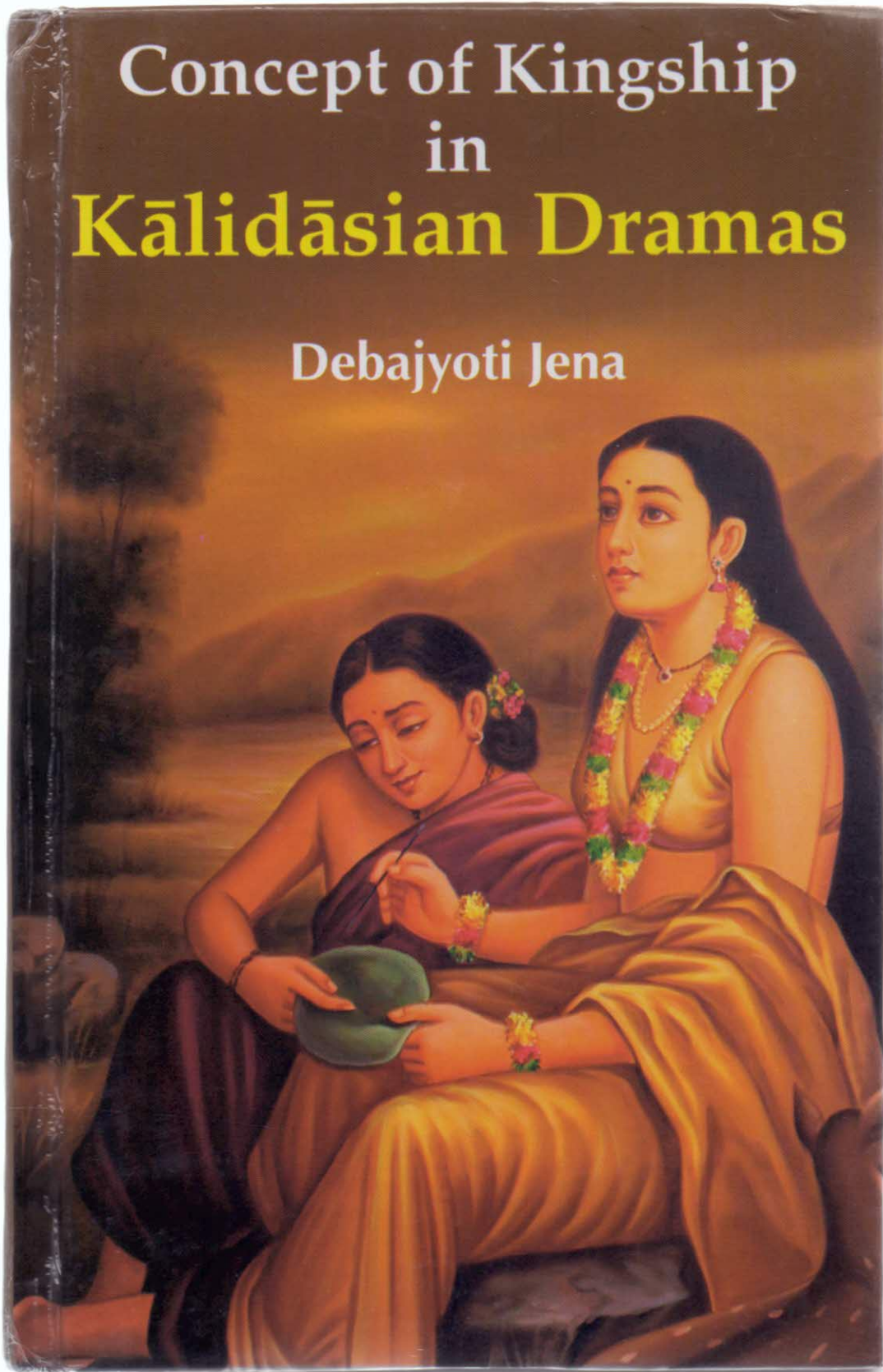


Concept of Kingship
in
Kālidāsian Dramas

Debajyoti Jena



**Concept of Kingship in Kālidāsian
Dramas**

Concept of Kingship in Kālidāsian Dramas

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Foreword

It gives me immense pleasure to introduce the book *Concept of Kingship in Kalidasian Dramas* by Dr. Debajyoti Jena, Faculty of Sanskrit, SCSVMV University, Kanchipuram which is going to be published. Dr. Jena has gone through the Dramas of the great poet Kalidasa and established the Socio-political condition of the society in this book, which was clearly depicted by poet Kalidasa through his writings.

The present book is based on the original writings of the great poet Kalidasa, The author has tried to find out the Concept of Kingship, the role of the king in state administration, Tax and Revenue system, Punishment etc. from the Drama-s of Kalidasa in the light of Arthaśāstra and Manusmṛiti.

The present work was originally approved for the award of the degree of Ph.D. under my guidance in the year 2001. I am very much glad to note that the book is highly enriched in noble content and marvelous thought with proper methodological approach.

I congratulate Dr. Debajyoti Jena for bringing out this book and assure that this will serve the need of the scholars, readers, and the lovers of the poet Kalidasa.



Prof. Dr. Vishnu Potty V.S.
Vice-Chancellor (Officiating)
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Acknowledgement

First of all, I adorn the Holy feet of The Jagadgurus, His Holiness Jagadguru Sri Chandrasekharendra Saraswati Swamiji, His Holiness Jagadguru Sri Jagendra Saraswati Swamiji and His Holiness Jagadguru Sri Sankara Vijayendra Saraswati Swamiji of the Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham. I put my Pranama to the feet of the holy sages and record my sincere gratitude for their blessings.

I express my deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to my revered teacher Prof. Dr. Vishnu Potty. V.S., Vice-chancellor, SCSVMV University, Kanchipuram, for guiding me in the preparation of this book and also for taking effort of writing the foreword to this book. The present shape of this book is due to his untiring help and valuable inspiration.

I am also grateful to Prof. Dr. Naryana Jee Jha, Dean (Arts & Humanity) & Director, Adi Sankara Study Centre and Prof. Dr. Gullapalli Srinivasu, Registrar, SCSVMV University, for their scholarly acumen, valuable suggestions and encouragement for the preparation of the book.

I express my sincere thanks to Prof. Dr. Sadasiva Prabhakar, Dr. Madhusudana Mishra, Dr. Niranjana Pati, Dr. (Capt.) Madhusudana Mishra, Dr. J. Krishnan, Dr. Himanshu Shekhar Acarya, Dr. Sampadanand Mishra, Mr. Debendra kumar Jena, Mr. Suresh Kumar Nerendra for their intellectual support and the help at the time of need.

I adore my Parents Sj. Sukadev Jena and Smt. Satyabati Jena, who made me what I am now.

I also give special thanks to my wife Smt. Snehalata Swain, my daughter Devasmita, for extending their co-operation, moral support and encouragement to complete the book.

Dr. Debajyoti Jena

Preface

The Poetic talent and efficiency as revealed in the works of the great poet Kālidāsa brings forth his versatile and deep knowledge in various branches of learning especially in Indian Philosophy, Religion, Social Customs, Political thought, Culture and Tradition. Recent researches on Kālidāsa's work by modern Scholars help us a great deal to understand his dynamic approach to literature. The speciality as well as uniqueness of his works attracts the mind of the scholar in general and the drama in particular where in he has paid great effort to narrate the King's duties and responsibilities through the guidance of *Arthaśāstra* and *Mānasmṛiti*. Kālidāsa's understanding about the Kingship, Role of King in Administration, Tax and Revenue System, Punishment etc., shows his deep knowledge in the Socio-political condition of the Ancient Society. To make an ideal nation, by adopting an ideal King, he has made great effort in his dramas.

The book is only limited with the three dramas of Kālidāsa i.e., *Mālavikāgnimitram*, *Vikramorvasiyam* and *Ashvājītnasākuntalam*. The whole book has divided into six chapters, including introduction and conclusion. The first chapter deals with the significance of the present study and a brief introduction about the Poet Kālidāsa. *Arthaśāstra* and *Mānasmṛiti*, and their code of conduct related to King, his administration; Role and Responsibility have been described in both second and third chapters. The fourth chapter, which is the core of the book, deals with a systematic and detail account of Kālidāsa's vision on Kingship. The fifth chapter

