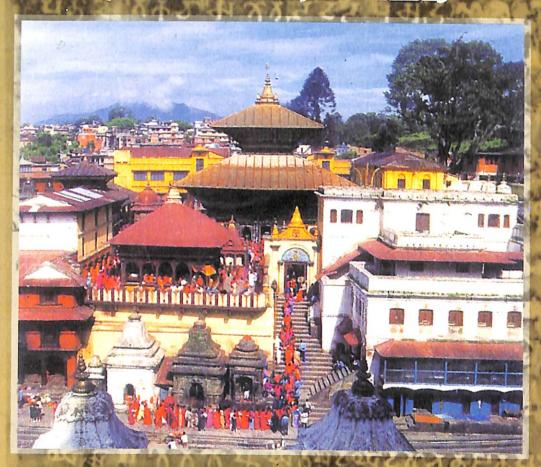
लोकप्रियसाहित्यग्रन्थमाला - 11

## IMPORTANCE OF NEPALESE SANSKRIT INSCRIPTIONS

(ENGLISH-HINDITRANSLATION)



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#### **Preface**

Epigraphy — especially the inscriptional literature - has remained as one of the most authentic sources for unraveling the past and providing glimpses into unknown facets of the history of any country with ancient civilization. Asian countries offer a vast heritage of inscriptional records. For more than a millennium, Sanskrit functioned a potential medium for official documents, records of royal dynasties and above all, the inscriptions; in many of the countries in Asia and South East Asia. Sanskrit Inscriptions have remained invariable sources for updating and re-writing of History, as well as for understanding Culture, not only in case of India, but in case of many of the countries in Asia as well.

Thousands of Sanskrit Inscriptions are available from South East Asian countries like Cambodia, Jawa and Bali (Indonesia), Champa (Vietnam), Burma and Thailand. It is true that Sanskrit has led to the formulation of the cultural mosaic of these countries, at the same time; it is also true that these countries have made valuable contribution to Sanskrit literature through these inscriptions. Sheldon Pollock has rightly pointed out the 'process of rise of Sanskrit cosmopolitan culture' in these countries through which 'a primordial globalization' could be accomplished. It was the aesthetics and a perfect grammatical structure of Sanskrit language that led to cross cultural relationships.

Brilliant studies by scholars like H.B. Sarkar, R.C.Majumdar, D.C. Sarkar, F.D.K. Bosch, George Coede's, Chirapat Prapanfavidya and others have been made on Sanskrit inscriptions of South East Asian countries. However, Sanskrit inscriptions from Nepal have not received adequate attention. R. Gnoli, a well known Italian scholar of Indology and Oriental Studies had done pionee work by collecting and publishing as many as 89 Sanskrit inscriptions from Nepal in Roman script. Unfortunately, Gnoli's work has not been easily accessible

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#### XVIII

## अविलोकितेश्वरनाथ स्थापनाभिलेख

संवत् ४८२ (सन् ५६०)

यह अभिलेख काठमाण्डू में लगन टोले नामक स्थान पर एक जलप्रवाहिका में स्थित अवलोकितेश्वर की मूर्ति के आधार पीठ पर उत्कीर्णित है। उत्कीर्णित भाग लगभग ७७ सै. मी. चौड़ा है इसकी तिथि अपठनीय है।

- २. सर्व्वसत्वहितसुखार्त्याय भगवत आर्य्यालोकितेश्वरनाथप्रतिष्ठापितः देयधर्म्मोऽयं परमोपासकमणिगुप्तस्य
- भार्यया महेन्द्रमत्या सह यद् अत्र पुण्यं तद्ातु मातािपतृपूर्व्वङ्गमं
   कृत्वा सर्व्वसत्वानां सर्व्वाकारवरोपेत- [तथागत स]र्व्वज्ञज्ञानावप्तये।

#### **XVIII**

# Avilokiteshwarnāth set up - inscription

Samvat about 482 (482+78 = 560 A.D.)

This inscription is engraved on the supporting back of the idol of Avilokiteshwara situated in a water-conduit at the place of Lagantole in Kathmandu. The engraved part is about 77 cm. wide. Its timing date is untraceable.

