

NOTICE.



It is a marvellous fact that pursuit of knowledge in all its departments is the dominant passion of this century and has almost become a modern craze; so much so that all petty jealousies and schismatic squabbles, which once proved a stepmother to true progress, are now at an end and men of all creed and colour co-operate in the interests of truth and goodness; public opinion has reached its perfection and with the spread of liberal education, bigotry has given place to a healthy spirit of inquiry into every form of religion in enthusiastic minds: the consequence being a continued demand for more and more light from all quarters. Now as books are the main avenue to knowledge, such an universal demand can only be met with by bringing out new works or by publishing works hitherto buried in oblivion. It is not given me to do the former, nor do I think that modern productions can compare with the time-honoured meritorious works of our ancestors; I have accordingly ventured to contribute my mite in promoting the latter cause.

For ten years, I have taken enormous pains to collect the manuscripts of well known Jain works and I am now in possession of most of the valuable works on Jainism. They comprise chiefly Sanskrit works, such as Kavya, Champu, Nataka, Alankara, Chhandas, Vyakarana, Tarka, Vaidya, Jyotisha, Samudrika, Silpa, &c. I have also collected materials for a History of Jain Literature from the time of Vardhamana, the last Tirthankara (i. e., since B. C. 662 according to the Digambaras). I intend printing off these works with commentaries and biographical sketches of the authors, where available, or with complete explanatory notes in my printing Press, Sri-Bharati Bhavana in a short time, if the public should favour me with their kind suffrage. To make the works accessible to one and all, I propose to start a monthly magazine before April 1893.

The journal will consist of 48 pages Octavo and a portion of it will be devoted to a History of Jain Literature. The annual rate of subscription will be Rs. 3, exclusive of postage. Intending subscribers are requested to send their names to the following address as early as possible that thay may be registered. The subscription may be remitted after the issue of the first number.

In conclusion, I carnestly appeal to all partisans of orientalism, to all benefactors and to the whole enlightened public, to substantially help me in this undertaking by becoming subscribers to this Journal and persuading their friends to do the same, and thereby revive old Jain literature.

BANGALORE, 15th May 1892.



B. PADMARAJA PANDIT, Mysore Archaeological Office,