

**INTRODUCTION TO THE
PA?CARATRA AND THE
AHIRBUDHNYA SAMHITA**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649084128

Introduction to the Pa?caratra and the Ahirbudhnya samhita by F. Otto Schrader

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BY
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ADYAR LIBRARY, ADYAR, MADRAS, S.

1916

PREFATORY NOTE

THE book, small in size but rich in contents, which is herewith placed before the public, has been written by a prisoner of war during his captivity at Ahmednagar, though some of the materials on which it is based had, fortunately, been collected by him before the War broke out. Only three of the Saphita MSS. of the Adyar Library, namely those of nos. 8, 70 and 195 of the synopsis on pp. 6 fl., which were acquired recently, have remained entirely unknown to Dr. Schrader.

The burden of seeing the work through the press has fallen on the undersigned who, though having done all in his power to acquit himself honourably of his task, is fully aware of its difficulties and of the inadequacy of his knowledge of Sanskrit to cope with these with complete success. It was impossible under such circumstances to produce an absolutely faultless work; still, a glance at the list of Additions and Corrections will show that the purely typographical errors found by the Author in the printed sheets are of a trifling nature. Two omissions in the MS., however, have caused a few words of importance to fall out which must be restored at once. These omissions are given in the Errata for p. 16, l. 12 from bottom, p. 32 l. 6 from bottom, and p. 42 l. 10. The reader should also correct immediately the erratum for p. 24.

The Author has undoubtedly doubled the value of his monograph by adding to it copious Indexes and a detailed synopsis of the contents. Together they render the

whole of the subject-matter of the book in all its categories instantaneously available for reference. Thus the work may preliminarily serve as a concise but encyclopædic reference book on the Pāñcarātra, until it shall be superseded by subsequent more exhaustive publications. The Numeral Index contains some items not found elsewhere in the book.

A personal word in conclusion. The publication of this little work coincides with the severance of the connection with the Adyar Library—though for wholly different reasons—of both Dr. Schrader and myself. I may be permitted to express here my great satisfaction at having had the privilege of watching over the booklet on its way through the press, a last service rendered to the Adyar Library in close and pleasant co-operation with Dr. Schrader, which puts a term to a period of over seven years' daily collaboration with the same aims, in the same spirit and in complete harmony, for the same object.

May Dr. Schrader's last official work performed for the Library enhance the renown of that Institution, and may it be judged to constitute a fit conclusion to his eleven years' tenure of office as Director of the Adyar Library.

The publication of this book also, as that of the two volumes of the text edition of *Ahīrbudhnyā Saṃhitā*, has been greatly facilitated by the courtesy of the military censors at Ahmednagar, to whom our sincere thanks are due.

ADYAR,
August 1916.

JOHAN VAN MANEN,
Assistant Director, Adyar Library.

LIST OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
INTRODUCTORY REMARK	1
I. THE LITERATURE OF THE PĀÑCARĀTRAS	2—26
Inspired and non-inspired literature	2
The name Samhitā and its synonyms	2
Knowledge of the Pāñcarātra in the West, etc	3
Lists of Samhitās	3
Synopsis of five lists	6
Samhitās not mentioned in the lists	11
Samhitās present in Libraries	12
Editions of Samhitās	13
Extent of Samhitā literature.	14
Chronology.	14
Provenience and diffusion	16
<i>Terminus ad quem</i> of original Samhitās	19
Three classes of Samhitās	19
Chronological table of chief Samhitās	20
Later additions in the lists	21
Division into Pādas, Rātras, and Kāṇḍas	22
The name Pāñcarātra.	24
Ten principal subjects.	26
II. THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE PĀÑCARĀTRAS	27—93
1. NIGHTS AND DAYS OF NĀRĀYAṆA	27—29
2. HIGHER OR "PURE" CREATION	29—59
Lakṣmī and Viṣṇu	30
√ Kriyā Śakti and Bhūti Śakti	30
√ The six Attributes (Gūṇas) of God	31
Two sets, totality, three pairs of Attributes	34
Process of emanation	34
The term <i>vyūha</i> ; names of the Vyūhas.	35
The Śaktis of the Vyūhas	36
Two activities of each Vyūha	36
Their creative activities.	37

Their ethical activities	38
In what sense they represent the soul, the mind, and the Ahaṃkāra	39
Twelve Sub-Vyūhas descending from them	41
Another set of twelve " " "	42
Thirty-nine Vibhavas (Avatāras)	42
Primary and secondary Avatāras	47
Origin of the Avatāras from the Vyūhas	48
Plants and inanimate objects as Avatāras	48
Arcā Avatāra, Antaryāmi Avatāra	49
Highest Heaven (Vaikuṅṭha)	49
Withdrawn, or not, in the great Dissolution	50
Heavenly ("Pure") matter	51
The <i>para</i> form of God	51
Its ornaments and weapons	52
The Para and the Vyūha Vāsudeva	53
Śaktis (wives) of Viṣṇu	53
The angels (Nityas or Śūris)	56
The liberated	57
3. INTERMEDIATE CREATION	59—68
The Group-soul or Kūṭasṭha Puruṣa	60
The eight Manus	61
The Māyā Śakti	62
Beginning of evolution; "descent" of the Manus	63
Sheath of Māyā; Niyati	64
Kāla (Time)	65
Gross, Subtle, and Highest Time	66
The Guṇa Body, and the Avyakta	67
4. LOWER PRIMARY CREATION	68—79
Matter, Time, and Soul	68
Origin of Mahat; its synonyms	69
Mahat threefold and eightfold	70
Sojourn of the Manus in Mahat	71
What is Mahat?	72
The threefold Ahaṃkāra	75
The individual Ahaṃkāra, and the Manas	76

The ten elements, and the ten senses	76
Mānavas, Mānavamānavas, Fall of Man	78
5. SECONDARY OR "GROSS" CREATION	79—86
Origin of the Egg (Brahmāṇḍa)	79
Intramundane Vyūhas	81
Plurality of Brahmāṇḍas	81
The Pure Group and the Mixed Group	82
Eight hundred Viṣṇus	85
6. NATURE AND DESTINY OF THE SOUL	86—93
The souls during the Great Night	86
Liberation and Great Dissolution	87
The "obscuration" of the soul, and the divine grace	88
"Atomicity" of the bound, <i>ubiquitas</i> of the liberated soul	90
"Identity" with the Lord, how understood	91
III. THE AHIRBUDDHNYA SAMHITĀ	94—146
1. THE MANUSCRIPT MATERIAL	94—95
2. NAME OF THE SAMHITĀ	95—96
3. PROVENIENCE AND AGE	96—99
4. CONTENTS OF THE SAMHITĀ	99—146
General description	99
The great problem (the Sudarsana)	100
Explanation of the name Sudarsana	101
The Sudarsana as the Kriyā Śakti	102
Involution and evolution	103
Variety of views about creation	104
The Sudarsana as the "support" (<i>ādharma</i>)	105
The Sudarsana as the "measure" (<i>pramāṇa</i>)	107
Rationale of the Avatāras	108
The original Sāstra	108
The five Siddhāntas	109
Fallacious systems	112
The objects of life	113
Bondage and Liberation	114
What system to follow	116