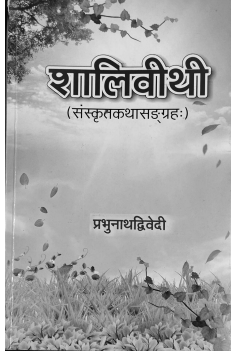


ग्रन्थसमीक्षा



Book Reviewed by

Sukanya Bhattacharjee

Name of the Book : Salivithi

Type : A collection of Sanskrit stories

Writer - Prabhunath Dwivedi,

Publisher - Dr. Vinodrao Pathak, Sharada

Sanskrita Sansthanam, Varanasi-221010, 1st

Edition - 2019,

Price - 250,

Pages - 150.

Prabhunath Dwivedi appears once again in the world of Sanskrit literature with his brand new collection of eleven short stories named *Śālivīthī*. Our author is highly experienced in this stream of literature. He won Sahitya Akademi award in the year 2014 for his story book *Kanakalocana* and Bāṇabhaṭṭa award for the book *Śvetadūrvā* which prove his mastery in this genre. *Śālivīthī* is his fifth collection of stories.

The book deals with different themes in every story. In the very first story, 'Putraisaṇā' author depicts the story of a childless couple and how they have a son like young-Kṛṣṇa at the blessings of god. The second story 'Gītāsvāmī' is the continuation of the first story. Here author depicts the childhood of that boy and how he becomes a sage in his young age. Prabhunath Dwivedi, a retired Professor of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi, originally belongs to the village Bhaisa in the Mirzapur district of U.P. He has spent a major part of his life in Mirzapur. The first two stories of this book build up on the backdrop of Mirzapur. In these stories, our author presents the greatness and divine powers of India's holy places beautifully. In these days of electronic media when people become more techno-savvy and follow western culture blindly, these two stories remind them the spiritual identity of an Indian. In the third story 'Śālivīthī', author portrays the early life of the celebrated poet of Sanskrit literature, Jayadeva. How a young boy named Sushanta belonging to a remote village of Bengal gets well-known as Jayadeva later through his Baul song is depicted here. There is a panoramic resort named Shalibithi in Santiniketan. Our writer might have been impressed by it, when he was a Visiting Professor in Santiniketan. So the title perhaps resembles the name of this resort.

But the real attraction of this story is picturesque presentation of image of Bengal's villages and their life and culture. Next story 'Niyatiḥ' not only focus upon the people belong to lower economy class and their fight for earning daily breads but also on Indian politics, corruption and unemployment. The fifth story gives