DEVI – TANTRA, MANTRA, YANTRA : THROUGH THE AGES

A Thesis Submitted To The

UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI

For the Ph. D (Arts) Degree In Sanskrit

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THESIS

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Shri. SRIDER VASUDEVAN IYER

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FOR

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STATEMENT BY THE CANDIDATE

As required by the University Ordinance No.770, I wish to state that the work embodied in thesis titled

" **DEVĪ - TANTRA, MANTRA, YANTRA : THROUGH THE AGES.**"

forms my own contribution to the research work carried out
under the guidance of Dr. Gauri P.Mahulikar.

at the University of Mumbai.

This work has not been submitted for any other degree of this or any other University. Whenever references have been made to previous works of others, it has been clearly indicated as such and included in the Bibliography.

Signature of Candidate

Name Srider V.Iyer

Certified by

Signature of Guide

Name Dr. Gauri P. Mahulikar

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PREFACE

The 'Female Principle' or the Goddess has fascinated me for long. This fascination led into a sort of pondering over the subject at length. 'A Goddess' represents 'Female Genre' in particular. The idea of the study was to realize the true nature of the Goddess and understand how much this female principle has penetrated into the lives of the common man. The identification of the Goddess with a woman and the worthiness of the coinage as "**Strī-Śakti**" or woman power were also in focus especially in these modern days when there is a buzz of women empowerment in the world. The Goddess is viewed from different angles and Her different aspects have been brought forth. Efforts have been made to see that all the major aspects of the goddess are brought forth for better understanding.

Two books to which I'am heavily indebted to are the SVT and the MLRK. These books have never been referred to by any one before. They are a vast treasure house of knowledge pertaining to the worship of the Goddess. The books are an in-exhaustible source of information for the worshipers and researchers alike.

I have tried to include every aspect of the Goddess and tried to make the work as comprehensive as possible. I hope this work will be an invaluable asset to the readers and provide the extra information which they desire and deserve.

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S.V.Iyer

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List of abbreavations used in the thesis.

I.Vedic literature.

ADS= Apasthamba Dharmasutra.

AsvSS= Asvalayana Srauta Sutra

Kat.Sam= Kataka Samhita.

Mai.Sam= Maitrayani Samhita

GDS= Gautama Dharmasutra.

Go.Br= Gopatha Brahmana

RV= Rg Veda.

YV= Yajur Veda.

SV= Sama Veda.

AV= Atharva Veda.

Tai.Sam= Taitariya Samhita.

Vaj.Sam= Vajaseyana Samhita.

Ait.Br= Aiteraya Brahmana.

Jai.Br= Jaiminiya Brahmana.

Tai.Br= Taitiriya Brahmana.

Sat.Br= Satapata Brahmana.

Sam.Br= Samavidhana Brahmana.

Nir.= Niruktam of Yaska.

BDS= Bhaudayana Dharmasutra

Bau.Gr.S= Bhaudayana Grhyasutra.

BrD= Brhaddevata.

Man.Gr.S= Manava Grhyasutra.

San.Gr.S= Sankhyayana Grhyasutra.

Kat.Gr.S= Kataka Grhyasutra.

Why diacritical marks ~~not~~ not used in a Thesis?

Wrong Spellings of Skt. Works.

MUp.= Mundaka Upanisad.

VDs = Vasista Dharmasutra

YDS= Yagnyavalkya Dharmasutra

Br.Sam= Brhat Samhita.

MS= Manusmriti

YadS= Yadynavalkya Samhita

II. Tantra Literature.

GST= Guptasadhana Tantra

GT= Gautamiya Tantra

MLRK= Mahalakshmi Ratnakosa.

MBT= Matrkabheda Tantram.

MMD= Mantra Mahodadhi

BTS= Brhat Tantrasara.

NUS= Nityotsava of Umanandanatha.

NT= Nila Tantram.

NTS= Nisvasa Tattva Samhita.

SLT= Sri Laksmi Tantram.

STT= Sharadatilaka Tantram.

SVT= Srividyarnava Tantram.

SYT= Siva-Yamala tantram.

KaT= Kamakhya Tantram.

KamT= Kamamalini Tantram.

Kul= Kulavali.

KumT= Kumari Tantram.

Kubj= Kubjika Tantram.

KuT= Kularnava Tantram.

KVT= Kalivilasa Tantram.

MCK= Mahacinacarakrama.

MBT= Matrkabheda Tantram

PST= Prapancasara Tantram.

KKV= Kamakala Vilasa of Punyanandanatha.

Rudy= Rudrayamala Tantra.

YT= Yoni Tantra.

PKS= Parasurama Kalpasutra.

TT= Tantraraja Tantram.

III. Puranas.

SP= Siva Puranam.

VP= Visnu Puranam.

KP= Kali Puranam.

LP= Linga Puranam.

BrP= Brahmanda Puranam.

BVP= Brahma Vaivarta Puranam

BhP= Srimad Bhagavata Puranam.

MP= Matsya Puranam.

VaP= Vayu Puranam.

DBP= Devi Bhagavata Puranam.

DSS= Durga Saptasati.

MarP.= Markandeya Puranam.

IV. Secular and Profane Literature.

Ram.= Ramayana.

MBh.= Mahabharata.

MM= Malati Madhavam.

MD= Meghadootam.

KS= Kumarasambhavam

Authors
Editor 2.

V. Dictionaries, Encyclopaedias and Lexicons.

TSSED= The Students Sanskrit English Dictionary of V.M.Apte.

ET= Encyclopaedia of Tantra.

ABC= Abhilasitartha Cintamani

DTS= Dictonaries of Tantra Sastra

DVR= A Dictionary of Vedic Rituals.

Author/Editor 8.

Proper Research
methodology

PP-56&57
Wrongly bound → not followed

e.g. diacritical marks,
italics. order of
inverted commas initials/surnames
etc

Wrong t.terms

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