



Vaddera Chandidas taught philosophy at Sri Venkateswara University at Tirupati, India. His novels *Himajwala (Flame of Snow)* and *Anukshanikam (Eternal Momentariness)*, and his short story collection *Chikatlonunchi Cheekatloki (From Darkness into Darkness)* set new trends in Telugu literature.

A. Raghuramaraju is presently guest faculty at the Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati, India. His publications include *Modern Frames and Premodern Themes in Indian Philosophy: Border, Self and the Other* (2017), *Debating Vivekananda: A Reader* (as editor, 2015), and *Philosophy and India: Ancestors, Outsiders and Predecessors* (2014).

In *desire and liberation* Vaddera Chandidas creates a new metaphysical system. He bases this on earlier Indian traditions of sutra literature. The author rejects major convergences in philosophy from both India and the West, especially on the ontological primacy of non-being that results in permanence, which he posits as a mere project of the intellect. He is opposed to the idea of permanence, which renders unreliable anything that is not permanent but changing. Thus, desire, which is not permanent, is marginalized. Chandidas points out that contradictoriness is the structural 'tinge' of reality. Therefore, in his philosophy all that is claimed to be permanent is marginal and derivative of the intellect.

A. Raghuramaraju has curated and edited this volume, which proposes a major breakthrough in the field of philosophical studies. The volume reproduces not only *desire and liberation* and Kalidas Bhattacharyya's introduction to it, but also the letters that Bhattacharyya wrote to Chandidas, and Chandidas's own commentary on his text.

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Desire and Liberation

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Desire and Liberation

edited and with a new introduction by
A. Raghuramaraju



Biography of a Text by
Vaddera Chandidas

'This monograph is replete with novel concepts and novel interpretation of traditional ones. The beauty of the monograph lies as much in the details he [Chandidas] has developed as in its general architectonic plan, perhaps more in the former than in the latter.... The last few pages of the monograph, dealing with temporality, eternity, time, past, present, future, duration, growth, decay, evolution, involution, cosmic march toward 'superfection', jealousy, affection, personate and impersonate immortality, beastliness, saintliness, desire, liberation, ecstasy, etc., are refreshingly original and snowcap the beautiful awesome peaks he had raised from underground by a few sudden explosions in the first few pages of the monograph.'

(From the Introduction by
Kalidas Bhattacharyya)