

# THE RAGHUVAMSA

(IN ENGLISH VERSE)



R. SESHADRI.

# THE RAGHUVAMSA

(Sri Kalidasa's Great Epic in English Verse)

WITH THE FOREWORD OF

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BY

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Advocate, Ramnad.

FIRST EDITION.

1939

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THIS POETIC WREATH

Is Dedicated

TO

**SRI BHARATHA MATHA**

Who as the Divine Mother

INSPIRED

**The Prince of Poets, Kalidasa**

BY THE AUTHOR.

# FOREWORD.

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IT is a privilege and a pleasure to write a foreword to this poetic translation of the greatest poem of one of the world's immortals. I have known the author for some years as a child of the Muses and as a finely attuned soul. He belongs to a line of scholarly poets and poetic scholars. He showed the poem to me when I was at Madura some years ago but has kept it till now without publication owing to a natural feeling of diffidence. The cadences and splendours of English verse are always tantalising—very attractive, very near, and yet very far. As one to whom the poignant and pleasurable pangs of writing English poetry are not unknown, I can very well realise both the daring and the diffidence. "There is a pleasure in poetic pains which only poets know" says the gentle Cowper in his Task.

Task—that is the appropriate word. The author has set to himself a difficult task and has done it well. The original poem is a favourite in India all over the land, with the young as well as the old, with the dabblers in learning as well as the great scholars of the land. The note of humility sounded by the immortal poet at the beginning of his immortal poem is one of the most charming traits in his character. "My effort is like the threading of the gem already pierced by a diamond pin" says the poet. The author has approached the poem in the same humility of spirit. He translates thus—in words which echo his own mood also—another verse revealing the poet's modesty

"How shameless I covet the fame  
The meed deserved by poets great  
Even like a dwarf with upraised arm  
For a fruit above his height".



An interesting study of the poem is needed to-day more than ever before, in India. Of all the poets in India, Kalidasa had the intensest patriotism and the clearest vision. In the very first verse of his Kumara-sambhava he suggests that the Indian culture is the standard for all the cultures in the world. He lived in a great and glorious epoch—an era of great prowess and great refinement and great luxury—and felt apprehensive that wealth and pleasure might corrode the soul of India. He meant the Raghuvamsa to be a record, a prophecy and a warning. The poem begins with the morning roseate tints but sets in gloom. Did Kalidasa end it with Agnivarna's reign to warn India to beware of the deadly future? India fell from her high estate and has grovelled in the dust. She is now in a mood of self-awareness and self-assertion. But till the secret of the splendour of Dilipa's reign is caught again, till power goes with penance and purity and pity, till village and town and TAPOVANA are interlinked and inter-dependent, India's re-ascent into greatness will not be.

It is such a poem that the author presents to us in English verse. He deserves public appreciation and approbation. If a poet's early work is read and praised—albeit it is not of supremely first-rate quality—there will be a spur to better and ever better achievement. More valuable work is lost to the world by the blight of neglect falling on the early blossoms in the Muse's garden than from any other cause. I wish the author not only a minstrel's rapture but also a minstrel's reward—the plaudits of his people.

Madras

9th February 1939

**K. S. RAMASWAMI SASTRI.**

# THE RĀGHUVAMSA.

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## I CANTO.

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1. The Universal parents divine  
    To Parvathi and Parameshwar I bow  
Who like sound and sense combine  
    That my songs too so may flow.
2. How illustrious the Solar line !  
    Then my powers, how poor !  
Could a small boat cross the surging brine  
    With a sailor who simply oars.
3. How shameless I covet the fame  
    The meed deserved by poets great  
Even like a dwarf with upraised arm  
    For a fruit above his might.
4. In precious gems by diamonds bored  
    How easy pass the string  
So is mine, as ancient bards  
    Have sung of these kings.
5. Of kings of purest blood  
    Who fruitless no endeavours cease  
Whose chariots the heavens resound  
    With realms up to the seas.
6. Who pure their sacred fires maintain  
    Who give to the hearts' desire  
Who punish duly their subjects' crime  
    Who guard vigilantly ever.

7. Who gather riches to give ,  
Who speak brief for truth  
Who win alone for glory  
Who marry for progeny forsooth.
8. Who learn when they are young  
In manhood the desires fulfil  
In old age join the hermitage  
And in yoga give up their earthly cell.
9. Of such noble line of kings  
Fired by their storied splendour  
Ambitious I just now sing  
Though dowered by elequence poor.
10. This song to the wise I bring  
Who discern alone the right from wrong  
The pristine gold from the dross that clings  
What shows if not the fire melting?
11. The Father of the purple Crowns  
Vaiwaswatha Manu once reigned  
Esteemed 'The Fore most' by seers renowned  
As in the Vedas even the Pranava's known.
12. In his pure great Solar line  
Dilipa the purest was born  
As from the waves of the milky ocean  
The Silver Moon first shone.
13. Broad was his mighty chest  
His shoulders brawny like the humps of bulls  
Like the Sala tree, his noble height  
He was the incarnate warrior full.
14. Like the glowing Meru towering  
Over the mountains of the world  
He stood in lustre dazzling  
In his prowess unequalled.

15. As his mighty form, so his intellect keen  
Alike well informed, his learning deep  
And even as his learning, were his designs  
Whose success he never failed to reap.
16. His court before his sublime person  
Trembled, though they loved him still  
As awe inspires the mighty ocean  
Where there are treasures but with monsters-  
full.
17. Even as his chariot rolls  
Straight on the beaten road  
So by a hair they never stroll  
His subjects from Manu's Code
18. For his subject's several good alone  
He wisely raised his royal share  
As the Sun from waters draws unseen  
Only a thousand-fold to shower
19. Not alone by his armies' might  
He won that great renown  
But by his commanding keen insight  
And the bow in his doughty arm
20. Privy, was his council wise  
His actions, his policies concealed  
Which were only by fruits realised  
As Karma in its influence revealed
21. Fearless, he yet protected his frame  
He gave though never ill  
Though avaricious not, he earned his name  
Passionless, enjoyed still
22. Silence, he attained though in wisdom versed  
Powerful, but with mercy crowned  
His sacrifice, to others he never expressed  
These opposites with him, were they first born.

23. Not by sense pleasures involved  
He saw the learning's shore  
He reigned by virtues well beloved  
Young, but old in lore
- 24 His subjects, by protecting from fear  
Regulating, maintaining them  
Sure he was their real father  
The other for birth alone in name
25. He punished those that did oppress  
He married for progeny alone  
The noblest, his quest for Love and Riches  
Seemed only Dharma not distinct as known
26. He milked the earth for sacrifice  
And so Indra for crops milked the skies  
Thus exchanging by this strange device  
They protected the twin hemispheres
27. How could they, the kings of earth  
Be able to follow his glory's height  
When thieving in his realm became extinct  
Only a name in his old Statute.
28. The virtuous though his enemies  
Even as medicine to the sick he loved  
But friendly though, he shunned the vicious  
Like fingers chopped by snakes poisoned.
29. Sure Brahma did create him  
All virtues moulded in one  
How! Did not his endeavours aim  
For the general good alone.
30. Girt by the seashore rampart  
And the oceans the ditches even  
This great earth under none once past  
As one vast city he reigned.

31. He possessed for his spouse  
For her courtesy far-renowned  
Born in the royal Maghada house  
A lady Suthakshena by name.
32. Though in his palace lived  
His several royal wives  
A fortune he prized by her to leave  
A worthy son for his race.
33. Thus with desire for a son  
He shared her graceful pleasure  
But though for long the years wore on  
He was not blessed with his treasure.
34. Now to attain his desire resolved  
His royal burden placed down  
Upon ministers whom he ever trusted  
With charge to guard the realm.
35. Then the royal couple turned  
With pure hearts to Brahma pray  
All their hopes, now centred  
On Vasishtha's Ashram, far away.
36. As in a dark cloud overhanging  
The lightning-creeped white Airavatha slide  
So on a chariot sweetly thundering  
Graceful they shone closely inside.
37. For fear of troubling the hermitage  
They went with retinue small  
But so illustrious the personages  
As though an army all.
38. Greeted them the delicious breeze  
Laden with flowery golden dust  
Sweet-scented by the gum of Sala trees  
In that rustling-rich forest.

39. From the thundering noise of the chariot  
Above the peacocks glanced  
Their jocund cries in high merriment  
Pleased them as they graceful danced.
40. Just by the road-side stood  
As the pair on the rattling car  
Their frightened wild gaze fixed  
A pair of fawns afar.
41. The lines of snowy cranes above  
Like festoons in the sky  
Not hung up in pillared row  
Passed in joyous cry.
42. The favouring gentle breeze  
Carried success on to them  
And the dust-clouds too, from horses' hoofs  
That spoilt not their crown.
43. The sweet-scented lotuses in ponds  
Cool, by ripple waves  
Fragrant, as their own breath fond  
They inhaled in raptures high.
44. Through villages where stand  
Their former sacrificial posts  
Their recipients, the pure Brahmins send  
Their fruitful blessings, in their course.
45. The herdsmen welcomed their Sovereign  
Presenting him with melted ghee  
While from his Car, he asked the names  
Of the way-side forest trees.
46. Swift on the rattling Car  
Dazzling with white garments, pure  
They shone as after winter over  
The full moon bright, with the Chitra star.

47. The lovely prince to his spouse  
    Showed the beauties of the woodlands passed  
The tedious journey they never realised  
    In admiring-wrapt, as they crossed.
48. In the golden evening hour  
    Exhausted, his chariot steeds,  
Reverential, with his wife together  
    The peaceful Ashram, reached.
49. The hermits from forests, distant, near  
    With Kusa grass, faggots, and fruits  
Beckoned by the Ashram's unseen fire  
    Were gathering from various routes.
50. The fawns were freely sitting  
    Even barring the hermitage door  
Since they were sharers waiting  
    For the hermits' food, before.
51. The young girls of the hermitage watered  
    The shooting growing trees  
Then at once to long distance retired  
    That the wild birds drink them free.
52. As the Sun had sunk in the west  
    On the gathered corn now dried  
The young fawns chewing rest  
    In the Ashram's courtyard wide.
53. The smokes whispering the blazing fire  
    Curling high by breezes to the sky  
Sweet-scented by the oblations shower  
    The distant guests to the Ashram purified.
54. His charioteer commanding  
    To water his exhausted steeds  
He helped his wife now descending  
    Then himself from the chariot jumped.



55. The Sages, the victors over passions controlled  
Welcomed the king with his spouse  
Justly honoured for his glorious rule  
Whose concern gleamed in his eyes.
56. His evening ablutions over  
He approached near great Vasishta inside  
With his wife Arunthathi on floor  
Sitting closely by his side.
57. The king and his wife together  
Prostrated on their holy feet  
The holy parents then with pleasure  
Uttered their blessings sweet.
58. Having now well-refreshed  
The king by the joltings tired  
The sage now inquired afresh  
His kingdom's many affairs.
59. Then before that sage renowned  
In Atharva Veda versed  
The victorious king for eloquence famed  
These weighty words expressed.
60. "When thou, Oh Great, my dangers  
Avertest human and divine  
Would not my kingdom prosper  
And perennial happiness reign."
61. "By thy created Mantras powerful  
Vanquishing enemies unknown  
My arrows only aimed when visible  
Are eclipsed Oh thou Divine !"
62. "The oblations by thee poured  
Duly on the blazing fire  
Even as rains do shower  
On the tender crops that wither."

63. "My subjects live their full age  
By no fears troubled once  
It is by thy lustre Divine Sage  
Are free from famine and floods."
64. "How could my riches fail  
When myself do ever pray  
To thee who is Brahma's child  
And also my Guru grey."
65. "But how could it delight this vast world  
Or even its rich treasures  
When this, thy daughter-in-law unblessed  
With a worthy heir for the race."
66. "Sure after me the funeral cakes  
That none would ever offer  
My ancestors dead unsatisfied make  
A storage of the Shraddh cakes eager."
67. "The water poured by me again  
With heaving sighs they devour  
Expressing sure that after me none  
Would pour for them hereafter."
68. "Fortuned by sacrifices done  
But heirless I live unfortunate  
Even the Lokaloka mountain  
With double sides dark and bright."
69. "The merits from gifts and sacrifice  
Might serve in the other world  
But does not a son if pure his race  
Bring happiness for both the worlds?"
70. "Oh my father why unconcerned  
Thou art when I do grieve  
How would you feel when fruitless turned  
The long grown hermitage tree?"

71. "Even like the stone post strong  
To the frenzied Elephant chained  
So my ancestor's claim to their debts prolong  
Unfulfilled always pain."
72. "Are not the victories of my royal line  
Due to thy blessings great  
Oh father from this trouble thou alone  
Could'st save me by thy wisdom bright."
73. Thus requested by the royal king  
The Great Sage closed his eyes  
And quiet for a moment sat pondering  
Like a deep lake still that sleeps.
74. The Great Sage in deep contemplation  
The root cause now divined  
And to the waiting king then made it known  
What by his clairvoyance seen.
75. "Once after serving Indra in heaven  
Coming to the earth in glee  
On thy way stood Kamadhenu Divine  
Under the Kalpaka tree."
76. "Bent to meet this thy Queen  
Since she had freshly bathed  
You forgot to adore that Cow Divine  
Whose worship you should have made."
77. "So offended the Cow divine  
Cursed thee in this wise  
"He shall not be blessed with son  
But by worship of my race."
78. "That curse was not even heard  
By thy charioteer or thee  
Since by the celestial Ganges play  
The Guardian Elephants free."

79. "It is by that disrespect alone  
To the Divine Cow thou art sonless  
For if respect to the great not shown  
Does it not affect thy prowess?"
80. "Now that Kamadhenu divine  
Is for long in the nether world staying  
Where to the sacrifice named Sattrā drawn  
To furnish king Prasethas offerings."
81. "But if you worship her prime daughter here  
Even as representing her  
Pure with thy wife together  
In her delight you attain thy desire."
82. Ere that great sacrificing Sage  
So was just then finishing  
That young Cow adorning his hermitage  
Named Nandini stood by, gazing.
83. Her frame leaves sprout-hued, on her forehead  
golden  
Was the curving white spot high  
Even like the silver crescent moon  
On the crimson twilight sky.
84. Her generous udders showered  
More pure than sacrificial bath  
Even as she glanced on her little daughter  
Her sweet milk warm, on the earth.
85. Her hoofs-arisen dust shower  
Sanctified the great king near  
Even as the sacred waters together  
Cleanse a pilgrim clear.
86. Then the far divining Sage  
Whose treasure was penance untold  
Success as this divine Cow presaged  
Now the dutiful king addressed.

87. "They success in thy cherished desire  
To thee is surely near  
For this, as her joyous name uttered  
Does not she herself appear."
88. "Faring on forest roots and fruits  
Attend on this Cow divine  
That you might please her ultimate  
As by constancy learning gained."
89. "So start when she begins to start  
Halt as she herself stays  
Sit where she does freely sit  
Quench as her thirst allays."
90. "Let too thy fair dutiful Queen  
Pure worship this cow divine  
Follow her till forest every morn  
And so receive on her evening return."
91. "Until thine object attained  
Firm in this service remain  
Unhampered be thy devotion  
Then thou art the father of thy line."
92. Then the faithful King  
With his queen delighted bowed  
And to the august Sage commanding  
His strict obedience vowed.
93. The austere truthful Sage  
Gave leave to the king to retire  
Radiant with lusture ablaze  
Since it was late night hour.
94. Though the Sage was fully versed  
In reception of royal guests  
He ordered for a couch of kusa grass  
Since the king in his penance should rest

95. Then, in a hermitage, shown by the Sage  
Pure, with his queen on grass  
Till the Ashram, in recitation engaged  
The night, till dawn, he passed.

## II CANTO.

1. Then the monarch, in the early morn,  
Her calf, which was sucking tied  
With sandal and garland, that Cow adorned  
By his Queen, towards forests, freed.
2. The noblest of ladies, the Émperor's Queen  
Followed the divine Cow true  
On her way, hallowed by her hoofs-dust, arisen  
As the Smriti, the Sruti pursues.
3. In his glory fragrant, the merciful king  
Sent back his Queen away  
And as the earth, four ocean-uddered, tending  
So guarded the young Cow, gay.
4. Now for his vow his'retinue small  
He bade them all return  
Why seek succour for their mighty rule  
The kings of the Manu line?
5. With handfuls of sweet grass, by scratching her back  
And driving the forest-flies  
With the young Cow, pacing freely and quick  
The great Lord ardent hied.
6. Standing as she stood, moving as she moved  
Heroic sitting, as she lay  
Drinking as she drank, together followed  
Even like her shadow, stray.

7. Accompanied not by his regal state  
His lustre proclaimed him king  
As the glowing crown lines the frenzied Elephant  
Though unseen his ichor flowing.
8. With creeper-fibres high tied his hair  
He roamed with his full-strung bow.  
As though wild beasts to punish wandered  
Under pretext of guarding the Cow.
9. The green trees of the forests welcomed  
With the song of their birds in glee  
As he seemed like Varuna the God of Clouds  
The Great king passing free.
10. Nodding to the breezes, on the passing king near  
Who lustrous like fire did shine  
The tender creepers their flowers did shower  
As city damsels lagesse rain.
11. Though with a frightening bow, in his arm  
The young doe, in raptures, stood  
Since expressive of mercy, his lovely frame  
On his limbs, her devout eyes, fixed.
12. The bamboos, full with breezes piping  
Loud, through their warbling holes  
Tuned to the Sylvan goddesses, singing  
In their bowers, his glories whole.
13. Laden, with the scent of dancing flowers  
And the spray of the hillside streams  
The breezes greet the pure king, withered  
Sans umbrella by the Sun extreme.
14. The buds now oped, and the fruits did mellow  
And the forest fires quenched  
The strong beasts did not the weak swallow  
On the protecting king's approach.

15. All directions purifying in his course  
The crimson evening Sun  
Hued like the sprouting golden leaves  
And the Cow, towards home inclined.
16. The divine Cow who did the Sage provide  
For his manes, guests, and Gods  
Now by the great king followed  
Like faith with devotion, trod.
17. In the forests, dusk-leaved from the gathering gloom  
The wild hogs ran from ponds  
And the fawns, now seated on lawns, did swarm  
And their boughs up, the peacocks glanced.
18. The young Cow, with her burdening udders full  
Slow moving for her calf away  
And the strong king tired, treading graceful  
Both adorned the forest way.
19. Her returning Lord, behind the Cow  
From the distant woods  
His Queen, whose love-lorn eye-lashes slow  
Drank with her hungry eyes.
20. Before the king, on the forest way  
Now by his Queen welcomed  
The young Cow, as midst night and day  
Like the even twilight, beseemed.
21. Coming round, and worshipping the Cow before  
With Akshatha in a vessel full  
The Queen, like her desires-accomplishing door  
Between her horns, them now sprinkled.
22. Full glad, they conversed that their worship received  
The Cow though for her calf yearning  
Such favours shown by the great who are pleased  
Do they not soon success bring



23. Worshipping his Guru and his virtuous spouse  
And his evening ablutions over  
By the Cow after milking which now did rest  
The triumphant king retired.
24. Attending the Cow with offerings and lights  
The protecting king and his spouse  
Sleeping, as she slept, together that night  
In the morning, as she awoke, arose.
25. In this wise, with desire for a royal son  
The merciful king renowned  
Devout, for three seven days with his Queen  
Tending the Cow, remained.
26. Next day, the divine Cow, to test his zeal  
Into the grass grown Himalaya's cave  
Nigh where the Ganges, from high does fall  
Sudden, her entrance made.
27. Confident, that the Cow from wild beasts immune  
On the Himalaya's grandeur absorbed  
The Cow, just dragged by a pouncing lion  
The Great king never observed.
28. In distress, the Cow's piteous cries  
By the reverberate cave heightened  
Away from the mountain, the great king's eyes  
Dragged, like the leading reins.
29. With the bow in his arm, the mighty king  
Saw the lion on the crimson Cow  
Like the flowering Lódhra tree, hovering  
On a red rock peak above.
30. Ashamed, by the beast's bold onslaught  
With lion's pace, the royal king  
Now to kill him resolved from his quiver sought  
An arrow, for his string.

31. By his nails-lit feathery wings adorned  
On his arrow, his fingers fixed  
His right arm, like a painting with expression drawn  
Suddenly motionless, remained.
32. By the lion, the king his arm spell bound  
And powerless to strike him down  
Like a serpent, by spell and simples bound  
Was consumed by ire within.
33. The wondering lionine king, before  
The banner of his royal line  
The beast on the cow bewildering more  
Addressed in human strain.
34. "Enough, thy prowess, thou royal prince  
On me, no arrow strikes  
Yea! uproots the whirlwind the lofty trees  
But before the mountain, dies."
35. "On Kailas, nigh the lord, on the snow-white bull  
Who bears his feet divine  
Learn ye, I am He, Kumbothara called  
And as Nighumba's friend renowned."
36. "Before thee, thou observest this pine tree, fine  
Him, Siva has adopted his son  
Since by Skanda's mother, he is affectionate grown  
By the milk, from her breast, alone."
37. "Once scratched by the head of an elephant wild  
His lovely skin was torn  
And Parvati grieved as when Skanda bled  
From the demon's guiles forlorn.
38. "The lord of the trident, from elephants wild  
To guard this tree from harm  
For my hunger to feast, nigh the tree, now charged  
Sent myself as a lion, transformed."

39. "Enough, for my repast, this hungry hour  
This bloody Cow, one gained  
As the nectred Moon, blood-red devoured  
For Rahu does remain.
40. "Hence thou mayst without shame return  
Thou art a disciple stern  
For a weapon, that false to the warrior turns  
Mars not his glory, gained."
41. From the august words of the lion before  
The divine cause, full divined  
The king, spell-bound by Siva's power  
His ire, now himself calmed.
42. With his Vajra, radiant like Indra divine  
Powerless, by Siva spell-bound  
The great Lord, who drew his arrow in vain  
Now his answer to the lion, addressed.
43. "Vanquished by thee, Oh lion! my words  
Sure, would be scoffed by all  
But, the minds of beings, since thou dost read  
To thee, would I express, withal "
44. "That Lord, who has made, sustains, destroys  
The animate, and inanimate-worlds  
Reverential, by me are his commands obeyed  
But, for the Sage, his Cow should be saved."
45. "Since the beings nearing, for thy hunger ordained  
On me, thou mayest prey  
For this Cow, who may on the even return  
For her eager calf, away."
46. Now, cleaving the night of the mountain cave  
With his white teeth, bright in twain  
Boisterous, the lion a laughter gave  
And answered the king, again.

47. "The sceptre of this, thy vast Empire  
Thy youth, and this lovely frame  
For a Cow, to lose, to me you appear  
Sans discernment, a fool extreme."
48. "By thy sacrifice, thou savest a Cow alone  
But what loss, the world does share!  
Nay, like a father, for thy subjects reign  
Oh prince! for their long welfare."
49. "But if thou dost fear the Sage, austere  
Who, like fire for his Cow, might rage  
By numberless Cows, with pot-like udder  
His anger is sure assuaged."
50. "Wherefore you risk not, thy body strong  
For royal pleasures, ordained  
Since, as Indra's heavens, on the earth reaching  
Are thy Empire's vast domains."
51. Thus addressing the lion, now silent observed  
And the rebounding mountain cave  
As though, approving to the king, explained  
Echoed those words, aloud.
52. Hearing the bold words of the lion, before  
And pitying the Cow, divine  
Who from below, with tremulous eyes, implored  
Answered the king, again.
53. "For the feeble to protect, a warrior lives  
And so, as a Kshatriya renowned  
Why rule my kingdom, if my duties transgress  
Or with infamy, this life sustain."
54. "How could I quench the Sage's fire  
Even with numberless kine  
When this Cow is divine-born, just like her mother  
Won by Rudra's power, alone."

55. "So, for my royal body's ransom  
Release this Cow, I pray  
In the even, to milk in the hermitage, handsome  
Since, for thy hunger, I stand thy prey."
56. "Thou too, like me, standst here, to guard  
Yea! this pine tree fine  
Wouldst thou tell thy Lord, she is destroyed  
And unscathed, thy skins remain."
57. "If thou hast on me, such kind regard  
Protect my glory's frame  
For my elemental body I disregard  
Which perishes as the wise esteem."
58. "Friendship warm from speech does grow  
So the wise express  
Wouldst thou not to a comrade show  
A favour in dire distress."
59. "So we grant as the lion uttered  
Suddenly his arms relieved  
Throwing his bow his frame offered  
Like a fleshy mass in glee."
60. Then on the king who from below would spy  
The rampant hungry lion  
The sky-skipping fair Vidhyadharas high  
Their flowery-showers just remained.
61. "Oh child rise up" like nectar sweet  
Woke him a thrilling sound  
But what! more milking the Cow did greet  
But nowhere the lion he found.
62. Quoth the Cow "By me this phantom formed  
To test thy royal zeal  
Even death would tremble to do me harm  
Would I become a lion's meal"

63. "Thy devotion to myself, and the Sage divine  
Has pleased me, all along  
Rate not me a, milch Cow alone,  
Ask that boon, thou long."
64. Then prayed the king, that a glorious son  
To his noble Queen, be born  
Who might rename, by his great renown  
Anew, his ancient line.
65. "I grant now, for thy lineage fair  
The boon, which thou dost long  
Drink my milk, the Cow ordered  
In a leafy-cup, formed strong."
66. "My royal share in thy milk I will take  
With the leave of the holy Sage  
Oh mother! after thy calf has sucked  
And thee, milked in the hermitage."
67. Delighted more, by the great king's words  
Now returned the Cow divine  
To the Ashram, ardent by the king followed  
From the Himalayan plains.
68. To the holy Sage, and then to his Queen  
The emperor now expressed  
What by his moon-lit brow divined  
His long cherished success.
69. After milking for oblations, as the calf had sucked  
His remaining royal share  
White as his glory, the milk he drank  
With the Sage's leave entire.
70. In the morn, as the early dinner was over  
After his full-spent fast  
Auspicious, the great Sage blessed the pair  
And prepared for their journey at last.

71. Coming round the fire, the Sage, and his spouse  
 And the divine Cow, with her young Calf gay  
 Lustrous, by the Sage with Akshatha blessed  
 For his capital, he started away.
72. Without jolting on a smooth Car. thundering sweet  
 Seated with his lovely Queen  
 Even like his desire, now coupled with fruit  
 Passed on the woodlands green.
73. Rapt on the king's pale fast-feeble frame  
 As for long he was absent away  
 Hungry, his subjects as on the full Moon, in swarms  
 Insatiate drank on his way
74. Into his flag-flying Ayodhya, like Indra divine  
 He entered, by his citizens, welcomed  
 And like Sesha, who bears the earth's burthen  
 From his ministers, shouldered his realm.
75. As the Moon, from Atri's eyes, the sky once bore  
 Or Ganges did Siva's seed  
 Strong-formed, by guardian angels entire  
 A Conqueror, the Queen conceived.

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### CANTO III.

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1. Like the rising Moon-light oping lilies fair  
 Blooming the eyes of her attending maids  
 The Queen shone, with the fruition of her  
 Lord's desire  
 The pride of her race enshrined.

2. Few Jewels, on her pale body she wore  
And white lodhra flower was her face  
As with the Moon hazy-silvered, with few  
clustered stars  
The night before dawn doth grace.
3. Insatiate, the King kissed stealthily her face  
Oderous with the earth she ate  
As to ponds filled in summer an elephant  
doth trace  
And unsatisfied forever bathes.
4. Resting his chariot steeds on the ends of earth  
Her conquering son, once true  
Since this earth, like Indra would reign beneath  
For the earth, her longings grew.
5. "Why shyly my Queen speaks not her desire  
For what she is secret fond"  
So the lord of North Kosala inquired  
Oft from her attending maids.
6. Full distressing in her pregnancy, as her desiring  
moods  
Diligent were her yearnings fulfilled  
For, to the great King's bow strung in the vast three  
worlds  
What remained not attainable still.
7. Now as her melancholy humours were past  
Large grew her graceful limbs  
As when a creeper, her old seried dress had cast  
With gold leaves gleaming, beseeemed
8. As days wore, her nipples twin darkened  
And her stately breast strong formed  
As though jeering two lotus buds  
On whose crests the bees did swarm.



9. Like the earth blue-garbed with treasures hid  
The King esteemed his Queen  
Or like the Chami tree with fire concealed  
As the Saraswathi unseen.
10. Now, in his love for his Queen full strong  
And from his joy unbound  
High befitting his rank, the generous king  
The Pumsavan holy performed.
11. Though weighed by the Gods-grown heir within  
Hard rising half from her seat  
With tremulous eyes pleasing her lord, joined  
The Queen both her palms, to greet.
12. Confined with the dawn of an heir, now near  
With his royal physicians around  
Like the sky with clouds swarmed, his Queen together  
The King enraptured found.
13. In the auspicious hour on the heaven's floor  
As five planets together enthroned  
The fair Queen like Sachi, her treasure now bore  
As from power, great glory born
14. Then, softly the delicious breezes blew  
And radiant, the horizons shone  
Auspicious, the fire for oblations grew  
As for the world's weal, the great all born
15. From the halo, glowing from the child high-born  
As, smiling on his bed, he dreamed  
The midnight lamps, their light pale grown  
Like a painting full beseeemed.
16. Like Nectar sweet, as his maids announced  
Now the birth of his royal heir  
Save his royal emblems, the King renounced  
All his treasures, for their share.

17. Breezeless, like stirless lotus flowers  
As his eyes, on his child's face, glanced  
His joy full swelled beyond his powers  
Like the deep by the moon, entranced.
18. Coming from his hermitage, by the Sage divine  
As his jatakarm now performed  
Like a diamond well-cut, after born in mines  
Lustrous was the child transformed.
19. The sweet sounds, from the dance of his courtly  
maids  
And their accompaniments, well-played  
Revelled, not alone in his palace, confined  
But resounded in the celestials' way.
20. Now that a glorious heir new born  
Were all his prisons emptied  
And from his ancestor's chains by him long borne  
The monarch by himself freed.
21. As his child would attain the learning's shore  
And his enemies' end full famed  
His victories the king divining before  
His heir, as Raghu, named.
22. By the affections on him by his Sire bestowed  
Strong grew his lovely form  
As by the Sun from his golden rays mellowed,  
Grows daily the moon transformed.
23. As Parvathi and Parameshwar once  
Were rapt when Skanda played  
Or Jayantha, as Sachi and Indra prized  
So his royal parents he swayed.
24. Like the loving Chakravaka pair  
The king and his queen both true  
Though now a child their love did share  
More devout than ever grew.

25. First lisped the child his nurse's words  
And walked by her fingers drilled  
And her palms as she clasped, his sire worshipped  
Whose frame with joy then thrilled.
26. Seating on his lap his lovely child  
Whose touch did Nectar rain  
The King drank bliss, his eyes half-closed  
And so for long remained.
27. His creation by Vishnu's preserving grace  
Secured, as Brahma deemed  
So from Raghu, his ancient royal race  
Fortuned, his Sire esteemed
28. After tonsure Raghu with ministers' lads  
In dangling locks adorned  
As through river, into vast ocean pass  
Sailed, by alphabat, into learning's main.
29. Now invested with thread, as he grew twice born  
Proud well by his preceptors trained  
In him, with fruition their Sciences shone  
As full harvest from good land gained.
30. All directions steady as the Sun compassed  
By his wind steeds drawn along  
So the four-fold ocean-lore he crossed  
Raghu, by his powers strong.
31. Loin-clad, in the skin of spotted deer  
Doughty, in the bow attained  
From his Sire, since first as in royal power  
He, in archery too, remained,
32. Growing from adolescence, like a dauntless bull  
Or an elephant in lordly prime  
So Raghu, in his mellowing manhood full  
Shone majestic, in youthful bloom.

33. Now, by his Sire he was in wedlock bound  
Well sheared his bachelor's hair  
And as the wedded stars which the moon surround  
His wives his happiness shared.
34. Strong like the door, was his chest, full broad  
And Yoke-like long his arms  
And in his mighty neck, through his Sire excelled  
Yet, to his will conformed.
35. So his royal burden by him long borne  
To lighten now resolved  
Prizing his humility, his dutiful son  
Yuvaraj, his Sire installed.
36. The auspicious Queenly Lakshmi fair  
Who for noble virtues yearn  
As from a lotus to a blooming lily repair  
Graced the Yuvaraj by her charms divine.
37. Like the blazing fire mated with wind  
Or the Sun in autumnal sky  
Like the ichor-crowned elephant, dazzlingly blind  
Shone with Raghu, his Sire high.
38. Now charging Raghu, with his princely train  
Bow armed, in his steed's command  
Full Aswamedhs, the king like Indra divine  
Hundred less one performed.
39. Starting for one more from sacrificial ground  
His unhampered triumphant steed  
Unseen by archers, invisible bound  
Was by Indra dragged with speed.
40. Sudden, the army of crown prince, stunned  
Stopped, woe and wonder seized  
When, divine Cow Nandini far renowned  
Her presence was by all espied.

41. Now wiping, his eyes with her holy water  
Dilipa's son esteemed  
Perceived a world invisible yonder  
Since with subtler vision he gleamed.
42. Oft whipped by his charioteer, for his restive speed  
In a car by chords well-bound  
Mount-mowing Indra's prisoner his steed  
Over eastern heavens he found.
43. Assuring he was Indra from his myriad eyes  
And from his golden steeds  
In a mighty strain, high, on the resounding sky  
As though turning him, Raghu addressed.
44. "Oh Indra, thee the wise declare  
The prime sharer in a sacrifice  
When for yagna, my Sire does now endeavour  
Why displeased, to blast him rise!"
45. "Oh Lord of three, worlds! who the unseen foes  
Of sacrifice, for ever hound  
If thou, those self-same rites oppose  
The world must sure confound."
46. "Hence, Oh Indra! this sacrificial steed  
Befitting thee return  
For the Great who lead as scriptures read  
Mean course for ever spurn "
47. Accosted high, in this stately strain  
Amazed, the celestial Lord  
His chariot straight did towards him turn  
And began his answer hard.
48. "Thine words are true, but my gloried name  
From my foes must I sure maintain  
For thy Sire, by this, my world-wide fame  
To rob he does surely strain."

49. "As Vishnu alone Purushotham famed  
Or Maheshwar is Siva known  
So by sages Sathakrit I am alone surnamed  
None other such fame attain."
50. "Hence like Kapila, this fruitioning horse  
By me has now been bound  
Enough thy endeavour, step not in the course  
Which Sagara's sons once found."
51. Laughing undaunted, the protecting prince  
Now high, this challenge threw  
"Oh Indra, take arms, from Raghu hence  
Without winning thou shalt not move."
52. So thundering Raghu high raised his brow  
Now in Alid posture gleamed  
For fixing his arrow, on his mighty bow  
When lofty, as Siva beseemed.
53. Like a column, by Raghu's arrow stung  
Enraged Great Indra snatched  
His bow, the new clouds banner hung  
And quick a shaft despatched.
54. That dart, well-drunk in demon's blood  
Into Raghu's chest hastened  
To drink the human blood unlicked  
In which with joy moistened,
55. On Indra whose fingers by Airavatha hard  
On his shoulders, with Sachi described  
Powerful like Skanda, young Raghu discharged  
An arm, his name inscribed.
56. His peacock-feathered another shaft  
Broke Indra's thunder-flag  
As if cut heaven's locks apart  
Whereon Lord Indra raged.

57. Thus straining to conquer betwixt the celestial  
Lord

And the young prince the battle raged  
With serpentine arrows hissing a broad  
When their armies grew thick engaged.

58. By shower of arrows ceaseless rained  
Sorrrounded Raghu beamed  
And as lightning extinguished by rains in vain  
Unconquered dazzling gleamed.

59. Then in Indra's sandal-pasted arm  
On his bowstring, like churning main  
Raghu, a crescent tipped arrow aimed  
And straight he cleaved in twain.

60. Casting his bow to kill his enemy bent  
In rage, Lord Indra seized  
His Vajra, which mountain wings once rent  
Dazzling in lustrous blaze.

61. Now Raghu, on his chest, hit by Vajra divine  
With his army's tears, he fell  
But at a moment, he rose shaking off his pain  
When rejoicings thunderous swelled.

62. Yet, though hostile Raghu stood full strong  
His prowess, Lord Indra prized  
For, friendship warm which lasts life long  
From qualities great arise.

63. "My Vajra which had cleft mountains hard  
Thou alone hast withstood  
Ask not for the steed, well-pleased I reward  
But for what thou deemest good."

64. Half-raised from his wallet his arrow long  
With whose tip his fingers bright  
Thursting in with accents affectionate strong  
Answered him, Raghu, straight.

65. "To part not with the steed, if thy mind sure  
formed  
For yagna, my Sire ordained  
Oh grant, when the Aswamedh well performed  
Its fruition he full attains".
66. "Unapproachable my Sire, who by sacred fire  
Like three eyed Mahadev remains  
Befitting my honour well inform his ear  
By thy messengers great divine "
67. The lord with Matali as charioteer dear  
Granted ready his boons  
And drove off, when Raghu returned without cheer  
To his Sire, his brow cast down.
68. By Indra's messengers full appraised  
In joy, his arms benumbed  
Dilipa embraced his son and praised  
Rubbing his Vajra's wounds.
69. Thus great Dilipa far-renowned  
By Aswamedhs rare performed  
Like ninety-nine steps in a ladder bound  
For his heavens ascent transformed.
70. Then freed from worldly passions vain  
His sceptred crown prince crowned,  
With his spouse, the forest shades he gained  
As Ikshvaku's kings renowned.

#### CANTO IV.

1. In-heriting his Sire's vast Empire  
More glorious, Raghu attained;  
As on close of day, the glowing fire  
His lustre, by the Sun resigned.
2. Hearing his accession, his hostile kings  
Whose rancour was was fuming long  
As in his Sire's sceptre, Raghu shining  
Their jealousy was inflamed strong.



3. As on rainbow radiant, on heavens high  
The world in wonder gazed  
So with children, his citizens' tiers of eyes  
On Raghu poured amazed.
4. On stately elephant, majestic, shone  
Raghu, who attained  
At once, his Sire's ancient throne  
And his enemies' wide domains.
5. Unseen though, Lakshmi, as his halo round  
Visible, to world remained  
And by lotus umbrella, the Emperor surnamed  
Raghu worshipful gained.
6. And Saraswati too, for his service longed  
For, through his royal bards  
From their lips, oft his glory sang  
With lines, which never were false.
7. And earth, though long ancient borne  
Under kings like Manu rejoiced  
From Raghu, she tasted bliss unknown  
As if she never enjoyed.
8. Like the soothing south-wind hypnotised  
Since temperate, never wild  
Raghu by his even justice, wise  
Magnetised his subjects wide.
9. Loving, as his subjects, Raghu more  
They grieved less Dilipa's loss  
As, losing a blossoming mango flower  
Her fruit, their love compass.
10. By lawyers versed in sacred lore  
Were arguments hard addressed  
But the king, though recent crowned before  
Truth alone adjudged.

11. The elements five-fold, as first full formed  
Which, unchanging long remained  
Grew, full evolved, as if new transformed  
Now, that Raghu reigned.
12. For cool rays, the moon, as Chandra named  
Or as Tapana, the scorching Sun  
So Raghu, as Raja, was truly surnamed  
As magnetic, for world remained.
13. Reaching his ears on either side  
Gleamed Raghu's royal eyes  
As though, lengthened by wisdom's lore, far wide  
Whose residence they full appraised.
14. Then, in the affairs of his royal state  
Raghu, now fully trained  
With lotus, the autumnal damsel chaste,  
Like another Lakshmi gained.
15. Fleeced of rain, by white clouds lined  
Lustrous, the Sun who paced  
And Raghu, who did victorious shine  
Both the world, by their glory dazed.
16. Then, his rainbow Indra took from skies  
As his duties now discharged  
When, Raghu his winning bow upraised  
As in turn, the world they guard.
17. The Autumn, with chamar of reeds-rank flower  
Under white lotus shade, entrained  
Seemed to jeer on Raghu, imitating clear  
But his lustre, she never attained.
18. Raghu, whose brow with mercy clear  
And the moon, with crystal orb  
For his subjects, both grew equal dear  
As, their eyes, they full absorbed.

19. The flocks of swans, or stars clustered  
Or lakes, the lilies-bed  
Are they, with glories of Raghu, scattered  
That white, they far outspread?
20. The dames, who fields of rice did guard  
Under the sugar-cane shades  
Sang of Raghu's achievements hard  
From Childhood, in varied grades.
21. Crystal clear did waters gain  
When Agastia brilliant shone  
But Raghu, as rising fame attained  
Confused, his enemies groaned.
22. Proud in their humps, the stately bulls  
Oft, in their sportful time  
Playing, the banks of rivers pulled  
Like Raghu, in their youthful prime
23. Of seven-leaved Saptaparna's flower  
Jealous, his elephant wild  
Incensed, he poured his odorous ichor  
In seven-fold emissions wide
24. Changing the miry trunk roads hard  
And fordable the rivers large  
Convincing Autumn now Raghu prepared  
As, for triumphal march, she charged
25. Now, auspicious for his horse, the holy fire  
With oblations duly formed  
With tongues of fire, right circling higher  
Placed victory in Raghu's arm
26. Regulating safe his capital long  
And the neighbouring hill-side forts  
For conquest universal, his rear strong  
Started Raghu with sixfold force

27. Auspicious the elderly damsels rained  
Lagesse as Raghu passed  
Like the sprays on Vishnu when manthra churned  
By milky waves once tossed.
28. Equal, in prowess, like Indra divine  
Raghu, by his flags that waved  
As though, his foes chiding frighten  
Towards east he wended his way.
29. By dusty mist from his chariot raised  
And by his cloud-like elephant herds  
He changed heavens, like earth upraised  
And earth, as heavens, turned
30. First, came his heralds' bugle clear  
Then his force's noise  
And thereon, dust-columns, and his army rear  
So four-fold, his divisions passed
31. By his power water-full, deserts transformed  
And over rivers, by barges crossed  
For his army passing, were fords quick formed  
And treeless, sprang forest tracks.
32. Raghu, leading his mighty hosts  
Like Bhagirath well-beseemed  
Who led towards east, as from Siva's crest  
Poured Ganga's mighty stream
33. Suffered with tribute, or from thrones over-thrown  
By the shaken kings extreme  
As by the trees, the track of an elephant, shone,  
So the way of Raghu gleamed.
34. Thus reducing the eastern countries more  
Victorious, the king renowned  
With dark palms dense, the oceans' shore  
Its vicinity, now he gained.

35. From Raghu, who blasted in his course  
The unyielding kings hostile,  
Like bending weeds tide flood's full force  
Saved Simha's kings their souls.
36. Now by his naval armaments  
Crushing Vanga's power stunned  
Raised Raghu a pillared monument  
Over fertile Ganga's plains.
37. Prostrating on his forgiving feet  
Vanga's kings restored  
As rice transplanted, with more fruition greet  
With gems more, his grace more.
38. Damming, by his raiding elephant herds  
Kapila's flowing course  
Raghu, served by Utkal kings as guides  
Towards Kalinga, turned his force.
39. Now, on Mahendra's crests, impressed  
Raghu, his glory's light  
As, on a majestic elephant's crown, well-pressed  
His spear, full gleaming bright.
40. Strong, by an elephant force endowed  
Fought Kalinga's warlike king  
As by stones with Indra, a mountain bold  
Battled, when he cleaved her wings
41. Now on Mahendra's lofty plains  
Like the Sun, with dark clouds veiled  
Auspicious, bathed by arrows' rains  
Was Raghu, by victory hailed.
42. There, on Mahendra's bowers, fine  
Victorious, his marshal ranks  
In betel cups, pouring cocoanut wine  
Like their enemy's glory drank.

43. Raghu, who ever right sustained  
The conquered king released  
And from him, tributes proper, gained  
But his realm, for him he freed.
44. Then, by green araca-nut trees lined  
Through the road by the seaside shore  
To the south, by Agastia's fame renowned  
He turned, for his glory more
45. As in Kaveri's stream, his elephant herds  
Proud their ichor poured  
Over her transformed, her ocean lord  
Seemed with doubtings roar.
46. For conquest insatiate, crossed various realms  
Rested Raghu, with his valiant force  
In pepper-vine forests, where birds fine roamed  
On Malaya's mountain slope.
47. Powdered, by his horses' powerful feet  
Dustful cardamom seeds  
On the cheeks of his elephants, meeting did greet  
As in odour, they both agreed
48. In pits at the bottom of sandal trees  
Caused by serpents winding round  
Treading, his elephants though from foot-chains  
freed.  
Their neck ropes were yet unbound.
49. In the south, where even the radiant Sun  
In his feeble lustre looked  
Raghu, in his rising glory shine  
The Pandyas never brooked.
50. Where the ocean met Thamaraparni's stream  
Their pearls, there precious gained  
The Pandyas, as if give their glory's gleam  
Prostrating, for Raghu rained.

51. With sandals towering in their lofty slopes  
     In Dardura, and Malaya Hills  
 Which shone, like twin breasts of the southern globe  
     Raghu enjoyed them full.
52. Raghu, in ineffable glory, crossed  
     Sahya's lofty chain  
 Like the zone of earth, with garb uncovered  
     Naked, by the receding main.
53. Marching, for conquest of western crowns  
     By Raghu's triumphant hosts  
 Though driven by Parasuram's dart, the main  
     Seemed touching the Sahya's foot.
54. The Kerala damsels now frightened  
     Removed their costey jewels  
 And on their foreheads, like kumkum fine  
     The dust from his army dwelled.
55. The breeze from Murala's stream full blown  
     With Kaitaka's flowery dust.  
 Turned Raghu's armies' garments strewn  
     As if with odours dressed.
56. As accoutred his horses by armours strong  
     Now from their rattling sound  
 Noised wind blown palm trees long  
     Were beaten, as though spell-bound.
57. His elephants, in dates by chords well-bound  
     Oderous, as their ichor spilled  
 Over their crowns, with emitting flavour, round  
     Bees in Punna's flowers fell.
58. As worshipful left the ocean's lord  
     For Parasuram, the western land  
 So through their kings, for their overlord  
     Raghu, gave tributes grand.

59. By the tusks of his triumphant elephant bright  
His glories well-described  
Raghu made Trikota's august height,  
A Pillar, his deeds inscribed.
60. Then, like a sage, who never did rest  
Till he curbed his senses strong  
So Raghu, for Persia's king's conquest  
Went by the seaside long.
61. The smile on Yavana damsels found  
Caused by jovial wine  
As a cloud, sun-smile of lotus, end  
So blasting did Raghu shine.
62. Betwixt horse-riding Yavana's in western land  
And Raghu, a war began  
So thick by dust, that his enemy's band  
By their bugles sounds, were scanned.
63. By fiery Balla-named arrows, long  
Mowing bearded Yavanas' heads  
As clothing with beeful honey combs strong  
So Raghu, the earth, full hid.
64. The remnants of Yavanas' army killed  
Their helmets now removed  
On Raghu's feet fell, as the great are stilled  
By prostrations, pitiful moved.
65. Now Raghu's invincible veterans strong  
In the bowers of fruitful vines  
On deer skins spread, drinking wine long  
Full freedom from weariness gained.
66. As by rays the Sun the waters drain  
Toward Kuvera's northern side  
Raghu started, by his arrow's rains  
That their hardy kings subside.



67. On Sindhu's banks his horses worn  
Rolled war-weary in her bed  
And shaking fell from their stately manes  
Kumkum flowers red.
68. Now Raghu's heroic deadly deeds  
As against northern Huna Kings  
As they to their palace damsels, reached  
In their cheeks did crimson bring.
69. Powerless to face Raghu's mighty hordes  
Kamboja's hostile crowns  
With elephant-scarred Angola woods  
Worshipping, his mercy, gained.
70. Kamboja's far famed horses fine  
Well-laden, their golden loads  
Into Raghu's treasure coffers rained  
But their pride made no inroads.
71. Then over Himalaya's lofty crests  
As though his peaks improve  
By the cloud of his armies red-rock dust  
Horse-riding Raghu moved.
72. Glancing in his roaring armies long  
The lions in mountain caves  
Since equal to Raghu their prowess strong  
Unmindful of their enemies lay.
73. Sounding through bee-bored bamboo holes  
And Bhurjara's murmuring leaves  
With the spray of Ganges laden whole  
Greeted Raghu, the mountain breeze
74. Under Nameruna's hanging branches wide  
On boulders, in her lovely shade  
Where scented musk deers' odours bide  
His warriors their resitng made.

75. In the night, reflected by elephants' chains  
Bound on the stately pine  
Bright creepers, for Raghu, did lustrous shine  
As his lamps oil-less fine.
76. The pine, in his relinquished camping ground  
Wounded by his elephants' chains  
Seemed as if the height of his mate once bound  
To wild hunters now explain.
77. Betwixt Raghu and the mountain clans  
A terrible war began  
When darts, axes, and hillside stones  
Did crashing fiery shone.
78. The mountain tribes, Raghu reduced  
Now by his fiery shafts  
And by Kinnaras, his glories true  
Well-sung, he did broadcast.
79. By the treasures, by the clans, in homage laid  
Himalaya's riches he learned  
And alike the mountain king realised  
Raghu's might in turn.
80. Lighting his glory, Raghu bright  
On Himalaya's sublime crown  
As if shaming Kailas, as by Ravan light  
Shaken, he descended down.
81. As he neared Prakjyotish city renowned  
Crossing Lowhitya's stream  
As the Kalagadruma, where his elephants bound  
Her king did shaking seem.
82. That Prakjyotish king, who shook frightened  
By Raghu's car-dust rare  
That hid the cloudless radiant Sun  
Could he, his armies bear.

83. Worshipful Kamarup's king now gained  
Raghu, as Indra excelled  
With elephants, whose crowns did ichor rain  
Which once his foes battled.
84. On the lustre of Raghu's glorious feet  
Which his golden throne adorned  
Worshipping now, that king did greet  
With gems that flowery shone.
85. Thus, conquering the various sides  
His car-dust fully borne  
By the locks of kings, without a shade  
Now returning Raghu shone.
86. That sacrifice wherein all is given  
Viswajit, Raghu began  
As, like clouds, the Great, their wealth do gain  
Well, to give again.
87. Finishing his sacrifice, as he glorious shone  
The kings, since all did burn  
Though, well cared by his ministers, long love-lorn  
Raghu bade them now return
88. Then prostrating on Raghu's feet, which shone  
With imperious figures bright  
By the dust of their garlands in arm and crown  
Those kings transformed them white.
-

CANTO V.

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1. The riches of non-possession by gifts entire  
By Raghu who now attained  
Full learned from Varathanthu, Kautsa austere  
For his Guru's recompense gained.
2. Radiant in his glory, the hospitable king  
Received the learned sage  
And with water an earthen pitcher filling  
For Argya grew reverent engaged.
3. The noblest of kings, Raghu renowned  
For reception of holy guests  
Devout worshipped the sage, enthroned  
And humble, these words addressed
4. "Oh sage sharp-witted like kusa's edge  
For the world, the wisdom's Sun  
Thy Guru, who foremost does mantras charge  
Doth he, his health maintain?"
5. "Long earned by his body, speech and mind  
Varathanthu's penances hard  
Which with terror the heart of Indra bind  
Suffer they now any retard?"
6. "Grown dearer than his progeny, his hermitage  
trees  
With basins for water laid  
Which refreshing the weather-worn shelterers free  
Are they safe from wild wind's raid?"
7. "Seated over the mats of kusa grass  
The does which over hermits' laps  
Bring forth their new-born umbilical-cord  
Is their delivery with no mishap."

8. "The waters by hermits' baths renowned  
Which holy for their manes they pour  
Whose sand-dunes with grains of king's share strewn  
Sustain they, their undiminished store?"
9. "From bulls who eager for husks invade  
Are safe their Nivar grains?  
Their stores with whom their guests provide  
Suit they, as their frames maintain?"
10. "From the sage merciful Varathanthu austere  
Full learning now attained  
Ripe for wedlock beneficent enter  
Dost thou not now remain?"
11. "Though pleased by thy presence, more I yearn  
Thy commands well fulfil  
Hast thou to honour me for thy Guru gained  
Or pleased at thy holy will?"
12. Hearing the great king's lofty words  
His high hopes fully razed  
As from his earthen pitcher, all gifts inferred  
Kautsa thus Raghu addressed.
13. "When thou, Oh King, the earth sustain  
What harm could thy subjects raid  
As when radiant sun on heavens shine  
Dares Night the world to hide?"
14. "Reverence for the holy is in thy line inborn  
And auspicious thou all excel  
But I abegging, whose hour foregone  
Have gained when thy gifts fulfilled."
15. "Thy riches to the wise given entire  
Solitary thou dost gleam  
Like the Nivar crop as by hermits sheared  
With stump-shoot well beseem"

16. "Non-possessed of all thy wealth hard-earned  
 Thou dwellest in thy glories swelled  
 As like the new moon with digits to Gods all given  
 Than when full, in name excel."
17. "So seeking on my errand, shall I another gain  
 Long mayest thou happy reign  
 An autumn cloud's rain when fully drained  
 Seeks a Chataka in her august train?"
18. Forbidding the hermit, who for departure turned  
 Enquiring, Raghu addressed  
 "Oh Sage for thy Guru, what treasures yearned  
 What prize, they full compass."
19. To the great king composed, who his subjects  
maintained  
 Like his fires, in their duties pure  
 The austere learned Sage explained  
 What errand towards him lured.
20. "As full-finished my Studies humble I earned  
 What recompense my Guru ordained  
 And the Sage said my devotion long maintained  
 He prized as his worthy gain."
21. "But oft as I for his recompense pressed  
 Enraged the hermit more  
 Beyond my powers, in the number of my arts  
expressed  
 His prize as fourteen crores."
22. "Guessing, from thy earthen vase, thy gifts entire  
 That in thy glory alone you dwell  
 Reluctant, since my prize beyond thy powers  
 Refrained I a begging compel."

23. By the sage in Vedas deeply versed  
Accosted in this strain  
Raghu with spotless heart possessed  
Addressed him again.
24. "Since from Raghu his prize unattained  
Sought Kautsa another's arm  
So let not my name long well-gained  
A new-born infamy harm."
25. "With the three blazes in my house of holy fire  
Like another fire remain  
Worshipful for two or three nights here  
Until thy prize, I gain."
26. The sage for penance far renowned  
To his truthful vow complied  
And Raghu for his prize as world now drained  
Resolved Kubera's raid.
27. By power of Vasishta's mantras gained  
A lightness his royal car  
To float over sky, over earth and main  
As by winds, a cloud soar far.
28. Then with arms hung, in his chambered car  
Raghu for his high endeavour  
Light treating like a vassel, Kubera's power  
Stepped in the evening hour.
29. But in the morn as Raghu for marching yearned  
Through ministers charged with treasure  
Who reported wondering, the king too learned  
In his coffers a golden shower.
30. As Vajra-cleft Meru's glittering slopes  
The wealth Kubera rained  
In full, the glittering golden stores  
For Kautsa Raghu assigned.

31. More than his prize, he would not gain  
     Kautsa, though Raghu pressed  
     And both, as in their resolves firm remained  
     High paens Saket expressed
32. On mares and camels full loaded his gold  
     As Raghu towards him bowed  
     Blessing the king, in joy untold  
     Kautsa fervent addressed.
33. "Transcending fancy thy glories shine  
     Oh king who dutiful reign  
     What wonder, when heavens, golden rain  
     That bountiful, thy earth remain."
34. "Blessed with auspicious favours full  
     No redundant riches you yearn  
     In glory as thou dost thy sire resemble  
     In thy likeness, a son attain."
35. So blessing the austere sage, now gained  
     Varathantu's holy home  
     And as from Sun the world her lustre attain  
     Won the king his ambition's bloom
36. His Queen royal in Brahma's holy hour  
     Bore her child like Skanda fair  
     And so Aja the name of the divine creator  
     The king made his young son bear.
37. Strong like his sire, like him so fair  
     And alike in stature tall  
     Like a lamp well lit from light's bright fire  
     Exact like his cause enthralled
38. Full learning from his preceptor well attained  
     In beauty of his mellowing bloom  
     Towards Aja, royal Lakshmi though impassioned  
     For his sire's leave waiting beseeemed yearned



39. Now for his sister Indumati's swayamvar rare  
    Bhoja, Vidharbha's crown  
From Raghu, for Aja's presence fair  
    Sending an envoy yearned.
40. Prizing the alliance of Vidharba's crown  
    Proper for his lineage long  
For his capital rich in his armies' train  
    Raghu sent his young son strong.
41. By stately tents well spacious laid  
    And decorations by princes formed  
The forests where Aja did on his way reside  
    As pleasure gardens quick transformed.
42. Light wafted by spray-laden breezes cool  
    Where Narthamals softly danced  
By Narmadda his dust-flagged armies whole  
    For resting bade Aja stand.
43. Above with rings of circling bees  
    Dipping in Narmada's stream  
Arose well-cleansed in ichored cheeks  
    An elephant in frenzied whim.
44. With his twin tusks besmeared by peaks' red slime  
    Dark streaked up in varied hue  
And in blunt edge bespeaking her wild pastime  
    From waters, the elephant grew.
45. Noisy with his trunk moving back and fore  
    Dividing waves' rising lines  
The elephant who slow moved towards the shore  
    Seemed breaking her binding chains.
46. Like a dark mount drove the bunched green weeds  
    Dragging them by his chest before  
As the waves towards the bank did lead  
    Gained the elephant Narmada's shore.

47. Like high walls, his cheeks though by waters  
cleansed  
His ichored showery rains  
On glancing on Aja's elephant herds  
By his ears did streaming shine.
48. Oderous like Saptaparna's exuded milk  
By ichor of the elephant wild  
Aja's elephant herds frightened in rebel freak  
The prowess of their mohouts tried
49. Bound oxen and horses affrighted fly  
And cars crash in their axles hard  
And soldiers for their ladies' safety fly  
Carried confusion the elephant mad.
50. Apprised of prohibition in forests wild  
Of slaughter of elephants lone  
In bow half-drawn Aja discharged mild  
An arrow on the elephant's crown.
51. Casting at once his elephant form  
In the army's wondering gaze  
A sky-skipping celestial fair transformed  
He shone amid lustrous blaze
52. By his oped teeth, the pearls on his chest  
brightened  
For speech that celestial versed  
Showering Kalpaka flowers by his powers gained  
To Aja, these words addressed
53. "For my pranks, holy Matanga's curses won  
Roamed I, an elephant formed  
Know me a Gandharva, king Priyadarsa's son  
And Priyamvada so well-named."

54. "But moved by my prostrations the holy sage  
His merciful calm then gained  
For is not coolness for waters the natural stage  
Heat by fire attained."
55. "Then calmed the Sage thus addressed  
Aja in Ikshvaku's line  
As thy crown with iron-tipped arrow cleaves  
Thy celestial form attain."
56. "From thy august visit by me long yearned  
I am freed from the sage's curse  
Could I my station ungrateful gain  
When unredeemed is favour blessed."
57. "Oh friend, my Summoha-named arrow gain  
For whom Gandharva is lord  
Who by mantras starts, refills the quiver again  
And bloodless victory, thee rewards."
58. "Enough thy shyness, thou wert beaming kind  
Ere long, yea, when you aimed  
Refusal by thee, is now cruel unkind  
When prayerful my redemption claimed"
59. Quoth 'So be it' changing northward gleamed  
Aja in bow well-trained  
And sipping in Narmadda's crystal stream  
From Priyamvada the mantras gained
60. Thus by the Divinity's unforeseen aid  
As friendship the twin attained  
One did on Kubera's orchards glide  
The other, good Vidharbha gained.
61. As Aja the suburbs of the city drew close  
From his visit with joy high swelled  
As billowing for the moon the deep arose  
Entrained, king Bhoja hailed.

62. In forefront leading Aja into his city agleam  
 And in his charge his treasures laid  
 As though the prince a master and he a stranger  
 beseech  
 To his court, Bhoja worshipped
63. In the east gate with vases auspicious formed  
 In an elect tent by Bhoja shown  
 As like cupid from infancy to manhood transformed  
 Raghu's heir passed his hours lone.
64. Desirous as though to delve his heart's desire  
 For the guerdon the princes' prize  
 Queen Drowsiness, like another spouse, late appeared  
 Weighing heavy his royal eyes.
65. Aja whose shoulders huge with earlets impressed  
 And half-erased the sandal on his chest  
 By his bed cover at breaking dawn, addressed  
 His heralds to awake from rest.
66. "Passed is night long from couch, Oh wisest, rise  
 Creator-carved equal is Earth's burthen  
 His own end thy sire sleepless alone he bears  
 For the other awake that is thine divine-  
 ordained."
67. "Like a spouse by her lord outcasted Lakshmi fair  
 Delighted from the moon in the night, as thee  
 long drowsed  
 But now, even he, his gloried light thy brow's  
 compare  
 Setting in the west soon shall sure renounce."
68. "So thy charming dark tremulous pupilled eyes  
 And full with moving bees the lotus flower  
 Which each alone challenging to another vies  
 Blooming ope in one sweet morning hour."

69. "The breeze of morn who greets thy slumbering  
breath  
Ashamed as though her nature fragrance attain  
From clustered groves robs flowers stray by stealth  
And smiling lotuses in the sun now gains."
70. "In the budding leaves of trees dangling golden red  
Like spotless pearls well-strung beam snowy dew  
As in thy lower lip with lusture of teeth sweet-wed  
An another smile of thine gleam dallying new."
71. "Before the lord of day from horizon early rise  
Vanish the night scattered by the heralding dawn  
When thou in the field of battle lead thy legions  
Where chance the foe for whom thy sire his  
arms adorn."
72. "Rising up from their sides in drowsing pose  
On their hind legs assonant rhyme their captive  
chains  
Thy elephants rise whose tusks abudding close  
In morning ray gleam like red peak's cloven  
veins."
73. "In thy spacious tents thou lord of lotus blooming  
eyes  
These proudly steeds of Araby orderly bound  
By the vaprous breath that from their nostrils  
sighing rise  
The white salt chips their morning meal with  
soot surround."
74. "Thy flowery bed disordered grown withered and  
worn  
And steady thy glowing lamps their light now dull  
With sweetest accents encaged thy parrot's grown  
Their well-taught words answer to awake thee  
well."

75. Thus awakened from sleep by his lauding bards  
Majestic arose Aja from his amorous bed  
As by accents of royal swans, the elephants' lord  
In sand-dunes of celestial Ganges, his  
slumber fled.
76. With lacy eyelashes long-lined, young Aja fair  
His morning duties sacred well performed  
By artful experts well adorned, in graceful air  
Gained the court of Swayamvar, by the Kings  
full swarmed.



# ERRATA.

Page.	Verse.	Line.	Error.	Correction.
1	3	4	' might	height
14	8	2	bow.	bow
23	7	3	seried	sere
26	28	4	alphabat	alphabet
27	42	2	chords	cords
„	„	4	Over eastern	Over the eastern
28	33	2	bachelor's hair	bachelor hair
„	34	3	through	though
29	54	1	demon's	demons'
30	63	1	had cleft	cleft
31	68	1	appraised	apprised
32	9	4	campass	compass
33	13	4	appraised	apprised
35	29	1	chariot	chariots
„	34	3	oceans'	ocean's
36	37	4	grace more	grace implored.
37	44	1	araca-nut	areca-nut
37	48	3	freed.	freed
38	54	2	costey	costly
„	57	1	chords	cords
39	54	1	elephant	elephants
„	62	1	Yavana's	Yavanas
„	62	4	bugles sound	bugle sounds

Page.	Verse.	Line.	Mistake.	Correction.
„	66	3	arrows rains	arrow rains
40	72	1	Glancing in	Glancing on
„	74	4	resitng	resting
46	28	3	vassel	vassal
50	57	3	who	which
51	66	3	own	one
52	69	2	nature	native
„	70	3	lusture	lustre
„	73	3	vaprous	vaporous
„	74	3	parrot's	parrots