# **DEPARTMENT OF SANSKRIT**

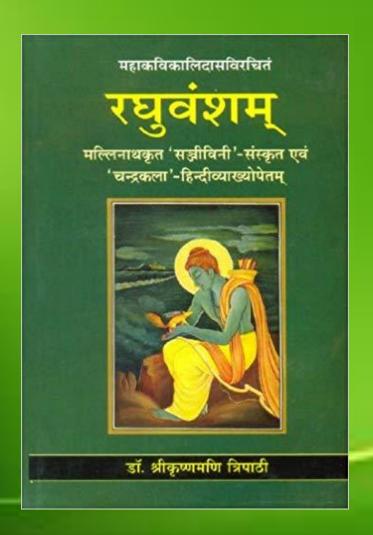
Dr. K. I. Treesa Asst. Professor In Sanskrit

# **MAHA KAVYAS**

#### **PANCHA MAHA KAVYAS**

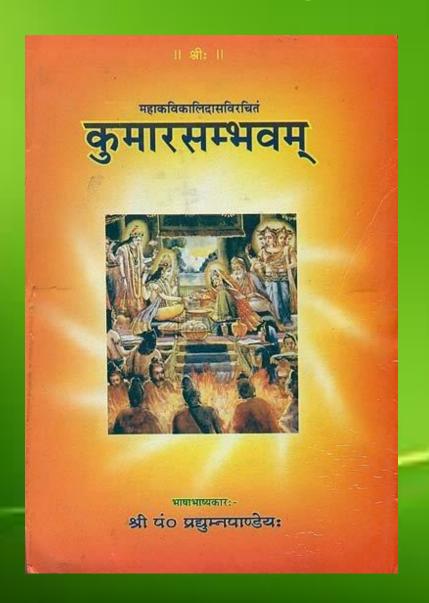
- Raghuvamsha Kalidasa The story of Shri Rama and His ancestors
- Kumarasambhava Kalidasa The story of the birth of Kartikeya Bhagawan
- Kiratarjuniyam Bharavi The story of Arjuna and the hunter from Mahabharata
- Naishadiyacharita Sriharsha The story of Nala and Damayanti
- Shishupalavadha Magha The defeat of Shishupala by Krishna Bhagawan from Mahabharata, Bhagavata etc.

# **RAGHUVAMSHA**



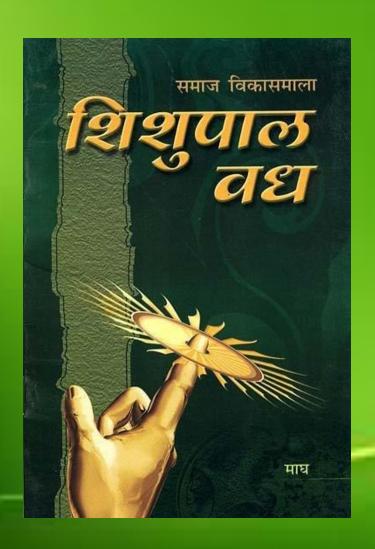
Raghuvamsha is a Sanskrit mahakavya by the most celebrated Sanskrit poet Kalidasa. Though an exact date of composition is unknown, the poet is presumed to have flourished in the 5th century

#### **KUMARA SAMBHAVA**



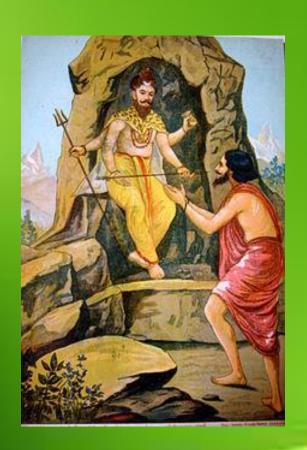
The greatest long poem in classical Sanskrit, Kumarasambhavam celebrates the love story of Siva and Parvati, whose passionate union results in the birth of their son, the young god Kumara. This scintillating and definitive translation brings to life the heady eroticism and sumptuous imagery of the original.

#### **SISUPALAVADHAM**



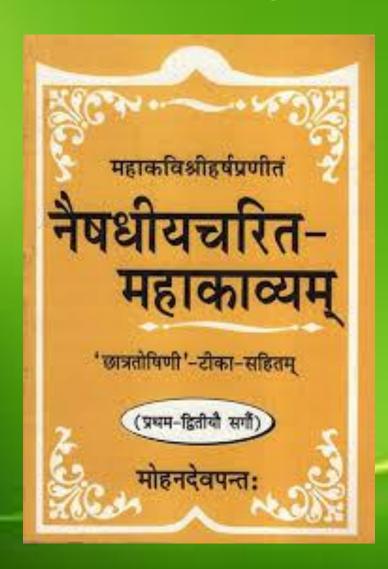
As with most Sanskrit *kāvya*, the plot is drawn from one of the epics, in this case the Mahabharata. In the original story, Shishupala, king of the Chedis in central India, after insulting Lord **Krishna** several times in an assembly, finally enrages him and has his head struck off. The 10th-century literary critic **Kuntaka** observes that Magha arranges the story such that the sole purpose of Vishnu's Avatarhood as Krishna is the slaying of the evil Shishupala. Magha also invents a conflict in Krishna's mind, between his duty to destroy Shishupala, and to attend Yudhishthira's ceremony to which he has been invited; this is resolved by attending the ceremony to which Shishupala also arrives and is killed.

#### **KIRATHARJUNEEYAM**



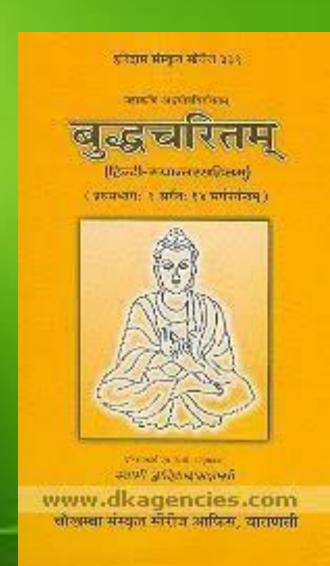
Kirātārjunīya (Sanskrit: किरातार्ज्नीय, Of Arjuna and the Kirāta) is a Sanskrit kavya by Bhāravi, written in the 6th century or earlier. It is an epic poem consisting of eighteen cantos describing the combat between **Arjuna** and **Lord Shiva** (in the guise of a *kirāta*, or "mountain-dwelling hunter") at Indrakeeladri Hills in presentday Vijayawada. Along with the Naiṣadhacarita and the Shishupala Vadha, it is one of the larger three of the six Sanskrit *mahakavyas*, or great epics. [1] It is noted among Sanskrit critics both for its gravity or depth of meaning, and for its forceful and sometimes playful expression. This includes a canto set aside for demonstrating linguistic feats, similar to constrained writing. Later works of epic poetry followed the model of the Kirātārjunīya.

## **NAISHADHEEYACHARITA**



Naishadha Charita, also known as Naishadhiya Charita, is a poem in Sanskrit on the life of Nala, the king of Nishadha. Written by Sriharsha, it is considered one of the five mahakavyas in the canon of Sanskrit literature.

### **BUDHACHARITHA**



Buddhacharita is an epic poem in the Sanskrit mahakavya style on the life of Gautama Buddha by Asvaghosha, composed in the early second century. Of the poem's 28 cantos, the first 14 are extant in Sanskrit complete (cantos 15 to 28 are in incomplete form).



In 420 AD, Dharmakshema made a Chinese translation, and in the 7th or 8th century, a Tibetan version was made which "appears to be much closer to the original Sanskrit than the Chinese".

