

FOREWORD

By Pujya Swamiji Dayananda Saraswati

Srimad Narayaneeyam of Bhattatiri captures in poetic Sanskrit all that is profound and elevating in our Vedic literature. The students of Chandas (prosody), vyakaranam (grammar) of the classical Sanskrit language will find in this work of Bhattatiri a goldmine for fine examples. The lovers of Sanskrit sahitya (literature) will find themselves wondering whether they were reading a book of pristine devotion and philosophy or a profound work of Kalidasa and his like. For the informed devotees, every verse of Narayaneeyam is a means to let themselves overwhelmed by their altar of devotion. For a Vedantin, there is nothing more delightful than this book.

Rendering this work in any language calls for some extraordinary requisites like facility of pen, knowledge of the subject matter, grasp of the original author's vision, his language, and so on. To bring out an English version of this profound work is indeed an arduous task, the language being alien to the culture of the author of the original work.

I read very carefully quite a few chapters of the English version and found that does not leave much to be desired. In fact the material does not read like a translation; the fervour of the original, with the expanded vision provided by the Malayalam commentary, runs all through the pages.

I congratulate “**the big four**” translators for this valuable contribution to the English reading public.

Sd/-
DAYANANDA