

Extract from Sanskrit literature 1 (can include some texts from Kalidasa literature etc)

Class Objective - To learn and understand literary works of Sanskrit.

Concept A - about Kalidasa and Meghdutam

KALIDASA, perhaps the most extraordinary of India's classical poets, composed seven major works: three plays, two epic poems and two lyric poems. According to legend, he lived at the end of the fourth century, and was one of the 'nine jewels' in the court of the Gupta king Chandragupta II. Although very little is known about his life, Kalidasa's popularity and influence has endured for centuries.

As punishment for failing in his duty, an unnamed yaksha is cursed by the god Kubera to endure a hard year in exile. Thus separated from his beloved wife, he longs to send her word of his undying love and the pain he suffers over their parting. Unable to do so himself, the lovelorn yaksha implores a passing cloud to act as his messenger. And so entrusted with this impassioned message, the cloud must travel a vast distance to the city of Alaka in the Himalayas, where the yaksha's wife waits, consumed by thoughts of her beloved. Filled with lush imagery—from the magnificence of the bountiful earth to the glory of the celestial gods, from the hypnotic lilt of birdsong to the passionate lovemaking of courtesans—The Cloud Message is as moving and resonant today as it was centuries ago.

Concept B -

मेघदूत
कालिदास

पूर्वमेघ

कश्चित् कान्ताविरहगुरुणा कश्चित् कान्ताविरहगुरुणा स्वाधिकारात्प्रमत्तः

शापेनास्तङ्गमितमहिमा वर्षभोग्येण भर्तुः ।

यक्षश्चक्रे जनकतनयास्नानपुण्योदकेषु

स्निग्धच्छायातरुषु वसतिं रामगिर्याश्रमेषु ॥ १ ॥

Hindi Translation -

कोई यक्ष था। वह अपने काम में असावधान हुआ तो यक्षपति ने उसे शाप दिया कि वर्ष-भर पत्नी का भारी विरह सहो। इससे उसकी महिमा ढल गई। उसने रामगिरि के आश्रमों में बस्ती बनाई जहाँ घने छायादार पेड़ थे और जहाँ सीता जी के स्नानों द्वारा पवित्र हुए जल-कुंड भरे थे।

English Translation -

A certain Yaksha having been negligent of his charge, and having had his greatness set to decay by a curse of his master, to be endured for one year, which was heavy on account of its separating him from his wife, he took up his abode at the Hermitages of Ramagiri, where the waters had been sanctified by the baths of Janaka's daughter, where there were lovely shadow trees.

1. **Introduction**

2. **Background**

3. **Method**

- 1. **Study Design**
- 2. **Participants**
- 3. **Intervention**

4. **Results**

- 1. **Primary Outcome**
- 2. **Secondary Outcome**
- 3. **Subgroup Analysis**

5. **Conclusion**

- 1. **Summary**

6. **References**

7. **Appendix**

8. **Supplementary Materials**

9. **Notes**

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