

NYĀYAKUSUMĀÑJALI OF UDAYANĀCĀRYA

Volume 1

Translation and explanation: N.S. Dravid

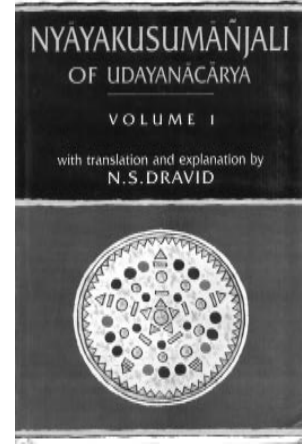
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Nyāyakusumāñjali, one of the most important anchor-works of the Nyāya philosophy, is composed by Udayanācārya, the great ancient Indian thinker, commentator, author and a master-stylist in recondite Sanskrit prose. This work is one of the two major *magna opera* of Udayanācārya, the other being *Ātmatattvaviveka*, which is wholly devoted to a thorough criticism of all the basic doctrines of Buddhism. Unlike *Ātmatattvaviveka*, *Nyāyakusumāñjali* is primarily concerned with the exposition and argumentative defence of the Nyāya doctrines—especially those relating to its methodology—against the corresponding but opposed doctrines of Mīmāṃsā and Vaiśeṣika. A unique feature of this work is that it brings forward a large number of inferential proofs to establish the reality of God, which is almost a totally-neglected topic in all the earlier basic works on Nyāya. Even the aphorisms of Gotama, supposed to be the primary source of Nyāya philosophy, make only a passing and oblique reference to God in a single aphorism. Udayanācārya is perhaps that first great Naiyāyika of ancient India who introduced theism in a big way both in the Nyāya and the Vaiśeṣika schools of Indian philosophy. In the first volume of *Nyāyakusumāñjali*, Professor Dravid has translated and explained the text of *Nyāyakusumāñjali*, passage by passage, while in the second volume, he has presented an analytical-critical survey of the contents of the whole work.

Narayan Shastri Dravid (b.1932) is an eminent philosopher well-versed in both Indian and western traditions of philosophy.