

## **BADI SADHU VANDANA-PRAVACHAN-VOLUME-III**

This book contains discourses on 'Badi Sadhu Vandana', a great devotional literary work of one hundred and eleven couplets composed by Ek Bhavavatari, Acharya Samrat Shri Jaymalji m.s. nearly two hundred and fifty years ago. Badi Sadhu Vandana is a unique piece of poetry that sings glory of those great personalities who have become perfect in the past and will be so in the future. During the chaturmas period of 1996 A.D. at Mahila Bagh, Jodhpur (Rajasthan), the young and energetic Jain saint, famous orator and annotator Dr. Shri Padamchandraji m.s. added glitter to the gold by giving discourses on Badi Sadhu Vandana.

Rising above all isms and defilements, aspirants from all sects of Jainism devotedly sing Badi Sadhu Vandana everyday over so many years but know very little about its historical and ethical details, but now after reading this book one enjoys reading all the more. The indepth analysis, elaborate narration and elucidation of each and every couplet eulogising the great personalities, that too, in a simple but effective language creates great ripples of inspiration and appreciation among the scores of readers all over India. By reading this book one can draw inspiration from the enigma and charisma of the pure souls and pure personalities and effortlessly escalate to their level and shine in life.

The thought-provoking and eloquent discourses of this book not only reveal the essence of the agams but at the same time gives exhaustive details of the same. There is deep elaboration of life-sketch of the perfected divine vitaraga parmatmans (liberated souls) and to be liberated souls who are ideals for all spiritual aspirants. These discourses have brought to light the hidden pearls of Jain wisdom spread in the vast agamic and commentary literature.

It is indeed a handy tool for the newly initiated sadhu-sadhvis and swadhyayis for getting training in giving discourses. One can benefit spiritually, religiously, socially and materially from this great devotional work of all times as it gives an insight into Jainism as well as one's inner self. Pictures are given in every discourse in such a way that the whole life-sketch of the great personality can be known by just seeing the picture. The pictorial presentation not only fulfills the present needs but also gives instant briefing of the particular event, catching the attraction of all the readers.

This unique work of Dr. Shri Padamchandraji m.s. has been acclaimed by one and all, be it young or the old, men or women, jain or non-jain, educated or the not so well-read. All in all, it is a gem of creation in the literary field.

The five volume series of Badi Sadhu Vandana-Pravachan was first published by Shri Jaymal Jain Memorial Trust, Chennai in 1998 and was sold out in a very short span of time. It was so well received by the ascetic community of monks and nuns of all sects of Jainism plus the elite scholars and laity that within a span of eight years three Hindi editions have been published.

Comprising of ten discourses numbering fifty-one to sixty, Volume III is entirely devoted to the Paryushan Parva Pravachan. The contents are so-well organized that any elite scholar who intends to give swadhyayi seva needs to just go through this book and the material of narration (discourses) is ready. The discourses are concurrently based Purely on Antagad Dasa Sutra and its relative subjects. The beauty of the whole lot is that the description is of all the great personalities who liberated themselves from the cycle of birth and death.

The heart-touching and nerve-wrecking narration of the ninety liberated souls, be it Gouthamadhik, Aniksenadhik, Gajasukamal, Queens and immediate family members of Sri Krishna Vasudev, Arjunmali, Eaivanta muni or the wives of King Shrenik inspires (awakens) everyone to tread on the path of moksha. The poems related to major events add lyrical flavor to the descriptions. It is a book worth keeping as a treasure.