

PHILOSOPHICAL IMPLICATION OF DHVANI by ANAND
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ANANDAVARDHANA'S discussion on *Dhvani* is important in
he *Alaṅkāra-Sāstra*, but its implications have far-reaching con-
sequences in the line of the Philosophy of symbol, language, and
hermeneutics. This is the *quintessence* of this well-written and
well-produced book. Besides giving a detailed analysis of the
text *Dhvanyāloka* or *Sahṛdayāloka*, Dr. Amaladass, who was a
student of Prof. K. Kunjunni Raja, brings out Ānandavardhana's
thinking process, progress in his thinking pattern, his major and
minor points, his emphasis and his digression. The major thrust
of the book is to view *dhvani* as a symbol language in all its impli-
cations. Symbol is understood in a philosophico-theological sense,
which points to a reality beyond itself in and through what it
connotes.

If the symbol character of *dhvani* is accepted, then one sees the
need for the science of interpretation. (Hermeneutics). The
author has made an attempt to read the sacred scriptures, which
are outside the *poetic realm*, the *dhvani* way. Ānandavardhana has
himself given a strong hint to this exercise when he took the *Mahā-
bhārata* and explained it as a work of *Sāntarasa* pointing to *Mokṣa*
as the foremost of human values.

The work under review throws a new light on *dhvani* and will
be a welcome addition to the subject.

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