

# SANSKRIT ASSIGNMENT

B.COM 1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER



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SECTION: A

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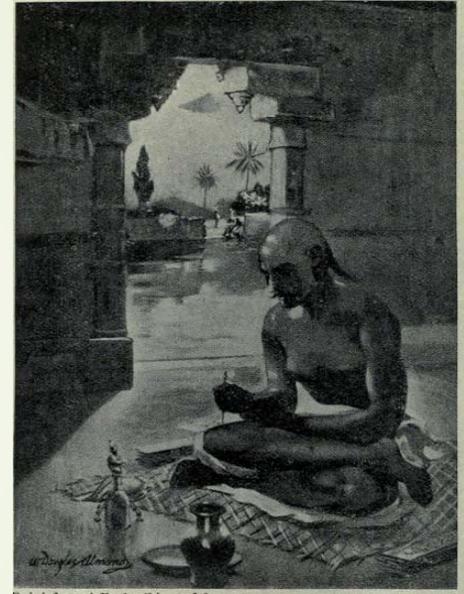
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# Kālidāsa

- ▶ **Kālidāsa** was a classical Sanskrit author
- ▶ He is considered ancient India's greatest poet and playwright.
- ▶ Kalidasa is attributed to more than forty works, but critics acknowledge only seven of them as his.
- ▶ There can be no doubt that Kalidasa had extensive education and that he had mastered rhetoric, dramatic theory, and the science of grammar the chief of all sciences.



A 20th-century artist's impression of Kālidāsa composing the Meghadūta

# Raguvamsam

Raguvamsa consists of 19 cantos in which some selected important incidents in lives of eight kings – Dilipa, Raghu, Aja, Dasaratha, Sri Rama, Kusa, Atithi, and Agnivarna are described in detail.

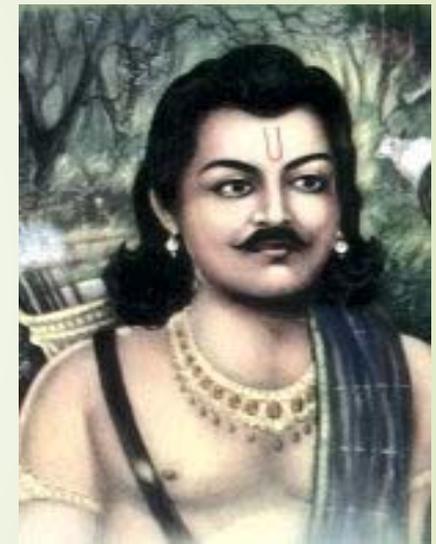


Paintings inspired by Raguvamsam

# King Dileepa

King Dileepa was courageous and valiant. He had his lessons, even when very young, from the sage Vasishtha and was considered very intelligent. Those who erred would be terrified at his mere sight. The sole aim of his life was the welfare of the people. He was like a father to all his subjects. Sudakshinadevi, a daughter of the royal house of Magaadha, was Dileepa's queen. She was as good natured as she was beautiful, and treated the subjects as her own children. People were all very happy that it was their good fortune to have such a good king and a good queen.

King Dileepa was of such lofty lineage, belonging to the sun race had a vast realm. The way as the prince of this dynasty he was educated was surprising. As the king he thought that if there was no keen desire for the knowledge, then knowledge would not come, that there could be no knowledge without humility any hard work. He was educated just like all other children.



Painting of King Dilipa



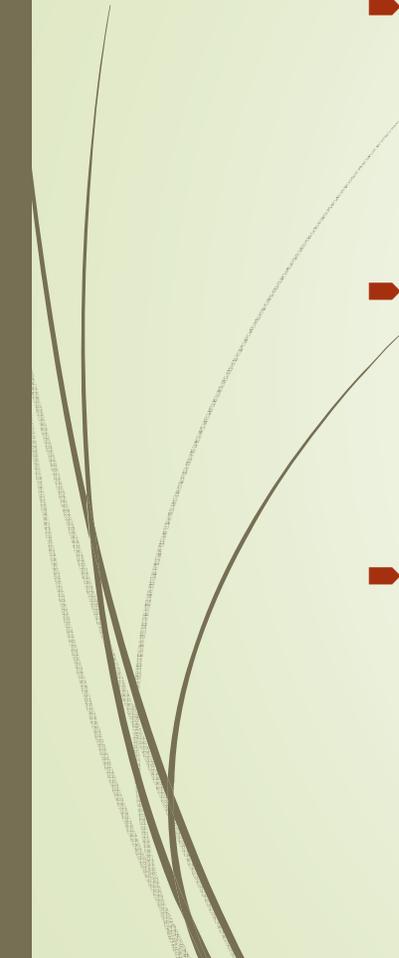
Even as a prince he stayed in the abode of the teachers and did all service to them. he went on rounds as prescribed, seeking alms. With all humility learned from his teachers. No such price could even get the feeling that he was the son of an emperor and therefore superior to other students. When he grew up they served the society; when old, he gave up his kingdom, lived in hermitages like sages, and finally practicing control of the senses through yoga, gave up their lives in the meditation of God. King Dileepa was of such lofty lineage.

The King thus had plenty of weal and wealth. But there was no happiness in his mind for there was no child to continue his royal lineage. Dileepa's sorrow was all the greater when he saw the queen vexed. The King, sunk in sorrow and he felt they should seek the blessings of sages. He resolved to call on sage Vasistha, the preceptor of the entire dynasty and follow his advice. So he handed over his administration to his ministers and getting into the chariot with his queen Sudhakshina at an auspicious time, left his capital Ayodhya to go to sage Vasistha's hermitage.



## King Dileepa's Governance.

- ▶ Dilipa possessed a strong and well-built body capable of discharging his duties as a king. His wisdom, learning and 30 enterprises were all very great in proportion to his magnificent personality. He was dreaded by the wicked and loved by the good. Under his rule, the people followed the righteous path.
- ▶ The army was a mere ornament to him because he never depended on it to gain his object, but relied only on his own strength and wisdom.
- ▶ Sense of duty, self-control, fearlessness, tolerance and learning co-existed in him like brothers. He looked after the education, protection and maintenance of his subjects and hence he was regarded as their father.
- ▶ Free from greed, he collected taxes only to spend for the welfare of the people. Natural calamities did not visit his kingdom and the people were free from the fear of thieves and robbers.

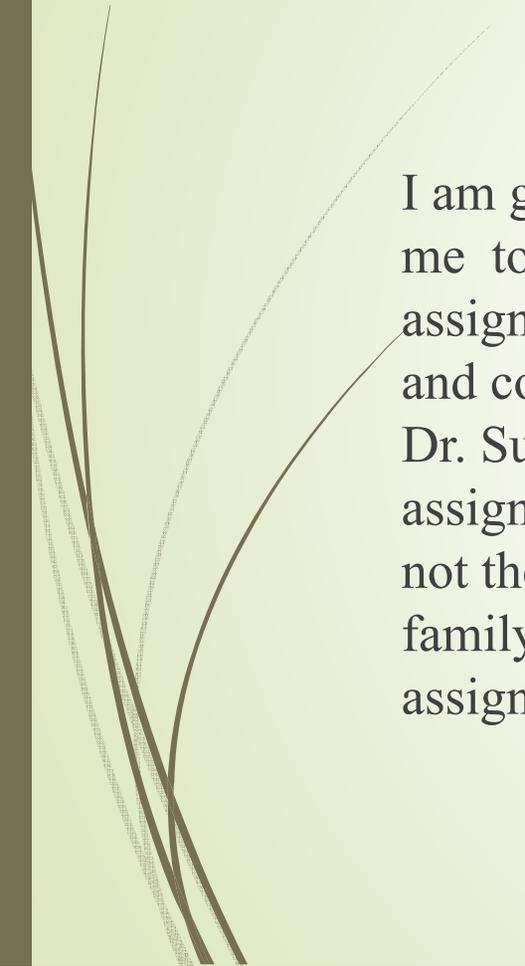
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- He was quite impartial and his virtues existed only for the benefit of others. Being a pious king, he performed sacrifices to please the Gods who, in turn, made the crops grow well by giving timely rains. He ruled the earth with ease as if it were a single city. He was an ideal king who possessed most of the family traits mentioned before.
  - Dilipa married Sudakshina, the princess of Magadha, whom he loved dearly. By her he had no issue for a long time and hence he handed over the Government to the ministers and went with his wife to the hermitage of his Guru, Vasishtha in order to perform, at his direction, the religious rites that would enable him to beget a son. On reaching the hermitage and a warm welcome by guru vasistha.
  - Dilipa said that there was prosperity in all the seven constituents of his state when he, his guru, was the removes of all the man made and natural calamities. The enemies have been subdued by the spells of Vasishta and the Gods have been pleased by his performance of sacrifices.

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- ▶ As a true disciple, he obeyed the command of the Guru. The absence of progeny pained him more because he could not discharge the debt to his departed forefathers. Though a ruling monarch, he willingly undertook the rigorous vow of attending on the cow and living the life of ascetics, slept on Kusa grass
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  - ▶ Rarely we come across a king who is so great and powerful and at the same time so simple, modest and pious. Though the prosperity of his kingdom was as much due to his valour and ability as to the power of Vasishtha, he modestly attributed it to the Brahminical power of the Guru. Such is an ideal king of Kalidasa.

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- “That my subjects live the full period of human life. Free from fear (worries) and public calamities are due to your Brahminical power”
  - The Guru possessed of great Brahminical power looked after the welfare of the king, the kingdom was sure to be prosperous and happy. But Dilipa was unhappy in one respect. He had no issue and the thought that his ancestors were worried fearing the stoppage of the offerings of pindh and shraddha pained him very much.
  - Progeny alone was capable of giving happiness in this and the other world. Without that, his condition was indeed pitiable and the Guru should feel sympathy for him as he would on seeing a barren tree of the hermitage watered by himself. Only by begetting a son, one could discharge the debt due to the ancestors. So Dilipa wanted Vasishta to do that by which he would be blessed with a child.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



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THANK YOU