Sthalapurana, Jnatipurana and Mahatmyas of Gujarat:

An overview

Presented By:

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1. Introduction

- Gujarat
- Boundaries of Gujarat
- Name of Gujarat
- Part of Gujarat in Ancient period
  - Northern Part – Anart
  - Southern Part- Aparanata or Lata
  - Peninsular Gujarat - Surastra
- The exact boundaries of Gujarat
- Area of Gujarat
  - 1,96,024 Square Kms.
  - 20-1° and 24.7° N. latitude
  - 68.4° and 74.4° E. longitude
- Contribution of Gujarat to Sanskrit literature & Purana literature
2. The term Purana

- Etymology of the word Purana
- Derivation of the word according to Panini
- The Term explained in Vayupurana
- The Term explained in Padmapurana
- Etymology given by Nirukta
- Puranat Puranam
- Five characteristics of Purana
3. Antiquity of Puranic tradition

- As old as Vedic period
- Reference of AV
- Quotation of Satapatha Brahman
- Quotation of Brahadranyaka upanisad
- Reference of Apastambadharmasutra
- Reference of The Adi Sankarachary in Chandogya upanisad
- Reference of Chandogya upanisad
4. Extent, Number & Kinds of Puranas

- Mahapuranas - 18
- Upapuranas - more than 18
- Minor Puranas
  I. Sthala Purana
  II. Sthala mahatmayas
  III. Caste-Puranas
5. Gujarat – A treasure of minor puranas

- Date of the minor puranas
- Importance of minor puranas
- List of the puranas noticed and described
6. The richest treasure of the minor purana literature

- Addition of the 6 puranas to the list
  I. Tapimahatmya
  II. Revamahatmya
  III. Gomatipurana
  IV. Dankapuramahatmya
  V. Dwarakamahatmya
  VI. Kayavarohanamahatmya

- Addition of two more puranas written in Gujarati language
  I. Mahimahatmya  II. Bhungala purana

- Truly proves the richest sector of purana literature.
7. Description of Puranas

- Tapimahatmya
- Kayavarohanamahatmya
- Gomati Purana
- Dankapuramahatmya
- Bhungala Purana
- Mahimahatmya
- Brahmaksetra-mahatmya
- Dharmaranya-purana
- Kalika-Purana
- Kandulapurana
- Kotyarkamahatmya
- Nandi-Purana
- Sarasvatipurana
- Srimalapurana
- Saciharopakhyana
- Siddhavatikamahatmya
- Valakhilya-Purana
- Vayu-purana
- Visvamitrimahatmya
- Limbaja-purana
- Mallapurana
- Nandipurana
8. General observation

- Puranas claim to be parts of Skandapurana, Padmapurana, Shivpurana etc. and they are missing in the printed available purana texts.
- Gujarat had an active tradition of Purana study
- It was active after 1000 A.D.
- Graphic description in the puranic style
- There is a phenomenon of mythological presentation of social, religious and political, historical events
- Puranas serve a good source of ancient and medieval history of Gujarat.
THANK YOU