



శ్రీ వేపచేదు విద్యా పీఠము

VEPACHEDU EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

మన సంస్కృతి

Mana Sanskriti (Our Culture)

Chief Editor: Dr. Sreenivasarao Vepachedu, Esq.

Kshetrayya

(17th Century AD)

Name: Varadayya *aka* Kshetrayya

Contributions: *enta chakkani, inta proddaaye, inka ninnu boanittu naa, aluka, deeruna, aligithe, alAgE manchidi, eelAgaTavE buddhi, manchi dinamu, evvADE, rArA sAmi rArA, valapu nilupa*

Language: Telugu

Varadayya lived in Muvva village near Kuchipudi in Krishna district in Andhra. He was a devotee of Lord Krishna in the Muvva temple.

Varadayya is well known by the title “Kshetrayya,” which means “one who has knowledge of *kshetras* (holy and sacred places)” in recognition of his numerous pilgrimages.

While he was studying dance at Muvva temple of Lord Krishna, he fell in love with a *Devadasi* (“female servant of God,” a woman who dedicates her life to God and provides services such as dance and music at the temple) and wrote devotional songs involving romance and sensuality - about 4000 devotional compositions. His devotion to lord Krishna is expressed in a devotional form called *Sringara Bhakti* (*sensual devotion*).

Watch a dance clip evoking love, loss, and relationships between self, friend, and lover God, in this contemporary *abhinaya* (emotional expression) inspired by a poem by Ksetrayya at: <http://movingpoems.com/poet/kshetrayya/>

Issue 166

5113 *Kali Era*, Khara Year, Karthika month
2069 *Vikramarka Era*, Khara Year, Karthika month
1933 *Salivahana Era*, Khara Year, Karthika month
2011 AD, November

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<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kshetrayya>

"Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not every man's greed." -
Mahatma Gandhi

Hinduism is a way of life, with diversity of religion, and Indian teachings share the
importance of *seva* (service).

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Om! Asatoma Sadgamaya, Tamasoma Jyotirgamaya, Mrityorma Amritamgamaya,

Om Shantih, Shantih, Shantih!

**(Aum! Lead the world from wrong path to the right path, from ignorance to
knowledge, from mortality to immortality, and peace!)**

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