



శ్రీ వేపచేదు విద్యా పీఠము

VEPACHEDU EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

మన సంస్కృతి

Mana Sanskriti (Our Culture)

[Chief Editor: Dr. Sreenivasarao Vepachedu, Esq.](#)

## Surana Pingali (16th Century)

Surana was one of the *ashtadiggajas* of Srikrishnadevarayalu. He was from the village Pingali. Surana's mother was Ambamaamba and father was Amarana. The line of descent is said to go back to the Vedic sage Gautama. The family genealogy in *Prabhāvati-pradyumnamu* mentions, immediately after Gautama, an ancestor named Goka, a poet who composed a text in praise of Vishnu's sword. Surana was a Shaivite.

Surana established the tradition of pun poems. A reader is advised to concentrate on one meaning of the work and later come back to re-read it for the second meaning. He set six principles for himself in writing such works: 1) to create the possibility of two meanings, 2) to break words in two different ways, 3) to exploit various meanings of a word, 4) to suggest a different to words with fixed meaning, 5) to exploit pun in interpretation, and 6) to exploit pun in the sound of a word. Thus, Surana's poetry is characterized by a highly creative and meaningful use of pun in several different ways like pun-based metaphor, pun-based personification, pun-based irony, etc.

His works include *raaghavapaamdaveeyam*, *kalaapoornodayamu*, *prabhaavatepradyumnamu*, *garudapuraanam*, *giriakalyaanamu*, etc. *Raaghavapaamdaveeyamu* is a work of pun, in which he narrated the story of *Ramayana* and *Mahabharata* in one poem.

According to Narayanarao Velcheru, "the *kalaapoornodayamu* is a thoroughly "modern" work—a playful exploration of the limits of linguistic expressivity and of the ecology of available literary genres or forms; a complex psychologizing of the human mind; the elaborate working through of a plot that constantly twists and surprises the reader with its multiple perspectives and unconventional sensibility. At the same time, it is a long poem cast in the accepted modes of courtly poetry that were perfected by Suranna's predecessors." Suranna recounts the story of a young courtesan who falls in

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love with the most handsome man in the universe and overhears him speaking of a mysterious person whose story must never be told. Burning with curiosity and desire, she ventures to the god Krishna's palace, where much intrigue and adventure ensue. *Kalaapoornoadayamu* is considered by some to be the first novel written in South Asia, and the translation of this classic fills a gap in the literature of the East. Western scholars have tended to ignore Telugu literature, from the region now known as Andhra Pradesh, in favor of Sanskrit writings. But this sixteenth-century masterpiece, an adventure tale similar in structure to the Arabian Nights, explodes preconceived ideas about early South Indian literature - for example, that the characters lack interiority, that the language is formulaic, and that Telugu texts are mere translations of earlier Sanskrit works.

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#### Bamiyan Buddhas

The Tum scientists in Afghanistan have been able to date the construction of the smaller Buddha to between 544 and 595 and the larger Buddha between 591 and 644. The world watched helplessly in horror as Islamic Taliban fanatics ten years ago blew up the two gigantic Buddha statues that had since the 6th century looked out over the Bamiyan

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Valley in what is now Afghanistan. <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/02/110225122816.htm>

**"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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