

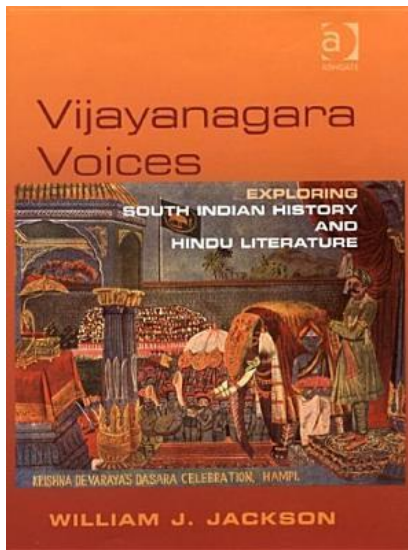
Vijayanagara Voices: Exploring South Indian History and Hindu Literature

William J. Jackson

Ashgate Publishing, 2005

Hardcover

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The Vijayanagara Empire flourished in South India between 1336 and 1565. Conveying the depth and creativity of Hindu religious and literary expression during that time, *Vijayanagara Voices* explores some of the contributions made by poets, singer-saints, and philosophers. Through translations and discussions of their lives and times, Jackson presents the voices of these cultural figures and reflects on the concerns of their era, looking especially into the vivid images in their works and their legends. He examines how these images convey both spiritual insights and physical experiences with memorable candour. The studies also raise intriguing questions about the empire's origins and its response to Muslim invaders, its 'Hinduness', and reasons for its ultimate decline. *Vijayanagara Voices* is a book about patterns in history, literature and life in South India. By examining the culture's archetypal displays, by understanding the culture in its

own terms, and by comparing associated images and ideas from other cultures, this book offers unique insights into a rich and influential period in Indian history.

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