

Satyanārāyaṇ vrat kathā in the Hindi Speaking Area

by Toshio TANAKA

This interim report on *Satyanārāyaṇ vrat kathā* consists of the following chapters.

1. Introductory Notes
 - 1) My first chance to attend the *Satyanārāyaṇ kathā* ceremony.
 - 2) Hindi short stories that contain mention of this *kathā*.
 - 3) Popularization of this *kathā* in the Hindi speaking area.
2. *Vrat, Kathā* and *Satyanārāyaṇ vrat kathā*
 - 1) Common understanding about *vrat* among Hindus in the Hindi speaking area.
 - 2) Differences between *vrat kathā* and *carit kathā*.
 - 3) Some specific features of *Satyanārāyaṇ vrat kathā* in comparison with other *vrat kathās*.
3. Translation of *Satyanārāyaṇ vrat kathā* published by Navalkiśor Press.
4. Various Editions and Recording Tapes
 - 1) Regional differences and annotators.
 - 2) Some differences in voice, narration and learning among narrators.
 - 3) Reciprocity between narrator and his audience.
5. Concluding Remarks
 - 1) Deity *Satyanārāyaṇ*.
 - 2) Formation and circulation of *Satyanārāyaṇ vrat kathā*.
 - 3) Relation among *Purāṇas*, *Kathās* and *Pañcālīs* in connection with divergence of interpretation.