

Āryabha I Encyclopedia.com

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(b. A. D.476).

Āryabhaṭa I clearly states his connection with Kusumapura (Pāṭaliputra, modern Patna in Bihar), which had been the imperial capital of the Guptas for much of the fourth and fifth centuries. The assertion of Nīlakaṇṭha Somasutvan (b. 1443) that Āryabhaṭa was born in the Aśmakajanapada (this presumably refers to the Nizamabad district of [Andhra Pradesh](#)) is probably the result of a confusion with his predecessor. Bhāskara I, as commentator on the *Āryabhaṭīya*, Āryabhaṭa I wrote two works: the *Āryabhaṭīya* in 499 (see Essay V), and another, lost treatise in which he expounded the *ārdharātrika* system (see Essay VI).

The *Āryabhaṭīya* consists of three parts and a brief introduction: *Daśagītikā*, introduction with parameters (ten verses); *Gaṇitapāda*, mathematics (thirtythree verses); *Kālakriyāpāda*, the reckoning of time and the planetary models (twenty-five verses); *Golapāda*, on the sphere, including eclipses (fifty verses). It was translated into Arabic in about 800 under the title *Zīj al-Arjabhar*, and it is to this translation that all the quotations in al-Bīrūnī refer, including those that led Kaye to conclude—mistakenly—that the *Gaṇitapāda* was not written by Āryabhaṭa I.

The *Āryabhaṭīya* has been commented on many times, especially by scholars of south India, where it was particularly studied. The names of those commentators who are known are as follows:

1. Prabhākara (ca. 525). His commentary is lost.
2. Bhāskara I (629). His *Bhāṣya* is being edited by K. S. Śukla of Lucknow.
3. Someśvara (fl. 1040). His *Vāsanābhāṣya* is preserved in two manuscripts in the Bombay University Library.
4. Sūryadeva Yajvan of Kerala (b. 1191). There are many manuscripts of his *Bhaṭaparakāśa*, in south India.
5. Parameśvara (fl. 1400–1450). His *Bhaṭadīpikā*, based on Sūryadeva's *Bhaṭaparakāśa*, was published by H. Kern (see below).
6. Nīlakaṇṭha Somasutvan (b. 1443). His *Bhāṣya* is published in *Trivandrum Sanskrit Series* (see below).
7. Yallaya (fl. 1482). His *Vyākhyāna* is based on Sūryadeva's *Bhaṭaparakāśa*; there is one manuscript of it in Madras and another among the Mackenzie manuscripts in the India Office Library.
8. Raghunātha (fl. 1590). His *Vyākhyāna* is dealt with by K. Madhava Krishna Sarma, "The *Āryabhaṭīyavyākhyā* of Raghunātharāja—A Rare and Hitherto Unknown Work," in *Brahmavidyā*, 6 (1942), 217–227.
9. Kodaṇḍarāma of the Koṭikalapūḍikula, a resident of Bobbili in the Godāvārī district of [Andhra Pradesh](#) (fl. 1854). Besides an *Āryabhaṭatantraṅgita*, he wrote a Telugu commentary on the *Āryabhaṭīya* entitled *Sudhātaraṅga*; it was edited by V. Lakshmi Narayana Sastri, in *Madras Government Oriental Series*, 139 (Madras, 1956).
10. Bhūtiṣṇu. There is apparently only one manuscript (in Berlin) and its apograph (in Washington, D. C.) of his commentary (*Bhāṣya*) on the *Daśagītikā*.
11. Ghaṭāgopa. There are two manuscripts of his *Vyākhyā* in Trivandrum.
12. Virūpākṣa Sūri. There is a manuscript of his Telugu commentary in Mysore.

There also exists a Marāṭhī translation of the *Āryabhaṭīya* in a manuscript at Bombay.

There are several editions of the *Āryabhaṭīya*. That by H. Kern (Leiden, 1874) is accompanied by the commentary of Parameśvara. Kern's text and commentary were reprinted and translated into Hindi by Udaya Nārāyana Singh (Madhurapur, Etawah, 1906). A new edition of the text, with the commentary of Nīlakaṇṭha Somasutvan (who does not include the *Daśagītikā*), was published in three volumes: Vols. I and II by K. Sāmbśiva Śāstrī and Vol. III by Suranad Kunjan Pillai, in *Trivandrum Sanskrit Series*, 101, 110, and 185 (Trivandrum, 1930, 1931, 1957). The text has also been published accompanied

by two new commentaries, one in Sanskrit and one in Hindi, by Baladeva Mishra (Patna, 1966). The *Gaṇitapāda* was translated into French by Léon Rodet, in *Journal Asiatique*, **7**, no. 13 (1879), 393–434; and into English by G. R. Kaye, in *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, **4** (1908), 111–141. Complete English translations have been made by Baidyanath Rath Sastri (Chicago, 1925; unpub.); P. C. Sengupta, *Journal of the Department of Letters of Calcutta University*, **16** (1927), 1–56; and W. E. Clark (Chicago, 1930).

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It is intended here to include references only to those books and articles that are primarily concerned with Āryabhata I and his works; the many other papers and volumes that mention and/or discuss him can be found listed in David Pingree *Census of the Exact Sciences in India*. Listed chronologically, the references are F.-E. Hall, “On the Ārya-siddhānta,” in *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, **6** (1860), 556–559, with an “Additional Note on Āryabhata and his Writings” by the Committee of Publication (essentially W. D. Whitney), *ibid.*, 560–564; H. Kern, “On Some Fragments of Āryabhata,” in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* **20** (1863), 371–387 repr. in Kern’s *Vespreide Geschriften I* (The Hague, 1913), 31–46; Bhāu Dājī, “Brief Notes on the Age and Authenticity of the Works Āryabhata, Varāhamihira, Brahmagupta, Bhaṭṭotpala, and Bhāskaraṅcāya,” in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* (1865), pp. 392–418 (Āryabhata only pp. 392–406, 413–414); L. Rodet, “Sur la véritable signification de la notation numérique inventée par Āryabhata” in *Journal Asiatique*, ser. 7, **16** (1880), 440–485; Sudhākara Dvivedin Gaṇakatarmṅiṇī (Benares, 1933; repr. from *The Pandit*, **14** [1892]), 2–7; Ś. B. Dīkṣita, *Bhāratiya Jyotiḥśāstra* (Poona, 1931; repr. of Poona ed., 1896), pp. 190–210; G. Thibaut, *Astronomie, Astrologie und Mathematik, Grundriss der indo-arischen Philologie und Altertumskunde*, III, pt. 9, (Strasbourg, 1899), 54–55; T. R. Pillai, *Ārybhata or the Newton of Indian Astronomy* (Madras, 1905—not seen—reviewed in *Indian Thought* [1907], pp. 213–216); G. R. Kaye, “Two Āryabhata’s,” in *Bibliotheca mathematica*, **10** (1910), 289–292; J. F. Fleet, “Āryabhata’s System of Expressing Numbers,” in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* (1911), pp. 109–126; N. K. Mazumdar, “Āryabhata’s Rule in Relation to Indeterminate Equations of the First Degree,” in *Bulletin of the Calcutta Mathematical Society*, **3** (1911/1912), 11–19; J. F. Fleet, “Tables for Finding the Mean Place of Saturn,” in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* (1915), pp. 741–756; P. C. Sengupta, “Āryabhata’s Method of Determining the Mean Motions of Planets,” in *Bulletin of the Calcutta Mathematical Society*, **12** (1920/1921), 183–188.

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