

1067-11-1678

Toke L Knudsen* (toke.knudsen@oneonta.edu), Dept. of Math, Comp. Sci., and Stats, SUNY Oneonta, 108 Ravine Parkway, Oneonta, NY 13820. *Poetry in Sanskrit Mathematics.*

While many Sanskrit treatises are written in metrical form, they do not necessarily qualify as poetry. This is also true for mathematical treatises in Sanskrit. However, a number of Indian mathematicians, including Bhāskara II (b. 1114 CE) and Jñānarāja (fl. 1500 CE), employ poetry in their presentation of problems given to the reader of their works. These problems employ not only poetic imagery, but also advanced poetic techniques, such as double entendre. As such, a unique experience for the reader and the student alike, is created.

In addition to providing a history, the talk will focus on the scholarly and pedagogical considerations behind the use of such poetry in Sanskrit mathematics, as well as the implications for the learner. (Received September 21, 2010)