# A Study on Dhvani Discussion of Siyabaslakara

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### සාරාංශය

මෙම පතිකාව *සියබස්ලකරෙහි* ධ්වති විගුහය සම්බන්ධ විමර්ශනයකි. අනුරාධපුර යුගයේ පළමු *සේන රජු* (කි.ව. 826-846) එම කෘතිය ලියූ බව සාම්පුදායික පිළිගැනීම වන අතර එය *දණ්ඩීන්ගේ කාවහාදර්ශය* (7 හෝ 8 සියවස) ඇසුරු කොට ගත් පරිවර්තනයකි. මුල් කෘතිය පදානුපදික ව සිංහලයට පරිවර්තනය නොකරන ලේඛකයා සිංහල කවියේ අනනෳතා කෙරෙහි සාවධාන වෙමින් සිදු කර ඇති වෙනස්කම් ගණනාවක් ම එහි දක්නට ලැබේ. *ගුණ-රීති* හා *ධ්වනි* යන සාකච්ඡා ඒ අතුරින් වැදගත් වේ. ගුණාත්මක පර්යේෂණ මූලධර්ම යටතේ පුාථමික හා ද්විතීයික මූලාශුයයන් ඔස්සේ මෙම අධායනය සිදු වන අතර මෙහි දී පුාථමික මූලාශුය වශයෙන් *සියබස්ලකර, සිදුත් සඟරාව* වැනි සිංහල මූල ගන්ථ ද, *කාවහාදර්ශය, ධ්වනහාලෝක* වැනි සංස්කෘත මූල ගුන්ථ ද විමසා බැලේ. ද්විතීයික මූලාශුය වශයෙන් පශ්චාත් කාලීන විචාරකයන් ඒ සම්බන්ධ ව පළ කර ඇති පොත්-පත්, ලිපිලේඛන, පර්යේෂණ ආදිය වීමසා බැලේ. අන්තර්ගත විශ්ලේෂණය මෙහි දත්ත සාකච්ඡා කිරීමේ කුමවේදයයි. මෙම අධායනය  $extit{ ilde B}$ යබස් $extit{ ilde C}$ කරෙහි 400-402 යන ගී තුනට සීමා වන්නකි. ඇතැම් විචාරකයන්ගේ අදහස වන්නේ *සියබස්ලකර* කතුවරයා *මෙනෙන අරුත* හා *අත් බෙලෙන් එන අරුත* යනුවෙන් දක්වන අර්ථ භේදය අර්ථ මට්ටම් දෙකක් සම්බන්ධ විගුහයක් වූවත් එය *ධ්වනි* ලක්ෂණයක් නොවන බවයි. එය ඉන්දියානු තර්ක ශාස්තුය සමඟ බැඳුණු *අනුමිති* සංකල්පයට අයත් බව ඔවුන්ගේ අදහසයි. සිංහල විචාර ක්ෂේතුයට *ධ්වනි* සංකල්පය පිළිබඳ මූලික අදහසක් හඳුන්වා දීම *සියබස්ලකර* කතුවරයාගේ *ධ්වනි* විගුහයේ අභිපාය වී ඇති බව මෙම අධායනයට අනුව නිගමනය කළ හැකි වෙයි. *ධ්වති වාදය, සියබස්ලකරේ ධ්වති* විගුහය, *සියබස්ලකර ධ්වති* විගුහයේ විශේෂතා, සාකච්ඡාව හා නිගමන යන පිළිවෙළින් මෙහි කරුණු ඉදිරිපත් කිරීම සිදු වේ.

*පුමුඛ පද* : අනුමිති වාදය, ධ්වනහාලෝකය, ධ්වනි, ධ්වනි වාදය, සියබස්ලකර

## 1. Introduction

## Dhvani Vāda

Dhvanyālōka (the light of Dhvani) written by Ānandawardhena is the main text for the Dhvani Vāda. Introducing Dhvani Vāda, the critics of Dhvani have explained that the Dhvani is the soul of the poems. 202 According to critics of Dhvani, there are two main levels of meaning of the words Vācyārtha, the denotations, and Vyaṃgārtha, the connotations. Vācyārtha are the verbal meanings, and Vyaṃgārtha are the hidden meanings. The importance of Vācyārtha is only to achieve Vyaṃgārtha, and after that those words become useless, however, Vyaṃgārtha are shining like the beauty of ladies described in the poems. Dhvanitārtha, Gamyārtha, Gamyamāna Artha, and Pratītārtha are some of the synonyms for the Vyaṃgārtha.

Rasa and Alaṃkāra are the two oldest critical theories of Sanskrit, and the Rasa Vāda is the base of Dhvani Vāda. Same as Dhvani, Rasa, the taste is not a verbal presentation but an aesthetic delight which is related to Dhvani, the connotations.<sup>203</sup> Some critics have analysed that the base of Dhvani is the Spothana theory, the explosive theory of grammarians,<sup>204</sup> and other critics have discussed the rhetorical relationship of it.<sup>205</sup> Having started Dhvanyālōka, Ānandawardhena, the author of it mentioned the ideas of the previous critics of Dhvani before him.<sup>206</sup> Nevertheless, Ānandawardhena is the pioneer critic of Dhvani because of his official book Dhvanyālōka. Abhinawaguptha, the successor of Ānandawardhena introduced Dhvani concepts to the general society having written the book Dhvanyālōka Lōcana, the commentary book for Dhvanyālōka in 10<sup>th</sup> century.

<sup>202</sup> "Kavyasyatma dhvani", K. Krishnamoorthy., (1982). *Dvanyaloka of Anandawardhana* .Delhi. Indologica. Publishers & Booksellers. (1.1), P. 2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>203</sup> G. H. Wijewardena., (1967). *Sanskrutha Kavya Vicharaye Muladharma* .Colombo. M.D. Gunasena. Chapter 4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>204</sup> Kiwlegedara Narada Thero, *'Dvani Sankalpaya Handuna Geneema ha Sahithya Vicharayehila ehi* 

Upayogeethawa', Pragna Vibhushana – Mahacharya Angulugaha Damminda Nahimi Abhinandana

Shastreeya Sangrahaya, (Ed.) Unuwathurabubule Mahinda Thero, Thamaduwe Dewananda Thero & Neil

Pushpakumara, (No publishing details, 2014), P. 87

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>205</sup> Ananda, Abesiriwardhena., (2020). *Dvani Siddhanthaya ha Pariharika Vicharaya*.Colombo. S. Godage, P. 1-41

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>206</sup> K. Krishnamoorthy., (1982). *Dvanyaloka of Anandawardhana*. Delhi. Indological Publishers & Booksellers. (1.1), P. 3

Kāvyaprakāś by Mammata (11th century), Sāhityadarpaņa by Vishvanatha (14th century), and Rasagangadhara by Jagannatha (17th century) are the other main texts which discuss the theories of *Dhvani*. <sup>207</sup>

# Siyabaslakara and Its Dhvani Explanation

King Sena I who ruled Sri Lanka from 826 AD to 846 AD in the early part of the 9th century of the Anuradhapura era, is the author of Siyabaslakara according to common belief of many critics. Although it is a translation of Kāvyadarśa written by Dandīn in the 7th century208 and is an introduction of the main critical theories of the original book translated into Sinhala, some new principles<sup>209</sup> such as *Dhvani* have been added by him.

The stanzas 400, 401 and 402 of the 3rd chapter of Siyabaslakara are the basic explanations of Dhvani, yet the writer does not use the word Dhvani and he uses the words Penena arut, the denotation, and At belen ena arut, the connotation.

After the introduction of two different levels of the meanings of Penena arut and At belen ena aruth in stanza 400, the writer of Siyabaslakara explains those two meanings. Penena arut are conveyed when hearing or reading a certain word, and it is related to Vācyārtha, the denotation which is combined with Abhidha Vyapara, the conventional meanings of the critics of Dhvani in Sanskrit.

> මපණෙනත් අත් බෙලෙන් - එන අරුතුදු සදතු දෙක යම් සද සවණවෙහි හෙත - හැමෙනු පෙනණනත නම් වේ<sup>210</sup>

Penenat at belen - ena arutudu sadatu deka Yam sada savanatehi heta - häñgenu penanatha nam vē

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>207</sup> Yakkaduwe Pannarama Thero, 'Navina Vichara Kalawa ha Rasavada Vichara Vicharaya', Vidulakara

Journal of the Vidyalankara University, Number 4 (Kelaniya: Research center of Vidyalankara University,

<sup>1965),</sup> P. 87-185

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>208</sup> Punchi, Bandara, Sannasgala., (1994). *Sinhala Sahithya Wansaya*. Colombo. Government Press of Sri Lanka, P. 78 and Punchibanda Ekanayaka, Chiranthana Sinhala Sahithya Vichara Chinthanaye Vikasanaya. Colombo: Samayawardhena Bookshop, 1999), P. 2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>209</sup> Chiranthana Sinhala Sahithya Vichara Chinthanaye Vikasanaya, P. 34

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>210</sup> Lelvala Siriniwasa Thero, Benthara Dhammasena Thero and Heagoda Dhamminda Thero, Siyabaslakara, Vivaranaya (Colombo: M.D. Gunasena, 1948), (3.400), P.209

In stanza 401, he explains that the words convey other meanings like the other things which are shown by the light of the lamp as the *At belen ena aruta*. It is not the verbal meaning of the word, but the conjectural meaning, and it is related to *Vyangārtha*, the connotation combined with *Vyanjana Vyapara*, the hidden meanings of the critics of *Dhvani* in Sanskrit.

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වෙන වෙන දුටු සදින් - බඳනෙව් පහතින් පෙණෙන
දැනෙන අනුමෙනෙනරුතට - අත් බෙලෙනෙනරුත් වියත්<sup>111</sup>
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Vena vena duṭu sadin - bañdanev pahanin penena Dänena anumenenarutaṭa - at belenenarut viyat

The stanza 402 is an example of these theories. "This fat person does not eat in the daytime." That man fasting in the daytime is the Penena Aruta, the denotation of this example, and his eating at night is the At belen ena aruta, the connotation of it.

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තුමුල් සිරුරැති මේ - දහවල් බත නො බුදි යත,
දහවල් නොකනු පෙණෙනත - රෑ බිත් බෙලෙන් ඒන අරුත්<sup>12</sup>
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Tumul siruräti mē - dahaval bata no budi yata, Dahaval nokanu peņenata - rā bit belen ēna arut

## 2. Discussion

King Sena I who governed Sri Lanka from 826 AD to 846 AD, was invited to write that book by Amaragiri Kasubu, his elder brother, and thus became the author of Siyabaslakara. Although in that period Amaragiri Kasubu had served as a minister in his kingdom, 213 he died in the fight between King Sena I and King Pandi (Pandya). According to the text Siyabaslakara, it was written during the period in which Amaragiri Kasubu served as a minister. "Nidos Methi Siri Nives" (a place for the unexceptionable ministership) of stanza 406 of Siyabaslakara is a statement about his great active service. If he was a dead person, it should have been changed as a past statement. Because of that statement, it is evident that Siyabaslakara was written before 846 AD, before the mid-9th century.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>211</sup> Siyabaslakara Vivaranaya, (3.401), P.210

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>212</sup> Siyabaslakara Vivaranaya, (3.402), P.210

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>213</sup> Siyabaslakara Vivaranaya, (3.406), P.212

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>214</sup> Mahavansaya, (Colombo: Government Press, 1931), Chapter 50, P. 43

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>215</sup> Siyabaslakara Vivaranaya, (3.406), P.212

According to *Rajatharanganee* by *Kalhana*, *Ānandawardhena*, the founder of the *Dhvani Vāda* was one of the advisory committee members of King *Awanthivarman* who governed *Kashmir* from 855 AD to 884 AD, and it was the period during which he composed that book.<sup>216</sup> The scholars *Bukhlar* and *Yakobi* also explained that the period in which the book was written was the mid-9th century.<sup>217</sup> The result of the comparison of these phenomena reveals that the *Siyabaslakara* is older than *Dhvanyālōka*.

The book Kāvyālamkāra Sūtra was written by Vamana, the founder of the Guṇa-Rīti Vāda at the end of the 8th century, and he was appreciated by the author of Siyabaslakara in the second stanza of the chapter in one of his books as "Pavara Wamana Dandi ea namada kav lakunejaran" 218 (having worshipped the great poetic critic Vamana, Dandi, etc.). Due to the authorship of the Dandī of the book Kāvyadarśa, the original text of Siyabaslakara worships him by the Siyabaslakara writer is not doubtful but worshipping the author of the book Kāvyālamkāra Sūtra provides evidence for the acknowledgement about the Guna-Rīti concept by the author of Siyabaslakara King Sena I. If Dhvanyālōka by Ānandawardhena had been written before the Siyabaslakara, the author of Siyabaslakara should have mentioned him. This is another evidence to indicate that Siyabaslakara is way older than Dhvanyālōka, and it is clear that the discussion based on the two different levels of the meanings of Siyabaslakara is not a reflection of the Vācyārtha and the Vyamgārtha mentioned in Dhvanyālōka, and that discussion is believed to be an older source than of *Ānandawardhena*.

As the conclusion of the journal article of the *University of Ceylon Reviews* written by *Hemapala Wijayawardena*,<sup>219</sup> the twofold meaning discussion of the *Siyabaslakara* is not a reflection of the *Dhvani* concept but an explanation of *Anumiti*, the conjectural concept which is related with Indian logic, and older than *Dhvani Vāda*. Sometimes, conjecture is usable to achieve the meanings of unclear terms. According to the critics of *Anumiti Vāda*, some meanings are conjectural as "eating at night" (the *At belen ena arut*) in the previous explanation of stanza 402 of *Siyabaslakara*.

However, the *Siyabaslakara* author has tried to introduce a basic idea about the *Dhvani*. It is evident that the roots of the *Dhvani* are very complicated, <sup>220</sup> and conjectural concept is one of those. *Siyabaslakara* has explained the early ideas about *Dhvani*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>216</sup> G.S.B. Senanayaka, *Dvanyaloka Vivaranaya* (Colombo: M.D. Gunasena, 1969), P.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>217</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>218</sup> Siyabaslakara Vivaranaya, (1.2), P.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>219</sup> G.H. Wijewardhena, *Kavya Vichara Gaveshana* (Colombo: Nikan Limited, 1968), P. 170

Ananda Abesiriwardhena, *Dvani Siddhanthaya ha Pariharika Vicharaya* (Colombo: S. Godage, 2020), P.
 42-151

Ānandawardhena is the founder of the *Dhvani Vāda* but not the critic who introduced the *Dhvani* concept originally. The first idea which is "Kavyasyathma Dvanirithi Budhair..." (according to the great critics, *Dhvani* is the soul of the poem<sup>221</sup>) in Karika one of *Dhvanyālōka* is an acceptance of the *Dhvani* concept of previous critics of *Dhvani*. If *Siyabaslakara's* writer knew the *Dhvani Vāda* of Ānandawardhena, he should have explained *Dhvani* concepts more clearly than the present explanation. Perhaps he followed the basic *Dhvani* concepts of earlier critics rather than Ānandawardhena.

In stanza 401 of *Siyabaslakara*, connotation has been compared to a "thing" which is seen on account of "light". The connotation is the "thing", and the denotation is the "light" which helps to see the "thing". The importance of light is to see things and after seeing that, its importance also becomes useless. In the same way, the denotations help to achieve the connotations and after the achievement, the duty of the denotations will be finished, and those words become useless. In the poetic language, words such as rose, hen, etc. are used for the women but those words which help to connotate the woman are not dictionary meanings or grammatical meanings for the woman. The combination of light and thing has also been used by *Ānandawardhena*, the author of the *Dhvanyālōka* to explain this phenomenon.<sup>222</sup> This common example is older than both authors, the *Siyabaslakara* writer and the writer of the *Dhvanyālōka*.

The example about the fat person who does not eat during the daytime of Stanza 402 of *Siyabaslakara* is another similar example for the explanations about the twofold meaning levels, and *Mammata* who wrote the *Kāvyaprakāś* in the 12<sup>th</sup> century has used an example similar to this for the same signification. "Phino Dewadaththo Diva Na Bunkthe", "Dewadaththa who has a fat body, does not sleep in the day times" is the example of the *Kāvyaprakāś*. The sleeplessness of the *Dewadaththa* in the daytime is the verbal meaning of this example and his sleep at night times is the hidden meaning of it because the *Kāvyaprakāś* writer had not an opportunity to read the Sinhala text *Siyabaslakara*. This example is considered another common example earlier than both authors.

<sup>223</sup> Kavya Vichara Gaveshana, P. 164

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>221</sup> "Though the learned men of yore have declared time and again that the soul of poetry is suggestion....." K.

Krishnamoorthy, *Dvanyaloka of Anandawardhana* (Delhi: Indological Publishers & Booksellers, 1982), P. 3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>222</sup> "Just a man interested in perceiving objects (in the dark) directs his efforts towards securing a lamp since it is

a means to realize his end, so also does one who is ultimately interested in the suggested meaning proced by

first evincing interest in the conventional meaning." *Dvanyaloka of Anandawardhana*, (1.09), P. 17

Some rhetoric kinds, not only explained in *Siyabaslakara* but also in *Sidat Sañgarāwa* which was written in the *Dambadeniya* era (12<sup>th</sup> century) by *Anawamadassi Thero* are partly similar to twofold meanings of *Siyabaslakara*. *Samasokti* in *Siyabaslakara* and *Anyalapa* in *Sidat Sañgarāwa* are examples. The definition for the *Samasokti*, the condensed metaphor in *Kāvyadarśa* of *Dandīn* is, "Having a certain object in mind when an assertion is made about another object analogous to it, that, as being a shortened mode (of expression), is considered Inclusive Assertion."<sup>224</sup> An example of that kind of rhetoric of *Siyabaslakara* is as follows.

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බොමින් මී රිසි සේ - බමර සුපුල් පියුම් හී
පියගඳ නොපත් කල්හිදු - බල එලඹේ නව මුහුල<sup>225</sup>
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Bomin mī risi sē - bamara supul piyum hī Piyagañda nopat kalhidu - bala elam̃bē nava muhulu

(In a full-bloomed lotus, while sipping honey according to his desire, the bee is (now) kissing a bud in which the fragrance is not yet developed.)

The bee is kissing a bud of lotus while sipping honey in the full-bloomed lotus according to his desire is the verbal meaning of this poem, and the adulterer who is trying to have sex with a little girl while enjoying sexual combinations with young ladies is the hidden meaning.

The Anyalapa (Analap) Metaphor of *Sidat Sañgarāwa* is the rhetorical kind in which the idea is different from that conceived in the mind, manifested by the words, the language.

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මහා මැහී සුව විසලි මලී යා - තිළී දොළී වැසැ එ සලීමලී යා
බොමී වී මී ලි තුඩු විලි පිලී යා - පිලින් නෙලෙන් උලැහී බැලි මිලි යා<sup>226</sup>
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Mañgā mäñgī suva visali malī yā - tiļī doļī väsä e salīmalī yā Bomī vi mī li tuḍu vili pilī yā - pilin nelen uläñgī bäli milī yā

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>224</sup> S.K. Belvalkar., (1994). *Kavyadarsha of Dandin*. Poona. the oriental book supplying agency. (2.205), P. 32

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>225</sup> Siyabaslakara Vivaranaya, (2.219), P. 105

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>226</sup> Rathmalane, Dharmarama, Thero., (1902). *Sidathsangara Vistharasannaya*. Colombo. Sathyasamuchchaya Press, P. 121

(A travelling parrot, seeing the large flowers, was delighted therewith, having perched upon the cotton tree, thinking 'let me extract honey', thrust his beak into a ripe pod- the cotton that up-rose using the bruise exhibited a melancholy appearance.)<sup>227</sup>

In this poem, the verbal meaning which is the behaviour of this travelling parrot is clear and not a doubt or conflict about it. The hidden meaning of this poem is the unsuitability of the belief of external look, and it is a connotation.

Vasthudhvani, Alamkāradhvani and Rasadhvani are the three main kinds of Dhvani according to the Dhvanyālōka <sup>228</sup> but the rhetorical kinds such as Samasokti, Anyalapa are only the situations of the Gunibhutha Vyangya. Gunibhutha Vyangya which is the second class of Dhvani is based on the denotations (Vācyārtha) and connotations (Vyamgārtha) are not the main meanings of those types of poems. The Dhvani (Vyamgārtha) is the second quality of the Gunibutha Vyangya, and it is based on the denotations. The best poetry of Dhvani is the Dhvanikāvya or the poetry of resonance which the suggested sense predominates and supersedes the expressed sense. The second class is that in which the suggested sense is not predominant, and this is called the Gunibhutha Vyangya or the poetry of subordinated suggestion. The third class, the lower kind is called portrait-like poetry or the citrakāvya, and it is the one without any suggested meaning. <sup>229</sup>

#### 3. Conclusion

Two external critical theories  $Gu_n^a-Riti$  and Dhvani have been introduced by the Siyabsalakara, the Sinhala translation of the  $K\bar{a}vyadar\dot{s}a$  written by  $Da_n^ad\bar{n}n$ , and the introduction of Dhvani of it is not a reflection of the  $Dhvany\bar{a}l\bar{o}ka$ , the main critical book for the Dhvani  $V\bar{a}da$ . The Dhvani discussion of Siyabslakara is not an extensive explanation, and it is a basic introduction. Although some scholars have deduced the introduction of the difference of the meanings of Siyabaslakara as an Anumiti, the conjectural concept which is related to Indian logic and older than Dhvani  $V\bar{a}da$ , it is considered a basic introduction of the Dhvani which was explained by the early critics rather than  $\bar{A}nandawardhena$ , the author of  $Dhvany\bar{a}l\bar{o}ka$ .

<sup>227</sup> Games, de Alwis., (1931). *Sidath Sangarawa* .Colombo. Government Printer, P. 86 <sup>228</sup> Kiwlegedara Narada Thero, *'The Application of the Semantic Analysis of Dvani to the poetry'* 

Mahacharya Thissa Kariyawasam Abhinandika, (Ed.) Mudiyanse Disanayaka, Praneeth Abhayasundara & Rathnasiri Arangala (Colombo: S. Godage, 2006), PP. 391-401

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>229</sup> G.S.B. Senanayaka., (1969). *Dvanyaloka Vivaranaya*. Colombo. M.D. Gunasena. 1969), P. 52

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