

CONTENTS

	PAGE No.
Foreword	i
Preface	v
The Materials on which this study is based	xi
List of Abbreviations	xiii
Method of Citing Authorities	xvii
Transliteration Table	xix
Contents	xxi
Section I : Introduction (Summary)	1
CHAPTER I : Introduction	3
Section II : Pre-Āḷvār Period (Summary)	19
CHAPTER II : Viṣṇu in Vedic Literature	23
CHAPTER III : Conception of God in Itihāsas and Purāṇas	39
CHAPTER IV : The Supreme Being in the Bhagavadgītā	77
CHAPTER V : Godhead in the Āgamas and in Ritual Worship	94
CHAPTER VI : The Concept of Bhakti in Ancient Lore	122
CHAPTER VII : Viṣṇu Cult in the Early Tamil Literature	139
CHAPTER VIII : Tenets of Vaiṣṇavism	152
Section III : A Prefatory Study of the Nālāyiram (Summary)	171
CHAPTER IX : The Age of the Āḷvārs	173
CHAPTER X : The Numerology of Nālāyiram...	195
CHAPTER XI : The Compositions of Āḷvārs (I)	215
CHAPTER XII : The Compositions of Āḷvārs (II)	247

Section IV :	<i>Vaiṣṇavite Religion and Philosophy in the Nālāyiram (Summary)</i>	... 263
CHAPTER XIII :	The General Approach of the Ālvārs	... 272
CHAPTER XIV :	The Godhead	... 277
CHAPTER XV :	The Attributes of the Divine	... 285
CHAPTER XVI :	The Forms and Exploits of Nārāyaṇa	... 307
CHAPTER XVII :	Interrelations of God, Self and World	... 345
CHAPTER XVIII :	The Ecstasy of the Ālvārs' God-experience	... 371
CHAPTER XIX :	Nature Mysticism	... 419
CHAPTER XX :	Bridal Mysticism	... 442
CHAPTER XXI :	The Worship of the Deity	... 484
CHAPTER XXII :	The Cult of Bhāgavatas	... 553
CHAPTER XXIII :	The Ultimate Goal	... 579
CHAPTER XXIV :	Contribution of Ālvārs other than Nammālvār	... 622
CHAPTER XXV :	The Ālvārs and the World	... 673
CHAPTER XXVI :	The Nālāyiram as Drāvida Veda	... 680
Section V :	<i>Post-Ālvār Period (Summary)</i>	... 695
CHAPTER XXVII :	Nathamuni to Rāmānuja	... 699
CHAPTER XXVIII :	Rāmānuja and the Nālāyiram	... 719
CHAPTER XXIX :	The Ālvārs and the Followers of Rāmānuja	... 737
CHAPTER XXX :	The Ālvārs and the Rāmānuja School of Vaiṣṇavism	... 796
CHAPTER XXXI :	The Commentaries on the Nālāyiram	... 817

Section VI: Conclusion (Summary)	...	849
CHAPTER XXXII: Conclusion		851
Appendices		
I. List of Brahma Vidyas	...	879
II. List of Āḷvārs mentioned in Several Vaiṣṇavite Literature	...	883
III. Incidents recorded by the Āḷvārs, but not found in Itihāsas and Purāṇas	...	887
IV. Nammāḷvār's Verses on the Arcā Form of God	...	891
V. List of Shrines celebrated exclusively by Pūtattāḷvār, Tirumaḷicaiyāḷvār, Kulacekārāḷvār, Tirumaṅkaiyāḷvār, Periyāḷvār and Nammāḷvār	...	893
VI. List of Succession of Vaiṣṇavite Ācāryas of two Schools	...	897
VII. Dates of the Āḷvārs	...	899
VIII. Bibliography	...	901
IX. Index	...	917