Abstract

Prasiddhi and Pratibhā (R. Torella)

In chapter XXXV of Tantrāloka, Abhinavagupta identifies āgama with prasiddhi. But what lies behind Abhinavagupta's statement? Once again, Utpaladeva with his now almost totally lost Īśvarapratyabhijñā-vivṛti. Fortunately, the relevant passage of the Vivṛti is not only quoted but also commented on in detail by Abhinavagupta in his Vivṛtivimarśinī. But, in turn, what lies behind Utpaladeva? Once again, Bhartṛhari and his conception of prasiddhi and pratibhā as developed in the Vākyapadīya. This paper aims at outlining the complex dialogue on the ultimate essence of tradition and revelation, in which some of the most brilliant exponents of Indian philosophical tradition (Bhartṛhari, Kumārila, Dharmakirti, Abhinavagupta and Utpaladeva) took a significant part.