

46. Story of Aratha

Once upon a time there lived a man named Aradattar in Kanchanur in the Chola country. Although his mother and father were Vaishnavas, he was a Shaiva. He was well versed in literature and acquired great knowledge.

Knowledge can bestow beauty on living beings. He was very kind to other



beings. His mother borrowed some paddy from the neighboring house and dried it outside and put him in charge of it. A cow came and threshed the paddy. He looked at it without chasing it away. One day, while performing Shiva worship, a dog entered and drank the water kept for pooja. He did not chase that away either. One day Antanarod started eating from the ball. Then there came a pulayan who had leprosy. He was very hungry. He ordered his food to be served to him. Other Antananarians condemned his actions and began to chase away Apuleius. Aradatha's grace was admired by all. He has written many

books. He was a good example of me saying that those who have eyes but are not blessed are like a tree that is stuck in the soil.

[Graceful]

(History of Aratha)