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## The Devotional Poetry of Svm Harids: A Study of Early Braj Bh Verse (Groningen Oriental Studies)

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**Ludmila L Rosenstein : The Devotional Poetry of Svm Harids: A Study of Early Braj Bh Verse (Groningen Oriental Studies)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Devotional Poetry of Svm Harids: A Study of Early Braj Bh Verse (Groningen Oriental Studies):

The 16th-century North Indian religious devotee, poet and musician, Svm Harids, composed lyrics in Braj Bh, dedicated to the divine couple Rdh and Ka. One hundred twenty-eight of them were later compiled in two anthologies: the didactic Ada siddhnta and the rapturous Keliml, and became the theological basis of the Harids sampradya, a sect which still flourishes in Vrindaban, U.P. Neither of these important works has hitherto been edited, properly translated or studied academically. The focus of this book is the text of Harids's poetry: its transmission, edition and interpretation. Sixteen 18th-19th century manuscripts are collated for the edition and classified with the help of computer programmes originally employed in taxonomy. The apparatus criticus is followed by an annotated English translation in which readings are assessed and points of linguistic interest discussed. The language of Harids's text is thoroughly examined, and a comprehensive etymological glossary is included to enhance our knowledge of Braj.

Going beyond textual criticism, the book sets Harids's verses in a broader context. The introductory chapter discusses the theological views of the Harids tradition against the background of bhakti, analyses the sources of information about Harids, and attempts to reconstruct his life. Since Harids's lyrics were composed to be sung some of their musical features are analysed. The text of the Keliml is also examined through the sectarian concerns of its main commentaries. This study will be an important source of information to all scholars of Braj language and Ka devotionalism.

About the Author Lucy Rosenstein studied Indology in Sofia, Hamburg and London and gained her PhD in Hindi from SOAS, London University, in 1996. At present she is lecturing in Hindi at SOAS.