



TirthaYatra - Pilgrimage to Holy Places

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More works on TeerthaYatra is contd....

34. Tirthaprakasa by Mitramisra
35. Tristhalisetusara by Bhattoji
36. Tristhalisetsara-sangraha of Nagesa
37. Tirtharatnakara of Ananthabhata may be the largest work on Tirthas
38. Kasimrtimoksa-vicara of Suresvacharya

Preliminaries before Pilgrimage

On the stipulated day, the pilgrim should take only one meal. Then the next day, a male should shave himself and observe fast; The day after, a sankalpa is taken - I shall perform pilgrimage to such and such a place; I shall worship Lord Ganesa and my isthadevatas for the accomplishment of the pilgrimage without any hindrance. Then, a worship is offered to Lord Ganesa, NavagrahaDevathas and Isthadevatha. Interestingly, a parvana-shraddha is recommended for the male pilgrim.

On the pilgrimage day, wear the dress, go to next village, break the fast by partaking the packed food, return to his/her house. Next day, by facing the east direction, preferably on bare foot, one should set out for pilgrimage. Two types of fasting are recommended - either fast on the day, the pilgrim is expected to reach the Teertha or the day before. As per the scriptures, Kalpataru and the Teertha-chintamani, fasting on the day of reaching Teertha brings in lot of merit.



Reference – “The History Of DharmaSastra” – by Sri P.V.Kane

