HARIBHADRASURI
(V.S. 785: death)

"If I come across anything in Sanskrit that I am not able to understand, I will become the
disciple of whosoever can explain it to me" was the vow that Haribhadra, the renowned Brahmin
scholar had taken out of his pride in his knowledge of Sanskrit. He used to wear a gold
belt that signified his authority and was against Jainism, having said, "It is better to die
under the foot of an elephant then to take the path of Jainism". However, he once had to take
shelter in a Jain temple to protect himself from a mad elephant and there looking at the
tirthankar's physique he said, "A healthy body shows that one eats good food." And then the time
came where he had to act upon his vow. Once he overheard a stanza that sadhvi Yakini was reciting
while she was studying, but he failed to understand its meaning. He got its explanation from a Jain acharya, upon
which he became a monk and then an acharya. He however once decided to take revenge when
some Buddhists killed two of his disciples. His guru came to know of this and asked him to
write 1444 books as penance. Haribhadrasuri spent days and nights writing and used the light
of a jewel to write by. Haribhadrasuri mentions Mahattara Yakini, his "religious mother", at
the end of each of the sutras he authored.