

Yativṛṣabha

Setsuro Ikeyama

Flourished Prākṛit, Jādivasaha, (India), 6th century

Little is known about Yativṛṣabha. He was a Jain monk who studied under ārya Mañṣu and Nāgahastin. He composed, along with other traditional Jain works, the *Tiloyapaṇṇattī* (in Sanskrit, *Trilokaprajñapti* or Knowledge on the three worlds), a work on Jain cosmography. This work describes the construction of the Universe expressed in specific numbers; for example, the diameter of the circular Jambu continent, upon which India is located, is 100,000 yojanas and its circumference is 316,227 yojanas, 3 krośas, 128 daṇḍas, 13 aṅgulas, 5 yavas, 1 yūkā, 1 ṛikṣā, 6 karmabhūmivālagras, 7 madhyabhogabhūmivālagras, 5 uttamabhogabhūmivālagras, 1 rathareṇu, 3 trasareṇus, 2 sannāsannas, and 3 avasannāsannas, plus a remainder of 23213/105409. Yativṛṣabha also gives formulas for computing the circumference (C) and the area (A) of a circle having a diameter of d:

$$C = \sqrt{10d^2}, \quad A = C \cdot \frac{d}{4}$$

Selected References

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