
Shri Kanakadhara Stotra with English translation

श्रीकनकधारास्तोत्रम्

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वन्दे वन्दारुमन्दारमिन्दिरानन्दकन्दलम् ।
अमन्दानन्दसन्दोहबन्धुरं सिन्धुराननम् ॥

अङ्गं हरेः पुलकभूषणमाश्रयन्ती
भृङ्गाङ्गनेव मुकुलाभरणं तमालम् ।
अङ्गीकृताखिलविभूतिरपाङ्गलीला
माङ्गल्यदाऽस्तु मम मङ्गलदेवतायाः ॥ १ ॥

The dark Tamala tree in full bloom attracts the female beetle and even so MahalakShmi is attracted and finds happiness in the fragrant and dark-complexioned body of Hari and makes it tingle with joy. May she bestow on me prosperity by her auspicious glance. Note: The poet in Shankara compares the dark Tamala tree to the dark beautiful form of Vishnu, the dark beetle to the black lustrous eyes of MahalakShmi. The glance of LakShmi's eyes on Vishnu gives him great happiness. A mere momentary flash of her eyes on anybody will bless him with prosperity.. 1 ..

मुग्धा मुहुर्विदधती वदने मुरारेः
प्रेमत्रपाप्रणिहितानि गतागतानि ।
माला दशोर्मधुकरीव महोत्पले या
सा मे श्रियं दिशतु सागरसम्भवायाः ॥ २ ॥

The shy love-laden sidelong glance of the beautiful dark eyes of the daughter of the Milky Ocean, returns again and again to the beautiful lotus face of Murari, just like the black bee constantly returning and flitting

about the beautiful blue lotus flower. I pray that these glances be bestowed upon me to bless me with prosperity.

Note: The dark beauteous face of the Lord is likened to the blue lotus. The dark glance rests upon the handsome face of the Lord and out of shyness the eyes are turned away but love again makes the glance rest upon the Lord. This series of sidelong glances are likened here to a string or Mala and they further look like the series of trips which the honey seeking black bee makes to the blue lotus. The devotee hopes taht he will be prosperous if a sidelong glance of the Goddess of Wealth falls at least momentarily on him... 2 ..

आमीलिताक्षमधिगम्य मुदा मुकुन्दं
आनन्दकन्दमनिमेषमनङ्गतन्त्रम् ।
आकेकरस्थितकनीनिकपक्षमनेत्रं
भूत्यै भवेन्मम भुजङ्गशयाङ्गनायाः ॥ ३ ॥

The eyes of Mukunda remain closed in ecstasy. The beauteous dark eyes of LakShmi remain fixed on Mukunda in love and wonder and remain open without blinking. May these eyes of MahalakShmi fall on me and bless me with prosperity and happiness.. 3 ..

बाह्वन्तरे मधुजितः श्रितकौस्तुभे या
हारावलीव हरिनीलमयी विभाति ।
कामप्रदा भगवतोऽपि कटाक्षमाला
कल्याणमावहतु मे कमलालयायाः ॥ ४ ॥

Lord Vishnu whose chest is adorned by the Kaustubha Mala is also adorned by the series of the beauteous glances of Goddess MahalakShmi. This string of glances resembles a necklace of precious blue stones of Indraneela and they are capable of fulfilling all the wishes of Hari Himself. May this string of glances be directed towards me so that it will bring me auspiciousness.. 4 ..

कालाम्बुदालिललितोरसि कैटभारेः

धाराधरे स्फुरति या तडिदङ्गनेव ।
 मातुस्समस्तजगतां महनीयमूर्तिः
 भद्राणि मे दिशतु भार्गवनन्दनायाः ॥ ५ ॥

MahalakShmi shining on the dark broad chest of Mahavishnu is like the streak of lightning illuminating the dark rain clouds. May she, the daughter of the Sage Bhargava worshipped as Mother by the entire universe, bring me auspiciousness.. 5 ..

प्राप्तं पदं प्रथमतः खलु यत्प्रभावात्
 माङ्गल्यभाजि मधुमाथिनि मन्मथेन ।
 मय्यापतेत्तदिह मन्थरमीक्षणार्थं
 मन्दालसं च मकरालयकन्यकायाः ॥ ६ ॥

The God of Love, Manmatha, could gain access to Madhusudana (the destroyer of the demon Madhu, i.e. Vishnu) only because he was favored with the blessing glance from MahalakShmi . May her auspicious indolent sideglance fall on me (May she bless me with prosperity by looking at me in passing at least for a moment .. 6 ..

विश्वामरेन्द्रपदविभ्रमदानदक्षं
 आनन्दहेतुरधिकं मुरविद्विषोऽपि ।
 ईषन्निषीदतु मयि क्षणमीक्षणार्थम्
 इन्दीवरोदरसहोदरमिन्दिरायाः ॥ ७ ॥

The status of the king of kings or the exalted position of an Indra are given effortlessly by MahalakShmi by a mere momentary glance. Murari (Vishnu) who is supreme bliss itself is made happy by it. May this glance from the blue-lotus eyes of LakShmi fall on me for a moment at least. Note: The beautiful lotus eyes flashing momentarily on someone is capable of making him a king of kings or even an Indra. Murari the seat of all bliss is thrown into ecstasy by it. Will she not glance at me , even for a second?.. 7..

इष्टविशिष्टमतयोऽपि यया दयार्द्र-
दृष्ट्या त्रिविष्टपपदं सुलभं लभन्ते ।
दृष्टिः प्रहृष्टकमलोदरदीप्तिरिष्टं
पुष्टिं कृषीष्ट मम पुष्करविष्टरायाः ॥ ८ ॥

The higher worlds like Swarga which are difficult of attainment and for which great sacrifices like Ashwamedha are performed become easily attainable by the compassion filled look of the lotus eyes of MahalakShmi . May she look at me so that I may attain my heart's desires. .. 8 ..

दद्याद्दयानुपवनो द्रविणाम्बुधारां
अस्मिन्नकिञ्चनविहङ्गशिशौ विषण्णे ।
दुष्कर्मघर्ममपनीय चिराय दूरं
नारायणप्रणयिनीनयनाम्बुवाहः ॥ ९ ॥

The dark rain clouds driven by the monsoon winds releases rain on the parched earth and quench the thirst of the Chataka bird and brings prosperity on the earth. In like manner may the dark eyes of MahalakShmi resembling the rain cloud wafted by the breeze of compassion release the rain of prosperity on this devotee of a Chataka bird stricken with the load of accumulated sins so that the sins are washed away and prosperity bestowed upon him.. 9 ..

गीर्देवतेति गरुडध्वजसुन्दरीति
शाकम्भरीति शशिशेखरवल्लभेति ।
सृष्टिस्थितिप्रलयकेलिषु संस्थितायै
तस्यै नमस्त्रिभुवनैकगुरोस्तरुण्यै ॥ १० ॥

We offer obeisance to the Goddess MahalakShmi, the consort of Narayana, the preceptor of all the three worlds. She is variously known as Saraswati the Goddess of Learning, as Goddess LakShmi, the Divine consort of Mahavishnu, as Shakambhari or as Parvati the consort of Lord Maheshwara. Verily it is she who is playfully engaged

in creation, protection and final destruction of the Universe.. 10 ..

श्रुत्यै नमोऽस्तु शुभकर्मफलप्रसूत्यै
 रत्यै नमोऽस्तु रमणीयगुणार्णवायै ।
 शक्त्यै नमोऽस्तु शतपत्रनिकेतनायै
 पुष्ट्यै नमोऽस्तु पुरुषोत्तमवल्लभायै ॥ ११ ॥

O Goddess as the very manifestation of the Vedas,
 you grant the fruits of godd action. Beautiful in form like
 Rati Devi you are the very ocean of superlatively
 beautiful qualities. Having your abode in the beautiful
 lotus of a hundred petals, you are Shakti personified.
 O consort of Purushottama, You are the Goddess of
 plenty. Please accept my obeisance .. 11 ..

नमोऽस्तु नालीकनिभाननायै
 नमोऽस्तु दुग्धोदधिजन्मभूम्यै ।
 नमोऽस्तु सोमामृतसोदरायै
 नमोऽस्तु नारायणवल्लभायै ॥ १२ ॥

O Consort of Narayana! Whose face is as beautiful
 as the lotus in bloom, I bow down to thee . Born
 out of the milky ocean, along with the moon and the
 Divine nectar, O Goddess! accept my pranams.. 12 ..

नमोऽस्तु हेमाम्बुजपीठिकायै
 नमोऽस्तु भूमण्डलनायिकायै ।
 नमोऽस्तु देवादिदयापरायै
 नमोऽस्तु शार्ङ्गायुधवल्लभायै ॥ १३ ॥

I prostrate before you, O Goddess, who are seated
 on the Golden Lotus, who is Goddess of the earth, the
 consort of Narayana, compassionate to the Devas.. 13 ..

नमोऽस्तु देव्यै भृगुनन्दनायै
 नमोऽस्तु विष्णोरुरसि स्थितायै ।
 नमोऽस्तु लक्ष्म्यै कमलालयायै

नमोऽस्तु दामोदरवल्लभायै ॥ १४ ॥

My obeisance to you, O daughter of Bhrigu, consort of Damadara. O LakShmi, seated on Lotus and adorning the broad chest of Mahavishnu, my salutations to Thee.. 14 ..

नमोऽस्तु कान्त्यै कमलेक्षणायै

नमोऽस्तु भूत्यै भुवनप्रसूत्यै ।

नमोऽस्तु देवादिभिरर्चितायै

नमोऽस्तु नन्दात्मजवल्लभायै ॥ १५ ॥

O Consort of Gopala, the son of Nanda, you are worshipped by the Devas. You are Jyoti incarnate, I prostrate before Thee. Your eyes are like lotus petals. You have created the world and you bestow prosperity. Please accept my salutations.. 15 ..

सम्पत्कराणि सकलेन्द्रियनन्दनानि

साम्राज्यदानविभवानि सरोरुहाक्षि । var सरोरुहाणि

त्वद्वन्दनानि दुरितोद्धरणोद्यतानि

मामेव मातरनिशं कलयन्तु मान्ये ॥ १६ ॥

May I always have the desire to prostrate before you because a pranam to you is capable of bestowing all prosperity and will bring happiness to all the senses. Worshipping O Lotus-eyed Goddess not only removes all miseries but it confers happiness and plenty.. 16 ..

यत्कटाक्षसमुपासनाविधिः

सेवकस्य सकलार्थसम्पदः ।

सन्तनोति वचनाङ्गमानसैः

त्वां मुरारिहृदयेश्वरीं भजे ॥ १७ ॥

The devotee who worships your KatakSha (sidelong glance) is blessed with wealth and prosperity. To you, the queen who dominates the heart of Vishnu, my pranamas, through word, thought, and deed.. 17 ..

सरसिजनिलये सरोजहस्ते
 धवलतमांशुकगन्धमाल्यशोभे ।
 भगवति हरिवल्लभे मनोज्ञे
 त्रिभुवनभूतिकरि प्रसीद मह्यम् ॥ १८ ॥

Seated on the lotus with the lotus flower in your hand,
 dressed in dazzling white and adorned with garlands and
 sandalwood paste, you gladden our hearts. O Goddess,
 the consort of Vishnu you who confer prosperity on all
 the three worlds, please show compassion towards me.. 18 ..

दिग् हस्तिभिः कनककुम्भमुखावसृष्ट-
 स्वर्वाहिनीविमलचारुजलप्लुताङ्गीम् ।
 प्रातर्नमामि जगतां जननीमशेष-
 लोकाधिनाथगृहिणीममृताब्धिपुत्रीम् ॥ १९ ॥

O mother of all the worlds, consort of Vishnu the lord of
 the Universe, the Dig-gajas (the celestial elephants guarding
 various directions) bathe you everyday with waters of the
 Deva Ganga poured out from golden vessels. O daughter of
 the milky ocean, I prostrate before Thee.. 19 ..

कमले कमलाक्षवल्लभे त्वं
 करुणापूरतरङ्गितैरपाङ्गैः ।
 अवलोकय मामकिञ्चनानां
 प्रथमं पात्रमकृत्रिमं दयायाः ॥ २० ॥

O Goddess LakShmi, consort of the Lotus-eyed
 Mahavishnu, direct your gaze filled with compassion
 at me, your devotee who am the poorest of the poor,
 so that I may become the true recipient of the benefits
 of your compassion.. 20 ..

देवि प्रसीद जगदीश्वरि लोकमातः
 कल्याणगात्रि कमलेक्षणजीवनाथे ।
 दारिद्र्यभीतिहृदयं शरणागतं माम्

आलोकय प्रतिदिनं सदयैरपाङ्गैः ॥ २१ ॥

O Goddess, controller of the Universe and protector of the people, blessing with your limbs, and gazing with your lotus-like eyes, forgive me. With my heart filled with fear of poverty, I surrender myself wholly to you, that you may watch over me every day with unbroken compassion.. 21 ..

स्तुवन्ति ये स्तुतिभिरमीभिरन्वहं
त्रयीमयीं त्रिभुवनमातरं रमाम् ।
गुणाधिका गुरुतरभाग्यभागिनो
भवन्ति ते भुवि बुधभाविताशयाः ॥ २२ ॥

Those who sing the praise of MahalakShmi who is the vedas personified, by these stotras everyday will be blessed with all good qualities, unsurpassed good fortune and powers of the intellect which will earn praise from even the learned... 22 ..

॥ इति श्रीमच्छङ्कराचार्यकृत
श्री कनकधारास्तोत्रं सम्पूर्णम् ॥


Thus concludes the Kanakadhara Stotra,
composed by ParamaPujya Shankaracharya.


अयं स्तवः स्वामिना शङ्करभगवत्पादेन ब्रह्मव्रतस्थेन कालटिनाम्नि स्वग्राम एवाकिञ्चन्यपरिखिन्नाया द्विजगृहिण्या निर्धनत्वमार्जनाय निरमायि । तेन स्तवेन प्रीता लक्ष्मीर्विप्रं विपुलधनदानेनाप्रीणयदिति शङ्करविजयतः समाधिगम्यते, “स मुनिर्मुर्जित्कुटुम्बिनीं पदचित्रैर्नवनीत कोमलैः ंअधुरैरूपतस्थिवां- स्तवैः” इत्यादिना ॥ एते श्रीमन्मातुरभ्यर्थनया स्तवमेतमतनिषतेति कालटिग्रामनिकटवर्तिनां विदुषां मतम् । तदारभ्य कर्णाकर्णिकया तथानुश्रुतम् ।

Verse 16 through 21 above are not found in some of the printed texts.

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