
Shri Kanakadhara Stotra with English translation

श्रीकनकधारास्तोत्रम्

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वन्दे वन्दारुमन्दारमन्दिरानन्दकन्दलम् ।
अमन्दानन्दसन्दोडबन्धुरं सिन्धुराननम् ॥

अङ्गं उदरेः पुलकभूषणामाश्रयन्ती
भृङ्गाङ्गनेव मुकुलाभरणं तमालम् ।
अङ्गीकृताभिलषित्तिरपाङ्गलीला
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
प्रेमत्रपाप्रण्डितानि गतागतानि ।
माला दृशोर्मधुकरीव मद्योत्पले 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 beautiful 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

विश्वामरेन्द्रपदविलम्बमदानदक्षं
आनन्दतेतुरधिक्ं मुरविद्विषोऽपि ।
ऽषत्रिषीदतु मयि क्षणमीक्षणार्थम्
ऽन्दीवरोदरसखोदरमिन्दिरायाः ॥ ३ ॥

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? 3

आमीलिताक्षमधिगम्य मुदा मुकुन्दं
आनन्दकन्दमनिमेषमनङ्गतन्त्रम् ।
आडेकरस्थितकनीनिकपक्ष्मनेत्रं
भूत्यै भवेन्मम भुजङ्गशयाङ्गनायाः ॥ ४ ॥

The eyes of Mukunda remain closed in ecstasy. The beautiful 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. 4

बाह्वन्तरे मधुञ्जितः श्रितक्रीस्तुभे या
डारावलीव उरिनीलमयी विभाति ।
कामप्रदा भगवतोऽपि कटाक्षमाला
कल्याणमावडतु मे कमलालयायाः ॥ ५ ॥

Lord Vishnu whose chest is adorned by the Kaustubha Mala is also adorned by the series of the beautiful 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. 5

कालाम्बुदालिलवितोरसि कैटभाः
धाराधरे स्फुरति या तडिदङ्गनेव ।

मातुस्समस्तजगतां मङ्गीयमूर्तिः

भद्राणि मे दिशतु भार्गवनन्दनायाः ॥ ६ ॥

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. 6

प्राप्तं पदं प्रथमतः जलु यत्रभावात्

माङ्गल्यभाजि मधुमाथिनि मन्मथेन ।

मथ्यापतेत्तद्विड मन्थरमीक्षणार्धं

मन्दालसं य मकरालयकन्यकायाः ॥ ७ ॥

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. 7

दद्याद्यानुपवनो द्रविष्णाम्बुधारां

अस्मिन्नकिञ्चनविडङ्गशिशौ विषण्णे ।

दुष्कर्मधर्ममपनीय यिराय दूरं

नारायणप्रणयिनीनयनाम्बुवाहः ॥ ८ ॥

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. 8

छत्रविशिष्टमतयोऽपि यया दयार्द्र-

दृष्ट्या त्रिविष्टपपदं सुलभं लभन्ते ।

दृष्टिः प्रदृष्टकमलोदरदीप्तिरिष्टां

पुष्टिं कृषीष्ट मम पुष्टरविष्टरायाः ॥ ९ ॥

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. 9

गीर्देवतेति गरुडध्वजसुन्दरीति (गरुडध्वजभामिनीति)

शाकम्भरीति शशिशेखरवल्लभेति ।

सृष्टिस्थितिप्रलयकेलिषु संस्थितायै

तस्यै नमस्त्रिभुवनैकगुरोस्तारुण्यै ॥ 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 दृग्धोदधिजन्मभूम्यै ।

नमोऽस्तु सोभामृतसोदरायै

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

सम्पत्कराणि सकलेन्द्रियनन्दनानि

साम्राज्यदानविभवानि सरोरुडाक्षि । (सरोरुडाणि)

त्वद्भ्रन्दनानि दुरितोद्धरणोद्यतानि (दुरिताडरणोद्यतानि, दुरितोत्तरणोद्यतानि)

भामेव मातरनिशं कलयन्तु मान्ये ॥ १३ ॥

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. 13

यत्कटाक्षसमुपासनाविधिः

सेवकस्य सकलार्थसम्पदः ।

सन्तनोति वयनाङ्गमानसैः

त्वां मुरारिर्दृष्टयेश्वरीं भजे ॥ १४ ॥

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. 14

सरसिजनि लये सरोजलस्ते

धवलतमांशुकगन्धमाल्यशोभे ।

भगवति हरिवल्लभे मनोज्ञे

त्रिभुवनभूतिकरि प्रसीद मलयम् ॥ १५ ॥

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. 15

द्विग्ं हस्तिभिः कनककुम्भमुखावसृष्ट-

स्वर्वाडिनीविमलयारुजलप्लुताङ्गीम् ।

प्रातर्नमामि जगतां जननीमशेष-

लोकधिनाथगृह्णिणीममृताब्धिपुत्रीम् ॥ १६ ॥

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. 16

कमले कमलाक्षवल्लभे त्वं

करुणापूरतरङ्गितैरपाङ्गैः ।

अवलोकय मामङ्घ्रिनानां

प्रथमं पात्रमङ्घ्रिमं दयायाः ॥ १७ ॥

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. 17

स्तुवन्ति ये स्तुतिभिरमीभिर-वडं
त्रयीमर्थी त्रिभुवनमातरं रमाम् ।
गुणाधिका गुरुतरभाग्यभागिनो
भवन्ति ते भुवि बुधभाविताशयाः ॥ १८ ॥

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. 18

॥ इति श्रीमच्छङ्कराचार्यकृत श्री कनकधारास्तोत्रं सम्पूर्णम् ॥

Thus concludes the Kanakadhara Stotra, composed by ParamaPujya Shankaracharya.

नमोऽस्तु डेमाम्भुजपीठिकायै
नमोऽस्तु भूमार्डलनायिकायै ।
नमोऽस्तु देवादिदयापरायै
नमोऽस्तु शार्ङ्गायुधवल्लभायै ॥ १९ ॥

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. 19

नमोऽस्तु देव्यै भृगुनन्दनायै
नमोऽस्तु विष्णोरुरसि स्थितायै ।
नमोऽस्तु लक्ष्म्यै कमलालयायै
नमोऽस्तु दामोदरवल्लभायै ॥ २० ॥

My obeisance to you, O daughter of Bhrgu, consort of Damadara. O LakShmi, seated on Lotus and adorning the broad chest of Mahavishnu, my salutations to Thee. 20

नमोऽस्तु कान्त्यै कमलेक्ष्णायै
नमोऽस्तु भूत्यै भुवनप्रसूत्यै ।
नमोऽस्तु देवादिभिरर्थितायै
नमोऽस्तु नन्दात्मजवल्लभायै ॥ २१ ॥

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. 21

देवि प्रसीद जगदीश्वरि लोकमातः

कल्याणगान्नि कमलेक्षणशुभनाथे ।

दास्त्रिधीर्भीतिबुद्धयं शरणागतं माम्

आलोक्य प्रतिदिनं सद्यैरपाङ्गैः ॥ २२ ॥

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. 22


अयं स्तवः स्वामिना शङ्करभगवत्पादेन ब्रह्मव्रतस्थेन कालटिनाम्नि स्वग्राम एवाङ्किञ्चन्यपरिभिन्नाया द्विजगृह्णिया निर्धनत्वमार्जनाय निरमायि । तेन स्तवेन प्रीता लक्ष्मीर्विप्रं विपुलधनदानेनाप्रीणयदिति शङ्करविजयतः समाधिगम्यते, “स मुनिर्मुञ्जितुट्टुम्भिनीं पदचित्रैर्नवनीत कोमलैः ंअधुरैरुपतस्थिवां- स्तवैः” एत्यादिना ॥ अते श्रीमन्मातुरभ्यर्थनया स्तवमेतमतनिषतेति कालटिग्रामनिकटवर्तिनां विदुषां मतम् । तदारभ्य कर्णाडर्णिकया तथानुश्रुतम् ।

Verse sequence is as per the stotra given in the Complete Works of Shankaracharya Volume 18 page 70.


Verses 19 through 22 are extra, found in other printed texts.

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