.. shri Lalita chatuHShaShTyupachArasaMgraH ..

॥ श्रीलिलिता चतुःष्‍टुपचारसंग्रह ॥

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Five, ten, sixteen and twenty-four Upacharas are generally offered to deities during Pooja or Archana. However, sixty-four Upacharas are prescribed during the Navavarana Pooja of Shri Lalita Mahatripurasundari Rajarajeshwari ParAbhattArikA in the Shrichakra. These sixty-four Upacharas are detailed in Vamakeshwara Tantra and in the Parashurama Kalpasutras. Though it is not possible to physically offer all these sixty-four Upacharas to Shridevi, by mentioning these Upacharas and offering the same at the lotus feet of Shridevi using one’s imagination, the merit of actually offering these Upacharas to Shridevi are obtained. The truth of this statement is confirmed by Shri Bhaskararaya in his Setubandha and also by Shri Rameshwara Suri in his commentary on the Parashurama Kalpasutras.

Shri Lalita Chatuhshashtyupachara Samgraha is a hymn, which beautifully summarizes these sixty-four Upacharas. This hymn, composed from a high state of consciousness, is the masterpiece of Brahmasri K. P. Narayana Shastrigal, the late Asthana Vidwan of Mysore State and DakShinamnaya Shringeri Sharada Peetham and retired professor of Advaita Vedanta, Chamarajendra Sanskrit College, Bangalore. A scholar par excellence and a highly accomplished Upasaka of Shri Mahatripurasundari
and Shri Chandramoulishwara, Shri Narayana Shastrigal was held in a very high regard by the Shankaracharyas of the Amnaya mutts and by scholars across the sub-continent. Most of his disciples went on to become Mahamahopadhyayas and scholars of great repute. He spent a greater part of his life in the holy city of Varanasi and was popularly referred to as 'Kashivasi’ Narayana Shastrigal. He was instrumental in editing and publishing the first ever copy of Skandadeva’s Rudra Bhashya. He accepted Turiyashrama towards the end of his life. It is popularly remembered to this day in Kashi that when the great man attained Siddhi, a Bana Linga had materialized on his body. It is indeed due to the limitless compassion of Shridevi that I was fortunate to have as my Guru Brahmasri K. P. Shankara Shastrigal, younger brother of Shri Narayana Shastrigal, an equally brilliant scholar and an equally accomplished Shrividyadga Upasaka. It is recorded that one afternoon, after performing Nirajana to Shridevi, Narayana Shastrigal burst into a hymn and a disciple noted it down. The then Shankaracharya Mahaswamigal of Shringeri read the hymn and declared that it was indeed Shridevi who had spoken through Shastrigal. The following hymn, which is a composition of Brahmasri Narayana Shastrigal,
has been reproduced over the ages in various books like the Shrividya Ratnakara of Karapatri Swamin, Saubhagyag Ratnakara Valli of Purnananda, Shrividya Saparya of Dattatreyanandanatha, by various Guhananda Mandali books and many books dealing with Shrichakra Pooja and Devi Stotras in Sanskrit, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Bengali and Malayalam. One may estimate the greatness of this hymn by simply considering the fact that this hymn was included in their Saparya Paddhatis by great men like Chidanandanatha and Karapatri Swamin. It is unfortunate however that none of these publications have given any credit to the author of this supremely beautiful hymn by at least mentioning his name.
भूषामपपुमाविशय सिथ्या सोवर्णपीठके ।
माणिक्यमुकुट मृृष्णि दयया स्थापयामिनि। ॥ ८॥
शर्त्वार्ज्ञवचन्द्रस्य शक्ति तत्र शोभताम् ।
सिन्धूरेण च सीमन्तमालक्रुष्ण दयानिधे। ॥ ९॥
भाले च तिलक न्यस्य नेत्रयोरज्ञन शिवे।
वारीयुगमण्यव भक्तचा ते विनिवेदये। ॥ १०॥
मणिकुण्डलमण्यव नासाभरणेव च।
तात्रायुगाः देवि यावकशापरे।पपे। ॥ ११॥
आयधूषणसौवणचिन्ताकपदमणि च।
महायुगमुकावल्यादिभूषणम् ॥ १२॥
शरणवाचणमथ कटक्ते कटिसुश्रव सुन्दरिः।
सीभाग्याभरणण पादकटक नूपुरदयम् ॥ १४॥
अर्थायमि जगन्मातः पादयोहाज्ञुपायकम्।
पादर्वामोर्वन्ते ते दक्षहस्ते तथाकुशम्। ॥ १५॥
अन्नसिस्नानमहस्ते च तथा गुप्तक्षुचपकम।
पुष्प्याणां मक्षायः पाणो धर्षय सुन्दरी। ॥ १६॥
अर्थायमि च माणिक्यापृ ण पादयोः दिवे।
आरोपावृत्तिदेवीभि: चकं परिशिवे मुदा। ॥ १७॥
समानवेषभूषा: साकं च सुपुरसुन्दरि।
तत्र कामश्वामाङ्गपर्य्याप्पिवेशिनीम्। ॥ १८॥
अमृतासवपानेन मुिदिता त्या सदा भजे।
शुद्वेश गाजतोषेन पुनराचमनं कुरु॥ ॥ १९॥
कपुरूविभिकामासे ततो: द्वम्ब विनिवेशय।
आन्त्याहोसङ्गेन विलसनमुक्तश्रमम्। ॥ २०॥
भक्तिमर्यमपलितिकाकृतिस्य त्या समरनः कदा।
महत्तारतिकं च च चारं दर्पणं तथा।
तात्रावतं गन्धुपुष्पवृषोपां पत्तोपः तेषापः। ॥ २१॥
श्रीकामेश्वरि तस्तादुत्कृते: स्थालिसहस्रमृतम्।
दिव्यामन घृतसूपशाकमति चित्रांभेन्द्रुपतम्।
गुम्याभ्रन्म मुद्ययकन्नदित्वृत्त नामिकपारापारितमः
मापासृपकपूर्वविश्विनिधित्वं नेवेद्वम्भाःपंवे ॥ २२॥

साहाय्यविदतिप्रकोष्ठमन् चतुष्णश्तुपचारतः।
हन्मन्ध्यानन्तात्व अपि लक्ष्मी परितुष्यतु ॥ २३॥

श्रीमुक्ताक्षयस्य वर्षस्य तुल्यां शुक्लपक्षके।
चतुर्थ्यमपराहे च लक्ष्मीपितमानसः ॥ २४॥

साहाय्यविदतिप्रकेक्तु चतुष्णाः
चतुष्णश्तुपचारकानः।
समग्रहीत्यामायाः ।
सः नारायणो मुदा ॥ २५॥

नारायणः श्रीपुषोत्सवमात्मजो शिखरं श्रीमहीपरपुरे वसनकृती।
देवीसप्तिेमिक्षिलिद्रिपदां कामेश्वपांगता प्रसीदु ॥

॥ इति शिवम् ॥

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