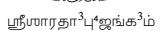
shrI shAradAbhujangam by Chandrashekhara Bharathi



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shrI shAradAbhujangam by Chandrashekhara Bharathi



Composed by Shri Chandrashekhara Bharathi Swami of Shringeri.

INTRODUCTION:- These following verses are in praise of Sharada Devi, the presiding deity at the famous temple at Shringeri in Karnataka state. They were composed by Shri Chandrashekhara Bharathi Swami who adorned the Sharada Peetam as its 34th pontiff. He was a great scholar, and a spiritual Everest. The numerous devotees who visited Shringeri considered him to be an incarnation of the Sharada Devi. They used to unburden their woes and problems in his prescence and seek his blessings for their relief. He was greatly moved by their sufferings which are the consequence of straying away from the path of dharma and their inability to seek the Lord's grace by praying to Him. To help them in this matter he composed many stotras (hymns). These hymns are couched in simple language so that everyone can recite them. This Sharada Bhujangam is one such hymn. Herein the saint identifies himself with a lay person who is suffering because he is burdened with many problems. So, he prays to the Sharada Devi to take pity on him and grant relief from the sufferings.

Sharada Devi:- The Goddess Sharadha Devi is generally worshipped as the goddess of learning and speech. She is known by the popular name of Sarasvathi and as the wife of Brahma, the god of creation. But, as in the case of all stotrams, She is depicted here as the Supreme Being, capable of giving the ultimate goal, the supreme bliss (mokSham). The upanishad says that the Supreme Being alone that appears in many forms like Brahma, Siva, Vishnu, Indra etc. ஸ ப்³ரஹ்ம ஸ மிவஸ்ஸஹரிஸ்ஸேந்த்³ரஸ்ஸோக்ஷர: பரமஸ்வராட் II (Narayana suktam.) Thus, Sarasvathi has these names in Her 108 namavali - ஸர்வதே³வஸ்துதா = She is worshipped by all gods, சதுர்வர்க³-ப²லப்ரதா³ = She will grant all the four goals and so on. The Mooka kavi says this in his Mookapanchasati (500 verses in praise of KamakShi) in the Arya Shatakam (40).

வத 3 நாரவிந்த 3 -வக்ஷோ-வாமாங்கதடீ-வஶம்வத 3 பூ 4 தா 1 புருஷத்ரிதயே த்ரேதா 4 புரந்த் 4 ரிரூபா த்வமேவ காமாக்ஷி 1

This verse states that KamakShi alone is there as the wife of Brahma resident in His face, of Vishnu in His chest and Siva in lap on His left side. Another verse in the same century (78) salutes Devi saying She is Saraswathi and in that form She appears as the wife of Brahma, and also has the names Katyayani, Kali, Kamakoti Kala, Bharati, Bhairavi, Bhadhra, Shakini, Shambhavi, Shiva.

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வித்^3யே விதா^4த்ரு^3விஷயே காத்யாயிநி காலி காமகோடி கலே ^1பா^4ரதி பை^4ரவி ப^4த்^3ரே ஶாகிநி ஶாம்ப^4வி ஶிவே ஸ்துவே ப^4வதீம் ^1
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Lord Krishna says that He (the Supreme Being) alone appears as all deities. Any worship offered to any form and name goes to Him alone and He alone grants the wishes of the worshippers through that form. But such worshippers of these various forms do not realise the truth.

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யோ யோம் யாம் தநும் ப⁴க்த: ஶ்ரத்³த⁴யா$ர்சிதுமிச்ச²தி ↓
தஸ்ய தஸ்யாசலாம் ஶ்ரத்³தா⁴ம் தாமேவ வித³த⁴ம்யஹம் ↓↓ BG(7-21).
Whichever form a devotee wishes to worship with faith, I make the faith more firm.
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ஸ தயா ஶ்ரத்^3த^4யா யுக்த: தஸ்யாராத^4நமீஹதே ^1லப^4தே ச தத: காமாந் மயைவ விஹிதாந்ஹிதாந் ^1 ^1 ^1 ^2 ^2 ^2 ^3
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Possessed of that faith, he engages in the worship of that form and he obtains his desires that are indeed granted by Me alone. Thus, the Supreme being alone that is worshipped as Sharada Devi represents Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva is said in one of Her names in the 108 names (நாமாவளி:) as : ப்³ரஹ்ம-விஷ்ணு-மிவாத்மிகா l The list of 108 names also have the names மாரதா³, ரமா, மிவா-(மிவாபே⁴தா³ மிவா), சண்டி³கா, சாமுண்டீ³, வாராஹீ l She can be worshipped by all, though each one may have different desires, and She will fulfill all those desires.

The translation given is not exact, but general enough to convey the meaning of the verses. Some comments are also provided. The following abbreviations are used in the comments.

- 1 VS Sri Vishnu Sahasranama with Sri Sankaracharya's commentary.
- 2 LS Sri Lalita Sahasranamam with the commentary of Sri Bhaskararaya.
- 3 BG Srimad Bhagavadgita with Sri Sankaracharya's commentary.
- 4 BH Srimad Bhagavatam.

- 5 AS Atmarpanastuti by Sri Appayya DikShitar.
- 6 SX Sri Shivaparadha kShamapana stotram by Shri Shankaracharya.
- 7 KU Kathopanishad.

Now, let us go to the stotram proper. The poet prays that the wonderful form of Shri Sharada Devi, that is resplendent and radiates kindness should be present in his mind.

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புராநேக-ஐந்மார்ஜிதாக<sup>3</sup>ண்யபுண்யை:
யதா<sup>3</sup>ப்தம் மயா ஶாரதா<sup>3</sup>பி<sup>4</sup>க்<sup>2</sup>யபா<sup>4</sup>க்<sup>3</sup>யம் \mathbf{I}
த<sup>3</sup>யார்த்<sup>3</sup>ரம் கு<sup>3</sup>ரூத்தம்ஸைங்க்லு'ப்தசக்ர-
ஸ்கி<sup>2</sup>கம் தக்ஸகா<sup>3</sup> மந்மந்ஸ்யாவிரஸ்கு \mathbf{II} \mathbf{III}
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Meaning:- May the great fortune that shines by the name Sharada, which is soaked in compassion, is seated in the Sri Chakra installed by the great guru Sri Sankaracharya, and obtained by me as the result of meritorious deeds performed by me in countless previous births be present in my mind all the time.

Note:- Sharada Devi is called by the poet as "the great fortune that shines by the name Sharada" - மாரதா³பி⁴க்²யபா⁴க்³யம் l. The reason is that, as said earlier, it is the Supreme Being that is worshipped at Shringeri as Sharada. The scriptures say that the Supreme Being is beyond our senses. It is beyond sound, touch, form, smell etc. It is beyond words and thought also. அமாப்³த³ம்ஸ்பர்மாருபமல்யயம் ததா²ரஸம் நித்யமக³ந்த⁴வச்ச யத் l KU (1-3-15). The question, then is, how can one worship It or meditate on It? It seems to be an abstract concept and perhaps uninteresting also.To facilitate worship, It is said to be available in five forms. They are பர, வ்யூஹ, விப⁴வ, அந்தர்யாமி, அர்சா l The first two forms are available in places like Vaikunta or Kailasa and so are not accessible for us for worship. So also, the avataras or incarnations like that of Rama or Krishna are also not available to us today. We are not able to feel the antaryami or the godhead available as the divinity within us. Very rarely, perhaps one in a few millions is able to curb the tendency of the mind to flow outwards and turn it to the God residing in our hearts. Yama, the Lord of death says this.

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பராஞ்சி கா^2நி வ்யத்ரு'ணத் ஸ்வயம்பூ:^4 தஸ்மாத் பராங்பஶ்யதி நாந்தராத்மந் ^1 கஶ்சித்^3தீ^4ர: ப்ரத்யகா^3த்மாநமைக்ஷத் ஆவ்ரு'த்தசக்ஷுரம்ரு'தத்வமிச்ச^2ந் ^1 KU (2-1-1).
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Realising the limitations of the people, God, who is the very embodiment of compassion, has made Himself available for worship in every form and in particular in consecrated images where His presence is invoked and worshipped with faith and reverence. This is in the form of archa or idols and images. They may be installed in homes or temples and worshipped. Krishna talks about worship of the Lord in the form of idols in His advice to Uddhava. (Book 11 of Bhagavatam) Rituals in worship are only an aid in keeping our mind focussed and serious. But the essence of the worship of the image is the intense feeling that God is presenting Himself in the image. Sage Naradha says (Bhakti sutra No.16) that deep involvement in performing puja to images etc., is a sign of devotion. பூஜாதி ஒது பநுராக³

ம்ரவணம் கீர்தநம் விஷ்ணே: ஸ்மரணம் பாத 3 ஸேவநம் 1 அர்சநம் வந்த 3 நம் தா 3 ஸ்யம் ஸக் 2 யமாத்மநிவேத 3 நம் 1 ВH(7-5-23).

We may note that அர்சநம் worshipping Him in images is given a high place in the above list. Just as we can use a small electrical plug point in our house to tap all the power we want for our our use, so also, a worshipper can use the small image he worships to draw all that he wants and also unlimited satisfaction from it. We have to put the switch ON for the power to flow from the plug point. Devotion is the switch that makes the image to yield the devotee's wishes. Such a puja is specially suited for the married householders in these days when they may have only limited time for worship. Great acharyas and saints have worshipped the Lord in images. The list includes Sankaracharya, Ramanujacharya, Madhvacharya, Chaitanya, Meera and Ramakrishna. Saints in charge of various maths perform elaborate pujas to idols in their maths. These saints are spiritually much advanced themselves and need not do any puja for their own upliftment. But they do the pujas to inculcate upon the numerous people who come to visit them the need to perform pujas. To them the image is not an insentient figure but a living prescence. To the saint composer Thiagaraja, the Supreme Being as Rama was very much present in the idol he worshipped. He could not think of being away from Him even for a short while as Rama, the Prince of Ayodhya was resident in his house. So when he was invited by the king of Tanjore to come to Tanjore he declined the invitation saying service to his Rama was more important and gave him greater happiness than any amount of wealth. Similarly, the great acharya Vedanta Desika refused to leave Kanchipuram when he was invited to Vijayanagar. He said that the Lord Varadaraja in the temple was the greatest wealth one can have. A devotee offers flowers, leaves water and some food to the Lord in the image. What he can offer in his puja is naturally limited. And even these are really not his but given by the Lord only. The worshipper should be aware of this and pray to God to accept the meagre offering and bless him. A poor farmer who gets a chance to meet a great king may offer only some fruits and vegetables grown by him in his field; but the great ruler will accept them with grace and reward him. Likewise God graciously accepts what little a devotee offers. A seed sown in a good soil grows into a healthy plant and returns greatly augmented results to the cultivator. So also what is offered to Him, He gives back in abundance. God has said that if a devotee offers a Tulsi leaf, flower, fruit or even a little water with love and devotion He accepts the offering with great satisfaction.

பத்ரம் புஷ்பம் ப 2 லம் தோயம் யோ மே ப 4 க்த்யா ப்ரயச்ச 2 தி \mathbf{l} தத 3 ஹம் ப 4 க்த்யுபஹ்ரு 3 தமஸ்நாமி ப்ரயதாத்மந: \mathbf{ll} $\mathbf{BG}(9-26)$.

Thus the stress is on devotion. The kindly Lord accepts with pleasure even such small offerings being present in an idol. Just as the electricity flows out of the humble plug point in the house, God's grace flows out of the diminutive image worshipped in the house or temple. The Supreme Being is present in the idol. Sri Vedanta Desika says that Lord Srinivasa available to us at Tirupati is the Supreme Being ekShtolled by the scriptures. மருதியிரஸி விதீ'ப்தே ப்³ரஹ்மணி ஸ்ரீநிவஸே ப⁴வது மம பரஸ்மிந் யேமுஷி ப⁴க்திரூபா 1. Thus the idols worshipped in the temples and by us in our own humble house is our interface with the Supreme Being. Is it not a sign of our immense luck, then, that the Supreme Being that can grant us our wishes and salvation too if we ask for it is available to us so easily? So it is that Sharada Devi is called by the poet as "the great fortune that shines by the name Sharada" - மாரதா³பி⁴க்²யபா⁴க்³யம் 1. In the Narayaneeyam (verse No.1) also the poet Narayana Namboodri ekShclaims with wonder that the Supreme Being that cannot be directly described by the scriptures and which is the form of liberation itself shines at Guruvayoor (as the idol of Krishna) as the good fortune of the people.

அஸ்பஷ்டம் த் 3 ரு'ஷ்டமாத்ரே புநருருபுருஷார்தா 2 த்மகம் ப் 3 ரஹ்மதத்த்வம் தத்தாவத் 3 பா 4 தி ஸாக்ஷாத் கு 3 ருபவநபுரே ஹந்த பா 4 க 3 யம் ஐநாநாம் $\, \, {
m ll} \,$

One does not get the fortune to see and worship Shri Sharada at Shrigeri unless he is immensely fortunate. Usually people are very interested to visit hill stations, beaches and similar places where they can relax and have some fun. The problem with such visits is that they will come to end in a few days or weeks and one is back from where one started (i.e) to one's regular routine. Thus such "pleasures" are short lived. The time, money, and effort spent in such travels is better spent when we spend it in visiting holy places like Shringeri and see the shrine of Sharada Devi. Such a visit will wash off the sins. This fact is not understand because the results are not patent. That is why it is said that one should have done meritorious deeds (punyam) in innumerable births to have Her darshan. So She is known as \$\overline{\beta}^3\dip\overline{\sigma}^3\limes \overline{\sigma} \text{ (LS -189)} = \text{ One who is difficult to attain. To have Her in our minds all the time is very difficult as our minds are replete with thoughts about ourselves and our family, friends, fortunes and problems. To make it to focus on God requires long and constant practice. In addition we will require God's gracd also. This is said later on in this poem. What greatly enhances the glory of the temple of Sharada is the fact that the icon of the Devi was installed by the none other than the great Sankaracharya himself. This fact is mentioned in the following verse from the Kamalajadayithashtakam (\$\overline{\sigma} \overline{\sigma} \overl

கல்யாதௌ 3 பார்வதீரை: ப்ரவரஸுரக 3 ண-ப்ரார்தித: ர்ரெளதவர்த்ம ப்ராப 3 ல்யம் நேதுகாமோ யதிவரவபுஷாக 3 த்ய யாம் ர்ரு'ங்க 3 ரைலே $\mathbf l$ ஸம்ஸ்தா 2 ப்யார்சாம் ப்ரசக்ரே ப 3 ஹுவித 4 நுதிபி: 4 ஸாத்வமிந்த் 3 வர்த 4 துடா 3 வித் 3 யாம் ருத் 3 தா 4 ம் ச பு 3 த் 3 தி 4 ம் கமலஜத 3 யிதே ஸத்வரம் தே 3 ஹி மஹ்யம் $\mathbf l$

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Meaning:- Lord Siva, the consort of Parvati, who was requested by the the gods at the beginning of the dark age of Kali to save the world, decided to do so by reviving the path shown by the vedas. He incarnated Himself with the body of a great renunciant (sanyasi) and coming down to Sringeri. He installed You - Sharada Devi. He worshipped You, who wear half the moon as an ornament, by several hymns. Please bless me quickly with wisdom and pure intellect.

But, what all that is said above need not make one think that She is beyond reach and discourage him from worshipping Her. She is described here as த³யார்த்³ரா l or dripping with compassion. She is the very embodiment of mercy. த³யாமுர்தி: = த³யைவ மூர்தி: ஸ்வரூபம் யஸ்யா: l LS(581).

The poet talks of his own lowly status - one without any spiritual education - and prays for

Devi's grace by surrendering to Her. By saying he is lowly etc., we have to understand that the author, who is a great scholar and saintly person is speaking on behalf of those who may be lacking spiritual education and practices. He is showing us the way to pray.

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ந மந்த்ரம் ந யந்த்ரம் ந வா ஸ்தோத்ரரீதிம் {\rm allgn} ந {\rm S}ம்ப^{3} வக்தும் ச மத்^{3}து:^{3}க^{2}ரீதிம் {\rm l} த்வத^{3}ங்க்^{4}ரிப்ரணம்ரோ ந பாத்ரம் முச: ஸ்யா- {\rm gh}^{3}தி த்வாம் ப்ரபத்^{3}யே தவைவ ப்ரஸாதா^{3}த் {\rm ll} 2 {\rm ll}
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Meaning:-I do not know mantram or yantram or how to say something in praise of You. I do not know how to express my grief also. As someone who has prostrated at Your feet will not be affected by sorrow any more, I am surrendering to You by Your grace only.

Note:- Mantram மந்த்ரம் is a formula or prayer sacred to a deity: (e.g.) Om namah Shivaya ஓ நம்: மிவாய I Yantram யந்த்ரம் is an amulet, a mystical diagram used as an amulet. One can get Her grace by worshipping Her by mantras or yantras or by chanting hymns that state Her glories. Or else one should be able to ekShpress one's problems in a manner that will move Her. If one is not capable of doing anyone of these one should surrender to Her. This is said in the following verse in the Devi AparadhakShamapana stotram (ஸ்ரீதே வய்பராத கேமாபண -ஸ்தோத்ரம்).

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ந மந்த்ரம் நோ யந்த்ரம் தத^3பி ச ந ஜாநே ஸ்துதிமஹோ ந சாஹ்வாநம் த்^4யாநம் தத^3பி ச ந ஜாநே ஸ்துதி-கதா:^2 ^1 ந ஜாநே முத்^3ராஸ்தே தத^3பி ச ந ஜாநே விலபநம் பரம் ஜாநே மாத-ஸ்த்வத^3நுஸரணம் க்லேமஹரணம் ^1 (1) ^1
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Even to do this one requires Her grace. As an example, we see that there are many people who reside near a temple. But we find that on any day, only a handful few are inclined to visit the temple and worship the Lord. What is preventing others from doing such a simple job that costs no money? The answer is they lack the Lord's grace. Does this mean that God is capricious so that He showers His grace on chosen few and withholds it from others? No, His grace is available to all, but some are not receiving it because of their own deficiencies. A person with vision clouded due to some disease of the eyes does not see objects lit by sun light clearly. This is not because of any fault of the light, but of the defect in his eyes only. Similarly, one whose mind is clouded with negative qualities such as selfishness, anger, avarice, jealousy cannot receive His grace though He is very much

within everyone. The person with the diseased eyes can see properly after he gets rid of the malady by getting appropriate treatment from a qualified doctor. Similarly, a person with his mind sick with negative qualities should get rid of those qualities first. Then his mind cleansed of the impurities will be able to receive God's grace.

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ப^4வாம்போ^4தி^3-மக்^3நம் ப^4வாத்^3யை: ஸ^3தரு^3ரம் விஸ்ரு^3ஷ்டம் மஹாபாப-கே^3ஹாயமாநம் ^3விவேகாதி^3-ஹீநம் த^3யாநீரதே^4 தே மமாக்மாநமம்பா^3ங்க்^4ரியுக்^3மே^5ர்பயாமி ^{11} ^3 ^{11}
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Meaning:- I am fallen in the ocean of samsara (cyclic existence). I am distanced by Siva and others. I am verily the repository of great sins and devoid of qualities like discrimination. Such a one I am, I now submit myself at Your feet.

Note:- One who feels helpless to get out of the cycle of repeated birth and death (known as samsara), however lowly he be, may surrender to the Lord and get relief. He is reputed to be the source of great relef to the devotees and specific remedy for the dreadful disease of samsara for which there is no other known cure. Kulasekara says this in Mukundamala (27)

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ப⁴க்தாத்யந்தஹிதௌஷத⁴ம் ப⁴வப⁴யப்ரத்⁴வம்ஸநைகௌஷத⁴ம் ^4ம் ^4ம்ரேய:ப்ராப்திகரௌஷத⁴ம் ^4ம் ^
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He has these names that ekShpress this truth. ஒள்ஷத்ம் l - ஸம்ஸாரரோகஃபேஷ்ஜத்வாத் ஒள்ஷத்ம் l He is the specific remedy for the disease samsara. VS(287). And பேஷ்ழம் - ஸம்ஸாரரோகஃஸ்யௌஷத்ம் பேஷ்ஜம் l VS(578). So, one has to approach Sharada Devi to get relief from the grave illness known as samsara. She being the very embodiment of kindness, will accept such a person also and help him. Krishna says that one might have never thought of God and lead a life of a sinner. But when he decides to change his ways, the kindly God is ready to accept him and uplift him.

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அபி சேத் ஸுது^3ராசாரோ ப^4ஜதே மாமநந்யபா^4க் ^1 ஸாது^4ரேவ ஸ மந்தவ்ய: ஸம்யக்^3வ்யவஸிதோ ஹி ஸ: ^1 (BG-9-30).
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A conflagration reduces to ashes a piece of straw thrown into it in a trice. Similarly, Devi destroys the sins of Her devotees in no time. She makes them pure. She helps them to tide over the cycle of birth and death. So, She has these names.

பாபநாஶிநீ - பாபம் நாஶயதி ஸ்வீயவித் 3 யயா ஜபாதி 3 நா ப 4 க்தாநாமிதி ததா 2 1 யதே 2 ஷீகாதூலமக் 3 நௌ ப்ரோதம் ப்ரதூ 3 யேதைவமேவாஸ்ய பாப்மந: ப்ரதூ 3 யந்தே இதி ஶ்ருதே: 1 LS(168).

ப⁴வநாஶிநீ - ப⁴வம் ஸம்ஸாரம் நாஶயதீதி ததா 2 1 LS(175).

The devotee says he is distanced by Shiva and others (ப⁴வாத்³யை: ஸுதூ³ரம் விஸ்ரு'ஷ்டம் 1) The Lord is omnipresent, He is present everywhere. So, one can never be away from Him. This being so, how can the author say he is distanced by God? This may be ekShplained by an ekShample. Suppose one wants to listen to a particular program on his radio. But he is not receiving that program, but some other program. What does he do? He simply tunes his receiver to the correct station. He need not carry the receiver to any other place to hear the program because the radio waves are all over the place. Once it is properly tuned, he will hear the program immediately. In this way the program is very near to him. As long as the receiver is not properly tuned the program is not available and is as good as being far away. Thus, the program is both near and far away. Similarly, God is all over the place. Yet, he is near to some and far away for others. One has only to tune his mind to God to receive His grace. Tuning one's mind to God is done by devotion or bhakti. Devi is attained by devotion. So, She has the name ப4்க்திக³ம்யா - ப⁴க்க்யா ஸம்ராத⁴நேந க³ம்யா │ LS(119). The divine sage Naradha is well known as a great devotee of the Lord. He told Vyasa that he roams about the worlds singing Lord's glories. His mind is constantly tuned to Him. So The Lord readily reveals Himself in his mind as if summoned by him. BH(1-6-34).

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ப்ரகா^3யத: ஸ்வவீர்யாணி தீர்த^2பாத:^3 ப்ரியஶ்ரவா: ^3 பூஹூத இவ மே ஶீக்^4ரம் த^3ர்ஶாநம் யாதி சேதஸி ^3
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Currently our minds are tuned to the outside world and are receiving wrong signals - relating to mundane affairs. Because of this we are not able to receive signals from God who is very near to us, in fact within us only. But the wise men (desiring to reach God) direct their minds to Him and receive His signals clearly. Lord Yama says this in Kathopanishad. KU(2-1-1).

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பராஞ்சி கா^2நி வ்யத்ரு'ணத் ஸ்வயம்பூ:^4-ஸ்தஸ்மாத்பராங்பஶ்யதி நாந்தராத்மந் ^1கஶ்சித்^3த^4ர: ப்ரத்யகா^3த்மாநமைக்க-^3வ்ரு'த்தசக்ஷுரம்ரு'தத்வமிச்ச^2ந் ^1
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Sometimes one may not receive the program properly even when the station is correctly tuned. This indicates that some thing is wrong with the set and not the program. May be, some of the componenents are defective; or rusty. So also one might have studied the shastras; but if his mind finds it difficult to tune to Him we may conclude that there is nothing wrong with God, but it is the mind that is defective. It may be covered by a thick coating of sins. The poet says this as particle (\$\frac{1}{2}\$) with the result of the poet says this as particle (\$\frac{1}{2}\$) with the poet says this as particle (\$\frac{1}{2}\$) with the poet says this as particle (\$\frac{1}{2}\$) with the poet says this as the poet says this as particle (\$\frac{1}{2}\$) with the poet says this as particle (\$\frac{1}{2}\$) with the poet says this as the poet says the poet says the poet says the poet says this as the poet says the poet s

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நாவிரதோ து^3ஶ்சரிதந்நாஶாந்தோ நாஸமாஹித: \mathbf I நாஶாந்தமாநஸோ வாபி ப்ரஜ்ஞாநேநைநமாப்நுயாத் \mathbf II
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He says that one, though he has a sharp mind, cannot reach to God if he has not given up evil conduct, or does not have a calm mind or if his senses are not under control.

The scriptures state that the qualities said by Yama are got by acquiring the four basic qualifications known as ஸாத⁴ந சதுஷ்டய ஸம்பத்தி: I. These are to be acquired by one who wants to take to the spiritual path. They are described in detail in texts like Viveka Chudamani. The text Tattvabodha ஸாத⁴நசதுஷ்டயம் கிம்? நித்யாநித்யவஸ்துவிவேக: l defines them as follows. இஹாமுத்ரார்த 2 ப 2 லபோ 4 க 3 விராக: 3 1 முமாதி 3 ஷட்கஸம்பத்தி: 1 முமுகு த்வம் சேதி 1 The capacity to discriminate between the permanent and the impermanent, dispassion to the enjoyment of the fruits of one's actions here in this world and hereafter (in the higher worlds like heaven), the sikSh accomplishments (inner wealth) beginning with shama (UULD) and the yearning for liberation. The details are available in this text and Viveka Chudamni. These four qualifications purge the mind of pollutants like anger, jealousy, avarice and bless the student with a keen razor sharp intellect that is capable of understanding the subtle teachings of spiritual texts imparted by the teacher. Having got a pure mind by the above said practices one will be able to tune his mind to God and receive His signals clearly and without disturbance. The devotion will be fruitful. Else the devotion cannot bring any result and God will be far away from him.

Aquiring these qualifications is a long and arduous process. This is said by the sage Patanjali in his Yogasutra. ஸ து தீ³ர்க⁴கால-நைரந்தர்ய-ஸத்காராஸேவிதோ த்³ரு'ட⁴பூ ⁴மி: l (1-14). The practitioner will face numerous obstacles, mainly from within. The mind is not

used to any discipline. So, any attempt to discipline it will be firmly resisted. We have the stories of the sage Viswamitra who had to face serious impediments even when he repaired to forests to practise penance. One is advised to pray and seek God's help to surmount the obstacles. Krishna assures that He will help His devotee in this process. மச்சித்த: ஸர்வது³ர்கா³ணி மத்ப்ரஸாதா³த் தரிஷ்யனி I BG(18-58).

Keeping this in mind, the poet surrenders to Devi, who is ready to help such disadvantaged people, for success in this endeavour.

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மாரீரம் ஸ்வதந்த்ரம் ததா<sup>2</sup>$க்ஷாணி ஸா்வா-
ண்யஹோ கிம் கரோமி க்வ யாம்யம்பி<sup>3</sup>கே வா l
மயா போஷ்யமாணுநி மத்<sup>3</sup>வஶ்யதாம் ந
ப்ரயாந்த்யுஞ்ஜஸா மக்<sup>3</sup>வஶே தாநி தந்யா: ll 4 ll
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Meaning:- My mind and other organs are insubordinate and I am not able to bring them under my control. I feel helpless. What shall I do? You only have to make them come under my control.

Note:-We take so much care of this body that has all the organs, including the mind. But they are ungrateful in that they do not obey our wishes. Inspite of our best efforts they they pull us in the directions they want to go. It is very difficult to control them and make them follow our wishes.

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யததோ ஹ்யபி கௌந்தேய புருஷஸ்ய விபர்சித: oldsymbol{\mathfrak{l}} இந்த்^3ரியாணி ப்ரமாதீ^2நி ஹரந்தி ப்ரஸப⁴ம் மந: oldsymbol{\mathfrak{l}} BG(2-60).
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In such a situation. How can we offer them at the feet of the Lord? Only She should make them come under our control when we can submit them at Her feet. Patanjali says in his Yogasutra that meditating on the Lord is an easy way to gain control over the mind. ஈய்வரப்ரணிதா⁴நாத்³வா 1 (1-22).

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கதா<sup>3</sup>சிச்ச தே பாத<sup>3</sup>பத்<sup>3</sup>மஸ்ய பூஜாம்
ஸ்ம்ரு'திம் த<sup>3</sup>ர்ஶாநம் வா விதந்யுஸ்த்விமாநி l
விஜநந்நஹம் தாநி ரக்ஷாமி மாத:
ம்ரு'ஷ நைவ வக்ஷயாமி ஶீக்⁴ரம் ப்ரஸீத<sup>3</sup> ll 5 ll
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Meaning:- I have been nurturing my bodily organs -like the limbs and mind in the fond hope that one day they will be useful in worshipping Your lotus-like feet, or think of You

or have Your vision. This is the truth. So, Mother, please be kind to me.

Note:- Our shastras declare that the human birth is very special as it is got after numerous births. Such a precious thing should not be frittered away in chasing petty and short lived pleasures. It should be used to attain the highest goal of life which is liberation or mokSha. And attaining liberation is possible only in human birth. However the human body is fragile as one does not know when death will cut short the life. So the wise one should not waste time but use his body and try for liberation in this life itself. Krishna gives this advice to His friend Uddhaya.

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லப்<sup>3</sup>த்<sup>4</sup>வா ஸுது<sup>3</sup>ா்லப<sup>4</sup>மித<sup>3</sup>ம் ப<sup>3</sup>ஹுஸம்ப<sup>4</sup>வாந்தே
மாநுஷ்யமா்த<sup>2</sup>த<sup>3</sup>மநித்யமபீஹ தீ<sup>4</sup>ர:
தூாா்ணம் யதேத ந பதேத<sup>3</sup>நும்ரு'த்யு யாவ-
ந்நி:ஸ்ரேயஸாய விஷய: க<sup>2</sup>லு ஸா்வத: ஸ்யாத் !! BH(11-9-29).
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In view of this devotees have been telling themselves (by advising their limbs) to engage in the worship of the Lord. The devotee Kulasekhara asks his tongue to sing His glories, his mind to think of Him, His hands to engage themselves in worshipping Him, his ears to listen to His stories, his eyes to see Him, his legs to visit His temples, his nose to smell the tulasi leaves used in His worship and his head to bow to Him. This is something like autosuggestion.

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ஜிஹ்வே கீர்தய கேஶவம், முரரிபும் சேதோ ப⁴ஜ, ஸ்ரீத⁴ரம்
பாணித்³வந்த்³வ ஸமர்சயாச்யுதகதா:²-ஶ்ஶ்ரோத்ரத்³வய த்வம் ஶ்ரு'ணு ↓
க்ரு'ஷ்ணம் லோகய லோசநத்³வய, ஹரேர்க³ச்சா²ங்-க்⁴ரியுக்³மாலயம்
ஜிக்⁴ர க்⁴ராண முகுந்த³பாத³துளஸீம் மூர்த⁴ந் நமாதோ⁴கூஷஜம் ↓
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Now, the saint says how, at different stages in our life, he lost control of our sense organs with the result that he did not think of the Mother at any time. He also gives the reasons therefor in the next three verses. The stages mentioned are the childhood, youth and old age. These verses bring to our mind the following popular verse in the Bhaja Govindam (7) of Shri Shankaracharya.

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பா^3லஸ்தாவத் க்ரீடா^3ஸக்த: தருணஸ்தாவத் தருணீஸக்த: ^1ல்ரு^2த்^3த^4ஸ்தாவ-ச்சிந்தா-ஸக்த: பரே ப்^3ரஹ்மணி கோ^5பி ந ஸக்த: ^1
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The carefree child is is lost in play. The youth is lost in his sweetheart's charms. The old man broods over his anxieties. Thus, there is none who thinks of the Lord.

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மயா பா³லபா⁴வ-ஸ்தி²தேநாம்பி³கே த்வத்-
பதா³ம்போ⁴ஜயுக்³மம் ஸ்ம்ரு'தம் நைவ ஜாது ↓
கூதமஸ்வாபராத⁴ம் த³யா-வாரிராஶே
த்வத³ந்யச்ச²ரண்யம் ந மே ஶாரதே³5ஸ்தி ॥ 6॥
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Meaning:- O! Mother! As a child I was playful and so did not think of You. O Sharada! Ocean of mercy! please excuse my folly. I have no one to turn to for protection.

Shri Shankaracharya goes one stage earlier (i.e.) babyhood. He says that as a baby, he was interested in only feeding from his mother and was helpless to protect himself even from tiny insects that bit and harrassed him. In addition he had no control over his sense organs like the mind and limbs and so was he was steeped in ignorance. He was also a victim of many diseases and was crying. So, where is the question of thinking of the Lord? He begs the Lord to pardon his mistake. SX(2).

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பா^3ல்யே து:^3கா^2திரேகாத் மல-லுலித-வபு: ஸ்தந்யபாநே பிபாஸு: நோ மக்தம்சேந்த்^3ரியேப்^4யோ ப^4வ! மல-ஜநிதா ஜந்தவோ மாம் துத^3ந்தி ^1 நாநாரோகா^3திது:^3கா^2த் ருதி^3த-பரவஶ: ஶங்கரம் ந ஸ்மராமி கூஷந்தவ்யோ மே^3பராக;^4 ஶிவ ஶிவ ஶிவ போ:^4 பூரீமஹாதே^3வ ஶம்போ^4! ^1
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Note:- Next, the poet talks about his youthhood.

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ததா<sup>2</sup> யெளவநே மத்தசித்தோஹமாஸம்
த்வத்<sup>3</sup>யம் பதா³ப்³ஜம் ஸ்ம்ரு'தம் நைவ நைவ l
கூதமஸ்வாபராத⁴ம் விதி⁴-ப்ரேமகாந்தே
ந புத்ரே மநாக³ப்யுபேக்ஷா ஜநந்யா: ll 7 ll
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Meaning:- Similarly, I was full of energy and hot headed as an youth. I did not think of Your feet even for a short while. O Sharada, the dear consort of Brahma, You should excuse my mistake. A mother will not ignore a child.

Note:- Shri Shankaracharya says that as a well developed youngster his mind was whisked away by senses. He lost his discretion and was lost in sense pleasures provided by money and the company of family, relatives etc. He was full of vigour and proud. He did not think of anything connected with the Lord.

So, he begs the Lord to pardon his mistake. SX (3).

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ப்ரௌடோ^4Sஹம் யௌவநஸ்தோ^2 விஷய-விஷத^4ரம் பஞ்சபி^4ர்மாம்-ஸந்தௌ^4 த^3ஷ்டோ நஷ்டோ விவேக: ஸுத-த^4ந-யுவதி-ஸ்வாத^3-ஸௌக்^2யே நிஷண்ண: ^1 ஶைவே சிந்தா-விஹீநம் மம ஹ்ரு^3த^3யம் அஹோ மாந-க^3ர்வாதி^4ரூட^4ம் க்ஷந்தவ்யோ மே^3பராத:^4 ஶிவ ஶிவ ஶிவ போ:^4 ஶ்ரீமஹாதே^3வ ஶம்போ^4! ^1
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The poet says that "a mother will not ignore a child" - ந புத்ரே மநாக³ப்யுபேக்ஷா ஐநந்யா: l and overlook the mistakes committed. The தே³வ்யபராத⁴-க்ஷமாபண-ஸ்தோத்ரம் Devi-Aparadha- kShamapana Stotram has a similar verse wherein the poet talks of the various acts of omission and commission committed by him due to ignorance of rules of proper conduct (dharma) and sheer laziness etc.. He asks the Mother to pardon them saying there may be a vile son, but never a bad mother.

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விதே⁴ரஜ்ஞாநேந த்<sup>3</sup>ரவிண–விரஹேணுலஸதயா
விதே⁴யாஶக்யத்வாத்தவ சரணயோர்யாச்யுதிரபூ⁴த் l
ததே<sup>3</sup>தத் கூஷந்தவ்யம் ஜநநி ஸகலோத்<sup>3</sup>தா⁴ரிணி ஶிவே
குபுத்ரோ ஜாயேஅத க்வசித<sup>3</sup>பி குமாதா ந ப⁴வதி ll
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Now, the poet explains as to why he could not even think of Devi in his old age.

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ஜராரோக³-ஸம்பீடி³தாங்கோ³ ஜராயாம்
கத²ம் வா ஸ்மரேயம் பத³ம் ஶாரதா³ம்ப்³ ↓
கூதமஸ்வாபராத⁴ம் ஸமஸ்தம் மதீ³யம்
கூதமாதூ⁴த-ஸர்வம் ஸஹாக²ர்வ-க³ர்வே ▮ 8 ▮
```

Meaning:- In the old age, when my body would have become decrepit and host to a variety of diseases, O Sharada! how will I be able to remember Your feet? You, who excel the mother earth in forbearance should overlook my failings.

Shri Shankaracharya talks of the same thing as given here. SX(4).

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வார்த<sup>3</sup>க்யே சேந்த்<sup>3</sup>ரியாணும் விகல-க<sup>3</sup>திமதஶ்சாதி⁴தை<sup>3</sup>வாதி³-தாபை:
ப்ராப்தை ரோகை³ர்வியோகை³-வ்யஸந-க்ரு'ஶதநோர்ஜ்ஞப்தி-ஹீநம் ச தீ³நம் ↓
மித்<sup>2</sup>யா-மோஹாபி⁴லாஷைர்ப⁴வதி மம மநோ தூ⁴ர்ஜடைர்ஜ்ஞாந-ஶூந்யம்
கூஷந்தவ்யோ மே5பராத:⁴ ஶிவ ஶிவ ஶிவ போ:⁴ ஶ்ரீமஹாதே³வ ஶம்போ⁴! ▮
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Note:-One can understand that in the three stages mentioned above one may not be able to exercise control over himself: in his childhood when one is not mature and also in the old

age when the body would have become enfeebled and the mind, as a consequence would have lost its will power. So it is proper to beg forgiveness for the mistakes committed in these ages.

But what is the explanation for the lapses committed in between these ages? The response is, that as a fond mother, She should overlook his failings.

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த்வதீ^3யம் பதா^3ப்^3ஜம் ஸதா^3 பூஜயேயம் ததா^2 ஸம்ஸ்மரேயம் ச பஶ்யேயமேவம் ^1 ஸமிச்^2ம்ஶ்ச மத்பூர்வ-து^3ர்வாஸநாபி:^4 ப^3லாதா^3ஹ்ரு^3தம் மந்மந: கிம் கரோமி ^1 9 ^1
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Meaning:- Truly speaking, I want to worship Your feet, think of them and look at them all the time. But the problem is that my mind is being forcibly pulled away as the result of evil tendencies that have been accumulated in my previous births. What shall I do?

Note:- We have accumulated tendencies from our earlier births, They exert a powerful influence on our minds with the result that we tend to act in a way different from how we would like to. Krishna states this clearly.

The poet anticipates that one may say that accumulated tendencies are the result of your own acts, and ask what can anyone do in this matter, he gives the answer in the following verse.

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யதி³ த்வம் வத³ஸ்யம்ப³ தே பூர்வ-கர்ம
த்வயைவ ப்ரயத்நேந ஜேதவ்யமேவம் ↓
ததா³ மய்யஜஸ்ரம் க்ரு'பா ஸம்விதே⁴யா
ப்ரயத்நம் கரோம்யேவ தத்ராபி ஸம்யக் ↓ 10 ↓
```

Meaning:- If You were to say that the tendencies acquired by me are to be my conquered by my own efforts, even then You should extend Your mercy in this effort of mine unceasingly. I will, then, make strong effort to win over my tendencies.

Note:- The fact is that though one may realise that his past tendencies prevent him from channelising his mind to Devi, he will be unable to control them. Therefore one requires Her grace to support his efforts and make them successful. What is impossible to achieve

if one has Her support? Shri Sankaracharya makes a similar request in Sivanandalahari. (41). He prays to Lord Siva to order that all his bodily organs, like tongue, mind, head, feet, hands, eyes and ears should engage themselves in His worship. Then only he will be cleansed of his sins and be fit for liberation.

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பாபோத்பாத–விமோசநாய ருசிரைஶ்வா்யாய ம்ரு'த்யுஞ்ஜய
ஸ்தோத்ர–த்⁴யாந–நதி–ப்ரத³கூதிண–ஸபா்யாலோகநாகா்ணநே 
இஹ்வா–சித்த–ஶிரோ 5ங்க்⁴ாி–ஹஸ்த–நயந–ஶ்ரோத்ரைரஹம் ப்ராா்திதோ
மமாஜ்ஞாபய தந்நிருபய முஹுா்மாமேவ மா மே5வச: ॥
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The Acharya prays in the last line that the Lord should repeatedly make his mind engage in His worship. தந்நிரூபய முஹு: I Why say "repeatedly"? The reason is that our mind is and had been attached to the attractions of the world for many births. Even if the kindly Lord ekShtends His hand for us to hold and we also grasp it, we will not be able to retain our hold for long. The pull of these attractions is very strong and will tear away our mind back to ourselves, our family, possessions etc. We have to be alert and watch the situation. The moment we feel our hold on the Lord is weakening, we have to renew our effort and tighten the grip. This effort is thus to be done repeatedly till we find that our hold is firm and no more weakening. It is for this reason that the devotee Dhruva also prayed to the Lord that his mind should repeatedly seek the company of holy men. BH(4-9-11).

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ப⁴க்திம் முஹு: ப்ரவஹதாம் த்வயி மே ப்ரஸங்கோ^3 பூ^4யாத^3நந்த மஹதாமமலாஶயாநாம் \, \,
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The poet puts forward an ingenious reason why Devi should come to his help even if he does not pray for it.

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யதி<sup>3</sup> த்வம் மதீ<sup>3</sup>யாம் ஶுசம் நாபநுத்<sup>3</sup>யா:
ததா<sup>3</sup> து:<sup>3</sup>க<sup>2</sup>-வஹ்நி-ப்ரதப்தே$ந்தரங்கே<sup>3</sup> \
மதீ<sup>3</sup>யே ஸ்தி<sup>2</sup>தாயா-ஸ்தவாப்யம்ப<sup>3</sup> கே<sup>2</sup>தோ<sup>3</sup>
பூவேதி<sup>3</sup>த்யஹம் சிந்தயா$$ர்தோ$ஸ்மி பூ ய: \ 11 \
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Meaning:- If You do not deign to dispel my sorrow, then, O Mother, I am worried that You too will be afflicted, since You are residing in my heart that is hot with the fire of grief.

Note:- It may be said that let me suffer as said above. But the Lord is resident in the hearts of all beings. ஈஸ்வர: ஸா்வபூ *தாநாம் ஹ்ரு 'த்*தே*யே\$ா்ஜுந திஷ்டதி I BG(18-61). In this case, where the author says his heart is full of sorrow, the sorrow will surely affect

Devi also who is residing in his heart. No doubt Devi is the embodiment of bliss. Yet, because of Her association with one who is intensely suffering, She too will get a share of the suffering. Also since She is all pervading, She cannot also get away from the author's heart to some other clean place. Because of this reason, the author points out that She has to alleviate the distress of the author if She wants to escape any suffering.

The scripture say that Ignorance about the true nature of the Self is the cause of all the sufferings one goes through. So, the poet now prays to Devi to remove the nescience.

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வத^3ந்தீஹ ஶாஸ்த்ராணி ஸத்யஶ்சிதா^3த்மா-\mathbf{S}த்^3வயஶ்சாந்யதா^3ர்தம் ஸமஸ்தம் ம்ரு'ஷேதி \mathbf{I} ததா^2ப்யம்ப^3 மோஹோ ந மே விப்ரநஷ்டோ \mathbf{g}^2டித்யம்ப^3 தம் நாஶ்யாநர்த^2-மூலம் \mathbf{II} \mathbf{12} \mathbf{III}
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Meaning:- The scriptures declare that the individual soul is eternal, of the form of wisdom and non-dual (that is it is one without a second thing) while every thing else is unreal (will disappear with the dawn of realisation of the truth), and embodiment of sorrow. Still, my ignorance is not removed. O Mother! You have to dispel the ignorance that is the root of all sorrrows.

Note:- Our scriptures state that through God's grace alone one gets a desire for the supreme wisdom referred to above arises. For ekShample, the Avadhuta Gita says - ஈஶ்வராநுக்³ரஹாதே³வ பும்ஸாமத்³வைதவாஸநா பமஹத்³ப⁴யபரித்ராணுத்³விப்ராணுமுபஜாயபே

This grace of God has to be combined with one's own effort which is a must. Sarasvathi has the name ப்³ரஹ்மஜ்ஞாநைகலாத⁴நா = The only means of getting the wisdom that reveals the supreme being. So the poet prays to Devi for Her grace to gain the wisdom. The Lord had said that He will, out of compassion, remove the ignorance of His devotees and by granting them the supreme wisdom. BG(10-11).

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தேஷாமேவாநுகம்பார்த^2மஹமஜ்ஞாநஜம் தம: \mathsf{l} நாஶயாம்யாத்மபா^4வஸ்தோ^2 ஜ்ஞாந-த^3பேந பா^4ஸ்வதா \mathsf{ll}
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May be the ignorance is not removed in this birth as the poet has prayed for. He prays that he should be blessed with the remembrance of Devi in his last moments. This remembrance of the Goddess will ensure that he will not be born again and suffer the pangs of samsara the cycle of birth and death.

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யதா<sup>3</sup> த<sup>3</sup>ண்ட<sup>3</sup>த்⁴ரு'த்ப்ரேஷிதா: பீ⁴மதூ<sup>3</sup>தா:
மஹாபாபிநம் மாம் ஸமாக்ரஷ்டுமாராத் l
ஸமாயந்தி தஸ்மிந் ஹி காலே த<sup>3</sup>யாப்³தே⁴
மதீ³யே மநஸ்யாவிரேதி⁴ த்வமம்ப<sup>3</sup> Ⅱ 13 Ⅲ
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Meaning:- When the frightful messengers sent by Yama, the god of death come to take me, a great sinner, away, I beseech You, the ocean of mercy, to appear in my mind.

Note:- The author, having admitted that he is unable to shed his ignorance, now prays that he may be granted the privilege of having the thought of Devi in his last moments. Being a sinner, Yama's servants will come to drag him away to their master's presence to for judgement. This will be a terrifying moment for anyone. One will not know what to do at that time. Krishna had said that one will reach Him if one has the thought of the Lord at his final moments. He adds that one will also reach whatever (if it is not God) he is thinking of at the time of death. B.G(8-5,6).

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அந்தகாலே ச மாமேவ ஸ்மரந்முக்த்வா கலேவரம் l
ய: ப்ரயாதி ஸ மத்<sup>3</sup>பா⁴வம் யாதி நாஸ்த்யத்ர ஸம்மாய: ll
யம் யம் வாபி ஸ்மரந்பா⁴வம் த்யஜத்யந்தே கலேப⁴ரம் l
தம் தமேவைதி கௌந்தேய-ஸ்ஸதா³ தத்<sup>3</sup>பா⁴வ-பா⁴வித: ll
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In view of this devotees had prayed to God to grant them His remembrance (and not of anything else) in their last moments. The devotee Kulasekhara addresses Krishna Himself who had said this. He prays that his mind should attach itself to Him now itself and not wait till his last moments. He wonders how he will be able to remember Him at the time of death as he is likely to be choked with phlegm and will be struggling to breathe.

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க்ரு'ஷ்ண த்வதீ<sup>3</sup>யபத<sup>3</sup>பங்கஜபஞ்ஜராந்த: அத்<sup>3</sup>யைவ மே விருது மாநஸராஜஹம்ஸ: \mathbf{l} ப்ராணப்ரயாணஸமயே கப<sup>2</sup>வாதபித்தை: கண்டா<sup>2</sup>வரோத⁴நவிதௌ⁴ ஸ்மரணம் குதஸ்தே \mathbf{ll} (9).
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So, the author prays that he should be blessed with Her prescence in his mind in his final moments.

One may tell the poet that he had admitted to be a great sinner. Such being the case why he thinks that he will be blessed with the remembrance of the Goddess in his last moments, the answer given is that Devi is amenable to devotion.

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மஹாபாபிநம் மாம் ஸமுத்<sup>3</sup>த⁴ர்துமேவ
த்வயா புண்ய-பாபே பரோக்ஷே க்ரு'தே ஹி l
ந சேத்ஸர்வலோகோ விஜாநீயுரேநம்
மஹாபாபிநம் த்வாம் ச வைஷம்ய-யுக்தாம் ll 14 ll
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Meaning:- Only with an idea to uplift me, a great sinner, you have made the merits and sins one not perceptible to others. If it were not so, all would have known I am a great sinner and You as being favourably disposed to me.

Note:- The good and bad deeds of a person produce (punyam) merits and (papam) sins respectively. Every one will have to ekShperience the results in the form of joy and sufferings in this or some other birth. The stock of one's merits and sins is invisible to the person concerned and to others also. It is known as அத்³ரு்ட்டம் l (unseen). They can only be inferred by the ekShperiences we undergo in our lives. Kalidasa uses this idea in his Raghuvamsam (1-20). He says that the king Dilipa kept his plans secret. His countenance also did not give out what he had in his mind. They could only be inferred from the results like the impressions of the previous births.

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தஸ்ய ஸம்வ்ரு'தமந்த்ரஸ்ய கூ^3டா^4காரேங்கி^3தஸ்ய ச^1ப^2லாநுமேயா: ப்ராரம்பா:^4 ஸம்ஸ்காரா: ப்ராக்தநா இவ^1
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The past deeds leave their impressions on the mind of the individual. They continue to exert their influence in the current life also by making one act in a proper or improper way.

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ஸத்^3ரு'ரம் சேஷ்டதே ஸ்வஸ்யா: ப்ரக்ரு'தேர்ஜ்ஞாநவாநபி \mathsf{l}ப்ர்க்ரு'திம் யாந்தி பூ^4தாநி நிக்^3ரஹ: கிம் கரிஷ்யதி \mathsf{ll} \mathsf{BG} (3-33).
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The poet says that he had committed countless sins. Devi, out of immense mercy has made these sins invisible to others. Had it been not been the case, people would have known he is a great sinner. They would have insulted or shunned him. This is proof enough that She is kind to a great sinner as also with good people. Krishna says that God is equally inclined to every one. He has no one whom He hates or loves.

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ஸ்மோனும் ஸ்ர்வபூ^4தேஷு ந மே த்^3வேஷ்யோ^3ஸ்தி ந ப்ரிய: ^1
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யே ப⁴ஜந்தி து மாம் ப⁴க்த்யா மயி தே தேஷு சாப்யஹம் 川 (Gita 9-29).
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But, the Lord says that if one worships Him with devotion, then he is dear to Him and vice versa. This does not imply any partiality. This is like the case of the fire. It is available to all. If one chooses to come close to it, it gives him warmth. But, if one chooses to stay away from it, it does not give him warmth and as a result will be exposed to cold. This is no fault of the fire.

After talking about the compassion of Devi, the poet describes in the next four verses, the remarkable changes that devotion to Her brings about in a person and also the benefits of devotion.

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ஶாீரே ஸ்வகே5ஹந்த்வமஸ்தம் ப்ரயாயா-
தி³தி த்வாம் ப்ரபந்நா: ஐநா: ஶாரதா³ம்ப³ ↓
ஸமஸ்தேஷு வஸ்துஷ்வஹந்தாம் ப⁴ஐந்தே
கிமேதத்³விசித்ரம் சிதா³நந்த³-ரூபே ▮ 15 ▮
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Meaning:- Those who worship You with the desire to give up the idea that "I am the body", instead get the idea "I am everything in the universe". How wonderful this is!

Note:- Those who worship Devi with the desire that they should discard their identification with their body get it. The idea "I am the body" is a limited vision. This is replaced with the vastly expanded universal vision "I am every thing". One ceases to identify oneself with the body when one identifies with the soul or atma which is all pervading. This results in the idea "I am everything in the universe". This is said in Gita (6-29).

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ஸா்வபூ⁴தஸ்த^2மத்மாநம் ஸா்வபூ⁴தாநி சாத்மநி \, oldsymbol{\mathsf{I}} \,ஈக்ஷதே யோக^3-யுக்தாத்மா ஸா்வத்ர ஸமத^3ா்மந: \, oldsymbol{\mathsf{II}} \,
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Naturally, this is a very high stage in spiritual progress. Rarely one will find people who have got such a vision. Sage Narada tells about this to King Yudhishtira; that one should look upon deer, camels, donkeys, monkeys, rats, reptiles, birds and flies as his own children and asks what is it that distinguishes these from his children.

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ம்ரு'கோ³ஷ்ட்ர-க²ர-மா்காகு²-ஸாீஸ்ரு'ப்க²க³-மகூதிகா: ↓
ஆத்மந: புத்ரவத் பஶ்யேத் தைரேஷாமந்தரம் கியத் ↓ BH(7-14-8).
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Muka kavi says the same thing but some what differently. He points out with wonder that those who have the blessings of Shri KamakShi Devi will see no differences between seemingly opposites like friend and foe, or home and forest and so on.

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மிவ மிவ பம்யந்தி ஸமம் ஸ்ரீகாமாகூ$கடாகூதிதா: புருஷா: oldsymbol{l} விபிநம் ப⁴வநமமித்ரம் மித்ரம் லோஷ்ட^2ம் ச யுவதிபி^3ம்போ^3ஷ்ட^2ம் oldsymbol{l} (Arya shatakam ^48).
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The reason is that Devi's grace will make them see every thing as one's own self. Thus there are no distinctions even between opposites as said above. The Brihadaranyopanishad (1-4-2) says த்³விதீயாத்³வை ப⁴யம் ப⁴வதி I that only when one sees something as other than oneself (i.e.) a second thing, there will arise feelings like suspicion, fear, jealousy, dislike in his mind. This leads to loss of peace of mind, restlessness, and unhappiness. An ekShample is given by our texts to ekShplain this phenomenon. A sparrow lands on a dressing table. It looks into the mirror and sees its own image. It mistakes the reflection to be another sparrow, its rival, and attacks it. In the same way, the same Supreme Being is resident in everything in the universe. Only, the forms are different. The containers (their bodies) are different, but the content - the godhead is same.

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கேஷத்ரஜ்ஞம் ச மாம் வித்^3தி^4 ஸா்வகேஷத்ரேஷு பா^4ரத ^{\dagger} BG(13-2)
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Thus they are all one's own images. But one mistakes them to be different from him. This misunderstanding gives rise to conflicts and confusion. But one who can see oneness is free of the delusion and is happy. The famous mantra from the Isavasyopanishad(7) says this.

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யஸ்மிந் ஸர்வணி பூ⁴தா-ந்யாத்மைவாபூ⁴-த்<sup>3</sup>விஜாநத: !
தத்ர கோ மோஹ: க: ஶோக: ஏகத்வமநுபஶ்யத: !!
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Intense devotion to Her yields such a vision. So, She has the name பே4த³நாயிநீ - One who destroys distinctions. LS(179).

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மஹா-வ்யாதி<sup>4</sup>-ஶாந்த்யை ததா<sup>2</sup> நி:ஸ்வதாயா:
ப்ரணுஶாய யே த்வாம் ப<sup>4</sup>ஜந்தே நராஸ்தே l
ஜவாச்கு<sup>2</sup>லிந: ஸ்யுஶ்ச க்ரு'த்திம் வஸாநா:
க ஏஷ ப்ரகார: ப்ரபந்நேஷு தே5ம்ப<sup>3</sup> ll 16 ll
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Meaning:-Those who worship You for getting their serious disease cured and similarly for getting rid of their poverty become possessors of tridents and dressed in the hide of elephant. O Mother! is it proper on Your part to conduct Yourself in this manner with those who surrender to You?

Note: - The serious disease is samsara or having to be born and die endlessly. By saying that the worshippers come to hold a trident and be dressed in the hide of an elephant indicates they get the form of Siva. Siva holds a trident and wears the hide of an elephant. Devi and Siva are one. This was pointed out earlier. மிவா = மிவாபே4தா³ மிவா I She is not different from Siva, so Devi has the name Siva. LS(53). The devotees become one like Devi. This is known as வைசரும்யம் or similar form and is one form of liberation.

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ததா^2 மோஹஶாந்த்யை ஜநா: யே ப்ரபந்நா: ததா^3ஸ்யேக்ஷணு-த்ஸர்வ-லோகோ\mathbf{5}பி ஸத்^3ய: \mathbf{l} ப்ரமுஹ்யத்யவஶ்யம் விசித்ராம்பு^3ராஶௌ மநோ மாமகம் ஶாரதே^3 மக்^3நமாஸ்தே \mathbf{ll} 17 \mathbf{ll}
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Meaning:- In the same manner, people who see those who surrender to You to control delusion definitely get deluded. O Sharada! my mind is filled with wonder.

Note: - Delusion is the result of ignorance about the true nature of one's Self. Those who pray to Devi gets his delusion removed. But those who come close to him become themselves deluded, meaning charmed by him because of his greatness got as a result of Devi's grace. The popular hymn Shyamala Dandakam also says this.

யேந வா யாவகாபா⁴க்ரு'திர்பா⁴வ்யஸே, தஸ்ய வஶ்யா ப⁴வந்தி ஸ்த்ரிய: புருஷா: l Men and women will come under the control of the one who meditates on Your shining complekShion, possessing the hue of the red lac.

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கநத்<sup>3</sup>தே<sup>3</sup>ஹ-பா⁴தூ⁴த-ஸச்சா²தகும்பா⁴ம்
லஸத்தார-ஹாராட்<sup>3</sup>ய-வக்ஷோஜகும்பா⁴ம் l
ஸதா³ த்வாம் ஜநா யே ஹ்ரு'த³ப்³ஜே ஸ்மரந்தி
ஸ்மரந்த்யேவ தே தே<sup>3</sup>வி ஶாாீர-காந்த்யா ll 18 ll
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Meaning:- Those who meditate on You all the time as one having the complexion that is far superior to well polished gold, and with chest shining with chain that shines like a garland of stars become themselves Manmatha (cupid) with their outstanding beauty.

Note:- By worshipping Devi one gets an ekShceedingly attractive form. Sharada Devi has an ekShceedingly beautiful form. She has the name சாருளபா - சாரு ஸுந்த³ரம்

ரூபம் லாவண்யம் யஸ்யா: I LS(241). By intensely meditating on Her the devotee gets an attractive form. This is like the case of an iron ball dropped in the fire. After some time the ball imbibes all the qualities of the fire. It also glows and looks like a ball of fire. A devotee is drawn close to Her and imbibes Her qualities and gets a beautiful form. NekSht, the poet describes in the nekSht four verses the state of mind of those who worship Devi.

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கதா<sup>3</sup> வா ஸுதா⁴கும்ப⁴-புஸ்தாக்ஷமாலா-
விபோ³தா⁴க்<sup>2</sup>யமுத்³ரா: கராப்³ஜைர்த³தா⁴நாம் ↓
முக<sup>2</sup>ஸ்டீ-பராபூ⁴த-பூர்ணேந்து³-பி³ம்பா³ம்
ஸதா³ த்வாம் ஸ்மரந்வீத-ஶோகோ ப⁴வேயம் ▮ 19 ▮
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Meaning:- When will I be able to think of You, bearing in Your four hands, the pot of nectar, book, rosary and chin-mudra and face that outshines the full moon and be without sorrow all the time?

Note:- This verse describes the form of Sharada Devi that is suitable for meditation. Being able to think of Her all the time will be the summum bonum of life. By meditating on Her in Her form as said here one will be relieved of his/her sorrows. She has the name து:³க²ஹந்த்ரீ - து:³க²ஸ்ய ஸம்ஸாரிகஸ்ய ஹந்த்ரீ l LS(191). After saying that by meditating on Devi one can get rid of his sorrows, the poet proceeds to say that one will also be blessed with infinite bliss.

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கதா^3 துங்க^3ப^4த்^3ரா-ஸரித்தீர-தே^3ஶே

சரந்தீம் ஸமுத்துங்க^3-கல்யாண-தா^3த்ரீம் ^1
ஸதா^3 பா^4வயம்ஸ்த்வாம் முதா^3 யாபயேயம்

மதா^3யுர்மதே^3பே^4ந்த்^3ர-யாநே^3ம்ப^3 வாணி ^1 ^1 ^20 ^11
```

Meaning:- When will I spend my days happily by meditating on You, moving around the banks of the Tungabadra river, showering on all the worlds wonderful bliss and having the gait of a proud elephant?

Note:- Devi is known as ஸுக²ப்ரதா³ - ஸுகா²நி இஹிகாமுஷ்மிக, கைவல்யரூபாணி ப்ரகர்ஷேண த³த்தே ஸுக²ப்ரதா³ l LS(192). She gives in abundance happiness, be it relate to this world or the other world and also the supreme bliss known as liberation. So, Her devotee will be full of joy. The poet Bhartrihari ekShpresses a similar desire. He wants to reside on the banks of the sacred river Ganga, clad in a strip of cloth and with folded

hands raised over his head keep loudly repeating the Lord Siva's names and pray for His mercy.

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கதா<sup>3</sup> வாரணஸ்யாமமரதடிநீரோத⁴ஸி வஸ-
ந்வஸாந: கௌபீநம் ஶிரஸி நித³தா⁴நோ5ந்ஞ்ஜலிபுடம் ↓
அயே கௌ³ரீநாத² த்ரிபுரஹர ஶம்போ⁴ த்ரிநயந
ப்ரஸீதே³தி க்ரோஶந்நிமிஷமிவ நேஷ்யாமி தி³வஸாந் ↓ Vairagayashatakam (87).
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Next, the poet talks about the fruit of meditating on the glorious form of Devi.

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கராப்<sup>3</sup>ஜே5க்ஷமாலாம் வஹந்தீம் ஸதா<sup>3</sup> த்வாம்
ப<sup>4</sup>ஜந்ப்<sup>4</sup>ரு'ங்க<sup>3</sup>கீட-ப்ரகாரேண மாத: l
கரே மே5க்ஷமாலம் கரோம்யேவ நூநம்
பரம் த்வந்மநஸ்த்வம் ஸதா<sup>3</sup> தே<sup>3</sup>ஹி மஹ்யம் ll 21 ll
```

Meaning:- By meditating on You holding a rosary in Your lotus like hand, all the time like a wasp confined in its nest, O Mother!, I too have come to be holding a rosary in my hand. But, I pray to You to make my mind to hold on firmly to You.

Note: It is a popular notion that the wasp confines the worm that has come out of its egg in a nest. It visits the nest frequently and stings the helpless worm. The worm is thus tormented and keeps thinking of the tormentor, the wasp, constantly in fear, with the result it metamorphoses itself into a wasp. In the same way, the poet says that by constantly thinking of Sharada Devi, he too have got himself transformed into Her. The Avadhuta sage says this to King Yadhu in avadhuta Gita. BH(11-14-22 and 23).

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யத்ர யத்ர மநோ தே^3ஹீ தா^4ரயேத்ஸைக் தி^4யா பி ஸ்நேஹாத்^3த்^3வேஷத்^3ப^4யாத்^3வாபி யாதி தத்தத்ஸரூபதாம்
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On whatever object a person concentrates his mind intensely, either through love or hate or fear, he attains the form of that very object.

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கீட: பேருஸ்க்ரு'தம் த்⁴யாயந்குட்^3யாம் தேந ப்ரவேரித: \mathbf Iயாதி தத்ஸாத்மதாம் ராஜந் பூர்வரூபமஸ்ந்த்யஜந் \mathbf II
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The worm cofined to its nest by the wasp keeps thinking of it till it attains a form resembling that of the insect. The poet, finally, describes the method of offering oneself totally to the Goddess.

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த்<sup>3</sup>ரு'மௌ த<sup>3</sup>ர்ஶநே தே கரௌ பூஜநே ஸ்தாம்
ஶ்ருதீ த்வச்சரித்ர-ஶ்ருதௌ வாக்ஸ்துதௌ ஸ்யாத் ↓
ஶிரஸ்த்வத்பதா<sup>3</sup>ப்<sup>3</sup>ஜு-ப்ரணத்யேக-ஸக்தம்
ப⁴வத்வம்பி<sup>3</sup>கே த்⁴யாநஸக்தம் மநோ மே ▮ 22 ▮
```

Meaning:- Let my eyes be seeing You. Let my hands be engaged in worshipping You. Let my ears hear stories about You. My tongue should be describing Your glories. My head should always be saluting Your feet. My mind should be engaged in meditating on You.

Note:- Our scriptures say that the human life is very precious, but is fragile. Every available moment should be used in thinking of God or hearing about Him so that our sins get washed away and we may escape the hands of Death. Sri Bhagavatam says that only the time spent in this manner is time lived well.

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ஆயுர்ஹரதி வை பும்ஸாமுத்<sup>3</sup>யந்நஸ்தம் ச யந்நஸௌ l
தஸ்யர்தே யத் கூதணே நீத் உத்தம்ஸ்லோகவார்தயா ll BH(2-3-17)
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It talks repeatedly about this and uses harsh words to condemn those who stray away from the path of devotion and waste their lives in other ways. In view of this Shri Sankaracharya makes a similar request to Lord Siva as the author of this poem in Sivanandalahari. (7).

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மநஸ்தே பாதா^3ப்^3ஜே நிவஸது வசஸ்தோத்ர^2ப^3ணிதௌ கரௌசாப்^4யர்சாயாம் ஶ்ருதிரபி கதா^2கர்ணந^4விதௌ^4 தவ த்^4யாநே பு^3த்^3தி^4ர்நயந^4யுக^3ளம் மூர்தி^4வெப^4வே பரக்^3ரந்தா^2ந் கைர்வா பரமஶிவ ஜாநே பரமத^3
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The Lord had said that He will take care of the welfare of those who are totally devoted to Him as described above. BG(9-22).

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அநந்யா-ஶ்சிந்தயந்தோ மாம் யே ஜநா: பா்யுபாஸதே oldsymbol{\mathfrak{l}}தேஷாம் நித்யாப்oldsymbol{\mathfrak{l}}யுக்தாநாம் யோகoldsymbol{\mathfrak{l}}க்ஷேமம் வஹாம்யஹம் oldsymbol{\mathfrak{l}}
```

What about the large majority of people who cannot do so? Their mind is still occupied with attachment to their family, friends, assets etc. and because of this they are not able to spend much time in thinking of God. Arjuna's was such a case. He was torn between love for his kith and kin and to his sense of duty. His mind was not fully mature for devotion to the exclusion of all other attachments. To him Krishna said that he should carry on performing

his duties and also remember the Lord. With the mind so fixed on Him, he will progress spiritually and in course of time reach Him.

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தஸ்மாத்ஸர்வேஷு காலேஷு மாமநுஸ்மர யுத்^4ய ச^1மய்யர்பித-மநோ-பு^3த்^3தி^4ர்மாமேவைஷ்யஸ்யஸம்ஶாய: ^1BG(8-7). ^4ஜங்க^3ப்ரயாதாக்^2ய-வ்ரு^3த்தேந க்லு^3ப்தாம் ஸ்துதிம் யே நரா: ப^4க்தி-யுக்தா: பட^2ந்தி ^1ஸைவித்^3யாம் மதிம் நிர்மலாம் சாரு-கீர்திம் ப்ரயச்சா^2ம்ப^3 தேஷாம் பு^4ஜங்கா^3ப^4-வேணி ^123 ^1
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Meaning:- O Mother with the long plait resembling a winding snake, You should bless those who read with devotion this hymn set to the Bhujangaprayata meter, good education, clean intellect and good reputation.

iti shrIchandrashekharabhAratisvAmivirachitaM shrIshAradAbhuja NgaM sampUrNam .

∥ ஓ தத்ஸத் Ⅱ

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shrI shAradAbhujangam by Chandrashekhara Bharathi

ஸ்ரேவ்க³ப்

Tobbo T

புராநேக-ஜந்மார்ஜிதாக³ண்யபுண்யை:
யதா³ப்தம் மயா ஶாரதா³பி⁴க்²யபா⁴க்³யம் \mbox{l} த³யார்த்³ரம் கு³ரூத்தம்ஸைங்க்லு'ப்தசக்ரஸ்கி²தம் தக்ஸதா³ மந்மந்ஸ்யாவிரஸ்து \mbox{ll} $1\mbox{ll}$

கல்யாதெள 3 பார்வதீரை: ப்ரவரஸுரக 3 ண-ப்ரார்தித: ஶ்ரௌதவர்த்ம ப்ராப 3 ல்யம் நேதுகாமோ யதிவரவபுஷாக 3 த்ய யாம் ஶ்ரு'ங்க 3 ஶைலே $\mathbf l$ ஸம்ஸ்தா 2 ப்யார்சாம் ப்ரசக்ரே ப 3 ஹுவித 4 நுதிபி: 4 ஸாத்வமிந்த் 3 வர்த 4 கூடா 3 வித் 3 யாம் ஶுத் 3 தா 4 ம் ச பு 3 த் 3 தி 4 ம் கமலஜத 3 யிதே ஸத்வரம் தே 3 ஹி மஹ்யம்

11 2 11

ப 4 வாம்போ 4 தி 3 -மக் 3 நம் ப 4 வாத் 3 யை: ஸுதூ 3 ரம் விஸ்ரு 3 ஷ்டம் மஹாபாப-கே 3 ஹாயமாநம் 3 விவேகாதி 3 -ஹீநம் த 3 யாநீரதே 4 தே மமாத்மாந-மம்பா 3 ங்க் 4 ரியுக் 3 மே 5 ர்பயாமி 3 1

ஶாரீரம் ஸ்வதந்த்ரம் ததா²5க்ஷாணி ஸா்வா-ண்யஹோ கிம் கரோமி க்வ யாம்யம்பி³கே வா **l** மயா போஷ்யமாணுநி மத்³வஶ்யதாம் ந ப்ரயாந்த்யஞ்ஜஸா மத்³வஶே தாநி தந்யா: **ll** 4 **ll**

கதா³சிச்ச தே பாத³பத்³மஸ்ய பூஜாம் ஸ்ம்ரு'திம் த³ர்ஶநம் வா விதந்யுஸ்த்விமாநி **l** விஜநந்நஹம் தாநி ரக்ஷாமி மாத: ம்ரு'ஷ நைவ வக்ஷயாமி ஶீக்⁴ரம் ப்ரஸீத³ **ll** 5 **ll**

மயா பா 3 லபா 4 வ-ஸ்தி 2 தேநாம்பி 3 கே த்வத்-பதா 3 ம்போ 4 ஜயுக் 3 மம் ஸ்ம்ரு 3 தம் நைவ ஜாது 1 க்ஷமஸ்வாபராத 4 ம் த 3 யா-வாரிராரே

த்வத 3 ந்யச்ச 2 ரண்யம் ந மே மாரதே 3 5ஸ்தி $\parallel 6 \parallel$ ததா 2 யெளவநே மத்தசித்தோனுமாஸம் த்வதீ 3 யம் பதா 3 ப் 3 ஜம் ஸ்ம்ரு 3 தம் நைவ நைவ கூமஸ்வாபராத⁴ம் விதி⁴-ப்ரேமகாந்தே ந புத்ரே மநாக 3 ப்யுபேக்ஷா ஜநந்யா: $\parallel 7 \parallel$ ஜராரோக 3 -ஸம்பீடி 3 தாங்கோ 3 ஜராயாம் கூமஸ்வாபராத⁴ம் ஸமஸ்தம் மதீ³யம் க்ஷமாதூ 4 த-ஸர்வம் ஸஹாக 2 ர்வ-க 3 ர்வே $\parallel 8 \parallel$ த்வதீ 3 யம் பதா 3 ப் 3 ஜம் ஸதா 3 பூஜயேயம் ததா 2 ஸம்ஸ்மரேயம் ச பர்யேயமேவம் $oldsymbol{\mathsf{I}}$ ஸமிச்ச 2 ம்ஶ்ச மத்பூர்வ-து 3 ர்வாஸநாபி: 4 ப³லாதா³ஹ்ரு'தம் மந்மந: கிம் கரோமி **॥** 9 **॥** யதி³ த்வம் வத³ஸ்யம்ப³ தே பூர்வ-கர்ம த்வயைவ ப்ரயத்நேந ஜேதவ்யமேவம் l ததா³ மய்யஜஸ்ரம் க்ரு'பா ஸம்விதே⁴யா ப்ரயத்நம் கரோம்யேவ தத்ராபி ஸம்யக் ▮ 10 ▮ யதி³ த்வம் மதீ³யாம் ஶுசம் நாபநுத்³யா: குதா 3 து: 3 க 2 -வஹ்நி-ப்ரதப்தே 3 1 மதீ 3 யே ஸ்தி 2 தாயா-ஸ்தவாப்யம்ப 3 கே 2 தோ 3 ப⁴வேதி³த்யஹம் சிந்தயா\$\$ர்தோ\$ஸ்மி பூ⁴ய: **II** 11 **II** வத 3 ந்தீஹ ஶாஸ்த்ராணி ஸத்யஶ்சிதா 3 த்மா- $\mathbf{5}$ த் 3 வயர்சாந்யதா 3 ர்தம் ஸமஸ்தம் ம்ரு 2 ஷேதி \mathbf{I} ததா²ப்யம்ப³ மோஹோ ந மே விப்ரநஷ்டோ g^2 டித்யம்ப 3 தம் நாஶ்யாநா்த 2 -மூலம் 1111யதா 3 த 3 ண்ட 3 த்⁴ரு 4 நே்ப்ரேஷிதா: பீ 4 மதூ 3 தா: மஹாபாபிநம் மாம் ஸமாக்ரஷ்டுமாராக் ஸமாயந்தி தஸ்மிந் ஹி காலே த 3 யாப் 3 தே 4

மதீ 3 யே மநஸ்யாவிரேதி 4 த்வமம்ப 3 𝑢 13 𝑢

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மஹாபாபிநம் மாம் ஸமுத்<sup>3</sup>த⁴ர்துமேவ
     த்வயா புண்ய-பாபே பரோக்ஷே க்ரு'தே வி l
ந சேத்ஸா்வலோகோ விஜாநீயுரேநம்
     மஹாபாபிநம் த்வாம் ச வைஷம்ய-யுக்காம் || 14 ||
ஶாீரே ஸ்வகேऽஹந்த்வமஸ்தம் ப்ரயாயா-
 கி^3கி த்வாம் ப்ரபந்நா: ஜநா: ஶாரதா^3ம்ப^3 \mathbf{I}
ஸமஸ்தேஷு வஸ்துஷ்வஹந்தாம் ப⁴ஜந்தே
     கிமேதத்^3விசித்ரம் சிதா^3நந்த^3-ரூபே \parallel 15 \parallel
மணா-வ்யாகி⁴-ஶார்க்யை ககா<sup>2</sup> ரி:ஸ்வகாயா:
 ப்ரணுராய யே த்வாம் ப⁴ஜந்தே நராஸ்தே ↓
ஜவாச்^2லிரு: ஸ்யுர்ச க்ரு'க்கிம் வஸாநா:
  க ஏஷ ப்ரகார: ப்ரபந்நேஷு தே5ம்ப<sup>3</sup> II 16 II
ததா<sup>2</sup> மோஹஶாந்த்யை ஐநா: யே ப்ரபந்நா:
 ததா^3ஸ்யேக் குணு-த்ஸர்வ-லோகோ^3பி ஸத்^3ய: ^1
ப்ரமுற்யத்யவர்யம் விசித்ராம்பு<sup>3</sup>ராரெள
     மநோ மாமகம் ராரதே^3 மக்^3நமாஸ்தே \parallel 17 \parallel
கநத்^3தே^3ஹ-பா^4தூ^4த-ஸச்சா^2தகும்பா^4ம்
     லஸத்தார-ஹாராட்<sup>3</sup>ய-வக்ஷோஜகும்பா⁴ம் ا
ஸதா<sup>3</sup> த்வாம் ஜநா யே ஹ்ரு'த<sup>3</sup>ப்<sup>3</sup>ஜே ஸ்மரந்தி
     ஸ்மரந்த்யேவ தே தே^3வி ஶாாரீர-காந்த்யா \parallel 18 \parallel
கதா³ வா ஸுதா⁴கும்ப⁴-புஸ்தாகூ மாலா-
  விபோ^3தா^4க்^2யமுத்^3ரா: கராப்^3ஜைர்த^3தா^4நாம் 1
முக^2ஸ்ரீ-பராபூ^4த-பூர்ணேந்து^3-பி^3ம்பா^3ம்
     ஸகா³ த்வாம் ஸ்மரந்வீத-ஶோகோ ப⁴வேயம் ▮ 19 ▮
ககா^3 துங்க^3ப^4த்^3ரா-ஸரித்தீர-தே^3ஶே
     சரந்தீம் ஸமுத்துங்க^3-கல்யாண-தா^3த்ரீம்
ஸதா<sup>3</sup> பா⁴வயம்ஸ்த்வாம் முதா<sup>3</sup> யாபயேயம்
     மதா³யா்மதே³பே⁴ந்த்³ர-யாநே5ம்ப³ வாணி Ⅱ 20 Ⅱ
கராப்^3ஜே^3க்ஷமாலாம் வஹந்தீம் ஸதா^3 த்வாம்
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ப⁴ஐந்ப்⁴ரு'ங்க³கீட-ப்ரகாரேண மாத: **ا**

கரே மே\$க்ஷமாலம் கரோம்யேவ நூநம்
பரம் த்வந்மநஸ்த்வம் ஸதா³ தே³ஹி மஹ்யம் ‖ 21 ‖

த்³ரு'மௌ த³ர்மநே தே கரௌ பூஜநே ஸ்தாம்
ம்ருதீ த்வச்சரித்ர-ம்ருதௌ வாக்ஸ்துதௌ ஸ்யாத் ‖

மிரஸ்த்வத்பதா³ப்³ஜ-ப்ரணத்யேக-ஸக்தம்
ப⁴வத்வம்பி³கே த்⁴யாநஸக்தம் மநோ மே ‖ 22 ‖

பு⁴ஜங்க³ப்ரயாதாக்²ய-வ்ரு'த்தேந க்லு'ப்தாம்
ஸ்துதிம் யே நரா: ப⁴க்தி-யுக்தா: பட²ந்தி ‖

ஸுவித்³யாம் மதிம் நிர்மலாம் சாரு-கீர்திம்
ப்ரயச்சா²ம்ப³ தேஷாம் பு⁴ஜங்கா³ப⁴-வேணி ‖ 23 ‖

இதி ஸ்ரீசந்த்³ரமேக²ரபா⁴ரதிஸ்வாமிவிரசிதம் ஸ்ரீமாரதா³பு⁴ஜங்க³ம் ஸம்பூர்ணம் ‖

Encoded proofread, translation and comments by N.Balasubramanain bbalu at sify.com

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