Prayer to Goddess ShAradA

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Prayer to Goddess ShAradA
Namaste Saraswati! O effulgent Sarada, worshipped in the city of Kashmir (substitute your city’s name here - worshipped in the city of North Brunswick). I pray to you everyday. Please give the pure knowledge.

1. You are faith, memory, intelligence, the divinity of speech, the spouse of Creator Brahma. You grace the devotees’ speech, you are the bestower of inner peace, and all other excellences.

2. Her ear ornaments are decorated with streaks of sparkling knowledge;
I prostrate Yamini, one who is forbearance herself, who has her ears decorated with streaks of sparkling knowledge; who is BhavAni, who is a river of nectar that extinguishes the torments of worldly life. 3.

I prostrate Yamini, one who is forbearance herself, who has her ears decorated with streaks of sparkling knowledge; who is BhavAni, who is a river of nectar that extinguishes the torments of worldly life. 3.

3. killing, extinguishing;

4. One who bestows auspiciousness;

She exists everywhere as a flow (of knowledge) and hence she is Saraswati.

From where? Answer:

Constant salutations to you, O Mother Beneficient!

You are the one who exists everywhere as a flow of knowledge originating from the Veda, the auxiliary branches of Veda, Upanishads, and all other forms of Learning. Salutations to you again. 4.

3. killing, extinguishing;

4. One who bestows auspiciousness;

5. Divine light;

That which was said, speech;.

Prostrations to that Vani who is the supreme spirit, who is the divine light, who is The Eternal Being, and
who is the presiding deity of all learning. 5.

Prostrations to Sarasvati, without who the whole world would appear dead (even though living).

And who is the presiding deity of knowledge.

A person is as good as dead without the learning, Sarasvati.

That is the import. 6.

Prostrations to VAni

Without whom the whole world would appear dumb and demented; who is the presiding deity of speech. 7.

Appendix philosophical interest

BhavAni

Why is Saraswati described as BhavAni? I will briefly quote Sankara on the topic in Rudra bhAshyaM.

BhavAni, Uma are adjectives of the Rudra. Rudra means - One who melts the miseries of worldly life. Since the destruction of ignorance or misery of worldly is only possible with knowledge,
it is appropriately said that Rudra-Uma sahita is capable of melting that misery.

See RudrabhAsyam for detailed explanation: namaH somAya cha.

Rudra is sheer power. BhavAni is all knowledge, self-restraint, control.
And, you see, Power is all about Control.

SArada

SArada means effulgence as was translated in the first sloka of Shankara rachita shAradA prArthanA.

Namaste Saraswati! O effulgent Sarada,

Right now, that is, the two months (Oct. 2nd, 1997 - Nov. 29, 1997) where in SarasvatI pUjA (or DasarA festival) falls (AsvIyuja, kArtIka) are called sharad Ritu. During the Sarad Ritu, what do you notice when you drive to work? It is a good day – neither cold nor hot, but the turnpike is jammed; but no accident! And after turning to the radio, you find out that traffic is crawling due to the radiant splendour (glare) of bhagavAn (or one who has a welath – of radiance) Aditya. That effulgence is called SAradA.

What does it represent?

Have you ever been in the presence of a learned man - be the subject matter is programming languages, neural networks, analog computers or financial mergers or Veda/GeetAs? In his presence, that subject suddenly seems to be very simple, questions seem to be answered with ease and the whole subject matter appears like simple common sense and you feel an unexplainable power and joy. What is it and Where do you think that brilliance flows?

That brilliance is ShAradA, That flow is SarasvatI, Those sounds are VAnI.

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