.. The Greatness of Shrisuktam ..

॥ श्रीसुक्तमहात्मयम् ॥

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These verses narrate the glory of Shri Sukta, the vedic hymn in praise of Shri or Laxmi Devi. They are in the form of a dialogue between Parasurama and Pushkara, the son of Varuna and are from chapter 129 of Shri Vishnu Dharmottara purana. The English translation given after each verse is not exact, but will convey the meaning of the verse.

Shri is the bestower of all that is auspicious to her devotees. Generally She is said to grant wealth. But this limitation is in our mind only. Really She can grant all wishes including mokSha itself. The ShriSukta thus is a prayer for not only wealth but all that is required for leading a dharmic life and attaining Her grace.

Parasurama said: O Lord! son of Varuna! Kindly tell me the mantras mentioned in each veda for attaining prosperity.

Pushkara said: The Shri Sukta contained in each veda is capable of giving all prosperity to one living in any of the worlds.

Parasurama said: O you who knows all details about dharma! kindly tell me about the Shri Sukta that is to be found in the Vedas and also the procedure to be followed in observing it.

Pushkara replied as follows. The fifteen verses beginning हरिसुक्तम् हरिसुक्तम् are to be seen in the Rig veda. It is auspicious and can confer prosperity.
Similarly, the four verses beginning रथे अक्षेपु वाजनति यतसस्तु तथा तथः ॥ and the Shri Suktam to be seen in the Yajur veda are very beneficial. श्रीयंतरीयं तथा साम सामवेते प्रक्षिपति ॥ Similarly the verses beginning श्रीयंतरीयम् in the Sama veda and the verses beginning श्रीयम् in the Atharavana veda along with the Shri Sukta are really very beneficial.

One who recites the Shri Sukta will get rid of his poverty in toto. One who performs homa with oblations will receive similar benefits. श्रीसूक्तेन न्र पश्चानं धूताकंतानं भूमितम् ॥ अघृतं होमवेदस्तु वंशी महत्युठो नरः ॥ ८॥ One performing the homa offering one thousand lotus flowers dipped in ghee (continued in the next verse) पश्चात्ता य सादेवीं तं नरे तुपतिष्ठति ॥ दशायुतं न पश्चानं ज्ञुहुयादस्तथा जले ॥ ८॥ will be blessed by laxmi devi who holds the lotus flower in her hands. Like wise, if one offers homa with one hundred thousand flowers (with Shri Sukta) in water, (continued in the next verse) नाचैति तनुपलक्ष्मीं विष्णुवक्ष्माता यथा ॥ धूताकंतानां नरो बिल्वानं हृद्या समायुतं तथा ॥ १०॥ Laxmi will reside in his house permanently, as She stays in the chest of Shri Vishnu. Further, if one performs homa with ten thousand bilva leaves dipped in ghee, (continued in the next verse) भक्तिमवास्त्वम् तस्य यथावते सरस्वतीकाण्डः ॥ बिल्वानं लक्ष्मीमेवकु ते लक्ष्मीपुपास्ते ॥ ११॥ he gets immense wealth as per his wish. If he performs homa for a hundred thousand times with bilva leaves then Laxmi will stay in his house permanently. पश्चात् मथी बिल्वानं कोटिकारिं समायरेत् ॥ श्रीधानं समाप्नोति देवेनलेखयमपि धृतम् ॥ १२॥
If one performs homa for ten million times with lotus and bilva leaves he is sure to attain the position of Indra.

Similarly one who worships Her with lotus, white flowers, milk, incense and excellent food items as prescribed will receive great wealth.