Tulasi Mahima



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महादेव उवाच । विष्णुप्रीतिं करोत्वेषा तरुर्भूत्वा महीतले । शरीरमर्ज्यतामस्याः श्रीविष्णुप्रीतये गणाः ॥ १॥ अस्याः पत्रेण वृन्दायाः पूजितः स्यात् स्वयं हरिः । नान्येनेति सुविज्ञेयं मणिमुक्तादिनापि च ॥ २॥ नामास्यास्तुलसीत्यस्तु पवित्रायाः सुपावनम् । तकारो मरणं प्रोक्तं तद्योगः स्यादुकारतः ॥ ३॥ मता लसति चेत्येवं तुलसीत्येव गीयते । स्थितः प्रतिदलेष्वस्या मन्त्रो द्वादशवर्णकः ॥ ४॥ अधिष्ठात्री देवतास्यामावां देवीमहेश्वरौ । नारायण उपास्योऽस्याः प्रियेयं वैष्णवी मता ॥ ५॥ (द्वादशवर्णकः अथवा द्वादशाक्षरविष्णुमन्त्रः अ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ।) ॥ इति बृहद्धर्मपुराणे सप्तमोऽध्याये महादेवप्रोक्तं तुलसी प्रादुर्भावसहिता तुलसीमहिमा सम्पूर्णा ॥ ॥ बृहद्धर्मपुराणम् । पूर्वखण्डः । अध्यायः ७। ६०.२-६४॥

This follows a story of Vrinda, the wife (Vaishnavi) of Dharmadeva, both devotees of Vishnu. By fate and curse, she became a Rakshasi but did not hurt Dharmadeva. As an ardent devotee of Vishnu, she was seen by shivagaNas to have the Vishnu

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mantra 'OM namo bhagavate vAsudevAya' absorbed in her each and every cell. Even long after her death, her skin/body was as glowing as before. So it is said that each and every leaf of Tulasi is engraved with the mantra.

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