॥ राम मंत्राचे श्लोक ॥

.. raama ma.ntraache shloka ..

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समर्थ रामदासस्वामी

॥ जय जय रघुवीर समर्थ ॥

नको शास्त्र अभ्यास वित्त्वति मोठी
जडे गर्व ताठा अभीमान पोटीं ॥
कसा कोणता नेणवे आजपा रे ।
हरे राम हा मंत्र सोपा जपा रे ॥ १ ॥

Fie on this great learning and study of scriptures,
Pride, impudence, and self-conceit are its offspring;
Ignorant of ‘how’ and ‘who’ chants the prayer ceaselessly,
Why not at least recite this simple chant of ‘Hare Rama’.. 1..

नको कंठ शोषूं बहुः केदपाठीं ।
नको तूं पडूं साधनाचे कपाटीं ॥
घडे कर्म खोटे बहुः तो दुगा रे ।
हरे राम हा मंत्र सोपा जपा रे ॥ २ ॥

Fie on this drying up of the throat to recite the Vedas,
Beware of getting locked up in penance;
Know the great danger that follows improper actions,
Why not at least recite this simple chant of ‘Hare Rama’.. 2..

तुला ही तनू मानवी प्राप्त झाली ।
बहुजनमुष्यं फलालांगिं आली ॥
तिला तूं कसा गोविसि विषयीं रे ।
हरे राम हा मंत्र सोपा जपा रे ॥ ३ ॥

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1
This human form you have acquired,  
The fruition of many lives of meritorious acts;  
Why do you involve it in the pursuit of sensory pleasures?  
Why not at least recite this simple chant of 'Hare Rama'.

Even if you protect and nourish this body,  
Know for sure it will fall to disease through enjoyment of pleasures,  
And to unspeakable calamities.  
Why not at least recite this simple chant of 'Hare Rama'.

The madly active limbs will shatter,  
All senses, like hearing will fade and fail;  
Tremors will afflict the whole body;  
Why not at least recite this simple chant of 'Hare Rama'.

When your throat will get blocked by secretions,  
Unexpectedly will the life end;  
What friends and kinsmen will you have then?  
Why not at least recite this simple chant of 'Hare Rama'.

Your childhood and youth have now slipped by,
We know not how death whisks us away;
You may have to perform the obsequies of your own child;
Why not at least recite this simple chant of 'Hare Rama'.. 7..

Give up up the evil lust for others' wives and wealth,
Serve not others in servility,
A slave you will be in others' eyes,
Why do you not chant this simple prayer 'Hare Rama' .. 8..

Haughtily you behave and speak to holy persons,
Dim-witted, you know not your well-being,
Idle and wasteful will be your pursuits,
Why do you not chant this simple prayer 'Hare Rama' .. 9..

Vice it is to engage in aimless furious activities,
Wasted life cannot be bought by any wealth,
You know not wherein your profit lies,
Why do you not chant this simple prayer ‘Hare Rama’ .. 10..

Your kinsmen are merely after (your) wealth,
Unceremoniously will they send your body on the funeral pyre,
Knowing all this, strive for your (spiritual) welfare.
Why do you not chant this simple prayer ‘Hare Rama’ .. 11..

Family you have with wife, children, and servants,
Suffering endless misery, you support them,
Will you not like to lighten this arduous burden,
Why do you not chant this simple prayer ‘Hare Rama’ .. 12..

Much fame and honor do you desire,
Happiness, though, dwells not in your heart,
For free can you chant (God’s) name, and yet you do not,
Why do you not chant this simple prayer ‘Hare Rama’ .. 13..
Death’s messengers, ferocious, will arrive,
And drag your subtle body,
Only to break, revile, and punish it!
Why do you not chant this simple prayer ‘Hare Rama’ .. 14..

Let no pleasures intoxicate you,
Let not your mind cling to hypocritical honors,
Show off never the burden of matted hair, and ash-smeared body,
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 15..

Long not for initiation, by the side of the sacred fire,
Long not for the powers of deathly and evil incantations,
Deceitful cleverness is no better than vomit,
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 16

Bother not with the eight steps of yoga, or the control of breath,
Stick not stubbornly to rituals of fasting,
Corrupted practices will only lead you on the wrong path,
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 17

कदापी घडेना वर्ते चढावें ।
नसे द्रव्यगाढी करावें जयानें ।
घडे ना घडे यथापि कां फुका रे ।
हरे राम हा मंत्र सोपा जपा रे ॥ १८॥

What will vows, sacrifices, and charity accomplish?
Or by the hoarding of wealth?
Nothing prevents what is bound to happen, for free can you pray,
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 18

नसे सत्य कांही दिसे दों दिसांचें ।
तुला दृढ्यती चोरें ठोक साचे ॥
खिया पुत्र कामा न येती तुला रे ।
हरे राम हा मंत्र सोपा जपा रे ॥ १९॥

Fleeting appearances reveal not truth,
Even honest-appearing folks may rob you,
Neither wife nor son may help you in time of need,
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 19

नको तूं कदापी करू तीर्थयात्रा ।
तनूदंडपर विजीणता सर्व गात्रं ॥
करी धर्म आयुष्य तूं कोणसारे ।
हरे राम हा मंत्र सोपा जपा रे ॥ २०॥

Never mind going on pilgrimages,
Punishing the body thus, all your limbs will feel weak,
Afflictions only will you add to your life,
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 20

तुला येम पावी करी बद्र जेव्हां ।
सखा कोणता सोड्यी सांग तेव्हां ॥
यमाल्या कदापी दया ते न येवे रे ।
हरे राम हा मंत्र सोपा जपा रे ॥ २१॥
When Death will bind you in his grip,
Tell me what friend will release you,
Death shows never any compassion, mindful be
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 21..

Gone are the greatest of ascetics,
Gone are even those who could create other universes,
Long-lived for aeons, gone are they, thus think and
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 22..

Many and varied works you pursue,
How much you strut with your name and fame,
What need have you for camels, horses, and drums?
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 23..

Say you, my country, my land, my town, my palaces,
Seat yourself in a palanquin held aloft,
Roll and roll on a high fancy bed, instead
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 24..
Inflated with pride was Ravana in Lanka,
Sudden was his departure,
VibhishaNa (a devotee of Rama), was handed the kingdom, so
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 25..

In the mother’s womb, with lowered head in foul surroundings,
Ripened this body after endless suffering,
Remember you not this, and feel no shame, why ?
Why not at least recite this simple chant of 'Hare Rama’ .. 26..

Suffering thus for nine months,
By chance you took birth,
Forgetting the meditation of ’I AM THAT TRUTH ’,
Why not at least recite this simple chant of 'Hare Rama’ .. 27..

When the wind of breath enters the body,
Cries the infant ’WHO AM I’?
But forgets in the world of play ahead,
Why not at least recite this simple chant of ’Hare Rama’. 28.

Day by day, recognition dawns of mother, father, brother,
But diseases galore make the body their home,
And perchance survive, therefore
Why not at least recite this simple chant of ’Hare Rama’. 29.

Father and mother have him undergo the vows of upanayana and marriage,
Teach him, not even foregoing the cane !, in honesty,
Earns a living, good and proper, but
Why not at least recite this simple chant of ’Hare Rama’. 30.

Nurtured and nourished by the parents,
Yet he turns out to be hateful and vicious,
Carnal lust drives him to disaster, if
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 31.
Living for a hundred years means not a fulfilled life,
Examine first the true meaning of life,
Without it, the whole childhood and youth slip by, so
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 32..

When you will let righteousness fade like the sunset,
Your home will become a den of destruction,
Even if you can feed the whole family sumptuously, therefore
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 33..

From sunrise till sunset, you work to earn a living,
Flattering, supplicating, and obliging others,
You know not what is in store for you in the future, so
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 34..

Heaps of wealth lie all around you,
Intoxicated, you dance there,
Know you not that hell awaits the arrogant,
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 35..

अश्चारमानी तनू सजजीतो ।
मना दर्पणी पाहूनि रंजयीतो ॥
कठणेन जोणि सर्पणि रूप ते रे ।
हरे राम हा मंत्र सोपा जपा रे ॥ ३६॥

You decorate your body with ornaments,
Looking at yourself in the mirror, you take mental delight,
Know you not that this body will burn on the funeral pyre, so
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 36..

बहूं द्रव्य गांठी पुन्हा मेघवीसी ।
गुरु विपर वेदू कर्से चाघवीसी ॥
दुराशा कशात्मा मशात्मा पुढे रे ।
हरे राम हा मंत्र सोपा जपा रे ॥ ३७॥

Despite with plentiful wealth, you long to earn more,
Even if it means insulting your teachers, brothers, and sages,
Why this inordinate desire leading you like a torch?
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 37..

जरी कशीणेदेहो परी बृद्दकाशी ।
करीती स्रिया यूत नातू दवाशी ॥
धना ऊचकी लगतो गूचकी रे ।
हरे राम हा मंत्र सोपा जपा रे ॥ ३८॥

Old age weakens the body,
And your wife, children and grand-children surround you with affectionate chaos,
Bereft of wealth, you will be as good as excreta,
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 38..

रवी जे घडी हाणितो काठ जेब्बां ।
श्रुति शब्द हे गर्जती तास तेबें ॥
महणे कशीण आयुघ्य गेलें तुझें रे ।
Hare Rama  39  

When Time drives Death to your door,
You will hear this roar of the Vedas for hours,
This weakened life of yours is ending, know
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 39..

How could you make your mother barren after you were born ?
How could you tarnish your family and lineage ?
A burden to the earth, as good as a stone, or a beast, by forgetti
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 40..

When and how death will strike you,
When death will carry you away,
Wealth and youth will fade away, no matter
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 41..

Punished and battered in hell,
Landing in a pyre of fire,
Dragging and dismembering may be your lot after death, yet
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 42..
Enjoying the pleasures for aeons,
You will return to this life millions of times,
In times of great danger, all beings are sad, so
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 43..

Let not your passions drive you to pretense and hypocrisy,
Happiness dwells not in throngs of disciples, or in monasteries,
Destructive of askesis is this longing for the splendor of chieftaincy.
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 44..

Indulge not in idle gossip,
Steep your mind in the remembrance of Hari.
Precious time is being wasted away, so
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 45..

Mahāghor ha thōr sāṃsāra mōṭha
khaṭe sāṃtāṃgāṃ samprūṭīc khōṭa
khaṭe bhūtkā mātī vārśīc gā rē
cē rām ha māntr sōpā jāpā rē ॥ ⁴⁶॥
Fiendish is this great cycle of existence,
Know its inherent falsity, if only you will associate with the saintly,
You will realise then bondage of enjoyment, liberation, and renunciation.
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 46..

Evil company, abjure; meet the sagacious;
Pursue your well-being, and avoid this vicious cycle of rebirths.
The end of life also is full of sorrow.
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 47..

Excess in pleasures is sure to be followed by hell.
Knowing this, seek the true happiness.
Why spend time in this life speaking unworthy thoughts, instead
Only chant this simple prayer, Hare Rama .. 48..

Penance of all sorts can you give up in this age of Kali,
If only you can surrender yourself with this chant,
Acquire this rosary of chanting Hare Rama, so simple
Keep chanting Hare Rama, I plead with you .. 49..
॥ राम मंत्राचे श्लोक ॥

॥ इति रामदासकृत राममंत्राचे श्लोक संपूर्ण ॥

॥ जय जय रघुवीर समर्थ ॥

Please send corrections to Sunder Hattangadi (sunderh@hotmail.com)

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