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# guru vandanam

Sadashiva samarambham

Sankaracarya madhyamam

Asmad acarya paryantam

Vande guru paramparam

Salutations to the lineage of gurus of which the height is Sadashiva, with saint Adi Sankara in the middle, and finally, my immediate teacher.

## totakashtakam

Text by Adi Sankara (8th c.)

विदिताखिलशास्त्रसुधाजलधे महितोपनिषत् कथितार्थनिधे । हृदये कलये विमलं चरणं भव शंकर देशिक मे शरणम् ॥ १॥

करुणावरुणालय पालय मां भवसागरदुःखविद्नहृदम् । रचयाखिलदर्शनतत्त्वविदं भव शंकर देशिक मे शरणम ॥ २॥

भवता जनता सुहिता भविता निजबोधविचारण चारुमते । कलयेश्वरजीवविवेकविदं भव शंकर देशिक मे शरणम ॥ ३॥

भव एव भवानिति में नितरां समजायत चेतिस कौतुकिता । मम वारय मोहमहाजलिधं भव शंकर देशिक में शरणम ॥ ४॥

करुणावरुणालय पालय मां भवसागरदुःखविद्नहृदम् । रचयाखिलदर्शनतत्वविदं भव शंकर देशिक मे शरणम ॥ २॥ O knower of the nectar-ocean of the scriptures, the expounder of the knowledge of the great upanishadic treasure! I meditate on Your pure lotus feet in my heart. O Preceptor Shankara, be my refuge.

Save me whose heart is afflicted by the misery of the ocean of births, O ocean of compassion! Make me the knower of the truths of all the systems of philosophy. O Preceptor Shankara, be my refuge.

The people have found happiness due to You, who have the intellect adept in the inquiry into Self-knowledge. Make me understand the knowledge of God and the soul. O Preceptor Shankara, be my refuge.

You are Lord Shiva Himself. Knowing this my mind is filled with an abundance of joy. Put an end to my sea of delusion. O Preceptor Shankara, be my refuge.

The people have found happiness due to You, who have the intellect adept in the inquiry into Self-knowledge. Make me understand the knowledge of God and the soul. O Preceptor Shankara, be my refuge.

<sup>\*</sup>text displayed in original Devanagari script

#### totakashtakam [ctd.]

भव एव भवानिति में नितरां समजायत चेतसि कौतुकिता । मम वारय मोहमहाजलिधं भव शंकर देशिक में शरणम ॥ ४॥ You are Lord Shiva Himself. Knowing this my mind is filled with an abundance of joy. Put an end to my sea of delusion. O Preceptor Shankara, be my refuge.

सुकृतेऽधिकृते बहुधा भवतो भविता समदर्शनलालसता । अतिदीनमिमं परिपालय मां भव शंकर देशिक मे शरणम ॥ ५॥ Only after numerous virtuous deeds have been performed in many ways, does a keen desire for the experience of Brahman through You arise. Protect (me who am) extremely helpless. O Preceptor Shankara, be my refuge.

जगतीमवितुं कलिताकृतयो विचरन्ति महामहसश्छलतः अहिमांशुरिवात्र विभासि गुरो भव शंकर देशिक मे शरणम ॥ ६॥ For the sake of saving the world, (Your) great (disciples) wander assuming various forms and guises. O Guru, You shine like the sun (among them). O Preceptor Shankara, be my refuge.

गुरुपुंगव पुंगवकेतन ते समतामयतां निह कोऽपि सुधीः । शरणागतवत्सल तत्त्वनिधे भव शंकर देशिक मे शरणम ॥ ७॥ O Best among the Gurus! The Lord whose flag bears the emblem of the bull! You have no equal among the wise. You who are affectionate to those who seek refuge! The treasure of truth! O Preceptor Shankara, be my refuge.

विदिता न मया विशदैककला न च किंचनकाञ्चनमस्ति गुरो । द्रुतमेव विधेहि कृपां सहजां भव शंकर देशिक मे शरणम ॥ ८॥ I have neither understood even one branch of knowledge clearly, nor do I possess any wealth, O Guru. Quickly bestow on me the compassion which is natural to You. O Preceptor Shankara, be my refuge.

#### 03

### sri sarasvati

Composed by Mutthusvami Dikshitar (1775 – 1835) Raga: Arabhi Tala: Rupaka

Sri Sarasvati namostute varade paradevate shripati gauripati guruguha vinute vidhiyuvate || vasana traya vivarjita vara muni bhavita murte vasavadyakhila nirjhara vara vitarana bahu kirte – dhara – hasa yuta mukhamburuhe – adhbuta charanamburuhe samsara bhityapahe sakala mantrakshara guhe ||

#### vinadhari

Composed by K. Kannikeswaran Raga: Malhar Tala: Rupaka

vinadhari vidhiyuvati
ganamrta vahini
vani vanitamani varavina dhari II
manikya vinabheri vadya vinodini –
mahi –manimadi sidhi pradayini
madhukara veni – bhrah –
mani sanakadi vidita purnadvaita
rupini – puranadinuta shabdartha vani
–vanaruha lochani
manita guruguha modini
mamava madhura subhashini
pamara pandita mochani
paradhyakhila vak karani ||