

ನಟರಾಜಸ್ತೋತ್ರ ,ಚರಣ ಶೃಂಗ ರಹಿತ (ಪತನ್ಜಲಿ)

{॥ ನಟರಾಜಸ್ತೋತ್ರ ,ಚರಣ ಶೃಂಗ ರಹಿತ (ಪತನ್ಜಲಿ) ॥}

This hymn is by Sage Patanjali, the author and compiler of the famous yogaSutra . Once upon a time, as the story of the origin of the hymn goes, Nandi, Shiva's carrier would not allow Patanjali Muni to have Darshan of the Lord Shiva (Nataraja of Chidambaram). In order to reach Lord Shiva, Patanjali, with his mastery over grammatical forms, spontaneously composed this prayer in praise of the Lord without using any extended ('dIrgham') syllable, (without 'charaNa' and 'shRi~Nga' i.e . leg and horn) to tease Nandi. Shiva was quickly pleased, gave Darshan to the devotee, and danced to the lilting tune of this song .

The place where this incidence is said to have happened is Chidambaram (also known as Thillai), located about a hundred miles from Madras, Tamilnadu, India . It is considered to be one of the holiest places in India . In this temple, which has a gold covered roof, Lord Nataraja is present in a cosmic-dancing form . Many books have been written on the greatness of the temple and its deity and can also be inferred from various hymns composed in praise of the Lord by the Shaiva Siddhanta Saints.

Please refer to <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/2583>

for more information and detailed description of Shaiva Siddhanta.

The translation of the hymn is based on Smt . Usha Bhise's and is taken from the book 'caranasrngarahitam natarajastotram.' This book also contains a sanskrit

commentary on this stotra by Chandrakala . The book was published by Bharati
Samskrta Vidya Niketanam in 1992-

॥ ಅಥ-ಚರಣಶೃಂಗರಹಿತ-ನಟರಾಜಸ್ತೋತ್ರಮ್ ॥
ಸದೞ್ವಿತ ಮುದೞ್ವಿತ ನಿಕುೞ್ವಿತ ಪದಂ ಝಲಝಲಞ್ವಲಿತ ಮೞ್ವ ಕಟಕಮ್
ಪತಞ್ವಲಿ ದೃಗಞ್ವನ ಮನಞ್ವನ ಮಚಞ್ವಲಪದಂ ಜನನ ಭಞ್ವನ ಕರಮ್ |
ಕದಮ್ಬುರುಚಿಮಮ್ಬುರವಸಂ ಪರಮಮ್ಬುದ ಕದಮ್ಬು ಕವಿಡಮ್ಬುಕ ಕಗಲಮ್
ಚಿದಮ್ಬುಧಿ ಮಣಿಂ ಬುಧ ಹೃದಮ್ಬುಜ ರವಿಂ ಪರ ಚಿದಮ್ಬುರ ನಟಂ ಹೃದಿ ಭಜ ॥ ೧॥

Heartily resort to the great dancer Shiva, residing in the holy place,
Chidambaram . He is called Hara (the destroyer) who smashed the three cities
(of demon tripura). He is worshipped by good people . While dancing he has
lifted one foot which is bent . His lovely bracelets are set in motion of
dance movements and hence are making a jingling sound . He is like
ointment to the eyes of Patanjali by whose application the vision gets
clear for receiving knowledge . However, he is free from contamination of
any kind . He destroys the cycle of birth (and death). He possesses the
loveliness of Kadamba tree; wears the sky as garment . His throat is dark
like the multitude of rainy clouds . He is the jewel in the ocean of
consciousness . He is the the Sun blossoming the lotus- heart
of wise persons.

ಹರಂ ತ್ರಿಪುರ ಭಞ್ವನಂ ಅನಂತಕೃತಕೃಣಂ ಅಖಣ್ಡದಯ ಮನ್ತರಹಿತಂ
ವಿರಿಞ್ವಿಸುರಸಂಹತಿಪುರನ್ಧರ ವಿಚಿಂತಿತಪದಂ ತರುಣಚಂದ್ರ ಮಕುಟಮ್ |
ಪರಂ ಪದ ವಿಖಣ್ಡಿತಯಮಂ ಭಸಿತ ಮಣ್ಡಿತತನುಂ ಮದನವಞ್ವನ ಪರಂ

ಚಿರಂತನಮಮುಂ ಪ್ರಣವಸೞ್ತನಿಧಿಂ ಪರ ಚಿದಮ್ಬರ ನಟಂ ಹೃದಿ ಭಜ || ೨ ||

Heartily resort to the great dancer, Shiva, residing in the holy place, Chidambaram . He is the destroyer of the world, who destroys sin and grants emancipation . He has destroyed the three cities of demon tripura, representing the three types of sorrows . He is wearing the great serpent, ananta, like a bracelet . He is incessantly showering compassion and is endless . God Brahma, Indra and the other devatas meditate upon his feet. The crescent moon adorns his crown. The great one has crushed yama by his feet . His body is decorated with ash. He is inclined to brush aside cupid . His preciousness is saturated in the syllable - AUM.

ಅವಂತಮಖಿಲಂ ಜಗದಭಿಜ್ಞ ಗುಣತುಚ್ಛಮಮತಂ ಧೃತವಿಧುಂ ಸುರಸರಿತ್-
ತರಣ್ಣ ನಿಕುರಮ್ಭು ಧೃತಿ ಲಮ್ಪಟ ಜಟಂ ಶಮನದಮ್ಭುಸುಹರಂ ಭವಹರಮ್ |
ಶಿವಂ ದಶದಿಗಂತರ ವಿಜೃಮ್ಭಿತಕರಂ ಕರಲಸನ್ಮೃಗಶಿಶುಂ ಪಶುಪತಿಂ
ಹರಂ ಶಶಿಧನೞ್ಜಯಪತೞ್ಞನಯನಂ ಪರಚಿದಮ್ಬರ ನಟಂ ಹೃದಿ ಭಜ || ೨ ||

Heartily resort to the great dancer, Lord Shiva, residing in the holy place, Chidambaram, who protects all the world . His lofty place is due to the indestructible good qualities . It is difficult to grasp his nature. He has held crescent moon in his forehead . His matted hair is covetous of holding the multitude of waves of the divine river, Ganga . He has dispelled the vanity of Yama and is capable of delivering men from the pangs of

worldly life . The Lord of creatures, the auspicious God, in whose hand a young deer is dancing, has spread his hands in all ten quarters. The great destroyer has moon, fire and sun as his eyes.

ಅನಂತನವರತ್ನವಿಲಸತ್ಕಟಕಕಿಂಕಿಣಿಯುಲಂ ಯುಲಯುಲಂ ಯುಲರವಂ
ಮುಕುಂದವಿಧಿ ಹಸ್ತಗತಮದ್ದಲ ಲಯಧ್ವನಿಧಿಮಿಧಿಮಿತ ನರ್ತನ ಪದಮ್ |
ಶಕುಂತಲರಥ ಬಹಿರಥ ನಂದಿಮುಖ ಶೃಂಗಿರಿಟಿಭೃಂಗಿಗಣಸಂಘನಿಕಟಮ್
ಸನಂದಸನಕ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ವಂದಿತ ಪದಂ ಪರಚಿದಮ್ಬರ ನಟಂ ಹೃದಿ ಭಜ || ೪ ||

Heartily resort to the great dancer, Shiva residing in the holy place, Chidambaram . The tiny bells attached to his bracelets which are shining with innumerable gems of nine kinds are making a sweet jingling sound. The dancing movements of his feet are accompanied by the drum in the hands of Mukunda (vishnu) and vidhi (brahma). He is closely surrounded by Vishnu, riding a chariot to which a bird (Garuda) is yoked, by kartikeya, riding a charior to which a peacock is yoked, by a troupe of Gana-s consisting of Srngi, Riti, Bhrngi etc headed by Nandi . Prominent sages like Sananda and Sanaka are saluting his feet.

ಅನಂತಮಹಸಂ ತ್ರಿದಶವಂದ್ಯ ಚರಣಂ ಮುನಿ ಹೃದಂತರ ವಸಂತಮಮಲಮ್
ಕಬಲವಿಧಿವಂದಿತ ವನಿ ಗಂಧವಹ ವಕ್ಷಿಮುಖ ಬನ್ಧುರವಿಮುಖ್ಯ ವಪುಷಮ್ |
ಅನಂತವಿಭವಂ ತ್ರಿಜಗಂತರ ಮಣಿಂ ತ್ರಿನಯನಂ ತ್ರಿಪುರ ಖಣ್ಡನ ಪರಮ್
ಸನಂದ ಮುನಿ ವಂದಿತ ಪದಂ ಸಕರುಣಂ ಪರ ಚಿದಮ್ಬರ ನಟಂ ಹೃದಿ ಭಜ || ೫ ||

Heartily resort to the great dancer, Lord Shiva, residing in the holy place called Chidambaram . His lustre is beginningless and endless . His feet are revered by the gods . The pure one who is free from all blemishes resides in the interior of sages hearts . He wields a lovely body made up of the following components - water, sky, moon, earth, wind, fire, sacrificer (atman) and Sun . His riches are infinite; he is the jewel of the three worlds having three eyes, he is incline to smash the three cities of Tripura . The god who takes pity (on the distressed) is saluted by Sage Sananda.

ಆಚಿನ್ತ್ಯ ಮಲಿವೃನ್ದ ರುಚಿ ಬನ್ಧುರಗಲಂ ಕುರಿತ ಕುನ್ದ ನಿಕುರಮ್ಬ ಧವಲಮ್
ಮುಕುನ್ದ ಸುರ ವೃನ್ದ ಬಲ ಹನ್ತೃ ಕೃತ ವನ್ದನ ಲಸನ್ತಮಹಿಕುಣ್ಡಲ ಧರಮ್ |
ಆಕಮ್ಪಮನುಕಮ್ಪಿತ ರತಿಂ ಸುಜನ ಮಂಜಲನಿಧಿಂ ಗಜಹರಂ ಪಶುಪತಿಮ್
ಧನೇಜ್ಜಯ ನುತಂ ಪ್ರಣತ ರೇಣ್ಣನಪರಂ ಪರ ಚಿದಮ್ಬರ ನಟಂ ಹೃದಿ ಭಜ || ೬ ||

Heartily resort to the great dancer, Shiva, residing in the holy place, Chidambaram . He is not capable of being understood by the faculty of thinking. His dark colored throat is attractive with its resemblance to the colour of a multitude of bees . His complexion is white like a bunch of blooming Kunda flowers . He wears a glittering appearance when saluted by Vishnu, gods, and Indra, the killer of balasyre . His ear ornament consists of serpent . He is free from fear and hence unmoved . However, he took pity on Rati . He is a reservoir of all auspicious things for good persons. The destroyer of Gajasura is the Lord of creatures, praised by Arjuna. He is inclined to be delightful to persons who bow down to Him.

ಪರಂ ಸುರವರಂ ಪುರಹರಂ ಪಶುಪತಿಂ ಜನಿತ ದಂತಿಮುಖ ಷಣ್ಮುಖಮಮುಂ
ಮೃಡಂ ಕನಕ ಪಿಚ್ಛಲ ಜಟಂ ಸನಕಪಚ್ಚುಜ ರವಿಂ ಸುಮನಸಂ ಹಿಮರುಚಿಮ್ |
ಅಸಚ್ಚಮನಸಂ ಜಲಧಿ ಜನ್ಮಕರಲಂ ಕವಲಯನ್ತ ಮತುಲಂ ಗುಣನಿಧಿಮ್
ಸನನ್ದ ವರದಂ ಶಮಿತಮಿನ್ದ್ರ ವದನಂ ಪರ ಚಿದಮ್ಬರ ನಟಂ ಹೃದಿ ಭಜ || ೭ ||

Heartily resort to the great dancer Shiva residing in the
holy place Chidambaram . He is the best among gods, destroyer of the three
cities for the benefit of the world . That Lord of creatures has given
birth to elephant-headed Ganesha for warding off obstacles and to
six-faced Kartikeya for leading divine army . The benevolent god
has hair that is brownish like gold . He is like Sun who causes the blooming
of the lotus in the form of sage Sanaka . Having a mind kind to all, he
weilds the lustre of snow . His mind is not attached to anything, even to
Parvati . He has swallowed poison arising out of ocean in order to save
the world from its adverse effects . He is a store-house
of quailities, not comparable to anyone else . He has given boons to sage,
Sananda . Having a face which is delightful like the moon, he has attained
the blissful state.

ಅಜಂ ಕ್ಷಿತಿರಥಂ ಭುಜಗಪುಚ್ಛವಗುಣಂ ಕನಕ ಶೃಂಗ್ಣಿ ಧನುಷಂ ಕರಲಸತ್
ಕುರಚ್ಚ ಪೃಥು ಟಚ್ಚ ಪರಶುಂ ರುಚಿರ ಕುಚ್ಚುಮ ರುಚಿಂ ಡಮರುಕಂ ಚ ದಧತಮಂ |
ಮುಕುನ್ದ ವಿಶಿಖಂ ನಮದವನ್ದ್ಯ ಫಲದಂ ನಿಗಮ ವೃನ್ದ ತುರಗಂ ನಿರುಪಮಂ
ಸಚ್ಚಣ್ಡಿಕಮಮುಂ ಯುಟಿತಿ ಸಂಹೃತಪುರಂ ಪರಚಿದಮ್ಬರ ನಟಂ ಹೃದಿ ಭಜ || ೮ ||

Heartily resort to the great dancer, Lord Shiva, who resides in the holy place, Chidambaram, and He is without birth . The earth itself is his chariot . The great serpent, Vasuki is his bowstring.

The golden peaked Meru is His bow . In His hands shines a deer, a big sword and an aze . He weilds a damaru (drum) which has the color of lovely kumkuma . Mukunda himself is his arrow . He effectively grants the desire to those who salute him . The multitude of Vedic texts are his horses (or mind). The incomparable God accompanied by Chandika has quickly destroyed the cities of demon tripura.

ಆನಙ್ಗಪರಿಪನ್ನಿನಮಜಂ ಕ್ಷಿತಿ ಧುರನ್ನರಮಲಂ ಕರುಣಯನ್ತಮಖಿಲಂ
ಜ್ವಲಂತಮನಲಂ ದಧತಮಂತಕರಿಪುಂ ಸತತಮಿನ್ದ್ರ ಮುಖವಂದಿತಪದಮ್ |
ಉದಙ್ಗದರವಿನ್ದಕುಲ ಬನ್ಧುಶತ ಬಿಮ್ಮರುಚಿ ಸಂಹತಿ ಸುಗಂಧಿ ವಪುಷಂ
ಪತಙ್ಗಲಿನುತಂ ಪ್ರಣವಪಙ್ಗುರ ಶುಕಂಪರ ಚಿದಮ್ಬರ ನಟಂ ಹೃದಿ ಭಜ || ೯ ||

Heartily resort to the great dancer, Lord Shiva, who resides in the holy place, Chidambaram . Birthless, he is an enemy of Cupid . He bears the burden of the earth, He is intensely compassionate to all . The killer of demon Andhaka is capable of holding burning fire . Gods headed by Indra are constantly falling at His feet . He is having a body which has got the lustre of a group of hundred rising suns and is fragrant. He is praised by Patanjali and is like a parrot in the cage of the syllable Omkara.

ಇತಿ ಸ್ತವಮಮುಂ ಭುಜಗಪುಙ್ಗವ ಕೃತಂ ಪ್ರತಿದಿನಂ ಪಠತಿ ಯಃ ಕೃತಮುಖಃ

ಸದಃ ಪ್ರಭುಪದ ದ್ವಿತಯದರ್ಶನಪದಂ ಸುಲಲಿತಂ ಚರಣ ಶೃಂಗ ರಹಿತಮ್ |
ಸರಃಪ್ರಭವ ಸಮ್ಭವ ಹರಿತ್ವತಿ ಹರಿಪ್ರಮುಖ ದಿವ್ಯನುತ ಶೃಂಗರಪದಂ
ಸ ಗಚ್ಛತಿ ಪರಂ ನ ತು ಜನುರ್ಜಲನಿಧಿಂ ಪರಮದುಃಖಜನಕಂ ದುರಿತದಮ್ || ೧೦ ||

Here ends the praise song composed by Patanjali who is an incarnation of the great serpent Shesha . One who learns it by heart and recites it will find a seat in the assembly of Gods . The praise song is charming . The words in it lead to the perception of the the Lord's pair of feet.

It flows on, being beginningless and endless (composed of the meter charaNashri.ngarahita). It contains the description of Shankara praised by the divine beings headed by Brahmadeva, Lords of the Quarters and Vishnu . One who recites this hymn,quickly reaches the highest goal and does not steep into the ocean of worldly existence which causes great sorrow and sinfulness.

|| ಇತಿ ಶ್ರೀಪತಂಜಲಿಮುನಿಪ್ರಣೀತಂ ಚರಣಶೃಂಗರಹಿತ ನಟರಾಜಸ್ತೋತ್ರಂ ಸಮ್ಪೂರ್ಣಮ್ ||

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