आदिकविश्रीमद्वाल्मीकिमहर्षिप्रणीतबृहत्योगवासिष्ठः

BRAHADYOGAVAASISHTA

JNAANA RAAMAAYANAM

[DVITEEYA RAAMAAYANAM]

COMPOSED BY

VAALMIKI MAHARSHI

उपशमप्रकरणं पञ्चमम्

UPASHAMA PRAKARANAM

FIFTH SECTION 'QUIESCENCE'

PART TWELVE (BRAHMIN GAADHI - 2) (THE ESSENCE OF GAADHI-STORY)

Sanskrit text, Translation and Explanation

by

Narayanalakshmi

DEDICATED

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ALL THE SEEKERS OF TRUTH

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Narayanalakshmi (Maa Tejaswini)

Narayanalakshmi, also known as Tejaswini in her ascetic life spent most of her life in the Himalayan terrain, engaged in the penance of knowledge. She is well-versed in all philosophies and is a scholar in Sanskrit language. Her mission life is to retrieve the lost knowledge of the ancient Rishis and offer it unblemished to all the seekers of the Truth. She is from Bangalore, Karnataka, India.

वसिष्टोवाच

Vasishta spoke

एवमेषातिवितता दुर्जाना रघ्नन्दन महामोहमयी माया विषमा पारमात्मिकी।

RaghuNandana! Maayaa, the power of delusion of the Supreme, is of the essence of great delusion, is wide-spread and unfathomable, as shown in Gaadhi's story.

क्व म्हर्तद्वयस्वप्नसंभ्रमाल्लोकदृष्टता क्वानेकवर्षसंभ्क्तश्वपचावनिपभ्रमः।

Where the perception of a world in a delusory dream which lasted for a minute or two!

Where the delusion of being a Chaandaala king for many years!

(Both lives are incomparable.)

क्व संभ्रमोपलब्धत्वं क्व प्रत्यक्षनिदर्शनं क्वासत्यत्वमसन्दिग्धं क्व सत्यपरिणामिता ।

Where, the experiences obtained through delusion (of Chaandaala life)!

Where the delusion (of Chaandaala life) itself, getting proved by the direct experience (which is also another delusion)!

अतो वच्मि महाबाहो मायेयं विषमान्वहं असावधानमनसं संयोजयति संकटे।

Therefore, I tell you hey Mighty armed Rama!

This Maayaa is always harmful. It pushes a man of uncontrolled mind into great sufferings.

रामोवाच

Rama spoke

एवमस्य कथं ब्रहमन्मायाचक्रस्य रोधनं कुर्युः प्रवहतो वेगात्सर्वाङ्गच्छेदकारिणः।

Brahman! The wheel of Maayaa rotates very fast as if breaking all the limbs of a person; how can it be made to stop? (Experiences flow without a break; and we are all caught in it as if stuck on a fast-rotating wheel. How can we gain control over it?)

वसिष्टोवाच

Vasishta spoke

अस्य संसाररूपस्य मायाचक्रस्य राघव चित्तं विद्धि महानाभिं भ्रमतो भ्रमदायिनः ।

तस्मिन्द्रतमवष्टब्धे धिया प्रषयत्नतः गृहीतनाभिवहनान्मायाचक्रं निरुध्यते ।

Raaghava! Understand the Chitta that produces delusions to be the main nave of the rotating wheel of Maayaa appearing as the life experiences in a world. If that (nave) is held steady by the intellect through sincere effort (by always staying alert in continuous Vichaara) the nave stops rotating and the wheel of Maayaa also stops its rotation.

(Chitta is the perceiving, conceiving power of Brahman that appears as the varied scenes of life-experience. You cannot erase off the vision of the world. Brahman can exist as only the perception-state. The waters of experiences rise from the clouds of Vaasanaas, for the ignorant.

These experiences cannot be controlled, because the Jeeva in any Vasanaa-experience is a part of the Vaasanaa itself. He is part of the experience itself, like Gaadhi becoming a part of the Chaandaala life. Stuck to form-identity, he suffered immensely.

He experienced delusion after delusion because he was identified with one form or other, first as the Brahmin itself, then as a dead body, then as a Chaandaala and so on.

Instead of identifying with the scene, if one can stand back and just stay as a witness of the scene, as a supervisor only of that scene and in full control, then the experiences just flow off without causing any damage, like waters flowing off the unshaken hard rock.

Ignorant people are like the grass pieces flowing away along with the flood, as a part of the flood itself. They do not 'experience', but stay as the experiences only.

Knowers stand unshaken in their Knowledge state, and do not identify with the experiences.

If the nave of the Chitta, the perceiving consciousness is held steady in the Knowledge of the Aatman, then the experiences lose their reality and turn into worthless dust, and the wheel of Maayaa stays still.)

अवष्टब्धमनोनाभिमोहचक्रं न गच्छति यथा रज्ज्वां निरुद्धायां कीलकं रज्जुवेष्टितम्।चक्रयुद्दैकतज्जोऽसि कस्माज्जानासि नानघ चक्रं नाभाववष्टब्धं वशमायाति नान्यथा।चित्तं नाभिमवष्टभ्य तस्माद्यत्नेन राघव संसारचक्रं वहनादात्मनः परिरोधय। एतां युक्तिं विना दुःखमनन्तमितमात्मनः, अस्यां दृष्टौ क्षणादन्तं गतमेवावलोकय ।

The delusion-wheel will not move when its nave is held fast; as when the rope stops rotating, the object tied to its end also stops rotating. Hey Taintless one! You are an expert in fighting battles where you use the discus wheel as a weapon! Don't you know that the wheel when steadied at the nave alone, comes under control; and not otherwise? Therefore hold steady the nave namely the Chitta with all effort, Raaghava; and stop your wheel of Samsaara from moving. Unless one follows this method, a man will get stuck by endless pains. If this method is perfected, instantly you will see the end of all pains.

(Rama! As shown in Gaadhi's story, even this scene of myself teaching you the Brahman knowledge is also a state of delusion only; the Maayaa existing as the teacher and student.

Any experience anywhere is a play of Maayaa only.

Any experience can be analyzed and proved true by yet another experience, even through perfect logic and reason. You can keep on proving the real-ness of any experience through more and more logically conceived experiences. When experience itself is a play of delusion, what use is there in proving it as real by yet another delusion-state of experience?

We saw that in Leelaa's story, each birth experience gets proved by yet another previous birth experience. Vasishta Brahmin had to become King Padma, then he became Vidooratha; and even this story of Vidooratha gets extended later on at the end of the text, by many more experiences of other types. We saw also in Lavana's story, as to how he also sort of went through similar experiences like Gaadhi and lived a life of Chaandaala within the span of few minutes. He experienced two lives simultaneously as a king and as a Chaandaala.

Were there two separated life experiences or was it the single flow of Maayaa only?

Where is the borderline to divide one experience from the other saying, this is true and this is not true? Lavana himself is an unreal character produced by some Vaasanaa. If he experiences another Vaasanaa-field of suffering (fruit of Raajasooya Yajna) in the form of a Chaandaala, then that is also another false entity only, as false as the Lavana identity itself.

Which one is real, which one is unreal?

Which Jeeva is to be taken as a real character, Lavana or the Chaandaala, Gaadhi or Gavala? Which barren woman's son really exists?

Any seeing process is a Vaasanaa-field only.

The ignorant are part and parcel of the inert Vaasanaa-fields that unfold as experiences; and Vaasanaas themselves produce the Jeevas for their experience.

Gaadhi was a part of the Brahmin Vaasanaa, of the devotion Vaasanaa, of the ascetic Vaasanaa, and also of a Vaasanaa that aspired for higher Knowledge. Gavala was part of a Taamasic Vaasanaa.

The support for all these Vaasanaas is the body-identity, an identity imagined with the sense perceived image. Once you manage to come out of this main delusion of body-identity, and just look at the body as another object of perception only, instantly you are out of the flow of experiences, and are unaffected by the play of Maayaa.

A Knower has no Vaasanaa, but lives as part of Vaasanaas of others, or produces Vaasanaas of his liking and creates the fields of experiences to his liking. Since he knows that all experiences are worthless, he is not affected by any life experience.

For example, he may produce a Vaasanaa for solitude and live with minimum perceived scenes as in a forest or a cave; or live the best of lives with all comforts and riches like Prahlaada or Bali.

When all experiences are unreal in nature, what does it matter for a Knower, whatever experiences unfold? He always exists as Brahman existing as that particular perception.

He stays as the Ocean-state only, without limiting himself to a wave state.

Ignorant suffer as the waves and are not aware of the Ocean, like Brahmin Gaadhi.)

CHITTA

(Chitta is the main agitation of delusion which rises as the intellect, mind, senses, ego etc.

Chitta is the ignorance of one's true essence.

Chitta is the belief in the reality of the world and the connected ego.

Chitta is the belief in the realness of experiences.

Chitta is the identity with the physical form and also the identity with the experiences based on that physical form.

Chitta is the world-perception.

Chitta is the wave-ness of the Ocean, the bracelet-ness of the gold, the colored shapes covering the canvas. Chitta is the world-perception costume worn by the Reality state.)

चित्ताक्रमणामात्रात्तु परमादौषधादृते प्रयत्नेनापि संसारमहारोगो न शाम्यति। तस्माद्राघव संत्यज्य तीर्थदानतपःक्रियाः श्रेयसे परमायान्तश्चित्तमेव वशं कुरु।

The disease of the great illness called 'Reality in the Samsaara' will not be cured whatever you do, except by the excellent medicine called 'Chitta-control'. Therefore Raaghava discard all efforts at visiting holy places, giving charity, performing penance etc; and bring the Chitta alone under control for attaining the Supreme welfare (Brahman-Knowledge).

चित्तान्तरेव संसारः कुम्भान्तः कुम्भखं यथा चित्तनाशे न संसारः कुम्भनाशे न कुम्भखम्। चिरं संसरणाकाशकोटरं चित्तक्मभखं विनाश्यात्लिताकाशस्वरूपं रूपमाविश।

The Samsaara is inside the mind like the pot-space is inside the pot.

(Space is not actually divided as the pot space and outside space. It never knows of any division.

Reality state is not divided as Brahman state and Jeeva state. It never knows of any division.

Pot-space is a false idea that rises because of the reality superimposed on the pot.

Jeeva state is also a false idea that rises because of the reality superimposed on the physical form.)

If the pot is destroyed, there is no pot-space. If the Chitta is destroyed, there is no Samsaara.

Destroy the Chitta-pot which holds the limited expanse of Samsaara within it; and enter the true essence of yourself (as the awareness state freed of agitations) which is made of immeasurable expanse.

वर्तमानमनायासं भजद्बाहयधिया क्षणं भूतं भविष्यदभजद्याति चित्तमचित्तताम्।

The Chitta loses its nature of agitation by remaining steadily with ease in the present only at every moment and keeping the out-going mind from thinking about the past and the future.

(Practice the art of keeping the dead past and the unborn future out of the mind.

Be aware of the present experience of that moment only.

Brahman exists always unchanging as the present moment only.

This practice keeps the mind steady and freed of wasteful thoughts.

Of course the word 'present' means any action that you are performing from its start to the end, as a single experience only, like a potter concentrating on the single pot he is making at that present hour.

Do not maintain the guilt of broken pots, or worry about the future pots; just make the pot that is in front of you as perfect as possible. This is Karma Yoga, perfection in action.)

संकल्पांशान्संधानवर्जनं चेत्प्रतिक्षणं करोषि तदचित्तत्वं प्राप्त एवासि पावनम्।

यावत्संकल्पकलना तावच्चित्तविभूतयः यावज्जलदविस्तारस्तावत्खजलबिन्दवः।

If at every moment you carefully avoid engaging in the conceiving of the future, then you surely are in the sacred state of 'no-Chitta'. As long as the conceiving of the objects in the mind continues (as the likes and dislikes), the delusions created by the Chitta will persist. As long as the clouds keep rising, the rain drops will continue to pour from the sky.

(Life is like a walk on the tight rope; you have to be alert at every moment, step very carefully with full concentration on every step you take. Slightest miss means, death at the very next moment.

A man who is walking on the tight rope is not worried about his past mistakes or gloating about his future glories; but is free of all conception of past and future. He is not even aware of himself or his body; but is fully absorbed in making his present moment a perfect one.

If each moment is well-played, indeed he will naturally reach the goal of success.

A man who aspires for liberation should also live every moment to its perfection freed of the conceptions of past and future, like a tight-rope walker.)

सचित्तं चेतनं यावत्तावत्संकल्पकल्पनं सचन्द्राम्श् जगद्यावत्तावत्प्रालेयलेशकाः।

As long as the 'pure awareness state' is stuck to the Chitta, so long do the conceptions and imaginations continue. As long as even a tiny part of the moon is there, the dew drops will keep on forming.

चेतनं चित्तरिक्तं चेद्भावितं तत्स्वसंसृतेः आमूलमेव दग्धानि विद्धि मूलानि सिद्धवत्।

If the pure awareness state (of self) is held on to without the medium of the Chitta, then, the roots of one's own worldly existence (Vaasanaas and doership attachment to actions, namely Karma) are completely burnt away without any residue (along with the ignorance), as in the case of the Siddhas.

(Chitta functions as the conceiving tool and also the perceiving tool.

For example, seeing a woman's shape is the perceiving function of Chitta. It is harmless.

The reaction thereof that rises through that perception, as passion, respect, attachment or hatred is the conceiving part of Chitta. This is harmful.

Seeing is not the binding; but conceiving is.

A Siddha also sees the world through the Chitta; but his Chitta is like a burnt seed, and will never produce conceptions based on likes and dislikes.)

चेतनं चित्तरिक्तं हि प्रत्यक्चेतनमुच्यते निर्मनस्कस्वभावं तन्न तत्र कलनामलः।

The pure awareness state bereft of the conceiving part of the Chitta is the original consciousness. When it remains in its original state without the agitation of the mind, then there is no taint of the conceived phenomenon.

सा सत्यता सा शिवता सावस्था पारमात्मिकी सर्वज्ञता सा सा दृष्टिर्नत् यत्र मनः क्षतम्।

That pure awareness state (bereft of mind) alone is the state of truth; that alone is the state of auspiciousness; that alone is the nature of the Supreme; that alone reveals everything as the right knowledge. Is that not alone the supreme vision where the (conceiving) mind remains dead completely?

मनो यत्र त् तत्राशास्तत्र दुःखसुखानि च सदा संनिधिमायान्ति श्मशान इव वायसाः।

Where the mind exists as the Vaasanaa-store, there the pains and pleasures always make their appearance, like the ugly crows hovering in the inauspicious cremation ground.

वस्तुतत्त्वावबोधेन सर्वभावव्यवस्थितेः संसृतिव्रततेर्बीजं न संकल्पेनोपजायते।

शास्त्रसज्जनसंपर्कसंतताभ्यासयोगतः जागतानामवस्तृत्वं भावानामवगम्यते ।

अविवेकादुपाहृत्य चेतसोद्यमनिश्चयैः बलात्कारेण संयोज्यं शास्त्रसत्पुरुषक्रमैः।

By the realization of the Reality state itself as oneself, and by not having the false conception based on the form or name stuck in a time/place frame, the seed of the creeper of Samsaara (belief in the body and the world-state), which alone produces all the desires and Vaasanaas, does not rise up as the conceiving mind. (What practice can lead to such a state?)

By the continuous practice of keeping the company of Knowers and the study of scriptures, the unreal nature of the objects of the world gets understood.

Detaching the mind from its foolish state of ignorance (the belief in the existence of a solid world and oneself as a part of it), and determined to make a sincere effort with the goal of realization to be reached in this very birth, the mind should be tied forcefully towards the company of the realized Knowers and the studies of the Knowledge-scriptures.

(No one but you yourself must find out your true essence through Vichaara.

No one else can do it for you! No Guru or God can think for you.)

मुख्यं कारणमात्मैव परमात्मावलोकने अगाधे पतितं रत्नं रत्नेनैवावलोक्यते ।

One's own self alone is the main cause in the vision of the Supreme state.

(The idiot mind has to be cured of its insanity by the mind itself by its own effort. No outside agency like a God or Guru can help in this matter except by providing the guide-lines of practice. If you feel the pangs of hunger, you have to feed yourself; no one can eat for you and fill your belly.)

The gem that is fallen in a bottomless hole and is covered by dirt is seen by using another shining gem only. (The dirty nature of the mind should be removed by the purified mind only.)

स्वानुभूतानि दुःखानि स्वात्मैव त्यक्तुमिच्छति तेनात्मैवात्मविज्ञाने हेतुरेकः परः स्मृतः।

Self alone (you who want to know its real nature), wants to get rid of the pains experienced by the self (you yourself who feel that you are trapped inside the world scenario).

Therefore the self alone is said to be the main cause of Self-realization.

(You have to do Vichaara by your own intellect and find out who you really are, and how you came to be in the world scenario, and what the mystery is behind all this. This Knowledge cannot be gained by boons from a deity, or by the practice of austerities, or by the service of any Guru. You have to think yourself with effort and find the answers to your queries.)

प्रलपन्विसृजनगृहणन्न्निषन्निमिषन्नपि निरस्तमननानन्तसंविन्मात्रपरो भव।

(When should one do this Vichaara process, at which auspicious hour or at which auspicious place? Vichaara cannot be done at fixed hours at fixed places. It is a non-stop practice.

Vichaara practice must go on like the very breathing process of the body, without stop.

At each and every moment the world is unfolding as an experience in front of you; and at every moment you have to break it through Vichaara. There is no interval for Vichaara process.)

When conversing with others, when giving, when accepting, when opening the eyes, when closing the eyes, at all times, at each and every moment, through the unbroken stream of Vichaara, remain identified with the Aatman alone as the thinking state.

जायमानस्तथा जीवन्मियमाणः क्रियारतः स्वात्मन्यमलतां प्राप्ते संविदंशे स्थिरो भव।

(You are at present just an identity with some name and form experiencing the experiences.)

Getting born in some womb, you are now living on as some name and form in some world scene, and will die some day after getting stuck by diseases and old age, and are now engaged in actions always as the desire fulfillment enterprises, (even as your life goes on through various tragedies and festivities). (This is something like the Gaadhi-delusion only. How real is it? How real are you?

To get out of this Gaadhi-delusion, do Vichaara.)

When the taintless state of the Aatman-Knowledge is attained (through the practice of Vichaara), then remain stabilized in the state of pure consciousness (as the unaffected quiet state of awareness that stays unaffected by the changing patterns of the world.)

ममेदं तदयं सोऽहमिति संत्यज्य वासनाः एकनिष्टतयान्तस्थसंविन्मात्रपरो भव।

'This is mine' 'That also is mine' 'I am so and so with a name and form and family'

Renouncing all such Vaasanaas (as part of the Gaadhi-delusion), and through the single-minded Vichaarastate, remain stabilized in the state of pure awareness within.

वर्तमानभविष्यन्त्योः स्थित्योरादेहमेकधीः स्वसंवित्यान्संधानसमाधानपरो भव।

As long as the body appearance is there, maintain the single-mindedness of Self-analysis in the present and also the future states of life, and maintain also the stability of the mind by always contemplating on the Self through Vichaara. (*Keep on analyzing each and every object, person, and emotion again and again and find out what is real and what is not real at each and every moment of your life.*)

बाल्ययौवनवृद्धेषु दुःखेषु च दुःखेषु च सुखेषु च जाग्रत्स्वप्नसुषुप्तेषु स्वसंवित्तिपरो भव।

Always remain in the contemplation of the Self-analysis, in all difficult situations in the states of childhood, youth and old age, in all the pains and pleasures, in all the three states of waking, dream and deep-sleep. (Analyze what you see in the dream, what you see in the waking state, and what is not seen in the deep sleep state. Which experience is real or unreal?

Dream is unreal in the waking state; waking state is unreal in the dream state.

In deep sleep state, nothing at all is there to define as real or unreal.

What is what? Analyze!)

मलं संवेद्यमुत्सृज्यं मनो निर्गलयन्परं आशापाशमलं च्छित्त्वा स्वसंवित्तिपरो भव।

Discarding the dirt of the cognized world, and with the mind completely melting towards the Supreme state of quietness born out of Knowledge, and cutting off the filthy rope of desires, be engaged in the contemplation of the Self-analysis.

शुभाशुभस्वसंकेतसंशान्ताशाविषूचिकः नष्टेष्टानिष्टदृष्टिस्त्वं संवित्सारपरो भव ।

Subduing the cholera disease of desires expressed as good and bad by one's own imagination, destroying the conceptions of likes and dislikes, be engaged in the contemplation of the essence of Self.

सकर्तृकर्मकरणान्स्वास्पर्शानन्तरा स्पृशन्निर्विकल्पनिरालंबः स्वचिन्मात्रपरो भव ।

Understanding that 'the doer, action and the instruments of action' do not affect the original state of the true self which is pure state of awareness only, but are (the reflections) within; and without agitations, without supported by a second object, remain engaged in the contemplation of the Self alone.

जाग्रत्येव हि संसुप्तां भावयन्सुस्थिरां स्थितिं सर्वमस्मीति संचिन्त्य सत्तैकात्मवपुर्भव ।

Asleep while awake (unaffected); contemplating on the stable state of the Self; with the knowledge- 'I am everything'; be of the nature of your true essence alone.

(I am everything because everything is the object of my knowledge.

Knowledge is my essence, my nature and is referred to as Aatman.

I understand the objects as objects; therefore I alone am spread out as their knowledge.

Nothing can exist apart from the Knowing self.)

नानाडनानादशाम्कतो य्क्तो म्क्ततया समे समग्रकलनादीपः स्वचिन्मात्रपरोभव।

Freed of the ideas of variety (waking/dream states) and non-variety (deep-sleep); and because of that freedom, identified with the Self which is equally in all as the essence of knowing; remaining as the light which reveals all the appearances spreading out in front of you, remain engaged in the contemplation of the Self alone.

(Light reveals all objects without division, and also the division among objects.

Know yourself as the light of Aatman by which every scene rises in front of you as your own shine.)

आत्मतापरते त्यक्तवा निर्विभागो जगित्स्थितौ वज्रस्तम्भवदात्मानमवलम्ब्य स्थिरो भव ।

Renouncing the ideas of 'myself' and 'other', without seeing any differentiation in the world phenomenon, holding on to the Self as to a diamond pillar, remain stable.

छित्त्वान्तर्मानसान्पाशानाशारूपानदारया धिया धैर्यकधर्मिण्या निर्धर्माधर्मतां व्रज।

Cutting of the ropes of the mind in the form of desires and wants, transcend both ideas of righteousness and unrighteousness by holding on to the courage that is based on the vision of truth alone.

समास्वादयतस्तत्त्वं स्वसंवेदनधर्मिणः विषं हालाहलमपि यास्यस्यमृततामथ।

When one tastes the bliss of the Self as the state of undivided essence of the nameless Reality, even the deadly poison of Haalaahala turns into nectar instantly.

(Light of Aatman is the very joy of revelation. That alone is the state of Brahman.

Good or bad, everything turns into the bliss of revelation for a Knower.)

तदोदेति महामोहः संसृतिभ्रमकारणं निर्मलाया निरंशायाः संवित्तेश्चामतिर्यदा।

तदा संक्षीयते मोहः संसारभ्रमकारणं निर्मलायां निरंशायां स्वसंवित्तौ स्थितिर्यदा।

(When you do not know yourself as the revealing light of Aatman, but stay as the revealed object only, then it is known as Mahaa Moha, the great delusion state.)

When there is the forgetfulness of the pure state of awareness (Brahman/Aatman) which is taintless without any agitation, and which is without divisions or parts of any sort, then alone rises the great delusion state which shines as the belief in the reality of the world and one's limited identity.

When one is firmly established in the pure state of awareness (Brahman/Aatman) which is taintless without any agitation, and which is without divisions or parts of any sort, then the delusion state which shines as the reality in the belief of the world and one's limited identity stays destroyed for ever.

स्वरूपमनुयातस्य तीर्णस्याशामहार्णवं प्रसरिष्यति ते संवित्सूर्यांशुरिव सर्वतः।

When you are firmly established in the true state of the self (that is nameless and formless), and have crossed over the huge ocean of desires and wants, your awareness state alone (without the agitation called the mind) shines as the world-scenes around you, like the sunrays revealing the world of objects.

(An ordinary light reveals the objects that are already there.

Aatman-light produces and also reveals the objects at every wink of the eye.

Aatman light itself rises as the objects revealed by itself.)

स्वभावमालोकयत आनन्दाद्वयसंस्थितेः रसायनमपि स्वाद् राम प्रतिविषायते ।

Rama! When one remains in effortless natural state of oneself (as the nameless formless state of pure awareness) and is established firmly in the divisionless state of non-dual bliss, the nectar also loses its taste and attraction for him.

(When Aatman-light alone shines as everything and exists as the bliss of revelation, what other joy can be there as apart from it, since it alone reveals and exists as the joy also?)

तैर्नो भजामहे पुम्भिर्ये स्वभावमुपागताः शेषाः पुरुषनामानो गर्दभा दीर्घबाहवः ।

(All those ignorant men who parade as the human shapes are not humans at all; they are unaware of the true self, and do not use their thinking power in the least. They live like animals and die like animals. My words are not directed towards these animals that are shaped as humans, says Vasishta.)

We will seek the company of only those men who have realized the essence of the self and attained the fulfillment of their lives and not any one else; rest of the men who live as the physical bodies only and exist to fulfill just the basic needs of the body (like eating, sleeping and reproducing) are the brainless donkeys appearing like human-shapes with long arms and legs.

पर्वतात्पर्वतं यान्ति प्रोऽद्रेरिव दन्तिनः परां कोटिं प्रयातस्य स्वसंवित्युन्नतस्थितेः।

(What about those noble men who are excellent in their own religious fields, those who are highly learned, those who present excellent views of philosophy, those who live as excellent examples of saintliness, those who have mastered Siddhis, and those who perform penance of the highest sort?)

Compared to the one who has reached the highest level of staying the Reality state of the Self, all those other noble men who are in different levels of penance or spiritual quest are like the huge elephants moving from one mountain to another in the presence of the unshaken golden Mountain of Meru.

अदृष्टादृश्यसीम्नोऽन्तः सूर्यादीन्यखिलान्यपि न तेजांस्युपकुर्वन्ति स्वसंविद्विव्यचक्षुषः।

(The person, who exists established in the essence within as Brahman, is endowed with a third eye of knowledge like Shiva. He himself reveals himself as the world as the Brahman through a controlled tool of Chitta. He needs no other spiritual experience or the glorified state of Sattva, or a god-vision to feel blissful; he is personified as the revelation bliss of Brahman itself.)

Even the light of the sun and other luminous objects have no use for a man who is endowed with the divine vision of one's true essence which reveals to him sights which are far beyond the vision of the ordinary men. (Only that person who exists as Brahman has the true vision; rest are all just blind men stumbling through the jungles of life. They cannot ever know what it is to see with the eyes.

What colours the man with the eyes sees, the blind men can never know or understand; so it is with the Knower of Brahman who is far beyond the state of religious supremacy or saintly excellence.)

अवस्तृतां व्रजन्त्येते माध्याहना इव दीपकाः अर्कादयो महालोका विद्ययाधिगतात्मनः।

For the one who exists as the shine of 'Vidyaa' as the self-knowledge itself, the light of the sun and other luminous objects become wasted like lamps lit at the noon-time. (Spiritual Siddhis and religious excellences are worthless for a Knower of Brahman.)

तेजोम्श्ष् प्रभावेष् बलिष्वपि महत्स्वपि सर्वेषून्नतियुक्तेष् तत्त्वज्ञः परमोन्नतः ।

Among all these who have achieved the highest goals of life, like those who shine forth by their amazing actions; or those who have achieved amazing powers; or those who excel in physical prowess; or those who are great men of renowned fame, the 'Knower of the Self' alone shines as the Supreme achiever.

भान्तीह भासा यस्यार्कवहनीन्दुमणितारकाः तथा जगति राजन्ते ज्ञातज्ञेया नरोत्तमाः।

Sun, fire, moon, stars all shine as the sources of the ordinary lights in the world revealing the physical objects only; but those excellent men who have attained the vision supreme of the reality shine as the lights that reveal the knowledge of the Reality.

धराविवरकीटेभ्यो गर्दभेभ्योऽपि मानवाः तिर्यग्भ्यश्चाप्यतत्त्वज्ञा राम तुच्छतराः स्मृताः।

Rama! Those men, who have not achieved the right knowledge of the self through Vichaara, are to be considered as the worst category of living beings, worse than the worms living inside the dirt of the ground, worse than the idiot donkeys, worse than any crawling creature of the earth.

तावत्संमोहवेतालो देही यावदनात्मवान् आत्मज्ञ एव संयुक्तश्चेतनेनेति तद्विदः।

As long as the embodied man does not realize the knowledge of his true self, so long will the vampire of ignorance possess him. The wise state that only the 'Knower of the Self' is a man acting with true consciousness. (Others are all just inert physical objects only that keep moving about by the power of the air-flow within.)

अनात्मज्ञो हि दुःखेहः प्रस्फुरन्नपि भूतले शव एव भ्रमत्युच्चैरामजस्तु सचेतनः।

One who does not know his own self (but acts like the inert body-structure only), moves about chasing desire-fulfillment actions only which always end up in pain; he is just a moving corpse (a zombie). Only a realized man who has conquered the body-identity and lives as the pure state of Brahman-knowledge is fit to be called a conscious person who is fully alive and alert.

(What actually blocks the self-knowledge?

Sense-perception combined with the conception power of the mind rises as the vision of the world. Conception of the objects as real, and attraction towards them leads to the blockage of self-knowledge.)

दूरादात्मज्ञता याति चित्ते पीवरतां गते आलोकलक्ष्मीरभितो महामेघ इवोत्थिते।

The Self-knowledge state moves far away and becomes unreachable, if the mind is bloated up with wants; like it happens when one is unable to see anything if the dark clouds fill the entire expanse of the sky.

भोगाभोगतिरस्कारैः काश्यं नेयं शनैर्मनः रसापहारैस्तज्ज्ञेन कालेनाजीर्णपर्णवत।

By discarding the pleasures of the senses (by understanding that the objects revealed by the senses do not have the quality of 'joy') the mind should gradually be led to an emaciated state by the seeker of the Self. The leaf indeed dries up in course of time, by the loss of moisture.

(Mind alone bloats up as the world of experiences. Stop feeding it, and make it healthy and fit.)

अन्यात्मन्यात्मभावेन देहमात्रास्थयानया पुत्रदारकुटुम्बैश्च चेतो गच्छति पीनताम्।

(Why does the mind bloat up, with what?)

By identifying with the non-self (body and mind actions); by caring for the inert body alone (as the fulfillment of all the basic animal needs of the body); by nurturing attachment to the son, wife and other family members; the mind gets obese.

अहंकारविकारेण ममतामलहेलया इदं ममेति भावेन चेतो गच्छति पीनताम्।

By the contortions of the ego like arrogance, conceit, hatred, envy, desire, anger, sadness etc; becoming dirty by playing around with 'mine-ness' (existing only as the possessions of body, family and wealth); by nurturing the idea of 'this (body) is mine (so I have to enjoy the body-based pleasures)'; the mind gets obese.

जरामरणदुःखेन व्यर्थमुन्नतिमीयुषा दोषाशीविषकोशेन चेतो गच्छति पीनताम्।

Suffering through the unavoidable pains of old age and death; wastefully increasing in size more and more through the never ending wants; holding safely the serpent of faults (of various states of ignorance) inside like a snake-hole; the mind gets obese.

आधिव्याधिविलासेन समाश्वासेन संसुतेः हेयादेयप्रयत्नेन चेतो गच्छति पीनताम्।

By suffering through mental and physical afflictions (through attachments and desires), trusting the world appearance (to be real and pleasing); trying to seek and avoid things (through various forms of likes and dislikes); the mind gets obese.

स्नेहेन धनलोभेन लाभेन मणियोषितां आपातरमणीयेन चेतो गच्छति पीनताम।

Through attachments towards family and possessions, through the greed for wealth and the body based base satisfaction; through acquiring jewels (and wealth) to waste on women (and liquor); feeling happy by the momentary pleasures only; the mind gets obese.

द्राशाक्षीरपानेन भोगानिलबलेन च आस्थादानेन चारेण चित्ताहिर्याति पीनताम्।

By drinking the milk of wicked desires (to increase the poison of ignorance within); gaining strength by swallowing the air of pleasures (as the main support of life); by wandering about fulfilling desires (biting one and all), like a poisonous snake, the mind gets obese.

आगमापायवप्षा विषवैषम्यशंसिना भोगाभोगेन भीमेन चेतो गच्छति पीनताम्।

With the nature of rising and subsiding (as the states of transitory enjoyments), burning and fainting as if by poison consumption (because of the unavoidable disappointments and frustrations), by going after countless pleasures (insatiable wants), the mind gets obese.

शरीरदुःश्वभ्रचिरप्ररूढं चिन्ताचयोच्चाकृतिमञ्जरीकं जरामृतिव्याधिफलौधनम्नं कामोपभोगौधविकासिपुष्पं

विचारसारक्रकचेन चित्तविषद्रुमं त्वद्भुतमद्रिकल्पं आशामहाशाखमशङ्क्मेनं छिन्धि प्रसह्यात्र विकल्पपत्रम्।

Chitta is like a poisonous tree, Rama.

It indeed looks wonderful and stands huge and tall like a hill. It has grown huge being firmly rooted in the large hole of body-identity; has the clusters of blossoms blooming all over it as the hosts of worries and anxieties; has its branches bent down by the heavy load of fruits in the form of old age and death; has countless bloomed flowers covering it as desire-fulfillments. It has branches spread out far and wide in the form of desires. Its leaves are fluttering wildly as various agitations of the mind in the form of restlessness. Do not feel cowed down by its hugeness, but take the sharp saw of ruthless Vichaara and without any hesitation cut it off at the roots (by cutting off the ego that is based on the body-identity).

मत्तेक्षणं चैकतटोपवेशं विश्रान्तिसौख्येष्वसमर्थमुग्रं आलकनोत्कं सुजनक्रमाब्जखण्डस्य चण्डं सुखदुःखगण्डं चेतोगजं कायकुकाननस्थं सुतीक्ष्ण्या धीकरजाग्रपङ्क्त्या विदारयादीर्घविकारदन्तं क्रियाकरं राघव राजसिंह। Chitta is like an elephant, Rama.

Its eyes are always sunk in intoxication (and do not have proper vision). It is sitting inside the single hollow of Samsaara (the outside vision presented by the senses only), and is acting restless moving here and there inside the cave, since it is incapable of attaining the true resting state within. It is insane with the hunger for objects and is violent in nature (selfish to the extreme, and so always acts rude and arrogant due to self-conceit). It sees of course the lotus-grove of noble qualities namely quietness, contentment, rational enquiry etc, but destroys the lotuses with its wild acts of desire-fulfillments and never is able to have them as its adornments. Its throat is darkened with the constant ichor flow of pains and pleasures. It lives in the wild jungle of body-identity. Its tusks in the form of passion and hatred are long and sharp and can break through the walls of courage in no time.

Raaghava! You are a lion born in the dynasty of the noble Raghu. Like a lion tearing off the head of the elephant with its sharp nails protruding from its hands, you also tear off the Chitta-elephant's head with the rational thoughts rising through the Vichaara process of your intellect.

रतिं गतं नित्यमसत्प्रदेशे शरीरमांसग्रसनेन पुष्टं दुष्टक्रियाकर्कशचञ्चुदण्डमेकेक्षणं पुष्टतमोंशुकृष्णं दूरे समुत्सारय भारभूतं दुश्चेष्टितं कर्कशमारटन्तं गन्धोद्गतं कायकुलायकोशाद्दोषोपशान्त्यै निजचित्तकाकम्। Chitta is like a crow, Rama.

It always is in search of food at dirty rotten places filled with garbage (in the form of base body-urges of passion and reproduction only). It has grown fat by eating the body-flesh only (in the form of body-identity). It is cruel by engaging in wicked acts only (by superseding others in achieving its selfish goals) and caws harsh in the form of the rude words addressed towards others with ugly face contours. It has only one eye namely the fulfillment of selfish desires. It is dark and dirty with the dense blackness of Taamasic acts (of body based animal existence only). It sits heavy within you. It always is up to its cunning ways of grabbing what it wants and acts restless. It keeps cawing without stop with its ever growing wants and anxieties. It stinks horribly being covered by Vaasanaa-dirt. It resides inside the nest of the body-identity. To remove the horrible state of living with this crow as your company, take the stick of Vichaara, beat it up with the noble qualities of Shama etc, and throw the dead crow far off so that it never again troubles you.

तृष्णापिशाच्या परिचर्यमाणं विश्रान्तमज्ञानमहावटेषु भ्रान्तं चिरं देहशतेष्वटव्यां स्वसंसृतौ चेतनवर्जितेषु विवेकवैराग्यगुरुप्रयत्नमन्त्रैः स्वतन्त्रैः स्वचिदात्मगेहात् नोत्सादयेच्चित्तपिशाचमेनं यावत्कुतस्तावदिहात्मसिद्धिः। Chitta is like a flesh eating Pishaacha (vampire), Rama.

This Vampire-master gets served by a female vampire named Trshnaa, the longing for sense pleasures. He rests in the trees situated in the dark jungle of ignorance of immense expanse. He keeps wandering always in the hundreds of body-trees of the dark jungles of ignorance; the body trees which are senseless inert objects and are incapable of removing the delusion of Samsaara namely the ever slithering patterns of perception.

Rama, till the time you do not exorcize this vampire from one's own house of Self-awareness (Chidaatmaa) through the utterance of magical chants of one's own actions namely the development of Viveka and Vairaagya, following the guidance of a realized Knower combined with sincere effort, how can the goal of Self-knowledge be possible at all?

शुभाशुभास्यं हतमानवौधं चिन्ताविषं कायकुकञ्चुकं च अजसमच्छश्वसनाशनं च सर्वस्य नानाभयनाशदं च हृदब्जदुःशाल्मिलकोटरस्थममोघया चित्खगमन्त्रशक्त्या नीत्वा शमं राम मनोमहार्हि भयं भृशं प्रोज्झ्य भवाभवात्मा।

Mind is like a huge serpent, Rama.

It has the split fang of auspiciousness and inauspiciousness both; attacks all the thinking beings (Maanavas); conceals the poison of worries; wears the dirty hide namely the body-identity; tireless it keeps breathing and swallowing the air (supported by Praana agitation) without a break (and consumes the perceptions of objects); it gives various types of deaths and fears. It resides inside the dark Shaalmalee tree of ignorance growing from the heart lotus.

Subdue it by the unfailing Garuda-Mantra of Chit-state (attained through Vichaara), get rid of the fear of ignorance, and stay as the essence of Reality undisturbed by the 'Bhava', the perceived world.

अमङ्गलाकारधरः शरीरशवावलीसंततसेवनेन, दिगावलीसंभ्रमणश्रमार्तः, श्मशानसेवी वपुषा क्षतेन, भोगामिषो दिक्ष्वभिधावमान उत्कन्धरोऽधीरविवृद्धगर्धः उड्डीय वै गच्छति चित्तगृधो देहद्रुमात्तन्निपुणं जयस्ते। Chitta is like a vulture, Rama.

It wears an inauspicious look, since it survives by consuming hosts of dead bodies (namely the ignorant who move about like zombies, alive but dead). It is exhausted by hovering all over the sky (in search of food namely desire fulfillments). Harassed and pecked by hundreds of greedy crows of desires, it is exhausted and rests in the cremation grounds where the ignorant are burnt in the fire of suffering like corpses. It is always looking out for crumbs of meat in the form of desire fulfillments and keeps moving in all the directions. It has an uplifted neck in the form of body-conceit. It is cowardly in character (afraid of Vichaara) and is grown up well by feeding on attachments and possessions.

If this Chitta-vulture is made to fly away from the tree of your body, then alone you would have gained the perfect victory.

भ्रान्तं वनान्तेषु दिगन्तरेषु, फलार्थिनं, चञ्चलमाकुलाङ्गं, जन्मावनेर्जन्ममिहं प्रयातं, संसारबन्धं जनतां हसन्तं, दुमेऽक्षिनासाकुसुमे भुजादिशाखे विलोलाङ्गुलिजालपत्रे समुल्लसन्तं परिमारयान्तर्मनोमहामर्कटमङ्ग सिद्ध्यै। Chitta is like a giant-sized ape, Rama.

It keeps wandering in the forests of ignorance in each and every direction desiring the fruits of joys; is restless always; its limbs keep moving always doing something or other wastefully.

It keeps moving from birth to birth (as Vaasanaa fulfillment states) in the forests of births (Vaasanaa-fields); ridiculing the people caught in the Samsaara-trap by its own ridiculous actions.

(Monkeys always imitate the actions of the men they see.)

It is always found jumping about the tree (body) which bears the flowers of eyes and noses (senses) that emit the fragrance of Vaasanaas, has the branches of arms that move about in actions desiring fruits, and clusters of leaves namely fingers which keep shaking in the wind without any purpose achieved.

Dear Rama! If you want to succeed in your goal of realization, then kill this mind-monkey ruthlessly.

अभ्युत्थितं सत्फलसंक्षयाय लसन्मुखासङ्गितडित्प्रकाशं वर्षन्तमासारमनर्थसार्थमान्दोलितं वासनवात्ययान्तः संकल्पसंकल्पनवर्जनोग्रमन्त्रप्रभावाद्द्वयाम्बरस्थं सोत्साहमृत्सादय चित्तमेघं बृहत्फलं प्राप्य भवालमाद्यः।

Chitta is like a huge dark cloud, Rama.

It rises only to destroy the good fruit of Knowledge. It grins with the flashes of lightning streaks (namely the onflow of agitations) with its face turned outward (towards world-reality). It rains heavily the waters of harms only (as sufferings and disappointments). It moves violently hither and thither pushed by the storms of Vaasanaas.

Remove the well-conceived conceptions of the ego and the world through the magical hymn of Vichaara that is powered by the vision of truth; and using utmost strength (of reason) get rid of the Chitta-cloud which has settled in your heart-expanse; and then attain the excellent fruit of the Knowledge of the Self and remain as your original self (as the state of Reality).

ग्रन्थीकृतं कर्मभिरात्मसृष्टेर्मन्त्रैरभेद्यं ज्वलनैरदग्धं, पीडां परमात्मिन कल्पयन्तं समस्तजात्यन्तरदीर्घदाम संप्रोतिनिःसंख्यशरीरमालं बलादसंकल्पनमात्रशस्त्रैः छित्वा स्वयं राघव चित्तपाशं यथासुखं त्वं विहरास्तशङ्कः। Chitta is like a thick binding rope, Rama.

It has tied you with the knots of actions which are based on the imagined state of the ego, and these knots cannot be opened through the recitation of any Mantra (addressed to any deity). It cannot be burnt by the fire of ascetic practice or penance. It produces immense suffering in the supreme state (deluded by ignorance).

Woven with the threads starting from the beginning of creation to now, and pulled through countless life-existences made of Vaasanaa-fields, it has become extremely long; and is woven through the line of countless bodies (that you imagine yourself to be, like Gaadhi.)

Raaghava! Wield the sword of non-conception (by seeing the undivided nature of Reality through reason), and forcefully cut off this Chitta-rope, and wander about freely in the world happily as you deem fit (with any good story of life you want to conceive), with all apprehensions gone forever.

फूत्कारदग्धाखिलपान्थलोकमत्यन्तदुष्प्रापपरप्रबोधं आशीविषं शोषितलोकखण्डं व्यात्यामिषोद्भूतशरीरदण्डं आमन्थरं देहगुहासु गुप्तं संकल्पघोराजगरं जवेन अकामनानाममहानलेन बलेन दग्ध्वा विभवो भव त्वम्। Samkalpa (conception) is like a terrifying boa (constrictor) serpent, Rama.

It burns all the travelers of life-paths by the fire thrown out of its mouth (in the form of envy, anger, hatred etc). It is very difficult to cross over it and reach the Knowledge of the Supreme. It contains the deadly poison of Vaasanaas; and the entire world is scorched by the heat of its poison.

It stays enveloping the body-log with its wide mouth open for any food that passes by (wanting possessions and pleasures). It is without any movement and stays still (without making effort for the Knowledge attainment). It hides in the caves of bodies.

Use the fire of 'no-wants' and burn it by force, and be victorious in your goal of Self-knowledge.

चित्तेन चेतः शममाशु नीत्वा शुद्धेन घोरास्त्रमिवास्त्रयुक्त्या चिराय साधो त्यज चञ्चलत्वं विमर्कटो वृक्ष इवाक्षतश्रीः।

Rama! Attack the tainted Chitta with the purified Chitta like fighting back the violent sword- attack with another strong sword (through the development of dispassion and a natural disinterest in the sense objects). Make it silent by freeing it from the agitations caused by wants.

(Take recourse to Vichaara and) get rid of all the agitations of the mind forever, and be like a tree that yields countless fruits and flowers (in the form of noble qualities supported by self-knowledge) when it is fully rid of the mad restless monkey.

अमलमिति च कृत्वा चेतसा वीतशङ्कमुपशमितमनोऽन्तः सर्वमादेहमेव तृणलवलघु पश्यँल्लीलया हेयदृष्ट्या पिब विहर रमस्व प्राप्तसंसारपारः।

Making the mind taintless (with all the wants destroyed), being freed of all doubts, with the mind completely subdued within, seeing with ease everything up to the body-appearance worthless like a piece of grass, having crossed over to the other end of Samsaara (with its truth revealed), drink the joys of the world, wander freely among sense objects, and enjoy the existence as the Brahman-state endowed with the perception state.