

bṛhatsāma tathā sāmnam gāyatrī chandasām aham |
māsānam mārḡasīrṣo 'ham ṛtūnam kusumākaraḥ ||

बृहत्साम *bṛhatsāma* Brihatsama तथा *tathā* also साम्नाम् *sāmnam* among Sama hymns गायत्री *gāyatrī* Gayatri छन्दसाम् *chandasām* among metres अहम् *aham* I मासानाम् *māsānam* among months मार्गशीर्षः *mārḡasīrṣaḥ* Margasirsha अहम् *aham* I ऋतूनाम् *ṛtūnam* among seasons कुसुमाकरः *kusumākaraḥ* the flowery season

Of the Saman hymns I am the Brihat-Saman; of metres I am Gayatri. Of months I am Margasirsha and of seasons I am the flowery spring. 35

Music is one of the means to approach God. Among the Vedas, the Saman abounds with hymns set to music. Both Siva and Narayana are said to be very fond of the Saman hymns. Ravana the Demon pleased Siva by singing the Saman. In this Veda again that portion known as the Brihat-Saman is the best. The combination of music and sublime matter have made it so.

Metre is characteristic of poetry. The Vedas contain various types of metres, the Gayatri metre among them being the foremost. Adoration to the several Deities comes in the forms of their respective Gayatri. The Devi Gayatri, the Rudra Gayatri, the Brahma Gayatri, the Paramahansa Gayatri and several other Gayatris may be found in the Vedas.

There is a special merit in the month of Margasirsha. The time before the sun-rise is called the *Brāhma-muhūrtam*, the most favourable time for spiritual practices. An earthly year is a day for the Devas. Margasirsha is the month in December-