Saama vEda puNyAhavAcanam



Annotated Commentary In English By
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Saama VEda PuNyAhavaacanam



Dear VedAbhimAnis:

Sriman ShrEyas Sarangan, the Web Master of Oppiliappan Web site belongs to Kautuma SaakhA of Saama Vedam. He has identified (A) the Kumbha Prathishtai and (B) PuNyAha Vachana Saamans and adiyEn is providing the meaning and the commentaries for these 10 Saamans as follows:

- 1. Kumbha Prathishtai: Three Saama R^ks: 321, 352 and 449. The first two Saamans are known as Brahma or r^ita Saamans (Brahma jagyanam- -) and the third is known as sAntanike Saaman (bhAgO na chitra- -).
- 2. PuNyAha VAchana Japam: Seven Saama R^ks: 500, 350, 91, 274, 321, 565 and 169. The names for the seven Saamans used in Japam are:
 - ☆ tarantasya Saaman,

 - ☼ Baarhaspatya Saaman (sOmA rAjAnam VaruNam—),
 - ☼ IndrasyAbhayaN^kara Saaaman (YatAindrabhayamahe tato na:),
 - ⇔ Brahma Saaman (321 again),
 - 🌣 arka pushpa Saaman (pavitram tE vitatam) and
 - □ VaamadEvyam (kayaa aschitra—-).

All of the Saama PuNyAha VAchana Saamans come from PurvArchika section.









PurvArchika section can be called the Karma KhANDam.

As an introduction, Saama Vedam has a total of 1875 mantrams (R^ks) classified as follows:

- 1. PUrvArchika: 1-585 (AagnEya: 114, Aendra: 352, PavamAna: 119).
- 2. AaraNya: 586-640 (55 Saamans)
- 3. MahAnAmni-Archika: 641-650 (10 Saamans)
- 4. UttarArchika (651-1875)

Most of the Saama r^ks are from Rg Veda Mantrams set to Saama GhAnam. Only 99 Saamans of Saama Veda do not come from Rg Veda. Fifteen come from Yajur Veda; two occur in both the Atharva Veda and Yajur Veda. There are approximately 70-80 Saama Rks that are unique to Saama Vedam.

Click here for audio for Sama Veda Punyahavacana japa samams - Kowthuma saakha, provided by Sriman Subramanyan of Connecticut.



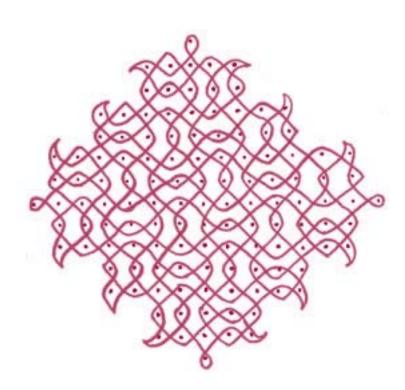




Kumbha PratishtA Saamans















Saama R^k 321

Click here for audio

(328)

ब्रह्म जज्ञानं प्रथमं पुरस्ताद्वि सीमतः सुरुचो वेन आवः । स बुध्मा उपमा अस्य विष्ठाः सतश्च योनिमसतश्च विवः ॥ ब्रह्म जज्ञानं प्रथमं पुरस्ताद्वि सीमतः सुरुचो वेन आवः ।

स बुध्या उपमा अस्य विष्ठाः सतश्च योनिमसतश्च विवः ॥

॥ ऋतुसामनी द्वे। ऋतुस्त्रिष्टुविन्द्रः (ब्रह्स्पतिर्वा)॥

(३२१-१) ब्रह्मा। ब्राऽ२३ह्माँ। जर्जानंप्रथमंपुरस्तात्। विसाद्य। वाऽ२३ह्माँ। मतस्पुरुचोवेनंआवेः ॥ संबू। साऽ२३बूँ। भ्रियाउपमाअस्यावाहष्ठाः॥ संताः। साऽ२३ताः। चयोनिमसतश्चवाहवाऽ३४३ः। ओऽ२३४५६॥ डा॥

(328-2)

हुवेऽ३हाँऽ३इ। हुवेऽ३हाँऽ३इ। हिषाऽ३या। ब्रह्मैजज्ञां। नाऽ३म्प्रंथ। मुँपुँरस्तात्॥ विसीमताः। सुँरुंचः। वैनेआवाः॥ सेबुंध्रियाः। उपमाः। अस्याविष्ठाः॥ संतश्रयो। नाऽ३मस। तश्रविवाः। हुवेऽ३हाँऽ३इ। हुवेऽ३हाँऽ३इ। हि। षाऽ२ः। औऽ२३४। औहाँवा॥ एँऽ३। ऋतममृतम्। एँऽ३। ऋतममृतम्। एँऽ३। ऋतममृतम्। एँऽ३। ऋतममृतम्।

Brahma jajn~Anam praTamam purastAdvi seemata: surucO vEna Aava: sa BudhnayA upamA asya vishThA: satasccha yOnimasatasccha viva:

--- Cf: Yajur Vedam XIII.3, Atharva Vedam IV.1.1, V.6.1









Meaning:

"In the beginning of the creation, the Supreme Lord alone knew all the details. From all sides, this effulgent wise one has manifested the bright rays. In the mid-space, our Lord has set up beautifully the celestial bodies, which speak of His unparalleled eminence. He is the sole cause of the today existing, and yet non-existing creation." (Saaman 321)

Another translation goes this way: "That God alone is adorable, who, in the beginning of the Universe created every thing, is wide in expansion highest of all effulgent, and worthy of worship. The Sun, Moon and other worlds in the atmosphere stationed in their orbits, testify to His knowledge. He pervades them all through His omnipresence and comprehends the visible and the invisible in space". (Yajur Vedam: XIII.3)

This translation is more in the Yajurvedic style. The same mantram with svaram variations in different Vedams can acquire different meanings.

Yajur Veda Mantram XIII.2 and XIII.4 bracket the XIII.3 under discussion focus also on the Jagath Srushti KaaraNan, the Omniscient Lord and the mysteries of His Creation this way:

Yajur Veda Mantram (XIII.4) acknowledges that the Lord is the Creator of the Universe, its one and only Lord, who sustains luminous objects like the Sun (HiraNyagarbha: samavarthathAgrE bhUthasya jaatha: pathirEka Aaseeth). In the second paadham of this mantram, Vedam acknowledges that the Lord sustains the Earth, the Sun and this world (sa dhAdhAra pruTiveem









dhyAmuthEmAm) and commands us to worship Him (the Creator, Sustainer) with our devotion, Him, the embodiment of happiness (kasmai dEvAya havishA vidhEma).

These are very similar to the revelations in the Rg Veda HiraNya garbha sooktha mantrams.

Yajur Veda Mantrams XIII.2, 3 and 4 stay well together in a thematic sense (Creation) and XIII.3 is sung as Saaman 321 in Kumbha Prathishtai.

This same PoorvArchika Saaman (321) is seen at two chapters of Atharva Vedam (IV.1.1 and V.6. 1) and it has the same meaning like the Yajur Veda mantram. They state that the Sun, Moon and the Stars are pervaded by this Omnipotent Creator and they testify to His Omniscience.

Additional reflections on the first Saaman for Kumbha Prathishtai

This is an eulogy of the Jagath Srushti Karthaa, Aadhi-MadhyAntha rahithan, Sriman NaarAyaNan. He is the One who revealed that He is Saama Vedam among the four VedAs. Among the three VyApArams, the creation, sustenance and dissolution of the Universe and its beings, the Creation aspect is being highlighted for salutation here.

The VishNu PurANa slOkam echoes this Sarvajn~athvam (Omniscinece), Sarva Sakthithvam (Omnipotence), comprehension of all created objects (ChEtana, achEtanams and Naama roopa Prapnacham) as Sarva dhruk. This slOkam also salutes Him as the abode of KaaaruNyam, Vaathsalyam, which are the subdivisions of His Jn~Anam. This slOkam further recognizes Him as free from inauspicious attributes such as fatigue, laziness, fear, anger and desire:

sarvajn~a: sarvadhruk sarva Sakthi Jn~Ana BalardhdimAn

klama-tandhree bhaya krOdha karmAdhibhi: asamyutha:

This unique state of our Creator has been saluted by Swamy Alavanthar in HIs Sri Sookthi (Aathma Siddhi) and AchArya RaamAnuja in Sri Vaikunta Gadhyam









as:

"svAdheena thirividha chEtana achEtana svaroopa sTithi pravrutthi bhEdham "

The svaroopam (inherent nature), sTithi (the sustenance), pravrutthi (vyApAram) of the three kinds of ChEtanams and three kinds of achEtanams are under the control (adhenam) of this Creator.

This famous passage has been extensively commented upon by PoorvAchAryALs.

The ramifications of this Saama R^k is thus enormous and touches on the relationship of the ChEtanAchEtanams with their creator from AadhAra-AadhEyam, NiyAma-Niyanthruvam and Sesha-Seshi bhAvam. AshtAksharam contains these meanings of the Lord being all of the above as SarvAdhAran, Sarva NiyAmyan and Sarva Seshi.

The creation is the divine vyApAram of our Lord carved on the canvas of Prakruthi, the primordial matter. To fully appreciate the mysteries of Creation by the Lord in the multi-parameter, multidimensional aspects of space, time, nAmaa and roopam, the HiraNyagarbha Hymns of Rg Vedam (X.121) and the Naasadiya Sukthams of Rg Vedam (X.129) have to be studied. Selected excerpts from the HiraNyagarbha hymns will relate to the first Saama r^k used in Kumbha PraTishtai (321):

Rg R^k: X.121.1: "In the beginning, there existed the Lord of divine effulgence (hiraNyagarbha: samavartaagrE); He was the sole Lord of all created beings. He fixed and held up this earth and heaven. To that Lord alone, may we offer our adorations!

Rg R^k: X.121.5: "By Him , the heavens are strong and the earth is steadfast; by Him light's realm and sky vault are supported; by Him the regions in the mid-air are measured. To that Lord alone, May we offer our adorations!









The cosmic creation is conjoined in the Vedic views with cosmic worship and "by this knowledge, men were raised to the highest sublime position of Rishis" (Rg Vedam X.130.6). In the matter of Creation, the Lord is recognized as the Master Weaver, who weaves with extreme care and skill. In this weaving, Saama hymns are considered as weaving shuttles (Rg R^k:130.1-2).

Let us study the other two Saamans used in Kumbha Pratishtai now.









Baarhapathya BharadhvAjar is the Rishi, Indhran is the dEvathA and the chandas is anushtup.

(342)

प्रत्यस्मे पिपीषते विश्वानि विदुषे भर । अरङ्गमाय जग्मायेऽपश्चादध्वने नरे ॥ प्रत्यस्मे पिपीषते विश्वानि विदुषे भर । अरङ्गमाय जग्मयेऽपश्चादध्वने नरे ॥

॥नानदम् इन्द्रोऽनुष्टुबिन्द्रः॥

(342-3)

प्रत्यसमैपिपी। षेताँऽइइ। वाँऽ२३४इ। श्वानिविद्षे। भारा॥ अरङ्गमाँयजा। ग्मैयोऽ२३४हाँइ॥ आपश्चोदा॥ ध्वैनोऽ२३४वा। नाँ५रोऽ६ँहाइ॥

Pratyasmai pipIshate viSvAni vidushE bhara arangamAya jagmAyE paSchAdadhvanE nara:

---- Cf: Saaman 1440 and Rg Vedam : VI.42.1

Meaning:

"May You offer the homage to Him, who is desirous to relish it, who knows all things, whose movements are all sufficient and who goes to help sacred, selfless works. He is always a true leader, never a follower".

Reflections on this Saaman: DevatA is Indra here. Indra in Saama VedA like Agni are other names for the Supreme Reality, the antharyAmi Brahman inside the two dEvathAs. This Supreme Reality is Sarvajn~an ("wisdom personified"), resplendent, sarva Sakthan (Omnipotent); He is the great Law (Rta). He expects obedience for that Rta from His devotees.

The path of Rta is not easy to travel and He is always with You in the difficult to travel route of Rta. Hence the devotees recognize Him as a dear friend and









adore Him (Mithramiva priyam sthushE). He is invited to accept the devotees' Saaman chant filled with devotion (gOpeeTAya pra hUyasE). He is saluted as the knower of all of our paths (gAthuvitthama:). He is the best Leader (nrutamam) and as such accomplishes every thing He wishes without the help of anyone else. He is bounteous and rich (magavAn). He listens quickly to our invocations for protection (uthayE mruNvantham) and rushes to us for help.









Saaman 449:

(888)

भगो न चित्रो अग्निर्महोनां दधाति रत्नम् । भगो न चित्रो अग्निर्महोनां दधाति रत्नम् ।

॥सान्तिके द्वे द्वयोः प्रजअपतिर्गायत्र्यग्निः॥

(889-9)

भौगाः॥ निचत्रः॥ अग्निर्महोऽ२इनाऽइम्॥ दाऽ२धाऽ२३४औहोवा॥ तिरंबाऽ२३४५म्॥ (४४९-२)

भागोनचित्राः॥ अग्निर्महोऽ२३नोऽ३म्॥ दाऽ२धाऽ२३४औहोवा॥ एऽ३। तिरत्नोऽ२३४५म्॥

bagO na chitrO agnirmahOnAm dadhAthi ratnam

-nAnadam Saman unique to Saama Vedam

Meaning:

"Among the great ones, wonderful like the Sun, and superb like the adorable fire- - - May He provide us with precious riches."

Reflections on this saaman:

This Saaman reminds one of the First Saaman (Agna Aaa yaahi veethayE gruNAnO havya dhAtaye—-): "Having been praised by us, Come Oh adorable Lord, to bless the dedicated devotees with prosperity". This type of prayer for prosperity and riches as if laden on a chariot (agnE raTam na vEdhyam/5th saaman). These riches asked for extend beyond material wealth and includes the kindling of the fire of inner enlightenment, the valiant progeny of inner consciousness (21st Saaman). The gems (ratnam) sought are thus of









many kinds:

- 1. destruction of enemies that stand in the way of inner enlightenment,
- 2. destruction of sins with His blazing flames,
- 3. exemption from decay (tapishtairajarO daha/24th Saaman).

The 37th Saaman prays: "Oh resplendent Fire Divine! Confer riches on us and shine forever in our inner consciousness! In the spirit of the prayers for the riches, the 42nd Saaman is exemplary: "Bestow upon us, Oh Wealth Giver, that wealth of wisdom, which all crave, and which is glorious and which brings its own glory and fame (suneethi suyaSastaram)."

What the devotee can offer in return for the Lord's blessings is illustrated by the 459th Saaman, where He is visualized as the Lord and Sustainer of the Universal Law .

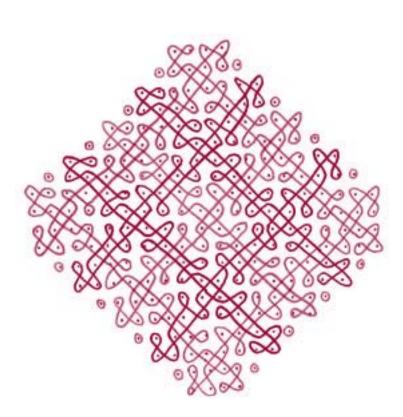
We will conclude this Kumbha Pratishtai section with an evocative prayer (Saaman 209) echoing the appeal of devotees for the Lord to join them: "Oh Resplendent Lord, brave and heroic, We have come to You with plentiful divine prayers, dedicated especially to You. Oh Lord of selfless benevolence and supreme protection, May we have numerous opportunities of offering our heartfelt sentiments to such a glorious Lord as You are".











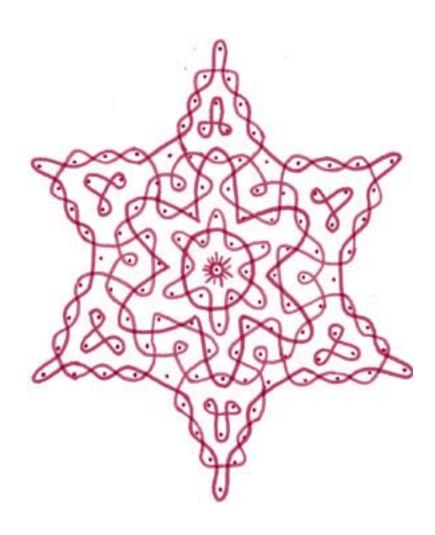




PuNyAhavaacana Japa Mantrams















Saama Veda Mantram 500

After the coverage of the Kumbha Prathishtai Mantrams, let us now study the PuNyAhavaachana Japa Mantrams

(400)

तरत्स मन्दी धावति धारा सुतस्यान्धसः । तरत्स मन्दी धावती ॥

तरत्स मन्दी धावति धारा सुतस्यान्धसः । तरत्स मन्दी धावती ॥

॥तरत्तस्य साम तरत्तो गायत्री सोमः॥

(400-8)

तरत्समा॥ दिधावाँऽ१ताऽ२३इ। धाँराऽ२सूँऽ२३४ता॥ स्यैआंऽ२३॥ धाँऽ२त्साँ२३४औँहोवा॥ तरत्समन्दीधावतीऽ२३४५॥

taratsa mandee dhAvati dhArA sutasyAnthasa:

taratsa mandee dhAvati

----Cf: Rg Veda Rk :IX 58.1

Meaning:

"He (the divine sap of Spirituality), exhilarating and rescuing (from Sins), runs swiftly (to receptacles): the effused sap of nourishment flows in streams. Swiftly runs the rescuing elixir, the giver of delights ".

One can interpret this verse as a metaphor for the rejuvenating Dayaa of the Lord flowing swiftly towards the Jeevan, freeing the jeevan from its sins and immersing the jeevan in the stream of its bliss. "dhaavathy" means - it runs to the jeevans. It does not flow sluggishly. It is a swift torrent and washes away all the sins of the Jeevans.









Comments:

This is about Soma rasam (Soma-PavamAna), the vitalizing, conceptual juice of the Soma plant, the beverage of the Gods, offered to them during the Soma Yaagams.

The Soma PavamAna book of Rg Vedam is totally devoted to effusion, filtration and purification of the conceptual Soma (herbal) creeper. BhagavAn says in GitA that He is the Soma among the medicinal herbs (Oushadhis). It is considered to be present in all medicinal herbs to different degrees as an ingredient. All the medicinal herbs growing on this earth are the gifts of Soma ("ThvamimA Oshadhee:" 604th Saaman). This same Saaman continues to praise the Soma Creeper as the dispeller of darkness with its light/radiance (Thvam jyOthishaa vi tamaa vavarTa).

The Soma (the elixir of the divine) is requested to flow (pavasva) in the sweetest and most exhilarating stream (madhishDayaa): "svAdhishDayaa madhishDayaa pavasva Soma dhArayaa".

Soma's another name is $Jn\sim Ana$ and Aananda (light and Joy). The Soma offered by the devotee is a small measure of the cosmic Soma and the prayer is for that to flow (dhArayaa) swiftly (AaSava) and copiously. The place of its origin is considered as mid-space (antariksha) and brought from there to earth with Vedic prayers (girvaNa:) in Trishtubh metre (SomE arkaa sthrishtuba: sam navanthE). It is considered the elixir of life force. It is saluted as KIng Soman (Soman rAjAnam).









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एतो न्विद्रश्स्तवाम शुध्दश्शुध्देन साम्ना । शुध्दैरुक्थैर्वावृध्वाश्सश्शुध्दैराशीर्वान्ममत्तु ॥ एतो न्विद्रश्स्तवाम शुध्दश्शुध्देन साम्ना । शुध्दैरुक्थैर्वावृध्वाश्सश्शुध्दैराशीर्वान्ममत्तु ॥

॥श्रुध्दाश्रुध्दीये द्वे (पदात्त निधनं श्रुध्दाश्रुध्दीयम्) द्वयोः इन्द्रोऽनुष्टुबिन्द्रः॥

(340-8)

एतोन्विद्रश्स्तवामा॥ शुध्देशशुध्देनसाऽ२३मा। शुध्देरुक्येर्वावृध्वाऽ२३१साम्॥ शुध्देराऽ२३शीऽ३॥ र्वाऽ२न्। ममाऽ३४औहोवा॥ तूऽ२३४४॥

(340-2)

एँतोन्विद्रश्स्तवाहमा॥ श्रुँध्देश्शुध्दे। न। सामाऽ२ । श्रुँध्दाहरूँऽइक्थाँऽइर्हः।

वावाऽ२ध्वाँऽ२३४१साम्॥ श्रुँध्देराऽ२३शी॥ वानममत्तु। इंडाऽ२३भाँऽ३४३। ओऽ२३४५इ॥

yEthOnvindram stavAma Suddham SuddhEna sAmnA
Suddhair-ukthair-vAvrudhvAgumsagu m Suddhair-AaseervAnmamattu

----Cf: Rg Vedam:VIII.95. 7

Meaning:

"Come now and let us glorify the pure Lord resplendent with fresh Saaman hymns. Let the correctly recited hymns mixed with devotional love gladden Him and magnify His glory".

This is a magnificent Saaman offered to Omnipotent and Omniscient Lord with awe and reverence. The awe results from the awareness of His majesty and vaibhavam. The reverence arises from the recollection of the Sesha-Seshi BhAvam (Master and servant relationship) based on svaroopa Jn~Anam of the Jeevan. Our Lord is sthOthra Priyan and therefore this Saaman singer is









inviting the assembly to eulogize the Lord with Suddha Saamans (sthuvAma SuddhEna sAmnA). The ukthi (recitation) is invoked to be blemish less (Suddhair ukthair). It is also instructed that the ukthi to be not only correct in a formal way but it is also advised that it be blended with bhakthi (devotional love) and flow like a steady stream to please the Lord as it glorifies His limitless grandeur (Vaibhavam).









(99)

सोमश्राजानं वरुणमग्निमन्वारभामहे । आदित्यं विष्णुश्सूर्यं ब्रह्माणं च बृहस्पतिम् ॥ सोमश्राजानं वरुणमग्निमन्वारभामहे । आदित्यं विष्णुश्सूर्यं ब्रह्माणं च बृहस्पतिम् ॥

॥बार्हस्पत्यम् बृहस्पतिरनुष्टुबिन्द्रः(विश्वेदेवाः वा))॥

(99-9)

सो मेर्राजा नंवरणाम्॥ अग्निमन्वारभामहेऽ३। होवाँऽ३हाँइ। आदित्यंविष्णुं रसूर्यम्। होवाँऽ३हाँइ। ब्रह्माणाऽ२३शाँऽ३। होवाँऽ३हाँइ॥ बृहाँऽ३उवाँऽ३॥ पाँऽ२३४तोम्॥

Somam rAjAnam varuNam agnim anavArabhAmahE

Aadityam VishNum Sooryam BrahmANam ca Bruhaspatim

----Cf: Rg Vedam:VIII.95. 7Rg Rk: X.141.3,

Yajus IX.26 , Atarvam: III.20.4

Meaning:

"We invoke and evoke the blissful bounties and venerable sovereignties, the fire of spirituality, the Sun, the infinity, the all pervading energies, the effulgent bounty, the supreme divinity and Universal Lordship."

Comments:

This Saaman reminds adiyEn of the travel by a Muktha Jeevan by archirAdhi Maargam at the end of the life on earth due to prapatthi anushtAnam. The clue for this interpretation comes from the next Saaman (92nd), which says: "Hence these nature's bounties gone up high and mounted to topmost heights of heaven--they become conquerors on the path by which our divine intellectuals, adept in spiritual practices, travel to the lofty sky".

The venerable sovereignties are the AadhivAhikars of the Para Brahmam









(Agni, Sun, VaruNa et al). They have their sharply demarcated boundaries as they lead the muktha Jeevan to the limit of their kingdoms and hand it over to the next devathaa. The Lofty sky referred to in Saaman 92 is the ParamAkAsam (SrI Vaikuntam).









(२७४)

यत इन्द्र भयामहे ततो नो अभयं कृषि । मधवञ्छग्धि तव तन्न ऊत्ये वि द्विषो विमृधो जिह ॥
यत इन्द्र भयामहे ततो नो अभयं कृषि । मधवञ्छग्धि तव तन्न ऊत्ये वि द्विषो
विमृधो जिहि ॥

॥इन्द्रस्याभयङ्करम् इन्द्रो बृहतीन्द्र॥

(२७४-१)

यतऔऽ३इन्द्रोभयामहोइ। ततोनोअभयंकाऽ२३धी। मंघवञ्छग्धितवतन्नैऊताऽ२३याइ॥ विद्रोहषोऽ२३वी॥ मार्ध्योजेहि। इंडाऽ२३भाऽ३४३। औऽ२३४५ऽइ॥ डा॥

yatindra bhayAmahE tatO nO abhayam krudhi
maghavanchagdhi tava tanna UtayE vi dhvishO vi mrudhO jahi

----Cf: Rg Rk: VIII.61.13, Ataravam XIX.15.1

Meaning:

"Oh Resplendent Lord! May Thou give us security (freedom from fear) from whom we are afraid of. Oh bounteous Lord! Be firm to give us Your protections; drive away our enemies who try to harm us"

Comments:

This prayer (abheethi sthavam) reminds us of the JitantE sthOtra slOkam (1.8):

अहं भीतोऽस्मि देवेश संसारेऽस्मिन् भयावहे।

पाहि मां पुण्डरीकाक्ष न जाने शरणं परम्॥ ८॥









aham bheethOasmi dEvEsa samsArEasmin bhayAvahE paahi maam PundareekAksha na jaanE SaraNam param

This slOkam is in the form of a prayer from the Bhaddha Jeevan (Jeevan bound to SamsAric sufferings) to the Lord of the DevAs (DevanAthan, ImayOr Talaivan) for protection. The Jeevan states that it is afraid of the horrors of transmigratory existence (ceaseless cycles of births and deaths) and begs for protection (release from those never ending cycles of transmigration).

In this Saaman, the singer reminds the Lord of His Achyutha tatthvam, which does not permit Him to abandon those, who had sought His refuge. Next the singer reminds the Lord about one of His avathAra rahasyam: dhushta nigraham and asks the Lord to protect him from the enemies, who wish to harm him. The prayer is "Be firm to give us Your protections; drive away our enemies, who try to harm us". Oh Achyutha! Please do not vacillate but rush to our rescue like you did when the king of elephants was tormented by the crocodile.









(328)

ब्रह्म जज्ञानं प्रथमं पुरस्ताद्वि सीमतः सुरुचो वेन आवः ।
स बुद्मा उपमा अस्य विष्ठाः सतश्च योनिमसतश्च विवः ॥
ब्रह्म जज्ञानं प्रथमं पुरस्ताद्वि सीमतः सुरुचो वेन आवः ।
स बुद्मा उपमा अस्य विष्ठाः सतश्च योनिमसतश्च विवः ॥

॥ ऋतुसामनी द्वे। ऋतुस्त्रिष्टुबिन्द्रः (ब्रहस्पतिर्वा)॥

(३२१-१) ब्रह्मा। ब्राऽ२३ह्माँ। जर्जानंप्रथमंपुरस्तात्। विसाद्य। वाऽ२३ह्माँ। मतस्पुरुचोवेनंआवेः ॥ संबू। साऽ२३बूँ। भ्रियाउपमाअस्यावाहष्ठाः॥ संताः। साऽ२३ताः। चयोनिमसतश्चवाहवाऽ३४३ः। ओऽ२३४५ह्म डा॥

(328-2)

हुँवेऽ३हाँऽ३इ। हुँवेऽ३हाँऽ३इ। हिषाँऽ३याँ। ब्रह्मैजज्ञां। नाँऽ३म्प्रंथ। मुँपुँरस्तात्॥ विसीमताः। सुँग्यः। वैनेआवाः॥ सेबुंध्रियाः। उपमाः। अस्याविष्ठाः॥ संतंत्रयो। नीऽ३मस। तश्चविवाः। हुँवेऽ३हाँऽ३इ। हुँवेऽ३हाँऽ३इ। हि। षाऽ२ः। औऽ२३४। औहाँवा॥ एँऽ३। ऋतममृतम्। एँऽ३। ऋतममृतम्। एँऽ३। ऋतममृतम्। एँऽ३। ऋतममृतम्। एँऽ३।

Brahma Jajn~Anam prathamam purastAdvi seemata: surucO vEna Aava: sa BudhnyA upamA asya vishtA: satasccha yOnimasatasccha viva:

----Cf: Yajur Vedam: XIII. 3 , Atharvam : IV.1.1 and V.6.1

Meaning:

"In the beginning of the creation, the Supreme Lord alone knew all the details.









From all sides, this effulgent wise one has manifested bright rays. In the mid space, our Lord has set up beautifully the celestial bodies, which speak of His unparalleled eminence. He is the sole cause of the today-existing and yet non-existing (Vyaktam and avyaktam) creation.

Comments:

Salutations are made here to the Aadhi Srushti kartha, the Supreme Brahman, who knows every details of creation in all the dimensions of space and time. The mysteries of the creation are many and the fruits of that Srushti are seen in this earth as achEtanams (mountains, trees, oceans etc). On the sentient side, Srushti extends to the nAma roopa Prapancham with highly evolved mammals including male and female forms with complex organs and their support systems. The different PrANAs activate this human machinery, the mind and the pancha kOsAs (Sheaths such as Jn~Ana maya kOsa and Aanandhamaya kOsa).

The Unique aspects of the mysteries behind creation are covered further in HiraNyagarbha hymns (Rg Vedam X.121), Rg Vedam X.190 and Naasadiya Sutha (Rg Vedam X.129).









Some excerpts from these Creation hymns:

- 1) Rg Vedam: X.129.7 (Naasadhiyam): "He is the First origin of this creation, whether He formed it all or did not form it. Whose eye controls this world in the highest heaven (paramE vyOman), He verily knows it, or perhaps He knows not"
- 2) Rg Vedam: X.190.3: "Dhataa, the great creator, then formed in due order, as in previous creation, Sun and the Moon. He formed as usual celestial heaven and earth, the regions of the air and the svar regions beyond."
- 3.1: Rg Vedam: X.121.1 (HiraNyagarbhA hymns): "In the beginning, there existed the Lord of divine effulgence. He was the sole Lord of all created beings. He fixed and held up this earth and heaven. To that Lord alone, may we offer our adoration".
- 3.2: Rg Vedam: X 121.5: "By Him, the heavens are strong and the earth is steadfast; by Him light's realm and sky-vault are supported. By Him the regions in mid air are measured. To that Lord alone, may we offer our adorations".

In other hymns (X.130), the creation is described as Lord's Yajnaa in which He alone is involved. It is pointed out that there are no limits to this Yajna and it is spread far and wide and beyond dimensions.

This Saaman refers to this mighty creator, HiraNyagarbha, the Lord of divine effulgence and His unique activities of creation of all sentients and insentients.









(888)

पवित्रं ते विततं ब्रहणस्पते प्रभुगित्राणि पर्येषि विश्वतः ।
अतप्ततनूर्न तदामो अश्वते शृतास इद्वहन्तः सं तदाशत ॥
पवित्रं ते विततं ब्रहणस्पते प्रभुगित्राणि पर्येषि विश्वतः ।
अतप्ततनूर्ने तदामो अश्वते शृतास इद्वहन्तः सं तदाशत ॥

॥अर्कपुष्पे द्वे द्वयोरादित्यो जगती ब्रह्मणस्पतिः॥

(8-838)

पैवित्रनैविततं ब्रहणस्पतेऽ ३। हुं वेऽ२३। हुं वेऽ२३। हो वाँऽ३ हाँऽ३। हाँ इ॥
प्रभूगांत्राणिपरियेषिविश्वताऽ२३:। हुं वेऽ२३। हो वाँऽ३ हाँऽ३। हाँ इ॥
अंतर्भतन् र्त्रतं तदाँऽ२ माँ अश्वतेऽ३। हुं वेऽ२३। हो वाँऽ३ हाँऽ३। हाँ इ॥
श्वता सह द्वर स्मन्तदाँऽ२ श्वत ॥ हुं वेऽ२३। हो वाँऽ३ हाँऽ३। हाँ ऽ३४। औं हो वा॥
अंकाँदेवानाऽ२ स्परमेवियाऽ२ साँ ३ ४ ४ न॥

(४६४-२)

पैवित्रनेविततेंब्रह्मणस्पतेऽ३। हुवाइ। औहोवाऽ२॥ प्रभुर्गात्राणिपरियेषिविश्वताऽ२३ः। हुवाइ। औहोवाऽ२॥ अंतर्भतनृर्नतदाऽ२मा अश्वतेऽ३। हुवाइ। औहोवाऽ२॥ श्वतासहद्वहन्तस्सन्तदाऽ२श्वत । हुवाइ। औ। होऽ२। वाऽ२३४। औहोवा॥ अर्कस्यदेवाःपरमेवियोऽ२माऽ३४५न्॥

pavitram tE vitatam BrahmaNaspatE prabhur gAtrANi paryEshi viSvata: atapta-tanUr na tadh AamO aSnutE SrutAsa idh vahanta: sam tad AaSata

----Cf: Rig Rk: IX.83.1









Meaning:

"Oh Lord of divine enlightenment! Your processes of purification are widely stretched out (in cosmos); you are the sovereign, who rules over the entire creation from all sides. You never get tired in Your work. Your divine bliss is not obtainable to those who are un-ripened. Only the mature ones receive the graces from You".

Comments:

This PuNyAhavaacana Saaman has connections to another HiraNyagarbha Hymn (Rg Vedam: X.121.3): "Who by His grandeur has become the sole ruler of all the moving world that breathe and slumbers; He who is the Lord of men and Lord of cattle; to that Lord alone, may we offer our adoration!

An Yajur Veda mantram (YV.XL.8) refers to His sovereign ruler ship and His circumscribing us from all the sides this way: "He, The Lord, effulgent, without a body, free from wounds and sinews, ever pure and very much above the sins, has been circumscribing us from all sides. He is the One with penetrating intelligence, extending in all parameters, self-existing (Svayambhu), ----".

His purification referred to in this Saaman is the power to chase away all of our sins, once we seek His protection. He is never tired in this work and is forever engaged in performing this work as SiddhOpAyam. Those who seek His refuge receive the graces from Him and the others who are Bhagavath dhvEshis can not access Him easily or ever.









(१६९)

कया निश्चत्र आ भुवती सदावृधः सखा। कया श्रचिष्ठया वृता ॥

कया निश्चत्र आ भुवद्ती सदावृधः सखा। कया श्रचिष्ठया वृता ॥

॥महावामदेव्यं वामदेव्यं वा वामदेवो गायत्रीन्द्रः॥

(989-9)

काँ ऽभ्यो। नश्चाँ ऽ३ इत्राँ ऽ३ औं भुवाँ त्॥ ॐ। तीं सदावृधे स्सं। खा। औं ऽ३ हो हाँ इ। कं या ऽ२ ३ श्चाँ इ॥ हो ने हाँ ऽ३। हिं मुआ ऽ२। वाँ ऽ२ तीं ३ भ्रहाँ इ॥

kayA naSchitra Aa bhuvadUti sadhAvrudha: sakhA

KayA SachishThayA vrutA

----Cf: Rg Rk: IV.31.1, Yajur Vedam: XXVII.39 , XXXVI.1.4 and Atharvam : XX.124.1

Meaning:

By what means would He who is ever augmenting, wonderful and friendly, come to us, and by what most effective accomplishments on our part?

Comments:

A rhetorical Question is posed in this hymn and the next one (Rg Vedam IV.31.2) about the most effective and the most earnest devotional offerings to be made to the Lord for Him to come to us and bless us with all kinds of wealth. This bounteous, munificent and blemish less Lord is invited to rush to us, assembled in sacred places of His worship. The singer of the Saaman asks the Lord to be his friend and concludes: "May all Your desires be our blessings (asmAn viSvA abhishtaya:)".

Two key word in this Saaman are: "SachishThayA" and "Uti". "SachishThayA"









is linked to the excellent thoughts, words or deeds according to one commentator (athiSayEna SrEshDyA VaachA Praj~NayA karmaNA vaa). Saayana comments that these excellent words are accompanied by PoorNa Prajn~A and deeds nourished by Prajn~A (prajn~AvitthamayA Prajn~A sahitham anushDeeyamAnEna karmaNA). Such an observance (anushDAnam) will result in gaining the care and protection (Uti) of the Jagath Rakshaka Swami, our Lord.

Thus ends the PuNyAhavaacana Mantra Japam in The Kouthuma Saakhai of Saama Vedam

The unique glories of the Lord , His easy access to BhagavathAs, His distance from Bhaagavatha- Bhagavath dhvEshis, His response to Vaidhika Kaaryams, SadhAchAram, Sathsangam are eulogized and meditated upon.

|| NamO Veda PurushAya ||



Daasan,

Oppiliappan KOil VaradAchAri SaThakOpan



