

नमो नमस्ते गुरवे महात्मने
विमुक्तसङ्गाय सदुत्तमाय ।
नित्याद्वयानन्दरसस्वरूपिणे
भूम्ने सदाऽपारदयाम्बुधाम्ने ॥ ४८७ ॥

*namo namaste gurave mahātmane
vimuktasaṅgāya saduttamāya,
nityādvayānandarasasvarūpiṇe
bhūmne sadā'pāradayāmbudhāmne. (487)*

487. Salutations to thee, O noble Guru! who art free from attachments, best among the noble ones, the embodiment of the essence of eternal non-dual Bliss, who art endless, ever the limitless ocean of mercy.

The student remembers his Teacher who has showed him the path, and is grateful to him.

‘O large-hearted one!’ (Mahātmane)’, he exclaims. Large-hearted because, in spite of our weaknesses and animal tendencies, he, with his infinite kindness, lifts us from our present limitations to the vision of this great goal.

The salutations are not offered to the form, the physical frame of the Teacher. For, he who is best among Realised ones, who has segregated himself from his physical, emotional and intellectual layers, from egocentric attitudes and from the sense of fulfilment arising out of objects, emotions and thoughts, is the GURU.

The Teacher is of the nature of Brahman Itself. He is addressed here as ‘best among the Realised ones’, because there are a number of Realised ones in the world, but it is this Master who has helped the student and guided him to the realisation of the Self. The description of the Teacher given in this verse is that of Brahman Itself – ‘nitya, advaya and ānanda-svarūpa’.¹

The Teacher is that shoreless ocean of kindness, which is external, non-dual, and the all-pervading Bliss form.

¹ for elaboration refer verses – 220, 221 and 222