UPANISHAD VALLARI

P. KRISHNA MOORTY



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by **P. KRISHNA MOORTY**



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FOREWORD

Every Veda is divided into four parts viz., Samhita, Brahmana, Aranyaka and Upanishad. As the Upanishads come at the end of the Vedas, they are known as "Vedanta". The Upanishads have a prominent place in Indian philosophical heritage. Without understanding the Upanishads it is impossible to get near the core of Indian spiritual thought.

Upanishads uphold spiritual oneness of existence and give answers to the practical and theological questions of every thinker.

According to the tradition, 108 Upanishads are there. Among them Isa, Kena and Katha Upanishads have a prominent place. Sri Sankaracharya, however, took only ten Upanishads as authoritative and gave elaborate commentary on them. Isavasya Upanishad, Kena Upanishad and the Katha Upanishad find place among the ten.

Sri P. Krishna Murthy in this book rendered these three Upanishads into English. The translator had done a commendable job by translating the scriptures in a simple style to the benefit of common readers.

The "Atma Bodha", is written by Jagadguru Sankaracharya in the language of the heart, that we find in this text. The book also serves a need, that is felt by the seekers, who for some reason or other, have no opportunity to read the original, in Sanskrit. "Atma Bodha" emphasises self-realisation and recommends the ways and means for mukti.

We hope these English translations, of the sacred *Upanishads* and Sankaracharya's 'Atma Bodha' will be well received by the spiritual minded public.

Executive Officer,
Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams,
Tirupati.

ఈశావాస్యోపనిషత్

INTRODUCTION

As the spiritual experience of all men is imperfect, Truth revealed itself in this land through the minds of great Rsis. This revelation is Śruti which literally means what is heard. Great Rsis, who had perfected themselves by long tapas are said to have heard in their hearts eternal Truths and to have left a record of them in our sacred books called the Vedas. The Vedas consist of four parts viz. (1) Samhitās, Mantras or Hymns (2) The Brahmaṇas or explanatory treatises on mantras and rituals and (3) Āranyakas, the ritualistic prayers performed in the sacred forests, (4) the Upaniṣads or mystic treatises revealing the most profound Spiritual Truths and suggesting the ways of realising them.

The word Upanisad means "Sitting down beside." They embody esoteric spiritual knowledge meant for relection and contemplation and hence the deeper a man dives into the significance of these Scriptures in meditation, the greater the hidden meanings he finds in them. They are the sum and substance of all true wisdom. Some of them are written in prose and some in verse. They vary in length and form. According to tradition, Upanisads are 1180 one for each śākhā of the Vedas but only 200 are brought to light and of them 108 are deemed worthy of study. Of these 108, only 10 have been recognised by Sankara as authoritative and wrote elaborate commentaries on them. They are (1) Isa (2) Kena (3) Katha (4) Prasna (5) Mundaka (6) Māndukya (7) Taitirīya (8) Aitareya (9) Chāndogya and (10) Brhadaranyaka.

Īsa Vāsya Upanishat is a part of Sukla Yajurveda and is the shortest of all. It derives its name from the opening words of its first Mantra. This is a Mantropanisad parexcellence as all the Upanisads that are in verse are so called. It tells us that whoever gets knowledge of the Supreme Soul finds everything identical with Brahman.

P. Krishna Moorthy

వాజసనేయ సంహితోపనిషత్ వా ఈశావాస్యోపనిషత్

8 E.

ಕಾಂತಿ ಮಂಡು

ఓం పూర్ణ మద: పూర్ణ మిదం, పూర్ణా త్ఫూర్ణ ముదచ్యతే పూర్లపు పూర్ణ మాదాయ పూర్ణమేవావశిష్యతే.

ఓమ్

ಕಾಂಠಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂಠಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂಠಿ:

ఓమ్

తత్ సత్

That (the Invisible Brahman) is full; This (the Visible Brahman) is full. This full (Visible Brahman) proceeds from that full (Invisible Brahman). On perceiving the true nature of this full (Visible Brahman) there still remains that same full (Invisible Brahman).

Om: Peace! Peace! Peace!

Om

Tat Sat

* * *

ఈశావాస్య మిదం పర్వం, యత్కించ జగత్యాం జగత్, తేవ త్యక్తేవ భుంజీథా, మా గృథ: కస్య స్ప్రి ద్ధవమ్. 1

Everything that is subject to change in this universe is permeated by Parameśvara. Save thyself by renouncing it Do not aspire for wealth that is others.

కుర్వ స్నేవేహ కర్మాణి జిజీవి షే చృతం సమా: ఏవం త్వయి వావృథేతో ఒప్తి వ కర్మ లిప్పతే వరే.

2

Let every one wish to live for a hundred years, always by being engaged in doing one's duty. There is no other way Thou, a human-being, that desirest to live thus-nothing that is inauspicious will ever attach itself to thee.

అసుర్యా నామ తే లోకా అంధేన తమపావృతా: తాంప్తే ్రపత్యాభిగచ్చంతి యే కేచాత్మహనో జనా:. 3

There are worlds that go by the name of Asuryā, which are steeped in the darkness of ignorance. Those people who despise the soul enter into such worlds after their death.

అవేజ దేకం మనసో జవీయో వైన ద్దేవా ఆప్పువన్ పూర్వ మర్షత్, త ద్ధావతోఽవ్యానత్యేతి తిష్ఠత్ తష్మీ న్నపో మాతరిశ్వా దధాతి.

4

Ātmā is one which is immovable. Its speed is much greater than that of the mind. It is unapproachable even by Gods. It always moves away in advance. Though it is itself immovable, its speed transcends that of other senses, which move fast. As long as the soul exists in the body, the spirit distributes and allocates the various functions to the various organs of the body.

తదేజతి తన్నైజతి తద్దూరే తద్వంతికే, తదంత రస్య పర్వస్య త దు పర్వస్యాస్య బాహ్యతః. 5

That soul moves and does not move. It is farther off and yet near at hand. It is to be found embedded in the creation and is also to be found outside it.

6

He, who sees all creatures focussed in himself, and he who finds himself in all the creation, such a person, by identifying himself with the entire creation thus, entertains no hatred for any one.

To that Jñani who thus identifies himself with all the creatures of the universe and to him who feels such an identity everywhere and in all things, where is attachment or where is detachment for such a one?

స పర్యగా చ్ఫుకమకాయ మద్రణ మస్నావిరం శుద్ధ మపాప విద్ధమ్, కవి ర్మవీషీ పరిభూస్ప్వయంభూ ర్యాథాతథ్యతో2 ర్మాన్ వ్యదథాచ్చాశ్వతీభ్య: సమాభ్య:.

8

The soul is all pervading. It is pure. It is resplendent. It has neither body nor nerves nor even sin. It is all discerning. It is the Lord of the mind. It is infinitely superior to all things and is self-created. It is capable of entering into every material body and endows it with life and permanance.

అంధం తమ: స్థపిశంతి యే అవిద్యా ముపాసతే, తతో భూయ ఇవ తే తమో దు ఉ విద్యాయాం రతా:. 9

Whosoever follows the path of Avidyā, he is sure to be engulfed in the midst of the darkness of ignorance. Whosoever follows the path of Vidyā but steeped always in the blind discharge of Karma, he will be visited with a worse fate. అన్యదేవాహు ర్విద్యయా అవ్యదేవాహు రవిద్యయా, ఇతి శుశ్రమ ధీరాణాం యే వ ప్రద్యాచచక్రిరే.

10

The wise have said that the fruits obtained by following the paths of Vidyā and Avidyā, are different. This has been taught to us by those great and gifted who enlightened us with that knowledge.

విద్యాం చాఒవిద్యాం చ యస్త్రద్వేదోభయం సహ, అవిద్యయా మృత్యుం తీర్ప్తా విద్యయాఒమృత మశ్సుతే.11

Whosoever understands the full import of Vidyā and Avidyā, he will be freed from the clutches of death caused by Avidyā and attains immortality with the help of his Vidyā.

అంధం తమ: స్థవిశంతి యే2.సంభూతి ముపాసతే, తతో భూయ ఇవ తే తమో య సంభూత్యాం రతా:. 12

Whosoever meditates upon the nameless and formless Brahman, he is enveloped with the darkness of ignorance and whosoever meditates upon the Brahman with a form and name, he is sure to be doubly shrowded with the mist of ignorance.

అన్య దేవాహు: సంభవా దన్యదేవాహు రసంభవాత్, ఇతి శుశ్రము ధీరాణాం యే న స్త్రద్వ్యాచచక్షిరే. 13

It is said by the wise people that Brahman who is endowed with a name and a form grants a certain kind of blessing while that Brahman who is without a name and a form grants different kinds of blessings. We learnt all about this from those wise and learned men who first explained to us and initiated us into a clear understanding of these.

అపంభూతిం చ వివాశం చ యప్తద్వేదోభయం సహ, వివాశేవ మృత్యుం తీర్ప్వాఒసంభూత్యాఒమృత మశ్సుతే.

14

He who can comprehend the full significance of Brahman without a name and without a form and also that Brahman with a name and with a form receives death from that Brahman with a name and with a form and immortality from that Brahman without a name and without a form.

హిరణ్మయేన పాణేణ పత్యప్యా ఓపిహితం ముఖమ్, తత్త్వం పూష న్నపావృణు పత్యధర్మాయ దృష్టయే. 15

The real face of truth is covered and kept hidden by the gold pitcher. O sun, the sustainer and protector of all life, remove this deceitful gloss of covering for my sake, as I am wedded to truth, as my whole outlook is based on truth and is governed by truth alone.

పూష వ్వేకర్షే యమ సూర్య సాజాపత్య వ్యూహ రశ్మీవ్సమూహ తేజో యత్తే, రూపం కల్యాణతమం తత్తే పశ్యామి యోఒసా వహా పురుష ప్పోఒహ మస్మీ.

16

O sustainer of all life, O thou that goest about all alone, O thou that assigns to everything its sphere, O thou the sun, O thou the Son of Prajāpati himself, withdraw thy rays. Converge all thy glory into one. I will then be able to behold and contemplate upon thy auspicious form. Verily, I am the person that exists in three.

వాయు రవిల మమృత మథేదం భస్మాంతం శరీరమ్, ఓం క్రతోప్మర కృతం స్మర క్రతోస్మర కృతం స్మర. 17 Let my life breath in my body which is just about to leave it go back and merge itself in the all pervading air about me. Let this body be reduced to ashes. O Jīva, the very form of all life and the embodiment of all will and volition, just remember what thou hast done. O Jīva, remember once all that has been done by thee.

ఆగ్నే వయ సుపథా రాయే ఆప్మాన్ విశ్వాని దేవ వయునాని విద్వాన్, యుయోధ్యస్మజ్జాహురాణ మేనో భూయిష్మాం తే నమ ఉక్తిం విధేమ.

18

O Agni, lead me along the path of righteousness that leads me to the enjoyment of the fruits of my actions. O God, thou hast the knowledge of what is done. Cleanse us from all the sins we committed. I will address unto you my sincerest words of salutations.

ಕಾಂತಿ ಮಂಡ್:

ఓమ్

పూర్ణ మద: పూర్ణ మిదం పూర్ణా త్నూర్ణ ముదచ్యతే, పూర్లస్య పూర్ణ మాదాయ పూర్ణమేవావశిష్యతే.

> ఓమ్ శాంతి శ్యాంతి శ్యాంతి: ఇతి ఈశావాస్యాపనిషత్ పమాప్తా.

That (the Invisible Brahman) is full; This (the Visible Brahman) is full. This full (Visible Brahman) proceeds from that full (Invisible Brahman), on perceving the true nature of this full (Visible Brahman) there still remains that same full (Invisible Brahman).

Aum: Peace! Peace! Peace!

Aum Tat Sat

Iti Sam.

కేనోపనిషత్

INTRODUCTION

Kenopanishad is a part of Sāma Veda and is divided into 4 parts. Like the Īśāvasya Upaniṣad, it derives its name from the first word of its opening verse namely Kena. It is also called Talavakāropaniṣad. This gives a subtle psychological analysis that whoever follows it closely is surely led to the gate of the Transcendent. Śaṅkara has interpreted it twice, once by a Pada Bhāṣya and again by a Vākya Bhāṣya.

The first two parts are in the form of a dialogue and explain how one can arrive at the Ātman through the analysis of perception. The third part describes the principles of the earlier two parts in an allegorical form. The fourth part speaks of the subjective and objective ways of meditating on Brahman and of the results of such meditation.

I present hereunder a humble English rendering of the above Upanisad for the benefit of those who cannot understand it in Sanskrit along with the texts.

P. Krishna Moorty

తలవకారోపనిషత్

2

కేనోపనిషత్

ప్రథమః ఖండః

ಕಾಂತಿ ಮಂಡ:

హరి: ఓమ్

ఓమ్ ఆప్యాయంతు మమాంగాని వా క్ప్రాణ శ్చక్షు: శ్రోత మథో బల మింద్రియాణి చ సర్వాణి.

1

2

May my limbs, speech, prāna, eye, ear, vitality and all the senses grow strong.

తదాత్మని నిరతే య ఉపనిషత్సు ధర్మా స్తే మయి సంతు తే మయి సంతు.

Let all the virtues proclaimed in the Upanisads and those in him who is devoted to the atman reside in me. May they repose in me.

ಓಂ ಕಾಂಠಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂಠಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂಠಿ:

Om: Peace: Peace: Peace.

శిష్య:

కే నేషితం పతతి (పేషితం మన: కేన ప్రాణ: ప్రథమ: (పైతి యుక్త:, కే నేషితాం వాచ మిమాం వరంతి చక్క: శోతం క ఉ దేవో యునక్తి.

Disciple: By whom is the mind willed and impelled alight upon its objects? Commanded by whom does the Chief Prāṇa proceed to function? At whose behest do men utter speech? Which effulgent one directs the eye and the ear?

1

2

3

ఆచార్యః

శ్రోత్రప్య శ్రోతం, మవసో మనో యద్వాచో హ వాచం, ప ఉ ప్రాణప్య ప్రాణ-శృక్షుష శృక్షు, రతిముచ్య ధీరా: ్రేపత్యా ఎస్మా ల్లోకా దమృతా భవంతి.

Preceptor: That Ātman that is the prima causa of all is the Ear of the ear, the Mind of the mind, the Speech of the speech, the Life of the life and the Eye of the eye. The wisemen abandon the sense of 'I' ness in all these, rise above from this sense life and attain immortality.

న త్వత చక్కు ర్గచ్ఛతి న వా గ్గచ్ఛతి నో మనో న విద్మో న విజానీమో యతైత దనుశిష్యాత్, అన్య దేవ తద్విదితా దథో అవిదితా దధి ఇతి శుశ్రమ పూర్వేషాం యే న స్త ద్వ్యాచచక్షిరే. The eye cannot approach it, neither speech nor mind. We do not, therefore, know that nor know how to instruct about it. It is different from what is known and is above the unknown. We have heard it thus said to us by the ancients who taught us that.

Know ye that alone what speech cannot reveal but what reveals speech as Brahman but not this that people worship here.

5

Know ye that alone, what the mind cannot comprehend what cognises the mind as Brahman but not this that people do worship here.

Know ye that alone what the eye fails to see but what perceives the eye as Brahman but not this that people do worship here.

Know ye that alone what the ear fails to hear but what enables the ear to hear as Brahman but not this that people do worship here. ಯ ತ್ರ್ರಾ)ಣೆನ ನ ప్రాణితి, యేన ప్రాణ: ప్రణీయతే, తదేన బ్రహ్మ త్వం విద్ది, వేదం దుదిద ముపాపతే. 8

Know ye that alone what the nose fails to smell but what enables the nose to smell as Brahman but not this that people do worship here.

...

ద్వితీయ: ఖండ:

2.5

ఆచార్య:

యది మవ్యాపే సువేదేతి దభ్రమేవాపి నూనమ్ త్వం వేత్థ బ్రహ్మణ్ రూపం య దష్య త్వం యదస్య దేవేష్పథ ను మీమాంస్య మేవ తే

Teacher:If thou thinkest that thou hast comprehended Brahman well, then what thou hast verily known about Brahman and what thou hast seen as the form of Brahman in the Devas is but little.

1

2

Therefore, thou hast yet to enquire further about Brahman.

శిష్య:

మస్యే విదితం

Disciple: I think I have understood Brahman.

వాలపొం మవ్యే సు వేదేతి నో వ వేదేతి వేద చ యో వ ప్రైద్యేద త ద్వేద నో వ వేదేతి వేద చ.

I do not think I know well but not that I do not know, I know too Whosoever amongst us comprehends it both as the Not Known and the Known, he comprehends it.

యస్యాబమతం తప్ప మతం మతం యప్ప న వేద ప:, ఆవిజ్ఞాతం విజానతాం విజ్ఞాత మవిజానతామ్. 3 Whosoever says he knows not, he comprehends it. Whosoever says he knows, he knows it not. It is the unknown to one of true knowledge but to the ignorant it is the known.

He, who understands it in and through every modification of the mind, verily attains immortality. He obtains real strength through the knowledge of the self and thereafter attains immortality through that knowledge.

5

If one has realised Brahman here in this world, his life becomes true and blessed. If he realises not here, the destruction is untold. The wise man, seeing the Atman in all the beings of the world, attains immortality transcending sense life.

త్పతీయး စုဝင်း

బ్రహ్మ హ దేవేభ్యో విజిగ్యే. తప్ప హ బ్రహ్మణో విజయే దేవా అమహీయంత. తఐక్షంతాస్మాక మేవాయం విజయో2స్మాక మేవాయం మహి మేతి.

1

It is said that the Brahman gained victory over the demons for the Gods. As that Brahman conquered, the Gods were glorified and then thought that, that victory and that glory were verily theirs.

తదైషాం విజజ్హౌ తేభ్యో హ స్రాదు రృభూవ, తన్న వ్యజావంత కి మేత ద్యక్ష మితి. 2

Brahman knew their vanity and appeared to them; but they could not understand who that adorable spirit was.

తే2_గ్ని ముబ్రువన్ జాతవేద ఏత ద్విజానీహి, కిమిదం యక్ష మితి తథేతి త దభ్యదవత్. 3

They then said to Agni thus:- "O Jātavedas, (all knowing) find out what that great Spirit is. "Yes" said Agni.

త మభ్యవద త్కో2 సీ త్యగ్ని ర్వా ఆహ మస్మీ త్యబవీ జ్ఞాతవేదా వా ఆహ మస్మీతి.

Agni hastened to the Spirit and asked him who he was. Agni replied "I am verily Agni, the Omniscient".

తష్మిం ప్ర్వాయి కిం వీర్య మీతి ఆపీదం సర్వం దహేయం యదిదం పృథివ్యా మీతి. 5

The Brahman asked him, "What power hast thou got, who art of such a fame?" Agni replied, "I can burn everything that exists on this earth."

తెస్మై తృణం నిదధా వేతద్దహేతి. తదుష్ట్ పేయాయ పర్వజవేన త న్నశశాక దగ్ధుం ప తత ఏన నివవృతే వైత దశకం విజ్ఞాతుం యదేత ద్యక్ష మితి. 6

Then Brahman put a blade of grass before him and said to him, "Burn it". Agni approached it with all might. Not being able to burn it, he returned to the Gods saying that he could not know what that adorable Spirit was.

అథ వాయు మబ్రువన్ వాయ వేతద్విజానీహి, కి మేత ద్వక్ష మితి తథేతి త దభ్యదవత్.

7

9

The Gods then said to Vāyu, "Oh the Lord of winds, find out who that adorable Spirit is?" Vayu agreed.

త మభ్యవదత్కో 2 సీతి వాయు ర్వాఅహమస్మీ త్య 2బీ వ్మాతరిశ్వా వా ఆహ మస్మీతి. 8

Vāyu hastened to the spirit and asked him who he was. Vāyu replied, "I am Yāyu, I am also truly Matarisvān, the mover through the skies".

తస్మిం స్త్వాయి కిం వీర్య మితి ఆపీదం పర్వ మాదదీయ యదిదం పృథివ్యా మితి. The spirit asked him, "What power hast thou, who art of a such a fame, got?" Vayu replied, "Why, I can blow away everything that exists on earth."

తెస్మై తృణం విదధా వేత దాధత్స్పేతి తదుప ్రేమాయ పర్వజవేవ త వ్వ శశాకాదాతుం, స తత్ ఏవ వివవృతే వైత దశకం విజ్ఞాతుం యదేత ద్యక్ష మితి.

The spirit then placed a blade of Grass before him saying "Blow this". Vāyu dashed at it but could not move it. So, he returned to the Gods saying "I am unable to find out who that adorable Spirit is."

ఆ థేంద్ర మ్మబువన్ మఘవన్నేత ద్విజానీహి కిమేత ద్యక్ష మితి తథేతి తదభ్యదవత్. తస్మా త్తిరోదధే. 11

Then the Gods said to Indra, the Chief of Gods "O Maghavan, (Possessor of great wealth) find out who this adorable Spirit is". He agreed and hastened towards the spirit, when the spirit disappeared from his view.

స తస్మి స్పేవాకాశే స్ర్త్రీయ మాజగామ బహుశోభమావా ముమాం హైమవతీం తాం హోవాచ కిమేత ద్యక్ష మితి.12

In that very spot, he beheld Umā, the fair and charming daughter of the snowy mountain, Himavān, and asked her who that adorable spirit could be.

చతుర్థ: ఖండ:

పా బ్రహ్మేతి హోవాచ బ్రహ్మణో వా ఏత ద్విజయే మహీయధ్య మీతి తతో హైష విదాంచకార బ్రహ్మేతి.

Preceptor: "Brahman", she exclaimed, "Thou hast attained greatness verily through the victory of Brahman. Then alone he understood that that adorable Spirit was Brahman.

తస్మా ద్వా ఏతే దేవా అతితరా మివాఒన్యాన్ దేవాన్ యదగ్ని ర్వాయు: ఇంద్ర ప్తే హ్యేన న్నేదిష్ఠం పస్పృశు: తేహ్యేన త్స్తిరమో విదాంచకార బహ్మేతి.

Therefore, these Gods Agni, Vāyu and Indra verily excel the other Gods for they approached the Spirit nearest and they were the first to know him as Brahman.

2

తస్మా ద్వా ఇంట్రో ఒతితరామివా ఒన్యాన్ దేవాన్ సహ్యే నన్నేధిష్ఠం పస్పర్శన హ్యేన త్ప్పథమో విదాంచకార బ్రహ్మేతి. 3

And, therefore, indeed Indra excels other Gods for he approached the Spirit nearest and he was the first to know him as Brahman.

తెస్యెష ఆదేశో యదేత ద్విద్యుతో వ్యద్యుత దా ఇతీతి న్యమీమిష దా ఇత్యధిదైవతమ్.

This description of the Brahman, through this illustration shone forth like the splendour of the light-

ning and all this happened before the Gods within the twinkling of an eye. This is with regard to this manifestation as cosmic powers.

Now as regards this description from the point of view of His manifestation as Ātman within the self, one thinks of Him (Brahman) by the mind, remembers and imagines things. This is Sankalpa.

Brahman is well-known as Tadvana, the one desiring to be worshipped as the Atman of all living things. So, it is to be meditated upon as Tadvana. All love him who knowest thus.

Disciple: Sir, teach me this secret doctrine (Upanisad)

Preceptor: This mystical philosophy has been imparted to you. Verily, we have imparted the knowledge of this Upanisad to you.

Austerity, self-restraint, dedicated work, the Vedas and the Vedāngas are the foundation of this knowledge of this Upaniṣad. Truth is its abode.

యో వా ఏతా మేవం వేదాపహత్య పాప్మాన మనంతే స్పర్గే లోకే జ్యేయే ప్రతితిష్ఠతి ప్రతితిష్ఠతి. 9

He, who knows it thus, verily destroys sin and is established in Brahman, the boundless, the highest and the blissful. Truly, he is established in it.

* * *

శాంతి మంత్ర: ఓమ్

PEACE INVOCATION

ఓమ్ ఆప్యాయంతు మమాంగాని వా క్ప్రాణ: చక్కు శ్రోత మథో బల మింద్రియాణి చ సర్వాణి.

May my limbs, speech, prana, eye, ear vitality and all the senses grow strong.

తదాత్మని నిరతే య ఉపనిషత్సు ధర్మా ేస్తే మయి సంతు తే మయి సంతు.

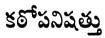
Let all the virtues proclaimed in the Upaniṣads and those in him who is devoted to the Ātman reside in me May they repose in me.

ಓಂ ಕಾಂತಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂತಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂತಿ:

Om: Peace: Peace: Peace:

ఇతి చతుర్థ: ఖండ: కేనోపనిషత్ పమాప్తా

- ¥ -



INTRODUCTION

The Eternal Truth revealed itself in this land through the minds of great Rsis and this revelation is embodied in the "Sruti", which literally means what is heard Those Rsis left a record of them in our sacred books called the Vedas, which are the Supreme authority on Hinduism. Each Veda consists of 3 parts (1) the Mantras or hymns; (2) the Brāhmanas or explanatory treatises on Mantras and rituals; and (3) Aranyakas, ritualistic prayers performed in the sacred forests, (4) the Upaniṣads or mystic treatises revealing the most profound spiritual truths and suggesting the ways of realising them.

According to tradition, there are 108 Upaniṣads, but the most important of them are twelve. They are: (1) Īśa, (2) Kena, (3) Kaṭha, (4) Praśna, (5) Muṇḍaka, (6) Maṇḍukya, (7) Aitareya, (8) Taittiriya, (9) Chandogya, (10) Bṛhadāranyaka, (11) Kausitaki, and (12) Syetasyatatra.

The Katha has been always considered as one of the best Upanisads and it must be admitted that in elevation of thought, depth of expression and beauty of its imagery and an ingenious fervour, few are equal to it. The lofty conception, by which in its introuductory legend, Death is made to give a reply to the highest questions to human mind can propose to itself, the enthusiasm and intimate conviction which Naciketas shows about the superiority of what is good over the pleasures of the world, even if their enjoyment be as perfect as lies in its nature.

The Katha Upanişad, as commented on by Sankarācārya, consists of 2 of parts (Adhyāyas), each

of them containing 3 Vallis. Dr. Weber is of opinion that the Katha originally closed with the 3rd Valli, and his reasons are that the first part is complete and has a formal conclusion, that—the second part consists almost entirely of Vedic quotations and that there is a difference of language in first and second parts.

The following four are the chief questions, to which answer is sought in every Upanisad. One of them is practical and theoretical questions. they are:

- (1) What is the highest object of man?
- (2) What is the last cause of the world?
- (3) In what connection is this cause with the world?
- (4) How do we know of it?

The first Valli endeavours to answer the first question. In the second Valli, a general solution is given to questions 2 and 4.

The third Valli treats on the realation between the infinite Brahman and the world in general and with special reference between Brahman and the individual soul.

The fourth Valli is, according to Śańkara, to show that the great obstacle to a knowledge of the soul is ignorance.

In the fifth Valli an attempt is made to prove the existence of the soul as a principle different from the body and to show one soul can also be manifold.

The sixth Valli takes up that nothing can manifest the infinite Brahman because all is manifested by him. The standing point of Katha is on the whole that of the Vedanta. It is the absolute spirit which is the foundation of the world and it is the absolute spirit which is the object of true science to know him as the same with all creatures, especially with one's own soul, which by the knowledge attains its final aim-absorption into Brahman.

P. Krishnamoorthy

కర్పనిషత్తు శాంతి మంత్రు:

ఓం పహ వావవతు పహ వౌ భువక్కు పహ వీర్యం కరవావహై తేజస్వీ వావధీతమస్తు మా విద్యిషావహ్హే ఓಂ ಕ್ಡಾನ್ತಿ ಕ್ಡಾನ್ತಿ ಕ್ಡಾನ್ತಿ:.

> May He protect us both. May He support us both. May both of us acquire strength together. May our study be bright and illustrious. May there be no hatred amongst us.

> > Om! Peace! Peace! Peace! Om Tat Sat.

ప్రథమా వర్లీ

ఓం ఉశ్వ వై వాజస్రవస్సుర్వవేదసం దదౌ తస్య హ నచికేతా నామ పుత్ర ఆప.

1

Once Vājaśravasa, the son of Vajasrava (Gautama). desirous of heavenly reward, gave away all his wealth. He had a son, Naciketas by name:

తగ్ం హ కుమారగ్ం సంతం దక్షిణాసు నీయమానాసు త్రద్దాబలవివేశ పోలమన్యత. 2

When the gifts were being distributed, filial anxiety (about the welfare of his father) entered the heart of the youth and he thought.

పీతోదకా జగ్ధతృణా దుగ్గదోహా నిరింద్రియా: ఆనందా నామ తే లోకాస్తాన్న గచ్చతి తా దదత్. 3

Whosoever gives these cows that have drunk water, eaten grass, yielded their milk for the last time and have become barren, he verily goes to those joyless worlds which he attains who gives these.

స హోవాచ పితరం తతకెమ్మమాం దాస్కపీతి ద్వితీయం తృతీయం తగ్ం హో వాచ మృత్యవే త్వా దదామీతి.

4

He said unto his parent: "O Father, to whom wilt thou give me? He said this a second and a third time. The enraged father answered him "Unto Death, I will give thee". బహునామేమి ప్రథమో బహూనామేమి మధ్యమః, కిగ్ం ప్రిద్యమప్య కర్తవ్యం యవ్మయాஉద్య కరిష్యతి

5

8

Naciketas thought: "Among many sons, I am the first; among many I go midmost, then what is there for Yama to do which he will perform to-day through me?

ఆమ పశ్య యథా ఫూర్పే ప్రతిపశ్య తథా2.పరే, పస్పమివ మర్త్య: పచ్యతే సస్పమివా2.2.జాయతే పున:. 6

Naciketas said: "Remember how our forefathers acted; also consider how others now behave; the mortals get ripe and fall like corn and they are born again like corn.

వైశ్వానర: డ్రవిశత్యతిథిర్బ్రాహ్మణో గృహాన్, తెప్పైతాగ్ం శాంతిం కుర్వంతి హర వైవస్వతోదకమ్. 7

A Brahmin guest enters a house like Vaiśvānara; Men make this peace offering to quiet him. O Vaivasvata, fetch water.

ఆశాబ్దతీశ్లే సంగతగ్ం సూన్పతాం చ ఇష్టాపూర్తే పుత్రపతూంగ్ శ్రీ పర్సాక్, ఏతద్పృంక్తే పురుషస్యాల్సమేధపో యస్యావశ్నవ్ వపతి బ్రాహ్మణో గృహే.

Hope, expectation, fellowship with good people, true and pleasant discourses, sacrifices, acts of philanthropy, sons and cattle-all these are destroyed in the case of the foolish man, in whose house a Brahmin guest stays without taking food.

తిస్టార్ రాత్రీర్యదవాత్సీర్గ్రహే మే అవశ్వవ్య్రహ్మ వృతిథిర్నమష్య:, వమప్పేఒస్తు బ్రహ్మవ్స్ప్లిష్ట్రీ మేఒస్తు తప్మాత్స్త్రితి త్రీవ్వరావ్స్ట్రణీష్య.

Yama said: "O Brahmin, as thou, a venerable guest, has stayed in my house for three nights without taking food, my salutations to Thee and may good befall me. Hence ask three boons in return.

శాంత సంకల్పస్సుమనా యథా స్వా ద్వీతమన్యుర్గౌతమా మాఒభి మృత్యో, త్వత్ప్రస్పష్టం మాఒభివదేత్ప్రతీత ఏతత్త్రియాణాం ప్రథమం వరం వృణే.

10

9

Nachiketas said: "O Death!" I ask as the first of the three boons that Gautama, my father, may be freed from anxiety, may be calm and composed in mind, being devoid of wrath against me and that he may recognise me as his son and welcome me as I am sent back being liberated by thee.

యథా పురస్తాద్భవితా ప్రతీత ఔద్దాలకిరారుణిర్మత్ప్రస్పష్టః, సుఖగ్ం రాత్రిః శయితా వీతమన్యు స్త్వాం దర్చపేవా వ్యృత్యుముఖా త్ప్రముక్షమ్. 11

Yama said: "Through my favour, the son of Aruna. Auddalaki, will recognise you as before. He will sleep during nights in peace. When he sees you released from the jaws of death, he will be free from anger.

ప్పర్గే లోకే న భయం కించనాప్తి న తత్ర త్వం న జరయా బిఖేతి, ఉభే తీర్త్వా అశవాయాపిపాపే శోకాతిగో మోదతే షర్గలోకే.

12

Naciketas said: "There is no fear of any kind in heaven. You are not there, No one need fear old age. One in heaven rejoices having crossed both hunger and thirst being beyond all sorrow.

ప త్వమగ్నిగ్ం ప్పర్గమధ్యేషి మృత్యో ప్రబూహి త్వగ్ం శ్రద్ధధావాయ మహ్యమ్, ప్పర్గలోకా అమృతత్వం భజంత ఏతద్ద్వితీయేన వృణే వరేణ.

13

O Death! Thou knowest the fire, which leads to heaven, make it known to me also who have faith that fire, by which those who desire the attainment of heaven, attain Immortality. I choose this as the second boon.

డ్డ్ తే బ్రవీమి తదు మే విబోధ ప్వర్గ్యమగ్నిం వచికేత: డ్రజావన్, అనంతలోకా ప్రిమథో డ్రతిష్ఠాం విద్ది త్వమేతం విహితం గుహాయామ్.

14

Yama said: O Naciketas, that I tell thee. Know it from me. Know the fire leading to heavan. Know that fire which is a means to the attainment of endless world and also the support thereof and which is placed in the cavity of the heart.

లోకాదిమగ్నిం తమువాచ తెప్మై యా ఇష్టకా యావతీర్పా యథా వా, ప చాపి తత్ప్రత్యవదద్భథోక్త మథాప్య మృత్యు: పువరేవాహ తుష్ట:.

15

Yama then explained to him that fire which is the source of the worlds, what bricks are required, how many and how that sacrificial fire is to be lit; Naciketas repeated it in the same wise as it was explained to him. Then Yama being pleased said to him again.

తమ్మబవీత్ప్పియమాణో మహాత్మా వరం తవేహాద్య దదామి భూయు:, తవైవ నామ్నా భవితా உయమగ్ని: స్పబ్బాం చేమామనేకరూపాం గృహాణ.

16

Being delighted, the magnanimous Death spoke to him: "I grant thee now another boon again. This fire shall be verily known by thy name alone. Take thou also this garland of various hues.

త్రిణాచికేత స్త్రీభిరేత్య పంధిం త్రికర్మకృత్తరతి జన్మమృత్యూ, బ్రహ్మజజ్ఞం దేవమీడ్యం విదిత్వా విచాయ్యేమాగ్ం శాంతి మత్యంతమేతి.

17

Whosoever performs the sacrifice of the Naciketa Fire three times, being united with the "Three" and has done the threefold duties, overcomes birth and death. When he has known the worshipful resplendent and omniscient fire, which sprung from brahman and realised Him, then he obtains everlasting peace.

త్రిణాచికేత ప్రైయమేతద్విదిత్వా య ఏవం విద్వాంగ్ంశ్రిమతే వాచికేతమ్, ప మృత్యుపాశామ్పరత: ప్రణోద్య శోకాతిగో మోదతే ప్యర్థలోకే.

18

He who has performed the Naciketa Fire thrice and knows its threefold nature, casts off the bonds of death with this knowledge in advance and passess beyond grief and rejoices in heaven.

ఏష తేఽగ్నిర్నచికేత: ప్వర్గ్య్ యమవృణీథా ద్వితీయేవ వరేణ, ఏతమగ్నిం తవైవ ప్రవక్ష్యంతి జనాప ప్రైతీయం వరం నచికేతో వృణీష్య.

19

Oh Naciketas, this is thy fire, which leads to heaven, chosen by thee through the second boon. People call this fire as thine alone. Oh Naciketas, choose the third boon.

యేయం (పేతే విచికిత్సా మమేష్య ఆస్తీత్యేకే నాయమస్తీతి చైకే, ఏతద్విద్యామమశిష్టప్ప్రయాబహం వరాణామేష పరస్ప్రతీయు.

20

Naciketas said, there is this well-known doubt as to what becomes of a man after death. Some say the soul exists and some others say it does not exist. This I should like to know instructed by thee. This is the third of the boons that I ask of thee.

దేవైర్యతాపి విచికిత్సితం పురా న హి సుజ్జేయమణు రేష ధర్మః, అవ్యం వరో నచికేతో వృణీష్వ మా మోపరోత్సీరతి మా పృజైవమ్.

21

Yama speaks: With reference to this question, even the Gods of yore doubted. For, it is not easy to know as its nature is very subtle. O Naciketas, choose another boon. Do not compel me on this. Give this up for me.

దేవైర్యతాపి విచికిత్సితం కిల త్వం చ మృత్యో యన్న సుజ్జేయమాత్థ, వక్తా చాస్య త్వాదృగన్యోనలభ్యో నాన్యోనరస్తుల్య ఏతస్య కశ్చిత్.

22

Naciketas said: "O Death, thou sayest, verily that even the Gods have got doubts about this and that it is not easy to understand it. There is no one else like thee, who could tell of this can be found. There is no other boon that can at all be equal to this.

శతాయుషః పుత్రప్పాతాన్ప్పణేష్య బహూన్పకూన్హెస్తి హీరణ్యమశ్వాన్, భూమేర్మహదాయతనం వృణీష్వ స్వయం చ జీవ శరదో యావదిచ్చపి.

23

Yama speaks: "Ask for sons and grandsons who have a duration of life for a hundred years, many cattle, elephants, gold and horses, Ask for wide extent of earth and life yourself as many years as you desire to live.

ఏతత్తుల్యం యది మవ్యోపే వరం వృణిష్వ విత్తం చిరజీవికాం చ, మహాభూమౌ వచికేతష్ప్రమేధి కామానాం త్యా కామభాజం కరోమి.

24

If you think some boon equal to this, demand wealth and longevity. O Naciketas, be thou a king of this wide earth. I shall make thee enjoyer of all your desires.

యే యే కామా దుర్లభా మర్త్యలోకే పర్వాన్కామాగ్ శ్రందత: స్రార్థయస్వ, ఇమా రామాప్పరథా పృతూర్యా నహీదృశా లంభనీయా మమెష్ట్ర: ఆభిర్మత్ప్రత్తాభి: పరిచారయస్వ నచికేతో మరణం మాల్లమ స్రాక్త్రీ:

25

Whatever desires are difficult to gain in this world of mmortals, ask for them as thou likest. These fair damsels of the heaven with their chariots and their musical instruments, such ones are not indeed obtainable by mortals. Be attended by them. I will give them to thee. But, O Naciketas, do not question about the state of the soul after death.

శ్వోభావా మర్త్యప్య యదంతకైత త్సర్వేంద్రియాణాం జరయంతి తేజు, ఆపి పర్వం జీవిత మల్పమేవ తవైవ వాహా ప్రవ వృత్యగీతే

26

Nachiketas said: "All these enjoyments are ephemeral. O Death, they wear out the vigour of all the senses in man. Even the longest life is, indeed, short. Thine alone are the chariouts, the dance and the song.

న విత్తేన తర్పణీయో మనుష్యే లప్ప్యామ హేవిత్తమద్రాక్ష్మ చేత్త్వా జీవిష్యామో దూవదీశిష్యపి త్వం వరస్తు మే వరణీయప్ప ఏవ.

27

Man does not rest satisfied with any amount of wealth. If we do really need wealth, we can obtain it, if we can only see thee. We would only live as long as thou hold thy sway. Hence that alone is the boon worthy of being desired for by me.

ఆజీర్యతా మమృతానాము పేత్య జీర్యవ్మర్త్య: కృధప్ట్ర: బ్రజానన్ ఆభిధ్యాయప్పర్ల రత్మిపమోదా నతిదీర్దే జీవితేకోరమేత

28

What decaying mortal existing on the earth down below and possessed of knowledge having come near the undecaying and the immortal will exult in long life after he has understood the pleasures of song and sport (beauty and love).

యస్మిన్నిదం విచికిత్సంతి మృత్యో యత్సాంపరాయే మహతి బూహీ వస్తత్, యోబయం వరో గూఢ మను ప్రవిష్టే నాన్యం తస్మాన్నచికేతా వృణీతే.

29

O Death, tell us in that in which even there is this doubt and that which is concerning the next world. Naciketas asks no other boon but that concerning the soul, of which the knowledge is hidden.

ద్పితీయా వర్లీ

అన్యచ్చ్రేయో ఒక్కరులైన ్రేయ ప్తే ఉభే నానార్థే పురుషగ్ంపివీత: తయో శ్క్రేయ ఆదధానస్య యో పాధు భవతి హీయతే ఒర్హాద్య ఉ ్రపేయో వృణీతే.

Yama said: 'One thing is beneficial, while another is pleasant. Both these having different ends bind man. He who chooses the good between these two, is blessed but he who choose what is pleasant loses the goal.

1

2

3

్రేయశ్ర ్రేయశ్ర మనుష్యమేత ప్రా సంపరీత్య వివినక్తి ధీరు, ్రేయో హి ధీరోఒభి ్రపేయసో వృణీతే ్రేయో మందో యోగక్టేమాద్స్పణీతే.

Both the good and the pleasant take hold of man. The wise man examines both and discriminates their nature. The wise man, verily, prefers the good to the pleasant but the ignorant chooses what is pleasant for acquiring and preserving.

స త్వం ప్రియా న్ప్రియరూపాగ్ంశ్న కామా నభిధ్యాయ న్నచికేతో ఒత్యస్రాక్షీ:, వైతాగ్ం సృంకాం విత్తమయీనువాప్తో యస్యాం మజ్జంతి బహవో మనుష్యా:.

O Naciketas, thou hast renounced desires that are pleasant and of sweet shapes after pondering over them. Thou hast not chosen this road of wealth, on which many a mortal perishes.

దూర మేతే విపరీతే విషూచీ అవిద్యా యా చ విద్యేతి జ్ఞాత్సా, విద్యాఒభీప్పినం నచికేతనం మవ్యే న త్వా కామా బహవోఒలోలువంత.

4

These two, ignorance and knowledge, are wide apart opposite and leading to different ways. I consider Naciketas to be one desirous of knowledge for even numerous desires could not tempt thee.

అవిద్యాయా మంతరే వర్తమానా: స్వయం ధీరా: పండితం మన్యమానా:, దంద్రమ్యమాణా: పరియంతి మూఢా: అంధేనైవ నీయమానా యథాఽంధా:.

5

Those who live in the midst of ignorance but fancy themselves wise and learned go round and round staggering to and fro like blind men led by one who is himself blind.

న సాంపరాయ: స్థతిభాతి బాలం స్థమాద్యంతం విత్తమోహేన మూఢమ్, అయం లోకో నాస్త్రి పర ఇతి మానీ పున: పునర్వశమాపద్యతే మే.

6

The way for gaining the nest world is not apparent to the ignorant man, who is childish, who blunders and who is deluded by the glamour of wealth. Believing "This is the world and none other, he is subject to my sway again and again." త్రవణాయాపి బహుభిర్యోన లభ్య: శృణ్వంతో ఓపీ బహవో యం న విద్యు:, ఆశ్చర్యోనక్తా కుశలో ఓస్య లబ్ధ ఆశ్చర్యో జ్ఞాతా కుశలానుశిష్ట:.

The soul, which is not obtainable by many even for hearing and although they hear of it, many do not comprehend. Wonderful is the man, who speaks of it, wonderful is he who comprehends the self when instructed by an able teacher.

న నరేణావరేణ ప్రోక్త ఏష సువిజ్ఞేయో బహుధా చింత్యమాన:, అనన్యపోక్తే గతిర్మత నాస్తి అణీయావ్వతర్క్య మణుప్రమాణాత్.

8

7

The Atman cannot easily be known if taught by an inferior person, as it is to be considered in various ways. But when it is taught by a teacher who beholds no difference with the Brahman, there is no doubt concerning it; the soul being subtler than the subtle, is not to be obtained by orguing.

నైషా తర్కేణ మతిరాపవేయా ప్రాక్తా2 న్యేనైవ సుజ్హానాయ ్రేష్ఠ, యాం త్వమాపస్పత్యధృతిర్భతాసి త్వార్పజ్ నో భూయా న్నచికేత: స్రష్టా. 9

O Dearest, this knowledge is not to be gained by reasoning, but it leads to good and easy understanding when taught by a teacher who beholds no difference. O thou that art fixed in truth, may there be for us. Oh Naciketas, an enquirer like thee.

Nachiketas said "I know that what is considered as treasure is transient: for that which is eternal cannot be obtained by things which are not eternal. Hence, the Naciketa fire has been propitiated by me with perishable things and thus I have obtained the eternal.

Yama said: "O Naciketas, the obtainment of all the desires, the foundation of the universe, the endless fruit of sacrifices, the other shore which is free from fear, the adorable, the great and the boundless goal and the abode of the soul: all these thou hast beheld but being wise, thou hast rejected all these with a firm resolve.

తం దుర్దర్శం గూఢమనుస్తవిష్టం గుహహీతం గహ్పరేష్ఠం పురాణమ్ ఆధ్యాత్మయోగాధిగమేన దేవం మత్పా ధీరో హర్షశోకౌ జహాతి. The wise, by means of the union of the intellect with the soul, meditating on God, recognises the Ancient. Who is difficult to be beheld, who is concealed in the unfathomable cave of the heart, who dwells in the body, who is located in the intelligence, whose abode is impervious and indeed he renounces joy and sorrow.

ఏతచ్చు)త్వా పంపరిగృహ్య మర్త్య: స్ట్రవృహ్య ధర్మ్యమణుమేతమాప్య స మోదతే మోదనీయగ్ంహి లబ్హ్వా వివృతగ్ం సద్మ నచికేతసం మవ్యే.

13

Having heard this and comprehended the nature of Brahman, the mortal, tearing off the qualified Atman and comprehending him as the subtle Atman, rejoices he has obtained that which causes all rejoicement. I believe that the abode of Brahman is wide open for Nachiketas.

అవ్వత ధర్మాదవ్యతాధర్మా దవ్యతాప్మాత్కృతాక్పతాత్ అవ్యత భూతాచ్చ భవ్యాచ్చ యత్తతృశ్యపి తద్వద.

14

Nachiketas said: "Make known to me which thou beholdest different from virtue and vice, from causes and effects, from right and wrong and from the past and the future.

సర్వే వేదా యత్పదమామనంతి తపాంపి సర్వాణి చ యద్వదంతి, యదిచ్చంతో బ్రహ్మచర్యం చరంతి తత్తేపదం పంగ్రాహేణ బ్రవీమ్యోమిత్యేతత్.

15

Yama said: "The word which all the Vedas proclaim, which all acts of austerities speak of and wishing for which men lead the life of a Brahmacārin, that word I tell thee briefly. It is "Om".

This word is indeed Brahman, this word is verily the highest; whosoever knows this, truly obtains whatever he desires.

This prop is the best. This prop is the highest. He who has realised this support, obtains greatness in the world of Brahman.

న జాయతే మ్రియతే వా విపశ్చి న్నాయం కుతశ్చిన్న బభూవ కశ్చిత్, అజో నిత్యశ్శాశ్వతో ఒయం పురాణో న హన్యతే హన్యమానే శరీరే.

The intelligent Ātman is not born, nor does he die; he did not hail from any where, nor did he become any thing. Unborn, constant, eternal, everlasting and ancient, he is not slain although the body is slain.

18

హంతా చేన్మన్యతే హంతుం హతశ్చే న్మన్యతే హతం, ఉభౌ తౌ న విజానీతో నాయం హంతి న హన్యతే. 19 The slayer who thinks of slaying this and the slain who thinks this was slain, then both of them do not know well. This slays not, nor is this slain.

ఆణోరణీయాన్మహతో మహీయా వాత్మాబస్య జంతోర్నహితో గుహాయామ్, తమ్మకతు: పశ్యతి వీతశోకో ధాతుప్రపాదా న్మహిమానమాత్మన:.

20

The Ātman, which is subtler than what is subtle, greater than what is great, is set in the heart of every living being. One who is free from desire, beholds the majesty of the Ātman through the tranquillity of the senses and becomes freed from sorrow.

ఆసీనో దూరం వ్రజలి శయానో యాతి సర్వత:, కస్తం మదామదం దేవం మదన్యో జ్ఞాతు మర్హలి. 21

Sitting the soul goes afar; lying down he goes everywhere; who else therefore save myself is able to comprehend God who rejoices not?

ఆశరీరం శరీరేష్పనవాస్తేష్పవస్థితమ్, మహాంతం విభుమాత్మానం మత్వా ధీరో న శోచతి. 22

The intelligent man, knowing the Ātman as bodyless among bodies, seated firmly among the perishable, unstable, great and all pervading does not at all grieve.

నాయమాత్మా డ్రవచనేవ లభ్యో వ మేధయా బహువా ట్రుతేవ, యమేవైష వృణుతే తేవ లభ్య ప్రెప్యెష ఆత్మా వివృణుతే తమాం స్పామ్.

23

This Ātman cannot be attained by the study of the Vedas, nor by intelligence, nor by much hearing. But it can be obtained only by him who chooses. To him, this Ātman reveals its true nature.

Whosever has not refrained from bad conduct. Whose senses are not under control, whose mind is not concentrated and whose mind is not peaceful, he cannot obtain this Ātman by knowledge.

Of whom the Brāhmaṇa and the Kṣatriya classes are the boiled rice and Death itself a condiment, how can one thus know where the Ātman is? (upasecanam-something sprinkled over for enhancing taste).

ఋతం పిబంతె సుకృతస్వ లోకే గుహాం ప్రవిష్ట్తా పరమే పరార్డ్వే, ఛాయాతహే బ్రహ్మవిదో వదంతి ಏಂವಾಗ್ಸ್ ಮೇ ಮೆ ಕೃಡಿಣಾವಿತೆತಾ:.

The two who enjoy the fruits of their good deeds being lodged in the cavity of the heart, the seat of the Supreme, the knowers of Brahman call them shadow and light; as also those offering oblations in the fivefold fires and those who have propitiated thrice the Naciketa fire.

యేస్పేతురీజానానామక్షరం బ్రహ్మ యత్సరమ్, అభయం తితీరతాం పారం నాచికేతం శకేమహి.

We are able to understand both the Naciketa fire which is the bridge of all those who perform sacrifices and, also the highest immortal Brahman, which is the fearless farther shore for those who are desirous of crossing over the ocean of Samsāra.

ఆత్మానం రథినం విద్ది శరీరం రథమేవ తు, బుద్దిం తు సారథిం విద్ది మన: డ్రగ్రహమేవ చ. 3

Know thou that the embodied soul, the Atman, as the Lord of the chariot and the body as the chariot, know thou that the intellect as the the charioteer and the mind as the reins.

> ఇందియాణి హయానాహుర్విషయాం ప్రేషు గోచరావ్, ఆత్మేంద్రియ మవోయుక్తం భోక్తేత్యాహు ర్మవీషిణ:.

1

2

They say that the senses and their instincts are the horses and the objects of the senses are their roads; the wise men call the Ātman the "Enjoyer" when he is united with the body, the senses and the mind.

Whosoever is not endowed with right understanding and whose mind is always uncontrolled, his senses become uncontrollable like the wicked horses of a charioteer.

But whosoever is wise and has a mind always controlled, the senses are always controllable like the good horses of the charioteer.

But he who is devoid of proper understanding and whose mind is not under control and who is always impure, does never attain the goal and gets into the Samsara (round of births and deaths).

యస్తు విజ్ఞానవాన్ భవతి సమనస్కస్పదా శుచి:,
$$8$$
 ఈ తత్పదమాప్పోతి యస్మాద్భూమో న జాయతే. 8

But whosoever is wise, ever pure and has his mind under control, reaches that goal from whence he is not born again.

But the man who has intelligence as his charioteer and a well controlled mind as his reins reaches the end of the journey, i.e. the highest Place of Vishnu.

Higher indeed than the senses are their objects; higher is the mind than their objects, higher is the intellect than the mind; and higher than the intellect is the great Ātman.

Higher than the great Ātman is the unmanifested (Avyaktam); higher than the Avyaktam is the Puruṣa and beyond the Puruṣa, there is nothing. That is the end, the highest goal.

The Ātman, concealed in all beings, does not shine forth; but it is beheld by the sharp subtle intellect of seers of subtle intellect.

Let the wise submerge his speech into the mind, submerge his mind into the intellect and the intellect into the great Ātman and the great Ātman into the peaceful Ātman.

ఉత్తిష్ఠత జాగ్రత ప్రాప్య వరాన్నిబోధత, క్టురస్య ధారా నిశితా దురత్యయా దుర్గం పథస్తత్కవయో వదంతి.

14

Arise, awake having obtained your boons know and understand them. The wise say that the path is hard to tread and difficult to cross like the sharp edge of a razor.

అశబ్ద మస్పర్శ మరూప మవ్యయం తథా2_రసం నిత్యమగంధవచ్చ యత్, అనాద్యనంతం మహతః పరం ద్రువం నిచాయ్య తన్మృత్యుముఖాత్ప్రముచ్యతే.

15

Whosoever has understood that which is soundless touchless, formless, undecaying, tasteless, eternal, scentless, beginningless, endless, higher than the Mahat and constant, he is freed from the jaws of death.

నాచికేత ముపాఖ్యానం మృత్యుపోక్తం సనాతనమ్, ఉక్స్పై శ్రుత్వా చ మేధావీ బ్రహ్మలోకే మహీయంతే. 16

The wise, who told and heard the ancient story of Naciketas told by Death, he is glorified in the world of Brahman.

య ఇమం పరమం గుహ్యం శ్రావయేద్బ్రహ్మ సంసది, ప్రయతశ్శాగ్రిద్ధకాలే వా తదానంత్యాయ కల్పతే. తదానంత్యాయ కల్పత ఇతి.

17

Whosoever recites with devotion this supremely mysterious story before an assembly of Brāhmanas or at the time of Śrāddha and thereby obtains immortality, he secures immortality. పరాఇ్స్తీ ఖాని వ్యత్పణత్స్వయం భూ ప్రస్మాత్పరాజ్ పశ్యతి వాంతరాత్మన్, కశ్చిద్దీర: ప్రత్యగాత్మానమైక్ష దావృత్తచక్షురమృతత్వమిచ్చన్.

1

The self-existent Brahman created the out-going senses therefore, man sees the external objects and not the Ātman within. But some wise man, desirous of immortality with his senses, turned inside from their objects, sees the Ātman within.

పరాచ: కామాననుయంతి బాలా ేష్తమృత్యోర్యంతి వితతస్య పాశమ్, అథ ధీరా అమృతత్వం విదిత్యా ద్రువమద్రువేష్విహన ప్రార్థయంతే.

2

The ignorant youths pursue external pleasures, and hence they fall into the meshes of the net of wide spread death. But the wise who know what is truly of an immortal nature, do not seek for anything permanent here among the fleeting things.

యేన రూపం రసం గంధం శబ్దాన్ స్పర్శాంశ్ర మైధూనాన్, ఏతేనైన విజానాతి కిమ్మత పరిశిష్యతే, ఏతద్వెతత్. 3

That Ātman by which man recognises form, taste, smell, sounds, touch and the pleasures of the sex, what remains here unknown to that Atman? This verily is that. (Brahman for which thou hast wanted to know.)

స్పప్పాంతం జాగరితాంతం చోభౌ యేనానుపశ్వతి, మహాంతం విభుమాత్మావం మత్పాధీరో న శోచతి.

4

By whatsoever one perceives both what objects are in dreams or in the state of waking, he knows that to be the all-pervading Ātman and hence the wise does not grieve.

య ఇమం మధ్వదం వేద ఆత్మానం జీవమంతికాత్, ఈశానం భూతభవ్యస్య న తతో విజుగుప్పతే, ఏ తద్వెతత్.5

Whosoever knows this Atman as the consumer of fruit, as the bearer of life, as the living soul near at hand, as the Lord of the past and the future (and the present), he does not fear, thereafter. This is verily that.

య: పూర్పం తపసో జాతమద్భ్య: పూర్పమజాయత, గుహాం ప్రవిశ్య తిష్ఠంతం యో భూతేభి ర్వ్యపశ్చ్యత, ఏతద్వైతత్.

6

Whosoever sees him seated within the five elements, him who was born of penance, who was born before the waters and who entered the cavity of the heart and dwells there, he verily sees Brahman. This is verily that.

యా ప్రాణేన సంభవత్యదితిర్దేవతామయీ గుహాం, ప్రవిశ్య తిష్ఠంతీం యా భూతేభిర్వ్యజాయత, ఏతద్వైతత్. 7

Whosoever is born along with prāna manifested in the form of Devatās and who enters into the cavity of heart and dwells there and who was born with the elements he knows Brahman. This verily is that.

ఆరణ్యార్నిహితో జాతవేదా గర్భ ఇవ సుభృతో గర్భిణీభి:, దివే దివ ఈడ్యో జాగృవద్భి ర్హవిష్మద్భిర్మను ష్యేభిరగ్ని:, ఏతద్వెతత్.

8

As the foetus is well preserved by the pregnant woman, the fire concealed within two pieces of wood is to be worshipped everyday by men who are awake with oblations. This verily is that.

> యతశ్పోదేతి పూర్కో అప్తం యుత్ర చ గచ్చతి, తం దేవాప్యర్వేఒర్పితాప్తడు నాత్యేతి కశ్చన, ఏతద్వైతత్. 9

From whom the Sun rises and in whom he sets again, on that all the Devas depend. No one certainly passes beyond that. This verily is that.

యదేవేహ తదముత్ర యదముత్ర తదన్సిహ, మృత్యోస్స మృత్యుమాప్నాతి య ఇహ వావేవ పశ్యతి. 10

What indeed is here is there. What is there, that is here again. He goes from death to death, who beholds here difference.

మనెసై వేదమాప్తవ్యం నేహ నానాస్తి కించన, మృత్యాప్ప మృత్యుం గచ్చతి య ఇహ నానేవ పశ్యతీ. 11

This Brahman is to be obtained by the mind alone. Then there is no difference whatsoever here. He goes from death to death, who sees as if there is difference here. అంగుష్ఠమాత్ర: పురుషో మధ్య ఆత్మని తిష్ఠతి, ఈశానోభూతభవ్యప్య న తతో విజుగుప్పతే. ఏతద్వై తత్.12

The Purusa, who is of size of a thumb, dwells in the middle of the body. He is the Lord of the past and the future (and the present times). After knowing him, he does not fear, thereafter. This is verily that.

అంగుష్ఠమాత్రు పురుషో జ్యోతిరివాధూమకు, ఈశానో భూతభవ్యస్య న ఏవాద్య స ఉ శ్వు. ఏతద్వె తత్. 13

The Purusa, who is of the size of a thumb, is like flame devoid of smoke. He is the ruler of the past, future (and the present times). He is even to-day and will be tomorrow too. This verily is that.

యథోదకం దుర్గే వృష్టం పర్వతేషు విధావతి, ఏవం ధర్మాన్ పృథక్ పశ్యంస్తానేవానువిధావతి. 14

Even as water when rained down on an elevated ground, runs down into the valleys, scattering off on all sides, so does he who sees the objects as different, runs after them only.

యథోదకం శుద్దే శుద్ధమాసిక్తం తాదృగేవ భవతి, ఏవం మునేర్విజానత ఆత్మా భవతి గౌతమ. 15

Just as pure water poured into pure water becomes the same only, so also, O Gautama, the soul of the thinker, who knows this, becomes.

పంచమీ వల్లీ

పురమేకాదశద్వార మజప్యావ్యకచేతప: అనుష్ఠాయ వ శోచతి విముక్తశ్చ విముచ్యతే, ఏతద్వె తత్.1

The city of the unborn Brahman, of eternally existent knowledge, has eleven gates, Having meditated upon him, one does not grieve and also liberated from all the bonds of ignorance, he becomes free. This verily is that.

హంసత్భువిషద్వసు రన్హరిక్షసర్హోతా పేదిషదతిథిర్దురోణపత్, వృషద్వర సదృత సద్వ్యామ పదబ్జా గోజా ఋతజా అదిజా ఋతం బృహత్.

As Āditya (Sun) he dwells in heaven, as Vāyu, he dwells in the sky; as fire, he dwells in the earth; as guest, he dwells in a house. He dwells in man, in the Gods, in the truth and in the sky. He is born in waters; He is born in the earth; He is born in the sacrifice; He is born on the mountains. He is true and great.

2

He (Brahman) sends up the Prāna upwards and throws the Apāna down. All the Gods adore the dwarf seated in the middle.

అప్య విస్టుసుమావస్య శరీరప్లప్య దేహిన:, దేహాద్విముచ్య మావస్య కిమత్ర పరిశిష్యతే, ఏతద్వె తత్. 4 When the soul which dwells in the body departs and becomes separated from it, what else is left there? This verily is that.

No mortal whatsoever lives not by the prāna that goes upwards, nor by the Apāna that goes downwards, but they live on some other on which these two depend.

హంత త ఇదం స్థవక్ష్యామి గుహ్యం బ్రహ్మ సనాతనమ్, యథా చ మరణం ప్రాష్ఠ ఆత్మా భవతి గౌతమ.
$$6$$

Well then, O Gautama, I will declare to thee the mysterious ancient Brahman and also how after death, the Ātman assumes a body.

యోనిమన్యే స్థపద్యంతే శరీరత్వాయ దేహిను, పాణుమన్యే మసంయంతి యథా కర్మ యథా శ్రపతమ్. 7

Some Jivas go in to the wombs to be again embodied and others go in to the plants according to their deeds and according to their knowledge.

య ఏష సుప్తేషు జాగర్తి కామం కామం పురుషో విర్మిమాణ: తదేవ శుక్రం తద్చ్రహ్మ తదేవామృత ముచ్యతే తస్మింల్లోకాశ్శ్రితాస్పర్వే, తదు నాత్యేతి కశ్చన. ఏతద్వె తత్.

The purusa, who remains awake when all are asleep, creating desire after desire, verily it is called "the Pure" is called the Brahman and is also called the

8

immortal. All worlds rest on That; and none can pass beyond that. This verily is that.

> ఆగ్నిర్యథైకో భువనం డ్రవిష్టే రూపం రూపం ప్రతిరూపో బభూవ, ఏకస్తథా పర్వభూతాంతరాత్మా రూపం రూపం ప్రతిరూపో బహిశ్స.

9

As the one Fire, after having entered the world, takes different forms according to the thing it burns, so does the internal Ātman of all living things, though one, assumes a form according to the form. He enters and yet is outside all forms.

వాయుర్యతైకో భువనం స్రవిష్ట్ రూపం రూపం స్థతిరూపో బభూవ, ఏకస్తథా సర్వభూతాన్తరాత్మా రూపం రూపం స్థతిరూపో బహిశ్చ.

10

As the one wind after having entered the world assumes different forms according to whatever it enters, so does the internal Ātman of all living things, though one, assumes a form according to the form he enters and yet is outside all forms.

పూర్యో యథా పర్వలోకప్య చక్కు ర్న లిప్యతే చాక్కు షైర్బాహ్యదో షై:, ఏక ప్రథా పర్వభూతాంతరాత్మా వ లిప్యతే లోకదు:ఖేవ బాహ్య:.

11

As the one Sun, the eye of the whole world is not contaminated by the external defects of the eyes, so,

the one internal Ātman of all living things is not tainted by the external sorrows of the world.

ఏకో వశీ సర్వభూతాంతరాత్మా ఏకం రూపం బహుధా యః కరోతి, తమాత్మప్తం యో2_నుపశ్యంతి ధీరా: తేషాం సుఖం శాశ్వతం నేతరేషామ్.

12

He is the sole controller, the intenal Ātman of all living beings, who makes his one form diverse. Those wisemen, who realise him as dwelling in their own selves, obtain eternal bliss and not others.

నిత్యో ఒనిత్యానాం చేతన శ్రేతనానా మేకో బహూనాం యో విదధాతి కామాన్, తమాత్మప్తం యో ఒనుపశ్యంతి ధీరా: తేషాం శాంతిశ్చాశ్వతీ నేత రేషామ్.

13

The one soul, eternal among the non-eternals, the intelligent among those that are intelligent, grants the desires of many. Those wisemen who realise him as seated in their selves, theirs is eternal peace and not of others.

తదేతదితి మన్య్ తేఒవిర్లేశ్యం పరమం సుఖమ్, కథన్ను తద్విజానీయాం కిము భాతి విభాతి వా. 14

The wise know that this indescribable highest bliss as "This is That". How shall I know that? Does it shine by itself or shine by another light?

వ త్వత పూర్స్ భాతి వ చంద్రతారకం వేమా విద్యుతో భాంతి కూతో ఒయమగ్ని:, తమేవ భాంతమమభాతి పర్వం తప్ప భాపా పర్వమీదం విభాతి.

15

The Sun does not shine there; nor do the moon and the stars nor the lightnings shine and much less this fire. When he shines, everything shines after him. All this shines by his light.

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ఊర్థ్వమూలో అవాక్ శాఖ ఏషో2-శ్వత్తప్పవాతన:, తదేవ శుక్రం తద్బ్రహ్మ తదై వామృత ముచ్యతే. తష్మింల్లోకాశ్శిర్ధితాప్పర్వే తదు వాత్యేతి కశ్చవ. ఏతద్వె తత్.

1

This is an ancient Asvattha tree with upward roots and downward branches. This is pure, that is Brahman and that is also called the immortal. Upon this, all the worlds rest and none passes beyond that. This verily is that.

యదిదం కించ జగత్సర్వం స్రాణ ఏజతి నిస్సృతమ్, మహద్భయం వ్యజముద్యతం య ఏతద్విదు రమృతా్పే భవంతి.

2

This whole universe emanating from the Brahman moves in the Prāṇa. That Brahman is a great terror like an uplifted thunderbolt. Those who know this become immortal.

భయాదస్యాగ్నిప్తపతి భయాత్తపతి సూర్య:, భయాదింద్రశ్చ వాయుశ్చ మృత్యుర్ధావతి పంచమ:. 3

Through fear of him burns the fire, through fear of him shines the Sun, through fear of him runs Indra, the wind and Death as the fifth.

ఇహ చే దశకద్బోద్దుం ప్రాక్సరీరప్య విస్టవన:, తతప్పర్వేషు లోకేషు శరీరత్వాయ కల్పతే. 4

If here in this life, one is able to comprehend the Brahman before the death of the body, he will be liberated from the bondage of the world; if one is notable to comprehend him, then he is destined for taking a body again in the worlds of creation.

యథా22దర్శే తథా22త్మని యథా స్వేప్నే తథా పిత్సలోకే, . యథా2ప్పు పరీవ దద్భశే తథా గంధర్వలోకే ఛాయాతపయోరివ బ్రహ్మలోకే.

5

As one is reflected in a mirror, so Brahman can be seen within ones self; as in a dream, so in the world of the forefathers; as in water, so in the world of the Gandharvas; as in light and shade, so in the world of Brahman.

> ఇంద్రియాణాం పృథగ్భావ ముదయాస్త్రమయౌ చ యత్, పృథగుత్పద్యమానానాం మత్సా ధీరో న శోచతి. 6

The wise man, considering the separate nature of the senses which are produced one after another and also their rising and setting grieves no more.

ఇంద్రియోభ్య: పరం మనో మవసస్పత్త్వ ముత్తమమ్, పత్త్వాదధి మహావాత్మా మహతో ఒవ్యక్త ముత్తమమ్. 7

Higher than the senses and thier objects is the mind; higher than the mind is the intellect; beyond the intellect is the great Ātman; higher than the mahat is the Avyaktam (unmanifested).

ఆవ్యక్తాత్తు పర: పురుషో వ్యాపకో ఒలింగ ఏవ చ, యదాత్యా ముచ్యతే జంతు రమృతత్వం చ గచ్చతి. 8

But higher than the Avyaktam (unmanifested) is the all pervading Purusa, devoid of all distinctive marks; knowing whom the mortal (the Knower) is liberated and attains immortality.

వ పందృశే తిష్ఠతి రూపమస్య వ చక్కషా పశ్యతి కశ్చనై నమ్, హృదా మనీషా మనసాఒభిక్లొప్తే య ఏతద్విదు రమృతాస్తే భవంతి.

9

His form is not within the fold of vision. No one sees him with the eye. He is revealed by controlling the mind by the intellect and by constant meditation. Immortal become those who know this.

యదా పంచావతిష్ఠంతే జ్ఞానాని మనసా సహ, బుద్దిశ్చ న విచేష్టేత తామాహు: పరమాం గతిమ్. 10

When the five sources of knowledge standstill together with the mind and the intellect does not work, that state is called the highest.

తాం యోగమితి మన్యంతే స్థిరామింద్రియ ధారణామ్, ఆస్ట్రమత్త్వదా భవతి యోగో హి ప్రభవాష్యయా. 11

This, the firm control of senses, is called Yoga. Then one becomes undistracted; for otherwise, Yoga is acquired and lost as well, (if one is not attentive and careful).

నై వ వాచా వ మనసా స్థాప్తుం శక్యావ చక్కషా, అస్త్రీతి బ్రువతో ఒన్మత్ర కథం తదుపలభ్యతే. 12

The self cannot be attained either by speech or by the mind or by the eye. How could it be perceived by any other than he who declares 'He is'.

ఆస్తీత్యేవోపలబ్దవ్యప్తత్త్వభావేన చోభయో:, ఆస్తీత్యేవోపలబ్దప్య తత్త్వభావ: స్థపీదతి.

13

He is to be perceived only by the thought 'He exists' and also he really is. His real nature becomes revealed when one of these two knows him to exist.

When all the desires, which were cherished in his heart are destroyed, then the mortal becomes immortal and then he attains Brahma while here.

When all the bonds of the heart are broken in this life, then the mortal becomes immortal. This alone is the instruction of all the Vedas.

There are a hundred and one of the nerves of the heart. Of them, one (Suṣumnā) proceeds to the head. One who goes up through it attains immortality. But others, at the time of death, lead him to diverse ways.

16

అంగుష్ఠమాత్ర: పురుషో ఒవైరాత్మా పదా జనానాం హృదయే సన్నివిష్ట:, తం స్వాచ్ఛరీరాత్ప్ర వృహే న్ముంజాదివేషి కాం ధైర్యేణ తం విద్యాచ్చ్చుక మమృతం తం విద్యాచ్చ్పుక మమృత మితి. The spirit, the inner soul, which is of the size of a thumb, always resides in the heart of all living beings. One should draw him out boldly from one's own body as one draws out stalk from Munja grass. One should know him as pure and immortal; ye, one should know him as pure and immortal.

Naciketas having gained this knowledge, declared by Death and also all the instruction of Yoga obtained Brahman; having become free from all impurities and death. So does also any other will obtain Brahman who knows in the same manner the inner self.

సహ నావవతు సహ నౌ భునక్తు సహ వీర్యం కరవావహై తేజస్వీ నావధీతమస్తు మా విద్విషావహై ఓం శ్వాన్తి శాన్తి శ్వాన్తి:.

May He protect us both; May he support us both; May both of us acquire strength together. May our study be bright and illustrious. May there be no hatred amongst us.

19

Om! Peace! Peace! Peace!

ఆత్మబోధః

INTRODUCTION

Ādi Śańkara, otherwise known as Bhagavatpāda (788-820 A.D.), was not merely an intellectual philosopher of the highest calibre but also an ardent devotee and a mystic poet. He re-established the Śanmatas, i.e., the worship of the six Gods, namely the Śaiva, the Śākta, the Gāṇāpatya, the Vaiṣṇava, the Saura and the Kaumāra. His remarkable commentaries on Prasthānatraya have produced a system of Philosophy, which stands unparalleled even to this day for the brilliance of their logic and the greatness of their universal conception.

He has also bequeathed to us a rich legacy of religious lyrics like Śivānandalaharī, Saundaryalaharī and Bhajagovindam etc., which are monuments of his transcendental Bhakti and are noted for the elegance of style and devotional fervour.

Though Ātma Bōdha is only one of the minor works of Śańkara, yet its subject matter is very great and shows the way to knowledge, bliss and immortality. Besides it is a manual of inner discipline, purification and spiritual realisation for one and all alike.

I present hereunder an English rendering of the same for the benefit of non-Sanskrit-knowing public.

P. Krishnamoorty.

ఆత్మ బోధః

తపోభి: క్ష్ణీణపాపానాం శాంతానాం వీతరాగిణామ్, ముముక్కూణా మపేక్ట్యోబ్రమ్ మాత్మబోధో విధీయతే. 1

This treatise entitled $\bar{A}tma$ $B\bar{o}dha$ is written for those aspirants for salvation, who, by means of various acts of penance on their part, have been able to getrid of their sins, who are deep and tranquil in their minds and who have freed themselves from every kind of desire.

బోధో2 వ్యసాధనేభ్యో హీ పాక్షాన్మో కైక పాధవమ్, పాకస్య వహ్నీవజ్ జ్ఞానం వినా మోక్ట్లో న సిధ్యతి. 2

By no other means, Mokṣa is attainable. Jñāna is the only road that leads to Mokṣa. Just as cooking becomes impossible even if we have everything else other than fire, so salvation cannot be attained without wisdom (jñāna).

ఆవిరోధితయా కర్మ నావిద్యాం వినివర్తయేత్, విద్యా2విద్యాం విహంత్యేవ తేజష్తిమిరపంఘవత్.

3

For the reason that Avidyā has nothing in it, which is contradictory to Karma, it cannot by itself dispel Avidyā by itself. It is true that Vidyā is capable of dispelling Avidyā even as the bright rays of light only dispel darkness.

పరిచ్ఛిన్న ఇవాజ్ఞానాత్ తన్నాశే పతి కేవల:, ప్వయం ప్రకాశతే హ్యాత్మా మేఘాపాయే ఒంశుమావివ. 4 The soul seems to be clouded by ignorance. It is only when ignorance is completely dispelled that one can find the pure soul becoming radiant and self-luminous, even as the Sun shines in all his grandeur and glory only when the clouds of darkness are chased away from him.

Just as the paste of a cleaning-nut removes all impurities in the water and gets mixed up in it, so wisdom (J̃nāna) richly purifies the soul, which is besmeared with ignorance and becomes one with it.

This Samsara filled with love and hatred is verily as insubstantial as a dream. As long as we look at it, it looks true and substantial. But when wisdom dawns upon us, its emptiness and insubstantiality are revealed to us.

As long as we cannot comprehend the Brahman as the Supreme Being of all creation, so long the world seems to be real like the illusive silver in the mother-of-pearl.

ఉపాదానేఽౖఖిలాధారే జగంతి పరమేశ్వరే, పర్గస్థితిలయాన్ యాంతి బుద్బుదానీవ వారిణి. Just as bubbles rise, exist and dissolve in water, so all these worlds thrive and disappear in the Brahman, who is the prime cause of all creation.

Just as different ornaments can be made out of the same gold, so all the diverse appearances can be seen in Viṣṇu, who is all-pervading, who is eternal and who is the very form of Sat-cit-ananda.

Hṛṣīkeśa, like the all pervading sky, appears to be many on account of various limiting adjuncts, but is verily one when the limiting curvatures are destroyed.

As water acquires taste, colour and other qualities because of proximate associations, in the same wise, the soul receives caste, name and order of life due to various limiting upādhis.

This gross body (Sthūla Śarīra) which is acquired as a fruit of one's past deeds, and which is made up of the compound of the great five elements, has become the theatre for the enjoyment of happiness and misery.

పంచ్రపాణ మవో బుద్ధి దశేంద్రియ సమస్పితమ్, ఆపంచీకృత భూతోత్తం సూక్ష్మాంగం భోగసాధనమ్.

13

The (Sūkṣma Śarīra) subtle body which consists of the five prāṇās, the mind, the intellect and the ten organs and which is made up of the five cardinal elements before their fivefold division (Apanchikrita) is the instrument for experiencing pleasure and pain.

అనార్యవిద్యాఽనిర్వాచ్యా కారణోపాధిరుచ్యతే, ఉపాధిత్రితయా దన్యమాత్మాన మవధారయేత్. 14

It is said that this causal body (Kāraṇa Śarīra) is ignorance which is beginningless and indescribable. One should know that the Ātman or Self is verily other than these three bodies.

పంచకోశాదియోగేన తత్తన్మయ ఇవ స్థ్రీత:, శుద్వత్మా నీలవస్త్వాదియోగేన ప్రటికో యథా. 15

Just as acrystal appears blue etc., because of its contact with objects of blue colour and so forth, in the same wise, the pure Ātman or self appears to put on their respective qualities on account of its association with the five sheaths.

వపుస్తుషాదిభి: కొశైర్యుక్తం యుక్త్వవఘాతత:, ఆత్మానమాంతరం శుద్ధం వివించ్యాత్ తండులం యథా.16

Just as we separate rice from husk by pounding in a mortar, in the same wise, we must divest the pure inner Ātman from its sheaths by Yukti (Reason.) పదా పర్వగతో உప్యాత్మా న పర్వతావభాపతే, బుద్దావేవావభాసతే ష్వచ్చేషు స్థపిబింబవత్.

17

Although the Ātman is all pervasive at all times, yet it does not shine in everything. It shines only in pure intellect (Buddhi) like a reflection which is visible only in a polished mirror.

దేహేంద్రియ మనోబుద్ధి ప్రకృతిఖ్యా విలక్షణమ్, తద్వృత్తి సాక్షిణం విద్యాదాత్మానం రాజవత్ సదా. 18

Know ye that the Atman or Self is distinctly other than the body, organs, mind, intellect and Prakṛti. Yet it is a witness of their activities like a king.

వ్యాప్పతేష్పింద్రియేష్వాత్మా వ్యాపారీ వా వివేకినా, దృశ్యతే2్లభేషు ధావత్సుధావన్నివ యథా శశీ. 19

Just as we think that the Moon is moving as the clouds move, so the unwise think that the Ātman seems to be involved and active when, in turth, the organs only are functioning.

ఆత్మచైతన్యమాశ్రిత్య దేహేంద్రియ మనోధియు:, స్వకీయార్డేషు వర్తంతే సూర్యాలోకం యథా జనా:. 20

Just as men discharge their various activities depending on the light of the Sun, so also the body, organs, mind and intellect perform their respective functions depending on the consciousness of the Ātman.

దేహేంద్రియగుణావ్ కర్మాణ్యమలే పచ్చిదాత్మవి, ఆధ్యాప్యతేఽవివేకేవ గగనే వీలతాదివత్. Just as men attribute blue colour etc., to the sky due to their ignorance, we attribute the qualities and activities of the body and the organs to the pure Satchit-Ananda Atman.

Just as we attribute the motion etc., of the water to the reflection of the moon, we attribute the limiting adjuncts of agency etc., to the Ātman due to our ignorance.

So long the mind functions only, the mind experiences during wakeful state passions, happiness and misery etc., but they disappear during deep sleep when the intellect is absent. Hence, they belong to the mind and not to the Atman.

Just as light, coldness and heat are the natural characteristics of the Sun, water and fire respectively, so are existence, knowledge, bliss, eternity (Nityatva) and purity (Nirmalatva) are the every nature of the self.

22

Men mix up the Sat-chit-aspect of the Ātman with the functioning of the intellect (Buddhi) and say out of ignorance "I know".

The Ātman is changeless and the intellect (Buddhi) has no knowledge. Yet, the soul (Jīva) imagines, out of illusion that he is the knower and seer and is deluded.

Just as one is frightened by mistaking a rope for a serpent, so one is subject to fear by mistaking oneself to be the individual soul. But if the knowledge "I am not Jīva" but "I am the Supreme Self only" arises in him, he is freed from all fear.

Just as a lamp illumines the pot and other objects, the Ātman illumines the senses and the mind. But the Ātman is not illumined by these inanimate objects.

Just as a light does not need the help of another light to make itself known, there is no need of any other object to reveal the Ātman as it is itself self-luminous.

నిషిధ్య నిఖిలోపాధీన్ వేతి వేతీతి వాక్యత:, వింద్యాదైక్యం మహావాక్కై ర్జీవాత్మ పరమాత్మవో: 30

One should eliminate all limiting adjuncts (Upādhis like mind, Buddhi, Senses, body etc.,) by the help of Śruti Vākyas saying "Not this", "Not this" (Neti-Neti). Then one should realise the oneness of the individual soul with the Supreme Soul (Jēva-Brahman Aikyatā) by means of the Mahāvākyas, i. e. (Great sentences like Tat-Tvam-Asi).

ఆవిద్యకం శరీరాది దృశ్యం బుద్బుదవత్ క్షరమ్, ఏతద్ విలక్షణం విద్యా దహం బ్రహ్మేతి విర్మలమ్. 31

The visible body, senses and other objects are all the products of ignorance (Avidyā) and are perishable like bubbles. Hence one should know that "I am the pure Brahman alone and am distinct from Those".

దేహాన్యత్వాన్న మే జన్మజరాకార్శ్యలయాదయు:, శబ్దాదివిషయై: సంగో న నిరింద్రియతా న చ. 32

Being distinct from the body, I am free from birth, old age, decay and death. As I am distinct from the senses, sound and other objects of sense have no connection with me.

అమనస్ప్వాన్న మే దు:ఖరాగద్వేష భయాదయ:, అప్రాణో హృమవా: శుభ ఇత్యాది శ్రవతిశాసవాత్. 33

As I am other than the mind, I am free from grief, love, hatred, fear and so forth. The Śrutis declare that the Ātman is without Prāṇa and mind and is pure.

ఎర్గుణో నిష్క్రియో నిత్యా నిర్వకల్పో విరంజన:, ఎర్పికారో విరాకారో నిత్యముక్తో ఒస్మే నిర్మల:. 34

I am not subject to either attributes, or action, but am eternal, desireless, changeless, blemishless, formless and ever free and ever pure.

ఆహమాకాశవత్ పర్వబహిరంతర్గతో ఒచ్చుత:, పదా పర్వసమ: శుద్ధో విప్పంగో విర్మలో ఒచల:. 35

Like the sky, I am within and without all things. I am eternal, impartial, pure, unattached, spotless and motionless.

నిత్యశుద్ధవిముక్తైక మఖందానంద మద్పయమ్, సత్యం జ్ఞాన మనంతం యత్ పరం బ్రహ్మా ఒహమేవ చ.36

I am that very supreme Brahman, who is everlasting, pure, free, the one without a second, unbroken bliss and beatitude and the very form of Truth and infinite knowledge.

> ఏవం నిరంతరకృతా బ్రహ్మెవాస్మీతి వాసనా, హరత్యవిద్యావిక్టేపాన్ రోగావివ రసాయనమ్. 37

Just as an elixir cures diseases, the impression of re-collection (Vāsanā) born out of the constant thought of "I am Brahman" destroys the Vikṣepas of Avidyā.

వివిక్తదేశ ఆపీనో విరాగో విజితేంద్రియు:, భావయేదేక మాత్మానం తమనంత మనన్మధీ:. 38

Sitting in a solitary place, free from all attainment and subduing all the senses, one should meditate upon that Ātman, which is infinite, one without a second, with single-minded devotion.

A wise man should, by the strength of his intelligence, submerge in the Ātman, all that is visible and should then meditate constantly upon that one infinite Ātman, which is like the pure sky, with one pointed devotion.

He who has realised the Supreme (Paramārtha) discards all external forms, colours etc., and rests in that Satchit-Ānanda Brahman that is all full and pure.

All distinctions of either knower or knowledge or the object of knowledge do not exist in Brahman (Supreme Ātman). As the Brahman is the very form of pure consciousness and bliss, it shines by itself (self-luminous).

By constant churning of contemplation on the wood of Atman, the fire of knowledge springs up and completely burns away the fuel of ignorance. ఆరుణేనైవ బోధేన పూర్వం తత్తిమిరే హతే, తత ఆవిర్భవేదాత్మా స్వయమేవాంశుమానిన.

43

Just as the self-luminous splendorous Sun rises soon the early dawn dispels all darkness, the Ātman manifests itself when all the ignorance is annihilated by knowledge.

ఆత్మా తు సతతం స్రాప్తో 2 ప్యస్థాప్తవ దవిద్యాయా, తన్నాశే స్రాప్తవద్భాతి స్వకంఠాభరణం యథా. 44

The Atman, although is ever present with us, seems as if it were not attained because of ignorance (Avidya), but when ignorance ends, the Atman is recognised like one's missing necklace found again.

స్థాణౌ పురుషవద్భ్రాన్త్యా కృతా బ్రహ్మణి జీవతా, జీవస్య తాత్త్వికే రూపే తప్మీన్ దృష్టే నివర్తతే. 45

Just as we are deluded to see a man in a pillar, we mistake the Jiva to be Brahman, but when the true nature of the Jiva is realised, the state of Jivahood disappears and the self is seen verily as the self.

తత్త్వస్వరూపానుభవాద్ ఉత్పన్నజ్ఞానమంజపా, అహం మమేతి నాత్మానం బాధతే దిగ్ భ్రమాదివత్. 46

When the ignorance of directions is dispelled by the right knowledge of quarters, the illusion of "I" and "mine" of Jīva is dispelled by the true knowledge of the self.

పమ్యగ్ విజ్ఞానవావ్ యోగీ స్వాత్మ వ్యేవాఖలం జగత్, ఏకం చ సర్వమాత్మా నమీక్షతే జ్ఞానచక్కుషా. 47 The fully realised Yogi sees with the enlightened eye of wisdom all the universe in his own self and all things in his self alone.

All this universe is the very form of the Ātman and there is nothing else other than it. Just as pots are not different from clay, the enlightened man (Jñānī) percieves all things as his own Ātman.

జీవమ్మకస్తు తద్ విద్వాన్ ఫూర్పోపాధిగుణాన్ త్యజేత్, పచ్చిదానందరూపత్వం భజేద్
$$\chi$$
భమరకీటవత్. 49

The self-illuminated Jñānī, who has attained the liberation in this very like, gives up all his previous adjuncts and limits and becomes the very form of Satchit-ānanda Brahman, like a worm assuming the form of a wasp (Bhramara-kītavat).

Tho Yogi, having crossed over the ocean of delusion and having destroyed the monsters of love, hatred etc., and attains peace and tranquillity rejoices in the bliss of his ownself.

The Yogi, having renounced all attachments towards pleasures, which are external and transient, is happy in the bliss of his ownself and shines ever only within himself like a light inside a pot.

The Sage, although he is within a body of limiting adjuncts, remains unaffected by its qualities like the Ākāśa. Though he is all-knowing, he appears like an ignorant person and moves unattached like the wind.

Just as water mixes with water, space with space, light with light, so the realised self merges with the Supreme, the all-pervading Viṣṇu, when the limiting adjuncts of the body disappear.

Know Ye and realise it as Brahman, by possessing which there is nothing more profitable to be possessed, by whose bliss there is no greater bliss to be aspired for, and by whose knowledge there is no greater knowledge to be attained.

If one sees Brahman, there is nothing more to be seen; if one becomes Brahman, there is no rebirth, and

knowing which there is nothing at all to be known. Hence, know ye Brahman to be such.

తిర్యగూర్డ్యమధ: పూర్ణం సచ్చిదావంద మద్వయమ్, అనంతం నిత్యమేకం యత్ తద్ బ్రహ్మేత్యవధారయేత్.56

Know ye that, which is all-pervading, around, above and below which is the very Sat-chit-ananda itself, which is without a second, endless, eternal and the one and the one alone to be Brahman.

అతద్ వ్యావృత్తి రూపేణ వేదాంతైర్లక్ష్యతే అద్వయమ్, అఖండానందమేకం యత్ తద్ బ్రహ్మేత్యవధారయేత్. 57

Know ye that one, which is without a second, which is indicated by Sruti Vākya "Not this," "Not this" (Neti-Neti), which is the very form of an indivisible and continuous blissful one and which is the one and the one alone, to be Brahman.

అఖండానందరూపస్య తస్వానందలవాడ్డితా:, బ్రహ్మాద్యాస్తారతమ్యేన భవంత్యానందినో ఒఖిలా:. 58

Gods like Brahmā and all other creatures abide sharing in infinitesimal measure the infinite bliss of Brahman. They all enjoy happiness proportionately.

తద్ యుక్త మఖిలం వస్తు వ్యవహారస్తుదన్పిత:, తప్మాత్ సర్వగతం బ్రహ్మ క్ష్మీరే పర్పిరివాఖిలే. 59

All objects act only when they are united with that all-pervading Brahman. Therefore, Brahman pervades everything like butter is in every particle of milk. Know ye that to be Brahman, that which is neither gross nor subtle, neither short nor long, that which is unborn and unchanging and that which is devoid of form, quality, and colour.

యద్భాసా భాష్యతే అర్కాదిర్భా స్పెర్యత్తు న భాష్యతే, యేన పర్వమిదం భాతి తద్ బ్రహ్మేత్యవధారయేత్. 61

Know ye that to be Brahman, whom the sun, the moon and other celestial orbs cannot illuminate but by whose light they and all other objects shine.

స్వయమంతర్బహిర్వ్యాప్య భాపయన్నిఖిలం జగత్, బ్రహ్మ ద్రవాశతే వహ్నిపతప్పాయపపిండవత్. 62

Like a red hot iron ball, Brahman illuminates the entire world pervading it both internally and externally. It also shines by its own light.

జగద్ విలక్షణం బ్రహ్మబ్రహ్మణో ఒన్యన్న కించన, బ్రహ్మాన్యద్భాపతే మిథ్యా యథా మరుమరీచికా. 63

Brahman is different from the world; there is not anything which is not Brahman. If anything other than Brahman were visible, it would be mere illusion like the waters of a mirage. రృశ్యతే మూయతే యత్తద్ బ్రహ్మణ్ 2 వ్యవ్ష విద్యతే, తత్త్వజ్ఞావాచ్చ తత్ బ్రహ్మ పచ్చిదానంద మద్వయమ్. 64

Whatever is seen or heard is none else than Brahman. If the knowledge of that real (Tattva Jñāna) is attained, this world is seen as Sat-chit-ānanda and Brahman only without a second.

సర్వగం సచ్చిదాత్మానం జ్ఞానచక్చర్నిరీక్షతే, ఆజ్ఞానచక్చర్నేక్షతే భాస్వంతం భానుమంధవత్. 65

One who is endowed with the eye of wisdom, he can perceive the Brahman, who is the very form of the all-pervasive Sat-chit-ānanda. Just as a blind man cannot see the brilliant Sun, he, who has not the eye of knowledge, cannot perceive it.

్రశవణాదిభిరుద్దీప్తో జ్ఞావాగ్నిపరితాపిత:, జీవ: సర్వమలాన్ముక్త: సువర్ణవత్ ద్యోతతే స్వయమ్. 66

The Jiva (Individual Soul) kindled by Śravana etc., having been melted in the fire of knowledge, is cleansed and freed from all impurities and blazes forth self-luminous like gold.

హృదాకాశోదితో హ్యాత్మా బోధభాను ప్రమోబడిస్పాత్, పర్వవ్యాపీ పర్వధారీ భాతి భాపయత్వేఖిలమ్. 67

The self, which is the sun of knowledge, rises in the $\bar{A}k\bar{a}$ sa of the heart and dispels all darkness of ignorance, shines forth permeating and supporting all and illuminates, everything else.

దిగ్లేశ కాలాద్యవేపిక్ష్య సర్వగం శీతాదిహృన్నిత్యసుఖం నిరంజవమ్, య: స్వాత్మతీర్ధం భజతే వినిష్క్రియ: ప సర్వవిత్ సర్వగతో 2 మృతో భవేత్.

68

ఇతి శివమ్.

The Ātman transcends all limitations of direction, place and time, pervades all, gets over the pairs of opposites like cold and heat etc., and abides ever blissful, pure and eternal. Whoever actionless person worships and attains that Ātman, he becomes all-knowing, all-pervading and immortal.

Iti Śivam.

ఇతి శ్రీశంకరభగవత్పూజ్యపాద విరచిత ఆత్మబోధ: