BHAJA GOVINDAM

भज गोविन्दं भज गोविन्दं भज गोविन्दं मूढमते । संप्राप्ते सन्निहिते काले न हि न हि रक्षति डुकृञ् करणे ।।१ ।।

bhaja govindam bhaja govindam bhaja govindam mūdhamate, samprāpte sannihite kāle na hi na hi rakṣati dukṛñkaraṇe.

Adore the Lord, adore the Lord, adore the Lord, O fool! when the appointed time (for departure) comes, the repetition of grammatical rules will not, indeed, save you.

मूढ जहीहि धनागमतृष्णाम् कुरु सद्बुद्धिं मनसि वितृष्णाम् । यह्नभसे निज कर्मोपात्तं वित्तं तेन विनोदय चित्तम् ।। २ ।।

mūḍha jahīhi dhanāgamatṛṣṇām kuru sadbuddhim manasi vitṛṣṇām, yal-labhase nijakarmopāttam vittam tena vinodaya cittam.

O fool! leave off the desire for accumulation of wealth; create in the mind, thoughts about Reality,

devoid of passion. What you get - i.e. what you have achieved through your past deeds - with that, satisfy your mind.

नारीस्तनभरनाभीदेशं दृष्ट्वा मा गा मोहावेशम् । एतन्मांसवसादिविकारं मनसि विचिन्तय वारं वारम् ।।३ ।।

nārīstanabharanābhīdeśam dṛṣṭvā mā gā mohāveśam, etan-māṁsavasādi-vikāraṁ manasi vicintaya vāraṁ vāram.

Seeing the seductive female form, do not fall prey to frenzied delusion. That (female form) is (but) a modification of flesh and fat. Think well thus in your mind again and again.

निलनीदलगतजलमितितरलं तद्वज्जीवितमितशयचपलम् । विद्धि व्याध्यभिमानग्रस्तं लोकं शोकहतं च समस्तम् ।।४ ।।

nalinīdalagatajalam atitaralam tadvaj-jīvitam atiśayacapalam, viddhi vyādhy-abhimāna-grastam lokam śokahatam ca samastam.

The water on the lotus-leaf is very unsteady; so also is life extremely unstable. Know that the entire

world is devoured by disease and conceit, and smitten with sorrow.

यावद्वित्तोपार्जनसक्तस्तावन्निजपरिवारोरक्तः ।
पश्चाज्जीवतिजर्जरदेहे
वार्तां कोऽपिन पृच्छति गेहे ।।५ ।।

yāvad-vittopārjana-saktastāvan-nija-parivāro raktaḥ, paścāj-jīvati jarjara-dehe vārtaṁ ko'pi na pṛcchati gehe.

As long as you have the ability to earn money, so long will your dependents be attached to you. After that, when you live with an infirm body no one would even speak to you a word.

यावत्पवनो निवसति देहे तावत्पृच्छति कुशलं गेहे। गतवति वायौ देहापाये भार्या बिभ्यति तस्मिन्काये।। ६।।

yāvat-pavano nivasati dehe tāvat-pṛcchati kuśalam gehe, gatavati vāyau dehāpāye bhāryā bibhyati tasmin kāye.

As long as there is breath in the body, so long people in the household ask about one's welfare.

Once the breath leaves, on the destruction of the body, (even) the wife dreads that very same body.

बालस्तावत्क्रीडासक्तस्तरुणस्तावत्तरुणीसक्तः । वृद्धस्तावच्चिन्तासक्तः परे ब्रह्मणि कोऽपि न सक्तः ।।७ ।।

bālastāvat krīḍāsaktastaruṇastāvat taruṇīsaktaḥ, vṛddhastāvac-cintāsaktaḥ parē brahmaṇi ko' pi na saktaḥ.

When a boy, one is attached to sport; when a youth, one is attached to young woman; when old, one is attached to anxiety; to the Supreme Brahman, no one, alas, is attached!

का ते कान्ता कस्ते पुत्रः संसारो अयमतीव विचित्रः । कस्य त्वं कः कुत आयातस्तत्त्वं चिन्तय तदिह भ्रातः ।।८ ।।

kā te kāntā kaste putraḥ samsāro' yam atīva vicitraḥ, kasya tvam kaḥ kuta āyātastattvam cintaya tadiha bhrātah.

Who is your wife? Who is your son? Exceedingly wonderful, indeed, is this empirical process! Of whom are you? Who are you? Whence have you come? O brother, think of that truth here.

सत्सङ्गत्वे निस्सङ्गत्वं निस्सङ्गत्वे निर्मोहत्वम् । निर्मोहत्वे निश्चलितत्वं निश्चलितत्वे जीवन्मुक्तिः ।।९ ।। satsangatve nissangatvam nissangatve nirmohatvam, nirmohatve niścalitatvam niścalitatve jīvanmuktiķ.

Through the company of the good, there arises non-attachment; through non-attachment, there arises freedom from delusion; through delusionlessness, there arises steadfastness; through steadfastness, there arises Liberation in life.

वयसि गते क: कामविकारः शुष्के नीरे क: कासारः ।

क्षीणे वित्ते कः परिवारो

ज्ञाते तत्वे कः संसारः ।। १० ।।

vayasi gate kaḥ kāmavikāraḥ śuṣke nīre kaḥ kāsāraḥ, kṣīṇe vitte kaḥ parivāro jñāte tattve kaḥ samsāraḥ.

When youth is spent, what lustful play is there? When the water has evaporated, what lake is there? When the money is gone, what dependents are there? When the truth is known, what empirical process is there?

मा कुरु धनजनयौवनगर्वं हरति निमेषात्कालः सर्वम् । मायामयमिदमखिलं हित्वा ब्रह्मपदं त्वं प्रविश विदित्वा ।। ११ ।। mā kuru dhanajanayauvanagarvam harati nimeṣāt kalaḥ sarvam, māyāmayamidam akhilam hitvā brahmapadam tvam praviśa viditvā.

Do not be proud of wealth, kindred, and youth; Time takes away all these in a moment. Leaving aside this entire (world) which is of the nature of an illusion, and knowing the state of Brahman, enter into it.

दिनयामिन्यौ सायं प्रातः

शिशिरवसन्तौ पुनरायातः ।

कालः क्रीडति गच्छत्यायु-

स्तदपिन मुश्चत्याशावायुः ।। १२ ।।

dinayāminyau sāyam prātaḥ śiśiravasantau punarāyātaḥ, kālaḥ krīḍati gacchatyāyus tadapi na muñcatyāśāvāyuḥ.

Day and night, dusk and dawn, winter and spring come repeatedly; Time sports, life is fleeting; yet one does not leave the winds of desire.

का ते कान्ता धनगतचिन्ता वातुल किं तव नास्ति नियन्ता । त्रिजगति सञ्जनसंगतिरेका भवति भवार्णवतरणे नौका ।। १३ ।। kā te kāntā-dhana-gata-cintā vātula kim tava nāsti niyantā, trijagati sajjana sangatirekā bhavati bhavārņava-taraņe naukā.

Why worry about wife, wealth, etc., O crazy one; is there not for you the One who ordains? In the three worlds, it is only the association with good people that can serve as the boat that can carry one across the sea of birth.

जटिलो मुण्डी लुब्छितकेशः काषायाम्बरबहुकृतवेषः । पश्यन्नपि च न पश्यति मूढो ह्युदरनिमित्तं बहुकृतवेषः ।। १४ ।।

jațilo muṇḍī luñchitakeśaḥ kāṣayāmbarabahukṛtaveṣaḥ, paśyannapi ca na paśyati mūḍho hyudaranimittam bahukṛtaveṣaḥ.

The ascetic with matted locks, the one with his head shaven, the one with hairs pulled out one by one, the one who disguises himself variously with the ochre-coloured robes - such a one is a fool who, though seeing, does not see. Indeed, this varied disguise is for the sake of the belly.

अङ्गं गलितं पलितं मुण्डं दशनविहीनं जातं तुण्डम् । वृद्धो याति गृहीत्वा दण्डं तदपि न मुञ्चत्याशापिण्डम् ।। १५ ।। angam galitam palitam mundam daśanavihīnam jātam tundam, vṛddho yāti gṛhītvā daṇḍam tadapi na muñcatyāśāpiṇḍam.

The body has become decrepit; the head has turned grey; the mouth has been rendered toothless; grasping a stick, the old man moves about. Even then, the mass of desires does not go.

अग्रे विह्नः पृष्टे भानू रात्रौ चुबुकसमर्पितजानुः । करतलभिक्षस्तरुतलवास स्तदपिन मुश्चत्याशापाशः ।। १६ ।।

agre vanhiḥ pṛṣṭhe bhānū rātrau cubuka-samarpita-jānuḥ, karatalabhikṣas tarutalavāsas tadapi na muñcatyāśapāśaḥ.

In front, there is fire; at the back, there is the sun; in the night, (the ascetic sits) with the knees stuck to the chin; he receives alms in his palms, and lives under the trees; yet the bondage of desire does not leave him.

कुरुते गङ्गासागरगमनं व्रतपरिपालनमथवा दानम् । ज्ञानविहीन: सर्वमतेन मुक्तिंन भजति जन्मशतेन ।। १७ ।। kurute gaṅgāsāgaragamanaṁ vrataparipālanaṁ athavā dānam, jñānavihīnaḥ sarvamatena muktiṁ na bhajati janmaśatena.

One goes on pilgrimage to the place where the Gaṅgā joins the sea; or observes the religious vows with care; or offers gifts. But if he be devoid of Knowledge, he does not gain Liberation-according to all schools of thought-even in a hundred lives.

सुरमन्दिरतरुमूलनिवासः

शय्या भूतलमजिनं वासः ।

सर्वपरिग्रह भोगत्यागः

कस्य सुखं न करोति विरागः ।। १८।।

suramandiratarumūlanivāsaḥ śayyā bhūtalam ajinam vāsaḥ, sarvaparigrahabhogatyāgaḥ kasya sukham na karoti virāgaḥ.

Living in temples or at the foot of trees, sleeping on the ground, wearing deer-skin, renouncing all possessions and their enjoyment - to whom will not dispassion bring happiness?

योगरतो वा भोगरतो वा सङ्गरतो वा सङ्गविहीनः । यस्य ब्रह्मणि रमते चित्तं नन्दति नन्दति नन्दत्येव ।। १९ ।। yogarato vā bhogarato vā saṅgarato vā saṅgavihīnaḥ, yasya brahmaṇi ramate cittam nandati nandati nandatyeva.

Let one practice concentration; or let one indulge in sense-enjoyment. Let one find pleasure in company; or in solitude. He alone is happy, happy, verily happy, whose mind revels in Brahman.

भगवद्गीता किश्चिदधीता गङ्गाजललवकणिका पीता । सकृदिप येन मुरारिसमर्चा क्रियते तस्य यमेन न चर्चा ।। २० ।।

bhagavadgītā kiñcidadhītā gaṅgājalalavakaṇikā pītā, sakṛdapi yena murāri-samarcā kriyate tasya yamena na carcā.

For him, who has studied the Bhagavadgītā even a little, who has drunk a drop of the Gaṅgā-water, and who has performed the worship of the Destroyer of the demon Mura (viz. Śri Kṛṣṇa) at least once, there is no tiff with Yama (the Lord of Death).

पुनरपि जननं पुनरपि मरणं
पुनरपि जननी जठरे शयनम् ।
इह संसारे बहुदुस्तारे
कृपया 5 पारे पाहि मुरारे ।। २१ ।।

punarapi jananam punarapi maranam punarapi jananī-jaṭhare śayanam, iha samsāre bahu-dustāre kṛpayā' pāre pāhi murāre.

Repeated birth, repeated death, and repeated lying in mothers womb - this transmigratory process is extensive and difficult to cross; save me, O Destroyer of Mura (O Kṛṣṇa), through Your grace!

रथ्याचर्पटविरचितकन्थः

पुण्यापुण्यविवर्जितपन्थः । योगीयोगनियोजितचित्तो रमते बालोन्मत्तवदेव ।।२२ ।।

rathyā-carpaṭa-viracita-kanthaḥ puṇyāpuṇya-vivarjita-panthaḥ, yogī yoga-niyojita-citto ramate bālonmattavadeva.

He who wears a dress made of rags that lie about in the streets, he who walks in the path that is beyond merit and demerit, the yogin whose mind is given up to yoga revels (in Brahman) just as a child or as a mad-man.

कस्त्वं को अहं कुत आयातः का मे जननी को मे तातः । इति परिभावय सर्वमसारं विश्वं त्यक्त्वा स्वप्नविचारम् ।। २३ ।। kastvam koham kuta āyātaḥ kā me jananī ko me tātaḥ, iti paribhāvaya sarvam asāram viśvam tyaktvā svapnavicāram.

Who are you? Who am I? Whence have I come? Who is my mother? Who, my father? Thus enquire, leaving aside the entire world which is comparable to a dream, and is essenceless.

त्विय मिय चान्यत्रैको विष्णु -र्व्यर्थं कुप्यसि मय्यसिहष्णुः । सर्विस्मिन्नपि पश्यात्मानं सर्वत्रोत्सृज भेदाज्ञानम् । १२४ ।।

tvayi mayi cānyatraiko viṣṇurvyartham kupyasi mayyasahiṣṇuḥ, sarvasminnapi paśyātmānam sarvatrotsṛja bhedājñānam.

In you, in me, and elsewhere too, there is but one Viṣṇu (God). Vainly do you get angry with me, being impatient. See the Self in all things, and leave off everywhere ignorance which is the cause of difference.

शत्रौ मित्रै पुत्रे बन्धौ मा कुरु यत्नं विग्रहसन्धौ । भव समचित्तः सर्वत्र त्वं वाञ्छस्यचिराद्यदि विष्णुत्वम् ।। २५ ।। śatrau mitre putre bandhau mā kuru yatnam vigrahasandhau, bhava samacittaḥ sarvatra tvam vānchasyacirād yadi viṣṇutvam.

Make no effort to be either at war with, or in league with, enemy, friend, son, or relative. If you want to attain the status of Viṣṇu (Godhood) soon, be equal-minded towards all things.

कामं क्रोधं लोभं मोहं त्यक्त्वाऽऽत्मानं भावय कोऽहम् । आत्मज्ञानविहीना मूढा-स्ते पच्यन्ते नरकनिगूढाः ।। २६ ।।

kāmam krodham lobham moham tyaktvā'tmānam bhāvaya ko'ham, ātmajñanavihīnā mūḍhāste pacyante narakanigūḍhāḥ.

Leaving off desire, anger, greed, and delusion, make self-inquiry; who am I? They are fools who are without Self-knowledge; as captives in hell, they are tortured.

गेयं गीतानामसहस्रं ध्येयं श्रीपतिरूपमजस्रम् । नेयं सज्जनसङ्गे चित्तं देयं दीनजनाय च वित्तम् ।। २७ ।। geyam gītānāmasahasram dhyeyam śrīpatirūpam ajasram, neyam sajjana-sange cittam deyam dīnajanāya ca vittam.

The Bhagavadgītā and the Sahasranāma should be sung; the form of the Lord of Lakṣmī (Viṣṇu) should always be meditated on; the mind should be led to the company of the good; and wealth should be distributed among the indigent.

सुखतः क्रियते रामाभोगः
पश्चाद्धन्त शरीरे रोगः ।
यद्यपि लोके मरणं शरणं
तदपि न मुञ्जति पापाचरणम् ।। २८ ।।

sukhataḥ kriyate rāmābhogaḥ paścāddhanta śarīre rogaḥ, yadyapi loke maraṇaṁ śaraṇaṁ tadapi na muñcati pāpācaraṇam.

One easily takes to carnal enjoyment afterwards, lo, there is disease of the body. Although, in the world, death is the refuge, even then one does not relinquish sinful ways.

अर्थमनर्थं भावय नित्यं नास्ति ततः सुखलेशः सत्यम् । पुत्रादिप धनभाजां भीतिः सर्वत्रैषा विहिता रीतिः ।। २९ ।। artham anartham bhāvaya nityam nāsti tataḥ sukhaleśaḥ satyam, putrādapi dhanabhājām bhītiḥ sarvatraiṣā vihitā rītiḥ.

'Wealth is no good'; thus reflect always; there is not the least happiness therefrom; this is the truth. For the wealthy, there is fear even from a son; everywhere this is the regular mode.

प्राणायामं प्रत्याहारं नित्यानित्यविवेकविचारम् । जाप्यसमेतसमाधि विधानं कुर्ववधानं महदवधानम् ।। ३० ।।

prāṇāyāmam pratyāhāram nityānityavivekavicāram, jāpyasametasamādhividhānam kurvavadhānam mahadavadhānam

The regulation of breath, the withdrawal of the senses (from their respective objects), the inquiry consisting in the discrimination between the Eternal and the non-eternal, the method of mind-control associated with the muttering of mantras - perform these with great care.

गुरुचरणाम्बुजनिर्भरभक्तः संसारादचिराद्भव मुक्तः । सेन्द्रियमानसनियमादेवं द्रक्ष्यसि निजहृदयस्थं देवम् ।।३१ ।। gurucaraṇāmbuja-nirbhara-bhaktaḥ samsārād-acirād-bhava muktaḥ sendriya-mānasa-niyamād-evam drakṣyasi nijahṛdayastham devam.

Being devoted completely to the lotus-feet of the Master, become released soon from the transmigratory process. Thus, through the discipline of sense and mind-control, you will behold the Deity that resides in your heart.