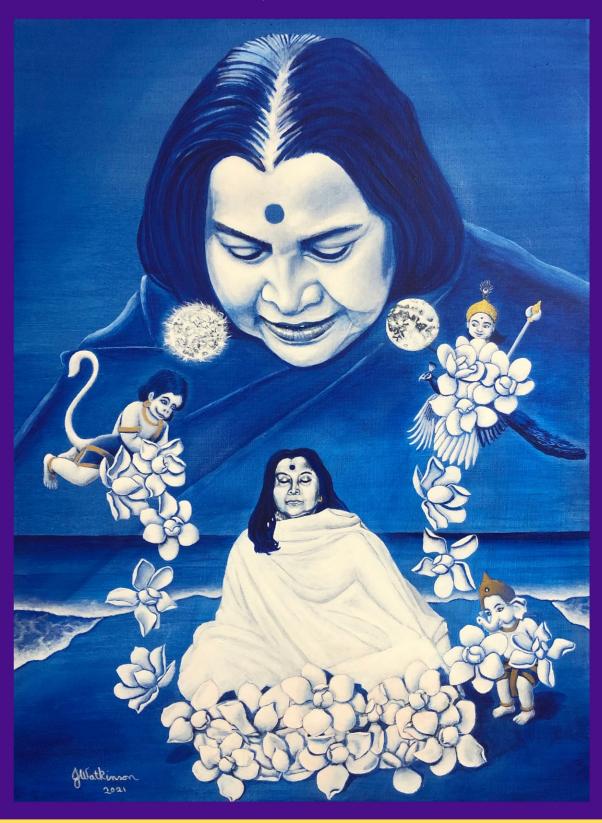
Saundarya Lahiri

A Sahaja Translation



Saundarya Lahari

By Shri Adi Shankaracharya

- I. Ananda Lahiri Waves of Happiness.
- II. Saundarya Lahiri Waves of Beauty.



Dedicated to H.H. Shri Mataji Nirmala Dev

Part I: Ananda Lahari (The waves of happiness) Stanza 1

śivaḥ śaktyā yuktō yadi bhavati śaktaḥ prabhavituṃ
na chēdēvaṃ dēvō na khalu kuśalaḥ spanditumapi
atastvāmārādhyāṃ hariharaviriñchādibhirapi
praṇantuṃ stōtuṃ vā kathamakṛtapuṇyaḥ prabhavati || 1 ||

Lord Shiva is able to perform His function, only with your Shakti.

In the absence of Your Shakti,

He cannot move

Therefore how can one, who does not do good deeds

Or who does not sing Your praises Aspire to worship You

O Great Goddess Who is worshipped by the Trinity

Stanza 2

tanīyāṃsaṃ pāṃsuṃ tava charaṇapaṅkēruhabhavaṃ viriñchissañchinvan virachayati lōkānavikalam vahatyēnaṃ śauriḥ kathamapi sahasrēṇa śirasāṃ harassaṅkṣudyainaṃ bhajati bhasitōddhūlanavidhim || 2 ||

Lord Brahma, who has been entrusted with the job of Creation

Collects a dust particle from Your Lotus Feet

And creates this world.

Even the thousand headed serpent Adisesha

Who supports all the worlds

Requires great effort to bear this dust particle

From Your Lotus Feet

And the Great God Rudra

Makes a powder of this particle

To cover Himself in its Holy Ash.

Stanza 3

avidyānāmanta-stimira-mihiradvīpanagarī
jaḍānāṃ chaitanya-stabaka-makaranda-srutijharī |
daridrāṇāṃ chintāmaṇiguṇanikā janmajaladhau
nimagnānāṃ daṃṣṭrā muraripu-varāhasya bhavati || 3 ||

O Great Goddess

The Dust under Your Holy Feet -

Is like the City of the Rising Sun that removes all darkness,

For the mind of the spiritually ignorant one.

It is like the honey of intelligence that flows from the flowers

For the slow-witted one.

It is like a necklace of Chintamani (wish-fulfilling gems)

For the poverty stricken one.

And it is like the tusks of the Varaha incarnation of Lord Vishnu

Who rescued Mother Earth and brought Her back

For those drowning in the ocean of birth and rebirth.

Quote from Chapter 1, Book of Creation by Adi Shakti Mataji, Shree Nirmala Devi.

"The three aspects of God are expressed by His Shakti, Adi Shakti. She incarnates as three powers, Mahakali, Mahasaraswati and Mahalakshmi. These three forms of Herself are called Trigunatmak. This Primordial Power or Energy, or Shakti of God, has the ability to incarnate. To guide the Evolutionary Process, She either takes incarnations Herself; or CREATES male and female incarnations, through whom She works. In the body of the Primordial Being (Virata), God Almighty resides on the top of the Head as Parameshwara. This Parameshwara gets reflected in these areas as Vishnu, Shiva and Brahmadeva. Adi Shakti has the power of Her own Being, to either be Herself (Parameshwari); or to bestow Her Power upon Shiva, Vishnu and Brahma, as their Shaktis, namely Parvati, Lakshmi and Saraswati."

Stanza 4

tvadanyaḥ pāṇibhyāmabhayavaradō daivatagaṇaḥ
tvamēkā naivāsi prakaṭitavarābhītyabhinayā |
bhayāt trātuṃ dātuṃ phalamapi cha vāñChāsamadhikaṃ
śaraṇyē lōkānāṃ tava hi charaṇāvēva nipuṇau || 4 ||

O Great Goddess.

O You Who are the Refuge of this world

All the Gods give boons and grant wishes

Only with gestures of hands

But You O Mother, do not reveal

Your wondrous ways

For even Your Holy Lotus Feet suffice

To forever remove fear

Or grant more than what was asked.

Stanza 5

haristvāmārādhya praṇatajanasaubhāgyajananīṃ
purā nārī bhūtvā puraripumapi kṣōbhamanayat |
smarō'pi tvāṃ natvā ratinayanalēhyēna vapuṣā
munīnāmapyantaḥ prabhavati hi mōhāya mahatām || 5 ||

You who grant all good things

To those who bow at Your Feet

You were worshiped by Vishnu

When you took a pretty lovable form

And could move the mind of him

Who burnt the three cities

And make him fall in love with him.

And the God of love, Manmatha took the form

Which is like nectar drunk by Rati Was

Who was able, after venerating You,

To create passion

And delusion within great sages.

Quote from Shri Buddha Puja 20-5-1985

"The Rakshasas had taken the Kumbha of Ambrosia, and were about to consume it. Shri Vishnu knew the weakness of the Rakshasas, so He dressed up like a lady, and called Himself Mohini. Means, the one who attracts you by her dress, figure, and all this kind of nonsense. And immediately all the rakshasas fell for her, for Him I mean! And this is how He played a trick and got the ambrosia back."

Stanza 6

dhanuḥ pauṣpaṃ maurvī madhukaramayī pañcha viśikhāḥ vasantaḥ sāmantō malayamarudāyōdhanarathaḥ tathāpyēkaḥ sarvaṃ himagirisutē kāmapi kṛpām apāṅgāttē labdhvā jagadida-manaṅgō vijayatē || 6 ||

O Daughter of the King of the Himalayas

With a Bow made of flowers and the bowstring made of honey bees

Five arrows made of only delicate flowers

With Spring as his ally

And riding the chariot of breeze from the Malaya mountains

Ananga, the god of love,

Gets a compassionate glance from Your Holy Eyes

And is able to conquer the world alone.

Stanza 7

kvaṇatkāñchīdāmā karikalabhakumbhastananatā
parikṣīṇā madhyē pariṇataśarachchandravadanā |
dhanurbāṇān pāśaṃ sṛṇimapi dadhānā karatalaiḥ
purastādāstāṃ naḥ puramathiturāhōpuruṣikā || 7 ||

She with a golden belt

Adorned with tinkling bells

Slightly weighted down by

Breasts resembling the frontal lobes of a young elephant's brow

With a slender delicate waist

And a face glowing like the autumn moon

Holding in Her hands a sugarcane bow

And arrows of flowers; and a noose and a goad

She Who has the wonderful form of the Kriya Shakti

Of the God who turned three cities to ashes,

Please give us Your Darshan.

Stanza 8

sudhāsindhōrmadhyē suraviṭapivāṭīparivṛtē
maṇidvīpē nīpōpavanavati chintāmaṇigṛhē |
śivākārē mañchē paramaśivaparyaṅkanilayāṃ
bhajanti tvāṃ dhanyāḥ katichana chidānandalaharīm || 8 ||

In the middle of the Ocean of Nectar
In the isle of precious gems (Manidweep)
Which is surrounded by wish fulfilling Kalpaga
In the garden of Kadamba trees
In the house of the Gem of Thought (Chintamani)
On the sacred lap of the Great God Shiva, sits
She Who is like a tide in the sea of ultimate truth and happiness,
Who can only be worshipped by realized souls.

Stanza 9

mahīṃ mūlādhārē kamapi maṇipūrē hutavahaṃ sthitaṃ svādhiṣṭhānē hṛdi marutamākāśamupari | manō'pi bhrūmadhyē sakalamapi bhitvā kulapathaṃ sahasrārē padmē saha rahasi patyā viharasē || 9 ||

After passing through the Kulapatha

Piercing through the microwaves of

The Power of Earth in Mooladhara

The Power of Water in Manipura '

The Power of Fire in Swadishthana

The Power of Air in the Heart, and

The Power of Ether at the crossing of the Optic Chiasma,

O Goddess.

You live in seclusion with your Consort

In the thousand petals of Sahasrara.

Stanza 10

sudhādhārāsāraiścharaṇayugalāntarvigalitaiḥ
prapañchaṃ siñchantī punarapi rasāmnāyamahasaḥ |
avāpya svāṃ bhūmiṃ bhujaganibhamadhyuṣṭavalayaṃ
svamātmānaṃ kṛtvā svapiṣi kulakuṇḍē kuhariṇi || 10 ||

Infusing the body with a torrential stream of nectar

Flowing from Your Holy Lotus Feet

And descending to Your Abode

You transform Yourself into 3.1/2 coils like a serpent

And sleep in the Kula Kunda.

From the Book of Adi Shakti -

"The sacred syllable OM is written in Devanagari script with three and half coils. These coils are arranged in three ellipses. By the movement of the first coil She desires to create. By the second, She activates to create. And by the third, She reveals Her Love for Her creation,

which is Her child. Adi Shakti can transform Her Power from an ellipse into the Sanskrit form of OM, and then into 3.1/2 coils. She first transforms the ellipse into the shape of a Heart to create the heart of the Primordial Being. Parameshwara blesses this heart, which starts pulsating, and its waves move in three and a half coils. The foundation structure of Her creation is also laid out as 3.1/2 coils. The importance of the Primordial Coil and its 3.1/2 coils must be clearly understood, because the complete functioning of the entire creation is guided by the endless combinations and permutations of the Primordial Coil with other vertical forces. After the creation of the Primordial Heart, She moves downwards in 3.1/2 coils. At the end of the lowest point of the coil, She transforms the elliptical shape into the shape of a triangle, and creates Her Abode, Adi Mooladhara. She fixes the coil to the apex of Her Abode. OUTSIDE AND BELOW THIS ABODE, of Adi Mooladhara, She creates the first subtle center, Adi Mooladhara CHAKRA. At this first and lowest subtle centre, the Primordial Mother creates a fantastic Deity, the elephant headed Child God, Shri Ganesha. He is the first Deity created. He was formed from the first and foremost principle of innocence, which is emitted by The three-and-a-half coils of Adi Kundalini."

Stanza 11

chaturbhiḥ śrīkaṇṭhaiḥ śivayuvatibhiḥ pañchabhirapi
prabhinnābhiḥ śambhōrnavabhirapi mūlaprakṛtibhiḥ |
chatuśchatvāriṃśadvasudalakalāśratrivalayatrirēkhābhiḥ sārdhaṃ tava śaraṇakōṇāḥ pariṇatāḥ || 11 ||

The 4 Srikanthas (Shiva chakras)

And the 5 Shakti chakras of You alone Mother

Are the 9 Mulaprakriti (causal beings of the material universe)

And they are apart from Shambhu (Bindu in the center)

Then there are two lotuses of 8 and 16 petals;

3 surrounding Circles and 3 Lines.

This forms Thy Mansion with 44 Konas (triangles)

Stanza 12

tvadīyaṃ saundaryaṃ tuhinagirikanyē tulayituṃ
kavīndrāḥ kalpantē kathamapi viriñchiprabhṛtayaḥ |
yadālōkautsukyādamaralalanā yānti manasā
tapōbhirduṣprāpāmapi giriśasāyujyapadavīm || 12 ||

O Daughter of the Mountain of Snow

Even the Creator Brahma fails to find any object

Comparable to Your sublime beauty.

Also the beautiful heavenly maidens

Who wish to see Your pristine beauty

Try to see You through the eyes of

Your Lord, the Great Shiva

By doing futile penance to attain oneness with Him

So that they can behold your form

Which only His eyes have the capacity to absorb.

Stanza 13

naram varşīyāmsam nayanavirasam narmasu jaḍam tavāpāṅgālōkē patitamanudhāvanti śataśaḥ | galadvēṇībandhāḥ kuchakalaśavisrastasichayā haṭhāt truṭyatkāñchyō vigalitadukūlā yuvatayaḥ || 13 ||

Even if a slanting glance from

Your Gracious Eyes Falls on a man,

No matter how old or decrepit, or

Uninterested in love sports.

He will be beset by hundreds of young maidens

Tempting with dishevelled hair,

With upper cloth slipping off their bosoms

The lock of their golden belts getting open due to haste

And with sari slipping away from their shoulders.

Stanza 14

kşitau şaṭpañchāśad dvisamadhikapañchāśadudakē
hutāśē dvāṣaṣṭiśchaturadhikapañchāśadanilē |
divi dviṣṣaṭtriṃśanmanasi cha chatuṣṣaṣṭiriti yē
mayūkhāstēṣāmapyupari tava pādāmbujayugam || 14 ||

In the Bindu, in the centre of Sahasrara

Is the Padambujam yugam,

The station of Thy Holy Lotus Feet Far above the Chakras

To which Your luminous manifestation as Shaktis

Reach in the following combinations

With their constituent elements:

56 in Mooladhara (Prithvi/Earth)

52 in Manipura (Jala/Water)

62 in Swadishthana (Agni/Fire)

54 in Anahata (Vayu/Air)

72 in Vishuddhi (Akash/Ether)

64 in Agya (Manas/Mind)

Quote from The Book of Adi Shakti.

"The Primordial Centres (Adi Chakras) were not all created at the same moment in time. Between the creations of each of them there is a gap of millions of years. After the installation of each Presiding Deity there is a Cosmic Pause (vilamba). Following Shri Ganesha's appointment on the Adi Mooladhara Chakra, the Primordial Mother ascended, with Him, in a vertical line to reach the top of the Primordial Coil. By Her first ascent, She created the Adi Ida Nadi, the desiring aspect of God. Then Adi Shakti descended, creating the Adi Pingala Nadi. She ascended a second time on the Central Path, creating Adi Sushumna Nadi. These three channels intersect the three-and-a-half coils, at seven separate points, creating the Seven Primordial Centres (Adi Chakras).

Stanza 15

Saraj śarajjyōtsnāśuddhāṃ śaśiyutajaṭājūṭamakuṭāṃ
varatrāsatrāṇasphaṭikaghaṭikāpustakakarām |
sakṛnna tvā natvā kathamiva satāṃ sannnidadhatē
madhukṣīradrākṣāmadhurimadhurīṇāḥ bhaṇitayaḥ || 15 ||

Sweet words, excelling honey milk and grapes

Can come only from the mouth of the devotee who but once

Meditates on You Who have the lustre of the

Autumn Moon

And Whose two Hands are in the mudra

Of granting boons and offering protection

And in the other two Hands holding a crystal rosary and a book

And whose crown of plaited locks is adorned with the Crescent Moon.

Stanza 16

kavīndrāṇāṃ chētaḥkamalavanabālātaparuchiṃ
bhajantē yē santaḥ katichidaruṇāmēva bhavatīm |
viriñchiprēyasyāstaruṇataraśaṛṅgāralaharīgabhīrābhirvāgbhirvidadhati satāṃ rañjanamamī || 16 ||

O Mother, Thou, Aruna, the crimson coloured Goddess

Thou art like the rays of the morning sun

To the lotus of the minds of the poets.

Those devoted men who worship You become capable

Of giving joy to the minds of literary connoisseurs

With the majestic flow of their words.

It is as if they are

Inspired by Shree Saraswati,

Goddess of Learning.

Stanza 17

savitrībhirvāchāṃ śaśimaṇiśilābhaṅgaruchibhiḥ
vaśinyādyābhistvāṃ saha janani sañchintayati yaḥ |
sa kartā kāvyānāṃ bhavati mahatāṃ bhaṅgiruchibhiḥ
vachōbhirvāgdēvīvadanakamalāmōdamadhuraiḥ || 17 ||

O Devi, those who meditate on You, along with

Vasini and other Deities, who are generators of speech

And whose radiance resembles the lustre of

Freshly cut Chandrakanta gem (moonstone)

Can become authors of poetic works,

As delightful as the great ones,

And sweet with the fragrance of the countenance of

Shree Saraswati, Goddess of Learning.

Stanza 18

tanuchchāyābhistē taruṇataraṇiśrīsaraṇibhiḥ divaṃ sarvāmurvīmaruṇimani magnāṃ smarati yaḥ | bhavantyasya trasyadvanahariṇaśālīnanayanāḥ sahōrvaśyā vaśyāḥ kati kati na gīrvāṇagaṇikāḥ || 18 ||

Celestial courtesans with beautiful eyes

Become timid, and

Cannot help being attracted to a person

Who meditates on the beauty of Your Form

Which bathes Heaven and Earth in crimson radiance

Like the rising sun

Stanza 19

mukham bindum kṛtvā kuchayugamadhastasya tadadhō harārdham dhyāyēdyō haramahişi tē manmathakalām |

sa sadyaḥ saṅkṣōbhaṃ nayati vanitā ityatilaghu trilōkīmapyāśu bhramayati ravīndustanayugām || 19 ||

O Consort of Hara, a devotee who sees a woman's face in the

Bindu, Her twin breasts below it,

And the half of Hara (Harardha) even below

And gets identified with Her (manmathakala)

Will quickly stir the mind of any woman

And in no time will be able to fascinate

Triloki (Three worlds conceived as a woman) with sun and moon as breasts.

Stanza 20

kirantīmangēbhyaḥ kiraṇanikurambāmṛtarasaṃ
hṛdi tvāmādhattē himakaraśilāmūrtimiva yaḥ |
sa sarpāṇāṃ darpaṃ śamayati śakuntādhipa iva
jvarapluṣṭān dṛṣṭyā sukhayati sudhādhārasirayā || 20 ||

He who meditates on Your Form which sends

Waves of bliss, as if radiating from a freshly cut moonstone,

Will be capable of neutralizing the pride and ferocity of serpents

Just by a glance; and also his mere look

Can cure illness, and affliction of fever.

Stanza 21

taṭillēkhātanvīṃ tapanaśaśivaiśvānaramayīṃ niṣaṇṇāṃ ṣaṇṇāmapyupari kamalānāṃ tava kalām |

mahāpadmāṭavyāṃ mṛditamalamāyēna manasā mahāntaḥ paśyantō dadhati paramāhlādalaharīm || 21 ||

The noble spiritual aspirants whose minds are free from

Impurities like lust, greed and maya

Consisting of ignorance, egotism and the like

Are filled with thrills of spiritual bliss by experiencing

Thy lightning like Kala (sadakhya) in the core of

The thousand petal lotus, which transcends

The six lotuses include Thy manifestations of fire, sun and moon.

Stanza 22

bhavāni tvaṃ dāsē mayi vitara dṛṣṭiṃ sakaruṇāmiti stōtuṃ vāñChan kathayati bhavāni tvamiti yaḥ | tadaiva tvaṃ tasmai diśasi nijasāyujyapadavīṃ mukundabrahmēndrasphuṭamakuṭanīrājitapadām || 22 ||

Whoever starts a prayer to You – "Bhavani Twam...

Even before he completes the prayer,

You bestow on him the status

Of oneness with Your Lotus Feet, at

Which Deities like Vishnu, Brahma and Indra are paying obeisance

With the brilliance of their crowns bowed in prostration before You.

tvayā hṛtvā vāmaṃ vapuraparitṛptēna manasā śarīrārdhaṃ śambhōraparamapi śaṅkē hṛtamabhūt | yadētattvadrūpaṃ sakalamaruṇābhaṃ trinayanaṃ kuchābhyāmānamraṃ kuṭilaśaśichūḍālamakuṭam || 23 ||

In my awareness it has appeared that even after

Fully occupying the

Left half of Shambho (as Ardhanareshwari)

You have also permeated His Right half –

Because the Form which shines in my heart

Is totally crimson, and slightly bending forward with the weight of two breasts;

Besides having Three Eyes and the Crescent moon in the Diadem.

Stanza 24

jagatsūtē dhātā hariravati rudraḥ kṣapayatē
tiraskurvannētatsvamapi vapurīśastirayati |
sadāpūrvaḥ sarvaṃ tadidamanugṛhṇāti cha śivastavājñāmālambya kṣaṇachalitayōrbhrūlatikayōḥ || 24 ||

Brahma brings forth the Universe,

Vishnu protects and sustains,

And Rudra destroys, and

Issa absorbs the totality into himself

And disappears into Sadashiva, until

Sadashiva receives an indication from You

By the movement of your creeper-like brows.

Then The Evolutionary cycle starts again.

Stanza 25

trayāṇāṃ dēvānāṃ triguṇajanitānāṃ tava śivē
bhavēt pūjā pūjā tava charaṇayōryā virachitā |
tathā hi tvatpādōdvahanamaṇipīṭhasya nikaṭē
sthitā hyētē śaśvanmukulitakarōttaṃsamakuṭāḥ || 25 ||

The worship offered at Thy Lotus Feet

O Consort of Shiva

Is equal to the worship of the three

Deities Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva

For they have their origin in Thy Three Gunas.

They need no special worship

Because they are forever stationed at Your Lotus Feet

With their heads bowed, and their crowns

Rubbing the diamond studded

Footstool bearing Your Divine Lotus Feet.

The Book of Adi Shakti page 39.

"In the Primordial Being's Brain, the reflection of the three powers of Adi Shakti, each manifests into two identities – Mahasaraswati – Brahmadeva Saraswati. Mahalakshmi – Vishnu Lakshmi Mahakali – Shiva Parvati. Above these are the Primordial Parents, the Divine Couple – Sadashiva – Adi Shakti."

viriñchiḥ pañchatvaṃ vrajati harirāpnōti viratiṃ
vināśaṃ kīnāśō bhajati dhanadō yāti nidhanam |
vitandrī māhēndrī vitatirapi sammīlitadṛśā
mahāsamhārē'smin viharati sati tvatpatirasau || 26 ||

Brahma gets reduced into elements,

Vishnu retires into passivity,

Kinasa (Yama) himself dies and

Kubera is devoid of wealth.

Indra's assemblies are dismantled

In such circumstances of final destruction and dissolution (Mahasamhara)

Thy Consort Sadashiva alone exists.

Stanza 27

japō jalpaḥ śilpaṃ sakalamapi mudrāvirachanā
gatiḥ prādakṣiṇyakramaṇamaśanādyāhutividhiḥ |
praṇāmassaṃvēśassukhamakhilamātmārpaṇadṛśā
saparyāparyāyastava bhavatu yanmē vilasitam || 27 ||

May everything that I do become actions of self dedication in

Thy service My prattle – the utterance of Your Mantras

The movement of my hands – gestures of worship

My walking - circumambulation at Your Lotus Feet

And all my enjoyments – offerings made to Thee.

sudhāmapyāsvādya pratibhayajarāmṛtyuhariṇīṃ
vipadyantē viśvē vidhiśatamakhādyā diviṣadaḥ |
karālaṃ yatkṣvēlaṃ kabalitavataḥ kālakalanā
na śambhōstanmūlaṃ tava janani tāṭaṅkamahimā || 28 ||

Even after taking Amrit (nectar) which gives freedom from old age and death,

Deities perish at the final time of Cosmic Dissolution.

But in spite of consuming the terrible poison of Kalakuta,

Thy Consort Sadashiva remains Eternal, O Mother.

Because of the unique glory of

Thy Ear Ornaments.

Stanza 29

kirīṭaṃ vairiñchaṃ parihara puraḥ kaiṭabhabhidaḥ kaṭhōrē kōṭīrē skhalasi jahi jambhārimukuṭam | praṇamrēṣvētēṣu prasabhamupayātasya bhavanaṃ bhavasyābhyutthānē tava parijanōktirvijayatē || 29 ||

Upon seeing Thy Consort approaching

Thy Abode unannounced You move hastily to receive Him; and

Your attendants anxiously caution You to keep away

From Brahma's diadem; avoid Vishnu's heavy crown

And be wary of Indra's crest

svadēhōdbhūtābhirghṛṇibhiraṇimādyābhirabhitō
niṣēvyē nityē tvāmahamiti sadā bhāvayati yaḥ |
kimāścharyaṃ tasya trinayanasamṛddhiṃ tṛṇayatō
mahāsaṃvartāgnirvirachayati nirājanavidhim || 30 ||

O Most Eternal and Adorable Mother

By meditating and dissolving into You

From Whose Feet emanates Anima (divine rays)

A devotee attains to glories as great as Siva's

So that even the flames of Cosmic Dissolution appear

As a rite of Niranjana to Him.

Stanza 31

chatuṣṣaṣṭyā tantraiḥ sakalamatisandhāya bhuvanaṃ sthitastattatsiddhiprasavaparatantraiḥ paśupatiḥ | punastvannirbandhādakhilapuruṣārthaikaghaṭanā-svatantraṃ tē tantraṃ kṣititalamavātītaradidam || 31 ||

Pasupati felt satisfied by giving to the world the

64 Tantras

The practice of which would confer either

Psychic powers or worldly fulfilment.

But On Your insistence

He revealed to the world Thy Own Tantra,

Independent of all,

And having the Power to confer

All the Purusharthas -

Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha

Upon Your Devotees, spontaneously.

Stanza 32

śivaḥ śaktiḥ kāmaḥ kṣitiratha raviḥ śītakiraṇaḥ smarō haṃsaḥ śakrastadanu cha parāmāraharayaḥ lamī hṛllēkhābhistisṛbhiravasānēṣu ghaṭitā bhajantē varṇāstē tava janani nāmāvayavatām || 32 ||

O Mother, the parts that combine to form

Thy Name (mantra)

Are groups of syllables – ka e i and la Indicated by the words

Shiva, Shakti, Kamah, Ksitir

Ha sa ka ha and la denoted by ravi (sun)

Sitakirana (moon) smaro hamsah and sakra

Sa ka and la denoted by para mara harayah

Together with hrllekhabis (3 hrimkaras) added

At the end of each of the 3 groups of syllables.

They become the syllables of Your Divine Name, O Mother.

Stanza 33

smaraṃ yōniṃ lakṣmīṃ tritayamidamādau tava manōrnidhāyaikē nityē niravadhimahābhōgarasikāḥ | bhajanti tvāṃ chintāmaṇigunanibaddhākṣavalayāḥ śivāgnau juhvantaḥ surabhighṛtadhārāhutiśataiḥ || 33 || By placing the Smaram Yonim Lakshmim

in the beginning of Your Mantra, O Eternal One,

Some mahabhogarasikas (connoisseurs desiring the highest enjoyment),

Worship you with circles of the rosary of Chintamani Gems,

While pouring oblations into the fire, with fragrant streams of

Surabhi ghrt (cows ghee)

Stanza 34

śarīraṃ tvaṃ śambhōḥ śaśimihiravakṣōruhayugaṃ
tavātmānaṃ manyē bhagavati navātmānamanagham |
ataśśēṣaśśēṣītyayamubhayasādhāraṇatayā
sthitaḥ sambandhō vāṃ samarasaparānandaparayōḥ || 34 ||

O Devi Bhagawati!

You are verily the body of Shiva

With the Sun and Moon as the two breasts

And Your Being is verily the flawless Shambhu

And therefore there is no subservient or principal one

Paranand and Para are one and the same.

Stanza 35

manastvam vyōma tvam marudasi marutsārathirasi tvamāpastvam bhūmistvayi pariņatāyām na hi param | tvamēva svātmānam pariņamayitum viśvavapuṣā chidānandākāram śivayuvati bhāvēna bibhṛṣē || 35 || You are the Mind,

You are Akash,

You are also Fire

You are Water and Earth

The whole Universe has emanated from You,

And there is nothing beyond, which is not You.

To transform Yourself into the Universe

You assumed the form of Consciousness Bliss -

The Shakti of Sadashiva.

Stanza 36

tavājñāchakrastham tapanaśaśikōṭidyutidharam
param śambhum vandē parimilitapārśvam parachitā |
yamārādhyan bhaktyā raviśaśiśuchīnāmaviṣayē
nirālōkē'lōkē nivasati hi bhālōkabhuvanē || 36 ||

Salutations to the Supreme Shambhu residing in

Thy Agya Chakra,

Who is as resplendent as a crore of suns and moons put together,

And Whose Left Side is integrated with the

Supreme Consciousness (Devi).

He who worships Him with deep devotion attains that

Self-Consciousness and Self Luminous state,

Which is not a loka (region or plane), but

Which transcends the brilliance of the Sun, Moon and Fire

And which is beyond imagination.

viśuddhau tē śuddhasphaṭikaviśadaṃ vyōmajanakaṃ śivaṃ sēvē dēvīmapi śivasamānavyavasitām | yayōḥ kāntyā yāntyāḥ śaśikiraṇasārūpyasaraṇēvidhūtāntardhvāntā vilasati chakōrīva jagatī || 37 ||

In Thy Vishuddhi Chakra,

I meditate on Shiva the Creator of Akash

Resembling a pure crystal in purity Along with the Devi

Who is equal to Shiva--

In the lunar brilliance radiating from Both,

The whole Universe, freed from the darkness of ignorance,

Rejoices like the Chakori bird (which lives by consuming moonlight).

Stanza 38

samunmīlat saṃvit kamalamakarandaikarasikaṃ
bhajē haṃsadvandvaṃ kimapi mahatāṃ mānasacharam |
yadālāpādaṣṭādaśaguṇitavidyāpariṇatiryadādattē dōṣād guṇamakhilamadbhyaḥ paya iva || 38 ||

O Mother, I worship the swans,

Shiva and Shakti

Who imbibe the honey of knowledge

In the Lotus of Anahat Chakra

And Who swims in the lake of the mind of the enlightened one.

Their mutual conversation has become the eighteen vidyas

Which separate good from evil, as milk from water.

Stanza 39

tava svādhişṭhānē hutavahamadhiṣṭhāya nirataṃ
tamīḍē saṃvartaṃ janani mahatīṃ tāṃ cha samayām |
yadālōkē lōkān dahati mahati krōdhakalitē
dayārdrā yā dṛṣṭiḥ śiśiramupachāraṃ rachayati || 39 ||

O Mother!

Invoking Samvarta,

Lord of the Fire of Dissolution

In the Swadhisthana Chakra,

I adore Him along with Thee,

Samaya The Great Mahashakti of Rudra.

When the wrathful looks of

Rudra burns up the Universe,

It is Thy merciful glance that showers reviving blessings of coolness.

Stanza 40

taṭittvantaṃ śaktyā timiraparipanthiphuraṇayā
sphurannānāratnābharaṇapariṇaddhēndradhanuṣam |
tava śyāmaṃ mēghaṃ kamapi maṇipūraikaśaraṇaṃ
niṣēvē varṣantaṃ haramihirataptaṃ tribhuvanam || 40 ||

I worship the dark blue rain cloud which abides forever
In the Manipura Chakra Raining showers on the
Universe burnt by the Sun of Rudra –

The rain cloud that is illumined by brilliant lightning in the form of Shakti,

And forming a rainbow, made by the reflection of gems

And dispelling the darkness overshadowing Manipura.

Stanza 41

tavādhārē mūlē saha samayayā lāsyaparayā
navātmānaṃ manyē navarasamahātāṇḍavanaṭam |
ubhābhyāmētābhyāmudayavidhimuddiśya dayayā
sanāthābhyām jajñē janakajananīmajjagadidam || 41 ||

In Thy Mooladhara Chakra I meditate on Navatman (Maha Bharava)

Who expressing nine sentiments

Is performing the Mahatandava

Dance in the company of Samaya (Mahabhairavi)

Who is dancing the Lasya.

The Universe is blessed with a Father and a Mother

Who have come together graciously for it regeneration (from ashes)

Part II Soundarya Lahari (The waves of beauty): dvitya bhāgaḥ

Stanza 42

gatairmāṇikyatvaṃ gaganamaṇibhiḥ sāndraghaṭitaṃ kirīṭaṃ tē haimaṃ himagirisutē kīrtayati yaḥ | sa nīḍēyachChāyāchChuraṇaśabalaṃ chandraśakalaṃ dhanuḥ śaunāsīraṃ kimiti na nibadhnāti dhiṣaṇām || 42 || O Daughter of the snow-capped mountain!

The golden crown on Your Head seems densely set

With precious gems made of 12 suns

Reflecting on The crescent moon on

Your Head Forming an ornament resembling

Indra's Bow (rainbow)!

Stanza 43

dhunōtu dhvāntaṃ nastulitadalitēndīvaravanaṃ
ghanasnigdhaślakṣṇaṃ chikuranikurumbaṃ tava śivē |
yadīyaṃ saurabhyaṃ sahajamupalabdhuṃ sumanasō
vasantyasmin manyē valamathanavāṭīviṭapinām || 43 ||

O Consort of Shiva!

May Thy luxuriant hair, soft and oily,

Resembling a forest of fully blossomed lotuses

Remove the darkness of ignorance from our hearts.

Indeed, all the heavenly flowers from Indra's garden

Have congregated in Your Divine Tresses

To imbibe the natural fragrance thereof.

Stanza 44

tanōtu kṣēmaṃ nastava vadanasaundaryalaharīparīvāhasrōtaḥsaraṇiriva sīmantasaraṇiḥ |
vahantī sindūraṃ prabalakabarībhāratimiradviṣāṃ bṛndairbandīkṛtamiva navīnārkakiraṇam || 44 ||

We are blessed to behold the middle parting of Thy Hair,

Into which overflows the beauty of Thy Face.

The sindhoor which adorns that parting

Looks like the Rays of the Rising Sun

Being pressed on both sides by the dark density of

Thy Hair.

Stanza 45

arālaiḥ svābhāvyādalikalabhasaśrībhiralakaiḥ
parītaṃ tē vaktraṃ parihasati paṅkēruharuchim |
darasmērē yasmin daśanaruchikiñjalkaruchirē
sugandhau mādyanti smaradahanachakṣurmadhulihaḥ || 45 ||

Thy Face, framed with naturally curling ringlets,

Beautiful as a swarm of dark honey bees,

Surpasses the beauty of the lotus flowers.

That smiling, shining, fragrant Face

With rows of teeth resembling the lotus filaments

Enchants the honey sucker of the Eyes of Shiva, the destroyer of Cupid.

Stanza 46

lalāṭaṃ lāvaṇyadyutivimalamābhāti tava yaddvitīyaṃ tanmanyē makuṭaghaṭitaṃ chandraśakalam |
viparyāsanyāsādubhayamapi sambhūya cha mithaḥ
sudhālēpasyūtiḥ pariṇamati rākāhimakaraḥ || 46 ||

Thy Divine Forehead, brilliant with Its own crescent moon;

Resembles an inverted crescent moon attached

As an extension to thy Crown.

If both these crescents, reverse and join,

They can form the Full Moon dripping nectar.

Stanza 47

bhruvau bhugnē kiñchidbhuvanabhayabhaṅgavyasanini tvadīyē nētrābhyāṃ madhukararuchibhyāṃ dhṛtaguṇam | dhanurmanyē savyētarakaragṛhītaṃ ratipatēḥ prakōṣṭhē muṣṭau cha sthagayati nigūḍhāntaramumē || 47 ||

Most worshipful Devi Uma

You are always intent on removing the distress of the worlds!

Thy slightly knitted eyebrows

Form the bow of Kamadeva

With Thy black Eyes as its string

The Nasal Region presses on it, as if

It is the clenched fist and right forearm of Kamadeva.

Stanza 48

Ahahahaḥ sūtē savyaṃ tava nayanamarkātmakatayā
triyāmāṃ vāmaṃ tē sṛjati rajanīnāyakatayā |
tṛtīyā tē dṛṣṭirdaradalitahēmāmbujaruchiḥ
samādhattē sandhyāṃ divasaniśayōrantaracharīm || 48 ||

Thy Right Eye as the Sun, causes day

From Thy Left Eye is born the night With the moon as its lord.

Thy Third Eye, resembling a golden lotus in slight bloom,

Is responsible for the two Sandhyas,

The twilight of dawn and dusk.

Stanza 49

viśālā kalyāṇī sphuṭaruchirayōdhyā kuvalayaiḥ kṛpādhārādhārā kimapi madhurābhōgavatikā | avantī dṛṣṭistē bahunagaravistāravijayā dhruvaṃ tattannāmavyavaharaṇayōgyā vijayatē || 49 ||

All worship and glory to

Thy Eyes which are wide (Vishal)

Auspicious because they are clear and brilliant (Kalyani)

Undefeated (Ayodhaya) even by blue lilies

Pouring out a continuous flow of grace (krpadhara-dhara)

Indescribably sweet (avyakta madhura), long (abhogavati)

And offering protection to the world (Avanti).

Surpassing all these qualities in their uniqueness

Thy eyes command all these descriptions.

Quote from Sahaja Yoga Mantra Book.

"Adi Shakaracharya has said, 'Your Right Eye being the embodiment of the Sun creates day, Your Left Eye being the embodiment of the Moon creates night, Your Third Eye radiant like the slightly open Golden Lotus, creates Twilight'. He also says that due to collyrium that the

Mother wears, Her Eyes become tri-coloured – The streak of red, the natural white colour of the eyes, and the black of the collyrium. They look like the triad of the three quantities – Raja, Sattwa and Tama."

Stanza 50

kavīnāṃ sandarbhastabakamakarandaikarasikaṃ kaṭākṣavyākṣēpabhramarakalabhau karṇayugalam | amuñchantau dṛṣṭvā tava navarasāsvādataralā-vasūyāsaṃsargādalikanayanaṃ kiñchidaruṇam || 50 ||

The two pupils of Thy Long Eyes

Are like honeybees hovering near Your Ears

To listen to the poems of praise being offered to You

By devotee poets

And are deeply absorbed in imbibing the honey

Pouring from the bouquet of

Nine Flowers of poetic description.

Thy Third Eye in the forehead, is at a disadvantage, and

Feels discontented, and has taken on a red colour.

Stanza 51

śivē śaṛṅgārārdrā taditarajanē kutsanaparā
sarōṣā gaṅgāyāṃ giriśacharitē vismayavatī |
harāhibhyō bhītā sarasiruhasaubhāgyajananī
sakhīṣu smērā tē mayi jananī dṛṣṭiḥ sakaruṇā || 51 ||

O Mother! When You look at Shiva

Thine Eyes express the sentiments of Love;

At others, tolerance; At co-wife Ganga, shades of anger.

On hearing of great deeds of Shiva, wonderment.

At the great serpents adorning Shiva, dread

At the sight of Thy companions

A light-hearted mirth and patronizing smile.

And, at me, a devotee, Pure Compassion.

Besides these, there is an expression of

Red ringed loveliness of a lotus flower, indicating heroism.

Stanza 52

gatē karņābhyarṇaṃ garuta iva pakṣmāṇi dadhatī
purāṃ bhēttuśchittapraśamarasavidrāvaṇaphalē |
imē nētrē gōtrādharapatikulōttaṃsakalikē
tavākarṇākṛṣṭasmaraśaravilāsaṃ kalayataḥ || 52 ||

O Mother You are the flower bud

Placed on the crest of the Mountain King's Dynasty.

Thy Long Eyes, which extend All the way to the Ears,

Are fringed with eyelashes resembling the feathery wings

Attached to the arrows, which are engaged in

Disturbing the placidity of the mind of Shiva.

It seems like Cupid has drawn his arrow

Up to his ear.

vibhaktatraivarṇyaṃ vyatikaritalīlāñjanatayā
vibhāti tvannētratritayamidamīśānadayitē |
punaḥ sraṣṭuṃ dēvān druhiṇaharirudrānuparatān
rajaḥ sattvaṃ bibhrattama iti guṇānāṃ trayamiva || 53 ||

O Consort of Ishwara!

Thy Three Eyes look tricoloured

When the Black of the collyrium

Shines by the side of

Natural White And Reddish tinges

Each maintains its distinctiveness.

It seems these three colors represent

The three Gunas of Rajas, Sattwa and Tamas

Which Thou hast assumed, with a view

To revive Brahma, Vishnu and Rudra

After the dissolution in Pralaya;

And reappoint them.

Stanza 54

pavitrīkartum naḥ paśupatiparādhīnahṛdayē
dayāmitrairnētrairaruṇadhavalaśyāmaruchibhiḥ |
nadaḥ śōṇō gaṅgā tapanatanayēti dhruvamamuṃ
trayāṇāṃ tīrthānāmupanayasi sambhēdamanagham || 54 ||

O Mother! You are ever devoted to Shiva!

Maybe that with Your Eyes having the three colours of

White, Black and Red,

You are presenting to us the confluence

Of the Holy Rivers Sona, Ganga and Yamuna

To cleanse and sanctify ourselves.

Stanza 55

nimēṣōnmēṣābhyāṃ pralayamudayaṃ yāti jagatī tavētyāhuḥ santō dharaṇidhararājanyatanayē | tvadunmēṣājjātaṃ jagadidamaśēṣaṃ pralayataḥ paritrātuṃ śaṅkē parihṛtanimēṣāstava dṛśaḥ || 55 ||

O Daughter of the King of the Mountains

Great Saints tell us that the

Closing and opening of Thine Eyes

Causes dissolution and Creation, of this universe.

In order to prevent this universe

Which came into existence at the opening of Thine Eyes,

From going into dissolution;

You avoid blinking, and forever keep Your Eyes Open.

Stanza 56

tavāparņē karņējapanayanapaišunyachakitā
nilīyantē tōyē niyatamanimēṣāḥ śapharikāḥ |
iyaṃ cha śrīrbaddhachChadapuṭakavāṭaṃ kuvalayam
jahāti pratyūṣē niśi cha vighaṭayya praviśati || 56 ||

O Aparna! The female fish hide in deep waters

Afraid that their ambitions of comparing themselves to You

Get communicated through Thy long Eyes to Thy Ears close by.

Sri, the Goddess of Beauty resides in Thine Eyes.

Knowing this, the Blue Lotus only opens at night

To receive Sri when You close Your Eyes in sleep.

Stanza 57

dṛiśā drāghīyasyā daradalitanīlōtpalaruchā
davīyāṃsaṃ dīnaṃ snapaya kṛpayā māmapi śivē |
anēnāyaṃ dhanyō bhavati na cha tē hāniriyatā
vanē vā harmyē vā samakaranipātō himakaraḥ || 57 ||

O Consort of Shiva!

Deign to cast upon me in the distance,

Thy long ranging compassionate glance,

From Thine Eyes which surpass in beauty

The half bloomed Blue Lotus flower.

By this I will become rich in blessings

Without diminishing any of Your Glory.

Like the rays of the moon Fall equally on forest and palace alike.

Stanza 58

arālaṃ tē pālīyugalamagarājanyatanayē
na kēṣāmādhattē kusumaśarakōdaṇḍakutukam |

tiraśchīnō yatra śravaṇapathamullaṅghya vilasannapāṅgavyāsaṅgō diśati śarasandhānadhiṣaṇām || 58 ||

O Daughter of the Mountain King

Is there anyone who cannot perceive

The graces of Kama's bow and flowery arrows

On seeing Thy pair of arched ridges between

The eyes and the ears (palli-yugalam).

For Thy oblique glance across these ridges

Resemble an arrow mounted on a bowstring.

Stanza 59

sphurad-gaṇḍā-bhōga-prati-phalitatāṭaṅ-kayugalaṃ
chatuśchakraṃ manyē tava mukhamidaṃ manmatharatham |
yamāruhya druhyatyavanirathamarkēnducharaṇaṃ
mahāvīrō māraḥ pramathapatayē sajjitavatē || 59 ||

I perceive that Thy Face with two ear ornaments

Reflected on Thy Glistening Cheeks, is verily

The four wheeled chariot of Manmatha (God of Love).

Seated in this, he presumes to challenge Shiva,

The Lord of Pramatha hosts, heading for the destruction of the

Tripuras And riding His Chariot, having the

Sun and Moon for its two wheels!

sarasvatyāḥ sūktīramṛtalaharīkauśalaharīḥ
pibantyāḥ śarvāṇi śravaṇachulukābhyāmaviralam |
chamatkāraślāghāchalitaśirasaḥ kuṇḍalagaṇō
jhaṇatkāraistāraiḥ prativachanamāchaṣṭa iva tē || 60 ||

O Goddess Who is the Consort of Shiva

Your Sweet Face resembles the continuous waves of nectar

Which fills the ears of Saraswati without break

And She moves Her Head in response,

Her ear ornaments making a sound as if they applaud Your praise.

Stanza 61

asau nāsāvaṃśastuhinagirivaṃśadhvajapaṭi tvadīyō nēdīyaḥ phalatu phalamasmākamuchitam | vahannantarmuktāḥ śiśirataraniśvāsagalitaṃ samṛddhyā yattāsāṃ bahirapi cha muktāmaṇidharaḥ || 61 ||

O Goddess Who is the flag of the clan of Himalayas

And Whose Nose is like a thin bamboo staff of that flag,

Give us blessings.

I feel Mother, that You are wearing a rare pearl,

Brought out by the moon-cooled breath of

Your Left Nostril, which has taken the form of

Thy Nasal Pendant; For Your Nose is the storehouse of rarest pearls divine.

prakṛtyā raktāyāstava sudati dantach Chadaruchēḥ pravakṣyē sādṛśyaṃ janayatu phalaṃ vidrumalatā | na bimbaṃ tadbimbapratiphalanarāgādaruṇitaṃ tulāmadhyārōdhum kathamiva vilajjēta kalayā || 62 ||

O Goddess Who has beautiful Rows of Teeth

I try to find a simile to Your blood red Lips

And I can only imagine the fruit of the coral vine.

The fruits of the red bimba (cucurbit) hangs its head in shame

On being compared to Your Lips

As it tried to imitate the color from You and failed miserably.

Stanza 63

smitajyōtsnājālaṃ tava vadanachandrasya pibatāṃ
chakōrāṇāmāsīdatirasatayā chañchujaḍimā |
atastē śītāṃśōramṛtalaharīmamlaruchayaḥ
pibanti svach chandaṃ niśi niśi bhṛśaṃ kāñjikadhiyā || 63 ||

The Chakora birds felt that their tongues have been numbed

By forever drinking the sweet nectar-like light

Emanating from Your moon-like Face;

And for a change they wanted to taste sour rice gruel during the night,

And now they have to be satisfied drinking the white rays of the full moon.

aviśrāntaṃ patyurguṇagaṇakathāmrēḍanajapā
japāpuṣpachChāyā tava janani jihvā jayati sā |
yadagrāsīnāyāḥ sphaṭikadṛṣadachChachChavimayī
sarasvatyā mūrtiḥ pariṇamati māṇikyavapuṣā || 64 ||

Mother of mine!

Thy well known Tongue which

Without rest, chants and repeats the many qualities

Of Your Consort Shiva

Is like the red hibiscus flower, and

The Goddess of Learning Saraswati, sitting at the tip of

Your tongue; Who, though white and sparkling like crystal,

Turns red like the ruby, the color of Your Tongue.

Stanza 65

raņē jitvā daityānapahṛtaśirastraiḥ kavachibhirnivṛttaiśchaṇḍāṃśatripuraharanirmālyavimukhaiḥ |
viśākhēndrōpēndraiḥ śaśiviśadakarpūraśakalā
vilīyantē mātastava vadanatāmbūlakabalāḥ || 65 ||

O Mother of the world, the lords Subramanya,

Vishnu and Indra

Returning and resting after the war with the Asuras,

Have removed their headgear, and wearing iron jackets;

Are not interested in the leftovers after the worship of Shiva

Which belongs to Chadikeshwara.

But are consuming with zest, the half-chewed betel from Your Mouth Which has camphor as white as the moon.

Stanza 66

vipañchyā gāyantī vividhamapadānaṃ paśupatēḥ
tvayārabdhē vaktuṃ chalitaśirasā sādhuvachanē |
tadīyairmādhuryairapalapitatantrīkalaravāṃ
nijāṃ vīṇāṃ vāṇī nichulayati chōlēna nibhṛtam || 66 ||

O Mother of all!

When You started nodding

Your Head Muttering sweetly in appreciation, "Good! Good!"

To the Goddess Saraswati when

She sings to You, the Great stories of Lord Pashupati to the accompaniment

Of Her Veena

She mutes the Veena by covering it with a cloth

So that the strings creating music

Are not put to shame by the sweetness of Your Voice.

Stanza 67

karāgrēņa spṛṣṭaṃ tuhinagiriṇā vatsalatayā
girīśēnōdastaṃ muhuradharapānākulatayā |
karagrāhyaṃ śambhōrmukhamukuravṛntaṃ girisutē
kathaṅkāraṃ brūmastava chibukamaupamyarahitam || 67 ||

O Daughter of the Mountain!

How can we describe The beauty of Your Chin,

which was caressed with affection By Your Father Himavan;

Which was often lifted by the Lord in a hurry

To drink deeply from Your Lips

Which was fit to be touched by His Fingers

Which did not have anything comparable;

And which is the Handle of the Mirror of Your Face!

Stanza 68

bhujāślēṣān nityaṃ puradamayituḥ kaṇṭakavatī
tava grīvā dhattē mukhakamalanālaśriyamiyam |
svataḥ śvētā kālāgurubahulajambālamalinā
mṛṇālīlālityaṃ vahati yadadhō hāralatikā || 68 ||

Your Neck appears full of fine bristles

Due to the hairs standing out by the frequent embrace of

Thy Lord Who destroyed the three cities;

And looks like the beauty of the stalk of Your Lotus like Face!

The string of white pearls worn below

Is dulled by the incense, myrrh, and paste of sandalwood applied there,

And resembles the tender stalk Marred by the blemish of the bed of mud.

Stanza 69

galē rēkhāstisrō gatigamakagītaikanipuņē
vivāhavyānaddhapraguņaguņasaṅkhyāpratibhuvaḥ |
virājantē nānāvidhamadhurarāgākarabhuvāṃ
trayāṇāṃ grāmāṇāṃ sthitiniyamasīmāna iva tē || 69 ||

O Mistress of musical technicalities like Gati (pace),

Gamakam (undulations) and Gitam (song)

The three strands of auspicious thread tied around

Thy Neck By Thy Consort, at the tie of

Thy marriage Shine forth as the three lines of Thy Neck

As if boundaries demarcating the three scales of music

Which form the source of melodies and musical modes.

Stanza 70

mṛṇālīmṛdvīnāṃ tava bhujalatānāṃ chatasṛṇāṃ
chaturbhiḥ saundaryaṃ sarasijabhavaḥ stauti vadanaiḥ |
nakhēbhyaḥ santrasyan prathamamathanādandhakaripōśchaturṇāṃ śīrṣāṇāṃ samamabhayahastārpaṇadhiyā || 70 ||

Brahma, born out of the lotus, is afraid of the fingernails of Shiva (Who killed the asura Andhaka),

Which clipped off one of His five heads,

And is now praising with His remaining four heads,

The beauty of Thy Four tender Hands resembling the stalk of the lotus,

So that He can ask for protection for His remaining four heads

By the use of Your Four Merciful Hands.

Stanza 71

nakhānāmuddyōtairnavanalinarāgaṃ vihasatāṃ
karāṇāṃ tē kāntiṃ kathaya kathayāmaḥ kathamumē |
kayāchidvā sāmyaṃ bhajatu kalayā hanta kamalaṃ
yadi krīḍallakṣmīcharaṇatalalākṣārasaChaṇam || 71 ||

O Goddess Uma!

You only tell us how we can describe

The splendor of Your Hands lit up by

The radiance of Your Nails, which surpass the color

Of freshly bloomed lotuses.

Perhaps if the red lotus mixes with the liquid lac dye

Adorning the Feet of Goddess Lakshmi, they can attain

Some resemblance to Thy Nails.

Stanza 72

samam dēvi skandadvipavadanapītam stanayugam tavēdam naḥ khēdam haratu satatam prasnutamukham | yadālōkyāśaṅkākulitahṛdayō hāsajanakaḥ svakumbhau hērambaḥ parimṛśati hastēna jhaḍiti || 72 ||

O Mother Goddess!

Let Your two cool Breasts From which Milk always flows, and
Which is simultaneously sucked by Thy Sons, Skanda and Ganesha,
Destroy all our sorrows.

Stanza 73

amū tē vakṣōjāvamṛtarasamāṇikyakutupau
na sandēhaspandō nagapatipatākē manasi naḥ |
pibantau tau yasmādaviditavadhūsaṅgarasikau
kumārāvadyāpi dviradavadanakrauñchadalanau || 73 ||

O Victory Flag of the King of the Mountains!

There is no doubt in our minds

That Your Two Breasts Divine

Are jars made of Manikya (Ruby)

And filled with Nectar for the Elephant faced one (Ganesha) and

He killed Krauncha Asura (Subramanya).

Drinking this Amrit,

Thy two sons Were endowed with eternal childhood and innocence,

And even today they have no knowledge of women.

Stanza 74

vahatyamba stambēramadanujakumbhaprakṛtibhiḥ samārabdhāṃ muktāmaṇibhiramalāṃ hāralatikām | kuchābhōgō bimbādhararuchibhirantaḥ śabalitāṃ pratāpavyāmiśrāṃ puradamayituḥ kīrtimiva tē || 74 ||

O Mother, in the central place of Your Holy Breasts,

You wear the glittering chain of pearls,

Recovered from inside the head of Gajasura,

The luminous white shines with the redness of Your Lips

Resembling the bimba fruit,

As if it reflects the Fame and Valor

Of Your Lord Who destroyed three cities.

tava stanyam manyē dharaṇidharakanyē hṛdayataḥ
payaḥpārāvāraḥ parivahati sārasvatamiva |
dayāvatyā dattaṃ draviḍaśiśurāsvādya tava yat
kavīnāṃ prauḍhānāmajani kamanīyaḥ kavayitā || 75 ||

O Daughter of the King of the Mountains!

Your milk was given by You, Who is full of mercy,

To a child of the Dromilla country,

Is of the nature of Saraswati,

And blessed him to become a noted poet among great composers.

Stanza 76

hara-krōdhajvālāvali-bhiravalīḍhēna vapuṣā
gabhīrē tē nābhīsarasi kṛtasaṅgō manasijaḥ |
samuttasthau tasmādachalatanayē dhūmalatikā
janastāṃ jānītē tava janani rōmāvaliriti || 76 ||

Having been scorched by the flames of fury of

Hara Kamadeva immersed himself in the deep pool of

Your Navel And this gave rise to a tendril of smoke

Which has been identified as the Romavalli

Or line of hair that goes up from Thy Navel.

yadētat kālindītanutarataraṅgākṛti śivē
kṛśē madhyē kiñchijjanani tava yadbhāti sudhiyām |
vimardādanyō'nyaṃ kuchakalaśayōrantaragataṃ
tanūbhūtaṃ vyōma praviśadiva nābhiṃ kuhariṇīm || 77 ||

O Mother! That which shines in Thy Slender Waist, and Which is shaped like a very fine wave of the river Kalindi, Manifests to some as Your Navel Hair; but Is the Vyoma or interspace between Your pitcher like Breasts, Thinned by their pressure, to become A narrow stream entering the cave of Your Navel.

Stanza 78

sthirō gaṅgāvartaḥ stanamukularōmāvalilatākalāvālaṃ kuṇḍaṃ kusumaśaratējōhutabhujaḥ | ratērlīlāgāraṃ kimapi tava nābhirgirisutē biladvāraṃ siddhērgiriśanayanānāṃ vijayatē || 78 ||

O Daughter of the Mountain,

Thy Navel which is A steady whirlpool on the surface of the river Ganga

Which is a bed for Thy Romavalli (creeper like line of hair)

Is the hollow for the fire of the prowess of Kama,

Which is the pleasure house of his wife Rati,

And which forms an opening of the cave where

Girisa's Eyes found fulfillment of the great austerities

He performed.

nisargakṣīṇasya stanataṭabharēṇa klamajuṣō namanmūrtērnārītilaka śanakaistruṭyata iva | chiraṃ tē madhyasya truṭitataṭinītīrataruṇā samāvasthāsthēmnō bhavatu kuśalaṃ śailatanayē || 79 ||

O Best of Women!

O Daughter of the Mountain! May

Your naturally slim waist,

And whose precarious firmness

Is like a tree on the bank of a breached river,

Be Stable and Safe Forever!

Stanza 80

kuchau sadyaḥsvidyattaṭaghaṭitakūrpāsabhidurau kaṣantau dōrmūlē kanakakalaśābhau kalayatā | tava trātuṃ bhaṅgādalamiti valagnaṃ tanubhuvā tridhā naddhaṃ dēvi trivali lavalīvallibhiriva || 80 ||

O Mother Divine!

The three folds in Thy Middle Region

Resemble three strands of the Lavali creeper,

Wound around by Kamadeva, God of Love,

As a support to prevent Thy Middle Region from breaking

Under the weight of his creation

Rubbing against Thy armpits and Bursting their Bodice.

Quote from Shri Mataji's talk during Durga Puja, 1982-0926

"Now when I read, say, Adi Shankaracharya, I am amazed how he knows so many things about Me. He knows how My knee looks like; he knows how many lines I have on My Back; how many - I mean, it is very amazing how this man knows everything about Me. That means through his meditative power, he could envisage Me. He never saw Me. The description and everything is so clear cut. Now, if you say the thousand names of the Goddess, thousand names of the Goddess are so precise. I mean you can verify them in Me. I am just like that. Whatever is good or bad, whatever is said about Me is there. Is a fact. And it is the knowledge of these people is most remarkable: how did they know that a Goddess is like that. Like if you see Adi Shakaracharya's descriptions, or that even Markandeya's descriptions about Your Mother, its remarkable how little-little things they could see. From where, from what angles. And every little bit of Mother they could see, as a child would see, you see, absolutely close to the Mother. Certain of My Things, which I also don't know, but they are there, and they have described. It is very surprising. So their meditative power in India was great."

Quote from Shri Mataji's Talk during Seminar in Dole 1979-02-27

After writing a great treatise like Viveka Chudamani, Shankaracharya wrote another treatise "Soundarya Lahari". He has described the Mother, and these vibrations in them — which we call as Divine Vibrations. Someone asked him why did he start all this. He said, this is wisdom, and everything else is all ignorance. And it is such a symbolic thing that to understand their work you have to be really very deep, and very penetrating, for which the human mind so far is not able to see the work they have done. Like if you see Adi Shankaracharya's descriptions about your Mother, it is remarkable how little-little things He could see. From where. From what angles. And every little bit of Mother he could see, as a child would see, you see, absolutely close to the Mother. That means the innocence was complete and perfected.

Otherwise you can't see these points that they have seen. All the little things like the three folds

of the Mother. How can anyone see, but child can see that three folds of the mothers are there.

That She has three folds in Her Body. Only a child can see. Its tremendous I tell you, its tremendous, that innocence, their penetration and their courage. Need real courage to grow into that penetration."

Stanza 81

gurutvam vistāram kṣitidharapatiḥ pārvati nijānnitambādāchChidya tvayi haraṇarūpēṇa nidadhē | atastē vistīrṇō gururayamaśēṣāṃ vasumatīṃ nitambaprāgbhāraḥ sthagayati laghutvaṃ nayati cha || 81 ||

O Parvati! Thy Father the Mountain King

Gave the Weight and Expanse of his flanks to Thee

As dowry at the time of Thy Marriage.

It is for this reason that when Thy Hips cover the earth

They become more extensive than it, (Vishva Garbha);

And render the earth lighter in comparative weight and density.

Stanza 82

karīndrāṇāṃ śuṇḍān kanakakadalīkāṇḍapaṭalīmubhābhyāmūrubhyāmubhayamapi nirjitya bhavatī |
suvṛttābhyāṃ patyuḥ praṇatikaṭhinābhyāṃ girisutē
vidhijñyē jānubhyāṃ vibudhakarikumbhadvayamasi || 82 ||

O Daughter of the Mountain,

Thy Thighs surpass in beauty

The trunks of the lordly elephants, as also

Subdue the stem of golden coloured banana trees.

O Observer of all ordained duties.

Thy Knees, rounded to perfection

By repeated prostrations to Thy Consort,

Outshine the frontal globes of the Heavenly elephant Airavata.

Stanza 83

parājētum rudram dviguņašaragarbhau girisutē
niṣaṅgau jaṅghē tē viṣamaviśikhō bāḍhamakṛta |
yadagrē dṛśyantē daśaśaraphalāḥ pādayugalīnakhāgrachChadmānaḥ suramakuṭaśāṇaikaniśitāḥ || 83 ||

O Daughter of the Mountain!

The five- arrowed Cupid in order to challenge

Rudra Has used

Your Shanks as a quiver to store ten arrows.

For at the end of Your Feet In the guise of toenails.

Are crescent shaped arrowheads

Sharpened on the whetstone

Of the crowns of prostrating Divinities.

Stanza 84

śrutīnāṃ mūrdhānō dadhati tava yau śēkharatayā mamāpyētau mātaḥ śirasi dayayā dhēhi charaṇau | yayōḥ pādyaṃ pāthaḥ paśupatijaṭājūṭataṭinī yayōrlākṣālakṣmīraruṇaharichūḍāmaṇiruchiḥ || 84 || O Mother! The crest of the Veda (Upanishads)

Bears Thy Feet as a head ornament!

May You condescend to place

Thy Holy Feet on my head -

Those Feet from which water offerings

Become the Ganga in the matted locks of Pashupati;

And the bright red lac of which gives brilliance

To the gems on the crown of Vishnu!

Stanza 85

namōvākaṃ brūmō nayanaramaṇīyāya padayōstavāsmai dvandvāya sphuṭaruchirasālaktakavatē | asūyatyatyantaṃ yadabhihananāya spṛhayatē paśūnāmīśānaḥ pramadavanakaṅkēlitaravē || 85 ||

We offer salutations to Thy sparkling

Lotus Feet Which are a delight to the eyes;

Because of their brilliance from the liquid lac dye applied to Them.

Thy Consort Pashupati Who is desirous of being touched by Them

Is extremely jealous of the Kankeli (Asoka) trees

Of Your pleasure garden Because they too yearn for a kick from Your Feet.

mṛiṣā kṛtvā gōtraskhalanamatha vailakṣyanamitaṃ lalāṭē bhartāraṃ charaṇakamalē tāḍayati tē | chirādantaḥśalyaṃ dahanakṛtamunmūlitavatā tulākōṭikvāṇaiḥ kilikilitamīśānaripuṇā || 86 ||

O Devi! During a love quarrel

When Your Consort bowed His Head to appease

You For calling You by the name of another woman,

Your Feet touched His Forehead.

The bells of Your Anklets began to tinkle

As if Kama was giving out joyous acclamations

Of wreaking vengeance

For Isa once consuming Him with fire

From His Third Eye!

Stanza 87

himānīhantavyaṃ himagirinivāsaikachaturau niśāyāṃ nidrāṇaṃ niśi charamabhāgē cha viśadau | varaṃ lakṣmīpātraṃ śriyamatisṛjantau samayināṃ sarōjaṃ tvatpādau janani jayataśchitramiha kim || 87 ||

O Mother of the Universe!

Thy Lotus Feet

Permanently flourishing on the mountain of snow,

Blooming day and night, and bestowing

Undecaying Lakshmi on Your inner devotees,

Are far superior to the common lotus flower

Which perishes in snow;

And which closes at night to form the resort of Lakshmi.

Stanza 88

padam tē kīrtīnām prapadamapadam dēvi vipadām katham nītam sadbhih kaṭhinakamaṭhīkarparatulām katham vā bāhubhyāmupayamanakālē purabhidā yadādāya nyastam dṛṣadi dayamānēna manasā || 88 ||

The Upper Part of Thy Feet are the seat

Of all excellences and perfections;

Then how is it that poets compare them

To the broad shell of a tortoise!

And how did Thy Consort, the Destroyer of the Cities,

Who is all tenderness towards Thee,

Have the heart to place Thy delicate Feet

On a hard grinding stone During Thy marriage rite!

Stanza 89

nakhair nākastrīņāṃ karakamalasaṅkōchaśaśibhistarūṇāṃ divyānāṃ hasata iva tē chaṇḍi charaṇau | phalāni svaḥsthēbhyaḥ kisalayakarāgrēṇa dadatāṃ daridrēbhyō bhadrāṃ śriyamaniśamahnāya dadatau || 89 ||

O Chandi! The moonlike Nails of Thy Feet

Which make the lotus-like palms of heavenly damsels close,

And which shower abundant wealth quickly on humble and poor devotees,

Mock at the wish-fulfilling Kalpala trees of heaven,

Whose tender branches bestow gifts

Only to Devas who already live in heavenly affluence!

Stanza 90

dadānē dīnēbhyaḥ śriyamaniśamāśānusadṛśīmamandaṃ saundaryaprakaramakarandaṃ vikirati |
tavāsmin mandārastabakasubhagē yātu charaṇē
nimajjanmajjīvaḥ karaṇacharaṇaḥ ṣaṭcharaṇatām || 90 ||

Thy Feet are a veritable bunch of Mandara flowers

Dripping the honey of beauty, and are a liberal giver

Of wealth to Thy poor devotees.

May my Spirit, with its six organs of knowledge

Turn into the six legged honey sucking bee

Permanently hovering at Your Lotus Feet.

Stanza 91

padanyāsakrīḍāparichayamivārabdhumanasaḥ skhalantastē khēlaṃ bhavanakalahaṃsā na jahati | atastēṣāṃ śikṣāṃ subhagamaṇimañjīraraṇitachChalādāchakṣāṇaṃ charaṇakamalaṃ chārucharitē || 91 ||

O Goddess of Holy Fame!

The royal swans of Thy residence

Never give up their observation of Thy divine gait,

So that they correct their own defective movements,

And it seems as if Thy Lotus Feet are

Giving them lessons by the tinkling sounds

Of Thy gem studded anklets.

Stanza 92

gatāstē mañchatvaṃ druhiṇaharirudrēśvarabhṛtaḥ śivaḥ svach-chach-chāyā-ghaṭitaka-paṭaprach-chadapaṭaḥ | tvadīyānāṃ bhāsāṃ pratiphalanarāgāruṇatayā śarīrī śaṛṅgārō rasa iva dṛśāṃ dōgdhi kutukam || 92 ||

Brahma, Vishnu, Rudra and Ishwara

Have assumed the support of Thy Couch

In order to serve Thee in close vicinity

While Sadashiva forms Himself into a Canopy

Reflecting Thy crimson glory on His assumed whiteness

Thereby causing amazement to Thee

For presenting Himself for Your Desire!

Stanza 93

arālā kēśēşu prakṛtisaralā mandahasitē śirīṣābhā chittē dṛṣadupalaśōbhā kuchataṭē | bhṛśaṃ tanvī madhyē pṛthururasijārōhaviṣayē jagattrātuṃ śambhōrjayati karuṇā kāchidaruṇā || 93 ||

Thus, for the welfare of the worlds, abides in all

Her glory Aruna the Shakti, the very embodiment of graciousness

With Her curly braids, Her artless smile;

Her heart soft like the Sirisa flower

Her breasts as tight and firm as a grinding stone,

Her waist is extremely slender.

Stanza 94

kalaṅkaḥ kastūrī rajanikarabimbaṃ jalamayaṃ
kalābhiḥ karpūrairmarakatakaraṇḍaṃ nibiḍitam |
atastvadbhōgēna pratidinamidaṃ riktakuharaṃ
vidhirbhūyō bhūyō nibiḍayati nūnaṃ tava kṛtē || 94 ||

The mark on the moon is musk,

And her water disc an emerald receptacle

For holding pieces of fragrant camphor In the form of digits of the Moon.

As and when the contents of the receptacle

Are exhausted by Your using them Brahma fills it up, day by day, for

Thee With the waxing moon.

Stanza 95

purārātērantaḥpuramasi tatastvachcharaṇayōḥ saparyāmaryādā taralakaraṇānāmasulabhā | tathā hyētē nītāḥ śatamakhamukhāḥ siddhimatulāṃ tava dvārōpāntasthitibhiraṇimādyābhiramarāḥ || 95 ||

Thou art the Consort of the Destroyer of the Cities,

Residing in His inner apartment, to which

Those with unregenerate minds find no entry,

And are therefore denied the privilege of

The immediate worship of Thy Feet.

It is therefore, all the Deities, headed by Indra

Who by their unparalleled austerities only

Have been able to attain Anima

And other psychic powers, which are but

Thy gatekeepers.

Stanza 96

kalatram vaidhātram katikati bhajantē na kavayaḥ śriyō dēvyāḥ kō vā na bhavati patiḥ kairapi dhanaiḥ | mahādēvam hitvā tava sati satīnāmacharamē kuchābhyāmāsaṅgaḥ kuravakatarōrapyasulabhaḥ || 96 ||

O Embodiment of Chastity!

Numerous poets have won favor

And attained Saraswati,

Deity of Learning and Fine Arts, Consort of Brahma.

Similarly with their wealth, some have managed to become

Lord of Sree (Goddess of Wealth) and Consort of Vishnu.

But O Foremost of the Chaste Ones,

No one besides Shiva, the Great God; not even the tree called Kuravaka,

Has ever had the proximity of Your Embrace!

girāmāhurdēvīṃ druhiṇagṛhiṇīmāgamavidō
harēḥ patnīṃ padmāṃ harasahacharīmadritanayām |
turīyā kāpi tvaṃ duradhigamaniḥsīmamahimā
mahāmāyā viśvaṃ bhramayasi parabrahmamahiṣi || 97 ||

O Consort of Parabrahma!

Scholars who know

The real meaning of the scriptures describe

Thee As Saraswati, Goddess of learning and Consort of Brahma;

Then they speak of Thee as the lotus born Lakshmi,

Consort of Vishnu;

As also the Daughter of the Mountain Parvati, Consort of Shiva.

But Thou, however, are Above and Beyond. The Fourth.

The Source of the Three Deities.

Of inconceivable and limitless majesties.

The indeterminable Mahamaya!

Who wields the Wheel of this Creation!

Stanza 98

kadā kālē mātaḥ kathaya kalitālaktakarasaṃ
pibēyaṃ vidyārthī tava charaṇanirṇējanajalam |
prakṛtyā mūkānāmapi cha kavitākāraṇatayā
kadā dhattē vāṇīmukhakamalatāmbūlarasatām || 98 ||

O Mother! Tell me when I, a seeker of truth,

Shall have the privilege of imbibing the red liquid water

With which Thy lac painted Feet have been washed,

Water that can generate poetic genius

Even in a naturally dumb person.

When can I expect it to flow out my mouth

As great poetry, which forms the chewed betel leaf juice

Of Vani, the Goddess of Learning and Poetry.

Stanza 99

sarasvatyā lakṣmyā vidhiharisapatnō viharatē
ratēḥ pātivratyaṃ śithilayati ramyēṇa vapuṣā |
chiraṃ jīvannēva kṣapitapaśupāśavyatikaraḥ
parānandābhikhyaṃ rasayati rasaṃ tvadbhajanavān || 99 ||

O Mother, a devotee of thine gets awarded

With the attention and blessings of Saraswati and Lakshmi,

And courts the jealousy of their Consorts, Brahma and Vishnu;

His body becomes radiant with vibrations

And gets the attention of Rati, wife of Kamadeva;

He breaks the bondage of ignorance and gets immersed

In the Supreme Bliss of spiritual realization

Even in this embodied state.

Stanza 100

pradīpajvālābhirdivasakaranīrājanavidhiḥ
sudhāsūtēśchandrōpalajalalavairarghyarachanā |
svakīyairambhōbhiḥ salilanidhisauhityakaraṇaṃ
tvadīyābhirvāgbhistava janani vāchāṃ stutiriyam || 100 ||

Just as doing Aarti (Niranjana) to the Sun,

Is only an offering of His own light to Him;

Just as making an offering (Arghya) to the Moon

With the water that oozes out of the moonstone

On contact with moonlight, Is only to give back what belongs to the Moon;

And just as making water offering (Tarpana) to the Ocean

Is to return what belongs to Him,

So also, O Source of All Learning,

This Hymn addressed to Thee Is composed of words that are Already Thine!

Sakshat Shri Shivashakti Sakshat Shri Adishakti Mataji Shri Nirmala Devi Namoh Namah



"Adi Shankacharya started giving expression to his recognition of the Great Goddess. Every stanza is an outpouring of his recognition and description of Her Full Power and Glory which he could see. And he sat down and began to write Saundarya Lahari. In that he says it is only the description of the beauty of my Mother. Her fingers, Her hands, Her movements, and everything. And what he saw. He saw how the vibrations move in Her every word that She speaks. You have to read that book to understand Sahaja Yoga....But unless and until you have Realisation you cannot know the truth."

-H.H. Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi, March 4th, 1981

This version of Saundarya Lahari was translated by a Sahaja Yogini.

Cover used with permission of Sahaj Yogi John Watkinson.