

Haridasas of Karnataka

Dasa Sahithya : Selected, Abridged Works – Part 3

- Prof. D.V. Potdar

34.

Surrender, to the feet of Shreepadraj,
With firm devotion,
Immense fortune will be yours,
You'll feel no want.

Easy, like gems found in water
collected in a cow's foot-print
happiness of all sorts will be yours,
No nonsense'll your lips utter.

On the spiritual path, earning fame,
Life after life, a pious man,
Singing the fame of Gopalkrishna
Sinless, you move about,
your wishes fulfilled by kings.

Joining the company of those who call him,
Shripadraya, Shiri Narayan, ascetic,
You see salvation awaiting, at your door.
And'll be an achiever –by word or sword!

To be a real devotee,
Think of his feet always.
Be free from passions,
No other way for salvation,
Devoted to Vijaya vithal reya,
Spouse of Laxmi,
You'll excel among his followers,
receive blessings of Vyasamuniraya,
and Purandara das,
Learn devotion of nine kinds,
And acquire the ultimate* body.

For those wallowing in hell or
living on earth,
his story works wonders.
No joke this, but words from the heart,

Vijaya vithal's favourites,
By his blessings'll reach great heights.

* charama deha

35.

I've conquered the fear of life and death,
crossed the ocean of life;
I've lived in the company of the good,
meditated on Hari's name;
and kicked away sins accumulated;
I fell at the feet of Hari
Defectless, Lord Vijaya vithal reya,
Led me to the feet of the guru.

-- Vijaya das

36.

I'll wash dishes,
I'll wash the feet of the Lotus-in-the-navel,
I'll fetch beautiful garlands,
I'll hold the torch during the evening worship,
I'll be the doorman of Hari Vaikuntha das.

-- Kanak das

37.

Wherever His story is sung,
There the holy rivers,
Ganga, Yamuna, Goda, Saraswati, Sindhu,
Flow, meet,
And our Lord Purandar vithal will
be pleased.

38.

Pluck the strings of the lute,
you'll cross the ocean of life;
Strike the cymbals,
you'll join the group of gods;
With jingling feet, tread on the demons,
Sing His praise, you'll have a glimpse of the Lord,

And the sight of Purndara vithal,
Will set you free.

39.

All that happened, is for the best,
For it has led me to Him.

Shy, I didn't want to hold the lute,
the staff,
Bless my wife,
She made me hold both.

Proud like a king,
I didn't want to hold the begging bowl,
Bless my wife,
She made me take up one.

Ashamed, (I was),
Like a king, to wear a tulsi garland,
Purandar vithal, lotus-eyed,
Made me wear one.

-- Purandar das

40.

Narada, come to the earth*,
reborn as Purandar,
Shout "Narayana", get the suffering
souls out of hell.
Hiranyakashipus pollute the world,
Violence chokes the righteous,
Let your good words bring a whiff of
fresh air.
Fetch Pralhad, let him give us,
A glimpse of Narasimha.
The inauspicious meeting of planets
Will sure cause the death of many,
Come like an ally, bring sage Vyasa,**
Let him, seated in our hearts,
dispel all the evils.
Let edifying words fall from your lips,
free us from all ills, and point out,
The glory, mercifulness of

Sitaram vithal.

* reminds us of, "Milton, thou shouldst be living at this hour".

**Vyasraya

-- Sitaram vithal das

41.

I wish not to wed--
Benaka, stumbling at every step,
Shanmukha, with the many mouths,
Indra, with eyes all over his body,
Chandra, who waxes and wanes,
Surya, who burns up,
Hara, with the eye in the forehead,
Bring me Ranga vithal,
Handsome, master of the world.

-- Shreepad raj

42.

Stand, rocklike in the rough waters of life,
Be, accommodating among kinsmen,
Soft spoken, among the learned,
And win His grace by quiet worship.

43.

Boatman*, consort of the mother
of the world, I rely on you,
The boat is full of water,
Has sprung nine leaks,
Hurry, steer it, reach me to the shore.

See the current of the river,
And its force, boatman,
I've been caught in a whirlpool,
Drowned, stretch your hand,
Drag me away.

In the wake of truth, boatman,
Working the oars of devotion,
Ferry me to Purandar vithal,

Port of freedom, release!

* Veda vyas boat—human body

44.

Hari cares not for mere melodies,
nor accompaniment, without devotion.
But shed joyful tears, be thrilled at
every step,
Shout 'Shri Hari',
And Purandar vithal will listen.

-- Purandar das

45.

Goddess Ganga,
The sight of you, washes
sins of a hundred lives,
Your touch, sins of three hundred,
And a dip of a thousand!

--Shrid vithal das

46.

Bumblebee, has the Lord sent you from
Mathura?
Your sight reminds us of Him,
Makes us happy,
How's Prince Charming?*

We hope he is well, and is
flourishing.

(from bumblebee-song)

* chennigar arasu (the poet's words)

47.

Call Him by any name,
Kashi Vishweshwar, Nandi rider,
Three-eyed god, or Ganapati's dad,
Consort of Ambika, Destroyer of Kama,

Blue-neck, Moon-crest,
Or Elephant-hide drest,
Ally of devotees,
Favourite of Prasanna venkat,
And be free from sins.

--Prasanna venkat das

48.

Just touch the feet of the devotee,
who has kept awake the whole night
on the eleventh day*,
You'll acquire the merit of--
Bathing in the sea, gifting land,
Studying godlore and practicing yoga

Daily rituals you may skip,
But on the twelfth day*,
Pray, and at the scheduled time,
Feast in the company of pious folk,
You'll conquer death,
And Gopal vitthal,
Will lead you on the right path.

* ekadashi, dwadashi

49.

Devotion, without faith in
Madhwa's creed,
Is no good;
Wealth without charity,
Is no good;
Kings who hurt subjects,
Are no good;
A life without a wife,
Is no good;
A home, where guests are not fed,
Is no good;
A wife who cares not for her husband,
Is no good!

---Vijaya das

50.

Oh, the magic of our Lord's name !
The shouting of the word "Narahari" ---
rescued an elephant from a crocodile,
saved, Pralhad from torture,
Draupadi from dishonour,
Ajamila from Yama's flunkeys,
and protected Dhruva in the forest,
If Your mere name works such wonders,
We'll not care for You,
Purandara vithala !

-- Purandar das

51.

Lakumi pati,
For You your devotees
are everything,
They go after You, and You
after them,
You have, cleaned dishes for them,
been their doorman,
and held up an umbrella.
For you have sworn, " I'll give up
Lakumi, rather than my devotees"
Gopal vithal!

52.

Hari, you seem to be tired,
Why?
Is it because, you buoyed up
a mountain?
Or fought princes to get a princess?
Or have you sprained your leg
while gauging the sky?
Or is it because, you were chased by
many dames?
I know all this is pretence,
Gopal vithal.

53.

Hey presto, my ignorance has fled!

Is it because, I touched the feet
of the holy ?
Or is it due to my dip in the
Madhwa lake ?
Or did somebody pick my pocket,
while Your car festival I watched ?
I have lost our legacy,
Please restore it, fast,
Gopal vithal !

54.

Basking in the Lord's and the guru's
grace,
I don't mind, my wife going mad,
or my sons turning bad,
Friends becoming foes, loss of assets,
The ruler's pleasures or displeasures
boquets or brickbats from the people,
or being called a fool,
Gopal vithal.

55.

Worldly pleasures,
Are like, dinner served on a blanket,
Or on a tiny leaf.

Like provisions, stored for a marriage
cooked for funeral dishes.*

People care for a string of pearls,
But not for the string, sans pearls.

* reminds us of " Thrift, thrift Horatio" etc-Hamlet

56.

No age like the present,
To be free from sins,
And attain release;
Just sing His praise,
Gopal vithal,
Be united with Him,

And turn Kali into Krita !*

* the two traditional ages

--Gopal das

57.

Doggie, doggie curly tail,
What have you been eating ?
Sniffing where dough is kneaded,
By the cooks you're hounded,
And howl, by the pestle wounded!

--Purandar das

58.

I sat on a cache,
But knew it not,
A necklace hung round my neck,
But I knew it not,
Mother sleeps close to a
new-born babe,
But the babe knows her not,
You dwelt in my heart,
But I knew it not,
Until Your devotees pointed
You out, Shri krishna

--Vyasaraaya

59.

Your wife, cot, mirror, wealth,
All, all are left behind.
So don't stow away things,
Gift them rather.

--Purandar das

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