Hari Om / ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở ở



नमस्ते शारदेदेवि काश्मीर-पुरवासिनि । त्वामहं प्रार्थये नित्यं विद्यां बुद्धिं च देहि म तक्राग्रुं काठवाँवाँधि काश्रुं टि-डाठकाश्रित्र । बगुकाळ० डाुक्ट्रां तेडू० ध्वत्रु० थात्वे० स वाँथ्व काँ ॥

Namaste śāradedevi kāśmīra-puravāsini | Tvāmahaṁ prārthaye nityaṁ vidyāṁ buddhiṁ ca dehi me || 1 ||

सरस्वती स्तुति Sarasvatī Stuti

नमस्ते – Salutations शारदेदेवि – Goddess of Wisdom काश्मीरपुरवासिनि – One who abides in the City of Kashmir त्वाम् – to you अहम् –। प्रार्थये – pray to you नित्यं – daily विद्यां – knowledge बुद्धिं – wisdom च – and देहि मे – to bestow upon me

Salutations to Sharadadevi, who is the Goddess of Wisdom and who abides in the City of Kashmir. I pray to You daily to bestow upon me Knowledge and Wisdom.

Sarasvati, Sharadadevi is referred to as residing in the City of Kashmir. In India administered Kashmir there is a temple dedicated to Goddess Sharada in the Village of Sharada. Many years ago the Hindus there prayed to Mother Sharada as Kashmira-puravasini; hence this reference in the above Stotram.

The Goddess of Wisdom is ever available to all. Yet, for Her grace to be experienced, there must be an intense yearning for knowledge, especially knowledge of the Self, in the seeker. This yearning in the heart of the seeker manifests as a prayer and thus the seeker prays, not once but repeatedly, daily to Mother Sarasvati to grace Her wisdom upon him. While Self-knowledge can be got by use of the intellect, to gain the experience of that knowledge, i.e., to gain wisdom, is possible only by the Grace of the Goddess, as it is beyond all human capacities.

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या श्रद्धा धारणा मेधा वाग्देवी विधिवङभा ।
भक्तजिह्वाग्रसदना शमादि-गुणदायिनी ॥
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ಯಾ ಶ್ರದ್ಧಾ ಧಾರಣಾ ಮೇಧಾ ವಾಗ್ದೇವೀ ವಿಧಿವಲ್ಲಭಾ ।
ಭಕ್ತಜಿಹ್ವಾಗ್ರಸದನಾ ಶಮಾದಿ ಗುಣದಾಯಿನೀ ॥
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Yāśraddhādhāraņā medhāvāgdevī-vidhivallabhā | Bhaktajihvāgrasadanā śamādi-guņadāyinī || 2 ||



या – One who is श्रद्धा – faith धारणा – retention, memory, concentration मेधा – intelligence वाग्देवी – Goddess of speech विधिवङभा – Consort of the Creator Brahmaa भक्त – devotee जिह्वाय – at the tip of the tongue सदना – One who makes a home शमादि – shama etc. (shama, dama, uparati etc.) गुण – qualities दायिनी – giver

(I bow down to) the One who is the personification of Faith (Shraddha), Concentration, Memory, Retention and Intelligence. I bow down to the Goddess of Speech who is the consort of the creator, Brahmaa, to the One who makes the tip of the tongue of a devotee as her home and bestows the six qualities such as shama, dama, uparati etc.

Mother Sarasvati is the Goddess of knowledge and gaining this highest knowledge involves starting from developing the strength and right usage of the Antahkarana (inner equipment) and the essentialities such as Shraddha and viveka. Thus Mother Sarasvati is also the Goddess of all the aspects and qualities of the antahkarana.

Mother Sarasvati is the beloved consort of the Creator Brahmaa, providing the knowledge required for creation. The Human species is the best of the creator's creation as it is the human who can use the special faculty of Viveka to gain the highest wisdom – experiential knowledge of the Self! Mother resides on the tip of the tongue of such a human, who is now referred to as a bhakta, who prays for Her Grace. Her Grace is experienced by devotees as the various qualities categorized as the Shadsampatti (Sama, Dama, Uparati, Titiksha, Shraddha and Samadhana) manifest in them.

नमामि यामिनीनाथ लेखालङ्कृत कुन्तलाम् । भवानीं भवसन्ताप निर्वापण-सुधानदीम् ॥

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ನಮಾಮಿ ಯಾಮಿನೀ ನಾಥ ಲೇಖಾಲಂಕೃತ ಕುಂತಲಾಮ್ । ಭವಾನೀಂ ಭವಸಂತಾಪ ನಿರ್ವಾಪಣ–ಸುಧಾನದೀಮ್ ॥

Namāmi yāminīnātha lekhālaṅkṛta kuntalām | Bhavānīṁ bhavasantāpa nirvāpaṇa-sudhānadīm || 3 ||

नमामि – I bow यामिनीनाथ – Lord of the night, the Moon लेखालङ्कृत – adorned with the streaks/lines (lekha) कुन्तलाम् – to the one who has [such] ear rings भवानीं – to Bhavani, the mother of the Universe भवसन्ताप – scorching pains and sorrow of samsara निर्वापण – extinguishing सुधा – nectar नदीम् – to [such] river

I bow down to the One, who wears earrings, which are adorned with the streaks of moonlight - Mother Bhavani, the Mother of the Universe, the nectarine river who extinguishes the scorching pains and sorrows of samsara.



Just as the moonlight guides travelers on their journey in the darkness of the night, Mother Bhavani guides all her devotees in their journey of sadhana which is through darkness ridden samsara. The comparison given here is the light reflected off the earrings worn by Mother Sarasvati.

She is the Mother of the entire universe and the only one capable of lifting her children out of this samsara. Thus, she is the nectarine river that puts out the scorching sorrows and helplessness that samsara inflicts upon her children, especially the seekers!!

Samsara is the result of ignorance and hence the solution to the issues of samsara is knowledge, subjective knowledge alone. Thus, Mother Sarasvati, Goddess of Vidya is the only one capable of removing this avidya(ignorance) and the resultant samsara. May our mind be constantly tuned to the Grace of Mother Sarasvati.

भद्रकाल्ये नमो नित्यं सरस्वत्ये नमो नमः । वेदवेदाङ्गवेदान्त विद्यास्थानेभ्य एव च ॥

ಭದ್ರಕಾಲ್ಯೈ ನಮೋ ನಿತ್ಯಂ ಸರಸ್ವತ್ಯೈ ನಮೋ ನಮಃ । ವೇದ–ವೇದಾಂಗ–ವೇದಾಂತ ವಿದ್ಯಾಸ್ಥಾನೇಭ್ಯ ಏವ ಚ ॥

bhadrakālyai namo nityam sarasvatyai namo namaļ | vedavedāngavedānta vidyāsthānebhya eva ca || 4 ||

भद्रकाल्ये – for the auspicious Mother Kali नमो – salutation नित्यं – daily सरस्वत्ये – for Sarasvati नामे – salutation नमः – salutations वेद – the Vedas वेदाङ्ग – the six limbs of the Vedas वेदान्त – the end part of Vedas, the Upanishads विद्यास्थानेभ्य – from [other] places of knowledge एव – also च – and

Constant salutations to the Auspicious Mother Kali! Repeated salutations to Mother Sarasvati, Goddess of Knowledge which forms the six limbs of the vedas, the Vedanta/ Upanishads and that which is obtained from other sources of knowledge too.

Bhadrakali is the Goddess of destruction of evil to restore auspiciousness. Goddess Sarasvati is the one who bestows upon us knowledge. In essence, the two forms of Devi bless us with what is needed to attain liberation. Evil manifests as ignorance alone; the rest of the evils are by products of ignorance.

The removal or destruction of ignorance is restoring of knowledge. This knowledge is given by the Lord, in the form of the vedas which forms the highest authority for Self-knowledge.

To gain this highest knowledge, the antahkarana needs to be well equipped. To thus prepare the antahkarana, knowledge from various other sources are very helpful. Whatever the source maybe, knowledge is Mother Sarasvati. We pray to Devi again and again for this knowledge, as knowledge is the only way out of this samsara.



ब्रह्मस्वरूपा परमा ज्योतिरूपा सनातनी । सर्वविद्याधिदेवी या तस्यै वाण्यै नमो नमः ॥

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ಬ್ರಹ್ಮಸ್ವರೂಪಾ ಪರಮಾ ಜ್ಯೋತಿರೂಪಾ ಸನಾತನೀ । ಸರ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಧಿದೇವೀ ಯಾ ತಸ್ಯೈ ವಾಣ್ಯೈ ನಮೋ ನಮಃ ॥

<u>؈ٞ؈ٞ؈ٞ؈ٞ؈ٞ؈</u>

Brahmasvarūpā paramā jyotirūpā sanātanī | Sarvavidyādhidevī yā tasyai vāņyai namo namaķ || 5 ||

ब्रह्मस्वरूपा – One who is of the nature of Brahman परमा – the Supreme (fem.) ज्योतिरूपा – in the form of light, illumination (fem.) सनातनी – Eternal (fem.) सर्वविद्याधिदेवी – Presiding Goddess of all knowledge या – One who is (fem.) तस्यै – for Her वाण्ये – for Speech नमो – salutation नमः – salutation

Salutations again and again, to that Goddess of Speech, Vani, who is the presiding deity of all knowledge, the Eternal, Supreme One, who is of the nature of Brahman manifesting in the form of illumination (Awareness)

Goddess Sarasvati is in essence the Eternal, the Supreme, the Brahman alone!! Awareness is Brahman. Brahmaswaroopa Sarasvati is Jyothiswaroopa!! Jyothi, light is personification of manifested awareness that destroys the darkness, ie., ignorance. Awareness manifests as thought, that is then expressed as speech. It is through speech that knowledge is given and received. Thus, Mother Sarasvati, who is the Presiding deity of all knowledge, is also addressed as Vani, Goddess of Speech.

यया विना जगत्सर्वं शश्वज्जीवन्मृतं भवेत् । ज्ञानाधिदेवी या तस्यै सरस्वत्यै नमो नमः ॥ ಯಯಾ ವಿನಾ ಜಗತ್ಸವ೯० ಶಶ್ವಜ್ಜೀವನ್ಮೃತಂ ಭವೇತ್ । ಜ್ಞಾನಾಧಿದೇವೀ ಯಾ ತಸ್ಯೈ ಸರಸ್ವತ್ಯೈ ನವೋ ನಮಃ ॥

yayāvinā jagatsarvam šašvajjīvanmṛtam bhavet | jñanādhidevī yā tasyai sarasvatyai namo namaḥ || 6 ||

यया – whom विना – without जगत् – world सर्वं – entire राश्वज्जीवन् – whole life मृतम् – dead भवेत् – becomes ज्ञानाधिदेवी – presiding Goddess of knowing या – one who (fem.) तस्ये – for her सरस्वत्ये – for Sarasvati नमो – salutation नमः – salutation

Salutations again and again to the presiding deity of knowing – Sarasvati, without whom the entire world and whole life becomes (as good as) dead!!

The whole world and my life exists only in my awareness of the world. This is the reason the world and my life ceases to exist for me when I am in deep sleep and is again back in the morning when my awareness awakens!!So also, my life!!



In the waking state, my antahkarana functions tirelessly thus manifesting my world to me. Similarly, the dream world again is the creation of my antahkarana alone!! The antahkarana is made of thoughts which are an expression of knowing!!

Knowing is manifestation of awareness. Thus, we can say that without awareness or the knowing principle, the world and my life is as good as dead.

Salutations!! Salutations to this knowing principle or Goddess Sarasvati!!

## यया विना जगत्सर्वं मूकमुन्मत्तवत्सदा । या देवी वागधिष्ठात्री तस्ये वाण्ये नमो नमः ।

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ಯಯಾ ವಿನಾ ಜಗತ್ಸರ್ವಂ ಮೂಕಮುನ್ಮತ್ತವತ್ಸದಾ ।
ಯಾ ದೇವೀ ವಾಗದಿಷ್ಠಾತ್ರೀ ತಸ್ಯೈ ವಾಣ್ಯೈ ನಮೋ ನಮಃ ॥
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Yayā vinā jagatsarvam mūkamunmattavatsadā | Yā devī vāgadhisthātrī tasyai vāņyai namo namah || 7 ||

यया – whom विना – without जगत् – world सर्वं – entire मूकम् – dumb, speechless उन्मत्तवत् – like insane सदा – always या – that which देवी – Goddess वागधिष्ठात्री – presiding Goddess of Speech तस्ये – for her वाण्ये – for Speech नमो – salutation नमः – salutation

Salutations again and again to the presiding deity of speech – Sarasvati, without whom the entire world becomes dumb, speechless and as though always insane!!

The entire Jagat (Jayate-born; Gacchati-goes; Tishthati-stays) is alive and functioning due to the ability to communicate. Among us humans, the most important mode of communication is Speech. Imagine the world without the ability of Speech, a dumb, speechless world!! The human species would go insane if one day the ability of speech in them is removed!!

All the teachings and learnings, be it in the objective or subjective sense are based on speech! Thus speech is an important tool for plain living and more so, in the adhyatmic learning. In fact the vedas are referred to as Shabdapramana, which is the highest pramana(proof, authority) while using logic and reasoning. Shabda here refers to speech.

As mentioned earlier, Mother Sarasvati is the Vagadhishthatri – presiding deity of speech, also referred to as Vani. Salutations to Mother Vani!!

The above stuti of Goddess Sarasvati brings out the importance of awareness, knowledge and speech in the evolution/journey of the seeker. As knowledge of the Self is the only antidote to samsara which is ever ridden with shoka (sorrows) and moha (delusion), a seeker who wishes to rise above the samsara and realize his True Self will be graced by Mother Sarasvati, Goddess of Knowledge! Hence, in most of the shlokas we find Nityam and Namo Namah - Salutations!! Salutations daily!! The power of Samsara Maya is such that every day, every moment we seem to be deluded and hence the need to pray repeatedly for Devi's grace to protect us and keep us going on the path of sadhana. May we constantly be tuned to Devi's guidance!

Salutations to Mother Sarasvati !! Date: 16-01-2017