

श्री हनुमान् चालीसा ಹನುಮಾನ್ ಚಾಲೀಸಾ Śrī Hanumāna Cālīsā

मङ्गलश्लोकः

अतुलित-बल-धामं हेम-शैलाभ-देहं दनुजवन-कृषानुं ज्ञानिनामग्रगण्यम् सकल-गुण-निधानं वानराणामधीशं रघुपति-प्रिय-भक्तं वातजातं नमामि ॥ॐ श्री हनुमते नमः॥

ಮಂಗಲಶ್ಲೋಕಃ

ಅತುಲಿತಬಲ-ಧಾಮಂ ಹೇಮ-ಶೈಲಾಭ-ದೇಹಂ

ದನುಜವನಕೃಶಾನುಂ ಜ್ಞಾನಿನಾಮಗ್ರಗಣ್ಯಮ್ II

ಸಕಲ-ಗುಣ-ನಿಧಾನಂ ವಾನರಾಣಾಮಧೀಶಂ

ರಘುಪತಿ-ಪ್ರಿಯ-ಭಕ್ತಂ ವಾತಜಾತಂ ನಮಾಮಿ II

II ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಹನುಮತೇ ನಮಃ II

Maṅgalaślokaḥ

Atulitabala-dhāmam hema-śailābha-deham
Danujavanakṛśānum jñāninām agragaṇyam
Sakala-guṇa-nidhānam vānarāṇām adhīśam
Raghupati-priya-bhaktam vātajātam namāmi
II 🕉 Śrī Hanumate Namaḥ II

I bow to the son of Wind God, the beloved devotee of Sri Rama (Lord of the Raghus), the chief of the monkeys, the repository of all values, the foremost among the wise, a fire to consume the forest of the demon race, possessing a body shining as a mountain of gold and home of immeasurable strength.

Reflections:

Hanuman!! The favourite God of all, young and old alike!! Why? What is special about this monkey-God? The first thought that comes to a child is - Hanumanji is superman, strong and brave! The first thought that comes to an elder is his humility and unparalleled devotion to Lord Rama! The above sloka is the Mangalasloka, sloka in praise of the Hero of this Chalisa, Lord Hanuman!

In introducing this Hero, Goswami Tulasidasji, the composer of Hanuman Chalisa, starts off with the description of Lord Hanumanji as the very abode of unparalleled strength! What kind of strength did our dear Hanumanji possess? He certainly had immeasurable physical strength. However, that was not all!! He possessed strength that comes naturally for one who is the best among the Jnanis; strength that is a result of being the very abode, the very storehouse of virtues; strength that comes in full measure for the One is so very dear to the Lord! And most importantly, strength that would be put to right use – to kill the demons within and without.

दोहा ।

श्रीगुरु चरन सरोज रज निजमनु मुकुरु सुधारि बरनउ रघुबर बिमल जसु जो दायकु फल चारि बुद्धिहीन तनु जानिके सुमिरौ पवन कुमार बल बुधि बिद्या देहु मोहि हरहु कलेस बिकार

ದೋಹಾ ॥

ಶ್ರೀ ಗುರು ಚರಣ ಸರೋಜ ರಜ ನಿಜ ಮನು ಮುಕುರು ಸುಧಾರಿ ಬರನಉ ರಘುಬರ ಬಿಮಲ ಜಸು ಜೋ ದಾಯಕು ಫಲ ಚಾರಿ || ಬುದ್ಧಿ ಹೀನ ತನು ಜಾನಿಕೇ ಸುಮಿರೌ ಪವನ ಕುಮಾರ ಬಲ ಬುದ್ಧಿ ಬಿದ್ಯಾ ದೇಹು ಮೊಹೀ ಹರಹು ಕಲೇಸ ಬಿಕಾರ || || ಟಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಹನುಮತೇ ನಮಃ ||

Dohā

Śrī Guru Caraṇa saroja raja nija manu mukuru sudhāri
Baranaū Raghubara bimala jasu jo dāyaka phala cāri
Buddhihīna tanu jānike sumirau Pavana Kumāra
Bala buddhi bidyā dehu mohi harahu kalesa bikāra

With a flawless serene mind purified by the dust of the lotus feet of Guru, I now proceed to describe the unblemished glory of Sri Hanumanji, the most exalted one of the Raghu family, who is capable of bestowing the four results (purusharthas) on His devotees.

Knowing that I am ignorant, I pray to you, Sri Hanumanji, the son of Wind God, to bless me with strength, wisdom and knowledge. Please relieve me of all my afflictions.

Reflections:

The Grace of the Guru makes one's mind dwell on the Lord rendering it pure and peaceful. Thus, Goswami Tulasidasji says with complete confidence that his mind (mirror of his mind) has been purified and made peaceful by the Grace of his Guru (cleaned with the dust of the feet of his Guru) and is now fit to describe the glories of Lord Hanuman. In the entire Ramayana there is only one person regarding whom there is not even the slightest criticism!! That is our very own Hanumanji!! One whose glories are absolutely unblemished (vimala yasha)!!

Goswami Tulasidasji refers to Hanumanji as Raghuvara – a highly placed member of the Raghu dynasty!! However, we are aware that Hanumanji was not born in



the Raghu dynasty! In Tulasi Ramayana, when Hanumanji went to Lanka in search of Mother Sita, Mother Sita addressed him as Suta (my son) and Hanumanji addressed Mother Sita as Janani (Mother). When Hanumanji returned from Lanka, even Lord Rama addressed him as 'O Son'! Thus Hanumanji is, as though, the adopted son of Lord Rama and Mother Sita! Thus he is very deservingly referred to as Raghuvara here!

Tulasidasji starts off describing Hanumanji's glories by saying that singing his glories bestows upon the devotee all the four purusharthas – Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha!

Tulasidasji's humility makes him acknowledge his own position as one who is buddhihina, the ignorant one! It is such acknowledgement, such humility that makes one constantly remember and pray to the Lord. Tulasidasji shows us through this sloka what one must pray for — Bala (strength), Buddhi (viveka, wisdom), vidya (knowledge) and also the removal all impurities of the mind!! Having thus praised, invoked and prayed to the Lord, Tulasidasji starts the description of Lord Hanuman and his glories in the Hanuman Chalisa.

चौपायी । जय हनुमान ज्ञान गुन सागर । जय कपीस तिहुँलोक उजागर ॥ खैँ क्या क्या कर्मास तिहुँलोक उजागर ॥ खैँ क्या क्या कर्मास विद्वा कर्मास विद्वा कर्मास विद्वा कर्मास विद्वा कर्मास विद्वा कर्मास विद्वा विद

Victory to you, O Hanumanji, who is an ocean of knowledge and virtues. Victory to you, O Lord of the monkeys, who is well known in all the three worlds.

Reflections:

Hanuman is the name he got after he had a fall, on being struck by Indira's thunderbolt when the little monkey tried to swallow the sun! The fall resulted in his chin becoming cleaved and this gave him the name Hanuman – One with a (special) chin!

Hanumanji's specialty is the combination of virtues he has — He is the very ocean of knowledge and virtues! Virtues without knowledge fattens the ego and knowledge without virtues is only of theoretical, scholarly value. Hanumanji ever abides in the highest knowledge, Self-Knowledge. He is also full of all virtues there possible can be, greatest being his humility and nobility of character!

These along with his ananya bhakti made him very well known as the monkey God in all the three worlds!! Victory to Hanuman!!

रामदूत अतुलितबलधाम

अंजनि-पुत्र पवन-सुत नामा

ರಾಮದೂತ ಅತುಲಿತ ಬಲ ಧಾಮ ಅಂಜನಿ ಪುತ್ರ ಪವನ ಸುತ ನಾಮ Rāmadūta Atulitabaladhāma

Añjani-putra Pavana-suta nāmā | | 2 | |

You are the envoy of Lord Rama, an abode of incomparable strength, the son of Aïjanä, popularly known by the name Pavana-suta (son of Wind God).

Reflections:

Hanumanji and his glories became manifest when Lord Rama entered his life. He had the privilege of being chosen by the Lord himself to be His messenger. The messenger had to be one of incomparable strength since he was being sent to the enemy's land, across the vast ocean!!He was sent to search, meet and deliver Lord Rama's message to Mother Seeta and assure her that the Lord will surely come and free her from the present situation! To do this, one with

incomparable physical, mental, emotional and intellectual strength was required. Lord Rama knew that Hanumanji was the one person with this kind of strength! In introducing Hanumanji, Tulasidasji says that he is Anjaniputra — son of Anjani/Anjana. Anjana means 'pure intellect'. Anjana is also the beautifying kajal which is the grace of the Guru that opens our vision to the highest and subtlest knowledge (Jnanaanjanashalaaka). Born by the grace of the wind god he is famous as Vayuputra.

महाबीर बिक्रम बजरंगी

कुमति निवार सुमति के संगी

ಮಹಾಬೀರ ಬಿಕ್ರಮ ಬಜರಂಗಿ ಕುಮತಿ ನಿವಾರ ಸುಮತಿ ಕೇ ಸಂಗಿ Mahābīra Bikrama Bajaraṅgī Kumati Nivāra Sumati ke Saṅgī ॥ 3 ॥

With a body as strong as a thunderbolt, you are a great warrior of incomparable valour. Do remove my wicked thoughts and grant me the company of the wise.

Reflections:

Hanuman had a body that is compared to a golden mountain (Hemashailabadeham). Lord Indra blessed Hanuman with a body stronger than his Vajra in the famous episode of Hanuman, as a child chasing the Sun thinking it to be a mango. He is the great fearless warrior, Mahaveera and Vikrama.

It is not that Hanuman had just a strong physical body, but his strong mind was always filled with positive and noble thoughts. This always kept him in the company of the wise. Hence, Tulasidasji prays to Hanumanji to remove the negative thoughts in his mind and thus make him fit to be in the company of the wise! We always unknowingly attract those who think quite similarly to our way of thinking. Thus, when our mind is filled with noble thoughts we find ourselves more and more in the company of noble people.



This prayer is not just Tulasidasji's prayer but one that we all, as sadhakas, should pray for.

कंचन बरन बिराज सुबेसा

कानन कुण्डल कुंचित केसा

ಕಂಚನ ಬರನ ಬಿರಾಜ ಸುಬೇಸ ಕಾನನ ಕುಂಡಲ ಕುಂಚಿತ ಕೇಸ

Kañcana barana birāja subsea

Kānana kuṇḍala kuñcita kesā

Your golden complexion shines with the attractive clothes, which you are wearing, with the glittering earrings and with (your) curly hair.

Reflections:

Tulasidasji must have got lost in the thoughts of Hanumanji as he keeps describing him. Everything about Hanumanji is golden and glorious!

हाथ बज्र औ ध्वजा बिराजे

काँधे मूँज जनेऊ साजै

ಹಾಥ ಬಜ್ರ ಔ ಧ್ವಜಾ ಬಿರಾಜೈ ಕಾಂಧೇ ಮೂಂಜ ಜನೇಊ ಸಾಜೈ

Hātha bajra au dhvajā birājai

Kāmdhe mūmja janeū sājai

11511

You have the thunderbolt in one hand and the flag in the other and the sacred thread across your shoulder made of munjä grass decorates you.

Reflections:

The mace that Hanumanji holds in his hand is as strong as the Vajra! Hanumanji's body itself is like a chariot and Lord Rama's flag is his identity. The flag that



he holds in the other hand is symbolic of Hanumanji constantly carrying the flag of Lord Rama's victory, and how he always respect and honours Lord Rama. Hanumanji always ensures that the flag, which represents truthfulness, noble character and unshakable Shraddha and bhakti in the Lord, always flies high!

The sacred thread janeu represents spiritual sadhana. the threads that are interwoven represent the 3 gunas Sattwa, Rajas and Tamas. The knot represents the Absolute Truth, Brahman. Hanumanji's attention was always on this Absolute Truth although he always used the 3 gunas in the service of the Lord! This indeed was the highest and most sacred decoration on him!

संकर सुवन केसरी नन्दन

तेज प्रताप महा जगबन्दन

ಸಂಕರ ಸುವನ ಕೇಸರೀ ನಂದನ ತೇಜ ಪ್ರತಾಪ ಮಹಾ ಜಗ ಬಂದನ Saṅkara suvana Kesarī nandana Teja pratāpa Mahā Jagabandana

You are the son of Shiva and also of Kesari. Everyone in the world respects you because of your luster and great valour.

Reflections:

It is said in Tulasi Ramayan that when Lord Vishnu took birth on earth as a human, Lord Shiva felt that He too should come down to serve Him and help in destroying Ravana and Kumbhakarna. However, He felt He should take birth in a lower form than a human; else Lord Vishnu may hesitate to be served by Him. Hence he chose to come as a vanara. Thus He was born as Hanuman. When Lord Rama was born on earth, Brahmaji asked the gods in the heaven to manifest their powers to help Lord Rama in the fight against Ravana. Vayu, the wind god blessed Kesari and Anjani with a his tejas as a monkey child. Kesari means the valiant one, a lion!

Thus, Hanuman is the avatara of Lord Shiva, blessed by the purifying powers and asangatva aspect of wind god, valiant son of Kesari and is thus praised, adored and worshipped by the whole world!

बिद्यावान् गुनी अति चातुर

राम काज करिबे को आतुर

ಬಿದ್ಯಾವಾನ ಗುನೀ ಅತಿ ಚಾತುರ ರಾಮ ಕಾಜ ಕರಿಬೇ ಕೋ ಆತುರ

Bidyāvān Gunī Ati cātura

Rāma kāja karibe ko ātura

11711

You are full of knowledge and virtues and are highly intelligent. You are ever ready to carry out the work of Lord Sri Rama.

Reflections:

Hanumanji is Jnaninam Agraganyam – Foremost among the jnanis! He is also full of virtues including humility, courage, devotion, honesty, sincerity; is pure-minded, full of love and understanding and very hard working. His intelligence is expressed in every action he undertook! This is the reason he was chosen by the Lord for His work! Being so sincere in his devotion to Lord Rama, he was always full of enthusiasm to serve the Lord. In fact, his posture in all the pictures of Rama, Lakshmana, Sita and Hanuman depict his readiness to do the Lord's work!

When seen in our sadhana's perspective, all our knowledge, our virtues and intelligence find the right direction and become more meaningful and purposeful when coupled with our sincere and deep devotion to the Lord.

प्रभु चरित्र सुनिबे को रसिया

राम लखन सीता मन बसिया

ಪ್ರಭು ಚರಿತ್ರ ಸುನಿಬೇ ಕೋ ರಸಿಯಾ ರಾಮ ಲಖನ ಸೀತಾ ಮನ ಬಸಿಯಾ

Prabhu caritra sunibe ko rasiyā

Rāma Lakhana Sītā mana basiyā

11811

You always take delight in listening to the glories of the Lord and Lord Rama, Lakshmana and Mother Sita always reside in your heart.

Reflections:

Once Hanumanji met Lord Rama, there was a sort of communion between them. The Lord and His devotee became inseparable! Hanumanji's alertness was so strong that that wherever he found someone narrating Lord Rama's stories and His glories, Hanumanji couldn't resist and would immediately manifest there! Yatra yatra Raghunatha keertanam, Tatra tatra krutamastakanjalim!!

Lord Rama along with Lakshmana and Sita ever reside in his heart! Lord Rama represents Self-knowledge (Jnana), Mother Sita represents Bhakti while Lakshmana is symbolic of vairagya. Thus Hanumanji is always full with Atmajnana, Bhakti and Vairagya!!

सूक्ष्म रूप धरि सियहि दिखावा

बिकट रूप धरि लंक जरावा

ಸೂಕ್ಷ್ಮ ರೂಪ ಧರಿ ಸಿಯಹಿ ದಿಖಾವಾ ಬಿಕಟ ರೂಪ ಧರಿ ಲಂಕ ಜರಾವಾ Sūkṣma rūpa dhari Siyahi dikhāvā Bikaṭa rūpa dhari laṅka jarāvā

You assumed a tiny form when you revealed yourself to Mother Sita and a fierce form to burn down the city of Lanka.

भीम रूप धरि असुर संहारे

रामचन्द्र के काज संवारे



ಭೀಮ ರೂಪ ಧರಿ ಅಸುರ ಸಂಹಾರೇ ರಾಮಚಂದ್ರ ಕೇ ಕಾಜ ಸಂವಾರೇ Bhīma rūpa dhari asura saṁhāre Rāmacandra ke kāja saṁvāre

Assuming a dreadful form to destroy the demons, you accomplished the mission of Lord Sri Rama.

Reflections: (9&10)

Hanumanji had been blessed with the ashtasiddhis and hence he could change his size at will. This power was directed to the Lord's work while he was assigned the task of locating Mother Sita in Ravana's Lanka. Thus, when we devotedly surrender our ego at the feet of the Lord, our powers too will be well utilized for the Lord's work which has the best interests of all of creation!!

To meet mother, we must keep our ego small!! However, when we need to destroy our inner enemies (asuras) who are in the form of all false identifications with body, mind and intellect, we must gather all that we have learnt, contemplate and in that heat of right understanding we must burn the Lanka within! Once the inner enemies are destroyed, then we are ready to be on His mission!!

लाय सजीवन लखन जियाये

श्रीरघुबीर हरिष उर लाये

ಲಾಯ ಸಜೀವನ ಲಖನ ಜಿಯಾಯೇ ಶ್ರೀರಘುಬೀರ ಹರಷಿ ಉರ ಲಾಯೆ Lāya sajīvana Lakhana jiyāye Śrīraghubīra haraṣi ura lāye || 11 ||

You fetched Sanjivani to revive Lakshmana (who had fainted on the battlefield) which made Lord Sri Rama embrace you with joy.



Reflections:

When Indrajit's arrow struck Lakshmana, Lakshmana fainted. Lord Rama asked Hanuman to fetch the Sanjeevani herb in order to revive Lakshmana. Hanuman couldn't recognize the herb and not wanting to waste time, he decided to bring the entire hill itself!! Lord Rama was so touched and full of happiness at this feat of Hanuman that out of that pure joy He lovingly embraced Hanuman. To be embraced by the Lord is something that is so precious, invaluable and it is only our complete surrender that brings about such Grace! Hanumanji had completely surrendered himself, ego and all, at the feet of the Lord and in return the Lord offered His all with this one embrace. He placed His heart in Hanumanji!

रघुपति कीन्ही बहुत बडाई

तुम मम प्रिय भरतिह सम भाई

ರಘುಪತಿ ಕೀನ್ಹೀ ಬಹುತ ಬಡಾಈ ತುಮ ಮಮ ಪ್ರಿಯ ಭರತಹಿ ಸಮ ಭಾಈ

Raghupati kīnhī bahuta baḍāī

Tuma mama priya Bharatahi sama bhāī || 12 ||

Lord Sri Rama praised you very highly and said "You are as dear to me as my brother Bharata."

Reflections:

Lord Rama, although physically away from His brother Bharata, who enjoyed a special place in His heart, never abandoned the thought of Bharata! When Hanumanji got the hill with the herb to revive Lakshmana, it was the act of one brother bringing back another brother to life! Hanumanji had become a member of the Lord's family long before, when Mother Sita addressed him as 'O Dear Son' in Asoka Vatika! Now the Lord gives him the place of His own brother! Indeed, how blessed is Hanumanji and well deserving too!! May we also surrender at His feet and make ourselves constantly available for His work and thus be prepared to receive His Grace in our life!



सहस बदन तुम्हरो जस गावै

अस किह श्रीपति कण्ठ लगावै

ಸಹಸ ಬದನ ತುಮ್ಹರೋ ಜಸ ಗಾವೈ ಅಸ ಕಹಿ ಶ್ರೀಪತಿ ಕಂಠ ಲಗಾವೈ

Sahasa badana tumharo jasa gāvai

Asa kahi Śrīpati kantha lagāvai

|| 13 ||

Embracing him, Lord Rama said, "Even Sesha, the thousand-headed serpent sings your glory."

Reflections:

Lakshmana is the avatara of Adi Sesha the thousand-headed serpent. Lord Rama assures Hanumanji that it is not only He who appreciates and is overjoyed by him but Lakshmana also is always singing Hanumanji's glories!!

It is interesting to note that Tulasidasji refers to Lord Rama as Sripati, Lord of Lakshmi. Lakshmi is the Goddess of wealth in the form of our Sadsampati, our virtues and noble thoughts. The Lord never fails to recognize His consort Lakshmi in any creature and Hanumanji is full of this wealth!

सनकादिक ब्रह्मादि मुनीसा

नारद सारद सहित अहीसा

ಸನಕಾದಿಕ ಬ್ರಹ್ಮಾದಿ ಮುನೀಸಾ ನಾರದ ಸಾರದ ಸಹಿತ ಅಹೀಸಾ

Sanakādika Brahmādi Munīsā

Nārada Sārada sahita Ahīsā

| | 14 | |

The great sages like Sanaka etc, and gods like Brahma, Shesha (King of serpents), Narada and Sharada...

जम कुबेर दिगपाल जहाँ ते

कबि कोबिद किह सके कहाँ ते

ಜಮ ಕುಬೇರ ದಿಗಪಾಲ ಜಹಾ ತೇ ಕಬಿ ಕೋಬಿದ ಕಹಿ ಸಕೇ ಕಹಾ ತೇ

Jama Kubera Digapāla jahām te

Kabi kobida kahi sake kahām te

...Yama - the god of death, Kubera - the god of wealth, the eight guardians of the directions, poets and scholars have not been able to praise you adequately.

Reflections: (14&15)

Hanumanji is the embodiment of all virtues, He being the avatara of Lord Shiva Himself who is beyond any descriptions! How can then the great sages, the poets, scholars, other Gods, the devatas such as Yama, the digpalakas, Kubera; Narada, Mother Saraswati, Lord Brahma, Sesha and others praise adequately such a one?

तुम उपकार सुग्रीव हि कीन्हा

राम मिलाय राज पद दीन्हा

ತುಮ ಉಪಕಾರ ಸುಗ್ರೀವಹಿ ಕೀನ್ಹಾ ರಾಮ ಮಿಲಾಯ ರಾಜ ಪದ ದೀನ್ಹಾ

Tuma upakāra Sugrīva hi kīnhā

Rāma milāya rāja pada dīnhā || 16 ||

You helped Sugreeva in regaining his Kingdom by making him meet Lord Sri Rama, who crowned him the King (of Kishkinda).

Reflections:

Hanuman was the one who encountered Lord Rama and Lakshmana first among the vanaras. It is his ability to recognize the divinity in them that drew him towards the Lord. It is upon the words of Hanuman that Sugreeva befriended Lord Rama and Lakshmana. This led to Sugreeva regaining his kingdom and also getting the knowledge of the Supreme from the Lord Himself!

While doing so much for the Lord and for Sugreeva, His master, Hanumanji never expected anything for himself! This is his noble virtue!

तुम्हरो मन्त्र बिभीषन माना

लंकेस्वर भए सब जग जाना

ತುಮ್ದರೋ ಮಂತ್ರ ಬಿಭೀಷನ ಮಾನಾ ಲಂಕೇಸ್ವರ ಭಎ ಸಬ ಜಗ ಜಾನಾ

Tumharo mantra Bibhīṣana mānā

Lankesvara bhae saba jaga jānā

|| 17 ||

Vibheeshana heeded your advice. The entire world knows that he became the King of Lanka.

Reflections:

Vibheeshana represents a very important quality that a sadhaka or a devotee must possess. The environment we are put in is not our choice as it is a result of our own karmaphala. However, when we put in our efforts with the right sankalpa in mind, like Vibheeshana the Lord ultimately accepts us on His side and blesses with more than we could ever ask for. When the three brothers did tapas to please Brahmaji for boons, Ravana and Kumbakarna, being impure in thoughts, asked for boons that would lead to their own destruction, Vibheeshana asked that he may never stray from the path of dharma in his pursuit of happiness. They were all granted their boons. Vibheeshana's boon lead him to abandon his vile brothers after much convincing to no avail, and join the 'enemy' camp. He had the courage to do so because he knew that righteousness was in the enemy camp! It was Hanumanji (who had met Vibheeshana earlier in Lanka) who advised Vibheeshana to surrender to Lord Rama. Lord Rama, being

the unconditionally compassionate one, readily accepted Vibheeshana. At the end of the war, Lord Rama made Vibheeshana the King of Lanka! Thus, when we surrender ourselves to the Lord, He uplifts us and graces us with both material and spiritual wealth!

जुग सहस्र जोजन पर भानू

लील्यो ताहि मधुर फल जानू

ಜುಗ ಸಹಸ್ರ ಜೋಜನ ಪರ ಭಾನೂ ಲೀಲ್ಯೋ ತಾಹಿ ಮಧುರ ಫಲ ಜಾನೂ Juga sahasra jojana para bhānū Līlyo tāhi madhuara phala jānū

You leaped quite easily at the Sun, who is several thousands of miles away, thinking it to be a sweet fruit.

Reflections:

Hanuman, as a child dared to leap up to catch the sun imagining it to be a fruit! Hanuman was not an ordinary child, it was evident! He had the ashtasiddhis! Being the son of wind god it wasn't impossible for him to swallow fire. Also, children have a high imagination and adults very easily snub that imagination (as did Indra with his thunderbolt)!!

प्रभु मुद्रिका मेलि मुख माही

जलिंध लाँधि गये अचर जनाहीँ

ಪ್ರಭು ಮುದ್ರಿಕಾ ಮೇಲಿ ಮುಖ ಮಾಹೀ ಜಲಧಿ ಲಾಂಗಿ ಗಯೆ ಅಚರ ಜನಾಹೀಂ

Prabhu Mudrikā meli mukha māhī Jaladhi lāmghi gaye acara janāhīm || 19 ||



Holding the Lord's (Sri Rama's) ring in your mouth, you flew over (crossed) the ocean, which is no wonder (as you are capable of any achievement).

Reflections:

Lord Rama's ring is the identification for Mother Sita to believe Hanumanji was sent by her Lord. The name Rama is the identification of the Lord, represented by the ring. When Hanumanji kept the ring in his mouth, it means that he was constantly aware of the Rama nama! He needed this to meet Mother Sita, who represents bhakti! This nama japa with awareness gave him all the strength he needed in order to overcome the obstacles in his leap to reach Lanka. This infact, was his secret to all achievements! When we constantly chant the name of the Lord with awareness, He is sure to give us the strength to overcome all obstacles in our path to the goal!

दुर्गम काज जगत के जेते

सुगम अनुग्रह तुम्हरे तेते

ದುರ್ಗಮ ಕಾಜ ಜಗತ ಕೇ ಜೇತೇ ಸುಗಮ ಅನುಗ್ರಹ ತುಮ್ದರೇ ತೇತೇ Durgama kāja jagata ke jete Sugama anugraha tumhare tete

By your grace even the most difficult of tasks becomes easy to accomplish.

Reflections:

It is said that the best form of teaching is to lead by example. Hanumanji has demonstrated in every aspect of his life that even the most difficult of tasks can be easily accomplished by keeping our buddhi constantly aware, aware of the Lord! Thus, when we read about and focus our thoughts on Hanumanji, his grace makes us aware of the Lord, ensuring us success in tasks that we undertake!



राम दुआरे तुम रखवारे

होत न आज्ञा बिनु पैसारे

ರಾಮ ದುಆರೇ ತುಮ ರಖವಾರೇ ಹೋತ ನ ಆಜ್ಞಾ ಬಿನು ಪೈಸಾರೇ

Rāma duāre tuma rakhavāre

Hota na ājñā binu paisāre

| | 21 | |

You guard the door (entry) to Lord Sri Rama's palace where none dare to enter (or go out) without your permission.

Reflections:

Hanumanji is always at the door to Lord Rama. This reminds us of the guard pair in Vaikuntha — Jaya and Vijaya. While Jaya and Vijaya restricted the entry of the young wise sages and got cursed to be born on earth as asuras, Hanumanji inspires, encourages, guides and extends his grace that hastens our journey to be with Lord Rama! Although Tulasidasji says that without Hanumanji's permission no one dares enter, he only means that unless one is of absolutely pure and focused mind completely devoted to the Lord, one cannot enter the realm of the Lord. In this regard, Hanumanji guards the door, ensures the sadhaka is ready to be with the Lord and then allows him in!

सब सुख लहै तुम्हारी सरना

तुम रच्छक काहूँ को डरना

ಸಬ ಸುಖ ಲಹೈ ತುಮ್ಹಾರೀ ಸರನಾ ತುಮ ರಚ್ಛಕ ಕಾಹೂ ಕೋ ಡರನಾ

Saba sukha lahai tumhārī saranā

Tuma Racchaka kāhūm ko darana | | 22 | |

All those who seek refuge in you enjoy every kind of happiness. Why should one be afraid of anything when you are there to protect?



Reflections:

When we surrender to Hanumanji, it is like a double bonanza! We imbibe the qualities of Hanumanji including humility, intelligence, viveka, chaturya, strength, integrity, devotion etc. Hanumanji is never separate from his Lord Rama and so we are effortlessly connected with Lord Rama too! Once this happens, all happiness is ours, rather it dawns on us that we are absolute happiness itself! Also, the power of surrender is that the Lord takes care of everything for us, He is the protector! Hence, fear vanishes! Absolute happiness and fear cannot coexist!

आपन तेज संहारो आपै

तीनों लोक हाँक ते कापै

ಆಪನ ತೇಜ ಸಂಹಾರೋ ಆಪೈ ತೀನೋ ಲೋಕ ಹಾಂಕ ತೇ ಕಾಪೈ

Āpana teja samhāro āpai

Tīnom loka hāmka te kāpai

| | 23 | |

You alone are capable of controlling your power. All the three worlds tremble when you roar.

भूत पिसाच निकट नहि आवे

महाबीर जब नाम सुनावै

ಭೂತ ಪಿಸಾಚ ನಿಕಟ ನಹಿ ಆವೈ ಮಹಾಬೀರ ಜಬ್ ನಾಮ ಸುನಾವೈ

Bhūta pisāca nikata nahi āvai

Mahābīra jaba nāma sunāvai | | 24 | |

Evil spirits dare not go near a person on hearing the name of the great warrior (i.e. Sri Hanumanji) being repeated.

Reflections: (23&24)

Hanumanji's powers are such that only he can control his powers, especially when he has set out to do the task assigned by the Lord! When Hanumanji's strengths manifest, all the three worlds tremble in fear! This was seen when he burnt Lanka and innumerable times during the war! Such being his powers, ghosts and evil spirits too do not dare to come anywhere close to where even Hanumanji's name is taken!

नासैरोग हरै सब पीरा

जपत निरन्तर हनुमत बीरा

ನಾಸೈ ರೋಗ ಹರೈ ಸಬ್ ಪೀರಾ ಜಪತ ನಿರಂತರ ಹನುಮತ ಬೀರಾ Nāsairoga harai saba pīrā Japata nirantara Hanumata bīrā

All ailments, diseases and afflictions vanish when your name is repeated continuously.

Reflections:

Continuing to describe the glory of Hanumanji's strengths, Tulasidasji says that even the vyadhis(bodily ailments) and adhis(mental ailments) along with all kinds of sufferings just vanish when Hanumanji's name is thought of again and again! The ailments and sufferings are all due to our identification with the upadhis called body and mind. Being in Hanumanji's thought uplifts us from this identification. While Rama nama mahima is Hanumanji's strength, Hanuman nama mahima is our strength as Hanumanji takes us to Lord Rama effortlessly! Beyond that can be bliss alone!

संकट ते हनुमान छुडावे

मनक्रम बचन ध्यान जो लावे

ಸಂಕಟ್ ತೇ ಹನುಮಾನ ಛುಡಾವೈ ಮನ ಕ್ರಮ ಬಚನ ಧ್ಯಾನ ಜೋ ಲಾವೈ Saṅkaṭa te Hanumāna chuḍāvai Mana krama bacana dhyāna jo lāvai ॥ 26 ॥

Sri Hanumanji helps overcome all difficulties of those who worship Him with thoughts, actions, words and prayers (sincerely and with faith).

Reflections:

All of us face difficulties all through our lives which is mainly because of our scattered thoughts, weak mind, untrained intellect and a heart that has little faith in the Lord! When we worship Hanumanji, our thoughts seem to find a direction, our mind seems to find strength in putting aside its likes and dislikes and the intellect seems to heed the advice of the scriptures and the heart finds immense joy and faith in the Lord! With this integrated personality, when we do our duties, continuing to worship Hanumanji, life becomes a beautiful and smooth journey to our destination!

सब पर राम तपस्वी राजा

तिन के काज सकल तुम साजा

ಸಬ ಪರ ರಾಮ ತಪಸ್ಪೀ ರಾಜಾ ತಿನ್ ಕೇ ಕಾಜ ಸಕಲ ತುಮ ಸಾಜಾ Saba para Rāma Tapasvī rājā Tina ke kāja sakala tuma sājā ॥ 27 ॥

You carried out all the tasks of Lord Sri Rama who is a supreme ascetic, ruling over everyone.

और मनोरथ जो कोइ लावै

सोइ अमित जीवन फल पावै

You bless everyone who seeks your grace and grant them in large measure all they want and also grant them the fruit of long life.

Reflections: (27 &28)

Hanumanji had no sankalpa of his own, there was not task that he needed to do for himself. He was ever engaged in the Lord's work. He knew that his Lord is the Lord of all creation, although now in the role of an ascetic. This is also an indication that Hanumanji knew beyond any doubt the true nature of Lord Rama — Satchidananda Parabrahma Paramatma, the Ishwara of all creation!

This makes Hanumanji capable of fulfilling all our desires that we may express to him in our worship and blesses us with long life. Hanumanji is never separate from Lord Rama. Thus the granter of all desires being the Lord, naturally Hanumanji fulfills the desires of his devotees. However, we have seen in many other verses earlier that the desires are purified by Hanumanji himself out of pure compassion for the devotees since that is the nature of Hanumanji, just as fire unconditionally purifies anything that comes in contact with it!

चारो जुग परताप तुम्हारा

है परसिद्ध जगत उजियारा

ಚಾರೋ ಜುಗ ಪರತಾಪ ತುಮ್ಹಾರಾ ಹೈ ಪರಸಿದ್ದ ಜಗತ ಉಜಿಯಾರಾ Cāro juga paratāpa tumhārā

Hai parasiddha jagata ujiyārā

|| 29 ||

Your glory radiates through all the four yugas and your fame shines everywhere in the universe.

साधु सन्त के तुम रखवारे

असुर निकन्दन राम दुलारे

ಸಾಧು ಸಂತ ಕೇ ತುಮ ರಖವಾರೇ ಅಸುರ ನಿಕಂದನ ರಾಮ ದುಲ್ಹಾರೇ

Sādhu santa ke tuma rakhavāre

Asura nikandana rāma dulāre

11 30 11

You are the protector of the righteous and destroyer of the wicked. You are very dear to Lord Sri Rama.

Reflections: (29&30)

It is seen that the thread that is used to string the fragrant flowers also becomes fragrant due to association. Hanumanji is inseparable from Lord Rama and hence the glories of Lord Rama are seen in Hanumanji too! The Lord being beyond any concept,is beyond time itself and He is the creator of the four yugas too! Hence the glories of the Lord and His most beloved devotee is naturally seen and felt in all the four yugas.

Just as no one really notices the thread which is helping keep the fragrant flowers together, one may miss out on noticing the glory of the devotee. However, Hanumanji's glory cannot be missed as he was constantly engaged in the Lord's work. The purpose of any avatara of the Lord is protecting the good and destroying the wicked. Lord Rama's avatara also took place for the same reason. Hanumanji, being ever engaged in the Lord's work, busied himself in protecting the sadhus and saints, the good and destroying the asuras, the wicked! In doing so, Hanumanji is the closest to Lord Rama, ever residing in His heart!

अष्टिसिद्धि नव निधि के दाता

अस बर दीन्ह जानकी माता

ಅಷ್ಟ ಸಿದ್ಧಿ ನವ ನಿಧಿ ಕೇ ದಾತಾ ಅಸ ಬರ ದೀನ ಜಾನಕೀ ಮಾತಾ

Aṣṭasiddhi nava nidhi ke dātā

Asa bara dīnha jānakī mātā

|| 31 ||

Janakimata (Mother Sitaji) bestowed on you, the boon that you may grant the eight siddhis (supernatural powers) and the nine forms of wealth (on anyone you like).

Reflections:

When Hanumanji met Mother Sita in Lanka and gave her the message of the Lord, her joy knew no bounds when she heard that her Lord was preparing to come and rescue her! In this joy, she granted Hanumanji the boon that he would be capable of bestowing the eight siddhis of the yogis and the nine-fold wealth of Kubera.

The eight siddhis are:

- 1. Anima- Power to become small at will; to be humble
- 2. Mahima Power to become large at will; to take upon an important role
- 3. Garima Power to become heavy at will; to be firm in our convictions
- Laghima Power to become light at will; to be light-hearted and jovial
- 5. Prapti Power to attain whatever one desires; to be able to mobilize resources
- 6. Prakamya Power to go anywhere in the three worlds; to be mobile and flexible
- 7. Ishitvam Power to rule of all three worlds; to be able to rule, manage, govern or execute a task
- 8. Vashitvam Power to control everyone; to be able to control others with love and understanding



The eight assets also are:

- 1. Buddhi –Intellegence, Viveka (power of discrimination of do's and don'ts, what is my duty, temporary and permanent etc)
- 2. Balam Strength, mainly strength of character; spiritual strength
- 3. Yasha Good name
- 4. Dhairyam Fortitude, to not waver from Dharma on the path to the goal
- 5. Nirbhayatvam Fearlessness, which is a product of true vairagya(dispassion)
- 6. Arogata Good health Healthy mind in a healthy body
- 7. Ajadyam Agility in terms of physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual aspects
- 8. Vakpatutvam Eloquence where the words spoken are clear, beyond doubts, sweet, meaningful an truthful

The nine kinds of wealth of Kubera are the nine gems – Mahapadma, Padma, shanka, Makara, Kachapa, Mukunda, Kunda, Neela and Kharva.

However, the greatest wealth or siddhi that Hanumanji can bestow upon his devotee is ananya bhakti for Lord Rama.

राम रसायन तुम्हरे पासा

सदा रहो रघुपति के दासा

ರಾಮ ರಸಾಯನ ತುಮ್ಹರೇ ಪಾಸಾ ಸದಾ ರಹೋ ರಘುಪತಿ ಕೇ ದಾಸಾ

Rāma rasāyana tumhare pāsā

Sadā raho Raghupati ke dāsā | | 32 | |

The elixir of devotion to Lord Sri Rama is with you, who always stay with utmost humility, at the feet of Lord Sri Rama as His servant.

तुमहरे भजन राम को पावै

जनम जनम के दुख बिसरावे

ತುಮ್ದರೇ ಭಜನ ರಾಮ ಕೋ ಪಾವೈ ಜನಮ ಜನಮ ಕೇ ದುಃಖ ಬಿಸರಾವೈ Tumahare bhajana Rāma ko pāvai Janama janama ke dukha bisarāvai|| 33 ||

Singing your praise makes Lord Sri Rama bless (that person) and makes one forget the miseries of all (previous) births.

अन्त काल रघुबर पुर जाई

जहाँ जन्म हरि भक्त कहाई

ಅಂತ ಕಾಲ ರಘುಬರ ಪುರ ಜಾಈ ಜಹಾಂ ಜನ್ಮ ಹರಿ ಭಕ್ತ ಕಹಾಈ Anta kāla Raghubara pura jāī Jahām janma Hari bhakta kahāī

At the end of one's life when one goes to the abode of Lord Rama, such a person will be deemed as having been born as a devotee of Hari (Lord Sri Rama).

Reflections: (32,33 & 34)

Hanumanji had tasted the elixir of devotion to Lord Rama and that elixir was part of him. This made him stay humble at the feet of Lord Rama at all times. Mother Sita had once blessed Hanumanji that he should always serve Lord Rama with great love and devotion; and anyone who worships Hanumanji would attain Lord Rama. This means that when one worships Hanumanji they will attain Lord Rama. Once one attains the Lord, for whom can there be any misery? The whole baggage of previous karmas will be destroyed by the association with the Lord. Even though one may go through the worldly life as part of the prarabdha karma that is already in force, such a blessed person will not feel anything called suffering or misery!



At the end of such a person's life, they reach the abode of the Lord and revel in the presence of the Lord all the time! Here they are referred to as the one born as a Haribhakta, devotee of Hari!

और देवता चित्त न धरई

हनुमत सेइ सर्ब सुख करई

ಔರ ದೇವತಾ ಚಿತ್ತ ನ ಧರಈ ಹನುಮತ ಸೇಇ ಸರ್ಬ ಸುಖ ಕರಈ

Aura Devatā citta na dharaī

Hanumata sei sarba sukha karaī || 35 ||

A devotee of Sri Hanumanji need not worship any other deity, as by serving Sri Hanumanji, he will, surely, get all happiness.

संकट कटै मिटै सब पीरा

जो सुमिरे हनुमत बलबीरा

ಸಂಕಟ ಕಟೈ ಮಿಟೈ ಸಬ ಪೀರಾ ಜೋ ಸುಮಿರೈ ಹನುಮತ ಬಲ ಬೀರಾ

Sankața kațai mițai saba pīrā

Jo sumirai Hanumata Balabīrā || 36 ||

All miseries and torments vanish when one remembers the brave Sri Hanumanji.

Reflections: (35 & 36)

Once we worship Hanumanji, we can be rest assured we will attain the Lord. When once this assurance is felt, why would anyone think of any other god? There is nothing that Hanumanji cannot give his devotees! What one wants, desires or craves for in life is removal of sorrows and experience of absolute happiness, also referred to as bliss. Once the mind is fixed on Hanumanji,

all our actions will be in his thought, done for him and we ultimately find that bliss! Once this experience is felt, there are no more any torments or miseries. We need to have such firm Shraddha in the devotee of the Lord!

जै जै जै हनुमन गोसई

कृपा करहु गुरुदेव की नाई

ಜೈ ಜೈ ಜೈ ಹನುಮಾನ ಗೋಸಾಈ ಕೃಪಾ ಕರಹು ಗುರುದೇವ ಕೀ ನಾಈ

Jai Jai Hanumana Gosaī

Kṛpā karahu Gurudeva kī nāī

11 37 11

Victory to You! Victory to You! O Lord Hanumanji! Bless us with your grace as our preceptor.

Reflections:

Hanumanji is a Guru who demonstrates his teachings. In reality, he neither intends to teach nor is he aware of teaching! His actions make us see him as a Guru. May we all receive and revel in his blessings!

जो सतबार पाठ कर कोई

छूटिह बन्दि मा सुख होई

ಜೋ ಸತ ಬಾರ ಪಾಠ ಕರ ಕೋಈ ಝೂಟಹಿ ಬಂದಿ ಮಹಾ ಸುಖ ಹೋಈ

Jo satabaara paṭh kara koī

Chūṭahi bandi mā sukha hoī | | 38 | |

One who recites this Hanuman Chalisa a hundred times, is released from bondage (i.e., the cycle of birth and death) and enjoys (Absolute) Bliss.



जो यह पढे हनुमान चलीसा

होय सिद्धि साखी गौरीसा

ಜೋ ಯಹ ಪಢೈ ಹನುಮಾನ ಚಲೀಸಾ ಹೋಯ ಸಿದ್ಧಿ ಸಾಖೀ ಗೌರೀಸಾ Jo yaha paḍhai Hanumāna calīsā Hoya siddhi Sākhī Gaurīsā || 39 ||

One who reads the Hanuman Chalisa (regularly) will accomplish his goals to which Lord Shiva is a witness.

Reflections: (38&39)

These two verses indicate phalashruti.

When one chants Hanuman Chalisa a hundred times, his mind starts to focus and revel in Hanumanji. This means he naturally gets connected to the Lord! When once connected to the Lord, the worldly thoughts drop off after which the experience of bliss is inevitable!

Chanting Hanuman Chalisa regularly creates noble thoughts, which is an indication of purification of the mind. Once the mind is rendered pure, one naturally steps in and progresses on the spiritual path. This directs our spiritual energies to the goal and this ensures success! Tulasidasji says that if anyone has any doubts, one can be assured of this because Lord Shiva, the Lord of Gauri (Maya) Himself is witness to this!!

तुलसीदास सदा हरि चेरा

कीजे नाथ हृदय महँ डेरा

ತುಲಸೀದಾಸ ಸದಾ ಹರಿ ಚೇರಾ ಕೀಜೈ ನಾಥ ಹೃದಯ ಮಹ ಡೇರಾ Tulasīdāsa sadā hari cerā

Kījai nātha hṛdaya maham ḍerā | | 40 | |



O Hanumanji! I, Tulasidasa, am always the servant of the Lord (Sri Rama) and pray that you make your (permanent) residence in my heart.

Reflections:

At the end of this composition Tulasidasji reiterates that he is the servant of Lord Rama and prays to Hanumanji to make his home in Tulasidasji's heart. It is clear that wherever Lord Rama is, there Hanumanji is and wherever Hanumanji is, Lord Rama is. Thus in this prayer, Tulasidasji ensures that the Lord and His beloved servant are eternally always together in his heart. May this be our prayer too!!

दोहा

पवन तनय संकट हरन मंगल मूरति रूप राम लखन सीता सहित हृदय बसहु सुर भूप

ದೋಹಾ

ಪವನ ತನಯ ಸಂಕಟ ಹರಣ, ಮಂಗಲ ಮೂರತಿ ರೂಪ ರಾಮ ಲಖನ ಸೀತಾ ಸಹಿತ, ಹೃದಯ ಬಸಹು ಸುರ ಭೂಪ

Dohā

Pavana tanaya Saṅkaṭa Harana Maṅgala Mūrati Rūpa Rāma Lakhana Sītā Sahita Hṛdaya Basahu Sura Bhūpa

O! Son of Wind God, destroyer of all miseries, you are an embodiment of auspiciousness. O King of Gods! Do reside in my heart along with Lord Sri Rama, Lakshmana and Mother Sita.

Reflections:

Tualsidasji continues his prayer in this doha. He addresses Hanumanji as Pavanatanaya (the son of wind god) the one who purifies everything that comes in his contact. He also addresses Hanumanji as Sankataharana — destroyer of all troubles. Hanumanji gives us buddhi bala, strength of viveka and this prepares us to face all situations of life without finding any trouble or misery in them.



Being ever connected with the Lord, Hanumanji is auspiciousness personified (mangala-muruti-rupa). Tulasidasji again prays that Hanumanji along with the Rama, Sita and Lakshmana should stay eternally in his heart. Hanumanji is an embodiment of highest knowledge (Rama), supreme devotion (Sita) and Vairagya (Lakshmana). When Hanumanji is with us, these qualities will also be ours!

सियावर रामचन्द्र की जय पवनसुत हनूमान की जय बोलो भाई सब सन्तन की जय

ಸಿಯಾವರ ರಾಮಚಂದ್ರ ಕೀ ಜಯ ಪವನಸುತ ಹನೂಮಾನ ಕೀ ಜಯ ಬೋಲೋ ಭಾಯಿ ಸಬ ಸಂತನ ಕೀ ಜಯ Siyāvara Rāmacandra Kī Jai II Pavanasuta Hanūmāna kī Jai II Bolo Bhāī Sab Santana kī Jai II

Victory to Lord Rama, the beloved of Sita! Victory to Hanuman, the son of wind god! Let us all say, Victory to all saints!!