

SHRI SAINATH-STAVAN MANJARI

# (A HUMBLE TRIBUTE OF PRAISE SHRI SAINATH)

## **DAS GANU**

Translated from the marathi by Smt.Zarine Taraporevala and

Edited by Dr. Smt.Indira Kher,

Ex.Executive Editor, Shri Sai Leela (English Edn)

#### A HUMBLE TRIBUTE OF PRAISE TO SHRI SAINATH

I bow down to Shri GANESH.
Oh,MAYURESHWARA, You are the one on whom we depend,
Oh,son of GAURI, the all-knowing.
Oh,You inconceivable one.
You with an immeasurable belly.
Protect me,oh,Shri GANAPATI ....1

You are the first and foremost of all the Ganas' and of all the deities;
Therefore, you are called "GANESH"<sup>2</sup>
You are acknowledged by all the "SHASTRAS" [sacred books]
You of sacred countenance, oh, BHALACHANDRA! .2

1. A term for certain troops of inteniror deities considered as Shiva's attandants, and under the especial superintendence of GANESH.

....3

....4

....5

2. A name formed by the combination of JU and B@e i.e. Lord.

Oh, SHARADA, Goddess of Speech!

You are the mistress of the realm of words;

Because of your existence,

All wordily transactions are carried on.

You are the deity revered by all authore; You are eternally the pride of this nation; Your infinite power prevails everywhere. I bow to you, JAGADAMBE.

You are the Supreme Spirit and beloved of the saints!

incarnation in human form of PANDHARIRAYA
You are the ocean of kindness and infinite compassion;
Oh Pandurang Narahari
!

You, who control the world like a puppeteer with his strings,

You are omnipresent. All the sciences and scared books are still delving To plumb the essence of your nature.	6
Those who are pedagogues, To them, you are not revealed, Oh CHAKRAPANI; All those foolish people	
Only indulge in the jugglery of words.	7
Only the saints understand you Others remain baffled.	
To you, My obeisance.	
Respectful and with my whole body prostrate in veneration before you	8
Oh, you five - headed SHANKRA, Oh, you wearer of garland of skulls, Oh, you blue - throated DIGAMBARA, Oh, you BRAHAMRUPA PASHUPATI!	9
One who recites your name all the time, His worldly adversities are immediately dissolved Such is, oh DHURJATI, The power of your name.	10
With obeisance at your feet, I am writing this paean of praise; Help me always to complete this mission, Oh, you NILAKNTHA - the blue - throated one!	11
Now, let me bow to the son of Arti (DATTATREYA), To the family deity of Indira (VISHNU) To Tukaram and all other saints;	
So, also, to all the devotees.	12

Hail, hail to you, Sainath, Redeemer of sinners and mereciful one! I lay my head down at your feet; Now give me your protection	13
You are the whole world, the abode of bliss: You, yourself, are Vishnu, the paragaon among men; One whose wife is Uma! You are also that enemy of Cupid <sup>3</sup> 3. i.e. You are also Shankar	14
You are God in human form! You are the sun in the sky of knowledge! You are the ocean of kindness! You are the anti - dote for worldly maladies!	15
You are the CHINTAMANI of the poor and the down - You are the divine purifer (Ganges river ) for your devo You are a raft for those drowing in worldlinees! You are the refuge of the timid.	
You are the very cause of this creation! That which is pure CHIATANYA! You are that Oh, very treasure of compassion, The universe is only one of your LEELAS.	17
You are not born! Death also does not affect you! This is the final conclusion Which one arrives at, after a thoughtful search.	18

Birth and death,
These concepts are born of ignorance!
From both you are free
Oh, Lord of course!

....19

If water appears as a spring,
Does it imply that its source is there?
It existed already, full and flush,
Merely sprang up from within the earth.

....20

Water that springs up in a hallow Is ,therefore, so described or named; A "spring becomes its proper name Without the water, it is only a hallow.

....21

To spring up and to dry up and disappear,
This is not the nature of water:
Because the water of the spring
Has no importance for the hallow it fills.
It is only the hallow that is mistakenly proud
Of itself, rather than the water that filled it.
Therefore, when the water dries up
The hollow becomes impoverished.

....23

The human body is really like the hallow water bed;
The spirit (pure energy) is like the pure clean water of the spring;
Although there are innumerable such hallows
The essence is the same in everyone. ....24

Therefore, you, who are without a beginning, I say to you, merciful one,
To destroy the mountain of ignorance
Please become the thunderbolt of Indra

....25

Until now, such hollows (beings) Have existed in large numbers, on this earth. Many more exist even now, And, in the future, as the goes by, many more will come	26
Each such hollow (being)	
Is given a separate and different name and appearance; That is how in this world, They are identified.	27
Therefore, to distinguish that spirit In terms of "you and me" is not proper; Because. as there is no duality	
That itself is most surely, the Spirit28	
And, since the Spirit Truly encompasses the whole world,	
Then, the "you and me" the duality concept, How can it possibly be entertained?	29
Water latent in the clouds Is all the same;	
But when it descends upon the earth, It assumes different forms <sup>4</sup>	30
4. Examples brooks river springs, lakes etc.	
That which falls in the Godavari bed Is known as the (sacred) River Godavari;	
That which falls into a well	31
Does not have the same worthliness of prestige.	31
Saints are the river Godavari, And, you are the water in it	
We are the puddles, wells and lakes;	
That is the difference between us.	32

For the fulfillments of our lives We must surrender to you, Always, with folded hands, Because you are the embodiments of piety.	33
It is due to its water -bed That the waters of Godavari have become holy; Considered merly as water, I's the same everywhere everywhere.	34
The bed of Godavari That is considered as truly sacred, Owes all its sanctity To the quality of the land through which it flows	35
The water latent in the clouds Does not alter that part of the earth on which it falls; Yet, that very part of the earth Is called Godavari (or pure) by the scholars of the scared books.	36
Where the water has fallen elsewhere, It has acquired the qualities of the soil of those places; Contaminated, bitter salty it becomes Though. originally sweet	37
Same is the case with you, oh, GURURAYA, In whom there is no impurity of the six - vices5 To that holy form This title, "Saint" is befitting.  5. These are lust, anger, greed, desire, ego, envy.	38

Therefore, saints are Godavari so full of grace:
Amongst all the beings
Your place is the highest!

....39

From the beginning of creation Godavari has been in existence; It has been full of water And it has never lacked it till today.

....40

Look, the enemy of RAVAN<sup>6</sup>
Came to the banks of the Godavari
But it's water has flowed
And the water at present is not the same as old water. ....41

The bed alone remains the same.
The waters have flowed into the ocean,
The sanctity is eternal
Of the river - bed, to this day.

....42

6. i.e. Rama

Each year,
The old waters go and the new
Flow into the river bed;
It's the law, as you know.

....43

A century is like a year
The sages of that century
Are like the flowing waters
While the great souls are like the waves on the water. ....44

Of these saints who are like Godari, In the early centuries,

There was a great flood Of SANAT - SANAK - SANANDAN. <sup>7</sup>	45
7. Three sons of Bramadev who were born of his own mental	conception.
Followed by NARADA and TUMBER <sup>8</sup> DHRUVA, PRAHLD, powerful king BALI, SHABARI, <sup>9</sup> ANGAD, <sup>10</sup> VAYUKUMAR <sup>11</sup> , VIDUR <sup>12</sup> , GOPE - GOPIKA <sup>13</sup>	46
Thus ,many came the present time In each of the centuries in the past, The floods came repeatedly, which I am unable to recount.	47
In this present century, The sacred Godavari Has for certain flooded this land In your form, Oh, Sainath!	48
Therefore at your divine feet I make obeisance; Maharaj, of my faults Take no notice, I plead.	49
8. A devotee of God with the face of a horse. 9. A Bhil woman, a devotee of Shri. Rama. 10. Son of Vali 11. Hanuman 12. Pandavas' Uncle. 13. The dairy lads and maids, companions of Shrikrishna.	
I am a poor, wretched, ignorant man, The greatest of sinners; Ridden with vices, But do not cast me off!	50

Are ignored by "parisa" <sup>14</sup> The small streams of the village, Lendi and ohol Are not rejected by the Godavari.	51
I am full of vices within. By your mrercitful glance. Do, do quickly destroy them. This, only, is the plea of "DAS"	52
It after coming in contact with the 'parisa''! The iron''s inherent defects Do not change GURUVARA, Then, it is to the discredit of the "parisa"!	53
14. Imaginary stone that turns iron into gold	
Don't let me be a sinner Don't belittle yourself; Look ,you are 'parisa',I am the iron; My discharge is your concern too. A child always commits mistakes,	54
But a mother does not scold; Remembering this, Grant me your grace.	55
Oh, Sadguru Sainath, You are my "KALPATURU"! 15 You are the means for crossing this worldly ocean, You alone are so - undoubtedly.	56

You are "KAMDHENU"!16 You are "CHINTAMANI"!17 You are the sun in the sky of knowledge. You are great mine of virtues! Oh, you are the ladder to heaven! ....57 15. Wish - fulfilling tree. 16. Cow yielding all desires. 17. Gem giving whatever is desired. Oh, pious, purest one, Oh, embodiment of peace and bliss, Oh the supreme self, Oh the non-dual one, the ocean of knowledge; ....58 Oh, incarnation of the supreme wisdom, the best among men, Oh, abode of forgiveness and peace, Oh, refuge of devotees, Bless me, bless me! ....59 You are the Sadguru MACHINDER 18 You are the Mathama JALANDER<sup>19</sup> You are NIVRATINATH, DNYANESHWAR,

You are BODHLA <sup>20</sup> You are SAVATAMALI, You are truly RAMDAS You are TUKARAM Sainath, You are SAKHA <sup>21</sup> You are MANIKPARABHU<sup>22</sup>

KABIR, SHEIKH MOHAMMED, EKNATH you are.

....61

....60

<sup>18.</sup> The great founder of nath Panth. 20. Mankogi Bodhale of Dhamangaon.

<sup>21.</sup> SAKHaram Maharaj of Loni. 22. Saint from Humanabad.

Your present manifestation, And your manifold nature are really difficult to understand! The knowledge about your caste and creed You do not reveal to anybody.	62
Some say you are a Muslim, Some say you are Brahmin. Thus like Krushana, You too, are inscrutable!	63
Having observed SHREE KRUSHNA, Different people called him by various names. Some call him 'YADU BUSHAN' Some call him a cowherd.	64
YASHODA <sup>23</sup> called him a darling KANSA <sup>24</sup> called him the great evil. UDDHAV <sup>25</sup> called him beloved, ARJUN called him Omniscient.	65
23. Shrikrishna's foster mother. 24. Krishna's uncle.25. kridevotee.	rishna's
Thus oh GURUVARA, To you According to each person's conclusion Based on his mental attitude, Names are give, by them.	66
The masjid being your dewelling, And your ears not being pierced. Nothing your offering the 'FATEHA' To call you a Muslim is logical. <sup>26</sup>	67

### 26. The above concusion of Das Ganu is not based on facts.

In the thirteenth verse of seventh Canto of Shri Sai - Charitra, Hemadpant says:- "His ears were piecred, so how can be called a Yavana?

Cirumcision he approved, so how can he be called a Hindu?

"He is neither Hindu nor Muslim,

Sai is the holy incarnation.

Sai is the holy incarnation."

The late Swami Sai- Sharn - Anand has rendered this work of Das Ganu into Gujrati In the foonote to his translation of the sixty - seveth verse thereof, he observes,

"Das Ganu does not appear to have observed Baba's ears carefully. As per the translator's own knowledge and observations.

Similarly, considering the worship of fire, As done by you, Lord of mercy, My own conclusion is That you are a Hindu!

....68

But these superficial differences Would interest only pedagogues; But for those devotees desirous of knowledge They are of no consequence.

....69

You are BRAHMA Itself!
Caste and greed have no relevance to you;
You are the Guru Supreme!
You are the creator of this world!

....70

Baba's ears were pierced and had not undergone circumcision.

If any pasad were brought at a time other the afternoon Naivedya and if Bade Baba or other Muslims were present, Baba would order the first "Sura" of Koran to be recited and would himself join in. But in the absence of Muslims, this practice was never follow.

There was Hindu - Muslim rivalry; Therefore, to bring about unity and amity. The masjid and the fire worship were embraced by you, To show your "leela" to the devotees.	71
You are beyond caste and greed, You are Brahman, the essence to Truth; You are That, verily, You are beyond human conception!	72
Giving free rein to surmises and conjectures, Arguments have flourished about you. There, my insignificant Words, how will they prevail?	73
But when I behold you, I cannot remain silent; Because for encomium, words Are normally the only means.	74
Therfore, by means of words, Whatever description is possible, That I will always proffer, With your grace.	75
Saints, I reckon Higher than gods; For distinctions such as mine and thine find not a place in their proximity.	76
HIRANYAKASHAPU and RAVANA <sup>27</sup> Were killed because of their hatred of god; Such a deed has never been done by saints.	77

GOPICHAND, In the heap of garbage, Buried JALANDARA;	
,	
But that sage Had no rancour for that act.	70
Had no rancour for that act.	78
27. The two demons killed by Lord Vishnu and Shri Ro	ama respectively.
On the contrary, the king was delivered from the material world	
And was immortalised;	
Such is the prowess of the saints, It is indescribable!	79
it is indescribable:	19
Saints are the Sun,	
Their grace is illuminating;	
Saints are as pleasing as the moon,	
Their benign ness is as gentle as moonligt.	80
Saints, are the soothing musk,	
Their blessing are like it's fragrance,	
Saints are the juicy sugarcane,	
Their blessings are like its sweetness.	81
Saints, towards the good and the bad,	
Are the same, definitely.	
On the contrary, their love for the sinners	
Is immeasurable.	82
In the waters of the Godavari,	
Only the soiled clothes come to be cleansed;	
The clean ones, in a trunk,	0.5
Remain far from the Godavari banks.	83

came once, To be cleansed thoroughly On the Godavari banks. ....84 The trunk is the eternal abode; You are the Godavari, unshakable faith is the ghat; All beings are the garments Full of the impurities comprising six vices. ....85 The "DARSHAN" of your feet Is like a bath in the Godavari; Wash away my sins. Oh, Samarth, and purify me! ....86 We worldly people Gather layers of impurities again and again; Therefore, we are the right people for the "DARSHAN" of saints. ....87 In the abundant waters of the Godavari Comes the wash <sup>28</sup>, to be cleansed at the GHATS: If it is really left unattended, Then, it is a discredit to the Godavari! ....88 You are the cool, shady tree, with abundant foliage; We are the travellers, really, Suffering from the scorching sun - rays Of the three - fold <sup>29</sup> calamities of Life.

....89

Even that which remained in the trunk,

From that blazing heat, oh compassionate one, Protect us, Oh GURURAYA.

The benign grace of your cool shade Is extraordinary!	90
28. The dirty clothes. 29. These arise out of spiritual condition physical conditions or due to fate.	ns,
Sitting under a tree If one feels the heat of the sun, Then, who will call that tree The shade -giving tree?	91
Lock, without your grace Nothing can be right in the world; SHESHAYEE 30 befrieneded ARJUNA, To uphold the right.	92
Due to the kindness of SUGRIV, BIBHISHANA Came in contact with King RAM, It is due to the saints, That Shri Hari is thus glorified.	93
BRAHMAN, being formless, VEDAS cannot describe it. Be endowing it with forms, The saints have reduced the importance of the formless!	94
30. Vishnu	
VAIKUNTHAPATI, husband of RUKMINI, was made a "Mahra" by DAMAJI; TO PICK UP CORPSES OF BUFFALOES CHOKHAMELA made JAGAD - ATMA (God) slog.	95

Knowing the prowess of saints,
Jagjivan laboured by carring water.
Saints have truly lorded
Over God Himself, who is Eternal Truth
- Knowledge - Bliss.

....96

There is no need to speak more. You are our mother and our father, Oh, Sadguru Sainath, Dweller of Shirdi village.

....97

Baba, your "LEELAS"
No one can truly comprehend;
Then, my plebain speech
How can it do justice, tell me?
To save the sinners,
You came to Shirdi;
Pouring water into earthen lamps,
You made them burn,

....99

The wooden plank of absurdly small measures You turned into your bed, truly; Thereby displaying to the devotees Your amazing yogic powers!

...100

The barrenness of many women You have completely dispelled; The diseases of many You have cured with the "Udi"!

...101

To ward off worldly difficulties
Is not impossible for you.
The weight of an ant,
Does the elephant consider as a burden?

...102

So be it, GURURAYA, Have mercy on the humble one. I surrender at your feet, Do not turn me away.

...103

You are the king of kings, You are richer than KUBER himself, You are the Heater par excellence. No one is superior to you!

...104

for the worship of other deities. The ritual is as prescribed. But, for your worship, There is nothing worthy of you!

...105

Look, in the realm of the sun,
The festival of DEEPAVALI has come;
But to celebrate it,
What shall be the means?

...106

To quench the ocean's
Thirst, adequate water cannot be found on earth;
To warm the fire
From where will the heat be found?

...107

All articles needed for the worship Are filled with your essence; from the beginning, they are part of you, Oh, SHREESAMARTHA GURURAYA!

...108

All my talk is a philosophical statement, for I have not experienced its truth.

I have spoken with out experience, A meangingless maze of words.	109
If ritualistic worship Of you, is to be performed by me, To do that I have no wherewithal's, My SAMARATHA GURURAYA!	110
Mostly, with the help of my imagination only Will I worship you. That worship itself, oh compassionate one, Do accept from this slave.	111
Now with my tears I bathe your feet; The sandalwood of true devotion I make into paste and apply.	112
The long tunic ("KAFNI") of these ornamental words I place on you, sincerely; This garland of adoration, I place round your neck.	113
The incense of vileness I burn before you, truly; Through it is of impure composition Even then, there will be no foul-odour from it. Elsewhere than before the Sadguru, If incense is burnt	114
What happens to that incense Is like this	115

When the incense is put on the fire, The moment it actually touches it

The fragrance from the incense Leaves it instantly.	116
Before you, it's the contrary the impurities burn away in the fire, The good remains for ever For the world to see.	117
Once the vileness of the mind is burnt away, The mind will become purer; Once the Ganga's impurity is gone, Then it is holy, naturnally.	118
The light of temptations I kindle most truly, From which, may the lustre of asceticism Be granted to me, oh GURUVARA!	119
The throne of pure faith I offer you as a seat; On receiving it Accept the offering ("naiyvedya") of devotion.	120
You partake the offerings of devotion, Give me the essence; Because I am your child I have a claim on your milk.	121
My mind is my monetary offering ("DAKSHINA") That I offer to you; Therefore, the credit or discredit of any action will no longer be mine.	122

Now, most humbly and devotedly I do obeisance to you; Please accept it, Oh divine Sainath!

...123

#### EIGHTFOLD PRAYER

Possessing peaceful mind, and wisdom supreme,
Sainath, the compassionate,
You are ocean of kindess, truth incarnate,
And destroyer of the darkness of ignorance! ...1-124
The sage, beyond caste and greed you are.
Beyond comprehension compassion incarnate;
Protect me, protect me,
Oh, Sainath of Shirdi! ...2-125

You are the sun of Divine Knowledge
the bestower of choicest blessings;
Oh, fabled HAMSA of the minds of the devotees,
Protector you are of those who surrender to you.

.3-126

You are BRAHMADEV, creator of the world;
You the sustainer of the world VISHNU;
The destroyer of the three worlds,
You are that very RUDRA!
.4-127

There is no place on this earth,
Where you are not
Omniscient, oh you Sainath,
You dwell in all our hearts. .5-128

Forgive us all our sins
I implore you!
And those weaves of doubts and delusions,

Repel instantly.	6-129

You are cow, I the calf,
You are moon, I the stone melted by It's light;
At your feet, which are like the Ganges,
Respectfully the slave (DAS) bows down! ....7-130

Place on my head
Your hand and bless me, oh Lord!
Wars off my sorrow and worry
For this GANU is your servant.
.8-131

With this eight-fold prayer
I prostrate myself before;
My sins (demerits) suffering and poverty
Ward off immediately. ...132

You are the cow and I the calf;
You are the mother and I the child;
Do not harbour
Any harsh feelings towards me. ...133

You are the sandalwood from Malaygiri<sup>31</sup>
I'm a thorny shrub.
You are the life-giving waters of Godawari,
I, the greatest of sinners. ...134

31. Mountain in mysore famous fot its Sandalwood forests.

If after having your "DARSHAN"

The impurities of my wicked mind remain Unchanged GURURAYA, Who will then call you sandalwood?	135
The proximity of musk ("KAASTURI") makes even the dust more valuable; The fragrance of flowers is transmitted To the thread which ties the garlands.	136
This is the way of the great. Whosoever they come in touch with, To him they impart A part of their greatness.	137
Sacred ashes, join cloth and the bull, SHIVA made symbolic parts of himself; Therefore, these objects Are praised in all quarters.	138
For the amusement of the cowherds, At Vrindavan, on the banks of the Yamuna, The lord of the World played "DAHI-KALA" That too has earned recognition from wise men,	139
Similarly, I am a sinner, But, I am under your protection; Will you not redeem me, Oh, GURURAYA From my sinful state?	140
Worldly or spiritual, In whatever objects I seek satisfaction, I have no doubt O GURURAVA	

...141

That you will grant me these.

With your grace, Control my mind; If the oceans are sweetened There is no fear of their being salty.	142
To make the oceans sweet Truly you have the powers. Therefore, this supplication of Dasganu, Please concede.	143
Whatever be my shortcomings, They are all yours! You are the foremost among the spiritual masters, So do not stint while giving.	144
Now, why should I speak more? You are my only refuge. The child held in the mother's arms, Is naturally with out fear.	145
So be it. This hymn of praise, Whosoever read with love, Their desires Fulfil, O Lord.	146
Your blessing for this hymn I entreat. May the difficulties of he who receites this sincerely. Be warded off within a Year.	147

After performing all ablutions, Should this hymn, be recited regularly, With a pure and sincere feeling In your heart.	148
If this be not possible, Then, every Thursday. Meditating on the Sadguru in your mind. This hymn should be recited.	149
If even this be not possible Then on every "ekadasi" 32 This hymn should be read To realize the beneficial effect.	150
32. The elevanth day of the month according to Marathi caland	der.
One who recites this with faith Will ultimately progress spiritually by the Grace of GURU. Who will satiate the material desires readily. And thereby deliver him from their bondage.	151
With repeated recitations of this hymn. Dull wits will be sharpened. And, If perchance, someone's life is short, Then, by recitation, he will live upto a hundred years!	152
Where wealth is wanting. KUBER, the Lord of wealth himself will come to stay. Oh reading this hymn. This is the Truth and so it shall be.	153

To the childless children will be born On reciting this hymn. And the ailments of one who recites this hymn ...154 Will be dispelled in all directions. Fear and worry will disappear, Prestige will increase. He will realise the imperishable BRAHMAN With the regular recitation of this hymn. ...155 Regarding this hymn, oh wise ones, Have faith in your hearts About the efficacy of this hymn; And give no place To doubts and misconceptions. ...156 Go on pilgrimage to Shirdi, Concentrate on the lotus feet of Baba, Who is the succour of the poor and the meek, The wish-fulfilling tree for the devotees! ...157 It was because of the inspiration received from Him That this hymn has been composed. How else could an insignificant ignorant one, like me, Have written it? ...158

In Shake <sup>33</sup>1840 In the bright half of the BHADRAPAD month, On GANESH-CHATURTHI day, Monday, in the second 'PARHAR' <sup>34</sup> ...159

This humble tribute of praise to Shri Sainath, Was completed at Maheshwara<sup>35</sup> By the sacred bank of the Narmada At Maheshwara, the famous TIRTHA, The hymn was completed. Shri Sai Nath made me utter every word By becoming part of my mind.

...161

The disciple Damodar
Became the scribe truly,
I Das, Ganu, am only an obedient servant.
Of all the saints and sages.

...162

33. i.e. A.D. 1918 34. i.e. three houres after sunrise.35. Near Indore.

Peace be with you! May this humble tribute of praise to Shri Sainath
Help you cross the worldly ocean.
This is the prayer, with faith and respect
Of Das Ganu, to Shri Panduranga.

...163

Let this be offered to Shri hari-Hara!
Bless us, O Lord!
PUNDALIK VARDA (fulfiller of wishes) HARI-VITHAL!
I recall Sitakanta! Hail Hail Rama
Parvati-pate Har-Har Mahadev!
Hail to Shri Sadguru Sainath Maharaj!
Shri Sadguru Sainath, I offer this to you
Bless us, O Lord!.