

श्रीशङ्कराचार्यविरचित अनात्मश्रीविगर्हणम्

CENSURE OF THE NON-SELF PROSPERITIES

of

SHREE SHANKARAACHAARYA

Translation and Explanation

*by*

*Narayanalakshmi*

## INTRODUCTION

Anaatmaa means that which is not the true essence of oneself.

Aatman is the essence of oneself.

All that you understand through the senses, feel with the mind, think with the intellect, is the Anaatmaa.

All the achievements based on the belief one's own body as the 'I' and the belief in the reality of the perceived world is not real.

Reality never ceases to be; and the unreal never is.

Discard all that is unreal and be established in the real only.

Discard all that is non-self and realize the true essence within each name and form.

Shankara reveals the worthlessness of all the prosperities that is sought for by the ignorant and declares the importance of self-realization as the sole purpose of human birth.

# अनात्मश्रीविगर्हणं

## CENSURE OF THE NON-SELF PROSPERITY

लब्धा विद्या राजमान्या ततः किं  
 प्राप्ता संपत्प्राभवाद्या ततः किं  
 भुक्ता नारी सुन्दराङ्गी ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [1]

*Learning honored by kings has been mastered!*

*So what?*

*Accomplishment of the most superior position with abundant riches has been achieved!*

*So what?*

*A woman of extraordinary beauty has been enjoyed!*

*So what,*

*if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

केयूराद्यैर्भूषितो वा ततः किं  
 कौशेयाद्यैरावृतो वा ततः किं  
 तृप्तो मृष्टान्नादिना वा ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [2]

*What matters if one is adorned by armlets?*

*What matters if one is covered by silk garments?*

*What matters if one is satiated by good meals,*

*if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

दृष्टा नाना चारुदेशास्ततः किं  
 पुष्टाश्चेष्टा बन्धुवर्गास्ततः किं  
 नष्टं दारिद्र्यादि दुःखं ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [3]

*So what if lovely lands have been visited?*

*So what if the relatives are happy and affectionate?*

*So what if all the sufferings like poverty have been got rid off,*

*if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

स्नातं तीर्थं जहनुजादौ ततः किं  
दानं दत्तं द्रव्यष्टसंख्यं ततः किं  
जप्ता मन्त्राः कोटिशो वा ततः किं  
येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [4]

*Bathed in the holy waters of Gangaa and others!  
So what?  
Sixteen types of charities have been given!  
So what?  
Sacred chants have been recited crores of times!  
So what,  
if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

गोत्रं सम्यग्भूषितं वा ततः किं  
गात्रं भस्माच्छादितं वा ततः किं  
रुद्राक्षादिः सुधृतो वा ततः किं  
येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [5]

*One has adorned the family lineage well!  
So what?  
The body is completely covered by the ashes!  
So what?  
The garlands of rosaries are worn abundantly!  
So what,  
if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

अन्नैर्विप्रास्तर्पिता वा ततः किं  
यज्ञैर्देवास्तोषिता वा ततः किं  
कीर्त्या व्याप्ताः सर्व लोकास्ततः किं  
येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [6]

*The Brahmins have been gratified by the offering of food.  
So what?  
The gods have been made happy by performing sacrificial rites!  
So what?  
Fame has spread in all the worlds!  
So what,  
if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

कायः क्लिष्टश्चोपवासैस्ततः किं  
 लब्धाः पुत्राः स्वीयपत्न्यास्ततः किं  
 प्राणायामः साधितो वा ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [7]

*The body has been made to suffer through vows like fasting!  
 So what?  
 Sons have been born to one's wife!  
 So what?  
 Breath-control has been mastered!  
 So what,  
 if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

योगैः प्राप्ताः सिद्धयो वा ततः किं  
 युद्धे शत्रुर्निर्जितो वा ततः किं  
 भूयो मित्रः पूरितो वा ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [8]

*'Miraculous powers' have been achieved through Yogic practices!  
 So what?  
 The enemy has been conquered in the battle!  
 So what?  
 The friend again has joined!  
 So what,  
 if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

अब्धिः पद्भ्यां लङ्घितो वा ततः किं  
 वायुः कुम्भे स्थापितो वा ततः किं  
 मेरुः पाणावुद्धृतो वा ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [9]

*The ocean has been crossed over by walking on it!  
 So what?  
 The breath is suspended in the 'Kumbha' (Yoga Practice)!  
 So what?  
 Meru has been lifted by the hand!  
 So what,  
 if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

क्ष्वेलः पीतो दुग्धवद्वा ततः किं  
 वह्निर्जग्धो लाजवद्वा ततः किं  
 प्राप्तश्चारः पक्षिवत्खे वा ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [10]

*If one has not realized the true nature of the Self,  
 what if poison is drunk like milk,  
 what if fire is consumed like parched rice,  
 what if one can float in the sky like a bird?*

बद्धाः संयक्पावकाद्याः ततः किं  
 साक्षाद्विद्धा लोहवर्यास्ततः किं  
 लब्धो निक्षेपोऽञ्जनाद्यैस्ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [11]

*What if all the fires have been controlled?  
 What if excellent metals have been broken in one's presence?  
 What if one has learnt to disappear by using magical unguents,  
 if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

भूपेन्द्रत्वं प्राप्तमुर्व्या ततः किं  
 देवेन्द्रत्वं संभृतं वा ततः किं  
 मुण्डीन्द्रत्वं चोपलब्धं ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [12]

*The ruler ship of the entire world has been obtained!  
 So what?  
 The lordship of the heavens has been obtained!  
 So what?  
 The lordship of all the recluses with shaven heads has been obtained!  
 So what,  
 if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

मन्त्रैः सर्वः स्तम्भितो वा ततः किं  
 बाणैर्लक्ष्यो भेदितो ततः किं  
 कालज्ञानं चापि लब्धं ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [13]

*Everyone has been paralyzed by the recitation of magical chants!  
 So what?  
 The target has been pierced by arrows!  
 So what?  
 One has achieved the knowledge of all that happens at all times!  
 So what,  
 if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

कामातङ्कः खण्डितो वा ततः किं  
 कोपावेशः कुण्ठितो वा ततः किं  
 लोभाश्लेषो वर्जितो वा ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [14]

*The ever hankering lust has been sliced away!  
 So what?  
 The bursting forth of anger has been subdued!  
 So what?  
 The greed clinging to the heart has been discarded!  
 So what,  
 if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

मोहध्वान्तः पेषितो वा ततः किं  
 जातो भूमौ निर्मदो वा ततः किं  
 मात्सर्यातिर्मिलिता वा ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [15]

*The darkness of delusion has been pulverized!  
 So what?  
 One has become freed of arrogance on this earth!  
 So what?  
 The tormenting envy has been shut off!  
 So what,  
 if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

धातुर्लोकः साधितो वा ततः किं  
 विष्णोर्लोको वीक्षितो वा ततः किं  
 शंभोर्लोकः शासितो वा ततः किं  
 येन स्वात्मा नैव साक्षात्कृतोऽभूत् [16]

*The world of the Creator has been accomplished!  
 So what?  
 The world of Vishnu has been seen!  
 So what?  
 The world of Shiva has been brought under control!  
 So what,  
 if one has not realized the true nature of the Self?*

यस्येदं हृदये सम्यगनात्मश्रीविगर्हणं  
 सदोदेति स एवात्मसाक्षात्कारस्य भाजनं [17]

*He, in whose mind,  
 there dwell continuously, such censuring ideas about  
 the entire world-phenomenon which is 'not the Self',  
 he alone is qualified for the realization of the Self.*

अन्ये तु मायिकजगद्भ्रान्तिव्यामोहमोहिताः  
 न तेषां जायते क्वापि स्वात्मसाक्षात्कृतिर्भुवि [18]

*For others blinded by the delusion of the misconceived world of illusion,  
 there never ever rises a chance of self-realization on this earth!*

**END**

