

|| Hari Sarvottama ||
|| Vasudev Hare ||

|| Vayu Jeevohama ||
|| Hare Shrinivasa ||

DASA SAHITHYA **BHAJANA MANJARI**



Compiled By
Smt Sudha Dhananjay Lachyan
(ENGLISH TRANSLITERATION OF 108 KANNADA BHAJANS)



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Preface

“DASA SAHITHYA – BHAJANA MANJARI”

This book is my dream venture keeping in mind all Music lovers who do not know to read and write Kannada but are keen to learn and sing Dasa Sahitya – Devarnama.

Dasa Sahithya Project was initiated by TTD Tirumala Devasthanam & SRS Matt Mantralaya to instill the values of Bhakti, Dharma, Culture in the minds of younger generation.

In this book sincere efforts have been done to include the Haridasa Lineage & information on famous Saints Purandhara Dasa, Vijaya Dasa & Jagannatha Dasa and compiled 108 Kannada Bhajans as per Taratamya .

There are many Senior Classical Singers / Artists / Musicians who have done Research in Dasa Sahithya and taken efforts to make the Kannada Bhajans reach common man.

Looking into the current scenario, the younger techno savvy generation are adapted to ENGLISH & DIGITAL LEARNING right since schooling days.

I have tried my best to transliterate Kannada Bhajans for Music Learners / Students

I sincerely hope that music students and admirers of devotional devarnama would get good benefit out of this English version of KANNADA BHAJANS book.

Any Suggestions for Improvement of this Book are most welcome.

Anyone who is interested in learning kannada bhajans can please feel free to contact us on below email for music classes online / offline.

Smt. Sudha Dhananjay Lachyan

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Sincere Gratitude to ...

My Beloved Guru
Smt.Ratnamma Rao ,
Disciple of **Late Shri Pujya**
Gopalacharya Mahuli who has
taught me all the Kannada bhajan
songs in this book



Kulapati Shri Pandit
Vidyasimhacharya Mahuli
(Satyadhyana Vidyapeetha,
Mulund, Mumbai)
who inspired me to make a
sincere effort in this venture.



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- ❖ **Parents Shri K. Sethumadhav Rao and Smt Hema S Rao**
- ❖ **Grandparents Late Smt Kaira Saroja Bai and Late Shri Kaira Srinivas Rao**
(Maths Teacher N.K.E.S School Wadala, Mumbai)
- ❖ **My father in law Late Shri Madhwacharya Guracharya Lachyan** (Lecturer, Electrical Engg. Dept., Govt College of Engg., Karad) **and** my mother in law **Smt Shobha Madhwacharya Lachyan**
- ❖ My special thanks to **Shri B. Ghatikachala Rao** and **Seshagiri (Krishna) G. Rao** (Mulund), whose valuable suggestions helped me throughout in verifying and carrying out corrections and converting from Kannada Sahithya to English Literature.
- ❖ My uncle (Dodappa / Bauji Kaka) **Shri S.N.S.Rao** whose timely suggestions helped me in completing my project.
- ❖ **My Hindustani Classical Music Guruji – Shri Pt Sudhakar Chavan - Kalashree Sangeet Mandal Sangvi PUNE .**
- ❖ Motivating , supportive, inspiring husband **Shri Dhananjay Madhwacharya Lachyan** and
- ❖ My dear loving & affectionate daughter's **Khushi Dhananjay Lachyan & Nidhi Dhananjay Lachyan**

DASA SAHITYA

Dasa literally means servant in Kannada and *Sahitya* is literature. *Dasa Sahitya* is the literature of bhakti movement composed by haridasas in honor of **Lord Vishnu** and his Avatars.

Haridasas ("servants of God") were preachers of bhakti.

Haridasas compositions are popularly known as Devaranamas.



The Haridasas contributed to the rich heritage of music. They spread the teachings in a musical form to the hearts of the common man. Karnataka Haridasas who brought the esoteric Vedas, Upanishads and Puranas within the reach of the common man in lyrical form in simple Kannada, composed thousands of hymns in praise of Lord and preaching devotion of God. The Haridasas were saints, some of whom were wandering bards, and considered themselves as slaves of their supreme lord - Hari. The movement was mainly heralded by the Brahmins of the society.

Like other scholars of Indian classical music, Haridasas offered pooja to Vishnu through music, called NAADOPASANA.

The Lord is described as SAMAGANA PRIYA - Bhakti through music is the most preferred path to 'reach' him.

The **Haridasas** devotional movement (**SAMPRADAYA**) originated in **Karnataka**, India, in the 13th century by **Madhwacharya** of **Udupi** (1238 - 1317 CE).

The main objective of this movement was to propagate the **DVAITA PHILOSOPHY** of **Madhwacharya** (***Madhwa Siddhanta***) to the masses through a literary medium known as *Dasa Sahitya*


Prominent Hindu philosophers, poets and scholars such as ***Sripadaraya, Vyasatirtha, Vadirajatirtha, Purandara Dasa and Kanaka Dasa, Vijayadasa, Gopala Dasa, Jagannatha Dasa*** & many more played an important role during this time.

The easy path to deliverance, as shown by the Haridasas, is through Hari Bhajan. They taught, "**Hari Bhajane Maado Nirantara – Paragatig idu Nirdhara**", meaning perform Hari Bhajan always, the only way to Mukti is the preachings of Haridasas.

In 15th Century, it was **Shri Sripadaraja** who took great initiative in reviving the Dasa Sahitya. Because of his efforts it saw a good growth. His disciple **Shri Vyasaraja** also continued it. It was **Shri Purandara dasa** who made this to reach common people, and he is been regarded as “**KARNATAKA SANGEETHA PITHAMAHA**”.

The great soul who introduced the ***Taaratamyā - Bhajan*** was Saint Purandaradasa, a pioneer of carnatic music. He spread the Taaratamyā Bhajan culture throughout the nation. Although the association of the Dasas is with Vishnu, it has to be noted that they composed songs on other forms of Hindu Gods, also known as Saguna Brahma Swaroopa(s). The philosophy of Purandara Dasa is harmonious with the concept of bhakti in Hinduism, broadly based on the Narada Bhakti Sutras and essentially synchronous with the ***PAN-INDIAN BHAKTI MOVEMENT***. It teaches complete self-surrender and unadulterated love towards God.

HARIDASA	PERIOD	NAME OF ANKITA
Naraharitirtha Dasa	<i>1243-1333</i>	<i>Narahari Raghupathi</i>
Sripadaraya Dasa	<i>1404-1502</i>	<i>Ranga Vithala</i>
Vyasa tirtha	<i>1460-1539</i>	<i>Sri Krishna</i>
Vadiraja tirtha	<i>1480-1600</i>	<i>Hayavadana</i>
Raghavendra tirtha	<i>1595-1671</i>	<i>Dheera Venugopal</i>
Purandhara Dasa	<i>1484-1564</i>	<i>Purandhara Vithala</i>
Kanaka Dasa	<i>1508-1606</i>	<i>Kainele Adikeshava</i>
Vijaya Dasa	<i>1682-1755</i>	<i>Vijaya Vithala</i>
Gopala Dasa	<i>1722-1762</i>	<i>Gopala Vithala</i>
Jagannatha Dasa	<i>1727-1809</i>	<i>Jagannatha Vithala</i>
Mahipatha Dasa	<i>1611-1681</i>	<i>Mahipathi</i>
Prasanna Venkata Dasa	<i>1680-1752</i>	<i>Prassana Venkata</i>
VenuGopalDasa	<i>18th century</i>	<i>Venugopala Vithala</i>
MohanaDasa	<i>1728-1751</i>	<i>MohanaVithala</i>

	<p>Purandhara Dasa – Saint from Karnataka</p> <p>Born – 1484 CE , Kshemapura near Tirthhalli</p> <p>Native town – Purandhara ghatta in Karnataka</p> <p>Full Name – Srinivasa Nayaka Guru – Vyasatirtha Parents – Father - Varadappa Nayaka, Mother – Leelavati</p> <p>Haridasa Philosopher and follower of Madhwacharya’s Dwaitha Siddhantha</p> <p>Ankita – Purandhara Vithala</p> <p>Died – 2nd January 1564 CE, Hampi</p>
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Purandara Dasa was born to a diamond merchant in a Kannada Deshastha Madhwa Brahmin family in 1484 CE in Kshemapura, near Tirthahalli in present-day Karnataka state. According to other opinions, his native town was Purandaraghatta in Karnataka He was the only son of the wealthy merchant Varadappa Nayaka and his wife Leelavati. He was named Srinivasa Nayaka, after the patron deity of Venkateswara Temple, Tirumala. He acquired proficiency in Kannada, Sanskrit, and sacred music through education. At the age of 16, he was married to Saraswati Bai, traditionally described as a pious young girl. He lost his parents at age 20, thereby inheriting his father's business of gemstones and pawning. He prospered and became known as *Navakoti Narayana* (an abundantly rich man; worth ninety millions). At 30 years of age, he gave away all his wealth in charity, and together with his family, abandoned his house to lead the life of a mendicant – living on alms and singing the glories of the Lord. In his very first song composition, he

begins with the words "Ana lae kara" in the Shuddha Saveri raga, set to Triputa tala.

In the course of his wandering he met the holy sage Vyasatirtha, one of the chief exponents of Madhwa philosophy and the *raajaguru* of Krishna deva Raaya, emperor of the Vijayanagara kingdom. According to Prof. Sambamoorthy, Srinivasa had his formal initiation at the hands of Vyasatirtha in 1525 when he was about 40 years old, with the name Purandara Dasa bestowed on him. Purandara Dasa travelled extensively through the length and breadth of the Vijayanagara empire in Karnataka, Tirupati, Pandharapura composing and rendering soul- stirring songs in praise of God.

Purandara Dasa systematized the method of teaching Carnatic music which is followed to the present day. He introduced the Raga *Mayamalavagowla* as the basic scale for music instruction and fashioned a series of graded lessons such as *swaravalis, janti swaras, alankaras, lakshana, prabandhas, ugabhogas, daatu varase, geeta, sooladis and kritis*. Another contribution was the fusion of *bhava, raga, and laya* in his compositions. He included comments on ordinary daily life and elements of colloquial language in his lyrics. He introduced folk ragas into the mainstream, setting his lyrics to ragas so that even a common man could learn and sing them. He also composed a number of *lakshya* and *lakshana geetas*, many of which are sung to this day. His *sooladis* are regarded musical masterpieces and are the standard for *raga lakshana*. Scholars attribute the standardization of *varna mettus* entirely to Purandara Dasa.

According to traditional sources, his compositions number as many as four lakh and seventy five thousand (**47500**). No more than **700** compositions are accessible now.

Purandara Dasa was a vaggeyakara (composer-performer), a *lakshanakara* (musicologist), and the founder of musical pedagogy. Musicologists call him the *Sangeeta Pitamaha* (lit. "grandfather") of Carnatic music.

Purandara Dasa also influenced Hindustani music, via his disciple Swami Haridas - in turn, who tutored Hindustani maestro Tansen.

He spent his last years in Hampi and also sang in Krishnadevaraaya's durbaar. The mantapa in which he stayed is known as Purandara Daasa Mantapa in Hampi. He died on 2 January 1565 at the age of 80.



**Vijaya Dasa – Saint from
Karnataka**

**Born – 1682 CE ,Cheekalaparvi,
Manvi Taluka, Raichur District,
Karnataka**

**Native town –Raichur in
Karnataka**

**Full Name – Dasappa
Guru – PurandharaDasa
Parents –
Father - Srinivasappa,
Mother – Kusamma**

**Haridasa Philosopher and
follower of Madhwacharya's
Dwaitha Siddhantha**

Ankita – Vijaya Vithala

Died – 1755 CE

Vijaya Dasa (Dasappa) was born in a poor Kannada Madhwa Brahmin family in Cheekalaparvi in Manvi taluk of Raichur district, Karnataka state. His parents were Srinivasappa and Kusamma. He left home at a young age due to poverty. Later he came back with some saints from North India to Cheekalaparvi and somehow tried to manage his family but failed to overcome poverty. He went back to Varanasi where he became a scholar. One night, he had a dream in which the 16th century Carnatic composer and wandering saint Purandara Dasa initiated him into the Haridasa tradition and gave him the *Ankita- Vijaya Vittala* and a Tamboori (musical instrument). From that day he was called Vijaya Dasa and dedicated his life to spreading Dvaita teachings.

His 25,000 extant compositions earned him the title *Dasa Shrestha* (noble among the *dasas*). His compositions which use many Sanskrit words come under the category of *Kalasha* and *Urasu* creations and are considered an important component of Kannada literature. His purported miracles

include calming the Ganges, entering it without getting wet, preventing a woman from committing suicide, resurrecting his son, and making an uneducated man speak difficult Sanskrit proficiently. He is among the group credited with starting the practice of singing devotional songs while walking up the Tirumala hills in modern Andhra Pradesh.



**Jagannatha Dasa – Saint
from Karnataka**

**Born – 1728 CE , Manvi,
Raichur District, Karnataka**

**Native town –Raichur in
Karnataka**

Full Name – Srinivasa

Guru – Gopala Dasa

**Haridasa Philosopher and
follower of
Madhwacharya’s Dwaitha
Siddhantha**

**Ankita – Jagannatha
Vithala**

Died – 1809 CE

Sri Jagannath Dasaru Born in a pious Brahmin family and was given the name of Srinivasacharya. Even at a young age his brilliance was very evident and he was commended by Sri Vageesha Theertha, the then Pontiff at Mantralaya.

Srinivasa was a great sanskrit and dvaita scholar before becomming Dasa. Legend has it that Jagannatha Dasa, pet name (Sinappa), was once invited by Vijaya Dasa, a noted Haridasa of the 18th century, to attend a religious ceremony at Manvi. The ceremony included dining with the devotees of Vijaya Dasa as well. Srinivasacharya excused himself from attending the ceremony on the pretext of suffering from severe stomach ache. Unfortunately, Srinivasacharya actually fell ill and developed severe stomach pains. Unable to find relief, Srinivasacharya sought the help of Vijaya Dasa who asked him to meet his disciple Gopala Dasa. Srinivasacharya visited Gopala Dasa and was cured by him. Repentant for his attitude towards the Haridasas, Srinivasacharya became a disciple of Gopala Dasa and took to the Haridasa fold.

Due to a combination of his previous ill-health and the strain of travelling to Tirupathi, Srinivasa expired on Bhadrapada Shukla Navami . Then, Sri Vijaya Daasaru appeared in an astral form before Sri Gopala Daasaru and directed him to donate 40 years of his life-span to Srinivasa and revive him. Sri Gopala Daasaru immediately complied, and by the grace of the Lord, Srinivasa came back to life again. Deeply affected by the events in his recent past, Srinivasa decided to become a Haridaasa. Sri Gopala daasaru gave him Haridaasa Deeksha and directed him to Pandarapur for ankitha. There Srinivasa found a stone bearing the words Jagannatha Vittala. From that day, he started composing devotional works with that ankitha. He became renowned as Jagannatha Daasaru. His poems are written with the *ankita /mudrika "Jagannatha Vittala"*.

He lived for 40 years after his miraculous rebirth. His life was full of incidents that reveal that he was an Aporaksha Gyani and a great Bhaktha with whom the Lord performed many leelas. There were many instances when the Lord took somebodys form and personally served Jagannatha Daasaru. When he visited Mantralaya, Rayaru personally appeared from the Brindavan and spoke to him (this wonderful incident is captured in the Devaranama Yaddu Baruthaare Node....)

The jewel in his devotional crown was of course *HariKathaamrutha Saara*. It is said that in this wonderful work Sri Jagannatha Dasaru has captured the essence of his amazing grasp of Sastras, Srimad Acharyas works and works of other great Dvaita saints. The *Harikathamritasara* is a poem that treats on the philosophy of Madhwacharya and is considered his magnum opus and an important work by the *Dvaita* school. Written in the native *Bhamini Shatpadi* metre, it contains 32 chapters (*sandhis*) comprising 988 stanzas. Later day scholars wrote ten commentaries on this work, including a Sanskrit commentary in 1862 (by Sankarsana Odeyaru), an indication of its superior literary content. The *Tattva Suvali*, containing 1,200 pithy and proverbial poems of which 600 stanzas are available today, was written in the native *tripadi* metre, in a simple style, and is known to have been a consolation to his young widowed daughter.

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About the Author



Smt Sudha Dhananjay Lachyan, daughter of Kaira Sethumadhav Rao born in 1981 – Matunga Mumbai , had passion for learning music since her childhood days. At the age of 8 years , she went forward to Smt Ratnamma Rao to VANI VIHAR SANGEET VIDYALAYA , Residence of Late MAHULI GOPALACHARYA.SmtRatnammaAjjii was a great Singer, leader of Matunga Bhajana Mandal, Music Composer and had deep knowledge of DasaSahithya.

She considers herself fortunate to got an opportunity to learn almost 250 Bhajans till the age of 20 based on DasaSahithya. Guru Smt Ratnamma Rao also gave scope by motivating to participate in GnyanaSatra, PurandharaDasaAradhane Music Competition organized by Kannada Sangha, Recitation of 33 Bhajans in AdhikMasa.

Being Educated in English Medium had a barrier of reading and writing KANNADA. Smt Ratnamma Rao taught every Bhajan with meaning and taught to sing with correct Bhava (Feelings/ Expression) and Taala. With her blessings this venture to print Bhajans in ENGLISH and PUBLISH for future generation was started.

“DASA – SAHITHYA BHAJANA MANJARI“ a book consisting of 108 Bhajans transliterated in ENGLISH comprises of Dasara padagalu . The book is very useful for music learners who understand kannada , have keen interest to sing bhajans but can't read and write Kannada.The first Edition of 500 Books exhausted in a year. Second Edition received APPRECIATION & ASHIRVACHANE of

“ SRISRI 1008 SATYATMATEERTHA SHRIPADANGALAVARU “ the Current Pontiff of Uttaradhi Matt.

She is currently learning HINDUSTANI CLASSICAL VOCAL under Guruji

Shri Pt Sudhakar Chavan at KALASHREE SANGEET MAHAVIDYALAYA , Old SangviPune.In the year 2016 With Blessings of guruji Shri Pt Sudhakar Chavhan, she started SWARSUDHA SANGEET VIDYALAYA . She conducts Hindustani Classical Vocal Music Classes for Children and all music lovers.

Her Motto in Life is to SPREAD HINDUSTANI CLASSICAL VOCAL MUSIC & DASA SAHITHYA across the Globe...



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