Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati

The Nectar of Ramakrishna

Ramakrishnamrutam

The divine Life History of
Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa
& Advice of Paramahamsa

Sung by Sri Shuddhananda Bharati

Editions ASSA

Aum

Protection of Parashakti

Foreword

Opening up my Mind and pouring into it light and asceticism and freedom that stood as a tool for my joy were the divine sayings of Paramahamsa that made clear the unlearnt education and History only. It was Paramahamsa only who routed my life in the canal called divine service and motivated me to mix in the Sea of compassion of God.

Making a string of garland of Poems of the eagerness of my love and offering to him, I considered as my highest duty. By the grace of Parashakti, my thoughts becoming garlands of Poems with fragrance adorned with the name called '*Ramakrishnamritham*' is offered at the lotus feet of my 'invisible companion'.

Though it is approximately 5 years since I composed this Poem, I was doubting whether its fragrance would be well suited to Tamilians. Finally, in the Sivaganga Ramakrishna Mutt in front of friends I read and gave a lecture for 15 days. Later on, behalf of Devakottai Vivekananda Assembly, I sang and lectured. Friends, saying '*Ramakrishnamritham*' has good value, collected some funds also for its printing. Now only the Book could be published. I feared and hesitated that if I translate Paramahamsa's divine sayings in high pitch musical form (Agaval) whether its clarity will be lost. Even then keeping in Mind that the Tamils should sing this great person's divine sayings like '*Thiruvaimozhi*', according to the desire of many

friends I made them in 'Agaval' form. Writing what was written in prose form that is clear to many in a poetic form which would be clear to some I even now feel is a mistake. Even then anticipating that Tamils will understanding the meanings of Poetry like that of Prose very soon and that time will come when Tamils talking in Poetry form, I sang the divine History and divine sayings of the visionary as songs I request readers to keep with them Ramakrishna Amkrishna Raramahamsa's Upadesa Maalai (The garland of Ramakrishna Paramahamsa's preaching's) while reading Paramahamsapodesam.

I request the readers to appreciate my efforts and make many top Books to ripen.

Dear friend

Shuddhananda Bharati

Bharadwaja Ashram

Aani

Preface

Amirutam means Nectar. *Ramakrishnamirutam* means the Nectar of Ramakrishna.

This Book is on the life history and Words of advice of Sri Ramakrishna 19th-century saint, the founder of the Ramakrishna Order of monks and regarded as the spiritual founder of the Ramakrishna Movement.

With the noble intention of bringing to the knowledge of spiritual masses the unique teachings and events-filled Life History of one of the great sons of Bharat who played a leading role in the modern revival of Hinduism in India and initiated and championed the movement — Ramakrishna Mission — which has inspired and has deeply influenced modern Indian history, Dr Shuddhananda Bharati has penned this Book *Ramakrishnamirutham* (*The Nectar of Ramakrishna*) with dedication and devotion.

Swamiji, on studying deeply the words of advice and the exalted spiritual life of Ramakrishna Paramahamsa found it fit to describe it equivalent to Nectar in other words, Elixir, a substance said to be capable of prolonging life indefinitely.

This Book elegantly penned in the form of simple but powerful Poetry on Sri Ramakrishna will serve as a guiding light to every individual who desires to immerse himself or herself in the spiritual domain and who look for cleansing of their Minds.

To distribute the Nectar, one will need a Bowl, and that Bowl has come from Editions ASSA in the form of this Book printed in an elegant manner bringing out the Life History of Sri Ramakrishna and his golden words of advice. We will have to express our gratitude to Editions ASSA and its dedicated, versatile Editor Christian Piaget who has once again brought to the fore his immaculate Service of enabling readers all over the World to get to know the great works of Shuddhananda Bharati.

Why is it important to learn about Saints? It is because Saints inspire us to lead joyful lives; they serve as role models; they teach us that holiness means being who you are.

What made Dr Shuddhananda Bharati, a Divine Poet, a Great Yogi and a freedom fighter to choose Ramakrishna Paramahamsa for writing his Book? In his own words "Ramakrishna Paramahamsa opened up my Mind and pouring into it light and asceticism and freedom that stood as a tool for my joy were the divine sayings of Paramahamsa that made clear the unlearnt education and History only. It was Paramahamsa only who routed my life in the canal called divine service and motivated me to mix in the Sea of compassion of God".

In his exquisite style when Kaviyogi Shuddhananda Bharati delineates event after event in the life of Sri Ramakrishna the poignant scenes open right in front of our eyes and thrill us, such is the simplicity and power in the poems of Kavi Yogi in this Book *Ramakrishnamirutam* (*The Nectar of Ramakrishna*).

The Book is studded with fine words of advice presented by Sri Ramakrishna, under the subject 'Words of Advice

by Paramahamsa' (The title Paramahamsa literally means "Supreme swan." The Swan is equally at home on land and on water; similarly, the true sage is equally at home in the realms of matter. Paramahamsa, is a Sanskrit religio-theological title of honour applied to Hindu spiritual teachers who have become enlightened. So was Sri Ramakrishna. Some examples of the gems of Ramakrishna's words of advice, with deep philosophy encapsulated in them are:

Like the different betel nut inside once the green dries up
Once the desire itself vanishes, body is Soul

Just as water will not stay in a pot with holes
In the Minds of deception God will not stay, my dear

Like the child that stops the game hearing its mother's voice
Will abandon, the wise men, who see God

Is the curd preserving Pot suitable for keeping milk too?
To have vision of lofty things will the worldly men help?

With faith only leaped the Hero, was messenger only
While God constructed Bridge and walked

Let me not stand in your way any further. The Nectar is before you. May you all part take of the divine Nectar poured out by Dr Shuddhananda Bharati in this captivating Book *Ramakrishnamirutam* (*The Nectar of Ramakrishna*) placed before you in a beautiful Book form by Editions ASSA in Switzerland.

Kumar Srinivasa Nagaraja Rao

Ramakrishna Parahamsa

18 February 1836 – 16 August 1886 (aged 50)

Editor's Notes

Ramakrishna (18 February 1836 – 16 August 1886), also called Ramakrishna Paramahamsa, born Ramakrishna Chattopadhay, was an Indian Hindu mystic. He was a devotee of the goddess Kali but adhered to various religious practices from the Hindu traditions of Vaishnavism, Tantric Shaktism, and Advaita Vedanta, as well as Christianity and Islam. He advocated the essential unity of religions and proclaimed that world religions are "so many paths to reach one and the same goal". His parable-based teachings espoused the ultimate unity of diverse religions as being means to enable the realization of the same God. He is regarded by his followers as an avatar (divine incarnation).

Epigraph

"I have practiced all religions – Hinduism, Islam, Christianity – and I have also followed the paths of the different Hindu sects. I have found that it is the same God toward whom all are directing their steps, though along different paths. You must try all beliefs and traverse all the different ways once. Wherever I look, I see men quarrelling in the name of religion – Hindus, Mohammedans, Brahmos, Vaishnavas, and the rest. But they never reflect that He who is called Krishna is also called Siva, and bears the name of the Primal Energy, Jesus, and Allah as well – the same Rama with a thousand names. A lake has several Ghats. At one, the Hindus take water in pitchers and call it 'Jal'; at another the Mussalmans take water in leather bags and call it 'pani'. At a third the Christians call it 'water'. Can we imagine that it is not 'Jal' , but only 'pani' or

'water'? How ridiculous! The substance is One under different names, and everyone is seeking the same substance; only climate, temperament, and name create differences. Let each man follow his own path. If he sincerely and ardently wishes to know God, peace be unto him! He will surely realize Him."

— Ramakrishna

Born in Kamarpukur, Bengal Presidency, India, Ramakrishna was the fourth and youngest child of his parents. He encountered several religious experiences starting from his childhood, and later began his career, at age twenty, as a temple priest at the Dakshineshwar Kali Temple in Calcutta. The devotional temperament of Ramakrishna coupled with his intense religious practices at the temple premises led him to experience various spiritual visions. Soon a few religious teachers visited Ramakrishna and assured him the sanctity of his visions. In 1859, in accordance with then prevailing customs, Ramakrishna was married to Sarada Devi.

Tota Puri, a vedanta monk, initiated Ramakrishna into sannyasa in 1865. Ramakrishna later gained widespread acclaim amongst the temple visiting public as a guru, attracting to him social leaders, elites, and common people alike. Although initially reluctant to consider himself a guru, he eventually taught his disciples and founded the monastic Ramakrishna Order. Ramakrishna died due to throat cancer on the night of 15 August 1886.

After his demise, his chief disciple Swami Vivekananda popularized his ideas in India and the West.

The dialogue on psychoanalysis and Ramakrishna began in 1927 when Sigmund Freud's friend Romain Rolland wrote to him that he should consider spiritual experiences, or "The oceanic feeling," in his psychological works. Romain Rolland described the trances and mystical states experienced by Ramakrishna and other mystics as an "'oceanic' sentiment", one which Rolland had also experienced. Rolland believed that the universal human religious emotion resembled this "oceanic sense."

In his 1929 book *La vie de Ramakrishna*, Rolland distinguished between the feelings of unity and eternity which Ramakrishna experienced in his mystical states and Ramakrishna's interpretation of those feelings as the goddess Kali.

In a 1927 letter to Sigmund Freud, Romain Rolland coined the phrase "oceanic feeling" to refer to "a sensation of 'eternity'", a feeling of "being one with the external world as a whole", inspired by the example of Ramakrishna, among other mystics.

According to Rolland, this feeling is the source of all the religious energy that permeates in various religious systems, and one may justifiably call oneself religious on the basis of this oceanic feeling alone, even if one renounces every belief and every illusion.

Freud discusses the feeling in his Future of an Illusion (1927) and Civilization and Its Discontents (1929). There he deems it a fragmentary vestige of a kind of consciousness possessed by an infant who has not yet differentiated itself from other people and things.

A warm thank you to Kumar Srinivasa Nagaraja Rao for his help and contribution to make this translation over. Thank you from the heart for your Presence and help to accomplish this great work.

It is a real pleasure for me to present *The Nectar of Ramakrishna* to you. Thank you, Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati for having transmitted *The Nectar of Ramakrishna*.

With the blessing of *Aum Shuddha Shakti Aum*.

God is Love!

Editions ASSA, Christian Piaget

Courage!

The night is through,
The chain of slavery
It is already broken –
I am full of courage!

Peace in the morning,
A golden sun rises
Like a lion superhuman
To accomplish my dream.

A hopeful smile,
Docile as a child
Who plays in the infinite
With a fiery star.

My journey is over;
I enjoy time;
The universe is my nest;
Of eternal spring.

Song of Unity

Unite. Unite, Unite, Oh Souls
Unite and play your roles
Unite in mind, unite in heart
Unite in whole, unite in part
Like words and tunes and sense in song
Let East and West unite and live long
Trees are many; the grove is one
Branches are many: tree is one
Shores are many; sea is one
Limbs are many; body is one
Bodies are many; self is one
Stars are many; sky is one
Flowers are many; honey is one
Pages are many; book is one
Thoughts are many; thinker is one
Tastes are many; taster is one
Actors are many; the drama is one
Nations are many; the world is one
Religions are many; Truth is one
The wise are many; Wisdom is one
Beings are many; breath is one
Classes are many; college is one
Find out this One behind the many
Then life shall enjoy peaceful harmony

Peace Anthem

Peace for all, peace for all
For all the countries peace
Joy for all, joy for all
For all the nations joy
A rosy morning peace
A smiling summer joy (Peace for all)

All for each and each for all
This is the golden rule
Life and Light and Love for all
For all that live our love (Peace for all)

Work and food and clothes for all
Equal status for all
Health and home and school for all
A happy world for all (Peace for all)

No idle rich, no more beggars
All are equal workers
No more tears, no more fears
The heart is full of cheers (Peace for all)

No atom scare, no fat mammon
No room for war demon
Like leaves in trees, like rays in the sun
We are one communion,
One Divine communion (Peace for all)

The good in you is good for all
Your life is life for all
The God in you is God for all
Your love is love for all (Peace for all)

For he or she or it or the rest
This collective life is best
This Universal Life is best
North or South, or East or West (Peace for all)

Peace for plants and birds and beasts
For hills and streams and woods
Peace in Home – land and air and sea
Dynamic peace we see

Peace for all, peace for all

Immortal Peace for All

Presentation of
Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati
11th May 1897 – 7th March 1990

The wise one to the cosmic age

Although more than 90 years old, in his school in the south of India, *Kavi Yogi Maharishi* (great divine visionary, wise poet), Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati worked like a young man of twenty. When he was asked his age, he answered: "My age is Courage!"

The Yogi wrote several hundred works in English, French, Tamil, Hindi, Telugu and Sanskrit: five thousand songs, and fifteen hundred poems in French. The magnum opus of the man conscious of the presence of God in him, *Bharata Shakti,* (in 50,000 verses) described his ideal: only One Humanity living in communion with only One God in a transformed world! *Bharata Shakti* is a monumental and unique work. The Yogi depicts the essence of all the religions, of all the prophets and saints, all the approaches of *Yoga* and all the cultures on an allegorical canvas. It is a book for any age which all spiritual researchers and all nations should read and meditate on. This work was completed and appreciated by Sri Aurobindo, the Mother, Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore, Romain Rolland, Annie Besant, Bertrand Russell, George Bernard Shaw, Dr. Suzuki and so many others. It installs the author among the great, men such as Dante, Homer, Racine, Shakespeare, Vyasa, and Valmiki.

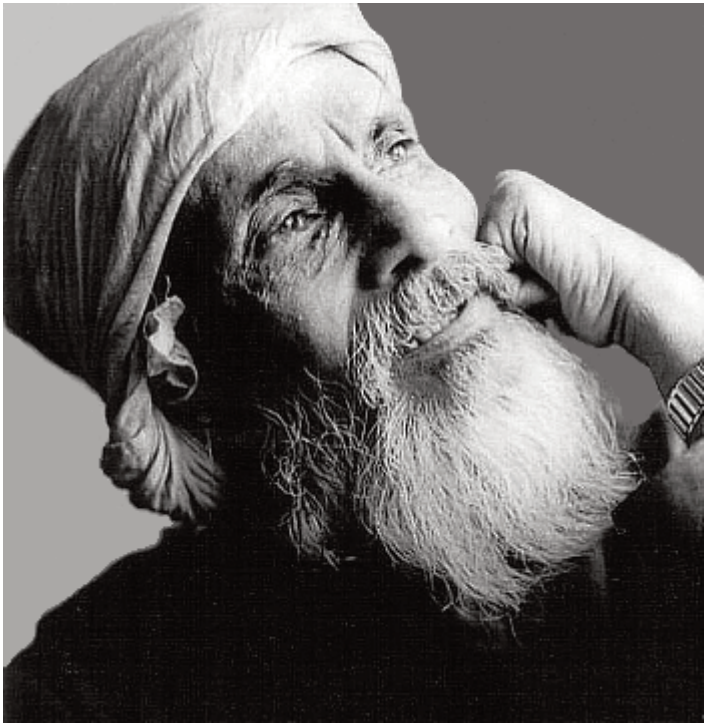
Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati is one of the greatest Tamil poet, having translated into this language: *Gita*, *Upanisha*ds, *Veda*,

the *Bible*, the *Koran*, *Avesta*, the *Buddha-Dhamma-Sangha* and *Tattvartha Sutra*, the life and teachings of Lao-Tseu and Confucius. From their original languages, he also translated into Tamil *The Divine Comedy* of Dante, the tragedies of Racine, the comedies of Molière, the dramas of Corneille, Shakespeare, Goethe and the novels of Anatole France, Victor Hugo, Alexandre Dumas and others.

Shuddhananda's works are innumerable. Malcolm Macdonald, who chaired the Congress on the Unity of the Conscience in Singapore, said in his short speech about him: "He is such a remarkable man, having such a diversity of raised gifts, that it is difficult to know where to start and where to finish when one speaks about Kavi Yogi Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati. Few men have achieved as many things as possible in only one human life." His name appears moreover in the Encyclopaedia of the World's Great Men, which says: "Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati is the author of literary works of varied styles: works epic and lyric, melodramas, operas, comedies, pastoral, romance, novels, biographies, commentaries on famous works and texts. *Bharata Shakti* is his magnum opus." He had a presentiment that he would receive the Nobel Prize for Peace or for Literature but did not live to see it. His commitment is summarized in his book celebrating his life, "*Experiences of a Pilgrim Soul* (*Expériences d'une Âme de Pèlerin*)."

God I loved and lived in him,
Making His commandment
Leave to Man his entire talents
This is my will!

Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati, Editions ASSA



Yogi Shuddhananda Bharati

11 May 1897 – 7 March 1990 (aged 93)

Aum

With the support of Parashakti

The Nectar of Ramakrishna
Ramakrishnamrutam

Obeisance to God

Special endowment Poetry order

Oh! Sky! Oh! Wind! Oh! Water! Oh! broad eye of wisdom!
Oh! Discretion! Oh! Writings! Oh! *Vedas*!
Oh! The music that rises in joy!
Oh! The Art! Oh! The Form! Oh! The Formless!
Oh! Compassion!
Oh! My respect! Oh! God! I will worship, saying grace me!

Six-word verse

That which makes me say
  "I saw Your shining face when Moon is seen",
That which makes me say,
  "I joined Your flood of grace when I see the Sun's rays"
That which makes me say,
  "I saw Your superhuman power, when I see the Sky"
The light, present anywhere and revealing,
  that glitters in the heart!
If big lotus is seen, ecstasy in the Mind will be there
Blemish less Mind only will see You hiding and dwelling
Oh! The form leaning on Lord Shiva;
  leaned I on Your remedy for Earth

With my words, body and heart,
  is there a virtuous deed greater than this?

Contrariety

With the benevolence of bestowing luminosity
To the Sun who laughingly rises and shines with rays,
To the pure ones who rise worshipping the motherly love
That wore and rose adorning the shining beauty
Of the stars themselves embellished
  in the broad rising Sky
To tell anything precious in the ancient World
  not possible it is!

The Nectar of Ramakrishna
Ramakrishnamrutam

Invocation

Prosody

The harmony of devotion and the state of detachment,
Oh! Shakti!
With Your grace only gave he – to sing as a song
May You grace the story of Paramahamsa,
Who is worshipped as a person of rank
by the entire World!

1. Greatness of Bharat

Flourishing state of discrimination

Will praise the Mother of heroes as the light of lamp,
the World
To rejoice in the Mind the Mother of the World
The beauty of greenness and wealth, the Mother
The Queen of Bharat the Mother of excellence on Earth!

It is the Country where righteousness took birth,
the Country where valiant men with accumulated
strength perform Divine service to protect
the beautiful, decorated World
The Country where wisdom and valor praised by even
those who dislike, shine
The Country decorated with excellence is Ambrosia
for thoughts indeed!

God Himself as human lives, happiness itself as fertility
Morality itself as King, the Sea of waves as Drums
Small girls as Mahalakshmi Herself,
Lord Shiva as precious Poet
Vedas themselves as literatures,
  it is the Country where auspiciousness overflows!

All over Mountains assembly of Sages,
  all over forest residences of Preceptors
All over the Sea Ships; wealth in all the five Regions
All the dwelling places of great persons filled
  with *Vedas*, with the c compassion overflowing
  in all the hearts of people
With a scene sans limit,
  the immortal Country filled with beauty!

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