

YamASTaka

NarasiMha PurANa 9

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vyAsa uvAca
sva puruSam abhivIkSya pAza hastaM
vadati yamaH kila tasya karNe mUle
parihara madhusUdana prapannAn
prabhur aham anya nRnAm na vaiSNavAnAm 1

Vyasa said: Yama having seen his servant ready to move somewhere with the pasa (cord) in his hand, said into his ears: 'Dear messenger, my sovereignty covers the creatures other than Vaisnavas. Hence, leave the people sheltered under Lord Madhusudana.'

aham amaragaNArcitena dhAtrA
yama iti loka hitAhitena yuktaH
hari guru vimukhAn prazAsmi martyan
hari caraNa praNatAn namaskaremi 2

Lord Brahma has employed me for taking into consideration the account of the good and bad deeds committed by the people, and thus, addressed me as Yama. Only the people not obedient to the teacher and Visnu are governed by me. I myself salute the people who bow their heads before the lotus feet of Sri Hari.

sugatim abhilaSAmi vAsudevA
daham api bhAgavate sthitAntarAtmA
madhu vadha vazago 'smi na svatantraH
prabhavati samyamane mamApi kRSNaH 3

By taking special care for the devotee towards God and on remembering their penance performed, I also wish to a suitable position from Lord Vasudeva. I am enslaved to Madhusudana and nowhere independent. Lord Krsna is capable enough to control me.

bhagavati vimukhasya nAsti siddhir
viSam amRtam bhavatIti nedam asti
varSa zatam apIha pacyamAnaM
vrajati na kAncanatAmayaH kadAcit 4

The person opposing God cannot achieve siddhi. The poison cannot turn into nectar, the iron cannot be converted into gold even if the same is thrown into a furnace for many hundred years.

na hi zazi kaluSa cchaviH kadAcit
viramati no ravitAm upaiti candraH
bhagavati ca harAv ananya cetA
bhRza-malino 'pi virAjate manuSyaH 5

The moon similarly cannot be absolved from the rabbit-like scars so it cannot illumine like the sun. However, the exclusive devotee of Lord Visnu attains to honour and prestige in spite of being dirty in body.

mahad suvicArya lokatattvaM
bhagavad upAsti mRte na siddhir asti
suraguru sudRDha prasAdadau tau
hari caranau smaratApavarga hetoH 6

On going over the essence of the world it is only ascertained that no achievement can be obtained but by the worship of God. You are therefore advised to bring constantly in memory the feet of God for emancipation as these feet had graced the devaguru (Brhaspati).

zubham idam upalabhya mAnuSatvaM
sukRta zatena vRthendriyArtha hetoH
ramayati kurute na mokSa mArga
dahayati candanam Azu bharam ahetoH 7

The people indulge redundantly in the pleasures of wordly affairs, only to destroy the opportunity for utilisation of human body so received as a result of hundreds of great deeds performed in the phase of previous life. The people not following the path of emancipation act as if someone pumps air to the sandalwood for getting its ashes.

mukulita kara kuDmalaiH surendraiH
satata namaskRta pAda paNkajo yaH
avihata gataye sanAtanAya
jagati janim harate namo 'grajAya 8

Ceaseless salutations to Sanatana Purusa, Lord Visnu, who destroys the cycle of birth and death, whose ever dynamic paces do not know rest and whose lotus feet are worshiped with clasped hands by devas.

yamASTakam idam puNyam
paThate yaH zRNoti vA
mucyate sarva pApebhyo
viSNulokaM sa gacchati 9

Vyasa said: The person either reciting or listening to this sacred Yamastaka attains to the abode of Visnu and all his vices are absolved.

itIdam uktam yama vAkyam uttamaM
mayAdhunA te hari bhavita varddhanam
punaH pravakSyAmi purAtanIm katham
bhRgos tu pautreNa ca yA purA kRtA 10

This great preaching of Yama which increases devotion to Lord Visnu has been described by me to you all. Now, I will again highlight the precedent story, i.e. the activities performed by Markandeya, the grandson of Bhrgu, in the ancient period.

iti zrI narasiMha purANe navamo 'dhyAyaH /9

Thus ends the ninth chapter on Yamastaka in Sri Nrsimha Purana.