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## **FOREWORD**

It is appropriate to understand the significance (mahimaa) of Shri Satya Naaraayan to achieve the true benefit of this great penance. Bhagvaan Vishnu is the protector and sustainer of the universe. By his grace all the jivees (living forms which include from the smallest creatures to humans) have life. His grace flows through Mother Lakshmi – the energy source of Lord Vishnu. Mother Lakshmi is understood by most hindus as wealth – the other half of Bhagvaan Vishnu (ardhaangini). She is in fact the whole cosmos. Wealth is not just money, but all the various material and spiritual forms without which life would not be possible. Food, water, heat, air and earth as basic elements for life are essential. These are further expanded as the needs of life derive from such aids e.g. cattle for milk and for tilling land, which in modern times have transformed into machinery like farm tractors and tilling equipment. All these are the grace of Bhagvaan Vishnu representing Mother Lashmi.

Shri Satya Naaraayan kathaa begins by Naarad Muni perturbed by the sufferings of people on earth due to their bad / evil actions. Bhagvaan Krishnaa in the Gitaa described the law of Karma to Arjun. Our good actions like helping others reward us with their fruits of various enjoyments on this earth. Equally the bad actions such as harming others will produce negatives fruits in the form of sufferings. Usually the sufferer is not aware of the bad actions, as the time scale of those bad actions is not perceivable at the time of suffering. Some actions bear fruit immediately e.g. a thief has committed a robbery, is caught by the police in doing so and is also jaliied by the magistrates. Whilst some actions will produce fruits during a short time or this lifetime or another lifetime of the jeevy.

It is necessary to understand that such sufferings are also beneficial to the individual as they make one introspect, to reason out, why the sufferings have occurred. The goal is to lead the individual to the higher spiritual planes, to end in merging with the highest divinity (param aatmaa). All living beings are programmed to achieve this goal. The whole cosmos with all its contents – animate or inanimate are part of the param aatmaa and are set to merge in that aatmaa. Good actions quicken the process whilst bad actions slow the process with sufferings – but which teach the individual the true goal of life.

Sadaanand's bad actions of past lives resulted in poverty. He spent his life in penance and worship of God. It was this that bore fruit - Bhagvaan gave his vision to him to end his suffering. But divine souls never ask God just to bless them only. Their actions always benefit others and society in general. In Sadaanand's case, he passed his blessings by promoting others to follow Sri Satya Naaraayan Bhagvaan's vrat so that they could also benefit.

The sufferings due to our bad actions can be quite prolonged. Bhagvaan Satya Naaraayan's vrat / worship acts as a catalyst to overcome and end such prolonged suffering much quickly and augment peaceful divine life – showering the worshipper with his blessings. Mother Lakshmi confers her grace on the worshipper with the just wishes and aspirations of the worshipper being fulfilled. Such is the compassion of Bhagvaan Satya Naaraayan.

The vrat also requires the worshipper to follow a divine path of life. The individual must not harm others knowing that they are all part of the great divine being (param aatmaa) just like oneself. It also requires the worshipper to help others (do seva) in all walks of life for them to also achieve the divine status.

It is important for the worshipper to know that all the possessions and wealth are the blessings of Bhagvaan. They need to be accepted from Bhagvaan as his grace (prasaadam). The worshipper must renounce all his worldly possessions to Bhagvaan, being aware that they are given to aid him with his life and more importantly also others. Everything in life needs to be accepted as prasaadam of Bhagvaan. In chapter 5, King Tungdhvaj due to his ego and pride did not consider the prasaadam offered by the mere cowherds after they performed Bhagvaan's

pujaa. This amply demonstrates Bhagvaan is pleased with the simplicity of the cowherds. Show of wealth and ego are not pleasing to Bhagwaan. Bhagvaan requires from us true faith and devotion, which bring us very close to him and Mother Lakshmi. Even without knowing all the details, those who perform the vrat with devotion – Bhagvaan is very pleased with them.

Bhagvaan Shri Satya Sai Baba's mother performed this vrat in modern times to bless us with an avataar. We take one step to Bhagvaan, he will take ten steps towards us. Bhagvaan is very compassionate and knows all our inner feelings. Nothing is hidden from him. So go with clean heart to him and offer him yourself. Spend life in service to others. Be blessed with his grace.

## AUM SHREE GANESHAAY NAMAHA

ITEMS USED FOR SHREE SATYA NAARAYAN PRAYER :-

COPPER KALASH ( LOTO/ COPPER VESSEL )  
 COPPER PLATE (TRABHAANU)  
 BAAJAT (RAISED WOODEN PLATFORM FOR SEATING STATUES OF DEITIES)  
 1.25 YDS OF WHITE COTTON CLOTH  
 1.25 YDS OF RED COTTON CLOTH  
 1.25 YDS OF SILK CLOTH FOR SEATING YANTRA  
 1 DHOTI  
 1¼ POUNDS OF RICE  
 1¼ POUNDS OF WHEAT

FOR ERECTING A CANOPY ON THE BAAJAT, PLACE ON THE CORNERS 4 STEMS OF BANANA TREES OR 4 BANANA LEAVES OR 4 STEMS OF SUGAR CANE OR 4 FLOWER GARLANDS. IF NONE OF THESE ARE AVAILABLE THEN 4 GARLANDS OF ANY TREE LEAVES WOULD SUFFICE.

Make prior arrangements as follows (these are repeated below also but are mentioned here to ensure all arrangements are in place to avoid disturbance in the worship / puja):

On the small stool (baajat) place red cloth across the whole surface. On the left half of the red cloth place white cloth, upon which, make an eight cornered shape using the 1¼ pounds of wheat. Place a betel leaf in the middle of the shape, on the leaf place either a statue of Ganpati with Riddhi and Siddhi or in the absence of it, a betel nut as symbolic presence of Ganpati.

On the right side on the red cloth make a mound using the 1¼ pounds of rice, upon which place copper kalash filled with water mixed with gangaa jal (water from Gangaa river, if possible) for Kalash puja.

Keep ready coconut with swastik imprinted using kumkum to place on the kalash.

Make and keep ready a divo using cow ghee.

Keep ready 9 betel nuts to do Nine planets – Nav Graha puja

FOR FOOD OFFERING (NAIVEDYAM) TO GANAPATI - MOLASSES AND GHEE.

STATUE OF LAKSHMIDEVI AND SATYANAARAYAN  
 LOTO ( COPPER VESSEL FOR HOLDING WATER) WITH BROAD MOUTH  
 PANCH PAATRA (CONTAINER MADE FROM 5 METALS)  
 TRABHANU ( COPPER PLATE)  
 AACHAMANI ( COPPER SPOON)  
 2 STRINGS OF JANOLI ( COTTON THREADS)  
 5 TYPES OF JEWELS OR SILVER OR COINS AS AVAILABLE  
 CLOTHES FOR THE DEITIES (COTTON STRING)  
 KUMKUM  
 ABIL ( WHITE POWDER USED IN PUJAA)  
 GULAL ( RED POWDER USED IN PUJAA)  
 SINDUR ( RED LEAD POWDER AS USED IN PUJAA)  
 ALL TYPES OF HERBS (SARVA AUSHADHI)  
 KAPOOR (CAMPHOR)

DHOOP ( ARABIC GUM, SANDALWOOD CHIPS ETC. FOR SWEET SMELLING SMOKE)  
 AGARBATTI ( JOSS STICKS)  
 FLOWERS FOR PUJAA AND 1000 NAMES OF LORD VISHNU (SEE BELOW)  
 DURVAA ( GRASS )  
 WHOLE TURMERIC (HALDAR)  
 NAADAACHADI ( COLOURED STRING FOR WEARING IN PUJAA)  
 1008 LEAVES OF TULSI OR 1008 FLOWERS OR PETALS OR 1008 RICE GRAINS  
 3 FLOWER GARLANDS  
 2 COCONUTS  
 25 BETEL LEAVES  
 25 BETEL NUTS  
 LOOSE MONEY COINS

SEASONAL FRUITS AS AVAILABLE :-

BANANAS  
 GRAPES  
 POMEGRANATES ( DAADAM)  
 ORANGES  
 LEMONS  
 SUGAR CANE  
 I.E. ALL KINDS OF GREEN FRUIT

DRY FRUITS :-

DRY DATES ( KHAREK)  
 KERNEL OF COCONUT (COPRA)  
 ALMONDS  
 PISTACHIO  
 CARDAMOM (ELAAYACHI)  
 SULTANAS

RED CLOTH FOR COVERING PRAYER BOOK

FOR BATHING THE DEITIES :-

MILK  
 PLAIN YOGHURT (CURD/DAHI)  
 GHEE  
 HONEY  
 SUGAR CANDY  
 TOWELS / CLOTH TO DRY AFTER BATHING

FOR PRASAADAM :-

1.25 Lbs OF GHEE  
 2.5 Lbs OF MILK  
 1.25 Lbs OF SEMOLINA  
 1.25 Lbs OF SUGAR

MIX ALL THE INGREDIENTS AND PREPARE SHIRO FOR OFFERING AS NAIVEDYAM TO SHREE SATYANAARAAYAN

WITH THE SHIRO, INCLUDE GREEN FRUIT I.E. BANANAS, POMEGRANATES, GUAVA, PAPAYA, ETC..

START BY NAMASKAARAM (BOWING) TO SHREE LAKSHMINAARAAYAN  
First do 3 achamans

1. Shri Keshavaay Namaha Svaahaa
2. Shri Naraayanaay Namaha Svaahaa
3. Shri Madhavaay Namaha Svaahaa

Wash Hands chanting "Shri Govindaay Namaha"

Then do Praanaayam with the mantra " Aum Vishnave Namaha"

Then the priest puts tilak on the forehead of the yajamaan and chants shaanti paath:

Dhvaavaa antariksha pruthvi salilaani shaantihi shaantihi  
Sadaa amrut van aushadh sraa shaantihi  
Shaantis cha brahma nikhibham nanu vishva deva shaantihi  
Sushaantir api saa punrev shaantihi shaantihi shaantihi

### **SHREE SATYANAARAAYAN PUJAA PROCEDURE**

PRAYER :-

AUM SHREE MAN MAHAA GANAPATAYE NAMAHA  
I bow to Mahaa Ganapati  
SHREE GURUBHYO NAMAHA  
I bow to Guru  
SHREE LAKSHMI NAARAAYANAABHYAN NAMAHA  
I bow to Lakshmi Naaraayan  
SHREE UMAA MAHESHWARAABHYAAN NAMAHA  
I bow to Umaa Maheshwar  
SHREE SHACHI PURANDARAABHYAAN NAMAHA  
I bow to Shachi Purandar  
SARVE BHYO DEVEBHYO NAMAHA  
I bow to all the deities  
SHREE KUL DEVTAA BHYO NAMAHA  
I bow to deity of the clan  
SHREE ISHTA DEVTAA BHYO NAMAHA  
I bow to my favourite deity  
SHREE GRAAM DEVTAA BHYO NAMAHA  
I bow to deity of the village  
SHREE SARVE BHYO BHRAAMANE BHYO NAMAHA  
I bow to all the brahmins

Matru pitru charan kamale bhyo namaha  
Nir vighnam astu

AACHAMYA PRAANAAYAMYAHA

SARVESHVAABDHA KAARYESHU TRAYAKHI BHUWANESHWARAHAHA  
DEVAADISHANTU NAHA SIDHIR BRAHAMA SHAAN JANAARDANAHAHA

**--- COMMITMENT ---**

Take some water in the right hand, chant the following while holding it:  
Then yajmaan takes chandan, rice and flower in right hand and chant the following  
commitment (sankalpa) mantra:

ATRAADHYA MAHAA MAANGALYA FALPRAD MAASOTTAM MAASE .....(say month)  
MAASE .....(say which fortnight) PAKSHE.....(say which date) TITHAU .....(say which  
day ) VAASARE ..... (say which constellation) NAKSHATRE

MAM SAKAL DURITOPSHAMAN SARVA UPSHAANTI PURVAKAM SAKAL MANORATH  
SIDHAYARATHAM YATHAA

For the quelling of all my foes, for the peace of all , for fulfilment of all my just desires

SAMPAADIT SAAMAGRAYAA GANESHA GAURI VARUN BHRAMAA VISHNU RUDHRA  
LAKSHMI SURYA AADI

with all the items available, Ganesh, Gauri, Varun, Bhrama, Vishnu, Rudhra, Lakshmi, Surya,

NAVAGRAHA DEVTAA INDRA DHYASHT LOKPAAL DEVTAA PUJAN PURVAK MAA ANGI  
KRUT

nine planets, Indra, deities looking after the worlds,

SHREE SATYANAARAAYAN PUJANAM TATHAA TAT KATHAA SRAVANAM AHAM  
KARISHYE

Shree Satya Naaraayan pujan, and listening to the story-katha I will do.

Then put the water on the ground. This mantra essentially commits oneself to a vow.

Then bow with hands clasped, hold some water in the right hand and chant the following :

PRUTHAVI TVAYAA DHRUTA LOKAA DEVI TVAM VISHNUNAA DHRUTAA

O earth mother, you behold all the worlds, you are held by Lord Vishnu

TVAM CHA DHAARYA MAA DEVI PAVITRAM KURU ME CHA AASANAM

you behold us O Devi, sanctify this seating.

Sprinkle the water from the right hand on all items and the people present to sanctify all.

**DEEP PUJANAM**

Then make a divo using cow ghee and light it, then chant mantra:

Bho deep dev swarup stawam karma saakshi hyavida na krut

Yaavat karma samaaptihi syaat taavat tvam sam sthiro bhava

Deep stha devtaa bhyo namaha

Gandha pushpaani samar payaami

### GANAPATI PUJANAM

Arrange to place a kalash (copper vessel) on the left on the baajat, filled with water and do appropriate puja using chandan and kumkum. Take some water out of it in the panch paatra (5 metal vessel). Take some water from it in the right hand. Make a vow (sankalpa) to do Ganpati with Siddhi and Buddhis' puja in 16 ways (shodshopchaara). Put the water from the hand on the ground.

On the small stool (baajath) place white cloth. Make an eight cornered shape using wheat. Place a betel leaf in the middle of the shape, on the leaf place either a statue of Ganpati with Riddhi and Siddhi or in the absence of it, a betel nut as symbolic of presence of Ganpati. Meditate on Ganpati by uttering "Hey Herambh".

Hold some rice in the right hand, cover with left hand and chant the following :

Sumukh scha ek danta scha kapilo gaja karnaka  
Lambo dara scha vikto vighna naasho vinaayaka  
Dhumra ketu ganaa dhyaksho bhaal chandro gajaanan

Dvaatash etaani naamaani yaha pathe srunu yaa da api  
Vidyaa aarambhe vivaaha cha praveshe nirgame tathaa  
Sangraame sankate cha eva vighna sta asya na jaayate

Vakra tunda mahaa kaaya surya koti sama prabha  
Nir vighna kurume dev sarva kaaryeshu sarvadaa

Vinaayak gurum bhaanum brahmaa vishnu maheshwaraan  
Saraswati pranama yaadou sarva kaarya artha siddhaye

Abhipsit aartha sidha yartham	pujita yaha suraa sureyha
Sarva vighna haras tasmei	Ganaadhi pataye namaha

Sarva managal maangalye	Shive sarva artha saadhike
Sharanye trayambike Gauri	Naaraayani nama stute

Laabh steshaam jaya steshaam	kut steshaam paraa jayaha
Yeshaa bhindi var shyaamo	hridi astho Janaardanaha

Tadeva lagna sudinam tadev	taaraa bal chandra balam tadev
Vidyaa bal deiva balam tadev	Lakshmi pate tandri yugam smaraami

Sarve shvaabdha kaaryeshu	traya Shree Bhuwaneshwaraaha
Deva aadi shantu naha siddhi	Brahameshaan Janaardanaaha

Then offer the rice at the feet of Shree Ganesh's statue.

Then with some rice in the right hand, chant the following mantra :

Apasarpantu ye bhutaa ye bhutaa bhumi sansithaaha  
Ye bhutaa vighna kartaa raste nashyantu Shiv aagnayaa

Then sprinkle the rice in all the directions to dispel all impediments and hurdles in worship.

Convey aasan (seat), paadhya (wash feet), ardhya (drinking water), bathe with panchaamrut (ghee, candy, honey, curd and milk mixture) while chanting the following mantras :

SUMUKHAAY NAMASTUBHYAM GANAADHI PATAYE NAMAHA (bow)

### **Dhyaanam (Meditation)**

Sveta anga svet vastra sit kusum ganeiha pujitam svet gandheha  
Kshir aabdhau ratna deepeha sur taru vimale ratna simha aasan stham  
Dour bhihi paashaa ankush eshthaa bhaya dhruti vishadam chandra mauli tri netram  
Dhyaa yet shaanti artham isham Ganapati mamalam Sri sametam prasanam  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha  
dhyaanam samar payaami

### **Aavaahanam (Welcome)**

He Herambha tvam hyehi Ambikaa aatmaj  
Siddi Buddhi pate tray aksha bhaksha laabh patihi prabho  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
aavaahanam karomi

### **Aasanam (Seat)**

PUSHPA AASANAM MAYAA DATTAM                      VIGHNAPUNJAM NIVAARAYA (offer seat of  
flowers to destroy all inhibitions)

Ramyam sushobhanam divyam sarva saukhya karam shubham  
Aasanam cha mayaa datta gruhaan Gana Naayakam  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
aasanam samarpayaami

### **Paad Prakshaalam – Paadhyaam (Wash feet)**

Offer feet wash with warm water chanting:

Ushanodakam nirmalam cha sarva saugandhya samyutam  
Paad prakshaala naarthaaya dattam te prati gruhya taam  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
paadhyaam samarpayaami

### **Ardhyam (hand wash)**

Wash hands while chanting:

Ardhayam gruhaan devesh gandha pushpa akshatehe saha  
Karunaa kar me dev gruhaan ardhayam namo astu te  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
hastayo ardhyaam samarpayaami

**Aachamanam (little water to drink)**

Offer water in aachamani (small copper spoon) while chanting:

Sarva tirtha smaa yuktam sugandhi nirmalam jalam  
 Aachamayataam mayaa dattam gruhaan parmashwara  
 Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
 aachmanam samarpayaami

**Snaanam (Bath)**

Offer bath with following chant mantra:

Gangaa Saraswati Reva payoshani Narmadaa jaleha  
 Snaapito asi mayaa dev tathaashaanti kurushva me  
 Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
 snaanam samarpayaami

**Dugdha snaanam (Milk bath)**

Offer bath using milk chanting following mantra:

Kaam dhenu sama udbhutam sarveshaam jivanam param  
 Paavanam yagna hetusraa payaha snaan artha sam arpitam  
 Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
 paya snaanam samarpayaami

Then bathe with clean water chanting:

Dugdha snaante shuddhodak snaanam samar payaami  
 Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha

**Dadhi snaanam (Curd Bath)**

Offer bath using curd chanting following mantra:

Paayas astu sam udbhutam madhur aamlam sashi prabham  
 Dadhya nitam mayaa dev snaan artham prati gruhya taam  
 Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
 dadhi snaanam samarpayaami

Then bathe with clean water chanting:

Dadhi snaante shuddhodak snaanam samar payaami  
 Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha

**Ghrut snaanam (Ghee bath)**

Offer bath using ghee chanting following mantra:

Navanit sam utpanna sarva santosh kaarkam  
 Ghrut tubhyam pradaa syaami snaan artham prati gruhya taam

Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
ghrut snaanam samarpayaami

Then bathe with clean water chanting:  
Ghrut snaante shuddhodak snaanam samar payaami  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha

### **Madhu snaanam (Honey bath)**

Offer bath using honey chanting following mantra:

Taru pushpa sam udbhutam su swaadu madhuram madhu  
Tejaha pushti karam divyam snaan arthamprati gruhya taam  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
madhu snaanam samarpayaami

Then bathe with clean water chanting:

Madhu snaante shuddhodak snaanam samar payaami  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha

### **Sharkaraa snaan (candy bath)**

Offer bath using candied water chanting following mantra:

Ikshu saar sam udbhutaa sharkaraa pushti kaarika  
Malaap haarika divyaa snaan artham prati gruhyataam  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
sharkaraa snaanam samarpayaami

Then bathe with clean water chanting:  
Sharkaraa snaante shuddhodak snaanam samar payaami  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha

### **Jala snaanam (Clean water)**

Offer bath using clear water chanting following mantra:

Gangaa jal samam shitam nadi tirtha sam udbhavam  
Snaan artham cha mayaa dattam gruhyataam parmashwaram  
Aum Gam Ganpataye namaha - Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha –  
shuddhodak snaanam samarpayaami

### **Vastram (clothes)**

Offer clothes (white thread in its place) chanting following mantra:

Sarva bhushaadike saumya lok lajja nivaaranam  
Mayop paadite tubhyam vaasasi prati gruhya taam

Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha – vastram samarpayaami

### **Janoi (Upvitam – holy thread)**

Offer Upvitam chanting following mantra:

Navbhi stantu bhir yukta tri gunam devtaa mayam  
Upvitam mayaa dattam gruhaan parmashwaram  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha – yagna upvitam samarpayaami

### **Gandha (scent – perfume)**

Offer sandawood paste chanting following mantra:

Sri khandam chandanam divyam gandhaa ddhayam su manoharam  
Vilepanam sur shreshtha chandanam prati gruhya taam  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha – chandanam samarpayaami

### **Kunkum (red paste)**

Offer kumkum on forehead chanting following mantra:

Kunkumam kaamanaa divyam kaaminyaaaha kaam sambhavam  
Kunkumena archito dev priyataam parmashwara  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha – kunkumam samarpayaami

### **Rice coated with kumkum**

Offer rice coated with kumkum chanting following mantra:

Akshtaaha paramaa divyaaha	sarva kaam fal pradaaha
Akshate stava archito devaaha	priyataam parameshwaraha

Akshataa scha sur sreshtha kumkumaak tahaa sushobhitaa  
Mayaa niveditaa bhaktayaa gruhaan parmashwara  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha – akshataan samarpayaami

### **Flower**

Offer flower in hand chanting following mantra:

Maalya aadini sugandhini maalya aadini vei prabho  
Mayaanitaani pushpaani gruhaan parmashwar  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye namaha – pushpaani samarpayaami

### **Tulsi leaf**

Offer tulsi leaf chanting following mantra:

Tulsi hem rupam cha ratna rupaam cha manjarim

Bhav moksha pradaam tubhyam arpayami hari priyaam  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – tulsi dalaani samarpayaami

### **Durvaa (grass leaves)**

Then chant the following mantra and offer durvaa (grass leaves):

Durvaa kuraan suharitaan                      amrutaa mangal pradaat  
Aani tam satva pujaa artha                      gruhaan gana naayaka

Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – durvaa samarpayaami

### **Saubhaagya dravya (Abil, Gulaal, Sindoor)**

Then sprinkle abil, gulaal, sindoor chanting:

Abilam aayusho vrudhir gulaal priti vardhanam  
Sindooren samaa yuktam gruhyataam parmashwar  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – tulsi dalaani samarpayaami

### **Dhoopam (scented smoke – joss stick)**

Then chant the following mantra and offer dhupam (scented smoke):

Vanaspati ras udbhooto gandhaa dhayo gandha uttamaha  
Aadhreyaha sarva devaanaam dhoopooyam prati gruhyataam  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – dhoopam samarpayaami

### **Deep (lit candle)**

Then chant the following mantra and offer lit divo (ghee candle):

Saajyam cha varti sanyuktam vahninaa yojitam mayaa  
Deepam gruhaan devesha treilokya timir aapaha  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – deepam darsh yaami

### **Naivedyam (food)**

Then chant the following mantra and offer food (naivedyam) consisting of shiro:

Sharkaraa khandam khaadhyaani                      dadhi kshira dhrutaani cha  
Aahaara bhakshyam bhojyam cha                      naivedyam prati gruhyataam  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – naivedyam samarpayaami

### **Mukhvaasam (mouth freshners)**

Then chant the following mantra and offer mukhavaasam (various condiments wrapped in betel leaf):

Pungi falam mahaa divyam                      naag valli daler yuttam  
Ellaadi churna samyukta                      taambulam prati gruhyataam

Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – taambulam samarpayaami

**Falam (fruits):**

Then chant the following mantra and offer fruits :

Idam falam mayaa deva                      sthaapitam purat stava  
Ten me safalaa vaaptir                      bhava janmani janmani

Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – falam samarpayaami

**Dakshinaa (reparation)**

Then chant the following mantra and offer money :

Hiranya garbha garbhashtam                      hem bijam vibhaa vasoha  
Anata punya falada mattaha                      shaantihi prayachha me

Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – dakshinaam samarpayaami

**Araartikam**

Karpurakam mahaaraaj                      rambho udbhootam cha dipakam  
Mangal artham mahipaal                      sangruhaan ganeshwar

Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – araartikam samarpayaami

**Pradakshinaa (circumambulation)**

Then chant the following mantra and offer circumambulate 4 times (pra- dakshinaa) around Ganpati:

Yaani kaani cha paapaani                      iha janma krutaani cha  
Taani sarvaani vinashyanti                      pradikshinaa pade pade

Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – pradakshinaam samarpayaami

**Namaskar (prostration)**

Then offer prostration to Ganapati:

Vighneshvaraaya vardaay sur priyaay lambo daraay sakalaay jagat hitaay  
Nagaa navaay sruti yagna vibhushitaay gauri sutaay gana naay namo namaste  
Sri Siddhi Buddhi sahit Mahaa Ganapataye – namaskar karomi

Then chant following mantra and offer flowers and bow, salutations with great affection to Ganpati :

Tvaam vighna shatru dala neti cha sundaraeti  
Bhakti priyeti var deti sukha pradeti

Vidyaa pradetya dhaha reti cha ye stuvanti  
Tebhyo Ganesh varado bhava nitya meva

## **KALASH PUJANAM**

On the red cloth on the baajat, make a mound of 1 ¼ pounda of rice, upon which place copper kalash filled with water mixed with gangaa jal (water from Gangaa river, if possible) and invite Varun dev:

### **Sparsha (touch kalash with right hand)**

Hem rup aadi sambhutam taamrajam sudaddham navam  
Kalasham dhoaut kalmaansh chhidra vrana vivarjitam

Chant the following while touching the kalash with the right hand offering prayer:

### **Fill Water**

Then while chanting the following mantra, fill the kalash with water preferably mixed with water from the Ganges if available:

Jivanam sarava jivaanaa                      paavanam pavanaatmakam  
Bijam sarvo aushadhinaam cha              taj jalam puryaamyaham

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA              AAVAAHANAM SAMARPAYAAMI              (welcome)

Then offer prayers and worship to Varun dev:

Sarva samudraahaa sarit stirthaani jaladaa nadaahaa  
Aayaantu dev pujaa artham durit kshay kaarkaahaa

Kalash asya mukhe vishnuhu kanthe rudraha sam aasrit  
Mule tatra sthito brahmaa madhye matru ganaa smrutaa

Kukshou tu saagraahaa sarva sapta dvipaa vasundharaa  
Rug vedo atha yajur vedha saamveda hya atharvana

Angescha sahitaahaa sarve kala shantu sam aasritaa  
Asmin kalashe varunam saagam saprivaar  
Sa aayudhey sa shakti kamaa vaahyaami

### **Paste chandanam**

Put chandanam paste on four sides of kalash.

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA              CHANDANAM SAMARPAYAAMI              (sandalwood paste)

### **Wind sutra (red yellow thread) around neck of kalash**

Then while chanting the following the mantra, tie red yellow thread (red naadu) round neck of kalasham

Sutram kaarpasa sambootam brahmanaa nirmitam pooraa  
Yen baddham jagat sarva veshtanam kalashasya cha

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA

KAARPAAS SUTRAM SAMARPAYAAMI

**Put herbal medicines (cinnamon, clove, cardemom etc.) into kalash:**

Devebhyaaha poorvato jaataa devebhya stri yugam pooraa

Tvishatam tanum cha yaa babhru jivanam jivanaaya cha

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA

AUSHADHI SAMARPAYAAMI

**Put Durvaa (Grass leaves)**

Then chant the following mantra and sprinkle into the kalash durvaa (grass) :

Durve haya amrut sampane

shat mule shataankure

Shata paatak samhantrim tvam

shat aayushya vardhani

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA

DURVAA SAMARPAYAAMI

**Put five trees' leaves and flowers**

Then chant the following mantra and introduce 5 types of leaves (pipdo, umbero, pipal, aambo, vad) on the neck of kalash and then put flowers into kalash:

Ashwathou udambar plaksha chyut

anya grodha pallavaahaa

Pancha bhangaa iti proktaahaa

sarva karma sushobhanaahaa

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA

PANCHA PALLVA SAMARPAYAAMI

Vividham pushpam sanjaatam

devaanaam priti vardhanam

Kshipra yat kaarya sambhootama

kalashe nikshi paamyaham

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA

PUSHPAM SAMARPAYAAMI

(flowers)

**Put dry food seeds**

Then chant the following mantra and offer into the kalash water various dry foods (pulses and other dry seed foods) :

Dhaanya aushadhi manushyaanaam jivanam paramam smrutam

Kshiptam yat kaarya sambhut kalashe prakshi paamyaham

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA

DHAANYAM SAMARPAYAAMI

**Put betel nut**

Then chant following and introduce betel nut in the kalash water :

Pungi falam idam divyam

pavitram paap naashanam

Putra pautraadi faladam

kalashe prakshi paamyaham

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA

PUNGIFALAM SAMARPAYAAMI

**Put dakshinaa (money etc.)**

Then chant following mantra and place money into kalash:

Hiranya garbha garbhastham

hem bijam vibhaa vasoha

Ananta punya faladaa mattaha

shaanti prayachha me

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA DAKSHINAA SAMARPAYAAMI (money offering as gratitude)

**Put five gems (or money instead)**

Then chant following and introduce five gems (or money in its absence) in the water in the kalash:

Kanakam kulisham nilam                      padma raagam cha mauktikam  
Etaani panch ratnaani                      kalashe prakshi paamyaham

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA                      PANCHA RATNA SAMARPAYAAMI

**Place coconut – srifal on top of kalash**

Pidhaanam sarva vastunaaam sarva kaarya artha saadhanam

Sampoorna kalasho yen paatre tat kalashopari

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA                      SRIFALAM SAMARPAYAAMI

**Shower rice on kalash:**

Then chant the following mantra and shower rice from the hands on the kalash:

Namo namaste sphatik prabhavaaya      su shwet haaraaya su mangalaaya  
Supaash hastaaya upaasannaaya      jalaadhi naathaaya namo namaste  
Aum vam varunaaya namaha              sarva bhaave akshtaan samarpayaami

Then chant the following mantras and offer the denoted to Varun deva (deity of the water) :

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA                      DHUPAM SAMARPAYAAMI      (scented smoke)

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA                      DEEPAM SAMARPAYAAMI      ( show lighted candle  
made from cow butter/ghee)

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA                      NAIVEDYAM SAMARPAYAAMI      (food)

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA                      FALAM SAMARPAYAAMI              (fruits)

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA                      MUKHVAASAM SAMARPAYAAMI      (after food  
mouth refreshners)

AUM VAM VARUNAAYA NAMAHA                      TAAMBULAM SAMARPAYAAMI      (beetle leaf  
with condiments)

Then hold water in the right hand, chant the following mantra and put the water on the ground :

ANAYAA PUJYAA SAANGAHA SAPARIVAARE                      VARUN DEVAHA PRIYATAAM

During the pujaa, wife of the yajamaan may touch husband's body i.e. wife and husband are spritually the same entity, therefore action of one of them counts for both.

**Then stand on the knees holding the kalasha in the hands and chant the following looking at the priest:**

[1] BHO BHRAAMANAHAHA MAHAYAM SAHA KUTUMBINE MAHAA JANAANN  
 MASKUR VAANAAY AASHIR VACHANAM PAKSHA MAANAAY  
 ASYA KARMANAHA PUNYAA AM BHAVANTO BRUVANTU

The Purohit (priest) chants the following 3 times:

PUNYAAHAM

[2] Then again the yajamaan says :

BHO BHRAAMANAHAHA MAHAYAM SAHA KUTUMBINE MAHAA JANAANN  
 MASKUR VAANAAY AASHIR VACHANAM PAKSHA MAANAAY  
 ASYA KARMANAHA KALYAANAM BHAVANTO BRUVANTU

The Purohit (priest) chants the following 3 times:

KALYAANAM

[3] Then again the yajamaan says :

BHO BHRAAMANAHAHA MAHAYAM SAHA KUTUMBINE MAHAA JANAANN  
 MASKUR VAANAAY AASHIR VACHANAM PAKSHA MAANAAY  
 ASYA KARMANAHA RUDDHI BHAVANTO BRUVANTU

The Purohit (priest) chants the following 3 times:

KARMA RUDHYATAAM

[4] Then again the yajamaan says :

BHO BHRAAMANAHAHA MAHAYAM SAHA KUTUMBINE MAHAA JANAANN  
 MASKUR VAANAAY AASHIR VACHANAM PAKSHA MAANAAY  
 ASYA KARMANAHA SWASTI BHAVANTO BRUVANTU

The Purohit (priest) chants the following 3 times:

SWASTI

[5] Then again the yajamaan says :

BHO BHRAAMANAHAHA MAHAYAM SAHA KUTUMBINE MAHAA JANAANN  
 MASKUR VAANAAY AASHIR VACHANAM PAKSHA MAANAAY  
 ASYA KARMANAHA SRI SWASTI TVATI BHAVANTO BRUVANTU

The Purohit (priest) chants the following 3 times:

ASTU SRIHI

Then to end the Punyaha Vachan (chanting of the merit) the Purohit chants the following sprinkling water from the kalash with a betel leaf on the yajmaan with his wife seated on left of him:

ANEN PUNYAAHA VAACHANA AKHYEN KARMANAA PRAJAA PATIHI PRIYATAAM

Then the Purohit does abhishek (sprinkling of water) on the yajmaan couple (the pujaa doers)

BHAGAM TE VARUNO RAAJAA  
BHAGAM MIDHRASHCHA VAAYUSHCHA

BHAGAM SURYO BRUHASPATIHI  
BHAGAM SAPTA VARSHO DADHAU

YE TE KESHESHU DAUR BHAAGYAM  
LALAATE KARNAYO RAKSHANO

SIMANTAM YACHA MURDHANI  
RAAPO VIGHNASTU TE SADAA

### **Worship of the nine planets**

Then take nine betel nuts – one for each planet and bathe and do puja with following mantras for each planet:

Om japaa kusum sankasham kaashya peyam mahaa ghutim  
Tamodari sarva paapaghna prantosmi divaa karam Om Suryaaya mamaha

Dadhi shankha tushaa rabham kshiro darnavam sambhavam  
Namaami shashin somam shambor mukut bhushanam Om Somaaya namaha

Dharni garbham sambhutam vidyut kaanti sama prabham  
Kumaar shakti hastam cha mangalam pran maamyaham Om Mangalaaya namaha

Priya angulikaa shayaamam rupenaam pritam budham  
Somyam somya guno petam tam budham pranamaamya ham Om Budhaaya namaha

Devaanaa cha rushinaa cha guru kaanchan sannibhama  
Buddhi bhutm trilokesham tam namaami bruhas patim Om Bruhas pataye namaha

Him kund mrunaa laabham daityaanaa param gurum  
Sarva shaashtra pravktaar bhaargava prana maamya ham Om Bhaargave namaha

Nila anjan samaa bhaasam ravi putram yamaa grajam  
Chhaayaa maaturnda sambhutam tam namaami shanay shacharam Om Shanish chraaya  
namaha

Ardha kaayam mahaa virye chandra aaditya vimarda namaha  
Sinhikaa garbha sambhutam tam raahu prana maamya ham Om Raahave namaha

Palaash pushpa sankasham taar kaagraha mastakam  
Rodhram rodhratamakam ghoram tam ketu prana maamya ham Om Ketave namaha

Om Aim Hrim Klim nava grha devtaa bhyo namaha

### **SRI SATYANAARAAYAN PUJAA**

The yajamaan takes water in right hand and chants following commitment mantra :

ATRAADHYA MAHAA MAANGALYA FALPRAD MAASOTTAM MAASE .....(say month)  
MAASE .....(say which fortnight) PAKSHE.....(say which date) TITHAU .....(say which  
day ) VAASARE ..... (say which constellation) NAKSHATRE

AASAN MURTINAAM, ANGA PRATYANGA SANDHI SAM UTTAPANNAM, AATAPAAGNI  
SANYOG JANIT KOSH, PARI HAARA ARTHAM AGNAYU, TAARANMAHAM KARISHYE

Then smear Lakshmi Naaraayan statue with ghee and pour water over it. Then holding the  
statue in hand chant the following mantra to invoke life-force in the statue:

AUM HRIM KLIM YAM RAM LAM VAM SHAM SSHAM SAM HAM ADAM KSHAM SOHAM  
AASYAAM PRAANAA IHA PRAANAHAHA (life force enter!)

AUM HRIM HANSAHA SOHAM  
AASYAAM SARVE INDRIYAANI VAAD MANASTVAK CHAKSHU SROT JIHVAA GHRAAN  
PAANI PAAD PAAY UP PASTHAANI SUKHAM CHIRAM TISHTANTHU (may all the senses,  
speech, mind, eyes, ears, nose, ....., feet, ....., ..... reside ever comfortably.)

Then place the Lakshmi Naaraayan statue on a betel leaf which should be located on the front  
of the baajat on the front on the red cloth. Also place photograph of Sri Satya Naaraayan on the  
baajat and

Thereafter do either 5 fold pujaa (abridged version) with sweet smelling items etc.

or

Do 16 fold (shodshopchaar) Lakshmi Naaraayan pujaa as follows :

Hold flower in right hand, chant the following mantra and meditate on the form of Sri Satya  
Narayan:

#### **[1] Dhyaan (meditation)**

Shaantaakaaram bhujang shayanam padma naabham suresham  
Vishva aadhaaram gagan sadrasham megh varanam shubh angam  
Lakshi kaantam kamal nayanam yogi bhirdhyan gamyam  
Vande vishnum bhava bhaya haram sarva lok ek naatham

Satyam guna atitam guna traya samanvitam  
Lok natham trilokesham kaustubha bharanam hari  
Nil varanam peet vaasam sri vatsa pad bhushitam  
Govindam gokulaanandam brahmaa dheir pipujitam

ITI DHYAANAM

#### **[2] Aavaahana (welcome – invitation)**

Then chant the welcome mantra :

Aaa gachhaachh devesh      tejo raashe jagat pate  
Kriya maanm mayaa pujaa      gruhaan sur sattam

Aavaahaye tvaam garudo up sthitam      ramaardha deham sur raaj vanditam  
Kansaatak chakra gadaabja hastam      bhajaami devam vasudev sutam  
Sri satya naaraayanam aavaahanam karomi

ITI AAVAAHANAM SAMARPAYAAMI

### **[3] Aasanam (seat)**

Then offer seat with following chant :

Aasana (offer seat)

Ramyam sushobhanam divyam sarva saukhyakaram shubham  
Aasanam cha mayaa dattam gruhaan parmashvar  
Sri satya naaraayanam aasanam dadaami

Naanaa ratna samaa yuktam      kaarta svar vibhusitam  
Aasanam dev devesh priti artham      prati gruhya taam  
Simha aasane ratna maye sadeiva      hemaabh pitamber shobh mane  
Krupaa nidhe nandaja vishwa murte      bhava asmin mam yagna siddhaye

ITI AASANAM SAMARPAYAAMI

### **[4] Paadhyam - Paad Prakshaalam – Paadhyam (Wash feet)**

Then offer drink with following chant :

Naaraayan namaste astu      nara kaarna vaartak  
Paadhya gruhaan devesha      mam saukhyam vivardhaya

Suvarna paatre yamunaa jalam cha      gandha akshatei pushpa yuteischa ramya  
Mayaa arpit paadhyam idam      gruhaan bho jaanaki naath namo namaste

Ushanodakam nirmalam cha sarva saugandhya samyutam  
Paad prakshaala naarthaaya dattam te prati gruhya taam  
Sri Satya naaraayan paadyoho paadhyam samarpayaami

ITI PAADHYAM SAMARAPAYAAMI

### **[5] Ardhyam (hand wash)**

Then offer arghya with the chant :

Vyakta avyakta swarupaay      hrushik pataye namaha  
Mayaa nivedito bhaktayaa      ardhoyam prati gruhyataam

Su-nirmalam jahanu padaabdhi nirgatam      gandh aadi yukta mahaa adbhutam cha  
Niveditam vishwa gurocham toya gruhaan cha ardhayam bhagwaan namaste

Ardhayam gruhaan devesh gandha pushpa akshatehe saha  
 Karunaakar me dev gruhaan ardhayam namo astu te  
 Sri Satya Naaraayan hastayo ardhyam samarpayaami

ITI ARDHYAM SAMAPAYAAMI

**[6] Aachmanam (water in little copper spoon)**

Then offer aachamanam:

Mandaaki nyaastuya dhaari           sarva paap haram shubham  
 Tadidam kalpitam dev samyag aachamayataam tvayaa

Bho kirtishvar vishva baaho brahmaa aadi bhihi pujit paad padma  
 Gruhaan devesh mayaa niveditam aachamayataam vishva vinod Vishnu

Sarva tirtha samaa yuktam sugandhi nirmalam jalam  
 Aachamayataam mayaa dattam gruhaan parmashwara  
 Sri Satya naraayana aachmanam samarpayaami

ITI AACHAMANAM

**[7] Snaanam (Bath)**

Then offer bath with water with following chant :

Snaanam panchaa bhuteir dev           gruhaan purushottam  
 Anaath naath sarvagna                   girvaan pranati priya

Gangaa Saraswati Reva payoshani Narmadaa jaleha  
 Snaapito asi mayaa dev tathaa shaanti kurushva me  
 Sri Satya Naaraayan snaanam samarpayaami

**Dugdha snaanam (Milk bath)**

Bathe first with milk then with clear water and offer aachamanam after chanting this mantra:

Suswaad niti ruchayen                   gavayen payasaa vibho  
 Snaan upayaami mahaa bhaktayaa       gruhaan purushottam

Kaam dhenu sama udbhutam sarveshaam jivanam param  
 Paavanam yagna hetusraa payaha snaan artha sam arpitam  
 Sri Satya Naaraayan dugdha snaanam samarpayaami

Dugdha snaante shuddhodak snaanam samarpayami. Aachamanam samarpayaami

**Dadhi snaanam (Curd bath)**

Then bathe with curd (clear yoghurt) followed by clear water and offer aachamanam after chanting this mantra:

Chandra mandal samkaasham           sarva dev priyam dadhi

Snaan upnaartham mayaa dattam priti artham prati gruhyataam

Payas astu sam udbhutam madhur aamlam sashi prabham  
Dadhya nitam mayaa dev snaan artham prati gruhya taam  
Sri Satya Naaraayan dadhi snaanam samarpayaami

Dadhi snaante shuddhodak snaanam samarpayami. Achamanam samarpayaami

### **Ghrut snaanam (Ghee bath)**

Then bathe with ghee followed by clear water and achamanam after chanting this mantra:

Ghrut kumbha samaa yukta                      ghrut yone ghrut priya  
Ghrut bhuka ghrut ghaataasi                  ghrut snaanaaya gruhya taam

Navnit sam utpanna sarva santosh kaarkam  
Ghrut tubhyam pradaa syaami snaan artham prati gruhya taam  
Sri Satya Naaraayan ghrut snaanam samarpayaami

Ghrut snaante shuddhodak snaanam samarpayami. Achamanam samarpayaami

### **Madhu snaanam (Honey bath)**

Then bathe with honey followed by clear water and achamanam after chanting this mantra:

Madhurupo vasant stavam                      tvamev sarvadaa vibho  
Madhu soodan sam pritayei                      madhu snaanaay gruhyataam

Taru pushpa sam udbhutam su swaadu madhuram madhu  
Tejaha pushti karam divyam snaan arthamprati gruhya taam  
Sri Satya Naaraayan madhu snaanam samarpayaami

Madhu snaante shuddhodak snaanam samarpayami. Achamanam samarpayaami

### **Sharkaraa snaan (candy bath)**

Then bathe with candy mixed in water and followed by clear water and achamanam after chanting this mantra:

Sharkaraa ghrut samyuktaa                      tvam ev sharkaraa priya  
Anant sharkaraa prityaa                          snaanaaya prati gruhya taam

Ikshu saar sam udbhutaa sharkaraa pushti kaarika  
Malaap haarika divyaa snaan artham prati gruhyataam  
Sri Satya Naaraayan shrkaraa snaanam samarpayaami

Sharkaraa snaante shuddhodak snaanam samarpayami. Achamanam samarpayaami

### **Jala snaanam (Clean water)**

Then bathe with clear water (abhishek) to clean.

Gangaa jal samam shitam nadi tirtha sam udbhavam  
Snaan artham cha mayaa dattam gruhyataam parmashwaram  
Sri Satya Naaraayan shuddhodak snaanam samarpayaami

ITI SNAANAM

### **[8] Vastram (clothes)**

Then offer clothes to wear (or white thread instead) :

Ved sukta samaa yukte yagna saam samanvite  
Sarva varna prade dev vaasasi prati gruhya taam

Sarva bhushaadike saumya lok lajja nivaaranam  
Mayop paadite tubhyam vaasasi prati gruhya taam  
Sri Satya Naaraayan vastram samarpayaami

ITI VASTRAM

### **[9] Janoi (Upvitam – holy thread)**

Then offer Yagna upavitam (white cotton thread to wear) :

Brahmaa Vishnu Maheshe scha nirmitam brahma sutram  
Yagna upvit daanane priyataam kamlaa pati

Navbhisa tantu mir yukta tri gunam devtaa mayam  
Upvitam mayaa dattam gruhaan parmashwaram  
Sri Satya Naaraayan yagna upvitam samarpayaami

ITI YAGNA UPAVITAM

### **Chandanam (sandalwood paste)**

Then offer chandanam on forehead (sandal wood paste) :

Sri khandanam chandanam divyam gandhaa ddhayam su mano haram  
Vilepanam sur sreshtha chandanam prati gruhya taam  
Sri Satya Naaraayan chandanam samarpayaami

ITI CHANDANAM

### **Kunkum (red paste)**

Kunkumam kaamnaa divyam kaaminyaaaha kaam sambhavam  
Kunkumena archito dev priyataam parmashwara

Sri Satya Naaraayan kunkumam samarpayaami

**Rice coated with kumkum**

Akshataa scha sur sreshtha kumkumaak tahaa sushobhitaa  
 Mayaa niveditaa bhaktayaa gruhaan parmashwara  
 Sri Satya Naaraayan akshataan samarpayaami

**Flowers**

Then offer flowers :

Maalya aadini sugandhini maalya aadini vei prabho  
 Mayaanitaani pushpaani gruhaan parmashwar

Mallika aadi sugandhini maalya aadi nivei prabho  
 Mayaa hyataani pujaa artham pushpaani prati gruhya taam

Sri Satya Naaraayan pushpaani samarpayaami

ITI PUSHPAANI SAMARPAYAAMI

**Tulsi leaves**

Tulsi hem rupam cha ratna rupaam cha manjarim  
 Bhav moksha pradaam tubhyam arpayaami hari priyataam  
 Sri Satya Naaraayan tulsi dalaani samarpayaami

**Durvaa (grass leaves)**

Then chant the following mantra and offer durvaa (grass leaves):

Durvaa kuraan suharitaan                      amrutaa mangal pradaat  
 Aani tam satva pujaa artha                      gruhaan parameshvaram

Sri Satya Naaraayan durvaa samarpayaami

**Saubhaagya dravya (Abil, Gulaal, Sindoor)**

Abilam aayusho vrudhir gulaal priti vardhanam  
 Sindoreen samaa yuktam gruhyataam parmashwar  
 Sri Satya Naaraayan saubhaagya dravya samarpayaami

**[10] Dhoopam (scent – perfume – joss stick)**

Then offer sweet scented smoke (dhoopam) :

Vanaspati ras udbhooto gandhaa dhayo gandha uttamaha  
 Aadhreyaha sarva devaanaam dhoopayam prati gruhyataam  
 Sri Satya Naaraayan dhoopam samarpayaami

ITI DHUPAM SAMARPAYAAMI

**[11] Deepam (lit candle)**

Then offer lamp (divo) :

Saajyam cha varti sanyuktam vahninaa yojitam mayaa  
Deepam gruhaan devesha treilokya timir aapaha  
Sri Satya Naaraayan deepam darsh yaami

ITI DEEPAM SAMARPAYAAMI

**[12] Naivedyam (food)**

Then offer naivedyam (food- Shiro) :

Ghrut pakk havish anna paayasam cha sa sharkaram  
Naanaa vidham cha naiveidyam vipno me prati gruhya taam

Sharkaraa khandam khaadhyaani dadhi kshir dhrutaani cha  
Aahaar bhakshyam bhojyam cha naivedyam prati gruhya taam

ITI NAIVEDYAM SAMARPAYAAMI

**[13] Aachamanam**

Then offer aachamanam ( water in copper spoon ) :

Sarva paap haram divyam gaangeyam nirmalam jalam  
Aachamanam mayaa dattam gruhayataam purushottam

ITI AACHAMANAM SAMARPAYAAMI

**Taambulam**

Then chant the following mantra and offer mukhavaasam (various condiments wrapped in betel leaf) :

LAVANG KARPOOR YUKTAM TAAMBULAM SUR PUJITAM  
PRITYAA GRUHAAN DEVESHAM MASAUKHYAM VIVARDHAYA  
Lavang karpoor yutam taambulam sur pujitam  
Pritayaa gruhaan devesh mam saukhyam vivardhaya

Pungi falam mahaa divyam naag valli daler yuttam  
Elaadi churna samyukta taambulam prati gruhya taam

ITI TAAMBULAM SAMARPAYAAMI

**Fruit**

Then chant the following mantra and offer fruits :

Idam falam mayaa dev sthaapitta pur stava  
Tenme saflaa vaaptir bhava janmani janmani  
Sri Laxminaaraayan namaha – falam samarpayaami

**Dakshinaa**

Hiranya garbha garbha stham      hem bijam vibhaa vasoha  
Anant punya falada mataha      shaantihi prayachha me

Sri Laxminaaraayan namaha – dakshinaa samarpayaami

**[14] Aarti**

Then offer aarti ( lamp with 5 wicks ) :

Chatur varti samaa yuktam      dhuten cha supuritam  
Niraajanen santushtho      bhava tyeiva jagat patih

ITI NIRAAJANAM SAMARPAYAAMI

**[15] Circumambulations – (pradakshinaa)**

Then circumambulate around Sri Satya Narayan and Lakshmiiji (4 times clockwise) :

Yaani kaani paapaani      janamaantar krutaani cha  
Taani taani vinashyanti      pradakshinaa pade pade

ITI PRADAKSHINAA SAMARPAYAAMI

**Flowers and bow**

Then offer flowers and bow according to the chant :

Tataha pushpa anjalir      namaskaaram scha krutavaa stuvit

**[16] Namaskar (prostration)**

Satya Naaraayanam devam vande aham kaamadam prabhum  
Lilyaa vitatam vishvam yen tasmey namo namaha

Then offer prayer as follows :

Yan mayaa bhakti yukten      patram pushpam falam jalam  
Niveditam cha naivedyam      tana gruhaan anukampayaa

Mantra hinam kriyaa hinam      bhakti hinam Janaardana  
Yat pujit mayaa deva      pari puranan tada stume

Amogham pundrik aaksham      Nrusimham deitya sudanam  
Hrushikesham Jagan Naatham      vaagisham var daayakam

Goon trayam guna atitam      Govindam garudo dhvajam  
Janaardanam janaatitam      Jaanaki vallabham Hari

Pranamaami sadaa bhaktayaa      Naraayan mattaha param  
Durgame vishame ghore      shatrubhihi par pidite

Nistaa rayasva sarveshu                      tathaa nishtha faleshu cha  
Naamaan yetaani sam kirtayam              ipsitam fala maapnuyaat

Satya Naaraayan devam vande ham        kaamadam prabhun  
Lilayaa vit tam vishvam                      yen tasme namo namaha

ITI PRAARTHANA SAMARPAYAAMI

SHAANTAAKAARAM BHUJANG SHAYANAM	PADMA NAABHAM SURESHWARAM
VISHVAADHAARAM GAGAN SADRASHAM	MEGHVARANAM SHUBHAANGAM
LAKSHMIKAANTAM KAMALA NAYANAM	YOGI BHIRDYAAN GAMYAM
VANDE VISHNU BHAV BHAYA HARAN	SARVA LOKEK NAATHAM

**Then offer 1000 flowers or petals of flowers at the feet of Sri Laksmi Naaraayan. Use the 1000 names list and at the end of of each name endeth with "namaha" offer the flower / petal using the right hand palm upwards. Use second and third fingers with the thumb to push the flower / petal to offer to the deities' feet.**

**The Thaal and Aarti are sung at the end of the kathaa**

**Sri Satya Naaraayan thaal (song for offering food to Sri Satya Naaraayan)**

Kedanaa mandap maa murti chhe hem ni  
Aarati utaaru dinaa naath re Om namo Satya Naaraayan

Pujan karvaathi prabhu sankat ne nivaarataa  
Bhaya ne haro chho bhagwaan re Om namo Satya Naaraayan  
Daaridra dukha harayaa vipra Sataanand naa  
Bhaangi kathyaraa ni bhid re Om namo Satya Naaraayan

Raajaa Ulkaamukh aapanaa pujaan thi  
Paamayaa chhe putra parivaar re Om namo Satya Naaraayan

Saadhu vanik ghanaa sankat ne paamaya  
Svapane thi sandhyaa enaa kaam re Om namo Satya Naaraayan

Raajaae tyaag karyo aapanaa prasaad no  
Taadayu chhe enu abhimaan re Om namo Satya Naaraayan

Paanche adhyaaya no paath tano saar aa  
Gaay chhe saghdo sansaar re Om namo Satya Naaraayan

Fal fadaadi dharayaa mevaa madhuraa  
Shiro dharayo chhe sundir Shyaam re Om namo Satya Naaraayan

Tulsi naa dal dharayaa yamunaa naa nir vahaalaa  
Aarogo antar aaraam re Om namo Satya Naaraayan

Purushottam daas ni arji svikaarjo  
Darshan dejone ek vaar re Om namo Satya Naaraayan

**Sri Satya Naaraayan Aarti (5 lit divas which are moved in circular motion in front of the deity)**

Jaya dev jaya dev jaya Lakshmi ramanaa, prabhu Sri Lakshmi ramanaa  
Satya Naaraayan swami jan paatak haranaa.....Jai Dev Jai Dev

Ratna jedit simhaasan adabhut chhabi raaje .. prabhu adbhut chhabi raaje  
Naarad karat niraajan (2) ghantaa dhvani baaje.....Jai Dev Jai Dev

Vruddha thai dvija kaaran vipra nu kaarya karyu.. prabhu vipranu kaarya karyu  
Vidhi thi vrat kari tene (2) mokshe gaman karyu .....Jai Dev Jai Dev

Kaashtha ketaa dur bala te par krupaa kari, prabhu te par krupaa kari  
Chandra ketu ek rajaa (2) teni vipat hari .....Jai Dev Jai Dev

Vanik Saadhu jamaai bandhan thi chhutayaa, prabhu bandhan thi chhutaya  
Sukh sampati paami (2) bhava naa bandha tutayaa .....Jai Dev Jai Dev

Govaal sang raajaae vana maa bhakti kari, prabhu van maa bhakti kari  
Man vaanchhit fal didhaa (2) din dayaal hari .....Jai Dev Jai Dev

Bhaav bhakti ne kaaran kshan kshan roop dharayaa, prabhu kshan kshan roop dharayaa  
Jene sradhhaa kidhi (2) tenaa kaarya saryaa .....Jai Dev Jai Dev

Chadhe prasaad savaayo kadali fal mevaa, prabhu kadali fal mevaa  
Dhoop deep tulsi dal (2) raaji rahe devaa .....Jai Dev Jai Dev

Satya dev ni aarati je koi gaashe, prabhu je koi gaashe  
Sukh sampati paami (2) Satya lok jaashe .....Jai Dev Jai Dev

Jaya dev jaya dev jaya Lakshmi ramanaa, prabhu Sri Lakshmi ramanaa  
Satya Naaraayan swami jan paatak haranaa.....Jai Dev Jai Dev

**SRI SATYANAARAAYAN VRAT STORY**  
**AUM**

**CHAPTER 1**

[1] Ekadaa naimish aranyae rushayaha shaunak aadayaha  
prapuchchyar munayaha sarve sutam pauraanikam khalu

[2] Shri Rishi uvaach:  
vraten tapasaa kim vaa praapayate vanchchitam falam  
tat sarvam srotu ichchaamaha katha sva mahaa mune

[3] Sut uvaach:  
naarad Neiva sam prushto bhagwan kamlaa patihi  
surarshaye yathei vaaha tacha srunudhwa samaa hitaahaa

[4] ekadaa naarado yogi par anugrha aankankshyaa  
paryatan vividhyaan lokaan martya lokam upaagataha

[5] tato drashtawaa janaan sarvaa naanaa kalesh saman vitaan  
naanaa yoni sam utpannaa klisya maanaan sarva karma bhihi

[6] ken upaayen cheitesham dukh naasho bhaved dhruvam  
iti sanchitya manasaa vishnu lokam gat stadaa

[7] tatra Naaraayan am devam shukla varnam chatur bhujam  
shankh chakra gadaa padma vanmaalaa vibhushitam

[8] drashtwaa tam dev deveshaam stotum sam upacha krame  
Narad uvaach:  
Namo vaad manas atit rupayaa anant shaktaye

[9] aadi madhya anta hinaaya nirgunaaya gun aatmane  
sarveshaam aadi bhutaaya bhaktaanaam aarti nashine

[10] srutwaa stotraam tato vishnu naaradaam pratya bhaashata  
Sri Bhagwaan uvaach:  
Kim artha maagato asi tvam kim te manasi vartate  
Kathayasva mahaa bhaag tat sarva katha yaami te

[11] Naarada uvaach:  
martya loke janaahaa sarve naanaa kalesh samanvitaaha  
naanaa yoni sam utpanaahaa pach yante paap karma bhihi

[12] tat katham shamaye nnaath laghu upaayen tat vada  
tat sarvam srotum ichchaami krupaa asti yadi te mayi

[13] Sri Bhagwaan uvaach:  
Saadhu prushtam tvayaa vatsa loka anugraha aakaankshayaa  
Yat krutvaa muchyate mohaata tach srunusva vadaami te

[14] vratam asti mahat punyaam swarga martya durlabham  
tava snehaanmayaa vatsa prakaashaha kriyate adhunaa

[15] Satya Naaraayan syeiva vratam samyag vidhaantaha

krutvaa sadhyaha sukham bhuktwaa paratra moksha maapnuyaat

[16] Naarad uvaach: kim falam kim vidhaanam cha krutam keneiva tad vratam  
tat sarva vistaraad bruhi kadaa kaarya hi tad vratam

[17] Bhagwaan uvaach:  
dukh shokaadi shamanam dhan dhaanya pravardhanam

[18] Saubhaagya santiti karam sarvatra vijaya pradam  
yasmin kasmin dine martayo bhakti sraddhaa samanvitaha

[19] Satya naraayanam devam yajech cheiva nishaa mukhe  
toran aadi prakar tavyam kadali stambha manditam

[20] Naivedyam bhaktito dadhaat sapaadam bhakti samyuktam  
rambhaa falam ghrutam kshiram godhumasya cha churnakam

[21] Panch bhihi kalasher yuktam dhvjaa patta samanvitam  
jal purneiha sa ratnei scha pungu fala samanvitam

[22] Bhushit pushpa maalaabhihi sapta dhaanyo pari sthitam  
aachcha dayet patta vastrer naana varna vichitrite

[23] chandanen sugandhen lepyed gruha mandapam  
shankha bheri mrudanga scha vaad yed bahu bhir janeiha

[24] naanaa mangal chaare astu kartavyam nij sajjaneiha  
sandhyaayaam niyamam krutvaa danta dhaavan purvakam

[25] praatar ut-thaaya meghaavaan snaatshva vaashyakam aachret  
tadanu prati gamekaam saudarana asya shubhaa krutim

[26] karyedaya sri pat sheiva snaap yecha yathaa vidhi  
panchaa amrutei stato vastra yugmen pari veshti taam

[27] taamra patreshu vin asya sthaapyen mati maan shubhaam  
pratishthaam cha prakurvit svasti vanchan purvakaam

[28] chandanen sugandhen pushpeiha kaal udbhaveiha faleiha  
dhup dipescha naiveidhya staambule safaleiha shubheiha

[29] Brahmaneir badhavei scheiva sahito dharma tatparaha  
naivedyam bhaktito dadhyat sapaadam bhakshyam uttapam

[30] rambhaa falam dhutam kshiram godhum asya cha churnakam  
abhaave shaali churnaam cha shakruraam vaa gudam tathaa

[31] sapaadam sarva bhakshayam cha hyeki krutya nivedyet  
vipraay dakshinaam dadhyaat kathaam srutvaa janeiha saha  
tatascha bandhubhi saardham vipra aadi bhya pradaa payem  
prasaadam bhakshayed bhaktayaa nrutya geet aadikam charet

[32] Janaha svam svam gruham gachchet Satya Naaraayanam smaran  
evam krute manushyaanaam vanchcha siddhir bhaved dhruvam  
visheshataha kali yuge laghu upaayo asti bhutale

Once in the forest of Naimisha aranya near the famous city of Ayodhya, Shaunak and the other rishis engaged in penance gathered together and asked Sut Puraani a great question :

The Rishis said " O great muni, what penance (vrat) is there which delivers just desires ? We are eager to hear it from you. So please tell us the details."

Sri Sut said :

"On one occasion, Naarad muni asked the same question to Sri Vishnu Bhagwaan in Vaikunth. I will narrate the same reply given by Sri Vishnu Bhagwaan, so please listen with concentration. Once Yogi Naarad muni during his travels came to Mrutyu Lok ( another name for the earth where all the creatures are destined to die i.e. the world of death ) with the intention to oblige. The great muni saw people from all walks of life suffering from their actions of wrong doing, in multiplicity of pains of the mind, body and environment. With the single thought in his mind, concerned with finding a solution to eradicate this suffering, he traversed to Vishnu Lok - the abode of Lord Vishnu. In Vaikunth ( another name for the abode of Lord Vishnu ), he had darshan (sight) of Lord Naaraayan (Lord Vishnu). The Lord was of dark complexion with four hands holding conch, disc, mace, padma and was beautified with a garland around his neck. Upon seeing the Lord of lords - Sri Vishnu Bhagwaan, Naaradji began to pray :

*" O Lord who is beyond mind and speech, of countless forms and endless power,*

*without beginning, middle or end, with no attributes yet creator of satva, raj and tama qualities, the foremost in all the living beings, the destroyer of the sufferings of those who seek refuge in you, I prostately bow to you."*

Upon hearing the prayer of Sri Naarad, Sri Vishnu said :

*"O very fortunate Naaradmuni, tell me the reason of your presence. What is troubling your mind? Please tell me. Whatever you wish to know, I will certainly tell you all."*

Naarad said :

*"O Lord, in Manushyalok ( the earth) everyone is suffering. People of various origins are greatly pained by suffering arising from their sin actions. Pray tell me if there is an easy way to destroy their sufferings"*

Bhagwaan said :

*"O dear child, you have asked me a great question for the benefit of all people. I will relate to you that which rids illusion and attachment. The vrat / penance which is scarce in heaven and earth, that I will narrate to you due to my great affection for you. Anyone can do this great vrat / penance of Sri Satya Naaraayan according to procedure and fulfil their just desires and quickly obtain liberation."*

Upon hearing Bhagwaan's speech, Naaradmuni asked :

*"Great Lord, what are the achievements resulting from and the procedure for Sri Satya Naaraayan's vrat ? Who did this vrat before ? And when did they do this vrat? Please tell me all the details."*

Bhagwaan said :

" O Naaradmuni, this vrat destroys sufferings and increases wealth. It augments good fortune and family as well as bestows victory in all ways. Man of faith and devotion on evening of any day should do puja of Sri Satya Naaraayan with company of brahmans, friends and relatives. Make a canopy with only pillars decorated with festoons. Within should be placed five water filled kalash ( copper vessels ) and five gems. Decorate the canopy with flower garlands and place seven types of dry foods - rice, barley, wheat, mung, black mung (adad), kaang and till seeds. Cover the canopy with silk cloths. The floor should be decorated with a beautiful pattern with scented sandalwood paste. Play musical instruments such as conch and drums. Enjoy the evening with family and friends. With the intention of doing the vrat in the evening, wake up early in the morning, clean and wash the mouth, have a bath and complete the daily duties. Then make/prepare a statue of Sri Vishnu Bhagwaan and Lakshmi devi. bathe it with panchaamrut ( concoction of milk, honey, ghee, curd and candy), wrap with two clothes, place in a copper plate, do praan pratishtha ( implant life force in the statue) and then do puja through a brahmin priest ( or on one's own) with family and friends, with sandalwood paste, flowers, Tulsi leaves, sweet scented smoke, deepam ( lit candle), vegetarian edible foods, betel leaf and betel nuts, various fruits. Offer with great devotion to the Lord naivedya (food) in one and quarter proportions ( e.g. one and quarter pound measures). Take bananas, ghee, wheat (or rice) flour, candy (or molasses), all in one and quarter weights. Mix them together to make a dough and cook to make shiro. Offer the shiro to the Lord, distribute to friends and family and take the same oneself as prasaadam. Offer dakshinaa (money etc.) to brahmans. (This act is to compensate for any short comings in the puja and also rid oneself of the ego i.e. all that is available belongs to the Lord, any action on one's part which has countered this eternal truth is nullified by this pious act of renunciation). Then sing devotional songs to the Lord. Then all can go home contemplating on the Lord. Thus done, man's all just wishes are certainly fulfilled. Specifically in the Kaliyug (the present period), this is a very simple and straight forward means."

**Iti Sri Skandha puraane Revaa khande Satya Naaraayan kathaayaa prathmo adhyaaya**

HERE ENDETH THE FIRST CHAPTER OF REVA KHAND IN SKAND PURAAN.

## CHAPTER TWO

[1] sri sut uvaach:

**athanyat sam pravakshyaami krutam yen puraa dvijaahaa  
krupayaa brahman dvaaraa prakruti krutvaan svayam  
itihaasmimam vakshaye samvaad hari viprayoho**

[2] kaashi puri tu vikhyaataa tatra aasid brahmanovarha  
dino gruha aasrami nityam bishuhu putra kalatravaan

[3] sadaanand iti khyaato vishnu vishnavrat paraayanaha  
ekaad pathi bhikshaartham gachch tasta asya sri patih

[4] vinit asya ati shaant asya sa babhu vakshi gocharaha  
vruddha brahmanveshena prapachch brahmanam harihi

[5] kava yaasiti dvij sreshtha vrutihi kaa tava kathya taam  
brahman uvaach:  
bhikshaa vrutti raham saumya! Kala traap ya hetave  
yaa chitum dhaninaam dvaari vrajaami dhan kaamyayaa

[6] sri bhagwan uvaach:

**bhikshaa vruttihi sadaa guruhyaam visheshen kalau yuge**

mam updeshto vipra ! satya Naaraayanam bhaja

[7] daridhrya shok trividh santaap haranam hareha  
charanam sharanam yaahi mokshadam mal mochanam

[8] evam sambodhito vipro harinaa karunaatmanaa  
punaha prapachch vipro aso satya Naaraayan ha sa kaha

[9] sri bhagwaan uvaach:  
bahu rupaha satya sandhaha sarva vyaapi niranjanha  
idaani vipra rupen tava pratyaksha maagataha

[10] dukho dadhi nimagnaanaam taaranam charanam hareha  
kushlaahaa sharanam yaanti netare vishyaatmana

[11] satya Naaraayan o vishnur vanchchit artha fal pradha  
tasya tava pujanam vipra kurushva vrat uttamam

[12] aahrutva puja sambhaaraan hitaay jagato dvija  
archayam sta manushyaay stav metat prakati kuru

[13] yat krutvaa sarva pape bhyo mukto bhavati maanavaha  
iti bruvantam vipro asau dadarsha purushotamam

[14] jalad shayaamalam chaaru chatur baahu gadaadi bhihi  
pitaambaram navaambhoj lochan smit shobhanam

[15] van maalaa madhu vraat chumbitaa andhri saroruham  
nishaamya pula kaang asou prem purna asru lochanaha  
stuvan gadgadayaa vaachaa dandavat patito bhuvi

[16] sadaanand uvaach:  
pranamaami jagan naatham jagat kaaranam acyutam  
anaath naatham shivadam taap tray vimochanam

[17] namaha satya Naaraayanaay asya kartre  
nama sshudha sattvaay vishvasya bhartre  
karaalaay kaalaatma kaay asya hartre  
namaste jagan mangalaayaatt murte

[18] dhanayo samyadhya krutartho asmi bhavo adhya safalo mam  
vaan mana agocharo yas tvam mam pratksa bhaagatha

[19] drashtaha kim varnaam yadya na jaane kasya vaa falam  
kriyaa hina asya manda asya deho ayam safal ichchataha

[20] kva kinchano aham bhagvan kva puja te ramaa pate  
vidhinaa ken krupayaa tad agnaa paya maam vibho?

[21] harista maaha madhur samsmitam vishva mohanaha  
pujaayaam mam vipra indra ! dhanam naape kshayate bahu

[22] anaayaasen labdhen sradhaa matren mam yaja  
graahojo ajaamilo api bhaktayei von mukta sankatahaa

- [23] vidhaan srunu viprendra !mansaa kaamyan falam  
samyak sambhrut sambhaar pujaam kuryaad yathaa vidhi
- [24] godhum chur nam paad urdhvam setak aadi pramaanataha  
dugdhen taavataa yuktam ghruten sharkaraadibhihi
- [25] gandha pushpa aadi naivedhyer ved vaakyyer manorameihe  
dhup dipeir bhakshya bhojya vibhavi sati vistarehe
- [26] mishtaan paan taambuleha pujayed bhakti tatparaha  
brahmaneiha svajanei scha veshti taha sradha yaanvitaha
- [27] stryaa saardham mam kathaam srunyaat param aadaram  
itihaasam tathaa ragno vani jascha manoram
- [28] kathaa ante pramed bhaktyaa prsaad vibhajatataha  
labdhayaa prasaad bhunjit maanyann vichaaryet
- [29] dravya aadi bhirna me pritir bhaktyaa kevalyaa yathaa  
vidhin anen viprendra ! puj yishyanti ye naraahaa
- [30] putra poutra samaa yuktaa bhuktavaa bhogaan yatha ipsitaan  
ante saannidhayam asaadhya modante cha mayaa saha
- [31] yam yam kaamayate kaamam praapnuyaatam mam archanaat  
iti uktavaa antar dadhe vishnu vipra api hrushta maanasaha
- [32] pramyaa gaadhyathaa mishtam manasaa kautukaa kulaha  
adhya bhikshan laabhen pujyo Naaraayan o mayaa
- [33] iti nish chitya manasaa bhikshaarthe nagaram gataha  
vinaa dehiti vachanam labdhavaan vipulam dhanam
- [34] kautukaa vishta manasaa janaan nij mandiram  
vrutaantam sarva machakhyo brahmanyee saanva modata
- [35] saadaram dravya sambhaar maanayad bhartur aagnyaa  
aahuy bandhu mitraani tathaa sannidhaya vartinaha
- [36] satya Naaraayan am devam yajat svarganeir vrutaha  
bhaktyaa tutosh bhagvaan satya Naaraayan ha svayam
- [37] kaamam ditsuhu paadu raasit kathaa ante bhakta vatsalaha  
varam bruhiti tam praaha vipram prem vasham vadaha
- [38] vavre vipro bhilshit mihaa mutra sukh pradam  
bhaktim paraam bhagvati tathaa tat sangi sanginaam
- [39] Sadaanand uvaach:  
ratham kunjaram manjulam mandiran cha  
hayam chaaru chaami karaalam krutim cha  
dhanam daas daasi ganam gam mahim cha  
lulaayim sudugdhaam hare ! dehi daasyam
- [40] tathaa asti vati harihi praah tat scha anta didhe vibhuhu

vipro api krut krutyo abhut sarve lokaa visi smare

[41] pramya bhuvu kayen prasaadam praapya cha aadaraat  
svam svam dhaam samaa jagmur dhanya dhanye iti vaadinaha

[42] prach chaar tato loke satya Naaraayan archanam  
kaam siddhi pradham bhakti mukti dam kalushaaparam

[43] iti sri itihaas sam ucchaye – satya Naaraayan kathaayaam  
Sadaanand vishnu samvaade dvitiyo adhyaayha

[43] sut uvaach:

athetihaas shrnut yathaa bhilaahaa krutarthinaahaa  
vicharanti vane nityaam nishaadaahaa kaashta vaahinaha

[44] vanaat kaashthaani vikretum purim kaashim yayuhu kavachit  
ek trushaa kulo yaato vishnu daas asramam tadaa

[45] dadarsha vipul eishavaryam sevmaan dvijam harim  
jalam pitavaa vismito abhud bhikshu kasya kuto dhanam

[46] yo drashto akinchano vipro drasyate adhya mahaa dhanaha  
iti prapachch bhudev pramya cha dvijam mudaa

[47] eishvarayam te kuto jatam dur gati scha kuto gataa  
aagnaapya mahaa bhaag ! srotum ichchaami tatt vataha

[48] Sadaanand uvaach:

satya Naaraayan syaang ! sevayaa kinna labhayate  
na kinchit sukh maapnoti vinaa tasya anukmpayaa

[49] Nishaad uvaach:

aho kim iti mahatmayam satya Naaraayan archane  
vidhaanam soupchaaram cha updeshtum tvam arhasi

[50] saadhunaam samchitaanaam upkaarvataam sataam  
na gopyam vidhyate kinchid aartaanaam aarti naashnam

[51] iti prushto vidhir vakturam itihaasam atha bravit

Sadaanand uvaach:

raaj siddharmikaha kashchit kedaarmani purake

[52] chandrachud iti khyaathaprajaa paalan tatparaha  
shaanto madhur vaagdhiro Naaraayan paraayanaha

[53] mam aasramam samaayaataha satya Naaraayan archane  
vidhaanam srotu kaamo asou maamaah saadaram vachaha

[54] mayaa yat kathitam tasmei tanni bodh nishaadaj  
sankalpa manasaa kaamam nish kaamam vaa janaha kav chit

[55] puja sambhaar maahrusya krut nityo chitta kriyaha  
devaalaye sthandile vaa gruhe pujaa sam aacharet

- [56] sayam kaale shilam sthaapya purna kumbhe kulaa gatam  
svaachaarya svaganam cha eva samaahuy su hya jannan
- [57] godhum churnam paado urdhavam setak aadi pramaanataha  
dugdhen taavataa yuktam sharkara ghrut samyutam
- [58] paayasaa poop samyaav dadhi kshir mathaa haret  
unchaa vachehe falehe pushpeir dhupei manorameiha
- [59] pujayet paraya bhaktayaa vibhave sati vistarehe  
na trushyed dravya sambhaaraad bhaktayaa kevalayaa yathahaa
- [60] bhagvaan paritaha pur no na maanam vrunu yaat kaachit  
duryodhan krutaam tyaktvaa raajaa pujaam janaardanaha
- [61] vidur syaasrame vaasmaa tirthayam jagruhe vibhuhu  
sudaamnas tandul nanaanja gadhvaa martasya durlabhaahaa
- [62] sampado adaad harihi prito bhakti maatra pekshate  
gopyo grudho veni khyaadho hanumaan sa vibhishanaha
- [63] ye anye paapaatmano detyaa vrutra kaayaa dhavaa dayaha  
Naaraayanaantikam praaptaa modante adhyaapi te anjasaa
- [64] iti srutvaa narpatihi pujaa sambhaar maadaraat  
sampadhya satya devasya pujanam bhaktito avya dhati
- [65] ten sa stri sut su hyudhyutaha koshardhi samyutam  
bubhuje akantakam raajyam satya Naaraayan am bhajan
- [66] chakaar cha prajaahaa sarvaahaa satya dev vratonmukhaahaa  
nishaad ! tvam api prityaa satya Naaraayanam bhaja
- [67] iha loka sukham praapya yaasyate ante antikam harehe  
krut kruto nishaado abhut punyameya dvij pungavam
- [68] sa gatvaa sva ganaan praaha mahaatmayam hari sevane  
te hrushta manasaha sarve samayam chakru raahataaha
- [69] satya Naaraayanaha pujaaha kaashtha labhyen yaayataa  
iti nischitya manasaa kaashta vikriya lebhire
- [70] chatur ganam dhan drashtavaa svam svam bhavan maagataahaa  
mudaa sribhyaha samaacha khur vrutantam sarva maaditaha
- [71] taa srutvaa hrushta manasaa pujaa sambaar maadraat  
patinaam aagnayaa chakrur yathaa sruti vidhaanataha
- [72] tato militvaa sva ganeiha pujam chakrur yatho chitam  
kathaavsane te bhaktayaa prane murgat paatakaahaa
- [73] sva jati bhyaha paremyascha prasaadam vyajam bhastadaa  
prajaa prabhaavato bhilaahaa putr daaraadi bhir yutaahaa  
bhuktvaa bhogaanya thestam te vaishnavam dhaam lebhire

**iti sri skand puraane reva khande satya Naaraayan kathaayaam Sadaanand nishaad  
samvaade dvitayo adhyaayaha**

Sri Sutaji said :

"O munis, I will tell you of those who performed this vrat in the past.

In the famed city of Kaashi (now Benaaras), there lived a poor married brahmin with family , begging for a living, regularly performing Sri Vishnu's vrat, renowned by the name of Sadaanand. One day while on the way to begging, Lakshmipati (Lord of lakshmi i.e. wealth) gave him darshan (vision) in the form of an old brahmin and asked him:

*"O brahmin, where are you going ? What is your livelihood ? Pray tell me. "*

The brahmin said :

*"O Brahma dev, begging is my livelihood. I am going out to beg at the houses of the wealthy to feed my wife and son"*

Bhagwaan said :

*"Begging is very demeaning especially in this Kaliyug. Listen to my advise and devote yourself to Sri Satya Naaraayan. To destroy poverty and sadness, obtain liberty (moksha), rid oneself of sins - go and seek refuge of the lotus feet of Sri Satya Naaraayan."*

Thus the compassionate Lord Sri Hari advised the brahmin. Thereupon the brahmin asked who was Satya Naaraayan Bhagwaan. Whereupon Bhagwaan said :

*"O Vipra, the beholder of innumerable forms, truthful, omnipresent Bhagwaan in the form of brahmin is standing in front of you. Sri Hari's lotus feet rescue those drowning in the sea of suffering Those followers of honesty and moral integrity go to seek refuge of Bhagwaan, followers of immorality and lust cannot. O vipra, Sri Satya Naaraayan fulfils all desires. O brahmin, collect all the required ingredients for the puja. You perform his puja. You perform this excellent vrat. You spread the message of this vrat to all so that all can benefit from it and rid themselves from sins and wrongful acts."*

Thus said, Sri Satya Naaraayan gave darshan to the brahmin - beautifully dark complexion, with four hands holding conch, disc, mace and flower. Upon seeing Sri Hari, Sadaanand's body hair stood up and tears of love streamed from his eyes. With very emotional voice he prayed and prostrated body length to the Lord.

Sadaanand said :

*" O Lord of the universe, Lord of this earth I bow to you. Creator of the lifeforms, sustainer of life, store of satwa quality, time lord dissolving all life forms at the appropriate time, Satya Naaraayan Bhagwaan I bow to you.*

*I am fortunate today, my desires are fulfilled. My life has succeeded today. You have graced me with direct vision of your form beyond mind and speech.*

*How can I describe the vision. I do not know the fruit of which merit I have achieved today. Actionless and ill fated, my life has accomplished success*

*O Bhagwaan ,lord of Kamlaa (Lakshmi) ! I am a wretched being ! Pray tell me with what procedure I need to do the puja.*

So Bhagwaan said with a smile :

*" O brahmin, do my puja with wealth you gather by chance. Gajendra, Ajamil brahmin - they all rid themselves of their troubles by devotion to me. O brahmin, listen to the procedure of my puja which I will tell you. With the desire in your mind to fulfill, collect all the ingredients required and conduct my puja. Take 100 sher (measure of weight used in India = use 100 pounds or kilograms instead ) of wheat flour, milk, ghee, candy, etc. and prepare shiro. Do my puja with great faith using sweet smells, flowers, sweet smoke, divo light, chanting of Ved mantras and if one possesses wealth, then prepare many kinds of sweet foods, betel leaf with betel nuts. Listen to my story faithfully with brahmins, relations and wife; and at the end of the story prostrate bodily on the ground to me, distribute the prasaadam to all to eat and also eat thyself.*

*O brahmin, I am pleased with pure devotion. I cannot be pleased with wealth. Those who perform my puja according to this procedure will experience fulfillment of their wished just desires and in the end acquire abode of heaven."*

Upon saying thus, Sri Hari in the form of the brahmin became invisible. Sadaanand brahmin pleased in his mind was quite surprised and made a commitment :

*" Just as Bhagwaan has said, I will go to beg and with whatever I get, with that I will perform Sri Hari's puja."*

With that commitment he went into the city to beg, and without even calling "*Bhikshaan dehi*" ( please give), he obtained a lot of wealth. Surprised in his mind, he went home, told his wife what had ensued. With her husband's permission, she gathered all the ingredients for performing puja, invited all the nearby residing fellow neighbours, performed puja with great faith-devotion and Hari was very pleased with him. At the end of the story-telling Sri Hari appeared and said:

*" O sinless brahmin ! I am very pleased with you. Ask me for anything you wish."*

The brahmin asked for a great boon of happiness in this world and the next, and also asked for devotion to the Lord and company of spiritually inspired people.

*" Tathastu (so be it)"* said the Lord and became invisible. The brahmin was very satisfied. All the attendees bodily bowed to the Lord, partook of the prasaadam saying " Great is Sadaanand brahmin" and dispersed to go home. From thenceforth the Satyanaaraayan vrat which fulfils all just desires, provides devotion to the Lord and delivers liberation, and destroys sins was established.

Sut puraani said : "O Shaunak and munis, now listen how the Bhil woodseller was pleased. Always roaming in the jungle carrying pile of wood, the Bhils once went to sell their wood in the Kaashi city (now Benaaras). One of the wood seller became thirsty and ended up at the home of Sadaanand brahmin. There he saw the brahmin performing puja of the Lord. He was surprised to see the brahmin so wealthy. Before, he had observed the brahmin was poor. He was thinking about how the brahmin had come to be rich and so clasping his hands he respectfully asked the brahmin:

*" O lucky Bhudev (lord of the earth) ! Where did you obtain so many riches ? How did your poverty disappear ?*

Sadaanand said :

*" O kathayaaraa (woodseller), what cannot be achieved by the grace of Sri Satyanaaraayan? "*

Thereupon the kathyaraa said :

*"Mahaaraaj, please tell me the greatness of Sri Satyanaaraayan and the procedure of the pujaa."*

Whereupon the brahmin said :

*" O Kathyaraa, in the city of Mani Nagar lived the Lord's famous devotee King Chandrachud. He asked me for the procedure of Sri Satyanaaraayan Bhagwaan. I will re-iterate the same to you as I relayed to him, so please listen. The individual should make a commitment to perform the vrat; after completing the daily chores, collecting all the necessary ingredients for the pujaa, either in a canopy or in the abode of the Lord in the house, place on top of a copper kalash (vessel) filled with water a Shaaligram (statue of Lord Satyanaaraayan and Lakshmidivi) and perform pujaa with priest and family and friends.*

*Take 1q sher (pounds) of wheat flour, 1q sher (pounds) of ghee (butter), 1q sher of sugar and similarly milk and prepare shiro with the mixed ingredients cooked. Also offer to the Lord curd, milk, all kinds of green fruit, flowers, scented smoke, lit candles (divo).. Perform bhagwaan's pujaa faithfully. If circumstances provide, then perform pujaa with great grandeur. Nevertheless, the Lord is pleased with pure devotion, not just display of wealth.*

*Never display or commit even within mind egoistic pride. Lord Krishna rejected the grand royal dinner of Duryodhan and willingly accepted the basic hospitality of Vidurji. Bhagwaan likes devotion such as that of Jataayu, Hanumaanji and Vibhishan.*

*Others from the demonic descent like the great sinner Vrutraasur and Prahlaadji devotionally went seeking refuge of Sri Hari and achieved bliss.*

*After hearing this, King Chadrachud collected all the necessary ingredients and faithfully performed Sri Satyanaaraayan's pujaa. As a result, he ruled his kingdom without any breaks; he got his nation also to perform Sri Satyanaaraayan's vrat. So you also perform Sri Satyanaaraayan Bhagwaan's vrat."*

After hearing this, the kathyaraa bowed to Sadaanand brahmin and relayed to his friends about Sri Satyanaaraayan's pujaa. The other kathyaraas (woodsellers) were also very pleased to hear.

All the kathyaraas made a commitment :

*"Whatever we obtain today from the sale of the wood , we will perform Bhagwaan's pujaa with it."*

That day, they obtained fourfold return on the sale of their wood; they were very pleased and told their wives on reaching home. Their wives were also very pleased and obtained permission from their husbands to collect the necessary ingredients and performed Sri Satyanaaraayan's pujaa together with family members. After pujaa, all bowed and became sinless.

Prasaadam was distributed to friends and family members. All kathyaraas enjoyed pleasures on this earth and in the end went to Vaikunthlok ( abode of Lord Vishnu).

HERE ENDETH THE DISCUSSION OF SADAANAND AND NISHAAD IN THE SECOND CHAPTER IN REVA DIVISION OF SRI SKANDPURAN

## CHAPTER THREE

[1] Sut uvaach:

atra antare varna yami gaathaam saadhu upchaaritaam  
saadhur yathaa krutaarthe abhun nrup updeshato vanik

[2] manipur pati raajaa chandracudo mahaa yashaahaa  
saha prajaa bhiraan archa satya Naaraayanam prabhum

[3] atha ratnapur sthaayi saadhur lakshapatir vanik  
dhaneraa purya taranihi sapta gachch nadi tate

[4] dadarsha mandapam tatra naanaa desh nivaasibhihi  
mani muktaa virchiteir vitaanehe dam alankrutam

[5] ved vadaanscha susraav git vaaditra samyutaan  
ramyam sthaanam samaalokya karna dhaaram sam aadishat

[6] visraam yaatra tarani ridam pashyaami kautukam  
bhartraa dis tathaa chakre karna dhaaraha sa satvaram

[7] taranibhya ssamuttiryam malla lilaa vilaasinaha  
karna dhaaraa anuraagaa viraa yuyudhar malla lilayaa

[8] saadhu rutirayya saamaatyo lokaan prapachcha  
yagna sthaanam samaalokya prashasya sa mudam yayoa

[9] tatra sabhyaan namas krutya svayam prapachcha sa aadaram  
kim atra kruyate samyag bhadabhi lok pujiteiha

[10] sabhya uchuhu:

pramuditaag ragnaa lokan aniukampinaa  
pujayate badubhihi saardha satya Naaraayano vibhuhu

[11] tvamap yatra kshanam tishtha prasaadam bhukshvaha sa aadaram  
kathaam srutvaa riti riyam Satya Naaraayan archane

[12] saadhuhu prapachch karane falam kim ko vidhi stathaa  
sabhya uvaach: Naaraayan archane vaktum falam naalam chatur bhujha

[13] shrunu sankshepto hye tat kathayaam stava agrataha  
nirdhano api dhanaa ddhayaha syaad putraha putravaan bhavet

[14] bhrashta raajyo labhed raajyam andho api syaat su lochnaha  
muchyate bandhanaad baddho nir bhayaha syaad bhayaaturha

[15] manasaa kaamaye adhyam labhet tam sa kaamataha  
vidhaan tu tataha srutvaa cheilam badadhwaagale sakrut

[16] danda vata prani patyaaha kaamam sankalpam sanya vedyata  
anapatyo asmi bhagvan ! vruthe aishvaya vruthaa dhanam

[17] putra vaa yadi vaa kanyaam labheyam tvat prasaadataha  
pataamaam kaanchanim krutvaa puj yishye krupaa nidhim

- [18] sabyaahaa: sarve anumodantaam kaamnaa siddhi rastu me  
sabyaahaa: pratyutaranacha krurevam asti vati saadaram
- [19] hari pranayam sabyaan sacha prasaadam bhuktavaans tataha  
jagaamam svaalayam Saadhur manasaa chintayan harim
- [20] sva gruhe tyaagate tasmin naaryo mangal paanayaha  
mangalaani vichitraani yatho chitam kuravat
- [21] viveshaantaha pure Saadhustadaa param kautuki  
rutu snaataa sati lilaavati paryachar patim
- [22] garbham dhurutavati saadhavi samaye sashuve sutam  
kanyaam kamal lolaakshim baandhvaa mod kaarinam
- [23] Saadhuhu paraam mudam lebhe vit taar dhanambahu  
vipraanaahuya deyva gnaan kaaryaa maas mangalam
- [24] lekha yitvaa janma patrim naam chakre kalaavatim  
kalaanidhi kalevaasou vavrudhe saa kalaavatim
- [25] proudhaam kaale tu taam drashtavaa vivaaha artham chitayat  
nagare kaanchanpure vanik shankhapateha sutaha
- [26] kulino rup sampannah shiloudaarya gunaanvitaha  
varayaamaas tam Saadhur duhituhu sadrasham varam
- [27] shubhe lagne bahu vidher mangaleir agni sannidhou  
ved vaaditro sahitou dadou kanyaam yathaa vidhi
- [28] mani muktaa pravaalaani vasanam bhushnaani cha  
mahaa modamanaahaa Saadhuhu youtakam pradadou bahu
- [29] premanaa nivaasayaamaas svaante jaamaataram tataha  
tam mene putravat Saadhuhu sa cha tam pitru vat sudhihi
- [30] bhuya syatite kaale api satya Naaraayan archanam  
akrutvaa dhan buddhi na garven mohitaha  
jaamaataa sahitha Saadhur vaanijyaartham yayou punaha
- [31] sut uvaach: atha Saadhuhu samaadaaya manin duram gato hi saha  
deshaad deshaantaram gachchan dadarsha sumanoharam
- [32] nagaram narmadaa tire tatra vasanch kaar ha  
krayanacha vikrayam kurvanratnaanam hi kadaapi saha
- [33] karmanaa manasaa vaachaan nakarot satya sevanam  
ten karma vipaaken taapmaapaachiraad dhanik
- [34] ekasmin divase raagno gruhe raatrou tamo vrute  
gnaatvaa nidraa gataan sarvaan hrutam chorer mahad dhanam
- [35] muktaa maalaa bahu vidhaa nitaa vei chanra suprabhaahaa  
mani ratna aadi vei kaamam alankaadi bhushanam

[36] sad vastu jaatam raagna scha gruhitvaa svaalayam yayuhu  
prabhaate bodhito raajaa sutmaag dhavandibhihi

[37] praataha krutya samaa pyaaya sansadi praavischa saha  
tat statra samaayaataha kim karo dhan paalakaha

[38] uvaach sa sadaa vakyam bho shrunshva dharaa pate  
chor stava hatam ratna aadikam sarvam mahad dhanam

[39] iti vignaapito raajaa kinkaraadhipa mukyavaan  
shighram vaahi pra gruhyaath chouram sadhan maahar

[40] nocheddha nishye saganam iti ditam samaadishat  
iti vaakyam samaa karnya raagno dutaan yukta saha

[41] dhanam praapnuyuhu kutra na chouram raaj kimkaraaha  
tadaa cha vya lapan sarve chouraan veshan tatparaahaa

[42] hantaa smaan sa ganaan raajaa kim karmaha syaat kutaha sukham  
ityeva vilapanta ste vicheru nishi kim karaahaa

[43] aapane dadrashuhu Saadhu dhanavantam videshinim  
uchuhu paras param drashtvaa mahad asya kuto dhanam

[44] muktaamaalaa raaj kiya bhaanti cha asya gale sthitaahaa  
chouro ayamiti nish chitya tou babandhu scha tata kshanaat

[45] sadhanam saha jaamaatraa nrupaantikam upaanayan  
prati kule harou tasmin raagna api na vichaaritam

[46] dahn aagaare danam nitvaa badhni teitou sudur madou  
kaaraagaare loha mayeiha srunkhala argal paadayoho

[47] iti raajaa aagnayaa tetu tthaa chakrur nibandhanam  
jaamaatraa sahitha Saadhur vil laap bhrush muhuhu

[48] haa putra ! tataha ! tateti kenaa aham bandhanan taha  
ka sthita cha sati bhaaryaa pashya dhaatur vipar yayam

[49] nir dayen vidhaatraa vaa hetu shunyen chchad manaa  
ni magno dukh jaladhou ko vaa traasayati sankataat

[50] mayaa bahu taram dhaatur vipriyam vaa puraa krutam  
karmano asya vipaako ayam na jaane kasya vaa falam

[51] samaahaa scha shur jaamaatrur dvaadasheyur vishaadinoho  
prati kul harou tasya dhanam yacha gruhe sthitam

[52] hyutam vahla vani paal chaarer bhaaryaa api dukhitaa  
atha saadhvim saha sutaha pratyhu kalyaanam ichchati

[53] vaaso alankaranaadini vikriya bubhujee kila  
yadaa naasid gruhe kinchi tadaa saa kashtam aavahat

[54] atha kasmin dine kanyaa bhijan achchaadanam vinaa

gatvaa vipra gruhe pashyat satya Naaraayan archanam

[55] praathya antam jagan naatham drashtavaa saa praathyad dharim  
satya Naaraayan! Hare! Pitaa bhartaa cha me gruham

[56] aa gachched archa yishyaami bhavantim iti yaachaye  
tathaa astu braahmaneno uktaa tatassaa sva asramam yayou

[57] maatraa nirbharat sateyantam kaalam kutra sthithaa shubhe  
tat astu maataram praaha satya Naaraayana archanam

[58] kalou pratyaksha faladam sarvadaa kriyate nareiha  
kartum ichchaamyaa aham maatm anugnaatum tvam arhasi

[59] desham aayaatu janakaha svaami cha mama kaamanaa  
maatraa saheti nish chitya bhikshaa artham nagaram yayou

[60] anaayaasen sam praaptam dravyam bahu gunan vitam  
ten sambhnut sabhaaraa pujaam chakre kalaavati

[61] lilaavati cha tan maata bhaktyaa aakaarshita pra pujanam  
karmanaam ten tushtou aabhut satya Naaraayanaha svayam

[62] narmadaa tir nagare raagnaha svapnam sam aadishata  
raatei shehe sva paryake nidraam kurvati raajani

[63] uvaach vipra rupen bodhyan priyaa gira  
utishtho tishtha raajendra ! tou saadhu pari mochaya

[64] aparaadham vinaa baddho nochechcham na bhava tava  
iti uktavaa antar dadhe vishnur vinidro nrupati stadaa

[65] vismit sahassot thaaya dadhyou brahma sanaatanam  
gur paadaambuje namraha krut nityo chit kriyaha

[66] spashtavaaghrutaadi maangalayam sinhaasanam upaavishata  
tadaa raajaa sva vrutaantam mantri bhayaha sanya vedayat

[67] tesham matam samaagnaaya taavaanetum samaadishata  
aaniya Saadhu prapachch satya maalaambya sannidhou

[68] raajaa uvaach:  
kutrar tyou vaa kulam kim vaa vasatihi kasya vaa pure  
katahm atra gatou vaapi praaptou ken dashaam imaam

[69] Saadhu uvaach:  
ratnapur nivaasou cha vaanik jaatou janir mama  
vaanijyaartha mahaaraaj ! vaanijyam jivik aavayoho

[70] mani mukt aadi vikretu magato tava pattanam  
raajdutehe samaanitou badhvaa chouraa vibhaaviti

[71] aavaam na chouro raajendra ! tatvat satvam vichaaraaya  
prati kule vidhou kaam vaa dashaam naapnoti vei pumaan

**[72] vin apraadham sri krishno mani chouryaa api vaadavaan  
niveditam asheshen punya sloks shiro mane**

**[73] yukte yat kuru raajendra tyuktavaa tushanim babhuva sa  
srutvaa tu nishchitam krutvaa tayor bandhan mochnam**

**[74] kaaryitvaa tu kshurikam kaaryaamaas naapiteiha  
snaapyaamaas surbhi teile rudharta nei stathaa**

**[75] bhoj yitvaa tu bhojyen raaj alankaar vaahaneiha  
mahaa raha vastraa bharanehe pujyamaas bhupatihi**

**[76] abravit pujitou Saadhur jaamaatraa sahito nrupam  
Saadhu uvaach: kaaraagaare bahu vidham dukh mapta mataha param**

**[77] aagnaapaya mahaaraaj ! deshamb yaantum krupaanidhe  
srutvaa tad vachanam raaja praah koshaadhikaarinim**

**[78] tarni bhyo dhanam nitam taahaa pari purya  
raajaa kimkara iti yukta stathaa chakre ati maanyan**

**[79] premanaa tou yaapyaa maas svadeshamb dharni patihi  
jaamaatraa sahitam Saadhumb geet vaaditra mangaleha**

Sutpuraani said : O Shaunak and munis ! I will relay to you the story of a trader by the name of Saadhu who was greatly impressed by the preaching of King Chandrachud. Once King Chandrachud was performing Satyanaaraayan's puja with his family and friends. At that time, Saadhu the trader happened to pass by on the river with seven of his big boats filled with great wealth. There he happened to see canopies occupied by humans of all races, the covers of which were studded with jewels. He heard the sound of Vedic mantras, songs being sung and musical instruments played. Upon noticing this he asked his helmsman to stop there to enquire. The helmsman accordingly stopped the boats.

With his chief man, Saadhu alighted from the boat and respectfully asked the people gathered about the nature of the gathering and admiring the decorations he entered the main canopy. There he bowed to the king and all honourable people and asked which vrat was being performed.

The audience replied :

*" We are performing with our families Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja. Please be seated, listen to the kathaa and partake the prasaadam."*

Thereupon the trader Saadhu asked of the benefit of Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja and its procedure. The gathered people said even Brahma was not capable of relating the full effect of the vrat.

*"Nevertheless we will tell you in short. The one who gets to perform this kathaa, if he is without wealth he acquires wealth, childless is bestowed with children, those deposed from the throne obtain kingdom, the blind obtain sight, those imprisoned gain freedom, the frightened lose their fear. Whatever just desires that one has become fulfilled."*

The trader Saadhu then gathered the procedure of the vrat, prostrated bodily to the Lord and made a vow :

*" O Bhagwaan, I am childless and therefore all my wealth and prestige is thus worthless. If by your grace I obtain a son or daughter, then I will get made a gold flag and perform your pujaa appropriately. All those present please give me your blessings so that my desire may be fulfilled."*

The gathered people all said *"Tathaastu - may your just desire be fulfilled."*

He then bowed to the Lord, partook from the prasaadam and reminiscing on Sri Satyanaaraayan he departed for his home. Upon reaching home his wife welcomed him. In time his wife carried a child and duly gave birth to a daughter. Saadhu the trader was very delighted to see his daughter with beautiful eyes. He named the daughter Kalaavati. Kalaavati grew just as the moon of the bright half. Upon reaching a marriageable age, Saadhu began to think about finding an appropriate son-in-law. He found such a young man - from honourable family, handsome, of just character and benevolent disposition, the son of the trader Shankhpati of Kaanchanpur and decided to marry his daughter to him.

In the fortunate marriage ceremony, auspicious eight chants were uttered around the presence of fire amongst vedic incantations and the trader Saadhu gave the hand of his daughter. He affectionately accommodated his son-in-law in his household.

Time passed by but he did not perform Sri Satyanaaraayan Bhagwaan's pujaa. Being lost in the thoughts of wealth, he decided to take his son-in-law to go lands afar to trade and to acquire more wealth. During his journey, he found a beautiful city on the shore of Narmadaa river. There he began to trade in jewellery. In short time his past actions brought him sufferings. One night thieves committed a big robbery from the treasury of the king. The thieves ran off with garland of pearls, jewels, expensive jewellery, clothes and other expensive items. In the morning the bhaatchaaran sang praise to the king as normal to wake him up. The king after completing his morning chores came to the court. The guards to the treasury came and told him :

*" O Mahaaraaj, last night thieves took away jewels, pearls and a lot of wealth."*

Upon hearing this, the king ordered his servant to quickly catch the culprits and bring them with all their loot.

*"If this is not done, then I will destroy you and your family."*

Hearing this strict command of the king, he passed the job to the police. During the night the police went out looking for the thieves whereupon they saw the wealthy trader in his shop. They were very pleased and discussed amongst each other :

*"How come this trader has got all this wealth?" Around his neck he has this garland of pearls which must belong to the king."*

Deciding thus they at once handcuffed the trader and his son-in-law and presented them both to the king with all their wealth. Their fate being adverse, the king did not hear any of their pleadings and ordered to handcuff their hands and feet and throw them into the prison, their wealth was confiscated and deposited in the treasury. The police acted as per the king's command. Trader Saadhu began to cry :

*" O Bhagwaan, for which reason am I being imprisoned ? What will happen to my faithful wife. This is Vidhaata's ( Goddess of fate) converse justice ! Without cause, what has Vidhaataa plotted for me ? For which sin have I suffered this I do not know."*

In such sorrow, the trader and his son-in-law spent twelve years in the jail. The fate being adverse, all his wealth at home was either destroyed by fire, or taken by the king or looted by thieves. Trader Saadhu's wife Lilaavati and daughter suffered greatly. They eked out a living by selling off whatever was available in the house.

One day her daughter Kalaavati suffering from hunger and thirst went to a brahmin's house. There she saw Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja being performed. She prayed to Bhagwaan :  
*" O Satyanaaraayan lord, when my father and husband quickly return home, I will also perform your puja."*

The brahmin said *"Tathaastu"*.

Hearing this Kalaavati partook the prasaadam and returned home.

Her mother Lilaavati angrily asked where she had been late in the night. Thereupon Kalaavati said :

*" Dear mother, I stopped at a brahmin's house where Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja was being performed. Man can directly achieve results in Kaliyug from the daily puja of Sri Satyanaaraayan. I also desire to perform Sri Hari's puja. It is my wish that my father and my husband come home quickly."*

Thus thinking with her mother, she went to beg in the city the next day. Without effort she gathered much money with which she gathered all the necessary puja ingredients and faithfully performed Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja with her mother Lilaavati. Due to the effect of this, the Lord was pleased and where the trader Saadhu and his son-in-law were captivated, for them the Lord appeared in the last quarter of the morning dream of the king and said :

*"O King, free immediately the two traders in your jail, without reason you have kept them in there. Free them or else I will bring forth your destruction."*

Saying thus the Lord became invisible. The King awoke. He at once stood up and was astonished. He meditated upon the Lord. He bowed to his Guru and related the facts of his dream. He obtained comments of his ministers and asked his guards to bring the two traders to him. Under oath he asked them :

*"Truthfully tell me what part of the world you live in ? What is your dynasty ? What part are you residents of ? Why have you come here ?"*

Trader Saadhu said :

*"Mahaaraaj, resident of Ratnapur we are born in trader family and had come for trading here. Claiming we were thieves, your police brought us here handcuffed. We are not thieves. O holy king ! Without reason even Sri Krishna was accused of thieving the gem ! You may now do what is appropriate."*

The king ordered both to be released from captivity, got their overgrown hair to be shaved and had them bathed in scented water. He then fed them both and honoured them with clothes and jewellery. The honoured trader Saadhu with his son-in-law then asked the king :

*"Mahaaraaj, permit us to leave for our land of residence."*

The king commanded his treasurer :

*"Fill this trader Saadhu's boats with the wealth expropriated from him and more."*

He then bade farewell to trader Saadhu and his son-in-law.

HERE ENDETH SAADHU AND THE KING'S STORY IN SRI SATYANAARAAYAN'S KATHAA  
THE THIRD CHAPTER IN THE REVAA DIVISION OF SKAND PURAAN

## CHAPTER FOUR

[1] sut uvaach:

jaamaatraahaa sahit Saadhur dhan lobhana mugdhavihi  
svadeshm chalit schaapi na krutam hari sevanam

[2] Satya Naaraayano devaha pratyaksha faladaha striyaa  
kanyayaa pujit stasmei krupayaa muktidou abhavat

[3] tam bubodh yishuhu saakshaat satya Naaraayanaha svayam  
taapasam vesham aasthaay tam uvaach sasambhramaha

[4] taapasa uvaach:

dhanam kim noushu te saadho ! maamnaadatya yasi kim  
pratyutar pradaat saadhu kshipnokaascha satvaram

[5] bho taapasaha ! dhanam kva asti trun patra aadi puritaahaa  
gachchanti naukaaha kava sthaanam virodhe naatra kim falam

[6] iti yuktasa taapasaha praaha tathaa staviti vachas tataha  
tat sami pad pakramya vruksha khande nyaliyat

[7] dhanam antar dadhe sadhya struna patraadi puritaahaa  
bhaarsyaapagamaad drashtavaa tarani rurdhva gaastadaa  
dhanam noukaasu na astiti Saadhu sch chintaa paro abhavat

[8] kimidam kasya vaa hetor dhanam kutra gatam mam  
vajra paat hata iva bhrusham dukhit maanasaha

[9] kava yaasyaami kava tishthaami kim karomi dhanam kutaha  
iti murchchaa gataha Saadhu villaap punaha punaha

[10] jamaatraa tam tataha praaha shokaha kim ktiyate vruthaa  
tathaa staviti cha yad vaakyam taapase noditam tat

[11] tirohitam tataha sarvam dhanam naasta yatra samshaya  
atastam sharanam yaahi vaanchchit artho bhavishayati

[12] Saadhu uvaach:

jaamaatraa bodhit scheiva taapasam tam jagaama ha  
ko bhavaaniti prapachcha devo gandharva ishvaraha

[13] devdou athvaa ko api na jaane te paraakramam  
aagnaapaya mahaa bhaag ! madvidamban kaaranam

[14] tapasa uvaach:

aatmanaha shatru raatmeiva tathaa mitrar api svayam  
tyaj maoundhya maad saadho ! pravaad maa tathaa kuru

[15] iti vignaapitaha saadhunaha bubodha mahaa dhanaha  
punaha saha taapasaha praaha krupayaa purva karma tat

[16] chandrachudo yadaa aanarcha satya Naaraayanam nrup  
anapatyen suchir putra kanyaa arthinaa tvyaa

[17] praarthitam tat su sampannam idaanim smaryate na kim  
satya Naaraayano devo vishva vyaapo falapradaha

[18] tamanaadatya durbuddho krutaha shambhavitava  
taapso ukta vachaha: srutvaa Saadhuhu sasmaar vei pura

[19] krut sankalpam atha cha yaavat payat yasou puraa  
saya Naaraayanam devam taapasam ta dadarsha saha

[20] pranamya bhuvikaayen parikramya punaha punaha  
tushtaav taapasam saadhur harsha gad gadayaa gira

[21] Saadhu uvaach:

satya rupam satya sandham satya Naaraayanam harim  
yat satya tven jagataha satya tvaam namaamyaham

[22] tvaan maayaa mohit aatmano na pashyant aatmanaha shubham  
dukhaam bodhou sadaa magna dukhe cha sukh maninaha

[23] muddho aham dhan garven mad andhi krut lochanaha  
na jaane tva aatmanaha kshemam katham pashyaami muddhadhi

[24] kshamasva mama दौरात्म्याय तमोऽहो अहो हरे ! विभो  
अज्ञापया मशा राज ! येन ते चरणम स्मरे

[25] iti stutavaa laksha mudraa mitam vastu cha tat puraha  
nidhaay prati jagne sa Saadhur bhakti samanvitaha

[26] gatvaa aavaasam puj yishye satya Naaraayanam vibhum  
tushto Naaraayan schaaha vanchchaa pur naa bhavetam

[27] putra poutra samaa yukto bhuktavaa bhogaan anitta maan  
maam arshaya sadaa bhaktavaa mat saannidhaya gamishya asi

[28] stoshyate tvat krute neitat stotren bhuvikaayen manavaha  
tushto aham tasya daasyaami kaayam yenaakhilam bhavet

[29] iti uktava antardidhe vishnuhu Saadhu schaha sva asramam yayou  
aagatya labadhvaa sva dhanam gantum sam prasthito gruham

[30] aa gatya nagaraa bhaayshe praahinod dutam aasramam  
gruham aagatya duto asou praaha lilaavatim prati

[31] jaamaatraa sahit saadhuhu krut krutyaha samaagataha  
tadaa Naaraayan archaayaam sthitha saadhvi sa kanyakaa

[32] dut vakyaam tad amrut samam srutvaati hrusta dhi  
tam samaapya mudaa saadhvi krut kautuk mangalaa

sakhi ganeiha parivrutaa naukaante satvar aagataa

[33] kalaavati tvava agnaay prasaadam satvaram yayou  
paatum pati mukhaam bhojam chakoriv dinaatyaye

[34] avagnaa naat prasaadasya naoukaa laksha pate ratha  
nimagnaa jala madhye saa jaamaatraa saha tat kshanaat

[35] magna jaamaataram drashtvaa vil laap mahaa dhanaha  
haa hato asmiti kanedam krut met dvidambanam

[36] kaaraagaare bahu vidhi dukam tava samaagatam  
shalyaam vakshasyar piyitum ha ! ha ! kim vidhinaa krutam

[37] jaamaat staat ta tesi kuva gati asi mahaa mate  
sangati me kurushveti tvam vinaa jiviten kim

[38] putra hino asmi vidhinaa purei vaa aham vidambitaha  
tvayaa suten samyuktaa hataha kim jivanen me

[39] atha lilaavatim tatra gataa mangal sanyutaa  
jaamaatu maran srutvaa papaat bhuti murchchitaa

[40] sutaa maalingaya vyal pat ha ! hataasmiti vaadini  
ahi vidhi stava magno asi hya krutaarthaas sutaa tvayaa

[41] katham etam dashaam nitaa dhigastu karunaam tava  
vil laap sa karunam tadaa saa shok vih valaa

[42] tathaa kalaavati bhumou paapataa kul vighrahaa  
rambhev vaatati taa kanta ! kanteti vaadini

[43] kalaavati chaarukalaasu kaushalaa  
pravaal raktaandhrit laati koumalaa  
saroj netraambukanaan vimunchti muktaavali  
bhis stan yugma manchati

[44] haa ! Naath ! Priya ! dharmagna ! karunaakar ! kaushal !  
tvayaa virhitaa patyaa niraashaa vidhinaa krutaa

[45] kava yaasmaami kava tishthaami kim karomi krutaha sukham  
sharanam kim karom adhya ko me dukham vimochayat

[46] ardhaang prush asya stri ved vaad iti srutaha  
patyud ardham gatam kasmaad ardhaangim jivitaa katham

[47] kalaavati bahu vidham vala laapati dukhitaa  
tathaa lilaavati taavat Saadhun pratyadish tataha

[48] bhaktayaa prasaadam guruhayaati pati praapasyati maa shuchaha  
itya aakaash vachaha srutvaa vismitaa cha chakaar saa

[49] Naaraayan asya krupayaa tat kshnaa ttarani svayam  
uttarasthou cha yadaa naukaa dhaneir bahu vidhei stadaa

[50] jaamaataram sam aalinga adhya mumude bhrusham  
mrutaha punari haayaat iti loukaa visi smire

[51] tataha Saadhu scha saa hyado bhaktayaa paramayaa yataha  
pujaa sambhaha ramaa hartum lokaan aagnaaya paya tadaa

[52] aanyaamaas viporaa grayaan maatyaan mitra baandhavaan  
purva sthaapit mudraa bhir naanaa alankaar toraneiha

[53] bahu varna vitaana scha muktaa jaalei scha raajitam  
mandapam kaaryaamaas mani stambha virajitam

[54] viprei scha sahitaha Saadhuhu satya dev pujayat  
naanaa dravyao pahaarei scha dhupi dipeir manoramaha

[55] bhakshya bhojyei scha mishthaaneihafaleir naanaa vidheihashubheihamani muktaa svarna pushpeiha padma champak jaatibhihi

[56] pujayitvaa vidhaanen pataakaam kaanchani madaat  
stuvan gambhiryaa vachaa pran naam mudaa yutaha

[57] Saadhu uvaach:  
pranamaami sadaa bhaktayaa satya Naaraayanam param  
mam aparaadhino mouddhayam kshamasva tvam krupaanidhe !

[58] sur asur naraa nanaa duraachaaraahaa krupaa lavaha  
sarve tvad angato jaataa aparaadham kshamasva me

[59] iti stutavaa jagan naath danda vat patitou bhuvi  
prem asru purnou vimlo hrushto hrushta tanu ruhaha

[60] brahmanaan bhoj yitvaatha sva jaatya mamaatya baandhvaan  
prasaadam sagano bhuktavaa dhan putra aadi bhir yutaha

[61] vidhi naanen yo bhaktayaa satya Naaraayan archanam  
krutvaa kaamaan vaapnoti vidhinaa chintayan sadaa

[62] iti haas mimam bhaktayaa shru yaadyapi yo naraha  
so api vishnu priyatar kaam siddhi mavaapnuyaat

iti sri skanda puraane revaa khande satya naaraayan kathaayaam Saadhu vanik  
kathaayaam chaturtho adhyaayha

Sut Puraani said : "O Shaunak and all munis, trader Saadhu who had become vacant minded upon regaining his lost wealth began to prepare to depart to his own land of residence, but he did not perform Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja. Sri Satyanaaraayan had freed him and his son-in-law after his wife and daughter had performed Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja. For the purpose of giving him advice, Sri Satyanaaraayan came to them in the form of a Sanyaasi ( a renounced sage ) and asked :

"O Saadhu trader, what is it that you have in your boats ? Where is it that you are going ?"

Upon hearing this, Saadhu said :

*"O tapasvi ( One who has performed penance ) , my boats are filled with only leaves and grass."*

Just as he said this, the Tapasvi said : *" Tathaastu ( so be it )"*, walked away and sat nearby.

At once, the boats were filled with grass and leaves, and due to the lighter weight the boats came afloat. Upon witnessing the disappearance of his wealth, Saadhu trader became worried and cried out :

*"Where is my wealth ? What shall I do ? "*

And thus saying he became dazed. He became very despondent and cried, whereupon his son-in-law said to him :

*"There is no purpose to feel shock and sorrow ! The wealth has all disappeared according to the Tapasvi who said "Tathaastu" . There is no doubt in that, so let us take refuge in the Tapasvi such that our desires may be fulfilled."*

Upon listening to his son-in law the trader Saadhu went to the Tapasvi behind the trees and said clasping both his hands :

*"You must be some divine being , Gandharva or the creator Lord. Your valour is not known to the divine nor the demons. O greatly fortunate, what is the reason for my sufferings ?"*

Then re-endowing his grace and examining his past, the Tapasvi began to say :

*"When King Chandrachud was performing Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja you vowed and prayed for a child. Do you recollect of the fulfilment of this desire ? The universally omnipotent Sri Satyanaaraayan is capable of fulfilling your desires. O wicked minded, how will you obtain your welfare by ignoring Sri Hari ?"*

Upon hearing the Tapasvi, Saadhu recollected his vow, and as he observed, the Tapasvi changed his form to reveal Sri Satyanaaraayan paramaatma. Trader Saadhu bodily prostrated, circumambulated (walked around) the Lord and overcome with great emotions prayed :

*"O form of eternal truth, true promise Satyanaaraayan Bhagwaan, it is due to the effect of your righteousness that the world observes true. To that Lord I do bow. Those beings charmed by your illusion cannot understand how to obtain their welfare. Always drowned in the sea of pain and sorrow, I am stupid, blinded by pride. I could not recognise you. Please forgive me for my fault. Please give me your permission so I can reminisce upon your lotus feet."*

Having thus prayed, the faithful trader Saadhu donated an expensive ornament to Sri Hari and vowed :

*"Upon reaching home, I will immediately perform Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja."*

At that moment the pleased Sri Hari said :

*"All your desires will be fulfilled. Those on this earth who will pray to me by your said prayer, I will certainly be pleased upon them and will fulfil their just desires."*

Trader Saadhu came to his boats and found they were again filled with wealth, so with great joy set forth for his home.

Upon reaching near his home he sent his servant forth with his arrival message. The servant told his wife Lilaavati that trader Saadhu had arrived with his son-in-law. Both Kalaavati and Lilaavati were performing Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja at the time . Upon hearing the nectar like words of the messenger, Lilaavati completed the puja, prayed to the Lord and went to the boats with her

friends. Eager to see her husband, Kalaavati forgot to partake of the Lord's prasaadam. Due to the ignoring of the Lord's prasaadam millionaire trader Saadhu's boat with his son-in-law disappeared in the water. Upon observing this, he began to wail :

*"O intellectual son-in-law, I suffered in the prison with all sorts of pain! Where are you ! Due to fate I was sad without a son from the beginning, and considered you as my son."*

At the same time Lilaavati arrived with auspicious substances to greet them. Observing the calamity, she was dazed. Gaining all her faculties shortly, she hugged her daughter Kalaavati and began to cry :

*"Contempt to your compassion. Why have you committed my daughter to this state ?"*

Thus confused, Lilaavati began to wail tragically and fell to the ground. Kalaavati began to cry :

*" O my Lord! O my love! O righteous! O compassionate! O divine! Vidhi has made me despondent and husbandless. Where can I go ! Where can I stay ? What can I do ? Whose refuge shall I seek ? Who will rid me of my suffering ? In the Vedas it is said man's half being is woman. For what reason my half in the form of my husband has vanished ? How will I live without him ? "*

Thus very sorrowfully Kalaavati was crying. At that time, in the minds of the trader Saadhu and Lilaavati came the voice which said :

*"O trader Saadhu ! Don't be sad, your daughter Kalavati will certainly meet her husband if she partakes the prasaadam of Sri Satyanaaraayan Bhagwaan."*

Hearing thus, Kalaavati was surprised and forthwith went home, partook of the prasaadam and promptly returned to the shore of the river whence due to the grace of Bhagwaan the drowned boat by itself floated out of the water. Seeing his son-in-law seated in it, Saadhu went and hugged him. All were infatuated by his apparent return from death. Then the very pleased Saadhu called all his friends and family and performed Sri Satyanaaraayan's puja. The puja was performed with numerous varieties of beautiful book gifts, sweet smokes, dipams, sweets, foods, green fruits, flowers of lotus and champaa and so forth. And as he had vowed initially, he presented at the lotus feet of Bhagwaan a golden flag with a joyful bow and said :

*"O graceful ! Forgive me for my faults and stupidity."*

*"O divine ! Demons, evil practitioners, humans, serpents, compassionate people all have come forth from you. So forgive me for my ill-doings."*

Then the trader fed his friends and family. Enjoying all the great luxuries on this earth he resided in Vaikunthlok in the end. Those who remember according to the procedure above Sri Satyanaaraayan Bhagwaan, they will achieve their just desires.

HERE ENDETH THE TRADER SAADHU'S STORY IN SRI SATYANAARAAYAN STORY THE FOURTH CHAPTER IN THE REVAA DIVISION OF SRI SKAND PURAAN.

## CHAPTER FIVE

**[1] athaa nyacha pravakshayaami srunu dhvam muni sattamaahaa  
aasi tunga dhvajo raajaa prajaa paalan tatparaha**

[2] prasaadam satya devasya tyaktavaa dukhm vaap saha  
ekadaa savanm gatavaa hatavaa bahu vidhaan mrugaan

[3] aagatya vat mulam sa visraam karo tadaa  
tatra gopaa bhakti yuktaahaa saty pujaam sa baandhavaahaa

[4] kuravanti sma su santushtaa vaadhya ghosh purha saram  
raajaa drashtavaa api tat sarva darpen na jagaam tam

[5] na namaan cha dur deivaat gopeshu ksudra buddhitaha  
gopaastu saralaahaa sviyam drashtavaa raajaan maagatam

[6] hrushtavaa satya prasaadam te pratham nrup sanidhou  
sam sthaapya punraagamya sviyeir bubhuju raadraat

[7] raajaa tatra datta dashtihi prasaadam vamatya cha  
jagaam sva gruha men duratam dukh maap saha

[8] tasya putra shatam nashtam dhan dhaanya aadikam cha yat  
tat sarvam naash maapannam prasaad asya avhelanaat

[9] evam dukhen santapto manasaa sa vyachintat  
ken karma vipaaken mam eishaa dukh sam hatihi

[10] nunam satya prasaad asya praaptaav gnaanato bhavet  
vichaaryet tham yatra satya pujaa tatra vrajaamyaham

[11] iti nish chitya manasaa yayou gopal sannidhou  
tatra gopganeiha saardham bhaktayaa paramayaa yut

[12] pujanam satya devasya chakaar vidhinaa nrupaha  
prasaadam bubhuje bhaktayaa ten tushto abhavada harihi

[13] saya dev prasaaden dhan putranvito abhavat  
iha loke sukham bhuktava pretya satya puram yayou

[14] ya idam kurite bhaktayaa saya Naaraayan archanam  
shrunoti cha kathaam punyaa sraddhayaa parayaanvitaha

[15] dhan dhaanyaadikam tasya bhavet satya prasaadataha  
daridhro labhate vittam baddho muchyate bandhanaat

[16] mito bhayaat pramuchyete satyam na samshayaha  
ipsitam cha falam bhuktavaa mrutaha satypuram vrajet

[17] iti vaha kathit vipraahaa sayanaaraayan vratam  
yatkrutvaa sarva dukhebhya mukto bhavati maanavaha

[18] visheshataha kaliyuge satya pujaa fala pradaa  
kechit kaalam badamtyen satya isham tathaapare  
naanaarup dharo bhutvaa sarveshaam ipsit prada

[19] ya idam srunuyaa nityam pathedva munisattamaahaa  
tasya nashyanti paapaani satyadev prasaadataha

**[20] vratam yastu krut purva sayanaaraayan sya cha  
teshaam tvapara janmaani kathayaami munishvaraahaa**

**[21] shataanando mahaa praagnaha sudaamaa brahmano hya bhutaa  
tasmin janmani sri krushna dhyaatvaa moksha mavaapaha**

**[22] kaashtha bhaar ho bhillo gruha raajo babhuva ha  
tasmi ja janmani samsevya raamam moksha jagaam vei**

**[23] ulkamukho mahaaraajo nrup dashratho abhakta  
sri rangnaath sampujya sri veikuntha tadaa gamata**

**[24] dhaarmik satya sandhasva saadhu mordhvajo abhavat  
deh ardha kakrachesh chchitvaa datvaa moksha mavaapaha**

**[25] tungdhvajo mahaaraajha svaambhur bhavatkil  
sarvaan bhagvataa na krutvaa sri veikunth tadaa gamat**

**iti sri skand puraane revaa khande sri satya naaraayan kathaayaam panchmo adhyaay**

Sut Puraani said : " O Shaunak and munis, listen to another story that I will now relate to you. Previously there was a king by the name of Tungadhvaj who looked after his nationals extremely well. He denied prasaadam of Sri Satyanaaraayan Bhagwaan and suffered pain. He once went to hunt deer in the forest and sat under a tree to take rest. Some faithful cowherds were performing Sri Satyanaaraayan's pujaa. Although he saw them, his ego and pride prevented him from attending to witness the pujaa. He thought they were cowherds of little intellect and due to his ill fate he did not bow either. The innocent cowherds, pleased to see their king went to him and left him prasaadam before partaking themselves. The king rejected the prasaadam and without even looking at it he left for home. He duly brought suffering upon himself. His sons were destroyed. His kingdom and wealth all vanished due to the disrespect to prasaadam. Afflicted by the various sufferings, the king tried to assess the reasons. "*I must be suffering due to forsaking Satyanaaraayan's prasaadam.*" Thinking thus, he went to the location where the cowherds were performing Sri Satyanaaraayan's pujaa and sat with them and performed Sri Satyanaaraayan's pujaa according to correct procedure. From its effect Bhagwaan was pleased. The king regained his lost kingdom and enjoying all the comforts on this earth eventually passed to Vishnulok.

Those who perform with devotion Sri Satyanaaraayan's pujaa and listen to the story, they are rewarded with wealth and foods by his grace. The poor obtain wealth, the bounded are freed, those surrounded by fear are relieved from the cause of their fear, and this is fact without doubt. They obtain their desired just ambitions and in the end transcend to Satyapur i.e. Vaikunth. Sut Puraani said : " O Shaunak and munis ! I have thus related Sri Satyanaaraayan's vrat, by performing this all people can rid of their sufferings. Even more so in this Kaliyug, Sri Satyanaaraayan's pujaa bears great fruit. Some call him Kaal ( time ). Some denote him as Satya (truth). Some recognise him as Satyanaaraayan while others proclaim him as Satyadev (Lord of truth). The Lord takes on various forms and fulfils desires.

O Shaunak and munis, those who listen to this story or read it, all their sins are destroyed by the kindness of Sri Satyanaaraayan. O great Mandaleshwars ( title given to rishis of high spiritual state), I will relate to you the after lives of those who had performed Lord Satyanaaraayan's worship-pujaa. Shataanand brahmin of Kaashi, previously Vaaraanasi, by worshipping daily Sri Satyanaaraayan, in the next life became Sudaamaa and living close in the spirit of Sri Krishna obtained liberation.

The wood selling Kathyaaraa bhil by getting involved in Sri Satyanaaraayan's worship became

King Guh in the next life whereby he gained service to Lord Sri Raam and was liberated. By serving Mahaa Lord Satyanaaraayan, King Ulkaamukh became majestic King Dashrath who worshipped Sri Rangnaath and thereby resided in the heaven.

Lover of Dharma and the true spoken renounced trader Saadhu in the next life became King Mayurdhwaj. When the Lord himself came to test his honesty, he arranged for his body to be sawn in half to dedicate to the Lord and thereby qualified for liberation.

Emperor Tungadhvaj first worshipped Sri Satyanaaraayan whereby in the next life became Swaayambhuv Manu (Lord of time) to spread the message about Vishweshwar Mahaaprabhu, thereby making his nationals devoted to the Lord gaining them innumerable comforts and wealth in the process and he eventually resided in Vaikunthlok.

HERE ENDETH IN SRI SATYANAARAAYAN'S STORY THE FIFTH CHAPTER IN THE REVAA DIVISION OF SRI SKAND PURAAN.

Achyutam keshavam Sri Raam Naaraayanam Sri Krishna Daamodaram Sri Vaasudevam Hari  
Sri dharam Maadhavam Sri Gopika vallabham Sri Jaanaki naayakam Sri Raamchandram bhaje

SRI SATYANAARAAYAN ARAPANAM ASTU

## Post-logue

The Satya Naaraayan Kathaa (story) is fairly simple. This commentary is to help understand the inner deep meaning of the simple truths, which are seeded in this story.

The story began with Naaradmuni asking Bhagwaan simple solution to eradicate the sufferings of all creatures. Great souls – Mahaatmaas live to only serve others – all are various forms of the one eternal being – Param Aatmaa.

Sadaanand was blessed with Bhagwaan's darshan (sight) because his sufferings which were due to his previous actions had come to an end after the intense devotion worship bhakti he had performed. Not only Bhagwaan told him the way to eradicate his poverty, but also to help others in the process. Why ? As all beings are but forms of the Lord, without serving others we cannot achieve any permanent success. Otherwise we are denying ourselves the success! Sadaanand's penance forced Bhagwaan to give him darshan. Sadaanand helped the woodsellers to rid of their sins through performing the vrat.

All our possessions are but the gift of Bhagwaan. We come to secure these during our lives on this planet. We had none before birth and will also leave behind all after death. We only acquire these due to our past actions, which bear fruit in the form either pleasures and wealth due to past merits or sufferings and poverty due to sins committed previously. Possessing and enjoying of material comforts and wealth selfishly for one self is a sin and leads to poverty of materials and mind. The purpose of life is to serve others and giving to others of one's possessions to fulfill needs of others. This invariably attracts further wealth.

Saadhu the trader promised Bhagwaan he would perform the vrat when his wish to have a child was accomplished. He neglected Bhagwaan in his pursuit of wealth, which brought him and his family great suffering. But Bhagwaan's grace flowed through that very child, who performed the vrat which resulted to remind Saadhu of his selfish actions (possessing wealth for his self and not to serve others) through his release from jail and being tested by Bhagwaan as a Sanyaasi – to remind him of his folly.

King Tungdhvaj was unable to comprehend that all his kingdom and wealth were the grace of Bhagwaan. He could not understand that the cowherds were indeed far advanced in the understanding of the universal truth when they presented to him the prasadam to partake, but which the king thought was only the immature play act of the cowherds. The king was in fact denying the grace of Bhagwaan, which led him to lose his kingdom, wealth and possessions.

The essence of the vrat and the story is not to instill fear or respect to Bhagwaan out of fear. It is to awaken the understanding of what we are here for, what our existence is for – what is the purpose of life. It is certainly not acquiring or the enjoyment of the material possessions for oneself and denying others. But infact the opposite – that all we receive is indeed the prasaadam (gift) of Bhagwaan and that it has to be used to serve others. Only then we will be eligible to succeed and ascend the path to eventually meet Bhagwaan.

May Bhagwaan help you to seek and understand the universal truth.

**AUM**

**SRI SATYA NAARAAYAN VRAT KATHAA**

**ENGLISH TRANSLATION**