

# Vedānta Class **Prayers**

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॥ श्रीः ॥

## Introduction

This booklet contains prayers invoking the lineage of teachers and the teaching (Guruvandanam), three Vedic peace mantras (known as śānti pāṭhaḥ) which are traditionally invoked before and after scriptural studies, and a beautiful universal prayer for peace (Svasti Mantraḥ).

These prayers are recited with the intention to earn the grace of the Lord. This grace is earned in order to help us acquire emotional maturity and wisdom, not for mere material gain. There is no doubt that these prayers will bless the listener profoundly when assimilated and recited with this intention.

My best wishes and love to all of you who are now learning and invoking the Lord's grace through the chanting of these sacred prayers. It is ever a blessing to share them with you.

Śrī Svāmī Vāgīśānanda Sarasvatī

Introduction extracted and edited from the booklet 'Vedic Chanting Self-Study'

॥ हरिः ॐ ॥

# Prayers chanted at the

om śrī gurubhyo namaḥ hariḥ om  
(1)

om śrutismṛtiparāṇānām ālayam karuṇālayam  
namāmi bhagavatpādam śaṅkaram lokaśaṅkaram  
(2)

śaṅkaram śaṅkarācāryam keśavam bādarāyaṇam  
sūtrabhāṣyakṛtau vande bhagavantau  
punaḥ punaḥ  
(3)

īśvarogururātmeti mūrtibhedavibhāgine  
vyomavadvyāptadehāya dakṣiṇāmūrtaye namaḥ  
(4)

om brahmānandam  
paramasukhadam kevalam jñānamūrtim  
dvandvātītam gaganasadrśam  
tattvamasyādilakṣyam  
ekam nityam vimalamacalam  
sarvadhīsākṣibhūtam  
bhāvātītam triguṇarahitam sadgurum  
tam namāmi om  
(5)

# beginning of class

ॐ श्री गुरुभ्यो नमः हरिः ॐ

ॐ श्रुतिस्मृतिपराणानां आलयं करुणालयम् ।

नमामि भगवत्पादं शङ्करं लोकशङ्करम् ॥

शङ्करं शङ्कराचार्यं केशवं बादरायणम् ।

सूत्रभाष्यकृतौ वन्दे भगवन्तौ पुनः पुनः ॥

ईश्वरोगुरुरात्मेति मूर्तिभेदविभागिने ।

व्योमवद्व्याप्तदेहाय दक्षिणामूर्तये नमः ॥

ॐ ब्रह्मानन्दं परमसुखदं केवलं ज्ञानमूर्तिं

द्वन्द्वतीतं गगनसदृशं तत्तमस्यादिलक्ष्यम्

एकं नित्यं विमलमचलं सर्वधीसाक्षिभूतं

भावातीतं त्रिगुणरहितं सद्गुरुं तं नमामि ॐ

om̐ sadāśivasamārambhām	ॐ सदाशिवसमारम्भां
śaṅkarācāryamadhyamām	शङ्कराचार्यमधमाम् ।
asmadācāryaparyantām	अस्मदाचार्यपर्यन्तां
vande guruparamparām om̐ (6)	वन्दे गुरुपरम्पराम् ॐ ॥
om̐ vāñme manasi prathṣṭhitā	ॐ वाञ्छे मनसि प्रतिष्ठिता ।
mano me vāci pratiṣṭham	मनो मे वाचि प्रतिष्ठितम् ।
āvirāvirma edhi	आविरावीर्म एधि ।
vedasya ma āñīstaḥ	वेदस्य म आणीस्थः ।
śrutam me mā prahāsīḥ	श्रुतं मे मा प्रहासीः ।
anenādhitēnāhorātrān sandadhāmi	अनेनाधीतेनाहोरात्रान् सन्दधामि ।
ṛtam vadiṣyāmi satyam vadiṣyāmi	ऋतं वदिष्यामि । सत्यं वदिष्यामि ।

tanmājavatu tadvaktāramavatu	तन्मामवतु । तद्वक्तारमवतु ।
avatu mām avatu vaktāram avatu vaktāram	अवतु माम् । अवतु वक्तारम् अवतु वक्तारम् ॥
om śāntiḥ śāntiḥ śāntiḥ (7)	ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः ॥
om saha nāvavatu	ॐ सह नाववतु ।
saha naubhunaktu	सह नौभुनक्तु ।
saha vīryam karavāvahai	सह वीर्यं करवावहै ।
tejasvināvadhītamastu	तेजस्विनावधीतमस्तु ।
mā vidviṣāvahai	मा विद्विषावहै ॥
om śāntiḥ śāntiḥ śāntiḥ (8)	ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः ॥

Oh, Lord! We now bow our heads in reverential salutations  
unto all teachers and to the sacred lineage of teachers.  
We invoke their grace to remove our self-ignorance. (1)  
Guruśiṣyaparampara Prārthanā

I salute Śāṅkarabhagavatpāda; the abode of śruti (Vedas),  
smṛti and the purāṇas; the wellspring of compassion;  
the one who blesses the world with happiness. (2)  
Guruśiṣyaparampara Prārthanā

I salute again and again Śāṅkarācārya who is Lord Śiva,  
Bādarāyaṇa (Vyāsa), and Lord Viṣṇu. I salute He who  
embodies the venerable ones; they who wrote the aphorisms  
(Brahmasūtras) and commentaries (bhāṣya) thereon. (3)  
Guruśiṣyaparampara Prārthanā

Salutations to Lord Dakṣiṇāmūrti, who is all-pervasive  
like space; who appears (as-though) subdivided as Lord, Teacher and  
Self. (4)  
Guruśiṣyaparampara Prārthanā

The one whose nature is absolute-fullness; that is Brahman.  
The one who gives me self-knowledge and happiness with no  
reason; who is 'non-dual'; who is of the nature of limitless-  
awareness; who is in-and-through, and yet transcends all  
pairs of opposites; who is all-pervasive, like space; who embodies  
the implied meaning of the great saying (mahāvākyam) 'That Thou  
Art'; who is 'one without a second'; who is timeless and yet  
unopposed to time; who is pure, free from binding likes and dislikes;  
who is motionless; who is the witness to the presence and absence  
of thought; who is free from all ignorance-caused suffering; who is  
free from all qualities, yet in-and-through all qualities. I salute that  
revered teacher who is quality-less-existence. (5)  
Gurustutiḥ

I salute the lineage of teachers which began with Śiva, the Lord,  
down through the ages to Śāṅkarācārya, extending to the  
present day to my own revered teacher. (6)  
Guruśiṣyaparampara Prārthanā

May my speech be based in accordance with my mind.  
May my mind be based in accordance with my speech.  
Oh, self-effulgent one; reveal Thyself to me.  
May both speech and mind carry the  
wisdom of the Vedas to me.  
Through my scriptural studies, I shall destroy the  
'as-though' difference between day and night.  
I shall speak what is verbally true.  
I shall think what is mentally true.  
May Brahman protect me.  
May Brahman protect the teacher.  
May Brahman protect me.  
May Brahman protect the teacher.  
May Brahman protect the teacher.  
oṃ peace peace peace (7)  
Vedic peace mantra from the Ṛgveda

May He protect us (both).  
May He nourish us (both).  
May we (both) acquire the capacity  
(to study and understand the scriptures).  
May our studies be brilliant.  
May we not argue with each other.  
oṃ peace peace peace (8)  
Vedic peace mantra from the Kṛṣṇa Yajurveda

# Prayers chanted at the conclusion of class

om svasti prajābhyaḥ paripālayantām

nyāyena mārgēṇa mahīm mahīśāḥ

gobrāhmaṇebhyaśśubhamastu nityam

lokāssamastāssukhino bhavantu  
(1)

kāle varṣatu parjanyaḥ

pṛthivī sasyaśālinī

deśoyam kṣobharahitaḥ

brāhmaṇāssantu nirbhayāḥ  
(2)

ॐ स्वस्ति प्रजाभ्यः परिपालयन्ताम् ।

न्यायेन मार्गेण महीं महीशाः ॥

गेब्राह्मणभ्यश्शुभमस्तु नित्यम् ।

लेकास्समस्तास्सुखिनो भवन्तु ॥ १ ॥

काले वर्षतु पर्जन्यः ।

पृथिवी सस्यशालिनी ॥

देशोऽयं क्षोभरहितः ।

ब्राह्मणास्सन्तु निर्भयाः ॥ २ ॥

oṃ* sarveṣāṃ svastirbhavatu	ॐ* सर्वेषां स्वस्तिर्भवतु ।
sarveṣāṃ śāntirbhavatu	सर्वेषां शान्तिर्भवतु ॥
sarveṣāṃ pūrṇambhavatu	सर्वेषां पूर्णभवतु ।
sarveṣāṃ maṅgalambhavatu (3)	सर्वेषां मङ्गलंभवतु ॥ ३ ॥
oṃ* sarve bhavantu sukhinaḥ	ॐ* सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः ।
sarve santu nirāmayāḥ	सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः ॥
sarve bhadraṇi paśyantu	सर्वे भद्राणि पश्यन्तु ।
mā kaścid duḥkhabhāg bhavet (4)	मा कश्चिद् दुःखभाग् भवेत् ॥ ४ ॥
oṃ* asato mā sadgamaya	ॐ* असतो मा सद्गमय ।
tamaso mā jyotirgamaya	तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय ।
mṛtyormā amṛtaṃ gamaya (5)	मृत्योमाऽमृतं गमय ॥

\*These 'oṃs' begin verses that may be chanted independently.  
The class may or may not chant them in this invocation. Follow the teacher.

om̐ pūrṇamadaḥ pūrṇamidaṁ

pūrṇāt pūrṇamudatcyate

pūrṇasya pūrṇamādāya

pūrṇamevāvaśiṣyate

om̐ śāntiḥ śāntiḥ śāntiḥ  
(6)

ḥariḥ om̐ śrī gurubhyo namaḥ ḥariḥ om̐  
(7)

May all beings be happy.  
May the kings righteously rule the Earth.  
Let there be abundance for animals and people of  
wisdom at all times.  
May all enjoy fullness. (1)  
May it rain at the proper time.  
May the soil produce grains.  
May this country be free from famine.  
May men of contemplation (those that see  
beyond objects of awareness) be fearless. (2)  
May all have good fortune.  
May all know peace.  
May all know fullness.  
May all know freedom from suffering. (3)  
May all be happy.  
May all be healthy.

ॐ पूर्णमदः पूर्णमिदं

पूर्णात् पूर्णमुदच्यते ।

पूर्णस्य पूर्णमादाय

पूर्णमेवावशिष्यते ॥

ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः ॥

हरिः ॐ श्री गुरुभ्यो नमः हरिः ॐ ॥

May all be prosperous.  
May none suffer. (4)  
Verses 1 – 4; A universal prayer for peace (Svasti Mantraḥ)  
Lead me from the unreal to the real;  
From ignorance to illumination;  
From mortality to death-less-ness. (5)  
From the Bṛhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad; Śukla Yajurveda  
All is Fullness. This is 'full'.  
From Fullness, this 'full' is made manifest.  
Removing this 'full' from Fullness,  
Fullness alone remains.  
om̐ peace peace peace (6)  
Vedic peace mantra from the Śukla Yajurveda  
Oh, Lord! We now bow our heads in reverential salutations  
unto all teachers and to the sacred lineage of teachers.  
We invoke their grace to remove our self-ignorance. (7)  
Guruśiṣyaparampara Prārthanā

# श्री स्वामी वागीशानन्द सरस्वती

## Śrī Svāmī Vāgīśānanda Sarasvatī

Śrī Svāmī Vāgīśānanda Sarasvatī is a senior disciple of Pūjya Śrī Svāmī Dayānanda Sarasvatī, and has been studying and teaching Vedānta since 1975.

Svāmī jī was in his teens when he became fascinated with mystical poetry and non-dualistic philosophies. In 1975, at the age of 19, he left his home in the United States and traveled to India to study in a traditional gurūkulam. After graduating from a three-year residential course in Vedānta and Sanskrit, he attended four subsequent three-year courses in the United States and in India.

Using the traditional methodology called saṁpradāya, Svāmī Vāgīśānanda 'unlocks' the scriptures of Vedānta, thereby removing the veil of ignorance; the cause of all human suffering. He is a traditional saṁnyāsi (a renunciant who is committed to a life of knowledge and has taken a vow of non-injury). A master of the South Indian Kṛṣṇa Yajur Veda style of chanting, Svāmī jī travels the world teaching Sanskrit, Vedic chanting and Vedānta.

ॐ Press

॥ हरिः ॐ ॥