

Pujya Swamiji's Anugrahabhashanam on 17th February 2015 - Sivaratri Day



त्र्यम्बकं यजामहे सुगन्धिं पुष्टिवर्धनम्। उर्वारुकमिव
बंधनान्मृत्योर्मुक्षीयमाऽमृतात्। It is a beautiful श्रीरुद्र
mantra.

त्र्यम्बकं यजामहे we invoke the grace of Lord
त्र्यम्बक. For what ? मृत्योः मुक्षीय to release from
Lord Yama. त्र्यम्बक त्रीणि अम्बकः यस्य सः-the
one has three eyes representing past,
present and future- meaning the one who
knows entire past and future and present .
सर्वज्ञः.

सुगन्धिं पुष्टिवर्धनमत्र्यम्बकं- the one who is ever
fragrant, the one who is the nourisher of
every thing. तम् परमेश्वरम् यजामहे- we invoke

the grace of *parameshvara*, who is all
knowing, who is nourisher of health, who
is not subject to ageing.

मृत्योः मुक्षीय please release us from the hands
of death. How to release उर्वारुकम् इवबंधनात्-
release,सउर्वारुकम् इव -like watermelon from
its creeper. When one enters the garden he
sees the ripened watermelon on the creeper
(creeper is normally spreads over the
ground). Watermelon is attached to the
creeper vein. When the person comes back,
this fruit is seen already detached from
the mother creeper, without interruption of
any person. Gravitation is also not

responsible. It is so ripened it gets detached automatically/effortlessly.

Let ईश्वर *Ishvara* help us to get released from this samsara like the watermelon उर्वारिकम् इव. Remaining with the creeper, watermelon gets nourished. Once nourished, it is freed, it gains moksha. Similarly marriage, parentage etc are primarily necessary for growth – inner growth – emotional growth. Such a matured person seemingly remaining in this world, gets matured and released उर्वारिकम् इव like the watermelon from the creeper. That is moksha, that is effortless (just by knowledge) release.

मा अमृतात्मुक्षीय – do not release from immortality. Immortality is my nature – it is my innate nature-one need not do anything.

मृत्युञ्जयः Lord Shiva is called. There is a story of Markanteya. One devoted couple did not have a child. They prayed for it. The *ishtadevata* appeared before them and said you are great devotees and I am pleased with your devotion. Looking in to your karma I cannot fulfill your wish 100%. There is a choice between

- 1) a son with 100 years of life but may not live a life of devotion like you or
- 2) a son who will excel your devotion but live for only 16 years.

You choose whatever you want. He chose the later – a devoted child who will live 16 years. This child lived a life of devotion, life of dharma, in short यथोक्तकारी *yathoktakarii*. Father's name was Mrukantu and the child was called Markanteya.

16 years were over. Yama's messengers - *dhootas* came. Markanteya knew his time of death –16 years. He was doing puja to Shiva. At that time Yama's *dhootas* came. During puja they cannot act. They went and told Yama, who himself came to get Markanteya. Yama saw Markanteya embracing the *linga* –he became one with the Lord Siva. Yama threw his rope (*pasakayiru* in Tamil) and pulled him along with *linga*. Out came Lord Shiva from the *linga*. Yama the lord of death was punished – he was kicked out. Yama was defeated Ajyt by Siva and hence the name मृत्युञ्जयः

When you are away from *Ishvara* (in terms your thinking) death - *mrityu* is around. When there is no more alienation in your thinking *mrityu* cannot touch, because you have मृत्युञ्जयः *mrityunjaya* with you – non-separate from you. Great story!. On this Shivaratree day – a day of spiritual commitment, vows, disciplines, I invoke the blessings of Lord Narmadheshavara & Jnaneshvari and Lord Dakshinamurthy and Lord Jnana Ganapati.

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