

# A Study of Jāp Sāhib The Meditation of Guru Gobind Singh

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### Key to Pronunciation

In order to facilitate the correct pronunciation of the original Gurmukhi (Punjabi) script the following key has been used while transcribing it into Roman script.

		1				_
ar	n Scr	ript				-
uit	valen	ts				
;	a	(	as	in	but)	-
;	ā	(	as	in	car)	
	i	(	as	in	sit)	
	ī	(	as	in	week)	
1	u	(	(as	in	put)	
i	ū				fool)	
	e				male)	
	ai				cat)	,
	0				soap)	:
	au				cost)	
					sun)	
	s h				he)	
	h k				king)	
	ĸ ch				khaddar)	
	g				leg) ahaa)	
	gh				ghee)	
	ig				ring)	
	ch				church)	
	hh				Chhatarpur)	
	j				Japan)	
	jh	(	as	IN	Jhansî)	
	ñ		,		N	
	ţ				cut)	
ţ	th	(	as	in	thug)	

Gurmukhi	Vowel	Roman Scr	ipt
Letter	Symbol	equivalen	ts
ਡ		d.	(as in <i>doctor</i> )
ਢ		dh	(as in <i>dhol</i> )
ਣ		ņ	(as in Runn of Kutch)
ਤ		t	(as in <i>Telugu</i> )
ਬ		th	(as in <i>thumb</i> )
ਦ		d	(as in <i>thee</i> )
ਧ		dh	(as in <i>dhobi</i> )
ਨ		n	(as in <i>nun</i> )
ਪ		р	(as in <i>pin</i> )
ਫ		ph	(as in <i>phase</i> )
ਬ		b	(as in <i>bed</i> )
ਭ		bh	(as in <i>bhang</i> )
н		m	(as in man)
ਯ		у	(as in <i>year</i> )
ਰ		r	(as in <i>ring</i> )
ਲ		1	(as in <i>love</i> )
ਵ		v	(as in <i>valley</i> )
ੜ		ŗ	(as in <i>Roorkee</i> )
म		ťþ	(as in <i>saree</i> )
ਸ਼		sh	(as in <i>show</i> )
ਖ਼		<u>kh</u>	(as in <i>khan</i> )
ਗ਼		gh z	(as in <i>Ghazi</i> )
ਜ਼		Z	(as in <i>zero</i> )
র		f	(as in <i>feet</i> )
Nasal Sound			
n		'n	(as in <i>single</i> )
:		'n	(as in <i>plant</i> )

Note: The short vowels /2/ and /6/ were used at the end of certain words in medieval Punjabi to represent *certain cases*. Usually a modern Punjabi speaker, in general, is unable to pronounce these short vowels at the last position. We have used these short vowels in brackets as (u) and (i) towards the end, which of course, helps to transcribe the exact spellings of *Jāp Sāhib*.

### Introduction

 $J_{ap}^{\bar{a}p}$  Sāhib is one of the celebrated spiritual compositions of Gurū Gobind Singh, the tenth Gurū. Like the Jap jī of Gurū Nānak Dev, it is also a part of the daily pre-dawn liturgical service of the Sikhs. The Jap jī provides instruction in spiritual praxis, and introduces one to the different spirit-scapes on the way to the Transcendent Reality. Jāp Sāhib straightway dwells upon God through His attributive names in exquisitely mellifluous verse.

Its composition must have become possible in a state of profound meditation. In it, at places, there is considerable repetition of the terms of salutation. But that is the essential pattern of  $j\bar{a}p$ . Still, however, monotony is kept in abeyance by varying the salutary phrases, at intervals, also in consonance with the change of the metre. It employs amazingly live rhythms. Hence, recitation of this composition makes one feel as if one is hearing the echoing rhythms of the Cosmic Drum.

Stylistically also, the two compositions – Jap  $j\bar{i}$  and  $J\bar{a}p$ S $\bar{a}hib$  – are mutually quite distinct. While Jap  $j\bar{i}$  flows through serene metres, J $\bar{a}p$  S $\bar{a}hib$  generates dancing and clanging rhythms that flow like a mountainous torrent, opening the flood-gates of divine intimation.

This wonderful composition gives unambiguous evidence that its author is in intimate communion with the Cosmic Spirit. It succeeds not only in sprouting a devout relationship with the Divine, but also in generating, in one who recites it, indomitable courage and undaunted valour pregnant with the spirit of sacrifice.

Its majestic diction clothes the intimations of the Divine in highly dignified idiom and sublime grace. Its flow carries the soul of the seeker with it through the portals of sanctimonious inspiration. It undoubtedly mirrors an intimate numinous presence of the Divine that must have been experienced by its author.

Every one of its ten different metres has its specific distinctive lilt; and together they weave a consistently valorous beat. Thus, while the content of the unique composition is steeped in *Shānt Rasa* (the aesthetic flavour of serenity), its form is steeped in *Vīr Rasa* (the aesthetic flavour of valour). In the traditional poetics, this combination would be considered nothing short of a serious poetic blasphemy, yet the Gurū does not let any discord appear at any time. He, on the other hand, succeeds in making it an artistic medium of meditation in the battlefield.

The way its hundreds of expressive terms echo each other and hold each other in alliterative clasps lends a tremendous force and injects an uncommon musicality to its flow. The dignity, profundity and nobility of the expressions employed by the Gurū make them worthy reflections on the Divine.

Its metres – ranging from single syllable to over a dozen syllables – all prove themselves to be missiles of intense faith. They awaken the seeker's spiritual consciousness and enliven his quest. On the wings of the sacramental expressions of this  $b\bar{a}n\bar{i}$ , the spirit of the seeker wafts into the realms of super-consciousness.

Like Jap  $j\bar{i}$ , J $\bar{a}p$  S $\bar{a}hib$  is also one of the five liturgical texts<sup>1</sup> that are recited while the baptismal potion, Amrit<sup>2</sup>, is prepared, the same way as it was done on the great Bais $\bar{a}kh\bar{i}$  day of 1699 when the Order of the <u>Kh</u> $\bar{a}$ ls $\bar{a}$  was initiated.

- 1. The three other texts are Sawayyās, Anand Sāhib, and Benatī Chaupaī.
- 2. Amrit is the ambrosial potion prepared for imbibing and anointing during the baptismal ceremony of the Khālsā.

### Brief Life of Gurū Gobind Singh

Gurū Gobind Singh, the tenth Gurū of the Sikhs, and the Gurto of  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$ , was born to his parents, Gurū Tegh Bahādur and Mātā Gujrī, on December 22, 1666 AD at Paṭnā.

When the news of his birth reached a Muslim fakir, Bhikhan Shāh in Harvānā, he made a reverent bow towards the East. His disciples were perplexed, because the Muslims always bow towards the Mecca, which was to the West from their place. They, therefore, asked him, "You have always made your bow towards the West, why this departure from it and making your genuflexion towards the East ?" He replied, "Today a great soul has been born in the East and I have bowed towards his stars." Then, at the behest of his disciples, he went to Patnā to have a look at the infant Guru. He is said to have taken with him two containers filled with candies. When he brought them before the infant Gurū, the infant Gurū touched both the containers with his hands. Bhikhan Shah had a smile of satisfaction on his face. When his disciples asked him the reason of his smile, he said, "These containers were presented to him, representing the Hindū and Muslim communities. Touching them both with his hands signifies to me that he shall look upon Hindus and Muslims with equal favour and without any adverse discrimination."

The Gurū received his education in Paṭnā. His childhood is replete with many interesting and instructive stories. One of these is how he taught his playmates the tactics of warfare. He would divide them into two groups and instruct them to fight mock battles. These, he supervised in person and appreciated those who fought well. Whoever witnessed these play-battles was not only highly impressed with his leadership qualities, but could also perceive his undoubted potentiality for becoming a great hero. Many, who witnessed him in that role, even began to worship him - for that, to them, appeared nothing short of divine power cum divine intellect.

Those were the days of Mogul tyranny over the Hindus. Under the orders of Aurangzeb, the Mogul Emperor, forcible conversion of the Hindus to Islam - even at the point of death had been instituted. Distressed Brahmins of Kashmir, who were considered supreme leaders of the Hindu community, came over in the form of a deputation to Anaridpur to inform Gurū Tegh Bahadur of their plight. With tearful eyes they narrated their dismal condition and reverently sought his advice. While the Gurū gave them solace, himself he became absorbed in deep thought. At that critical moment, the child Gobind Rae' happened to come there. He noticed the sign of some unusual concern on his father's face. He enquired of him the cause of that concern. The Gurū told him the story of the Pundits' plight. "Then what solution have you thought of ?" asked Gobind Rae. "The need of the hour is that someone of high spiritual stature should come forward and offer his own life as sacrifice in order to stem this tyranny." The Gurū told his nine-year old son. Gobind Rae promptly replied, "But who could be better suited than yourself to undertake such a noble task ?" This intervention by Gobind Rae pleased Gurū Tegh Bahadur who took him into his arms and showered his fond love on him. The Gurū then assured the Pundits of his support and told them, "Go and convey the Emperor through the Governor of your state that if Tegh Bahādur agrees to accept Islam, you would all follow him."

This was duly conveyed to the Emperor through the appropriate channels. The Emperor construed this message as a kind of challenge and got the Gurū arrested and brought over to Delhī along with his three disciples who, at that time were keeping him company. Before leaving for Delhī, however, the Gurū posted Gobind Rāe with detailed instructions about what steps to take in the case the threatening eventuality took place.

1. This was his original name; later, when he received Baptism from the <u>Kh</u>ālsā, then he was named Gobind Singh.

In Delhi, Aurangzeb held a series of dialogues with the Gurū proposing that he accept Islam. When that did not work, he tried to lure the Gurū with all kinds of temptations. Finally, he came down to threaten his life if he would not comply. The Gurū, however, stood resolutely firm and declined to oblige the Emperor. When the Emperor did not succeed, he ordered cruel execution of three of his disciples right in front of him so that the Gurū would see the intensity of the threat to his own life and succumb out of fear. Even those three disciples did not show any signs of fear and with exceptional calm withstood the cruel death imposed on them. The Emperor tried once again to persuade the Gurū and remind him again of the fate he would meet, should he not change his mind. The Gurū, however, stood resolute. That irked the Emperor and he ordered the Gurū's execution. The Gurū was executed in the Chāndnī Chowk, the royal square, where Gurdwārā Sīs Ganj stands today.

Gurū Tegh Bahādur had, even before leaving for Delhī, made all necessary arrangements for Gobind Rāe to be installed as his spiritual successor as the tenth Gurū of the Sikhs. So, Gobind Rāe was promptly made the tenth Gurū and accepted reverently by the entire Sikh people. The young Gurū took a vow, not only to bring the tyrant rulers to book, but also to infuse such valiant spirit into the people that they would rise, and even lay down their lives, to attain freedom from the tyrants.

He advised his Sikhs to arm themselves. Very soon, an army of a respectable size took shape. In addition to the usual spiritual instruction, the Gurū also started providing his Sikhs physical and martial training. However, the Hindū hill princes of the neighbouring states became jealous of the Gurū's increasing following and his rising military might. They decided to teach him a lesson.

Yet, one of them was well disposed towards the Gurū and invited him over as a guest to his state. The Gurū was pleased to accept his invitation. One day, while in pursuit of game, the Gurū discovered a picturesque spot on the bank of the river Yamunā to which he took great fancy. When the Rājā came to know about it, he persuaded the Gurū to stay on at that spot since he liked it so much. The Gurū agreed, and very soon a whole township came to grow around it.<sup>2</sup> The Gurū spent around four years there.<sup>3</sup>

The reputation of his erudition attracted to him a bevy of scholars and poets including some of those whom the impoverished Mogul Emperor had disbanded from his Court. He encouraged them to translate many Sańskrit and Persian classics into Braj Bhāshā, the popular folk language of that time. Much of this valuable material however, was destroyed by the enemy hordes vengefully after the Gurū eventually vacated Anańdpur (q.v. below).

The hill princes had several scuffles with the Gurū and his Sikhs, but were always defeated. After the first of these battles that occurred at Bhangānī, and the Sikh forces had successfully repulsed the forces of the hill chief, some Sikhs came to seek the Gurū's permission to follow the receding attackers and to wrest a sizeable part of their territory. The Gurū, however, declined to give them any such permission saying, "Our mission in life is to protect the downtrodden and root out the tyrants; and not to annex land or set up our own kingdom." Not only were the attacks of princely states repulsed several times, the Sikhs defeated even a number of Mogul expeditions against the Gurū.

On the festive day of Baisākhi in 1699 AD, the Gurū convened a special massive assembly of the Sikhs from all over. Contemporary chroniclers have reported that around 40,000 Sikhs attended. In the midst of that assembly, the Gurū stood upon a platform, specially erected for the occasion and announced that he wanted someone to come forward and present him his head. It is chronicled that the entire assembly got stunned. Yet, soon a volunteer came forth to offer his head to the Gurū. He was not the only one. The Gurū made five calls and every time a volunteer stepped forward to make the offering of his own head. The Gurū called those five his *Panj Piāre* (his

3. It was here that inter alia, the Gurū composed Jāp Sāhib.

<sup>2.</sup> This township came to be called 'Pāonțā', literally meaning, where the Gurū changed his step.

'Beloved Five'). Them he initiated into a special Order called Order of the <u>Kh</u>ālsā, or God's Knights-at-Arms, by baptizing them with *Amrit*. Then he prescribed some special rules of conduct for them including a number of taboos. He also added the epithet 'Singh' (a lion) to the name of everyone so baptized.

Then he requested the *Panj Piāre* to initiate him also into the new Order in the same manner in which he had initiated them. Thence on, Gobind Rāe also became Gobind Singh.

The very next day, thousands more volunteered to be recruited into this Divine Army, and were baptized the same way.

This frightened the hill-princes, who reported the matter to Aurangzeb soliciting his active intervention to quell this "rebellious venture" of the Gurū. The Emperor, who had already been peeved by the defeat of his previous dispatches upon the Gurū, chose this time to dispatch a huge army which, along with the forces of the twenty-two hill-chiefs, and local Gujjars and Ranghar tribes mounted a massive attack on Anaridpur, the Gurū's abode.

The battle raged on for days. A devoted Sikh, Bhāi Kanhaíyā, every night, after the fighting of the day was called off, began going to the battlefield to provide water to thirsty soldiers without discrimination whether they were Sikhs or non-Sikhs. He was asked why he was providing water to the adversary soldiers, he said, "I see no alien, no enemy; every thirsty face appears to me to be the face of my Gurū. How can I deny him water?" When the Gurū came to know of this he was immensely pleased and commended his conduct as exemplary.

The battle went on for many days. The Mogul generals soon realized that they would not be able to win in straight fight. So they decided to lay a massive siege to Ānandpur and confine the Gurū along with his followers within it, and thus deprive them of supplies. They hoped that through that strategy they would be able to make the Gurū surrender.

The siege continued for months. There was still no sign of the Gurū giving in. The Mogul generals, then, over the oath of Korān, gave solemn assurance to the Gurū, that if he and his family vacated Ānandpur, they shall be provided safe exit. On account of this solemn assurance by the Mogul generals, the Sikhs prevailed upon the Gurū to leave Ānandpur. He did so at midnight along with his family and the handful of famished Sikhs who had survived the hardships of the siege. It was a cold night of December and to add to the misery of the troupe, it began to rain heavily. Contrary to their assurances, however, the Mogul forces fell upon the Gurū and his companions. In the melee, the Gurū's two younger sons and his aged mother fell into the hands of the Governor of Sirhind due to the treachery of their own Brahmin cook. The Governor ordered that these children (merely six-and four-years old) be walled alive and thus suffocated to death.

The Gurū, along with his elder sons (twelve and nine years old) reached a place called Chamkaur, while they were being pursued by the Mogul hordes. A fierce battle raged there in which the Gurū's two elder princes who were accompanying him attained martyrdom. The Gurū was left with only five Sikhs after that. They counselled him to escape. When he declined, he was reminded that he himself had bestowed upon them the authority of Gurū Khālsā when he sought to be baptized. "With that authority" they said, "we command you, Gobind Singh, to leave." The Gurū was left with no option but to obey. As he left, three Sikhs chose to accompany him, while the other two stayed back to keep the Mogul hordes engaged as long as they could. In the dark night, however, his companions got separated from him. He alone waded through forests and wildernesses. On the way, two Muslim brothers, who had been in the Gurū's service at one time, helped the Gurū escape in disguise. He stayed with some of his admirers on the way and eventually reached Khidrānā still being pursued by the adversary forces that were on the look out for him.

When the Gurū was at Ānandpur under siege, forty men had deserted him. When, however, they reached their homes, their wives refused to admit them being ashamed of their husbands having deserted the Gurū. They succeeded in awakening remorse in them, and drove them back led by a lady, Maī Bhāgo, in command. They came to know that the Gurū had gone towards Khidrāņā. They hurried thither and engaged the hordes pursuing the Gurū some way before Khidrāņā. All of them, except Maī Bhāgo, gave away their lives fighting but were able to drive the pursuing hordes back. The Gurū from a high mound at some distance, where he had camped saw all that happen. He came to the site and kissed the brows of each one of them and showered his blessings on them. Only one of them, Mahān Singh who was on his last breath could seek forgiveness for their desertion. The Gurū told him that they all had proved their worth and made him proud of them. The Gurū further told Mahān Singh that, those who had laid down their lives here, shall ever be remembered as *muktās* (the liberated ones). Mahān Singh was overjoyed to hear this and breathed his last in peace.

After a couple of sojourns on the way, the Gurū reached Talwandī Sābo where he spent over nine months. That place, since then, is known as *Damdamā Sāhib* (the sacred resting-place).

During his stay there, the Gurū produced the final recension of  $Sr\bar{i}$  Gurū Granth Sāhib. He also resumed his literary activity there. That is why, Talwandī Sābo came to be known as Gurū's Kāshī, a seat of learning. From there, the Gurū produced an epistle, in Persian, addressed to Aurangzeb, in which were mirrored to him the tyrannies and treacheries that he perpetrated upon innocent people. In that epistle, which was titled Zafar Nāmah (the epistle of victory) he also chastised the Emperor for not keeping his word after swearing on the Korān. The Gurū also informed him that he (the Gurū) was a peace-loving person, but if all efforts to preserve peace fail, it becomes legitimate to pick up arms.

Aurangzeb received the letter, was filled with remorse, and invited the Gurū for a talk. However, he died soon after that and a war of succession ensued between his sons. Bahādur Shāh, the eldest among them, sought the Gurū's help and with the Gurū's timely help, succeeded and became the Emperor. After honouring the Gurū in Āgrā, he requested him to accompany him to the South. The Gurū agreed to do so, but after some time, parted company with him and left for Nānder. In the proximity of Nānder there was an ashram on the bank of River Godāwarī. It belonged to a bairāgī (hermit) Mādho Dās. When he saw the Gurū, he was so captivated by his personality that he surrendered himself before the Gurū. The Gurū baptized him and induced him into the Order of the <u>Kh</u>ālsā, and gave him the name of Gurbaksh Singh, who considered himself as the *bandā* (bondsman) of the Gurū and was pleased when people remembered him by that name. The Gurū dispatched him to the Punjāb to take charge of the Sikh forces there and to continue the mission of protecting the weak from the tyrannous rulers. The Gurū gave him letters addressed to the leading Sikhs to help him in his mission. Five Sikhs were to accompany him. As a token of his personal blessing, the Gurū also gave him five arrows out of his own quiver.

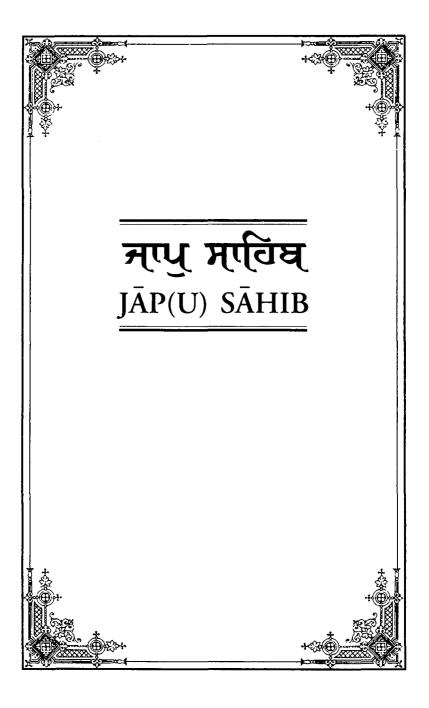
The Nawāb of Sirhind who was responsible for the cruel death of the Gurū's younger sons became much concerned when he came to know of the Gurū's proximity with the Emperor. So he hired two Pațhān mercenaries to murder the Gurū.

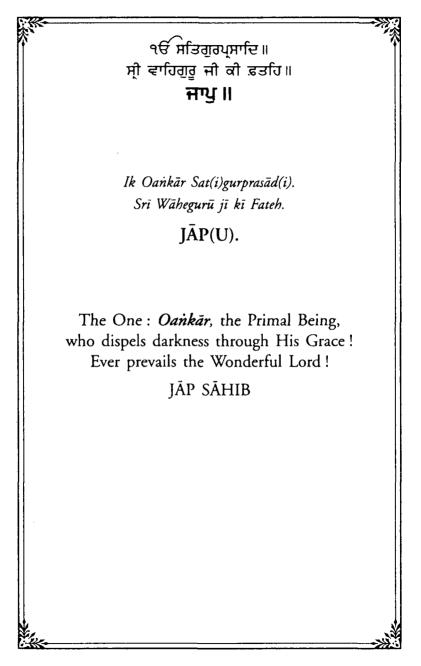
One day, when the Gurū was taking rest, one of those Paṭhāns struck him with a dagger. But before he could give a second blow, the Gurū struck him dead with his sword. His companion tried to escape but some alert Sikhs were able to capture him and put him also to death.

The wound that the Gurū got was apparently healing well, but one day when the Gurū tried to bend a bow, it gaped again and blood began to gush out from it.

The Gurū felt that his end was near. So he invited all the Sikhs around to assemble and declared to them that after him  $Sr\bar{i}$  Gurū Granth Sāhib shall be their eternal Gurū. Then he loudly chanted, "Wahegurū jī kā <u>Kh</u>ālsā Wahegurū jī kī Fateh" and thereafter breathed his last.

He lived amidst mortals for just forty-two years, yet the world must not have witnessed another life that was at once so sublime, so inspiring, so action-packed, so replete with sacrifice, so devoid of fear and yet so full of compassion - in short, so complete in all respects.





ਸੀ ਮਖਵਾਕ ਪਾਤਿਸਾਹੀ ੧੦॥ ਛਪੈ ਛੰਦ॥ ਤੁ ਪਸਾਦਿ॥ ਚੱਕ ਚਿਹਨ ਅਰ ਬਰਨ ਜਾਤਿ, ਅਰ ਪਾਤਿ ਨਹਿਨ ਜਿਹ॥ ਰਪ ਰੰਗ ਅਰੂ ਰੇਖ ਭੇਖ, ਕੋਉ ਕਹਿ ਨ ਸਕਤ ਕਿਹ॥ Srī Mukhvāk Pāt(i)sāhī 10 (Dasvīn). Chhapai Chhand. Tva Prasād(i). Chakkra chihan ar(u) baran jāt(i), ar(u) pāt(i) nahin jih. Rūp rang ar(u) rekh bhekh, koū kah(i) na sakat kih. Uttered by the Tenth Master. Chhapai Chhand. By Your grace. You have no sign or symbol, colour or caste, You have no form or feature, mark or garb.

ਅਚਲ ਮੂਰਤਿ ਅਨਭਉ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ, ਅਮਿਤੋਜਿ ਕਹਿੱਜੈ॥ ਕੋਟਿ ਇੰਦ੍ਰ ਇੰਦ੍ਰਾਣ, ਸਾਹੁ ਸਾਹਾਣਿ ਗਣਿੱਜੈ॥ ਤ੍ਰਿਭਵਣ ਮਹੀਪ ਸ਼ੁਰ ਨਰ ਅਸੁਰ, ਨੇਤ ਨੇਤ ਬਨ ਤ੍ਰਿਣ ਕਹਤ॥ ਤਵ ਸਰਬ ਨਾਮ ਕਥੈ ਕਵਨ, ਕਰਮ ਨਾਮ ਬਰਨਤ ਸੁਮਤਿ॥੧॥

Achal mūrat(i) anbhau prakāsh, amitoj(i) kahijjai. Kot(i) indra indrāņ, sāh(u) sāhāņ(i) gaņijjai. Tribhavaņ mahīp sur nar asur, net net ban triņ kahat. Tav sarab Nām kathai kavan, karam Nām barnat sumat(i).(1)

Steadfast your visage, self-luminous and vast, Infinite your splendour, ever in parables cast !

Greater than million *Indras*, King of kings, Your Name in the spheres of every universe rings. Whenever, men, gods and demons, of You thought,

They only said, "You are not this, nor that." And so say woods and so say blades of grass : ("You are not this, O Lord, You are not that !") Who can Your Comprehensive Name describe ? Your Action-Names are all that chant the wise.1.

#### ਭੁਜੰਗ ਪ੍ਰਯਾਤ ਛੰਦ॥

ਨਮਸਤ੍ਰੰ ਅਕਾਲੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤ੍ਰੰ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾਲੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਰੂਪੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਨੂਪੇ॥੨॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਭੇਖੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਲੇਖੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਕਾਏ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਜਾਏ॥੩॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਗੰਜੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਭੰਜੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਨਾਮੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਠਾਮੇ॥੪॥

#### Bhujang Prayat Chhand.

Namastwan akāle. Namastwan kripāle. Namastan arūpe. Namastan anūpe.(2) Namastan abhekhe. Namastan alekhe. Namastan akāe. Namastan ajāe.(3) Namastan aganje. Namastan abhanje. Namastan anāme. Namastan athāme.(4)

#### Bhujang Prayat Chhand

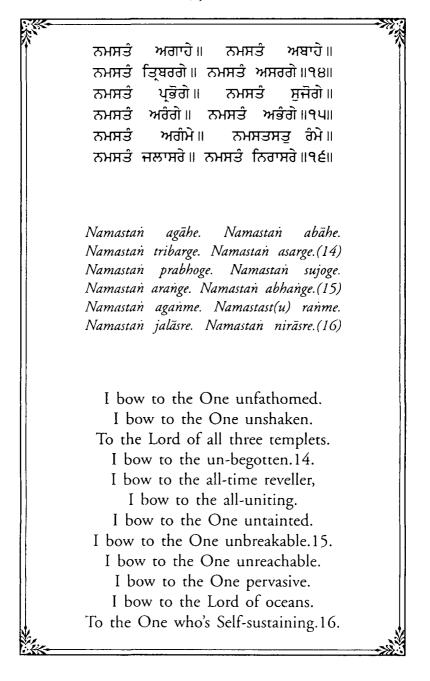
I bow to the One Immortal, I bow to the One who's Merciful. I bow to the One who's formless. I bow to the One who's peerless. I bow to the One who's garbless. I bow to the One unaccountable. To the One who is incorporeal. I bow to the One un-begotten. I bow to the One invincible. I bow to the One infringible. I bow to the One who's nameless. I bow to the One abodeless. 4.

ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਕਰਮੰ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਧਰਮੰ॥	Ŷ
 ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਨਾਮੰ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਧਾਮੰ॥੫॥	
ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਜੀਤੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਭੀਤੇ॥	
ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਬਾਹੇ    ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਢਾਹੇ   ੬	
ਨਸਸਤ ਅਬਾਰੇ ਕਿਸਸਤ ਅਵਾਰੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਮਸਤੇ ਅਨੀਲੇ ਕਿ ਨਮਸਤੇ ਅਨਾਦੇ ਕ	
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ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਛੇਦੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਗਾਧੇ॥੭॥	
Namastan akarman. Namastan adharman.	
Namastan akarman. Namastan adhāman.(5)	
Namastan ajīte. Namastan abhīte.	
Namastan abāhe. Namastan adhāhe.(6)	
Namastan anīle. Namastan anāde.	
Namastan achhede. Namastan agādhe.(7)	
I bow to the One sans action.	
I bow to the One sans credence.	
I bow to the One who's nameless.	
I bow to the One who's homeless.5.	
I bow to the One unvanquished.	{
I bow to the One undaunted.	
I bow to the One unshakeable.	
I bow to the One invincible.6.	
I bow to the One, who's formless,	
I bow to the One sans origin. I bow to the One who's faultless.	1
1)	
I bow to the One inscrutable.7.	.*
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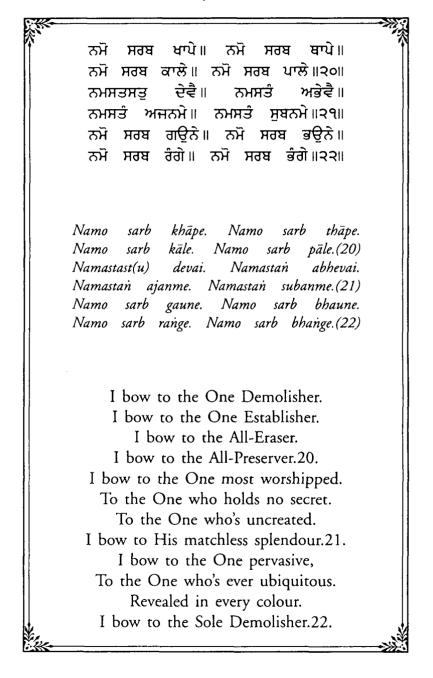
ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਗੰਜੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਭੰਜੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਉਦਾਰੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਪਾਰੇ॥੮॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਸੁ ਏਕੈ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਨੇਕੈ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਭੂਤੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਜੂਪੇ॥੯॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਕਰਮੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਭਰਮੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਦੇਸੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਭੇਸੇ॥੧੦॥ Namastan aganje. Namastan abhanje. Namastan udāre. Namastan apāre.(8) Namastan su ekai. Namastan anekai. Namastan abhūte. Namastan anekai. Namastan nrikarme. Namastan nribharme. Namastan nridese. Namastan nribhese.(10)	
ਨਮਸਤੰ ਉਦਾਰੇ ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਪਾਰੇ ॥੮॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਸੁ ਏਕੈ ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਨੇਕੈ ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਭੂਤੇ ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਜੂਪੇ ॥੯॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਕਰਮੇ ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਭਰਮੇ ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਦੇਸੇ ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਭੇਸੇ ॥੧੦॥ Namastan adāre. Namastan abhanje. Namastan udāre. Namastan apāre.(8) Namastan su ekai. Namastan anekai. Namastan abhūte. Namastan anekai. Namastan nrikarme. Namastan nribharme. Namastan nridese. Namastan nribhese.(10)	
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ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਭੂਤੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਜੂਪੇ॥੯॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਕਰਮੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਭਰਮੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਦੇਸੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਭੇਸੇ॥੧੦॥ Namastan aganje. Namastan abhanje. Namastan udāre. Namastan apāre.(8) Namastan su ekai. Namastan anekai. Namastan abhūte. Namastan ajūpe.(9) Namastan nrikarme. Namastan nribharme. Namastan nridese. Namastan nribhese.(10)	
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Namastan nrikarme. Namastan nribharme. Namastan nridese. Namastan nribhese.(10)	
I bow to the One invincible.	
I bow to the One invincible.	
I bow to the One unbreakable. I bow to the One most generous. I bow to the One who's boundless.8. I bow to the Singular Entity, In countless forms unfolding. I bow to the un-elemental, I bow to the un-entangled.9. I bow to the One immovable. To the One who's un-deludable.	
I bow to the One who's home-less.	
I bow to the One who is garbless.10.	
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ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨਿ੍ਨਾਮੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨਿ੍ਕਾਮੇ॥         ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨਿ੍ਧਾਤੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨਿ੍ਘਾਤੇ॥੧१॥         ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨਿ੍ਧੂਤੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਭੂਤੇ॥         ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਲੋਕੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਸ਼ੋਕੇ॥੧२॥         ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਤਾਪੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਸ਼ੋਕੇ॥੧२॥         ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਤਾਪੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਥਾਪੇ॥         ਨਮਸਤੰ ਤ੍ਰਿਤਾਪੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਥਾਪੇ॥         ਨਮਸਤੰ ਤ੍ਰਿਤਾਪੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਥਾਪੇ॥         ਨਮਸਤੰ ਤ੍ਰਿਤਾਪੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨਿਧਾਨੇ॥੧੩॥         Namastan nrināme. Namastan nrikāme.         Namastan nridhāte. Namastan nrighāte.(11)         Namastan nridhāte. Namastan abhūte.         Namastan nridhāte. Namastan athāpe.         Namastan nritāpe. Namastan athāpe.         Namastan nritāpe. Namastan nidhāne.(13)         I bow to the One who's nameless.         I bow to the One immortal.11.         I bow to the One un-grieving.12.         I bow to the One un-distressed.         I bow to the One un-distressed.         I bow to the all-time treasured.13.	<u>-22</u>		
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Namastan nridhūte. Namastan abhūte. Namastan aloke. Namastan ashoke.(12) Namastan nritāpe. Namastan athāpe. Namastan trimāne. Namastan nidhāne.(13) I bow to the One who's nameless. I bow to the One desireless. I bow to the One immaterial. I bow to the One immortal.11. I bow to the One unshakeable. To the One who's insubstantial. I bow to the One invisible. I bow to the One un-grieving.12. I bow to the One un-distressed. I bow to the un-established. I bow to the all-time honoured.			
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I bow to the One un-distressed. I bow to the un-established. I bow to the all-time honoured.		I bow to the One un-grieving.12.	
I bow to the un-established. I bow to the all-time honoured.		<b>e e</b>	
I bow to the all-time honoured.			
I bow to the all-time treasured.13.	11		
×		I bow to the all-time treasured.13.	1
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Jāp Sāhib



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	ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਜਾਤੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਪਾਤੇ॥	Ī
	ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਮਜਬੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤਸਤੁ ਅਜਬੇ॥੧੭॥	[]
	ਅਦੇਸੰ ਅਦੇਸੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਭੇਸੇ॥	
	ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਧਾਮੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਬਾਮੇ॥੧੮॥	
	ਨਮੋਂ ਸਰਬ ਕਾਲੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਸਰਬ ਦਿਆਲੇ॥	
	ਨਮੋ ਸਰਬ ਰੁਪੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਸਰਬ ਭੁਪੇ॥੧੯॥	
	Namastan ajāte. Namastan apāte.	
	Namastan amajbe. Namastast(u) ajbe.(17)	
	Adesań adese. Namastań abhese.	
	Namastan nridhāme. Namastan nribāme.(18)	
	Namo sarb kāle. Namo sarb diāle.	
	Namo sarb rūpe. Namo sarb bhūpe.(19)	
	I bow to the One, who's caste-less.	
	I bow to the One, who's clan-less,	
	I bow to the One, who is creedless,	
	I bow to the haven of wonder.17.	
	I bow to the One, who's stateless,	
}	I bow to the One, who is garb-less.	
	I bow to the One, who's home-less.	
	I bow to the One, who's spouseless.18.	
	' I bow to the Great Demolisher.	
[]	I bow to the One, Beneficent.	
1)	I bow to the One so Beautiful.	
	I bow to the Cosmic Ruler.19.	

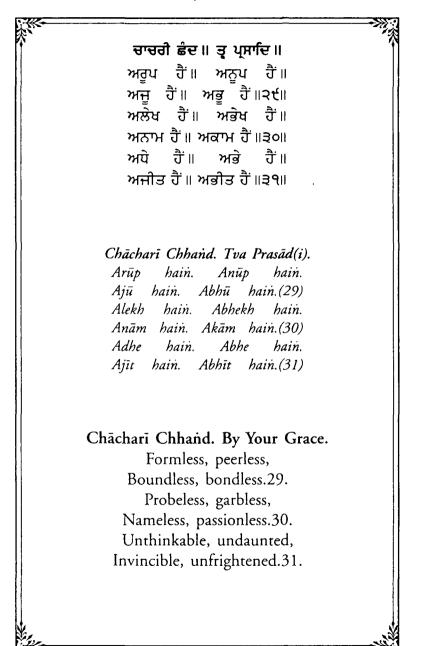


ਨਮੋ ਕਾਲ ਕਾਲੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤਸਤੁ ਦਿਆਲੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਬਰਨੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਮਰਨੇ॥੨੩॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਜਰਾਰੰ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਕ੍ਰਿਤਾਰੰ॥ ਨਮੋ ਸਰਬ ਧੰਧੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਸਤ ਅਬੰਧੇ॥੨੪॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਸਾਕੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨ੍ਰਿਬਾਕੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਰਹੀਮੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਕਰੀਮੇ॥੨੫॥

Namo kāl kāle. Namastast(u) diāle. Namastan abarne. Namastan amarne.(23) Namastan jarāran. Namastan kritāran. Namo sarb dhandhe. Namo sat abandhe.(24) Namastan nrisāke. Namastan nribāke. Namastan rahīme. Namastan karīme.(25)

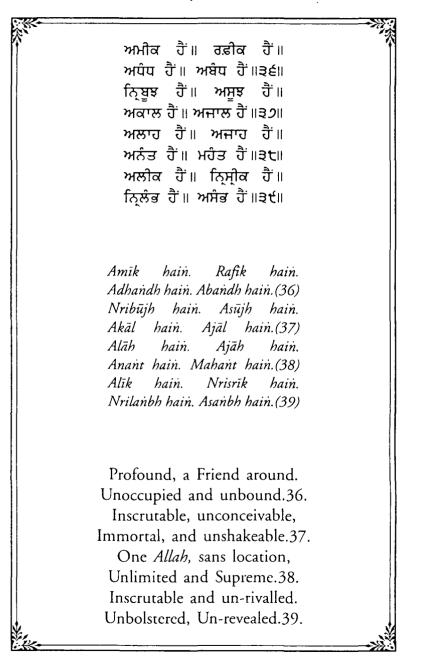
I bow to the Death o' fatality. I bow to the Fount of Favour. I bow to the Indescribable. I bow to the One Immortal.23. I bow to the One never aging. To the One who's ever creating. To the One who's ever pursuant. I bow to the Truth un-ending.24. I bow to the One, who's kin-less. I bow to the One, who's fearless. I bow to the One ever Merciful. I bow to the One most Bountiful.25. Jāp Sāhib

ਅਨੰਤੇ ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਨਮਸਤੰ ੁਮਹੁੰਤੇ ॥ ਨਮਸਤਸਤ ਰਾਗੇ || ਨਮਸਤੰ ਸਹਾਗੇ ||੨੬|| ਸ਼ਰਬ ਸੋਖੰ॥ ਨਮੋ ਸਰਬ ਪੋਖੰ॥ ਮੌਨ ਨਮੋਂ ਸਰਬ ਕਰਤਾ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਸਰਬ ਹਰਤਾ॥੨੭॥ ਨਮੋ ਜੋਗ ਜੋਗੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਭੋਗ ਭੋਗੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਸ਼ਰਬ ਦਿਆਲੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਸ਼ਰਬ ਪਾਲੇ॥੨੮॥ Namastan anante Namastan mahante Namastast(u) rāge. Namastan suhāge.(26) Namo sarb sokhan. Namo sarb pokhan. Namo sarb kartā. Namo sarb hartā.(27) Namo jog joge. Namo bhog bhoge. Namo sarb diāle. Namo sarb pāle.(28) I bow to the One Unlimited. I bow to the One exalted. I bow to the Love most ardent. To the One, who's most Auspicious.26. I bow to the One who dries all. I how to the One who fills all. I bow to the One who creates all. I bow to the One who annuls all.27. I bow to the Great Renouncer. I bow to the One great reveller. I bow to the One, who's Clement. I bow to the One, who's Provident.28.



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	5.
ਤ੍ਰਿਮਾਨ ਹੈਂ॥ ਨਿਧਾਨ ਹੈਂ॥ ਤ੍ਰਿਬਰਗ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਸਰਗ ਹੈਂ॥੩੨॥ ਅਨੀਲ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਨਾਦਿ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਜੇ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਜਾਦਿ ਹੈਂ॥੩੩॥ ਅਜਨਮ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਬਰਨ ਹੈਂ॥	
ਅਗੌਜ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਭੰਜ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਝੂਝ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਝੰਝ ਹੈਂ॥੩੫॥	
Trimān haiń. Nidhān haiń. Tribarg haiń. Asarg haiń.(32) Anīl haiń. Anād(i) haiń. Aje haiń. Ajād(i) haiń.(33) Ajanam haiń. Abarn haiń. Abhūt haiń. Abharn haiń.(34) Agańj haiń. Abhańj haiń. Ajhūjh haiń. Ajhaṅjh hai'n.(35)	
Worshipped in all Three Worlds, Treasure of all the treasures, Fount of all Three Qualities, All-causing, yet, causeless.32. Untainted, sans beginning, Unconquered, and unbonded.33. Unbegotten and untainted. Incorporeal, Self-supported.34. Indestructible and unbreakable, Invulnerable, Invioable.35.	
	İЭ́вадап ปี ॥ миладап ปี ॥ ३२॥мतोळ ปี ॥мкте ปี ॥พतो ปี ॥мкте ปี ॥พतो ปี ॥พвада ปี ॥พдал ปี ॥พвада ปี ॥พдал ปี ॥พвада ปี ॥พдал ปี ॥พвада ปี ॥พдал ปี ॥พรีร ปี และพรีรพรีร ปี และพรีรพรีร ปี และพรีรพรีร ปี และพรีร ปี และ



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ਅਗੰਮ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਜੰਮ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਭੂਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਛੂਤ ਹੈਂ॥੪੦॥ ਅਸੋਕ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਲੋਕ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਕਰਮ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਭਰਮ ਹੈਂ॥੪੧॥ ਅਜੀਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਭੀਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਬਾਹ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਗਾਹ ਹੈਂ॥8२॥ ਅਮਾਨ ਹੈਂ॥ ਨਿਧਾਨ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਨੇਕ ਹੈਂ॥ ਫਿਰਿ ਏਕ ਹੈਂ॥੪੩॥ Aganm hain. Ajanm hain. Abhūt hain. Achhūt hain. (40) Alok hain. Ashok hain. Akarm hain. Abharm hain. (41) Ajīt hain. Abhīt hain. Abāh hain. Agāh hain.(42) Nidhān hain. Amān hain. Anek hain. Phir(i) ek hain. (43) Inaccessible, un-begotten, Impalpable, im-material.40. Invisible and un-grieving, Sans ritual, undeluded.41. Unconquerable, unafraid, Unshakeable and unfathomed.42. Sans measure, virtue's treasure. Innumerable, albeit One.43.

#### ਭੁਜੰਗ ਪ੍ਰਯਾਤ ਛੰਦ॥

ਨਮੋਂ ਸਰਬ ਮਾਨੇ॥ ਸਮਸਤੀ ਨਿਧਾਨੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਦੇਵ ਦੇਵੇ॥ ਅਭੇਖੀ ਅਭੇਵੇ॥੪੪॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਕਾਲ ਕਾਲੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਸਰਬ ਪਾਲੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਸਰਬ ਗਉਣੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਸਰਬ ਭਉਣੇ॥੪੫॥ ਅਨੰਗੀ ਅਨਾਥੇ॥ ਨ੍ਰਿਸੰਗੀ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਥੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਭਾਨ ਭਾਨੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਮਾਨ ਮਾਨੇ॥੪੬॥

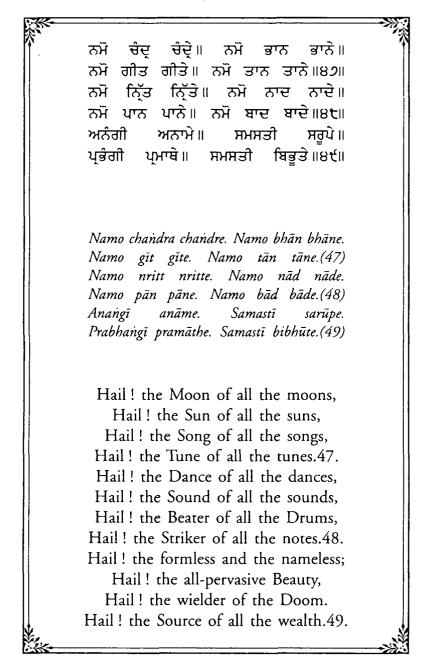
#### Bhujang Prayāt Chhand.

Namo sarb māne. Samastī nidhāne. Namo dev deve. Abhekhī abheve.(44) Namo kāl kāle. Namo sarb pāle. Namo sarb gauņe. Namo sarb bhauņe.(45) Anangī anāthe. Nrisangī pramāthe. Namo bhān bhāne. Namo mān māne.(46)

#### Bhujang Prayat Chhand

Hail ! the One utmost acclaimed,
Hail ! the Treasure of all abundance,
Hail ! the God of all the gods,
Hail ! Ungarbed and Unconcealed.44.
Hail ! the One Eraser of Death,
Hail ! the One sustainer of all,
Hail ! the One sustainer of all,
Hail ! Pervades who every place,
Hail ! who dwells in every Spot.45.
Hail ! the One sans form, sans Master,
Hail ! the unparalleled Destroyer,
Hail ! the Source of all the suns,
Hail ! the soul of all reverence.46.

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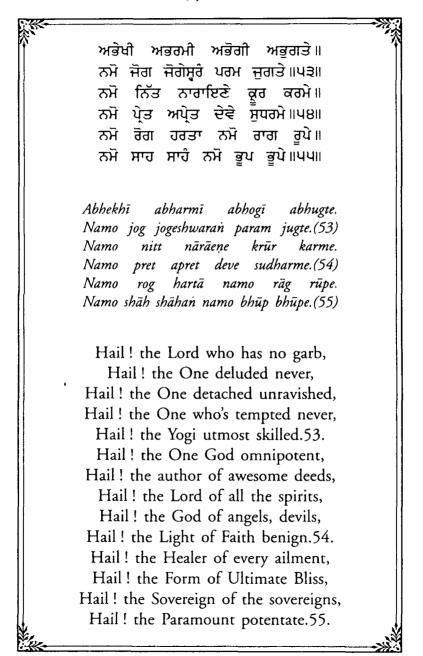


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<b>茶</b> `	ਕਲੰਕੰ ਬਿਨਾ ਨੇਕਲੰਕੀ ਸਰੁਪੇ॥
	ਨਮ ਰਾਜ ਰਾਜੇਸੂਰੰ ਪਰਮ ਰੁਪੇ॥੫੦॥
	ਨਸ ਰਾਜ ਰਾਜਸੂਰ ਪਰਸ ਰੂਪ ਪਿੱਚ    ਨਸੋ ਜੋਗ ਜੋਗੇਸੂਰੰ ਪਰਮ ਸਿੱਧੇ॥
	• 11
	ਨਮੋਂ ਰਾਜ ਰਾਜੇਸੂਰੰ ਪਰਮ ਬ੍ਰਿਧੇ॥੫੧॥
	ਨਮੋਂ ਸਸਤ੍ਰ ਪਾਣੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਅਸਤ੍ਰ ਮਾਣੇ॥
	ਨਮੋਂ ਪਰਮ ਗਿਆਤਾ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਲੋਕ ਮਾਤਾ॥੫੨॥
	Kalaṅkaṅ binā ne-kalaṅkī sarūpe.
	Namo rāj rājeshwaran param rūpe.(50)
	Namo jog jogeshwaran param siddhe.
	Namo rāj rājeshwaran param bridhe.(51)
	Namo shastra pāņe. Namo astra māņe.
	Namo param giātā. Namo lok mātā.(52)
	Hail ! the One without a blame, Hail ! the One without a blemish, Hail ! the Ruler of all the rulers, Hail ! Existence most Supreme.50. Hail ! the Lord of all the Yogis, Hail ! the One <i>Siddha</i> supreme, Hail ! the One <i>Siddha</i> supreme, Hail ! the Kings of all the gods, Hail ! the Kings of all the gods, Hail ! the Kings of all Esteem.51. Hail ! the One wielder of weapons, Hail ! the hurler of missiles, Hail ! the Wisdom ultimate, Hail ! The Cosmic Mother of all.52.
×	That, The Cosmic Mother of an. 72.

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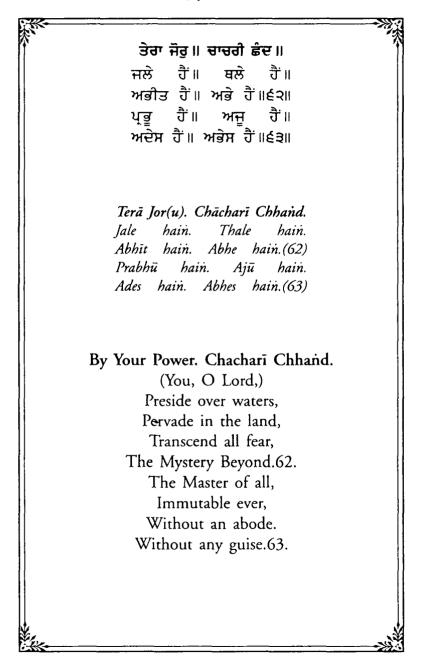


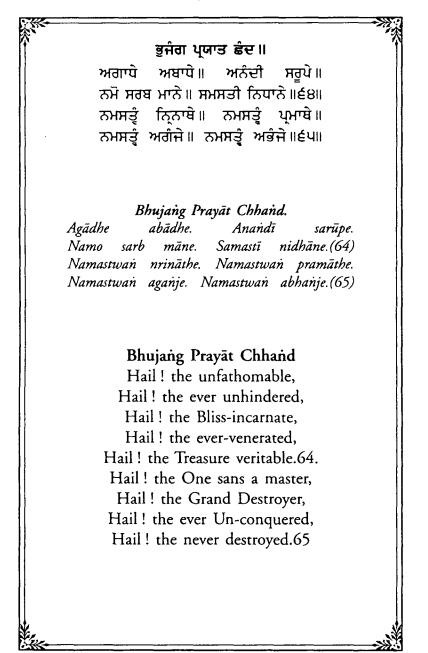
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ਿ ਨਸੋ ਦਾਨ ਦਾਨੇ ਨਸੋ ਮਾਨ ਮਾਨੇ॥	Î
ਨਮੋ ਰੋਗ ਰੋਗੇ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਸਨਾਨੇ॥੫੬॥	
ਨਮੋ ਮੰਤ੍ ਮੰਤ੍ਰੰ॥ ਨਮੋ ਜੰਤ੍ ਜੰਤ੍ਰੰ॥	
ਨਮੋ ਇਸਟ ਇਸਟੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਤੰਤ੍ਰ ਤੰਤ੍ਰੰ ॥੫੭॥	
ਸਦਾ ਸੱਚਦਾਨੰਦ ਸਰਬੰ ਪਣਾਸੀ॥	
ਅਨੂਪੇ ਅਰੂਪੇ ਸਮਸਤੂਲ ਨਿਵਾਸੀ॥੫੮॥	
เมอีส เมอิส มนุนอิต เยลเนเนสบแ	
Namo dān dāne namo mān māne.	
Namo rog roge namastan snāne.(56)	
Namo mantra mantran. Namo jantra jantran.	
Namo isht ishte. Namo tantra tantran.(57)	
Sadā Sacchdā-nand sarban praņāsī.	
Anūpe arūpe samastul nivāsī.(58)	
Hail ! the Generous Giver of gifts,	
Hail ! Bestower of every honour,	
Hail ! Dispels who all disease,	
Hail! Restores who perfect health.56.	·
Hail! the <i>Mantra</i> of all the <i>mantras</i> ,	
Hail ! the Charm of every charm,	
Hail ! the Deity of all the deities,	
Hail ! the Spell of all the spells.57.	
Hail! the Ever, Truth-Conscious-Bliss,	
Hail ! the sole Destroyer of all,	
1 i · · · · ·	}
Hail ! Unique, without a form.	
Hail ! the Spirit indwells who all.58.	

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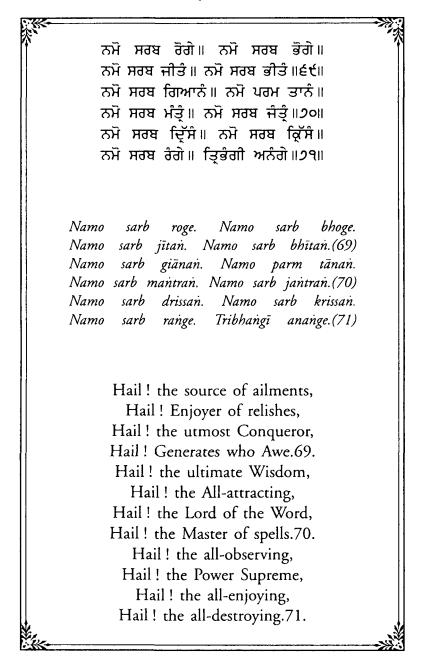
ਸਦਾ ਸਿਧਦਾ ਬੁਧਦਾ ਬ੍ਰਿਧ ਕਰਤਾ॥ ਅਧੋ ਉਰਧ ਅਰਧੰ ਅਘੰ ਓਘ ਹਰਤਾ॥੫੯॥ ਪਰੰ ਪਰਮ ਪਰਮੇਸ਼ੂਰੰ ਪ੍ਰੋਛ ਪਾਲੰ॥ ਸਦਾ ਸਰਬਦਾ ਸਿੱਧ ਦਾਤਾ ਦਿਆਲੰ॥੬੦॥ ਅਛੇਦੀ ਅਭੇਦੀ ਅਨਾਮੰ ਅਕਾਮੰ॥ ਸਮਸਤੋ ਪਰਾਜੀ ਸਮਸਤਸਤੁ ਧਾਮੰ॥੬੧॥ Sadā sidh-dā budh-dā bridh kartā. Adho urdh ardhan aghan ogh hartā.(59)	
ਅਧੋ ਉਰਧ ਅਰਧੰ ਅਘੰ ਓਘ ਹਰਤਾ ॥੫੯॥ ਪਰੰ ਪਰਮ ਪਰਮੇਸ਼ੂਰੰ ਪ੍ਰੋਛ ਪਾਲੰ॥ ਸਦਾ ਸਰਬਦਾ ਸਿੱਧ ਦਾਤਾ ਦਿਆਲੰ ॥੬੦॥ ਅਛੇਦੀ ਅਭੇਦੀ ਅਨਾਮੰ ਅਕਾਮੰ॥ ਸਮਸਤੋ ਪਰਾਜੀ ਸਮਸਤਸਤੁ ਧਾਮੰ॥੬੧॥ Sadā sidh-dā budh-dā bridh kartā.	1.1
ਪਰੰ ਪਰਮ ਪਰਮੇਸ਼੍ਵਰੰ ਪ੍ਰੋਛ ਪਾਲੰ॥ ਸਦਾ ਸਰਬਦਾ ਸਿੱਧ ਦਾਤਾ ਦਿਆਲੰ॥੬੦॥ ਅਛੇਦੀ ਅਭੇਦੀ ਅਨਾਮੰ ਅਕਾਮੰ॥ ਸਮਸਤੋ ਪਰਾਜੀ ਸਮਸਤਸਤੁ ਧਾਮੰ॥੬੧॥ Sadā sidh-dā budh-dā bridh kartā.	
ਸਦਾ ਸਰਬਦਾ ਸਿੱਧ ਦਾਤਾ ਦਿਆਲੰ ॥੬੦॥ ਅਛੇਦੀ ਅਭੇਦੀ ਅਨਾਮੰ ਅਕਾਮੰ॥ ਸਮਸਤੋ ਪਰਾਜੀ ਸਮਸਤਸਤੁ ਧਾਮੰ॥੬੧॥ Sadā sidh-dā budh-dā bridh kartā.	
ਅਛੇਦੀ ਅਭੇਦੀ ਅਨਾਮੰ ਅਕਾਮੰ॥ ਸਮਸਤੋ ਪਰਾਜੀ ਸਮਸਤਸਤੁ ਧਾਮੰ॥੬੧॥ Sadā sidh-dā budh-dā bridh kartā.	
ਸਮਸਤੋ ਪਰਾਜੀ ਸਮਸਤਸਤੁ ਧਾਮੰ॥੬੧॥ Sadā sidh-dā budh-dā bridh kartā.	
Sadā sidh-dā budh-dā bridh kartā.	
Aano uran aranan agnan ogn narta.(39)	
Paran parm parmeswaran prochh pālan.	
Sadā sarab-dā siddh dātā diālah.(60)	
Achhedī abhedī anāman akāman.	
Samasto parājī samastast(u) dhāman.(61)	
Hail ! the Source of every Power,	
Hail ! the Fount of every wit,	
Hail ! the Cause of Power occult,	
Hail ! the sole Eraser of sin.59.	
Hail! Transcendent Lord Supreme,	
Hail ! Provider un-observed,	
Hail ! Bestower of Powers Occult,	
Hail ! the one clement Provider.60.	
Hail ! the One impregnable Lord,	
Hail ! Existence impenetrable,	
Hail ! the Nameless, passion-less Lord,	
Hail ! Defeats who might of all,	
Hail! Who dwells in every spot.61.	
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Jāp Sāhib





ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਕਾਲੇ॥ ਨਮਸਤੰ ਅਪਾਲੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਸਰਬ ਦੇਸ਼ੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਸਰਬ ਭੇਸ਼ੇ॥੬੬॥ ਨਮੋ ਰਾਜ ਰਾਜ਼ੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਸਾਜ ਸਾਜ਼ੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਸ਼ਾਹ ਸ਼ਾਹੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਮਾਹ ਮਾਹੇ॥੬੭॥ ਨਸੋ ਗੀਤ ਗੀਤੇ॥ ਨਸੋ ਪੀਤ ਪੀਤੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਰੋਖ ਰੋਖੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਸੋਖ ਸੋਖੇ॥੬੮॥ Namastwa'n akāle. Namastwan apāle. Namo sarb dese. Namo sarb bhese. (66) Namo Namo rāje. rāi sāi sāie. Namo shāh shāhe. Namo māh māhe.(67) prīt Namo gīt gīte. Namo prīte. Namo rokh rokhe. Namo sokh sokhe.(68) Hail! the Lord immortal. The Self-supporting Master, Abiding every land, Inhabiting every garb.66. Hail! the King of kings, Designer of all designs, Hail! the Ruler of rulers. Hail ! the Light of moons.67. Hail! the Song of songs, Hail ! the Love of loves. Hail ! the Fury o' furies, Hail ! the Drought of droughts.68.



ਨਮੋ ਜੀਵ ਜੀਵੰ॥ ਨਮੋ ਬੀਜ ਬੀਜੇ॥ ਅਖਿੱਜੇ ਅਭਿੱਜੇ॥ ਸਮਸਤੰ ਪ੍ਰਸਿੱਜੇ॥੭੨॥ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾਲੰ ਸਰਪੇ ਕਕਰਮੰ ਪਣਾਸੀ॥ ਸਦਾ ਸਰਬਦਾ ਰਿਧਿ ਸਿਧੂ ਨਿਵਾਸੀ॥23॥ Namo jīv jīvan. Namo bīj bīje. Akhijje abhijje. Samastan prasijje.(72) Kripālan sarūpe, kukarman praņāsī. Sadā sarb-dā rīdh(i) sidhan nivāsī.(73) Hail ! the Life of Beings, Hail ! the kernel of seeds. Unvexed and unattached. Hail ! the never embarrassed, Hail ! the ever Compassionate.72. Hail! Kindness incarnate. Hail ! Destroyer of sin, Hail ! the fount of miracles, Hail! the Power occult.73.

## ਚਰਪਟ ਛੰਦ॥ ਤ੍ਰ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ॥

ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿੱਤ ਕਰਮੇ॥ ਅੰਬ੍ਰਿਤ ਧਰਮੇ॥ ਅਖੱਲ ਜੋਗੇ॥ ਅਚੱਲ ਭੋਗੇ॥੭੪॥ ਅਚੱਲ ਰਾਜੇ॥ ਅਟੱਲ ਸਾਜੇ॥ ਅਖੱਲ ਧਰਮੰ॥ ਅਲੱਖ ਕਰਮੰ॥੭੫॥ ਸਰਬੰ ਦਾਤਾ॥ ਸਰਬੰ ਗਿਆਤਾ॥ ਸਰਬੰ ਭਾਨੇ॥ ਸਰਬੰ ਮਾਨੇ॥੭੬॥

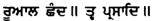
Charpat Chhand. Tva Prasād(i).

Anmrit	karme.	Anbrit	dharme.
Akhall	joge.	Achall	bhoge.(74)
Achall	rāje.	Ațali	l sāje.
Akhall	dharman.	Alakh k	arman.(75)
Sarba'n	dātā.	Sarbar	n giātā.
Sarba'n	bhāne.	Sarba'n	māne.(76)

# Charpat Chhand. By Your Grace.

Nectar-like Your deeds, Immutable Your Laws, Blissful is Your Yoga, Perennial Your Rule.74. Perpetual Your kingdom, Perennial Your Works, Unhindered Your Laws, Unknowable Your deeds.75. The One Bestower to all, The One Cognizer of all, The Solar Lord Eternal, The Pride of one and all.76.

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<b>滚</b>		- "
ĨŤ.	ਸਰਬੰ ਪ੍ਰਾਣੰ॥ ਸਰਬੰ ਤ੍ਰਾਣੰ॥	Ť
	ਸਰਬੰ ਭੁਗਤਾ॥ ਸਰਬੰ ਜਗਤਾ॥੭੭॥	
	ਸਰਬੰ ਦੇਵੰ॥ ਸਰਬੰ ਭੇਵੰ॥	
	ਸਰਬੰ ਕਾਲੇ॥ ਸਰਬੰ ਪਾਲੇ॥੭੮॥	
	Sarban prāṇan. Sarban trāṇan.	
	1 .	
	5 5 5 5	
	Sarban devan. Sarban bhevan.	
	Sarban kāle. Sarban pāļe.(78)	
	,	
	The Source of all the Life,	
	The strength of every Power,	
	0 ,	
	The Reveller ultimate,	
	And Ever united with all.77.	
	The God of all the gods,	
	The Mystery Great eternal,	
	Destroyer of every form,	
	Sustainer of one and all.78.	
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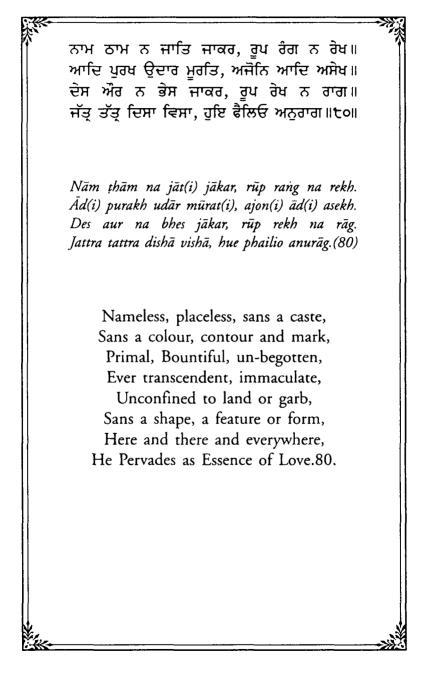


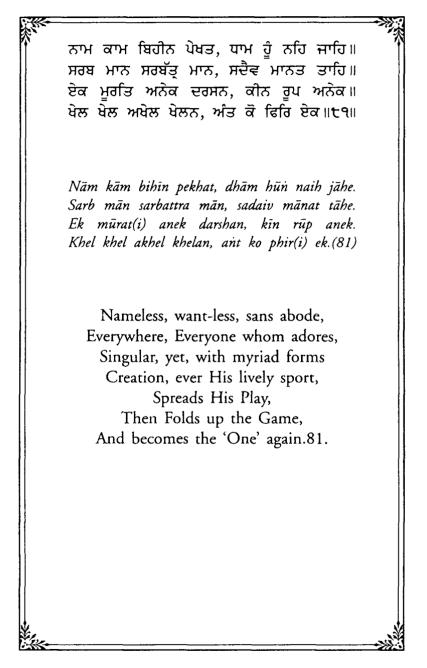
ਆਦਿ ਰੂਪ ਅਨਾਦਿ ਮੂਰਤਿ, ਅਜੋਨਿ ਪੁਰਖ ਅਪਾਰ॥ ਸਰਬ ਮਾਨ ਤ੍ਰਿਮਾਨ ਦੇਵ, ਅਭੇਵ ਆਦਿ ਉਦਾਰ॥ ਸਰਬ ਪਾਲਕ ਸਰਬ ਘਾਲਕ, ਸਰਬ ਕੋ ਪੁਨਿ ਕਾਲ॥ ਜੱਤ੍ਰ ਤੱਤ੍ਰ ਬਿਰਾਜਹੀ, ਅਵਧੁਤ ਰੂਪ ਰਸਾਲ॥੭੯॥

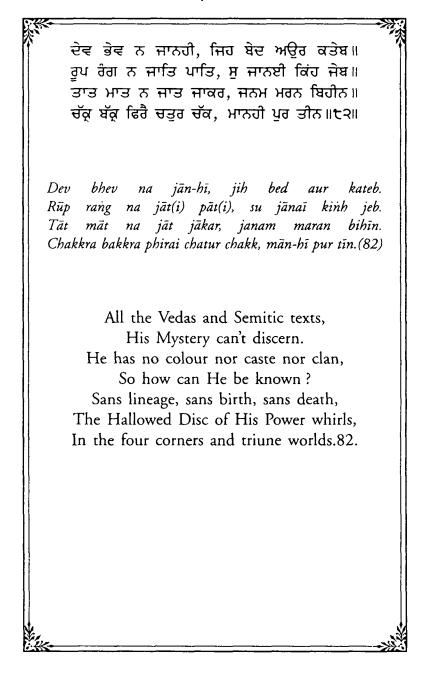
Rūāl Chhand. Tva Prasād(i).

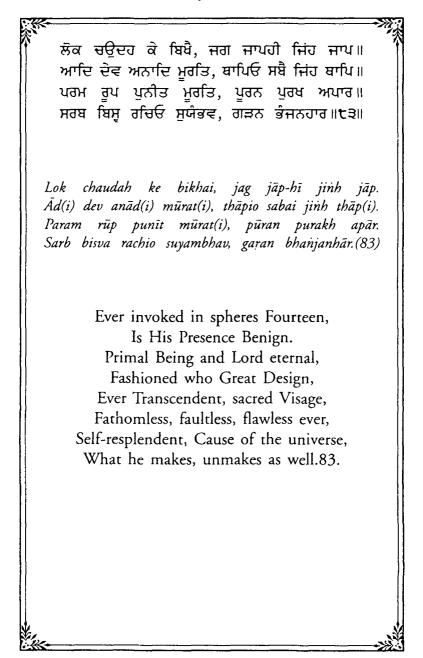
Ād(i) rūp anād(i) mūrat(i), ajon(i) purakh apār. Sarb mān trimān dev, abhev ād(i) udār. Sarb pālak sarb ghālak, sarb ko pun(i) kāl. Jattra tattra birāj-hī, avdhūt rūp rasāl.(79)

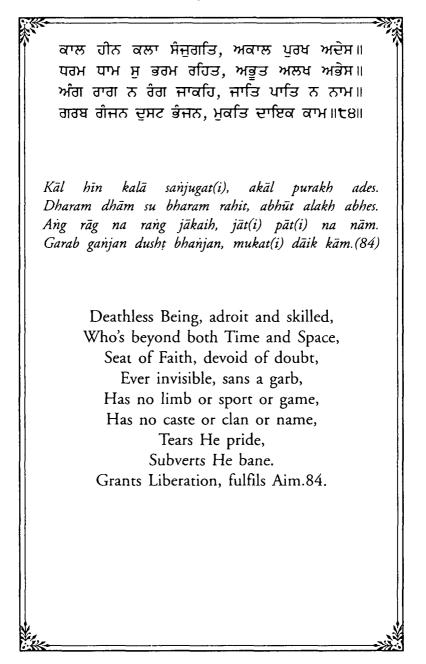
Rūāl Chhand. By Your Grace. Primal Being, Form Transcendent. Never cast into a womb, In all Three worlds adored by all. Mystery Divine, Primal Compassion, Protector of all, Destroyer of all, Ultimate cause of the Dooms-day call, Present everywhere, And free of care, Beauty exquisite that ever enthrals.79.

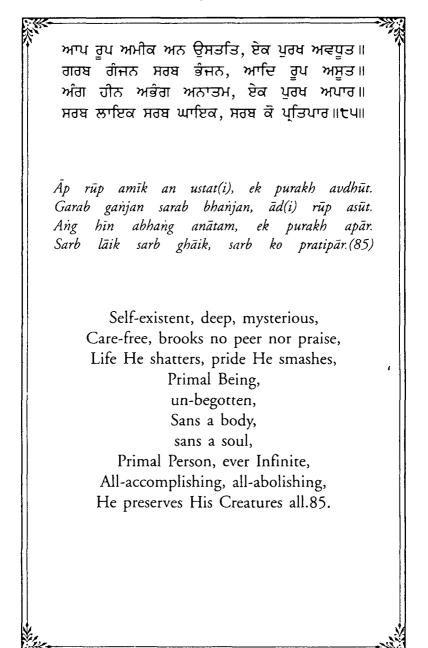












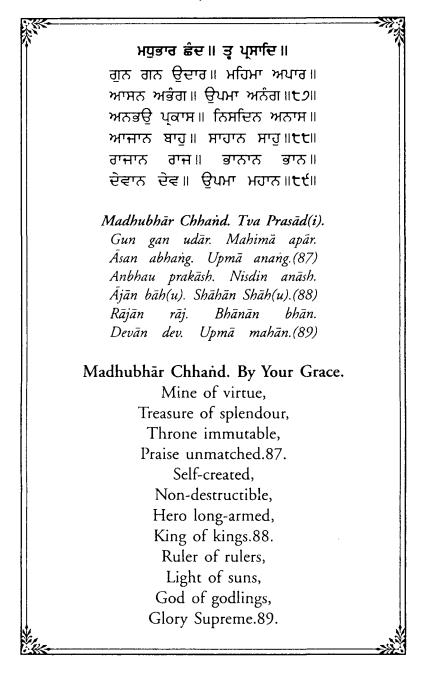
ਸਰਬ ਗੰਤਾ ਸਰਬ ਹੰਤਾ, ਸਰਬ ਤੇ ਅਨਭੇਖ॥ ਸਰਬ ਸਾਸਤ੍ਰ ਨ ਜਾਨਹੀ, ਜਿਂਹ ਰੂਪ ਰੰਗੁ ਅਰੁ ਰੇਖ॥ ਪਰਮ ਬੇਦ ਪੁਰਾਣ ਜਾਕਹਿ, ਨੇਤ ਭਾਖਤ ਨਿੱਤ॥ ਕੋਟਿ ਸਿੰਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਪੁਰਾਨ ਸਾਸਤ੍ਰ, ਨ ਆਵਈ ਵਹੁ ਚਿੱਤ॥੮੬॥

Sarb gantā sarb hantā, sarb te anbhekh. Sarb shāstra na jān-hī, jinh rūp rang(u) ar(u) rekh. Param bed purāņ jākaih, net bhākhat nitt. Koț(i) sinmrit purān shāstra, na āvaī voh chitt.(86)

> Reaching here, destroying there, And distinct from one and all. None of the *shastras* are cognizant With His feature, colour or form. Utter the *Vedas* and the *shastras*, "He is neither *this* nor *that*!" *Simritis, shastras* and *Puranas*. They all can imagine Him not.86.

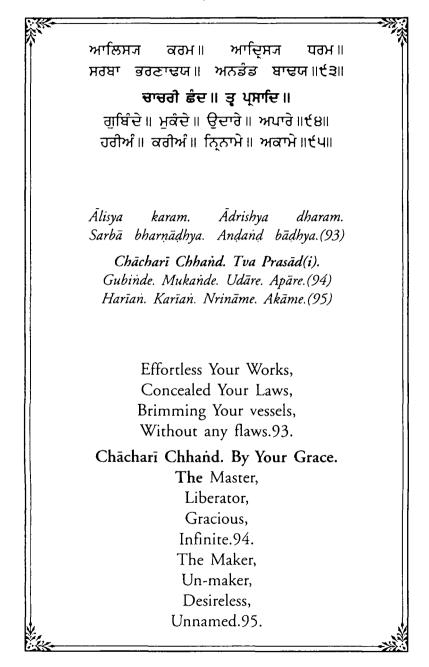
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Ĩ <sup>™</sup>	ਇੰਦ੍ਰਾਨ ਇੰਦ੍ਰ॥ ਬਾਲਾਨ ਬਾਲ॥
	ਰੰਕਾਨ ਰੇਕ॥ ਕਾਲਾਨ ਕਾਲ॥੯੦॥
	ਅਨਭੂਤ ਅੰਗ॥ ਆਭਾ ਅਭੰਗ॥
	ਗਤਿ ਮਿਤਿ ਅਪਾਰ॥ ਗਨ ਗਨ ਉਦਾਰ॥੯੧॥
	2 2
	ਮੁਨਿ ਗਨ ਪ੍ਰਨਾਮ॥ ਨਿਰਭੈ ਨਿਕਾਮ॥
	ਅਤਿ ਦੁਤਿ ਪ੍ਰਚੰਡ॥ ਮਿਤਿ ਗਤਿ ਅਖੰਡ॥੯੨॥
11	
	Indrān indra. Bālān bāl.
	Raṅkān raṅk. Kālān kāl.(90)
	Anbhūt aṅg. Ābhā abhaṅg.
	Gat(i) mit(i) apār. Gun gan udār.(91)
	Mun(i) gan pranām. Nirbhai nikām.
	At(i) dut(i) prachand. Mit(i) gat(i) akhand.(92)
	The Lord of <i>Indras</i> ,
	Higher than the high,
	Poorest of the poor,
	The Death of death.90.
	'Being' Immaterial,
	Glory steadfast,
	Span infinite,
	And virtues vast.91.
]]	Praised by sages,
	Dauntless, desire-less,
	Dazzling effulgence,
	Span unbroken.92.
¥.	Span unbioken. 92.



#### ਭੁਜੰਗ ਪ੍ਰਯਾਤ ਛੰਦ॥

ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਕਰਤਾ॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਹਰਤਾ॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਦਾਨੇ॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਜਾਨੇ॥੯੬॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਵਰਤੀ॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਭਰਤੀ॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਪਾਲੇ॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਕਾਲੇ॥੯੭॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਪਾਸੇ॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਵਾਸੇ॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਮਾਨਯੈ॥ ਚੱਤ੍ਰ ਚੱਕ੍ਰ ਦਾਨਯੈ॥੯੮॥

Bhujang Prayat Chhand.

Chattra chakkra kartā. Chattra chakkra hartā. Chattra chakkra dāne. Chattra chakkra jāne.(96) Chattra chakkra vartī. Chattra chakkra bhartī. Chattra chakkra pāle. Chattra chakkra kāle.(97) Chattra chakkra pāse. Chattra chakkra vāse. Chattra chakkra mānyai. Chattra chakkra dānyai.(98)

## Bhujang Prayat Chhand

The Creator of all four directions, Destroyer of all four directions, Benevolent to all four directions, Aware of all four directions.96. Pervasive in all four directions, Evolving in all four directions, Preserves He all four directions, Levels up all four directions.97. Proximate in all four directions, Abiding in all four directions, Adored in all four directions, Bountiful in all four directions.98.

#### ਚਾਚਰੀ ਛੰਦ॥

ਨ ਸੱਤ੍ਰੈ॥ ਨ ਮਿੱਤ੍ਰੈ॥ ਨ ਭਰਮੰ॥ ਨ ਭਿੱਤ੍ਰੈ॥੯੯॥ ਨ ਕਰਮੰ॥ ਨ ਕਾਏ॥ ਅਜਨਮੰ॥ ਅਜਾਏ॥੧੦੦॥ ਨ ਚਿੱਤ੍ਰੈ॥ ਨ ਮਿੱਤ੍ਰੈ॥ ਪਰੇ ਹੈਂ॥ ਪਵਿੱਤ੍ਰੈ॥੧੦੧॥ ਪ੍ਰਿਥੀਸੈ॥ ਅਦੀਸੈ॥ ਅਦ੍ਰਿਸੈ॥ ਅਕ੍ਰਿਸੈ॥੧੦੨॥

#### Chācharī Chhand.

Na shattrai. Na mittrai. Na bharman. Na bhittrai.(99) Na karman. Na kāe. Ajanman. Ajāe.(100) Na chittrai. Na mittrai. Pare hain. Pavittrai.(101) Prithīsai. Adīsai. Adrisai. Akrisai.(102)

## Chācharī Chhand

Sans a foe. Sans a friend. Free of doubt, Un-appalled.99. Sans the deeds. Sans the forms. Sans a birth. Beyond abode.100. Sans an image, Sans a peer, Farthest of far. Kempt and Pure.101. The Lord of the earth. Invisible ever. Mystery entire, Powerless never.102.

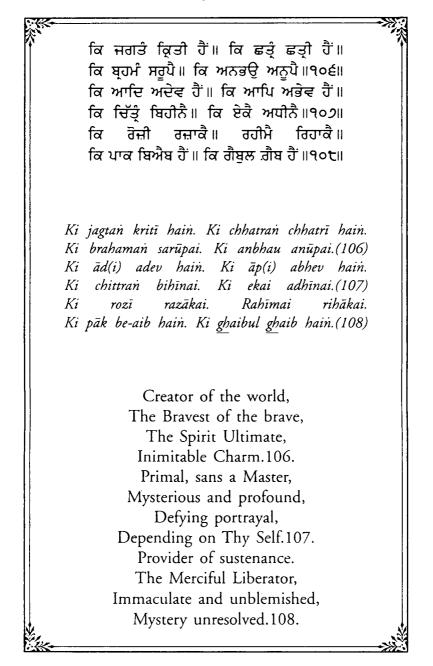
ਭਗਵਤੀ ਛੰਦ॥ ਤ੍ਹ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ ਕਥਤੇ॥ ਕਿ ਆਛਿੱਜ ਦੇਸੈ॥ ਕਿ ਆਭਿੱਜ ਭੇਸੈ॥ ਕਿ ਆਗੰਜ ਕਰਮੈ॥ ਕਿ ਆਭੰਜ ਭਰਮੈ॥੧੦੩॥ ਕਿ ਆਭਿਜ ਲੋਕੈ॥ ਕਿ ਆਦਿਤ ਸੋਕੈ॥ ਕਿ ਅਵਧੂਤ ਬਰਨੈ॥ ਕਿ ਬਿਭੂਤ ਕਰਨੈ॥੧੦੪॥ ਕਿ ਰਾਜੰ ਪ੍ਰਭਾ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਧਰਮੰ ਧੁਜਾ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਆਸੋਕ ਬਰਨੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬਾ ਅਭਰਨੈ॥੧੦੫॥

#### Bhagvatī Chhand. Tva Prasād(i) Kathate.

āchhijj Ki ābhijj desai. Ki bhesai. āganj karmai. Ki Ki ābhanj bharmai.(103) Ki ābhij lokai. Ki ādit sokai. avdhūt barnai. Ki bibhūt karnai.(104) Ki Ki rājan prabhā hain. Ki dharman dhujā hain. āshok barnai. Ki sarbā abharnai.(105) Ki

# Bhagvatī Chhand. Narrated by Your Grace.

Imperishable Domain, Impregnable Attire, Inviolate Your Acts, Deluded never.103. Detached from the world O Scorcher of the suns, Impeccable Your mien, Adroit Your charter.104. The glory of Regality, The banner of Sanctity, Who grieves nor sorrows, Sustains who all.105.



ਕਿ ਅਫਵੁਲ ਗੁਨਾਹ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਸ਼ਾਹਾਨ ਸ਼ਾਹ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਕਾਰਨ ਕੁਨਿੰਦ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਰੋਜ਼ੀ ਦਿਹੰਦ ਹੈਂ॥੧੦੯॥ ਕਿ ਰਾਜ਼ਕ ਰਹੀਮ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਕਰਮੰ ਕਰੀਮ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੰ ਕਲੀ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੰ ਦਲੀ ਹੈਂ॥੧੧੦॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਮਾਨਿਯੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਦਾਨਿਯੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਗਉਨੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਭਉਨੈ॥੧੧੧॥

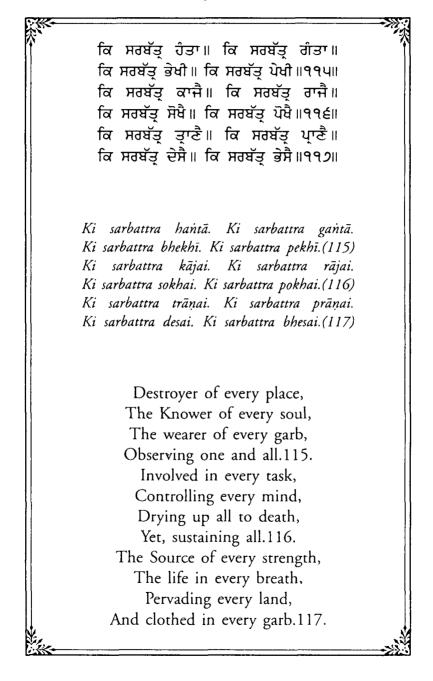
Ki afvul gunāh hain. Ki shāhān shāh hain. Ki kāran kunind hain. Ki rozī dahind hain.(109) Ki rāzak rahīm hain. Ki karman karīm hain. Ki sarban kalī hain. Ki sarban dalī hain.(110) Ki sarbattra māniyai. Ki sarbattra dāniyai. Ki sarbattra gaunai. Ki sarbattra bhaunai.(111)

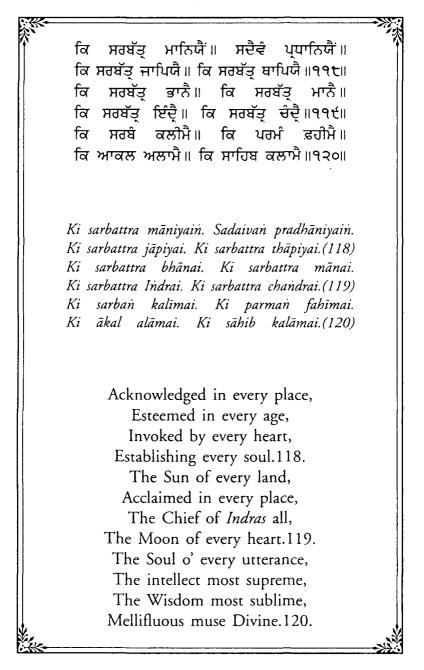
> Forgiver of every sin, The King of all the kings, The Cause of every cause, Provider of every soul.109. The Munificent Bestower, The fount of all Compassion, The Master of every Power, And Chastiser supreme.110. Acknowledged everywhere, Showering gifts on all, Reaching every place, Inhabiting every space.111.

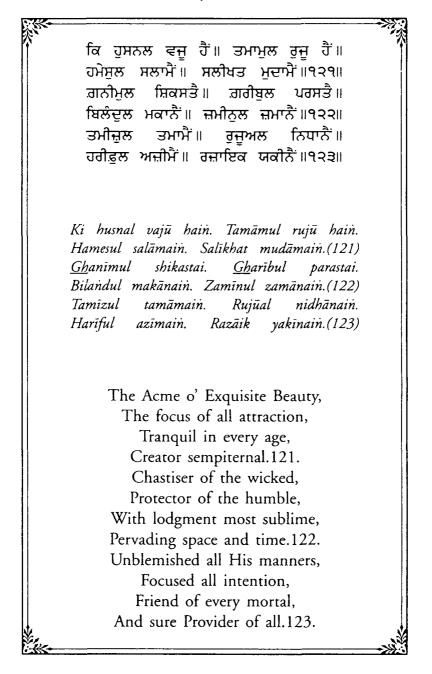
ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਦੇਸੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਭੇਸੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਰਾਜੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਸਾਜੈ॥੧੧੨॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਦੀਨੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਲੀਨੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਜਾਹੋ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਭਾਹੋ॥੧੧੩॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਦੇਸੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਭੇਸੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਕਾਲੈ॥ ਕਿ ਸਰਬੱਤ੍ ਪਾਲੈ॥੧੧੪॥

Ki sarbattra desai Ki sarbattra bhesai. Ki sarbattra rājai. Ki sarbattra sājai.(112) Ki sarbattra dīnai. Ki sarbattra līnai. Ki sarbattra jāho. Ki sarbattra bhāho.(113) Ki sarhattra desai. Ki sarbattra bhesai. Ki sarbattra kālai. Ki sarbattra pālai.(114)

Inhabiting every land, Arraying every garb, Governing every Kingdom, Creating every form.112. Providing every creature, Depriving every mortal, The Grace in every Glory, The Grandeur of Resplendence.113. Inhabiting every land, Arrayed in every garb, Assigning every death, Ascribing every lot.114.

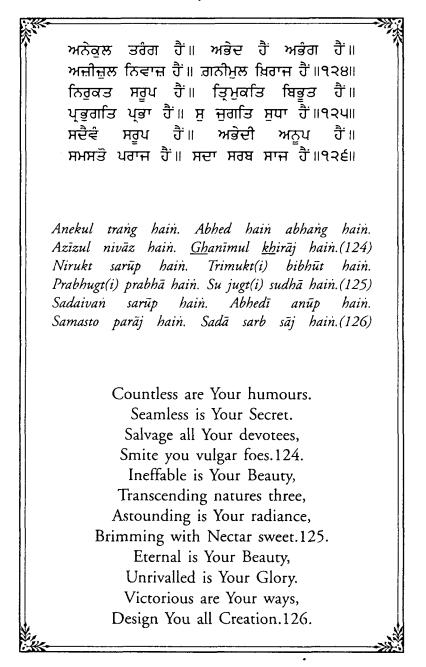


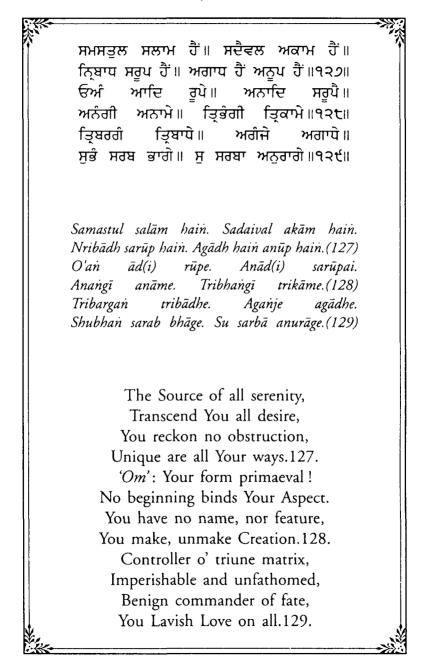


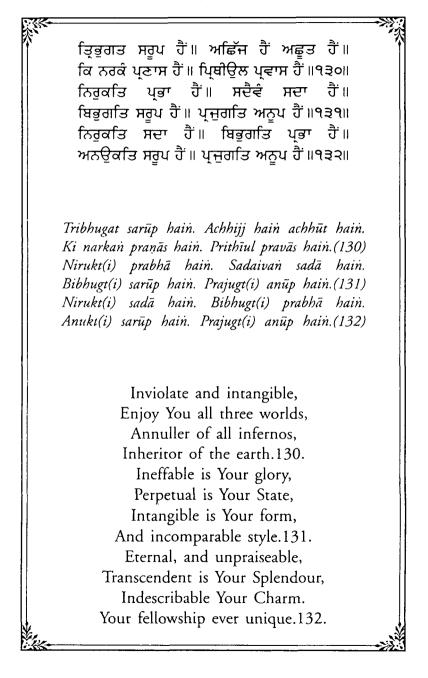


70

Jāp Sāhib

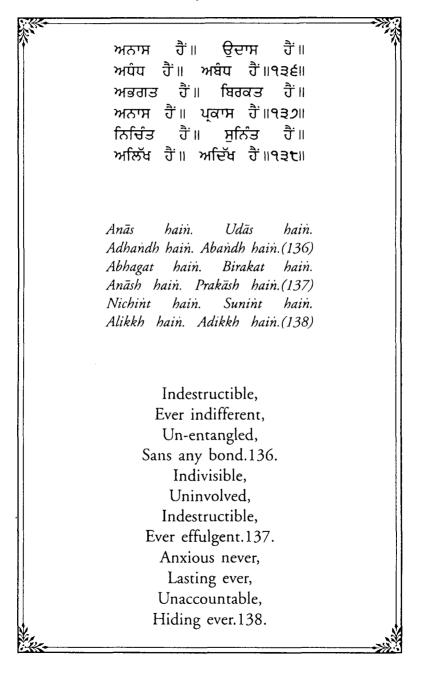


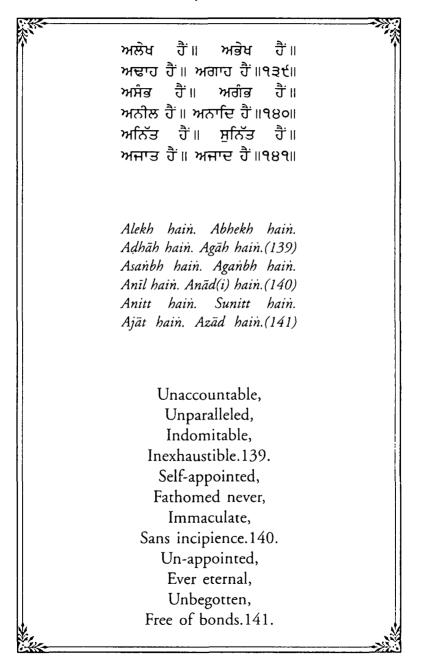


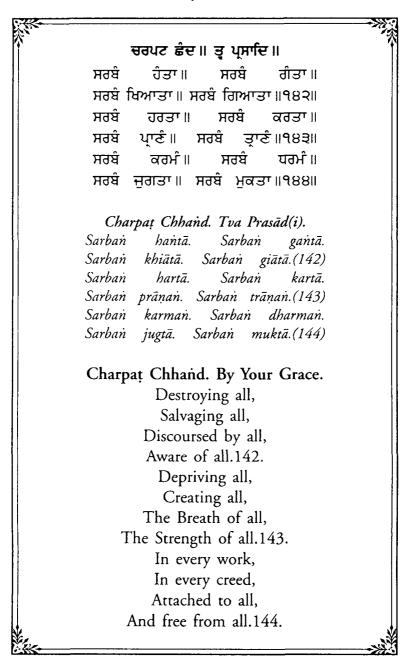


ਚਾਜ਼ਰੀ ਛੰਦ ॥ ਹੈਂ ॥ ਅਨੰਗ तें ॥ ਅਕੰਗ ਹੈਂ।। ਅਲੇਖ ਹੈਂ।।੧੩੩॥ ਅਕੇਮ तैं ॥ ਹੈਂ ॥ ਅਕਰਮ ਅਕਰਮ ਅਨਾਦਿ ਹੈਂ॥ ਜੁਗਾਦਿ ਹੈਂ॥੧੩੪॥ ਅਜੈ तें ॥ ਹੈਂ ॥ ਅਸ਼ੈ ਅਭੂਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਧੁਤ ਹੈਂ॥੧੩੫॥ Chācharī Chhand. Abhang hain. Anang hain. Abhekh hain. Alekh hain.(133) hain. Akarm Abharm hain. Anād(i) hain. Jugād(i) hain.(134) Abai Ajai hain. hain. hain. Adhūt hain.(135) Abhūt Chācharī Chhand. Indestructible, Incorporeal, Un-attired. Un-accountable.133. Beyond delusion, Sans any ritual, Sans inception, Beyond all Time.134. Conquered never, Ever Undaunted. Insubstantial. And Un-shakeable, 135.

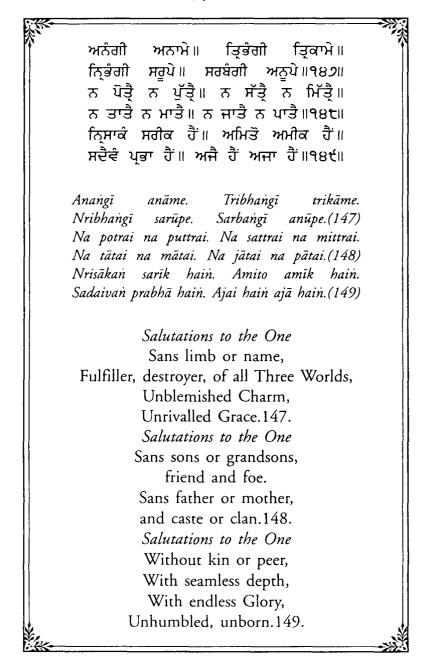
Jāp Sāhib







ਰਸਾਵਲ ਛੰਦ॥ ਤ੍ਰ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ॥ ਨਮੋ ਨਰਕ ਨਾਸ਼ੇ॥ ਸਦੈਵੰ ਪਕਾਸ਼ੇ॥ ਅਨੰਗੰ ਸਰਪੇ॥ ਅਭੰਗੰ ਬਿਭਤੇ॥੧੪੫॥ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਬੰ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਬੇ॥ ਸਦਾ ਸਰਬ ਸਾਬੇ॥ ਅਗਾਧ ਸਰਪੇ॥ ਨਿਬਾਧ ਬਿਭਤੇ॥੧੪੬॥ Rasaval Chhand. Tva Prasad(i). Nama narak nāse. Sadaivan prakāse. Anangan sarupe. Abhangan bibhute.(145) Pramāthan pramāthe. Sadā sarab sāthe. Agādh sarūpe. Nribādh bibhūte.(146) Rasāval Chhand. By Your Grace. Salutations to The destroyer of hell, The Light Perennial, Formless Beauty, Royalty Integral.145. Salutations to The slayer of all the wicked, Companion to one and all, Beauty most incredible, And unending Glory.146.



# ਭਗਵਤੀ ਛੰਦ॥ ਤ੍ਰ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ॥

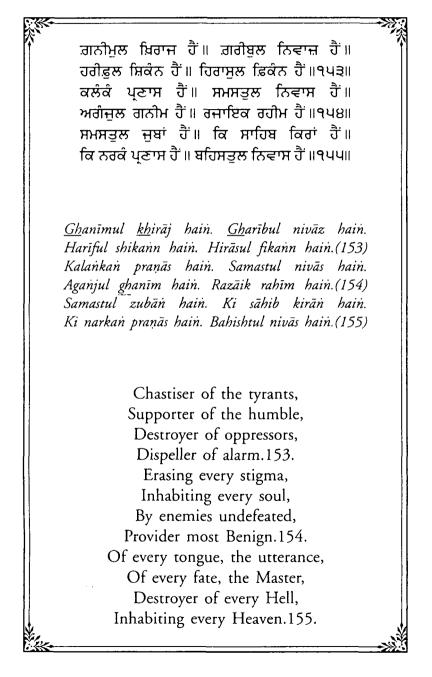
ਕਿ ਜ਼ਾਹਰ ਜ਼ਹੂਰ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਹਾਜ਼ਰ ਹਜ਼ੂਰ ਹੈਂ॥ ਹਮੇਸੁਲ ਸਲਾਮ ਹੈਂ॥ ਸਮਸਤੁਲ ਕਲਾਮ ਹੈਂ॥੧੫੦॥ ਕਿ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਦਿਮਾਗ਼ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਹੁਸਨਲ ਚਰਾਗ਼ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਕਾਮਲ ਕਰੀਮ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਰਾਜ਼ਕ ਰਹੀਮ ਹੈਂ॥੧੫੧॥ ਕਿ ਰੋਜ਼ੀ ਦਿਹਿੰਦ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਰਾਜ਼ਕ ਰਹਿੰਦ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਰੀਮੁਲ ਕਮਾਲ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਿ ਹਸਨਲ ਜਮਾਲ ਹੈਂ॥੧੫੨॥

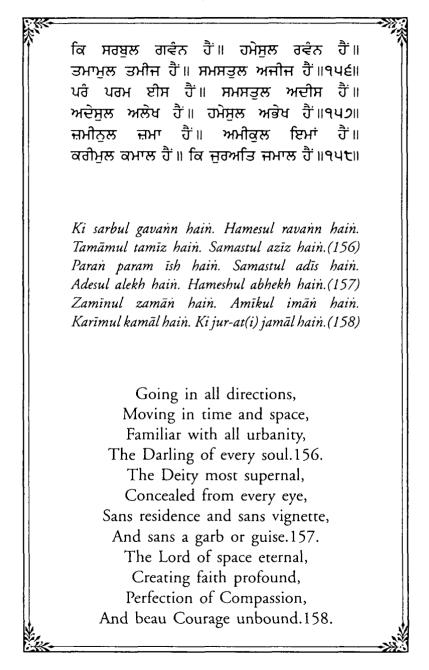
Bhagvatī Chhand. Tva Prasād(i).

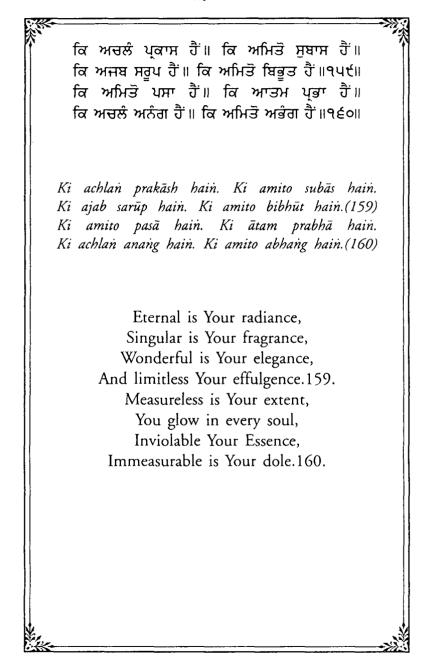
Ki zāhar zahūr hain. Ki hāzar hazūr hain. Hameshul salām hain. Samastul kalām hain.(150) Ki sāhib dimāgh hain. Ki husnul chirāgh hain. Ki kāmal karīm hain. Ki rāzak rahīm hain.(151) Ki rozī dihind hain. Ki rāzak rahind hain. Karīmul kamāl hain. Ki husnul jamāl hain.(152)

### Bhagvatī Chhand. By Your Grace.

Unambiguous Your presence, 'Here and now' Your Splendour, Un-declining Amity, All Your word divine.150. The Master Lord of Wisdom, The brilliant Lamp of Beauty, The Consummate Compassion, The all-providing Mercy.151. Provider of every morsel, Bestower of gifts enormous, Compassion most supernal, And Beauty most benign.152.







## ਮਧੁਭਾਰ ਛੰਦ॥ ਤ੍ਹ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ॥

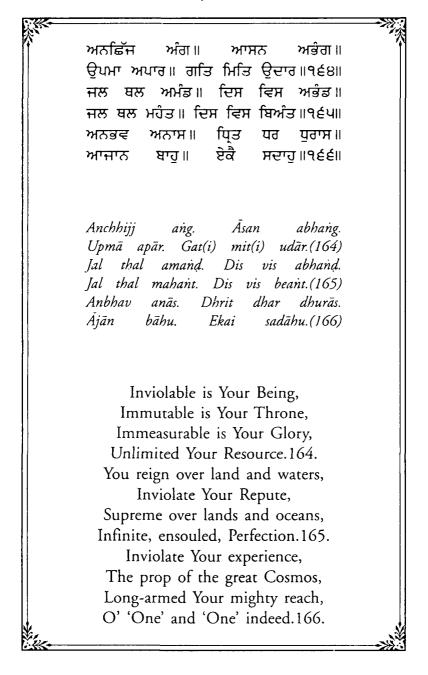
ਮੁਨਿ ਮਨਿ ਪ੍ਰਨਾਮ॥ ਗੁਨਿ ਗਨ ਮੁਦਾਮ॥ ਅਰਿ ਬਰ ਅਗੰਜ॥ ਹਰਿ ਨਰ ਪ੍ਰਭੰਜ॥੧੬੧॥ ਅਨ ਗਨ ਪ੍ਰਨਾਮ॥ ਮੁਨਿ ਮਨਿ ਸਲਾਮ॥ ਹਰਿ ਨਰ ਅਖੰਡ॥ ਬਰ ਨਰ ਅਮੰਡ॥੧੬੨॥ ਅਨਭਵ ਅਨਾਸ॥ ਮੁਨਿ ਮਨਿ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ॥ ਗੁਨਿ ਗਨ ਪ੍ਰਨਾਮ॥ ਜਲ ਥਲ ਮੁਦਾਮ॥੧੬੩॥

#### Madhubhār Chhand. Tva Prasād(i).

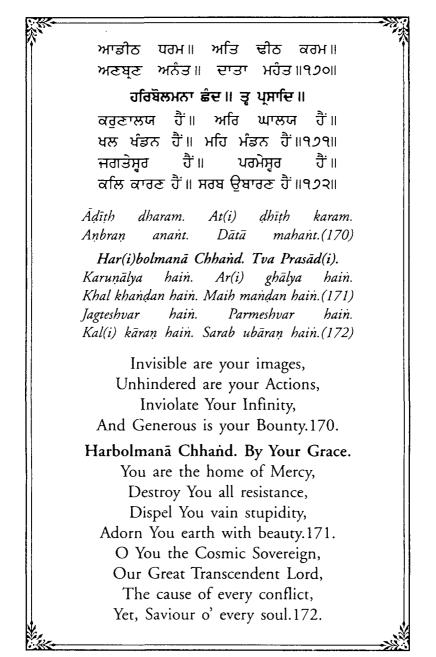
Mun(i) man(i) pranām. Gun(i) gan mudām. Ar(i) bar aganj. Har(i) nar prabhanj.(161) An gan pranām. Mun(i) man(i) salām. Har(i) nar akhand. Bar nar amand.(162) Anbhav anās. Mun(i) man(i) prakāsh. Gun(i) gan pranām. Jal thal mudām.(163)

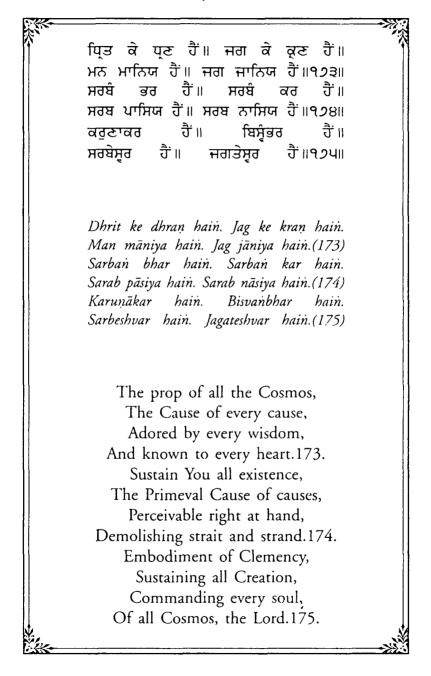
## Madhubhār Chhand. By Your Grace.

Saluted ever by sages, The Lord of limitless merit, Unharméd conquering opponents, Demolisher ultimate.161. Invoked by mighty legions, Saluted by every sage, The potent God of mortals, Unchallenged, un-installed.162. Unfailing Your intuition, O Light of sages' heart, Worshipped by every mortal, The Lord of ocean and land.163. Jāp Sāhib



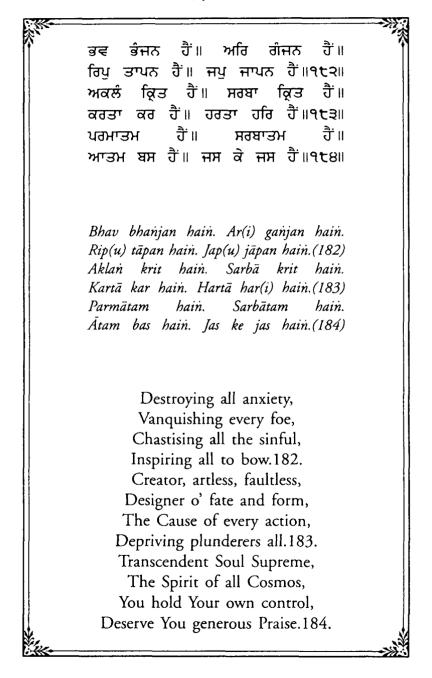
[	ਓਅੰਕਾਰ ਆਦਿ॥ ਕਥਨੀ ਅਨਾਦਿ॥	1
	ਖਲ ਖੰਡ ਖਿਆਲ॥ ਗੁਰ ਬਰ ਅਕਾਲ॥੧੬੭॥	
	ਘਰ ਘਰਿ ਪ੍ਨਾਮ॥ ਚਿਤ ਚਰਨ ਨਾਮ॥	
	ਅਨਛਿੱਜ ਗਾਤ॥ ਆਜਿਜ ਨ ਬਾਤ॥٩੬੮॥	
	ਅਨਝੰਝ ਗਾਤ॥ ਅਨਰੰਜ ਬਾਤ॥	
	ਅਨਟਟ ਭੰਡਾਰ॥ ਅਨਠਟ ਅਪਾਰ॥੧੬੯॥	
	-	
	Oankār ād(i). Kathanī anād(i).	
	Khal khand <u>kh</u> iāl. Gur bar Akāl.(167)	
	Ghar ghar(i) pranām. Chit charan nām.	
	Anchhijj gāt. Ājiz na bāt.(168) Anjhanjh gāt. Anranj bāt.	
	Anțuț bhandār. Anțhaț apār.(169)	
	1111 upur. (109)	
		ļ
	Your first emanation, Om,	
	The Primal, Creative tone,	
	Your intent slanders malice,	
	Disperses doubt and gloom.167.	
	Admired in every hamlet,	
	Chanted by every heart,	
	Imperishable Your existence,	
	Nor debile, nor alarmed.168.	
	Your Being can't be disrupted,	
	Your Words can't be disputed,	
	Exhaustless is your Treasure,	
	And Fathomless Your Splendour.169.	
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ਬਹਮੰਡਸ ਹੈਂ॥ ਖਲ ਖੰਡਸ ਹੈਂ ॥ ਪਰ ਤੇ ਪਰ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਰਣਾਕਰ ਹੈਂ॥੧੭੬॥ ਅਜਪਾ ਜਪ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਥਪਾ ਥਪ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਕਿਤਾ ਕਿਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅੰਮਿਤਾ ਮਿਤ ਹੈਂ॥੧੭੭॥ ਅਮ੍ਰਿਤਾ ਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਰਣਾ ਕ੍ਰਿਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਕ੍ਰਿਤਾ ਕ੍ਰਿਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਧਰਣੀ ਧਿਤ ਹੈਂ॥੧੭੮॥ Brahmandas hain. Khal khandas hain. Par te par hain. Karunākar hain.(176) Ajapā jap hain. Athapā thap hain. Akritā krit hain. Anmritā-mrit hain.(177) Amritā-mrit hain. Karnā krit hain Akritā krit hain. Dharnī dhrit hain.(178) The Life of all existence. Demolisher of every Knave, Remoter than the farthest The fount of Mercy Great.176. The Great un-chanted Chant, The Deity un-installed, The One uncaused Cause. The fountainhead of Amrit, 177. The Lord of immortality, Embodiment of Clemency, The One uncaused Cause. Sustainer of the globe.178.

ਅਮਿਤੇਸੂਰ ਹੈਂ॥ ਪਰਮੇਸੂਰ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਕ੍ਰਿਤਾ ਕ੍ਰਿਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਮਿਤਾ ਮਿਤ ਹੈਂ॥੧੭੯॥ ਅਜਬਾ ਕ੍ਰਿਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਅਮ੍ਰਿਤਾ ਅਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਹੈਂ॥ ਨਰ ਨਾਇਕ ਹੈਂ॥ ਖਲ ਘਾਇਕ ਹੈਂ॥੧੮੦॥ ਬਿਸੰਭਰ ਹੈਂ॥ ਕਰਣਾਲਯ तैं ॥ ਨਿਪ ਨਾਇਕ ਹੈਂ॥ ਸਰਬ ਪਾਇਕ ਹੈਂ॥੧੮੧॥ Amriteshvar hain. Parmeshvar hain Akritā krit hain. Amritā mrit hain.(179) Ajbā krit hain. Amritā amrit hain. Nar nāik hain. Khal ghāik hain.(180) Bishvanbhar hain. Karunālya hain. Nrip nāik hain. Sarab pāik hain.(181) The One immeasurable Lord. The Deity most transcendent, The One facile Creator. The fountainhead of Amrit 179. Wonderful are Your Actions, Heavenly are Your Nectars, Guide You works of humans. Annul You imbecility.180. Replenisher of the universe, The Treasure of Compassion, The One Sovereign supreme, Protector shield of all 181



### ਭੂਜੰਗ ਪ੍ਰਯਾਤ ਛੰਦ॥

ਨਮੋ ਸੂਰਜ ਸੂਰਜੇ ਨਮੋ ਚੰਦ੍ਰ ਚੰਦ੍ਰੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਰਾਜ ਰਾਜੇ ਨਮੋ ਇੰਦ੍ਰ ਇੰਦ੍ਰੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਅੰਧਕਾਰੇ ਨਮੋ ਤੇਜ ਤੇਜੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਬ੍ਰਿੰਦ ਬ੍ਰਿੰਦੇ ਨਮੋ ਬੀਜ ਬੀਜੇ॥੧੮੫॥

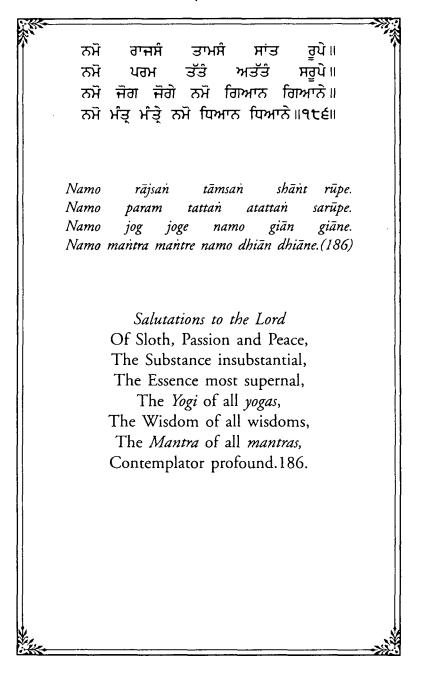
#### Bhujang Prayat Chhand.

Namo sūraj sūrje namo chandra chandre. Namo rāj rāje namo indra indre. Namo andhkāre namo tej teje. Namo brind brinde namo bīj bīje.(185)

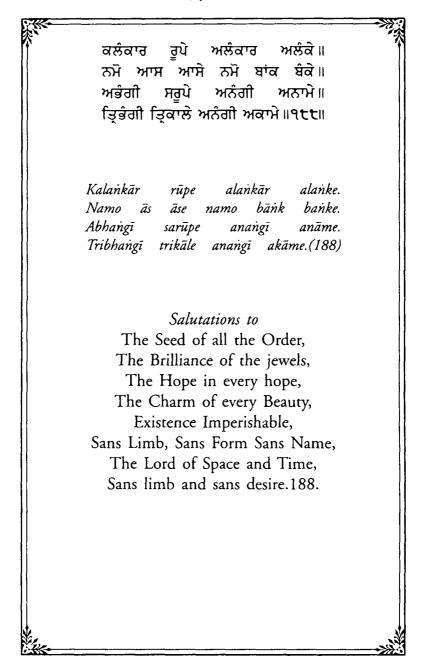
### Bhujang Prayāt Chhand. Salutations to

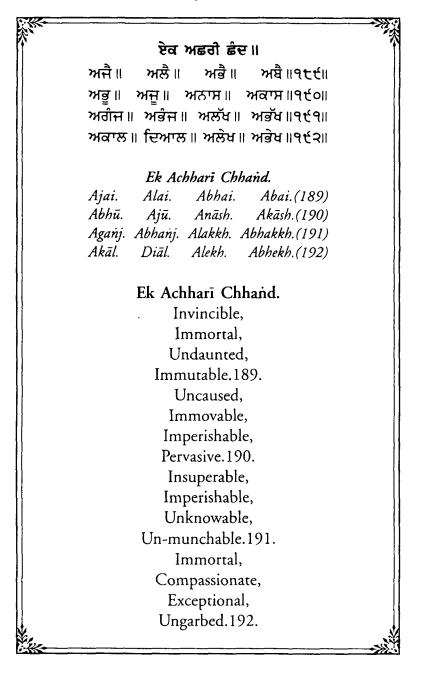
The sun of all the suns, The moon of all the moons, The King of all the kings, The God of all the godlings, The darkness most profound, The Brilliance most effulgent,

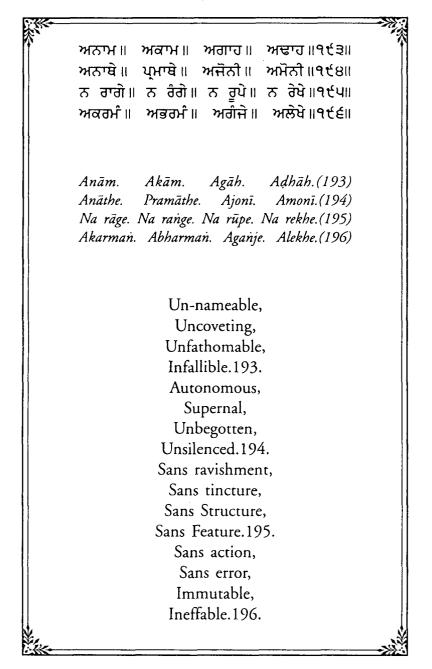
The Lord of multitudes, The seed of all the seeds.185.

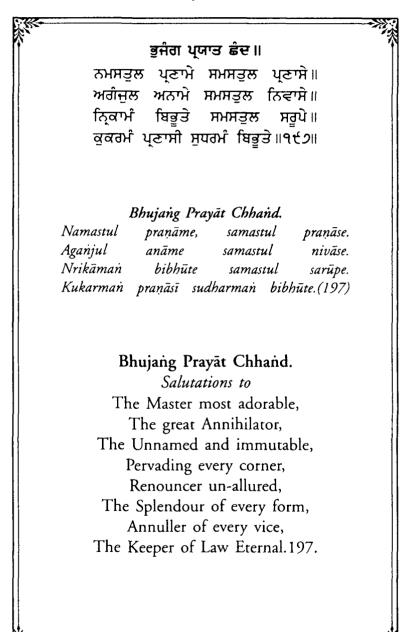


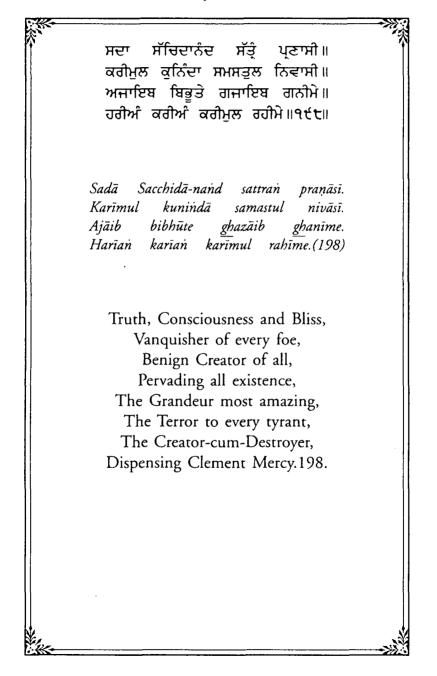
ਨਮੋ ਜਧ ਜਧੇ ਨਮੋ ਗਿਆਨ ਗਿਆਨੇ॥ ਨਮੋਂ ਕੋਜ ਕੋਜੇ ਨਮੋਂ ਪਾਨ ਪਾਨੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਕਲਹ ਕਰਤਾ ਨਮੋ ਸਾਂਤ ਰਪੇ॥ ਨਮੋ ਇੰਦ ਇੰਦੇ ਅਨਾਦੰ ਬਿਭਤੇ॥**੧੮੭**॥ Namo judh judhe namo giān giāne. Namo bhoj bhoje namo pān pāne. Namo kalah kartā namo shānt rūpe. Namo indra indre anādan bibhūte.(187) Salutations to The Victor of every battle, The Wisdom most sublime, Ravishing every aliment, Imbibing every potion, The Cause of all turmoil. The Harbinger of peace, The God of all the godlings, Your fame transcending Time.187.

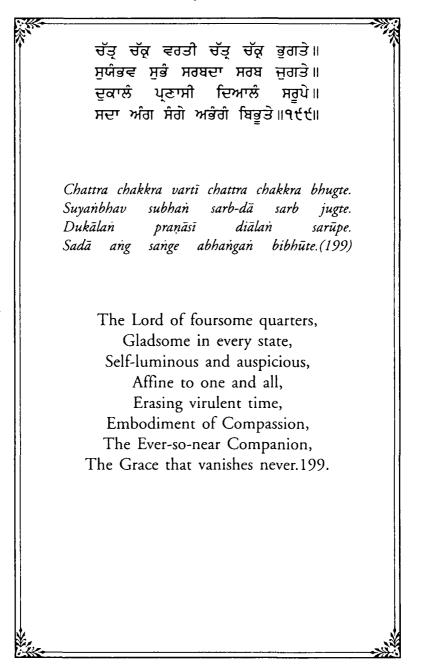












# Basking in the Divine Presence

 $J_{ap}$  Sāhib primarily is basking in the Glow of Divine Presence. The Gurū, right at the outset, affirms it as "experienced illumination."<sup>1</sup> Since this great poetic creation introduces us to the various names of God, it has often been categorized with Vishnū Sahańsarnāmā (the thousand names of Vishnū) and the ninety-nine other names of Allah as given in the Holy Korān. However, it is very different from both these. Gurū Gobińd Sińgh does not merely enumerate Divine names. He actually basks in the Presence of God, beholds His beauty, addresses Him fondly, bows before Him, offers Him his salutations, notices him standing by his side, finds Him pervasive everywhere as the spirit of Love and affirms His actual presence with absolute certainty. This work undoubtedly appears to be a genial outpouring of a propitious meditation.

The Gurū appears to be in tune with the Divine Presence from the beginning to the end. So  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$  is the spontaneous outpouring of the Gurū's soul actually in the glow of the Divine Presence. The Gurū must have beheld the Lord's supremely beautiful visage in an intense meditative experience. That scems to be where he addresses Him and says, "Who can Your comprehensive Name pronounce ?" and then goes on to say, "You are formless, matchless, birth-less, immortal, immutable" and so on. Most of these epithets are negative because the Lord cannot be described. So the gods, demons and men, even woods and blades of grass, all appear to be saying, "You are neither *this*, Lord, nor *that* !."<sup>2</sup>

1. anubhau prakāsh, v. 1. 2. neti, neti, v. 1.

As the Gurū beholds the Lord, he is impelled by the effulgence of His Glory before Him. A series of verses (2-28) then emerge, at one stretch, wherein the Gurū offers his reverent salutations (in terms of *namo, namastań, namastast, namastul*) to the Divine Presence. Such salutations arise again and again (145-149; 185-188; 197) with the same spontaneity and felicity.

Whenever personal relationship with the Absolute is sought, the 'Absolute' gets personified inside the Guru's meditative experience. And that seems to have happened in his contemplation that became the *Jāp Sāhib*. The Gurū perceives the Lord as a person – the Primal Person,<sup>3</sup> Transcendent Person,<sup>4</sup> Immortal Person,<sup>5</sup> the Only Person,<sup>6</sup> and the Un-begotten Person.<sup>7</sup> He is simply astounded by His Exquisite Beauty,<sup>8</sup> and Immeasurable Glory.<sup>9</sup>

The Lord appears to the Gurū not merely as a Person, but also as an All-pervasive Presence. Him he finds ruling over all three spheres,<sup>10</sup> present in all four directions<sup>11</sup> and inhabiting everywhere and in all things : Sarbattra;<sup>12</sup> sarban<sup>13</sup> and samastul<sup>14</sup> and every land in the universe : sarab dese;<sup>15</sup> sarb dhāman;<sup>16</sup> sarb drishan<sup>17</sup> He discovers Him in waters as well as on lands.<sup>18</sup> He finds Him abiding everywhere<sup>19</sup> as an Exquisite Renunciate with spotless Beauty.<sup>20</sup>

The Lord is not merely an awe-inspiring Presence. The Gurū finds Him universally pervasive as Love. So he exclaims, "Here,

- Adi Purakh, v. 80.
   Akāl Purakh, v. 84.
   Ajonī Purakh, v. 79.
   Amitoj, v. 1.
   Chatra chakravartī, v. 97.
   V. 76-78, 142-144.
   V. 66.
   V. 71.
   samastul nivāsī, v. 58.
- 4. Param Purakh, v. 83.
- 6. Ek Purakh, v. 85.
- 8. Param Rūp, v. 83.
- 10. Tribhavan Mahip, v. 1.
- 12. V. 111-119.
- 14. V. 58
- 16. V. 61.
- 18. jale hain, thale hain, v. 62.
- 20. Avdhūt Rūp Rasāl, v. 79.

there, and everywhere He pervades as the Essence of Love  $!."^{21}$ Him the Gurū hails as the Love of Love.<sup>22</sup>

The vibrant sensations and exulting thrills generated by these verses are so powerful that the devotee's head spontaneously bows before the Lord in utter veneration, profound admiration, overpowering awe and tenderest love.

The Guru is overwhelmed not only by the Lord's omnipresence, but by His omnipotence as well. Him he describes as the Sun of suns,<sup>23</sup> also as King of kings.<sup>24</sup>

Him he also finds following the occupation of all occupations.<sup>25</sup> He is as well seen wielding weapons and hurling missiles.<sup>26</sup> He is the death of everyone,<sup>27</sup> even Death of death itself.<sup>28</sup> It is He who wages the worst of Wars,<sup>29</sup> vanquishes the wicked,<sup>30</sup> defeats the enemies,<sup>31</sup> punishes them and taxes the foes.<sup>32</sup>

Yet, He is extremely mannerful,<sup>33</sup> and dear to everyone.<sup>34</sup> In Him the Gurū finds Profundity of Faith<sup>35</sup> and exclaims Him as the Glory of the Soul<sup>36</sup> and the Beauty of Courage.<sup>37</sup>

- 21. jattra tattra dishā vishā hue phailio anurāg, v. 80.
- 22. namo prīt prīte, v. 68.
- 23. Sūraj sūrje, v. 185; bhān bhāne, v. 47.
- 24. rāj rāje, v. 67; shāh shāhe, v. 67; bhūp bhūpe, v. 55; rāj rājeshvaran, v. 50.
- 25. sarb dhandhe, v. 24.
- 26. shastra pāņe, astra māņe, v. 52.
- 27. sarb kāle, v. 19; sarbatra kālai, v. 114; sarban dalī, v. 110.
- 28. kāl kāle, v. 23.
- 29. juddh juddhe, v. 91, 187.
- 30. khal khandan, v. 171.
- 31. hariful shikan, v. 153.
- 32. ghanīmul khirāj, v. 124.
- 33. tamāmul tamīz, v. 156.
- 34. samastul azīz, v. 156.
- 35. amīkul imān, v. 158.
- 36. ātam prabhā, v. 160.
- 37. jur'at jamāl, v. 158.

With his rare poetic prowess, the Gurū captures and communicates his experiences of the Divine in verses that are unique in rhythm, and matchless in rhyme, and possess a bewitching lilt. The music of these verses wafts the reader into a spiritually charged atmosphere and enthrals him/her with superb divine intimations.

The Gurū beholds the Lord absolutely Un-garbed,<sup>38</sup> yet finds Him in every garb;<sup>39</sup> without any Domicile,<sup>40</sup> yet, abiding in every home.<sup>41</sup>

The Gurū finds the Lord beyond any organized religion – whether of Aryan or of Semitic origin. That is why he describes Him as *adharman*<sup>42</sup> and *amazbe*.<sup>43</sup> However, he also realizes that He is the source of all religions and so he describes Him as the Home of Religions<sup>44</sup> and the Standard of Religions.<sup>45</sup>

All the time as one reads through  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$  or recites it with devotion, one is impressed with the descriptions of the Divine in verses that are in consonance with the dignity and piety of the themes. The reader almost invariably seems to touch the original experience that the Gurū must have had and which he embodied in the verses of  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$ .

The Gurū finds the Lord dispersed in the phenomenal Diversity,<sup>46</sup> yet he also becomes aware that in spite of the multiplicity of appearances, He is but One<sup>47</sup> and only One. All that is found anywhere is just His emanation.<sup>48</sup> The Gurū finds

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38. nribhese, v. 10; abhese, v. 18.
39. sarb bhese, v. 66.
40. adese, v. 18.
41. sarb bhaune, v. 22.
42. V. 5.
43. V. 17.
44. dharm dhām, v. 84.
45. dharman dhujā, v. 105.
46. anekai, v. 9.
47. ek, v. 43.
48. ek mūrat anek darshan, v. 81.
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that everything is playing its assigned role in the divine play that the Lord has devised and which He so perfectly directs. Yet, when He winds up His play, everything returns to Him.<sup>49</sup> The Gurū then salutes the Lord's Singularity<sup>50</sup> as well as His Diversity.<sup>51</sup>

The Presence that the Gurū experienced was so continually there that in the final verse of  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$ , the Gurū feels impelled to exclaim that "He is by my side All the Time."<sup>52</sup>

The Gurū found the Lord's Mercies unlimited, His Benevolence generous and His Grace magnanimous. His revelation he found bewitching, He found His Beauty, so exquisite that it inspires awe and wonder. All along, the Gurū employs the diction that is replete with spiritual insight. His utterance of every divine attribute seems to appear at once with amazing spontaneity and wonderful lucidity. His words are drenched in such contagious faith that they make the hearer's soul flow towards divine piety and become receptive to its benevolent grace. One becomes sure that if (as reader) one's experience is so soul-stirring, how much more intensely vibrant the Gurū's own experience must have been. On the wings of his magical words the Gurū wafts the soul of his reader to the very hem of the Divine.

It becomes quite apparent to the reader of  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$  that the Gurū had doubtlessly been in the Presence of God and has also been able to communicate his experience so effectively that even the reader's soul begins to experience spiritual thrills.

49. khel khel akhel khelan ant ko phir(i) ek, v. 81.

- 50. namastan su ekai, v. 9.
- 51. namastan anekai, v. 9.
- 52. sadā ang sange, v. 199.

# The Metaphysics of Jap Sahib

Jap Sahib, by no stretch of imagination can be considered a metaphysical treatise. It is a poetic composition of invocation and salutation that resonates with energetic metres and rhythms and vibrates with dynamic diction. Yet it is such a profound work that its metaphysical underpinnings invite any scholar's attention. It provides one with lucid intimations of the ultimate Reality.

The concern that it exhibits about the ultimate Reality expresses itself in a series of projections about it. Among these are the following : What is Supreme Reality ? What is the reality of Being ? What is the reality of Deity ? What is the reality of Person ? What is the reality of Time ? What is the reality of the mundane world ? And above all, what is the reality of all these realities ?

## The Supreme Reality

The Supreme Reality according to  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$  is essentially super-sensible and beyond the world of ordinary experience. Human mind in its customary functioning cannot be expected to discover its totality.<sup>1</sup> However, it has been known as the eternally stable embodiment<sup>2</sup> of experientially revealed<sup>3</sup> infinite glory.<sup>4</sup> It is the essence of all Creation – animate and inanimate, natural and cultural, secular and spiritual :

namo chaṅdra chaṅdre namo bhān bhāne	Hall ! O Moon of all the moons The Sun of all the suns,
1. sarab nām, v. 1.	2. achal mūrat, v. 1.
3. anbhau prakāsh, v. 1.	4. amitoj, v. 1.

namo gīt gīte	The Song of all the songs,
namo tān tāne	The Tune of all the tunes. (47)
namo nrit nritte	The Dance of all the dances,
namo nād nāde	The Sound of all the sounds,
namo pān pāne	The Beater of all the drums,
namo bād bāde	The Striker of all the notes. (48)
namo jog jogeshvaran param siddhe namo rāj rājeshvaran param briddhe	Hail ! O Lord of all the yogis, the One Sidha Supreme, The King of all the kings, elicits who all Esteem. (51)

Yet, the Supreme Reality is ineffable, for it is formless.<sup>5</sup> Nonetheless,  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$ , now and again, salutes its various dynamic manifestations<sup>6</sup> which together portray the transition from Being to Becoming. This essentially is a work incessantly creative which produces a structure of tremendous signification. Although, at times, it appears to be an affair of a large number of permutations and combinations of a few nuclear semantic units, in effect, it succeeds in welding them together into an overall cosmological discourse in which they seem to be studded as complementary sub-discourses.

Yet, the Supreme Reality in its comprehensive gamut<sup>7</sup> is outside human comprehension because man, at best, can distinguish only some of its elemental aspects. That is why  $J\bar{a}p$  $S\bar{a}hib$  is replete with such divine attributes as are of negative nature. However, it abounds in positively affirmative attributes as well. Very many of these are of all-inclusive nature such as those that are preceded by such expressions of comprehensiveness as *sarb, sarbatra, chaturchak, jatra tatra,* or *dishā vishā.* This juxtaposition of positive and negative affirmations about the very same attrributes is the paradox major of  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$ .

5. anukat(i) sarūp, v. 131. 6. karam nām, v. 1. 7. sarb nām, v. 1. Studded within it are innumerable sub-paradoxes wherein one specific affirmation is also negated either immediately after it or elsewhere in the text.<sup>8</sup> The great paradox basically prevails between Being and Becoming. The One becomes infinitely many :

ek mūrat(i) anek darshan One Essence, yet a myriad forms,
 kīn rūp anek. countless manifestations thereof. (81)

## Reality of Being and Becoming

Even though the One transmutes itself into innumerable many, yet the One does not cease to be. As Being, it is *Om*<sup>9</sup> or *Oankär*.<sup>10</sup> Becoming manifest, it assumes the form of the Wonderful Creation.<sup>11</sup> Of its myriad manifestations, space and time are the most outstanding. While the un-manifest Supreme Reality is without any specific abode<sup>12</sup> because there was no space yet, when it becomes manifest, it automatically becomes pervasive in all space.<sup>13</sup>

This transmutation of the One into many comes to be because of divine action.

ek mūrat(i) anek darshan	Singular, yet, with myriad
kīn rūp anek.	forms,
khel khel akhel khelan	Creation is ever His lively sport,
ant ko phir(i) ek.	When He folds up the Game,
-	He finally becomes the 'One'
	again. (81)

Folding up His game, from the point of His Creation is an act of 'destruction'. Hence, he is also called a 'destroyer'. So, He comes to be seen both as the Creator and the Destroyer.

8. Vide chapter on 'Paradox and Bipolar Dynamic Theism.'

- 9. V. 128.
- 10. V. 167.
- 11. ajbā krit, v. 180.
- 12. adhāman, v. 5.
- 13. chatra chakravartī, v. 97; sarab bhaune, v. 22, 45.

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Self-resplendent,
He caused the entire universe,
What He makes, unmakes
as well. (83)

He is, therefore, not just the Establisher of the entire universe,<sup>14</sup> but also its destroyer;<sup>15</sup> and between these two poles, He provides and sustains His Creation.<sup>16</sup>

## Reality of the Cosmic Person

When He comes to pervade His Creation, he assumes a personal relationship with it. That is how He becomes a Person<sup>17</sup> – the Universal Person, the Primal Person.<sup>18</sup> Purakh literally means 'one who resides in a puri or town, hence a citizen. The 'town' metaphorically represents the universe. Hence, the One who pervades the universe becomes the primal, transcendent, un-begotten, citizen of the universe.<sup>19</sup>

Purakh also carries another, and very different, meaning in the Sānkhya philosophical system. That system presumes two basic verities that must come together for the act of creation. They are Prakriti (material nature), the insentient element and Purusha or consciousness, the sentient element. If this meaning of purakh is taken, then the expression purakh  $ap\bar{a}r^{20}$  in Jāp Sāhib would mean infinite consciousness. However, the Sānkhya concept of a dependent consciousness (dependent on prakriti) is unacceptable in the Sikh thought. Here, the Purakh by Himself is Kartā (Kartā Purakh or Creator Being). This Purakh has

- 14. thāpio sabhai jinh thāp, v. 83.
- 15. garan bhanjanhār, v. 83.
- 16. sarab ko pratipār, v. 85.
- 17. purakh/ Skt. Purusha.
- 18. Ad(i)-Purakh, v. 80.
- 19. ād(i) rūp anād(i) mūrat(i) ajon(i) purakh apār, v. 79.
- 20. V. 83.

unambiguous presence 'here and now'.<sup>21</sup> He is the utterance of every tongue.<sup>22</sup>

*Purakh* also carries yet another meaning viz. 'masculinity'. However, that does not seem to be unambiguously relevant here, as the *Purakh* in *Jāp Sāhib* has also been called the Universal Mother.<sup>23</sup>

## Cosmic Person as Deity

This Person who relates with humans becomes their Deity – the God of gods,<sup>24</sup> the Supreme Deity,<sup>25</sup> the Deity supernal and transcendent.<sup>26</sup> He is not a sectarian God. He is the God of all,<sup>27</sup> the Lord of the whole world.<sup>28</sup>

The extent of His kingdom cannot be measured;<sup>29</sup> so, He is the supreme Ruler<sup>30</sup> who has the beauty of courage,<sup>31</sup> the glory of regality,<sup>32</sup> and occult powers.<sup>33</sup>

He also has an aesthetic image being ultimate Beauty,<sup>34</sup> transcendent Beauty,<sup>35</sup> and the acme of exquisite Beauty.<sup>36</sup> He is the melody of melodies.<sup>37</sup>

- 21. ki zāhar zahūr hain, ki hāzar huzūr hain, v. 150.
- 22. samastul zubān, v. 155.
- 23. lok mātā, v. 52.
- 24. devān dev, v. 89.
- 25. isht-ishte, v. 57.
- 26. parań param ish, v. 157.
- 27. sarabeshwar, v. 175.
- 28. jagateshwar, v. 175.
- 29. amriteshwar, v. 179.
- 30. rājān rāj, v. 89.
- 31. jur'at jamāl, v. 158.
- 32. rājan prabhā, v. 105.
- 33. param siddhe, v. 51; mantra mantran, jantra jantran, tantra tantran, v. 57 and ridh(i) siddhan niväsi, v. 73.
- 34. param rūp, v. 83.
- 35. rūp rasāl, v. 79.
- 36. husnul vajū, v. 121.
- 37. git gite, tan tane, v. 47 and rag rupe, v. 55.

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He has an ethical image as well – being unblemished in manners,<sup>38</sup> and having interest in all.<sup>39</sup> He is the vital breath of all.<sup>40</sup> He is perfect and flawless<sup>41</sup> sacred and holy.<sup>42</sup>

### Cosmic Person and Space-Time

Of the myriad manifestations of the Ultimate Reality, Space and Time are among the most outstanding. While the un-manifest Supreme Reality is without any specific abode<sup>43</sup> because there is no space yet, but when It becomes manifest, It *ipso facto* becomes pervasive in all space.<sup>44</sup>

Just like Space, Time also emanated as part of the Cosmic Becoming. The un-manifest Supreme Reality was indeed timeless.<sup>45</sup> As it becomes manifest, it comes to pervade all time.<sup>46</sup>

The  $K\bar{a}l$ - $Ak\bar{a}l$  doctrine of  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$  not only encompasses the bipolarity of temporality and eternity, it also spills beyond it.  $K\bar{a}l$  connotes not only Temporality, but also mortality. However, its mortality aspect is essentially seen as subsumed under its temporality aspect.

The Akāl Purakh of Jāp Sāhib is no static entity. It is dynamically creative as the spiritual principle of all creation.

Space and time are nothing but playful manifestations of the Supreme Being. Whenever He wills, He may wrap up His entire Play, un-spread the entire gamut of Creation and withdraw all Becoming back into Being. As we have noted already,

Khel khel akhel khelan Creation is ever His lively sport,

38. tamīzul tamāmain, v. 123.
39. tamāmul rujū, v. 121.
40. sarban prānan, v. 77, sarbatra prānai, v. 117.
41. kalankan binā ne-kalankī sarūpe, v. 50.
42. punīt mūrat, v. 83.
43. adhāman, v. 5.
44. chattra chakkravartī, v. 97, sarab bhaune, v. 22, 45.
45. akāl, v. 2, 37; kālhīn, v. 54.

46. sarab kāle, v. 19, 20.

Ant ko phir(i) ek.

When he folds up the Game, He finally becomes the 'One' again. (81)

## Unconventional metaphysics

It appears, underlying  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$  there is a revisionary metaphysics that infuses unconventional connotation into the concept of Deity. Through assertive syntagmatic propositions it describes the Deity as the Lord of Wars<sup>47</sup> – one with exquisite valour,<sup>48</sup> annihilator of oppressors,<sup>49</sup> dispeller of fear,<sup>50</sup> destroyer of enemy,<sup>51</sup> one with inviolate limbs<sup>52</sup> and so on.<sup>53</sup> The Deity, to wit, is thus presented as inviolate invincible hero.

The aesthetic sentiment of this composition is, definitely, the heroic sentiment ( $v\bar{v}r$  rasa). Through its emotion of zeal ( $uts\bar{a}ha$ ), the inspiring force of the composition gets markedly reinforced. Such a heroic semiotic constitution of the Deity to meditate upon is indeed a bold departure from the traditional spiritual practices. In the meditative reflection on such a deity, both affection ( $bh\bar{a}o$ ) and awe (bhau) are inspired simultaneously.

Every metaphysical system is rooted in the language in which it is expressed and every language is biased towards a particular metaphysics. That is why a metaphysic which aims to transcend cultural and temporal constraints must first make an attempt to transcend linguistic constraints. This is what its illustrious author seems to have done in  $J\bar{a}p$  Sāhib. He most effortlessly blends expressions from two very divergent linguistic

- 47. juddh juddhe, v. 187.
- 48. jur'at jamāl, v. 158.
- 49. harīful shikan, v. 153.
- 50. hirāsul fikan, v. 153; bhai bhanjan, v. 182.
- 51. ariganjan, v. 182.
- 52. anchhij ang, v. 164.
- 53. For a detailed discussion of this turn to the chapter "God as Warrior".

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traditions, Sanskrit and Arabic, which respectively are linked with the Hindū and Muslim religious traditions.<sup>54</sup>

From this it is evident that Gurū Gobind Singh held no prejudice against any language, nor did he consider any language as sacrosanct and specially favoured by God. In his view God speaks all languages<sup>55</sup> and is the source of all scriptures.<sup>56</sup> The metaphysics of *Jāp Sāhib* thus acquires trans-linguistic and transcultural tenor.

Thus it is that *Jāp Sāhib* does not remain a prayer of any particular faith, but rises to be a universal prayer. It affirms this when it offers its salutations to God who belongs to no particular religion.<sup>57</sup> That is how it smashes the constrictive confines of bigotry and narrow-mindedness.

- 54. For a detailed discourse on this aspect refer to the 'Diction' section in the chapter on 'Poetics'.
- 55. samastul zubān, v. 155.
- 56. samastul kalām, v. 150.
- 57. namastan amazbe, v. 17.

## Mūl Mantra and Jāp Sāhib

The  $M\bar{u}l$  Mantra is the opening verse of  $Sr\bar{i}$  Gur $\bar{u}$  Granth Sāhib. It is considered to be the primal creedal statement of the Sikh faith. It has often been said that the  $M\bar{u}l$  Mantra is the crux of Jap j $\bar{i}$  and that Jap j $\bar{i}$  is the crux of  $Sr\bar{i}$  Gur $\bar{u}$  Granth Sāhib. Jāp Sāhib, the opening text of Dasam Granth appears, in a way, to be the explication of the M $\bar{u}l$  Mantra.

Gurū Nānak is known to have enunciated his Mūl Mantra in the presence of God Almighty during his three-day meditative disappearance in the river Bein. We have already deliberated that from the nature of its content, Jap Sahib appears to have also been uttered in the presence of God. Hence, one expects close proximity between the substance of these two utterances in spite of the their utterly distinctive poetic form. The Mūl Mantra is a rather succinct formulation of the attributes of God. It is constituted altogether by one numerical and thirteen wordglobules. Jāp Sāhib, in contrast, consists of 199 verses encompassing several hundred dynamic names of God. Yet, the thematic commonality between the two, makes Jāp Sāhib appear a unique explicatory amplification of the Mūl Mantra. We propose to take the Mūl Mantra syllable by syllable and see how Jāp Sāhib confirms and enhances the significance of each one of them and how it injects many beautiful new shades of meaning therein.

## The One !

In the *Gurū Granth Sāhib* the first thing comes first – and that is the *unity* of God expressed by the numeral "1" (One). This numeral "One" lends itself to a variety of connotations that we choose briefly to deliberate upon here.

### 1. Singularity

First of all "One" represents the Oneness, the singularity, of God. In *Jāp Sāhib*, Gurū Gobińd Sińgh salutes the One Singular Entity.<sup>1</sup> While He is Singular, yet He lets Himself have myriad forms.<sup>2</sup> The multiplicity that He creates represents only the play that He spreads out. When he winds it up, once again He becomes One.<sup>3</sup>

### 2. Uniqueness

Another connotation of the One is His *uniqueness*. He is unmatched;<sup>4</sup> He is ever the Greatest.<sup>5</sup> He is unapproachably Unique.<sup>6</sup>

3. Perfection

The term "One" also connotes *perfection*. God's Glory is unbeatable.<sup>7</sup> His Manners are Perfect.<sup>8</sup> Immeasurable is His Splendour.<sup>9</sup>

#### 4. Eternity, Infinity

God's Eternity is impressed in *Jāp Sāhib* through a number of different terms – such as Ever Perpetual,<sup>10</sup> Immortal,<sup>11</sup> Perennial,<sup>12</sup> Ever<sup>13</sup> and Unlimited.<sup>14</sup>

namastań su ekai, v. 9.
 ck mūrat anek darshan kīn rūp anek, v. 81.
 khel khel akhel khelan ant ko phir ek, v. 81.
 anūpe, v. 2.
 sadaivan pradhāniyain, v. 118.
 agādh hain anūp hain, v. 127.
 ābhā abhang, v. 91.
 tamīzul tamāme, v. 123.
 amitoj, v. 1.
 sadaivan sadā, v. 131.
 akāle, v. 2.
 achall, v. 75.
 nitt, v. 54.
 anant, v. 26.

#### 5. Ubiquity

That God is present everywhere has been repeatedly emphasized in *Jāp Sāhib* through such expressions as All-Pervasive,<sup>15</sup> Pervasive in all four directions,<sup>16</sup> Present Everywhere,<sup>17</sup> here, there and everywhere He Pervades as Essence of Love.<sup>18</sup>

It can be seen, then, that  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$  explicates the different connotations of "One", the opening numeral of the  $M\bar{u}l \ Mantra$  and brings out many significant shades thereof.

### Oankār

One of the many meanings of *Oankār* is the one from whom the Primal Sound *Om* emanates. That He is Primal, is expressed in *Jāp Sāhib* as the Primal sound *Om*<sup>19</sup> and *Oam*, His Primal Form.<sup>20</sup> *Oankār* has been considered synonymous with Brahman. In *Jāp Sāhib* He is saluted also as the Spirit Ultimate.<sup>21</sup>

### Sat

Sat signifies that which is True or Truth; and Truth is that what actually exists. That which does not exist, cannot be True, cannot be Sat. Hence Sat connotes "existence"- an existence that is eternal. That which is today, but not tomorrow, cannot be considered as Sat. Jāp Sāhib explicates the spirit of Sat in a great variety of terms. These include Perpetual Ever,<sup>22</sup> Endless Glory,<sup>23</sup> Undeclining Amity,<sup>24</sup> the Light Perennial,<sup>25</sup> Perennial

- 16. chattra chakkravarti, v. 97.
- 17. jattra tattra birāj-hī, v. 79.
- 18. jattra jattra dishā vishā hue phailio anurāg, v. 80.
- 19. Oankār ād, v. 167.
- 20. Oam ād(i) rūpe, v. 128.
- 21. brahmań sarūpe, v. 106.
- 22. sadaivań sadā, v. 131.
- 23. sadaivan prabhā, v. 149.
- 24. hameshul salām, v. 150.
- 25. sadaivan prakāse, v. 145.

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<sup>15.</sup> sarab gaune, v. 22.

Ever,<sup>26</sup> The Ever Truth-Consciousness-Bliss,<sup>27</sup> Eternal Beauty,<sup>28</sup> Ever Eternal<sup>29</sup> and, Ever the Lord of ocean and land.<sup>30</sup>

### Nām

 $N\bar{a}m$  literally signifies "name" and in the  $M\bar{u}l$  Mantra, it denotes the Name of God. It has received an important explication in the very opening verse of  $J\bar{a}p$  Sāhib. God's comprehensive  $N\bar{a}m$  which represents Him in toto, is not possible for anyone to comprehend. Even Gurbāņī says only this : Sat Nām terā parā pūrbalā—Sat Nām is your most primal name.<sup>31</sup> Jāp Sāhib attempts to underline the ineffability of His Comprehensive Name when it says : Who can Your comprehensive Name Pronounce ?<sup>32</sup> All that a wise person can at best do is to pronounce His Action-Names.<sup>33</sup> Otherwise, God remains un-nameable.<sup>34</sup>

### Kartā

That God is the Creator of all that there is, has been stressed time and again in  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$  in such terms as : sarab bisv rachio suyambhav<sup>35</sup> Creator of the universe entire. Chattra chakkra kartā<sup>36</sup> Creator of all four directions, jag ke kraņ<sup>37</sup> the cause of the world, kartā kar<sup>38</sup> the Creator dynamic, aklan krit<sup>39</sup> the artless Creator, sarbā krit<sup>40</sup> the Designer of everything and kāran kunind<sup>41</sup> the cause of every cause.

### Purakh

The term Purakh has a double connotation. On the one

26. mudām, v. 163.
 28. sadaivan sarūp, v. 126.
 30. jal thal mudām, v. 163.
 32. tav sarab nām kathe kavan, v. 1.
 34. anāme, v. 4.
 36. V. 96.
 38. V. 183.
 40. V. 183.

sadā sachidānand, v. 58.
 sunitt, v. 141.
 SGGS, p. 108.
 karam Nām, v. 1.
 V. 83.
 V. 173.
 V. 183.
 V. 109.

hand it means a Person – here, 'the Cosmic Person', on the other, it means one who inhabits the cosmos i.e. is ubiquitously immanent. In the former sense,  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$  describes God as fathomless Person,<sup>42</sup> Deathless Being,<sup>43</sup> The One Person,<sup>44</sup> who never comes into a Womb,<sup>45</sup> the Primal Person.<sup>46</sup>

In the latter sense, it describes Him as Pervasive,<sup>47</sup> Ever Ubiquitous.<sup>48</sup> It also describes Him as The Moon of all the moons, the Sun of all the suns, the Song of all the songs, the Tune of all the tunes,<sup>49</sup> The Dance of all the dances, the Sound of all the sounds, the note of all the notes : the beater of all the drums, the Striker of every note,<sup>50</sup> The Spirit indwelling all,<sup>51</sup> Dwelling in every spot,<sup>52</sup> Abiding in all the lands,<sup>53</sup> Having His seat everywhere,<sup>54</sup> Here, there and everywhere, Pervading as Essence of Love.<sup>55</sup>

## Nirbhau

Nirbhau on the one hand means "undaunted", on the other it connotes one who is full of courage and cannot be vanquished. In the former sense, He is remembered in  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$  as Undaunted<sup>56</sup>, and Unafraid<sup>57</sup>.

42. pūran purakh, v. 83. 43. akāl purakh, v. 84. 44. ek purakh, v. 85. 45. ajoni purakh, v. 79. 46. ād(i) purakh, v. 80. 47. ramme, v. 16. 48. sarb gaune, v. 22. 49. chandra chandre, bhan bhane, git gite, tan tane, v. 47. 50. nād nāde, pān pāne, bād bāde, v. 48. 51. samastul nivāsī, v. 58. 52. samastast(u) dhāman, v. 61. 53. sarb dese, v. 66. 54. jatra tatra birāj-hī, v. 79. 55. jattra tattra dishā vishā hue phailio anurāg, v. 80. 56. abhai, v. 135. 57. abhīte, v. 6.

In the latter sense, He is described as beau Courage,<sup>58</sup> unhumbled,<sup>59</sup> invincible,<sup>60</sup> Un-fellable.<sup>61</sup> He is also described as one who destroys every fear.<sup>62</sup>

### Nirvair

*Nirvair*, although, a negative term meaning 'without enmity', also lends itself to such positive connotations as loving, merciful and forgiving. How can one, who always lavishes Love on all<sup>63</sup> and abides "here, there and everywhere dispersed as Love,"<sup>64</sup> ever engender hostility ? He is Consummate Compassion,<sup>65</sup> Merciful,<sup>66</sup> Compassion most Supreme,<sup>67</sup> Compassionate and Merciful.<sup>68</sup> He is the benign Commander of Fate.<sup>69</sup> Being so benignly merciful, He is ready even to forgive sins.<sup>70</sup>

## Akāl

That God is eternal and beyond the throes of Time and mortality has been amply reiterated in  $J\bar{a}p\ S\bar{a}hib$ . He is described as Deathless,<sup>71</sup> indestructible,<sup>72</sup> immortal.<sup>73</sup> He is not only Deathless,<sup>74</sup> but also Death of death.<sup>75</sup>

## Mūrat(i)

The term  $m\bar{u}rat(i)$  in  $M\bar{u}l$  Mantra as well as  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$  stands for God's existential image.  $Ak\bar{a}l$   $M\bar{u}rat(i)$ , thus, means one whose existence is beyond the trammels of Time and also of Death, and

- jur'at jamāl, v. 158.
   ajīte, v. 6.
   bhav bhanjan, v. 182.
   V. 80.
   kripāle, v. 2.
   rahīme karīme, v. 25.
   afvul gunāh, v. 109.
   anās, v. 163.
   akāle, v. 2.
- 59. ajai. v. 149.
- 61. adhāhe, v. 6.
- 63. sarbā anurāge, v. 129.
- 65. kāmal karīm, v. 151.
- 67. karman karīm, v. 110.
- 69. shubhan sarb bhage, v. 129.
- 71. kāl hīn, v. 84.
- 73. amritā, v. 178.
- 75. kāl kāle, v. 23.

so never undergoes any change. In *Jāp Sāhib*, this aspect of God's image has received ample attention. He is described as Steadfast image,<sup>76</sup> Sacred visage,<sup>77</sup> Transcendent visage<sup>78</sup> and Bountiful image.<sup>79</sup> He is also Singular, yet with myriad forms.<sup>80</sup>

### Ajoni

*Ajoni* means "one who was never in a womb", so is unbegotten and hence self-existent. In *Jāp Sāhib*, besides being called *ajoni*, <sup>81</sup> He is also portrayed as One never cast into a Womb,<sup>82</sup> Unbegotten,<sup>83</sup> Beyond birth<sup>84</sup> and Unborn.<sup>85</sup> He is, thus, beyond birth and death.<sup>86</sup>

### Saibhan

Saibhan is Punjabi modification of the Sanskrit term svayambhu, which has twin connotations – one, who is selfluminous; and the other, who can be experienced only in antahkarna, the inner organ of cognition. Jāp Sāhib calls Him Self-resplendent.<sup>87</sup> He is not only un-begotten, but also Selfexistent. Jāp Sāhib presents Him as without outside support,<sup>88</sup> Sans a Master<sup>89</sup> and Having His own Controls.<sup>90</sup> Also, it presents Him as one who is Unique spirit.<sup>91</sup> Self-luminous,<sup>92</sup> The Light Perennial,<sup>93</sup> glowing in every soul<sup>94</sup> and Perennial Glory.<sup>95</sup>

- 76. achal mūrat(i), v. 1.
  78. anād(i) mūrat(i), v. 83.
  80. ek mūrat(i) anek darshan, v. 81.
  82. ajon(i) purakh, v. 79.
  84. ajanaman, v. 100.
  86. janam maran bihīn, v. 82.
  88. nirāsre, v. 16.
  90. Ātam bas, v. 184.
  92. anbhau prakāsh, v. 1.
  94. ātam prabhā, v. 160.
- 77. punīt mūrat(i), v. 83.
- 79. udār mūrat(i), v. 80.
- 81. V. 33.
- 83. ajanm, v. 40.
- 85. ajāe, v. 100.
- 87. suyambhav, v. 83, 199.
- 89. nrināthe, v. 65.
- 91. anbhau anūpai, v. 106.
- 93. sadaivan prakāse, v. 145.
- 95. sadaivan prabhā, v. 149.

### Gur

Gur is the abbreviated form of Gurū, which means one who removes (*ru*), darkness (*gu*). In Jāp Sāhib, gur occurs but once in the line gur bar  $ak\bar{a}l$ .<sup>96</sup> The term bar can lend itself to two meanings : blessing, and power. So, gur bar  $ak\bar{a}l$  would mean 'the Gurū who has the blessings of the Immortal Lord' or/ and 'The Gurū in whom the immortal Lord has vested His Power'.

### Prasād

*Prasād* means kindness, compassion, grace. *Jāp Sāhib* prefaces its text by invoking the Grace of the Lord by saying 'by Your Grace' : *tva prasād*. Within the text, God's Grace is often invoked by other, almost synonymous, terms such as the Home of Mercy,<sup>97</sup> Fount of Great Compassion<sup>98</sup> and Visage of Grace.<sup>99</sup> He is also described as Saving His dear Devotees.<sup>100</sup>

From the above exposition, it becomes obvious that  $J\bar{a}p$  $S\bar{a}hib$  is a fulsome explication of  $M\bar{u}l$  Mantra. However, it also stretches beyond the bounds of that Mantra by contemplating over many other attributes of the Divine besides the ones couched in the  $M\bar{u}l$  Mantra.

96. V. 167. 98. karuņākar hain, v. 176. 100. azīz**u**l navāz, v. 124. 97. karuņālaya hain, v. 171.

99. dayālan sarūpe, v. 199.

## Poetics of Jap Sahib

 $\int \bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$  is a superb poetic work by a veritable genius. It reflects an entirely un-premeditated spurt of inspired verse, free from any forced thought, sentimentalism, and artificiality. It is an unparalleled piece of literature from any point of view – substance, form, structure, style, diction or prosody.

### Pure Poetry

Jāp Sāhib at once impresses one as pure poetry. The term 'pure poetry' lends itself to a variety of connotations. First of all, it has been considered to be that kind of poetry, which inspires to excellence, and by so doing is refined of all dross or impurity.<sup>1</sup> According to another viewpoint, it aspires 'towards the condition of music' – suggesting that the beauty of the poem's theme and its contents are in unsurpassable harmony with the melody and the sound of the words.<sup>2</sup> Pure poetry has also been considered a form of music in yet another sense – expressing the Essence of whatever the poet intends and needs to express.<sup>3</sup> Yet another view is that it is most spontaneous and 'free from thought'.<sup>4</sup> Finally, it has been associated with prayer – a kind of mystical expression aspiring to an ineffable and incantatory condition.<sup>5</sup>

 $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$  seems to satisfy every one of the above definitions without exception and to the fullest degree. It is an embodiment

- 1. Defined by Vallery. Quoted in JA Cuddon : A Dictionary of Literary Terms, 1979, London : Penguin Books.
- 2. Defined by Walter Peter. vide ref. above.
- 3. Defined by Edgar Allen Poe. vide ref. above.
- 4. Defined by George Moore. vide ref. above.
- 5. Defined by Abbe Bremond. vide ref. above.

of excellence. No bunkum has managed to slip in anywhere. It has permitted no interpolation of any kind - no tale or fable, legend or myth, chronicle or anecdote or any other alien matter that could sully its virgin muse. It enters no argument, makes no discourse and seeks to prove no thesis. It does not entertain anything apart from what the poet intends or desires to express. From the beginning to the end, it is powerfully musical. The sublimity of its content, the power of its diction, the innervating musicality of its rhythms, and the resonance of its natural, unaffected, alliterations weave an unsurpassable harmony. Finally, it preserves its invoking character throughout. It starts as a prayer and ends as a prayer, and in between continues to offer salutations to the action-names and sensible attributes of the One to whom the prayers have been addressed. Its invocative tenor is woven into the very fabric of its diction. One is thus impelled to recognize this work as pure poetry in every sense of the term.

## Sublime work

It is a work of surpassing Sublimity. Sublimity is related with the infinite, the same way, as *beauty* is related with the finite.  $J\bar{a}p$  $S\bar{a}hib$ , in its entirety, is immersed in the sublimity of the Infinite. It is a grand poem into which divine intimations have poured in vigorously and torrentially, yielding a sense of gratifying blessedness. It, at once, seems to salute the Divine, invigorates the spirit of courage, and enlivens verity in devotion. It embodies a great celebration for the spirit.

## Structure

Jāp Sāhib employs ten different metre forms or chhands all inter se harmonious, and individually purposeful. The names of various chhands and the way they are positioned in this work are presented hereunder.

Serial Number	Name of the Chhand	Verse number	Total Number of verses
Inumber	Chhana		or verses
1.	Chhapai Chhand	1	1
2.	Bhujang Prayāt	2-28, 44-61, 96-98,	
		185-188, 197-199	65
3.	Chāchrī	29-43, 62-63, 94-95	,
		99-102, 133-141	32
4.	Charpaț	74-78,142-146	8
5.	Rūāl	79-86	8
6.	Madhubhār	87-93, 161-170	17
7.	Bhagvatī	103-132, 150-160	41
8.	Rasāval	145-149	5
9.	Harbolmanā	171-184	14
10.	Ekachhrī	189-196	8
			Total <u>199</u>

Some of the metre forms (*chhands*), it can be seen, recur several times, some recur only once, and some do not recur at all. This does not happen vicariously, but according to a purposeful design that we shall consider a while later. Here, let us take note of the fact that this design consummates the powerful musical ensemble of this work. The sequence of the serial occurrence of *chhands* (as given below by their serial numbers as given above) may be indicated as follows :

1, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 4, 5, 6, 3, 2, 3, 7, 3, 4, 8, 7, 6, 9, 2, 10, 2.

This arrangement not only gradually unfolds the formal resonance of the content of the work, it also brings about harmony between the form and the content and unveils the combined mystical purpose of both.

## Prosody

All the prosodic devices of this work are drenched in Vir

Rasa (Heroic Sentiment) - a rasa that stimulates courage and evokes valour. Interestingly, while the content of this sublime work, throughout, pertains to Bhakti Rasa (the Sentiment of Devotion), its prosodic form is steeped in Vir Rasa (the Heroic Sentiment). In the classical Indian poetics, these two Rasas are considered mutually antithetical and this combination is considered a grave poetic flaw. Devotional poetry, almost always, is couched in Shānt Rasa (the Sentiment of Tranquility) or Shringāra Rasa (the Romantic Sentiment). Both these Rasas are reckoned antipodal to Vir Rasa. Gurū Gobind Singh's unique poetic prowess, however, chose to blend Bhaktī (Devotion) and Shaktī (Heroism) not only in Jap Sahib, but through it also in the minds of his followers - so that Bhakti alone should not cause overpassivity that leads to incapacitation; nor should Shaktī alone lead to arrogance and to oppression. The Order of the Khalsa that he proclaimed was supposed to be a judicious combination of the two so that it would really be an Order of God's own knightsat-arms. In Jap Sahib, Guru Gobind Singh's poetic genius introduces this hitherto tabooed blend with the courage of a Master who makes his experiment a convincing success.

It was not merely an experiment, it had a definite practical implication as well. *Jāp Sāhib* was to become the instrument of spiritual meditation especially in the battlefield. That is why it had begun to be chanted during the practice of *gatkā*, an Indian variety of fencing.<sup>6</sup> It would be of interest to note in detail this

6. Bhagat Singh Hīrā : *Jāp Sāhib – Bīr Ras dā Somā* : a paper presented at a seminar on *Jāp Sāhib*, a Multidimensional Study, held on 2-3 March, 1990 at Gobind Sadan Institute of Advanced Studies in Comparative Religion, New Delhī. It says :

An old (now extinct) Guide Book of the historic Gurdwārās around Anandpur Sāhib mentioned among them a place named Bhāgpurā (located almost midway between Kīratpur and Anandpur, but a little off the main road). That Guide Book also mentioned that at that site, Gurū Gobind Singh after the morning liturgical services, used to supervise the Sikhs playing *gatkā* while reciting *Jāp Sāhib* as its meditational accompaniment. innovative concordance between the prosodic metres of *Jāp Sāhib* and the tactical postures and movements adopted in the practice of fencing.

Chhapai Chhand<sup>7</sup> is the opening metre. It has a placid flow that accords with its invocatory content. The  $gatk\bar{a}$ -practitioners, prior to lifting their weapon, invoke the Lord and offer Him formal salutations. Only after this invocation would they engage in actual fencing. Recitation of the first four lines of the verse (of Chhapai), accompany the invocation and the last two lines go with the formal supplication.

In the practice of *gatkā*, formal invocation takes place only once (before the actual fencing is started). It is therefore understandable that *Chhapai Chhand* occurs only once, in the beginning of *Jāp Sāhib*, and is not repeated after that.

In this metre is delineated the core theme of  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$ . It discloses the most significant attributes of the God of Gurū Gobind Singh – the very God he gave his Sikhs to acknowledge and invoke. This God is without any form or feature, colour or caste, mark or garb. He can't be couched in a symbol or chiselled into an image. Everyone in the universe, whether man or god or demon, and everything in the world, from a blade of grass to the biggest forest declares that He is neither this nor that. He is thus acknowledged simply as ineffable.

 Bhagat Singh Hirā also reported having visited that site but found only a remnant of the Gurdwārā that stood at that place. There was only an earthen mound left. Now, unfortunately, even that mound seems to have disappeared.

Bhagat Singh Hīrā also **re**ports one of his visits to Sri Abchal Nagar (Nānder) where he personally witnessed one Bhāi Rām Singh providing training in *gatkā* along with chanting of *Jāp Sāhib*. He reports that he was amazed to watch how the various movements of the *gatkā* synchronized with recitation of the different metres of *Jāp Sāhib*.

7. Chhapai Chhand is a six-line verse form. It is also called *khat pad*. It has as many as three different prosodic forms. However, the form that has been employed in *Jāp Sāhib* is characterized by the fact that its first four lines are in the *Rolā* metre while the last two lines are in the *Dohā* metre.

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Yet the Gurū tells us that this very God is self-luminous, steadfast in His visage, and infinite in His splendour. He is greater than all the gods and godlings; and is the sovereign King of all the kings. His grandeur can be the object only of an awakened experience.

The Gurū then acknowledges that no one can know His Comprehensive Name. Only His 'Action-Names' or attributive names can at best be enunciated. And even for such an enunciation, the Gurū invokes the Lord to grant him requisite wisdom. It is after that, that his salutations follow.

Bhujang Prayāt Chhand that follows next, occurs most frequently in this work. Bhujang Prayāt means 'like a serpent'. This metre has a serpentine quality in its tonal propagation. An example of this is the whole set of verses starting with namastan Akāle, namastan kripāle (2).

Rasāval Chhand (v.145-149) is also a variation of Bhujang Prayāt – its halved or semi-serpentine form. If this is also included, Bhujang Prayāt comes to have been employed seven times covering as many as seventy verses which is more than one-third of the text.

The intonation of this *Chhand* harmonises with the serpentine movement of the weapon. It is the most tactical movement for attacking as well as defending. That this *Chhand* has been employed time and again signifies that it coincides with a spell of attacks as also with tactical withdrawal to spy fresh avenues for resuming the attack.

*Chācharī Chhand*<sup>8</sup> occurs five times covering in all thirtytwo verses. *Chācharī* signifies quick repetitive strikes. That is why this *Chhand* has brisk and brief movement. *Chācharī* also means a sword with a slanting rim. It therefore signifies a slanting slashing attack with the sword.

8. Chācharī Chhand has two forms - Shuddhī as for example alekh hain, abhekh hain and Shashī as for example gubinde, mukande. Both these forms are found in Jāp Sāhib. *Charpat Chhand*<sup>9</sup> occurs twice covering eight verses. *Charpat* means landing flat like a slap of the open hand. Here, it signifies defence – taking the attack of the adversary upon one's shield and making it ineffective.

 $R\bar{u}\bar{a}l$  Chhand <sup>10</sup> occurs in Jāp Sāhib only once (8 verses). It has a metre comprising twelve syllables that provide a slow relaxing rhythm. It is required to coincide with the breather that the fighter takes following a severe, sharp fight. The thematic content of this chhand is assertive of the syntagmatic attributes of God – dauntless, mysterious and pervasive. In it there are some paradoxes also e.g. He is beautiful, but has no form or He has no domicile yet He is all-pervasive.

It is also considered to represent the God of renewal and revolution – the God of Baptism of the Sword (*Khande dī Pāhul*). This God is the Primal Person, Purest Form, Prime Mover and Perfect Being. He is not only the Creator, but also the Destroyer (v. 83).

Madhūbhār Chhand<sup>11</sup> occurs twice in Jāp Sāhib and covers altogether seventeen verses. It represents, on the one hand, surest actions, and on the other hand, deeds that are morally ideal. The verses under this chhand portray God as Eternal and the Purest Light. He owns invincible majesty. He is never cast into any womb. The themes of this chhand appear to combine the perceptual attributes with the metaphysical conceptions of the

9. Charpat Chhand also has two forms and both have been employed in Jāp Sāhib. These are Uchhal and Hansak.

An example of the former is : amrit karme, ambrit dharme. Akhall joge. Achall bhoge (74).

An example of the later is : sarbań devań, sarbań bhevań, sarbań kāle, sarbań pāle (78).

- 10. *Rūāl Chhand* is also called *Ruāman* or *Ruāmal*. Here is an example of this metre and the type of its contents : *nām kām bihīn pekhat dhām hūn naih jāhe. sarab mān sarbattra mān sadaiv mānat tāhe* (81).
- 11. It is also called *Chhabī*. It is a four-line verse form, each line consisting of four *mātrās*.

Divine. God is not only the redeemer of sins. He is also the supreme provider of all the needs of His creatures.

Bhagvatī Chhand<sup>12</sup> occurs twice and covers altogether fortyone verses. Bhagvatī has several meanings, but the most relevant one here is 'the sword'. The movement of this chhand is sharp like a sword.<sup>13</sup> The term Bhagvatī also means Durgā, the goddess who conquered the demons and restored to the gods their kingdom that had been usurped by the demons.

In the verses of this *chhand*, emphasis has been laid on the power and purity of the Cosmic Word that brings harmony and grace :

zamīnul zamān hain, amīkul imān hain. karīmul kamāl hain, ki jur'at(i) jamāl hain. (158)

Harbolmanā Chhand has been employed in Jāp Sāhib but once and extends over fourteen verses. During the battle, when the adversary is challenged and asked to pay heed to the coming attack that might prove fatal, he is asked to remember his God (Harbolmanā = utter the Name of God). This challenge is issued in a loud voice often ending in a nasal half-vowel such as  $h\bar{a}n$ or  $h\bar{u}n$  or hain. This is how this chhand runs :

> Ajapā jap hain, athapā thap hain. Akritā krit hain, amritā mrit hain. (177)

After the Harbolmanā follows Bhujang Prayāt, once again. It is supposed to coincide with the fighter making a tactical retreat. However, pretty soon it suddenly yields to a very sharp and alive interlude of Ekachhrī Chhand (a single-syllable metre) indicating a quick engagement in a tactical sharp skirmish before

Two forms of this *chhand* have been employed in *Jāp Sāhib*. These are :
 Somrāj. Example : *ki āchhijj desai, ki ābhijj bhesai,*

ki āganj karmai, ki ābhanj bharmai. (103).

2. Sānkhiārī. Example : ki rozī dihind hain, ki rāzak rahind hain.

Karīmul kamāl hain, ki husnul jamāl hain. (152)

13. It is also known as *Tilka Chhand*. It runs as in the following example : karunālaya hain, ar(i) ghālaya hain (171).

finally bringing the fencing exercise to a close by reverting to Bhujang Prayāt Chhand.

Thus, when  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$  is recited along with fencing, it looks like rotating a rosary while wielding the sword. While heroic courage and power are employed through the sword, devotion and compassion are vouched by recitation of the  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$ . Thus heroic action and meditation take place simultaneously and side by side.

## Diction

While the prosody of  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$  serves the purpose of reconciling *Shaktī* (power) with *Bhaktī* (Devotion), the diction of this celebrated work serves to reconcile the two disparate cultural traditions, namely, Aryan and Semitic. It also bridges the social chasm between the Hindūs and Muslims by making a free mixture of their tight linguistic heterogeneity. The Major language employed in  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$  is a mix of  $Hindv\bar{i}$  (of Sanskrit origin) interspersed with expressions that are patently Islamic – of Persian or Arabic origin.

This is as if the Gurū was inviting the devotees of *Brahman* and *Ishvar* to come together with the devotees of *Allah* and *Rahīm* to sit in united prayer, possibly in a common prayer house, and meditate together on the One Universal God who subsumes all sectarian deities.

To achieve this end, the Gurū introduced several amazing innovations and untraditional linguistic devices. With these he created a medley of new compound words which the traditionalists would dub as ungrammatical, but which beautifully yield the meaning that the inspired poet wants them to yield. In the following verses the use of 'ul' is not as Semantic prefix to the first word, as the traditional Arabic grammar would require. It has been employed as Semantic suffix to the second word as in the following examples :

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azīzul niwāz: one who elevates his dear ones. (124) husnul jamāl: the lamp of beauty. (151)

ghanīmul khirāj : one who exacts tribute from his foes. (124)

This is clearly the poet's own innovation pragmatically subservient to his thematic intent that he has in his mind.

In places, 'ul' ceases to mean 'of' which is its lexical connotation. The Gurū makes it connote "and" instead. Here is an example :

zamīnul zamāne : Present on the earth and in the sky. (122)

Through another innovation, the Gurū interposes the prepositional 'ul' not between two words of Arabic origin, but between a Sanskrit and an Arabic word. Here are some interesting examples :

samastul azīz : Loveable by all (156) [Samast is of Sanskrit origin and azīz of Arabic].

samastul zubān: One who knows all languages. (155)

*rajūul nidhāne* : One who is the treasure of intent. (123) [*Rajū* is of Arabic origin and *nidhāne* of Sanskrit].

Not just that, he even juxtaposes two words of purely Sanskrit origin with the Arabic preposition 'ul' between them as; in the following lines :

> sadaivul akām: Without any desire. (127) samastul nivās: Abiding in all. (154) adesul alekh: Without domicile and image. (157) namastul praņāme: Salutation to the worshipful. (197)

In Arabic grammar prepositional 'ul' and 'al' are employed to join one noun with another noun. The Gurū, however, joins even an adjective with a noun with this very device :

> anekul tarang: One who has many waves. (124) samastul salām: One who gets salutations from all. (127) aganjul ghanīm: One, undestroyable by the enemy. (154) samastul azīz: loved by all. (156) harīful azīme: Enemy of the great. (123)

Yet another novel linguistic device that the Gurū employs is to suffix Sanskrit words with Persian 'ast'. For example :

namastast ramme : O pervasive Lord, I salute You. (16) namastast diāle : O Beneficent One, I salute You. (23) namastast dhāman : O master of mansions, I salute You. (61)

The use of such Arabic and Persian linguistic devices by the Gurū do not scem to have been merely an intellectual exercise. It seems to have been a deliberate solemn effort to bring the two opposing cultures together and teach both Hindūs and Muslims to pray together to a God who belongs to both of them and not let the idiosyncrasies of their distinctive linguistic proclivities separate them and cause meaningless opposition.

The Gur $\bar{u}$  solemnly believed that his God belonged to no sectarian religion exclusively. So he salutes Him in the following way :

namastan amazbe: salutation to the One who has no mazhab [religion of the Muslims] (17)

namastań adharmań; salutation to the One who has no dharma [religion of the Hindūs] (5).

### Word Pictures

We have noted that  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$  embodies the action-names of God. Every action-name is dynamic on the one hand and attributive on the other. That is what makes it come up almost invariably as a word picture.

Even when it occurs in a metre of a single-syllable, it presents a picture. Notice for example the following :

aganj: Imperishable abhanj: unbreakable alakkh: unknowable abhakkh: un-consumable (191) akāl: immortal diāl: compassionate *alekh* : unknowable *abhekh* : ungarbed (192)

In longer metres, the first word is repeated in most lines. Most often, this word is one of salutation. Repetition of such a salutary word makes  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$  literally a  $J\bar{a}p$ . The following verses exemplify this :

> namastan akarman : I bow to the One Sans deeds. namastan adharman : I bow to the One Sans creeds. namastan anāman : I bow to the One Sans a name. namastan adhāman : I bow to the One Sans a home. (5)

> namo jog joge : I bow to the Great Renouncer. namo bhog bhoge : I bow to the One Great Reveller. namo sarb diāle : I bow to the One who's Clement. namo sarb pāle : I bow to the One who Provides all. (28)

### Salutations to :

namo judh judhe : The victor of every battle. namo giān giāne : The Wisdom most sublime. namo bhoj bhoje : Ravishes who all aliments. namo pān pāne : Imbibes who every potion. namo kalah kartā : The cause of turmoil. namo shānt rūpe : The harbinger of Peace. namo Indra indre : The God of all the godlings. anādan bibhūte : The Time-transcending Glory. (187)

Even when such repetitiveness is not noticed, lines generally exhibit internal rhyming in addition to the end-rhymes. Notice the double rhyming in the following lines :

> akhall joge achall bhoge : Pervasive Your Being, Perrenial Your Rule. (74)

> achall rāje ațall sāje : Eternal Your Kingdom, Perrenial Your Works. (75)

Internal rhymes can be seen in many of the verses within longish lines as well :

 $\underline{ad(i)}$  rūp an<u>ad(i)</u> mūrat(i) ajon purakh apār. sarab <u>mān</u> tri<u>mān dev</u> abh<u>ev</u> ād(i) udār. <u>sarab pālak sarab ghālak sarab</u> ko pun kāl. ja<u>tra tatra birāj-hī avdhūt rūp rasāl.</u> (79) Primal Being, without a beginning Transcendent and un-begotten, Loved by all in ali three worlds, Mystery Divine, Compassion untaught Protector of all, Destroyer of all, Ultimate maker of the Dooms-day call. Present everywhere, and free of care, Beauty exquisite that ever enthralls. (v. 79)

It may be appreciated here that no translation can do justice to the superb word-pictures that the Gurū so effortlessly seems to create. Besides internal rhymes, alliterative combinations also add to the musical beauty of the work by creating a variety of cadence and lilt. Here is an example :

> $n\underline{\bar{a}m}$  th<u>am</u> na j<u>a</u>t j<u>a</u>kar <u>r</u><u>u</u>p <u>r</u><u>a</u>ng na <u>r</u><u>e</u>kh. <u>ad(i)</u> purakh <u>u</u><u>d</u><u>a</u>r m<u>u</u><u>r</u><u>a</u>t(i) <u>a</u><u>j</u><u>on</u> <u>a</u><u>d</u>(i) <u>a</u><u>s</u><u>e</u>kh. <u>d<u>es</u> aur na bh<u>es</u> j<u>a</u><u>kar <u>r</u><u>u</u><u>p</u> <u>r</u><u>e</u>kh na <u>r</u><u>a</u><u>g</u>. j<u>a</u><u>tra</u> ta<u>tra</u> d<u>ish<u>a</u> vi<u>sh<u>a</u> hoe phailio anur<u>a</u><u>g</u>.</u> Nameless, placeless, sans a caste, Sans colour, contour or mark. Primal, Bountiful, un-begotten, Ever transcendent, immaculate. Unconfined in a land or garb, Sans any shape or feature or form, Here and there and everywhere He pervades as Essence of Love. (v.80)</u></u></u>

and,

<u>ek</u> mūrat an<u>ek</u> darshan <u>k</u>īn rūp an<u>ek</u>, <u>khel khel akhel khel</u>an ant ko phir ek. Singular He, becomes manifold, Creation is evet His lively sport, He spreads His Play, Then folds up the Game, And becomes 'One' again. (v. 81)

Often His words twang like the fencing of swords. Here is an example :

sarban prānan : The source of every Life. sarban trānan : The vigour of every Force. sarban bhugtā : The Reveller ultimate. sarban jugtā : Ever united with all. (77) sarban devan : The God of all the gods. sarban bhevan : The mystery ever eternal. sarban kāle : Destroyer of every form. sarban pāle : Sustainer of one and all. (78)

Jāp Sāhib effortlessly raises one, who recites it with devotion, to sublime spirit-scapes. Its magical overflow floods the soul of all who delve in its rhapsodic measures. Its lilting rhythms awaken a slumbering spirit and enthral the one thus awakened with the vibrations of sublimity.

The Gurū, undoubtedly, seems to have had his meditating spirit absorbed in the Creator so profoundly that the great paradoxes of the Divine mystery left a stamp of *vismād* or spiritual wonderment on his soul. The unique poetic prowess of the Gurū is able to transfer the thrills of that wonder even to the reader/ reciter.

The profound reverence and intense devotion with which the Gurū salutes his Creator, impels his reader to salute the Gurū with a similar profound devotion. This all-powerful work is able to transport the human soul to the very Presence of the Divine and enrapture it with ineffable bliss.

# Divine Paradox and Bipolar Process Theism

## Divine Paradox

A paradox is an apparently true statement or group of statements that lead to an apparent contradiction or a situation which defies what is intuitively sensed. It exists where two statements or groups of statements appear contradictory but can actually be resolved. The word 'paradox' is often used interchangeably, but wrongly, with contradiction, but where contradiction by definition cannot be true, many paradoxes do allow for resolution, though quite a number remain unresolved or only contentiously resolved.

"The Law of Paradox," essentially, is an aspect of the Principal of Polarity. It requires that we must not omit "the other side" of any question – particularly when the two sides are related to, or directed respectively to the Absolute and Relative and are therefore really perplexing to everyone. That seems to be the reason why in  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$ , proper attention has to be paid to grasp the Divine Paradox lest we get entangled in the mire of Half-Truths.

The Absolute Truth is, "Things as God knows them." Relative Truth is, "Things as the highest reason of man knows." In the Absolute, the universe is merely a mental creation, a dream or result of meditation. To the finite mind that forms a part of the universe and viewed through its mortal faculties, the universe appears very real indeed. We must not forget that within our limited faculties we are not Brahman.

The Law of Paradox exhibits the realm of the opposites, "emptiness' (*shūnya*) and "possibility" (*avasar*). It illustrates the

complement that rests in all created things. The problem is always the Essence of the Absolute vs that of the Relative.

Jāp Sāhib is replete with divine paradoxes of this kind. In the very opening verse the Divine, as Absolute, is said to be indescribable 'neither this nor that'. Again in verse 86, it has been said, "Vedas and Simritīs call you 'neither this nor that' every day." However, in His Relative aspect, He is *this* and he is *that*.

In verses 2, 3, 84 and some others He has been described as  $Ak\bar{a}l$ . ' $Ak\bar{a}l$ ' (A = no,  $k\bar{a}l = time$ ) has two senses. In one sense, it means timeless, transcending time, God sans Creation – time being a created entity. In the other sense, it means *infinite* and signifies 'extending over endless time'. The former sense pertains to the Absolute, the latter to the Relative aspect of God. In the former sense, the Absolute has no beginning – as He has been called  $An\bar{a}d(i)^2$  (An = sans,  $\bar{a}d(i) =$  beginning). On the other hand,<sup>3</sup> He has also been called  $\bar{A}di(i)$  (from the beginning). He has been described as  $\bar{A}d(i)$  R $\bar{u}pa$  (Primal form),  $\bar{A}d(i)$  deva (Primal deity) and Ad(i) Purakh<sup>4</sup> (Primal Person). All these pertain to His Relative aspect.

 $K\bar{a}l$  also means 'Death' – since, enduring through Time, things die or wither away. God, however, is immortal,  $Ak\bar{a}l$ , but He, it is who has caused mortality as the fate of His Creation in general as well as His creatures in their individual prospect.

As Absolute, He is *ekai*, 'the One',<sup>5</sup> 'the only One'.<sup>6</sup> However, in His Relative aspect, being pervasive in His Creation, He is *anekai*, 'many',<sup>7</sup> where he reveals Himself in the form of a multiform spectacle, *anek darshan*.<sup>8</sup>

As an Absolute being, He is *anāme* or *nirnāme*, i.e. without a name.<sup>9</sup> He can be presumed to have a Comprehensive Name or *Sarab Nām*<sup>10</sup> composite of all His subtle and latent qualities,

1. V. 29 to 43.	2. V. 33, 79, 83 etc.
3. V. 30.	4. V. 79, 80 and 84.
5. V. 9.	6. V. 81.
7. V. 9, 47.	8. V. 81.
9. V. 4, 61, 95 etc.	10. V. 1.

but that surely is inaccessible to man and hence indescribable.<sup>11</sup> Yet, in His Relative prospect, He has many a *karam nām* or action name.<sup>12</sup>

The Absolute is  $Ar\bar{u}p$  (A = sans,  $r\bar{u}p = form$ ) without any form.<sup>13</sup> He has no  $k\bar{a}e$  i.e. body.<sup>14</sup> He lends Himself to no image – *chitran bihīnai*.<sup>15</sup> In His Relative prospect, He is *Brahman Sarūpe i.e. Brahman* who has assumed form, or who is *Brahman* incarnate.<sup>16</sup> He is *sarab rūpe* or *samastī sarūpe* i.e. the form of all the Creation.<sup>17</sup> His form is *rasāl* i.e. exquisite,<sup>18</sup> and *nekalankī sarūpe* i.e. faultless.<sup>19</sup> It has also been described a *husnul chirāgh*, 'the lamp of beauty'<sup>20</sup> and *jur-at(i) jamāl*, the splendour of courage.<sup>21</sup>

In His Absolute aspect, He is *nridesai* or without any domicile<sup>22</sup> and *adese* or 'of no country'.<sup>23</sup> *Dhām hūn naih jāhe*, who has no home.<sup>24</sup> In His Relative aspect, He is *sarb dese* or belonging to all lands,<sup>25</sup> *samastul nivāsī* or abiding everywhere,<sup>26</sup> *sarbatr desai* or belonging to all countries<sup>27</sup> and *samastast dhāme* or having His home everywhere.<sup>28</sup> He is *jattra tattra birāj-hī* i.e. has His seat here as well there<sup>29</sup> and *jattra tattra dishā vishā hue phailio anurāg* i.e. here, there and everywhere He is immanent as Love.<sup>30</sup> He is *prithīul pravās* or abiding all over the earth,<sup>31</sup> *chattra chakkravartī* or roaming in all the four quarters.<sup>33</sup>

11. V. 1.	12. V. 1.
13. V. 2, 22.	14. V. 100.
15. V. 107.	16. V. 106.
17. V. 19, 49.	18. V. 79.
19. V. 50.	20. V. 151.
21. V. 158.	22. V. 10, 18.
23. V. 61.	24. V. 81.
25. V. 66.	26. V. 58 and 153.
27. V. 114, 117.	28. V. 61.
29. V. 79.	30. V. 80.
31. V. 130.	32. V. 97.
33. V. 98.	34. V. 5, 41 and 134.

As the Absolute, *akarman* i.e. sans any action,<sup>34</sup> *nrikarme* i.e. without activity<sup>35</sup> and *aklankrit* i.e. is un-made.<sup>36</sup> As the Relative, He is *sarbākrit* or doing everything<sup>37</sup>, *chatra chakra kartā* or active in all the four quarters<sup>38</sup> and *sarbatra sāje* or creating everything. He is also *kāran kunind* or cause of causes,<sup>39</sup> *jag ke kran* or cause of the world (v. 173) and *sarbatra kāje* or active everywhere.<sup>40</sup> His action is described as unflinching, *at dhith karam* i.e. very stubborn.<sup>41</sup> His action is also bipolar. He is not only *sarban kartā* or Creator of everything, but also *sarban hartā* or destroyer of everything;<sup>42</sup> not only *karīan* or Creator but also *harīan* or destroyer of His Creation.<sup>43</sup> He not only creates but also infuses life breath, *sarbang prānan* in His creatures.<sup>44</sup>

The Absolute is *adrishai* or invisible, <u>ghaibul ghaib</u> or most hidden<sup>45</sup> and *adikh* or un-seeable. As Relative, He is always  $z\bar{a}har$ zahūr or very much present,<sup>46</sup> hāzar hazūr or evident right in front<sup>47</sup> and sadā ang sange or ever omnipresent.

As Absolute, He is *adhandh* without any occupation,<sup>48</sup> *abandhe* or *abadhe* i.e. unbound, and *azād* i.e. free.<sup>49</sup> As Relative, He is *sarb dhandhe* or busy and engaged in every occupation.

As Absolute, He is *atattan sarūpe<sup>50</sup>* i.e. immaterial in form, while as Relative, He is *param tattan* i.e. supremely material.<sup>51</sup> He is *andhkāre* or darkness<sup>52</sup> as well as *tej teje* or the essence of light<sup>53</sup> and *pret* or ghost and *apret* i.e. not a ghost.

As Absolute, He is *abhes, abhekh* or *anbhekh* all the terms meaning un-garbed.<sup>54</sup> As Relative, He is *sarbatra bhesai* or in every

35. V. 10, 11.	36. V. 183.
37. V. 183.	38. V. 96.
39. V. 109.	40. V. 116.
41. V. 170.	42. V. 27.
43. V. 95, 198.	44. V. 77, 143.
45. V. 108.	46. V. 150.
47. V. 150.	48. V. 136.
49. V. 24.	50. V. 186.
51. V. 186.	52. V. 185.
53. V. 185.	54. V. 63, 84, 30, 88

raiment<sup>55</sup> and *sarbattra bhekhī* or garbed variously (v. 115). He is also considered *ābhij bhesai* or dressed in untorn clothes.<sup>56</sup>

In his Absolute aspect, He is *jog jogeshwar* i.e. the greatest of Yogis,<sup>57</sup> *avdhūt* or a mendicant<sup>58</sup> and *birakt* i.e. detached,<sup>59</sup> while in His Relative aspect, He is  $r\bar{a}j\bar{a}n r\bar{a}j$ , the king of kings<sup>60</sup> on the one hand, and *rankān rank*, the poorest among the poor<sup>61</sup> on the other.

While in His Relative aspect, He can be kalah kartā, the cause of conflict<sup>62</sup> as well as krūr karme, acting brutally,<sup>63</sup> in His Absolute aspect, He is shānt rūpe, peaceful entity.<sup>64</sup>

While in His Absolute aspect, He is *anātam*, without a sense of 'self',<sup>65</sup> in His Relative aspect, He is *ātam prabhā*, splendour of self (v. 160).

As Absolute, He is *adharman*, sans *dharma*<sup>66</sup> and *amazbe*, sans religion,<sup>67</sup> as Relative, He is *sarb dharman*, all religions<sup>68</sup> and *amīkul imān*, profound faith (v. 158).

To conclude, it can be said that the Divine Paradoxes in  $J\bar{a}p$  $S\bar{a}hib$  are all resolved if one considers the two polar sides of Godthe Absolute and the Relative.

## Bipolar Process Theism

One way of looking at the Divine bipolarity is to consider the two poles as belonging to two parallel universes. That we have considered in the above discourse on Divine Paradox. Another way of viewing the same bipolarity can be by considering it as representing a Bipolar Divine Process.

Process Theology is a new way of looking at the Divine

55. V. 112, 117.	56. V. 103.
57. V. 51.	58. V. 85.
59. V. 137.	60. V. 89.
61. V. 90.	62. V. 187.
63. V. 54.	64. V. 187.
65. V. 85.	66. V. 5.
67. V. 17.	68. V. 144.

neither as a person, nor as a bipolarity caused by the Divine simultaneously belonging to twin parallel universes, but as an actual process. In Christianity, this type of theology appeared lately by taking account of modern science, especially evolution, and which teaches that God's way of working in the world is a steady process that patiently overcomes the elements of chance and evil present in the universe and including in itself all the good that is brought about.

Jāp Sāhib is a work that represents Gurū Gobind Singh's Process Theology – his own way of looking at the Divine in action. He himself proclaims :

tav sarab nām kathai kavan karam nām barnat sumat. Who can Your Comprehensive Name describe ? Your Action-Names are all that chant the wise.(1)

Every action tends to be a process – from being to becoming. A process, then, may be described as "A series of purposive actions generally tending towards the production of something. It is a systematic movement resulting in growth or decay."<sup>69</sup> It may be considered as the course of actuality in its cosmological aspect. This is exactly what  $J\bar{a}p$   $S\bar{a}hib$  is concerned with. It would, therefore, be instructive for us to reconstruct the theology of this sublime work from this angle.

Every process is a development; and every development passes through certain phases. These are :

- 1. Pre-beginning : *anād(i)* (16, 197)
- 2. Beginning : ād(i) (19, 167)
- 3. Emergence : aneke (9, 81)
- 4. Formation : akalan krit (183)
- 5. Maturity : samastī sarūpe (49)
- 6. Decay : sarb khāpe (20)
- 7. Death : sarb kāle (18)
- 8. Death of Death, Eternity : Kāl kāle (45)

69. Runes, DD: The *Dictionary of Philosophy*, Bombay, Jaico Publishing House, 1956.

Jāp Sāhib, we can see, scans over all of them. Although this process as we have depicted above, seems to be temporal, in fact, it must be understood in non-temporal terms. From the viewpoint of the process Jap Sahib deals with a generative process, which has definite repeatable phases. This progression that is primarily linear, but has some circularity superimposed on it assumes the form of a wave. However, the process that is primarily repetitive and hence circular, can become spiral if superimposed by linearity. Marked repetitiveness in Jap Sahib is indicative of the fact that the process that it deals with is primarily of a circular nature. In a linear process the two ends never meet; they may grow to be farther apart as the process proceeds. The two ends in a circular process are destined eventually to meet. Sarb Kal (The Great Death or Doom; or all-Time), Akāl (Beyond Death; or transcending Time) and Kal Kale (Death of Death; or mortality of Time) are one and the same entity. It is there that all ends meet.

The Divine is absolutely free – abandhe: unbound;<sup>70</sup> dhandhe: ever-pursuant;<sup>71</sup>  $\bar{a}tam \ bas$ : self-controlled;<sup>72</sup>  $az\bar{a}d$ : free;<sup>73</sup> nrib $\bar{a}dh$  sar $\bar{u}pe$ : unobstructed form.<sup>74</sup> That is how the real initiator of a process has to be – particularly the One who is responsible for the process of developing the entire cosmos. His work has to be *akalan krit*: artless<sup>75</sup> and sarb $\bar{a}$  krit: all embracing, without any deficiency.<sup>76</sup> There is absolutely no contradiction in His process. He is sarb kart $\bar{a}$ : the Creator of all as well sarb hart $\bar{a}$ : the Destroyer of all.<sup>77</sup>

The repeatable phases of His process go from one loop of the spiral to the next or in the reverse direction thereof.

From *arūp* (Abstract) to *sarūp* (Concrete) to Abstract again.

From *param* (Transcendent) to *ramaṇaṅ* (Immanent) to Transcendent again.

70. V. 24.	71. V. 24.
72. V. 184.	73. V. 144.
74. V. 127.	75. V. 183.
76. V. 183.	77. V. 27.

- From *akāl* (Eternal) to *sarab kāle* (Temporal) to Eternal again.
- From *sunit* (Permanent) to *anit* (Ephemeral) to Permanent again
- From sarban kartā (Active) to akaraman (Passive) to Active again.
- From ek (One) to anek (Many) to One again.
- From *sarab thāpe* (Establisher) to *sarab khāpe* (annihilator) to Establisher again.

He is thus Master of both the ends<sup>78</sup>:

lok: the Here and parlok: the Beyond, shaktī: Power and bhaktī: Devotion, mīrī: temporal power and pīrī: spiritual power, sevā: service and simran: meditation, karam: the active and akarm: the passive, bhagautī: the devotee and bhagvant: the deity, jugat(i): procedure and muktī: liberation. panth: the community and granth: the Scripture. shabd: the Word and shūnya: the Void.

All these aspects are not just temporal but, even more importantly, cosmological and fully actualized.

He is the cause not merely of good but also of evil. He is at once :

- kalah kartā: causing turmoil and shānt rūpe: the harbinger of peace.
- *tej teje*: effulgent brilliance and *andhkāre*: profound darkness.
- khel khel: Playing the Game and akhel khelan: winding up the Game.

His polarities are patent. He is simultaneously both

*rājān rāj* : the King of kings and *raṅkān raṅk* : the poorest of the poor.

78. ਦੁਹਾ ਸਿਰਿਆ ਕਾ ਆਪਿ ਸੁਆਮੀ॥ ਖੇਲੈ ਬਿਗਸੈ ਅੰਤਰਜਾਮੀ॥

(ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਗ੍ਰੰਥ ਸਾਹਿਬ, ਪੰਨਾ 277)

*ātam*: the Self and *anātam*: non-self. Thus vibrating between the two ends.

For God, the Guru employs the Persian word *harif*, which means friend as well as foe. Yet he is

na satrai : neither foe, na mitrai : nor friend.

That is why He is *neti neti* : not this, not even that, and yet both 'this and that'.

This, then, is a brief outline of the Bipolar Process Theism of  $J\bar{a}p \ S\bar{a}hib$ , distinct from a paradox. A paradox, whether logical, semantic or mathematical, has to be resolved by some process external to it. However, in the process bipolarity, the process of which we have the polarities to deal with, itself provides the resolution of the seeming opposites.

## God as Warrior

Quite a few sections of *Jāp Sāhib*, when put together, lend themselves to a description of a Warrior God. He is described as the War of wars,<sup>1</sup> the original cause of turmoil.<sup>2</sup> He is portrayed as the wielder of weapons and the hurler of missiles.<sup>3</sup> He is considered to be a ruthless destroyer,<sup>4</sup> stubbornly insistent in His action.<sup>5</sup> He slays arrogance and pride<sup>6</sup> and destroys the wicked.<sup>7</sup>

He unfurls and holds high the lofty flag of *dharma*.<sup>8</sup> He vanquishes foes,<sup>9</sup> destroys evil action<sup>10</sup> and dispels oppression.<sup>11</sup> He punishes tyrants,<sup>12</sup> vanquishes enemies,<sup>13</sup> taxes vulgar foe.<sup>14</sup> He has wonderful courage,<sup>15</sup> indestructible limbs<sup>16</sup> and imperishable existence.<sup>17</sup>

Such a God is nothing short of a Warrior God flush with victory. He is the Master over war, ruling over it and presiding over its devastating consequences. In it, His glory seems to be splendid, His justice appears to be ruthless and His action seems to be stubbornly inviolable. He appears *par excellence* to be the Warrior with the spirit of Almightiness – He is invincible,<sup>18</sup> unbreakable,<sup>19</sup> infellible<sup>20</sup> and unpierceable.<sup>21</sup> He is ever-undaunted,<sup>22</sup> never intimidated,<sup>23</sup> and victorious<sup>24</sup> always.

- 1. juddh juddhe, v. 187.
- 3. shastra pāņe, astra māņe, v. 52.
- 5. at(i) dhith karam, v. 170.
- 7. dusht bhanjan, v. 85.
- 9. ar(i) ganjan, v. 182.
- 11. ghazāib ghanīme, v. 198.
- 13. ghanīmul shikaste, v. 122.
- 15. jur'at jamāl, v. 158.
- 17. anchhij gāt, v. 168.
- 19. abhange, v. 15.
- 21. achhede, v. 7.
- 23. abhīt, v. 42.

- 2. kalah kartā, v. 187.
- 4. krūr karme, v. 54.
- 6. garab ganjan, v. 85.
- 8. dharman dhujā, v. 105.
- 10. kukarman praņāsī, v. 197.
- 12. ripu tāpan, v. 182.
- 14. ghanīmul khirāj, v. 124.
- 16. anchhij ang, v. 164.
- 18. abhanje, v. 8.
- 20. adhāhe, v. 6.
- 22. abhai, v. 189.
- 24. ajai, v. 189.

However, the same God, in many verses is described as all Merciful,<sup>25</sup> all Clemency<sup>26</sup> and all Compassion.<sup>27</sup> He is the compassionate Creator<sup>28</sup> the sole Preserver of all,<sup>29</sup> and embodiment of Grace.<sup>30</sup> He is the life of beings,<sup>31</sup> the breath of every life<sup>32</sup> and the Lord of immortality.<sup>33</sup> He has no foe,<sup>34</sup> forgives He sins,<sup>35</sup> and grants Liberation to all.<sup>36</sup> He is the focus of all Attraction,<sup>37</sup> Hope of every hope<sup>38</sup> and Pervasive in one and all.<sup>39</sup> He is the source of eternal Peace and fount of eternal Serenity<sup>40</sup> and embodiment of Peace eternal.<sup>41</sup>

In view of such profuse epithets of peacefulness that God possesses, how could He be God of war?

#### 2.

Is it not possible that God's Grace can appear even as war? He can, surely, be trusted to oppose those forces that destroy peace and disturb the well-being of all. In other words, even when he wages a war, his intention in reality is that of establishing or restoring peace. Peace cannot be considered as solely a human undertaking. God has to take action primarily. He cannot see chaos prevailing. He would rather have order; therefore he would like to bring to book those who oppress, exploit, threaten, or terrorise the meek. Therefore, He would struggle against the enemies of well-being and wholesomeness – a struggle against injustice, tyranny, famine and any other man-made calamity against mankind. Under such circumstances, waging a war of justice would have a rightful place.

- 25. kripāle, v. 2.
- 27. karuņākar, v. 176.
- 29. sarb pāle, v. 28.
- 31. jīv jīvan, v. 72.
- 33. amritā-mrit, v. 178.
- 35. afvul-gunāh, v. 109.
- 37. tamāmul rujū, v. 121.
- 39. samastul nivāse, v. 197.
- 41. shānt rūpe, v. 186.

- 26. sarab diāle, v. 28.
- 28. karīmul kunindā, v. 198.
- 30. kripālan sarūpe, v. 73.
- 32. sarban prāņan, v. 77.
- 34. na shatrai, v. 99.
- 36. sarbań muktā, v. 144.
- 38. ās āse, v. 188.
- 40. hamesul salām, v. 121.

In an alienated world, whose unity with God has been fractured, any participation in war would be a compromise of what God intends and serves to further alienation and chaos rather than wholeness and order. The welfare of all (*sarbat dā bhalā*) becomes even more remote. When, however, God involves His divine Self in that broken world, would not our faithful response be to seek to discern the divine involvement and to pattern our participation accordingly? God would not neglect what destroys or diminishes the well-being of all. He then has to take action. Vengeance in human hand issues only in violence; but left to God, evil forces are judged judiciously and fully and composite well-being of all is restored through whatever means are considered suitable.

It is not God alone who would employ such measures, even Gurūs affirm similar intent. Gurū Gobind Singh, in his autobiography proclaims as follows :

> Understand thoughtfully, O ye men of God. This is the reason why I took birth : To proclaim righteousness, to support the saints, And to root out evil in its entirety.<sup>42</sup>

In his significant diplomatic epistle to Emperor Aurangzeb, *Zafar Nāmah*, the said Gurū observed :

If every sanctioned means fails to bring order, It is legitimate to un-sheath the sword.<sup>43</sup>

### 3.

It was not only Gurū Gobind Singh, the author of  $J\bar{a}p S\bar{a}hib$ , who considered war as the necessary corrective for otherwise

42. ਯਾਹੀ ਕਾਜ ਧਰਾ ਹਮ ਜਨਮੰ॥ ਸਮਝ ਲੇਹੁ ਸਾਧੂ ਸਭ ਮਨਮੰ॥ ਧਰਮ ਚਲਾਵਨ ਸੰਤ ਉਬਾਰਨ॥ ਦੁਸਟ ਸਭਨ ਕੋ ਮੂਲ ਉਪਾਰਨ॥੪੩॥

43. ਚੂੰ ਕਾਰ ਅਜ਼ ਹਮਾ ਹੀਲਤੇ ਦਰਗੁਜ਼ਸ਼ਤ। ਹਲਾਲ ਅਸਤ ਬੁਰਦਨ ਬ ਸ਼ਮਸ਼ੀਰ ਦਸਤ।੨੨। (ਬਚਿੱਤਰ ਨਾਟਕ)

(ਜ਼ਫ਼ਰਨਾਮਹ)

incorrigible oppression or intransigent tyranny unleashed upon innocent folk. Other Gurūs and Bhaktas also held similar views. Gurū Arjan Dev, for example, observes :

> Brave warrior is he who can court death. The one who flees from the battle, shall be born to die again and again.<sup>44</sup>

Bhagat Kabir says :

The battle-drum resounds in the sky; The Aim has been taken and the wound inflicted. The warrior who enters the field Finds, it is time to engage with the foe. He alone is heroic warrior Who fights to defend the meek. Severed he may well get into several pieces, But never shall he desert the battle-field.<sup>45</sup>

### 4.

It is not the Sikh faith alone that considers war as the ultimate resort for establishing the just order. Almost every other religion holds similar views. The Jews hold that YAHWEH's warfare was on behalf of ancient Israel and prophesy of the coming deliverer.<sup>46</sup> God as warrior dominated Israel's faith.

In Christianity, Jesus Christ is said to have fought war against his spiritual enemies in the Synoptic Gospels in Paul's letters and Christ's victorious return in final apocalyptic battle in Revelation. It is considered the essential metaphor for understanding salvation. Jesus had seen God the warrior at work.<sup>47</sup>

44. ਜੋ ਸੂਰਾ ਤਿਸ ਹੀ ਹੋਇ ਮਰਣਾ॥	
ਜੋ ਭਾਗੈ ਤਿਸੂ ਜੋਨੀ ਫਿਰਣਾ॥	(ਮਾਰੂ ਮ: ੫, ਪੰਨਾ 1019)
45. ਗਗਨ ਦਮਾਮਾ ਬਾਜਿਓ ਪਰਿਓ ਨੀਸਾਨੈ ਘਾਉ॥	-
ਖੇਤੂ ਜੂ ਮਾਂਡਿਓ ਸੁਰਮਾ ਅਬ ਜੁਝਨ ਕੋ ਦਾਉ॥੧॥	
ਸ਼ੂਰਾ ਸੋ ਪਹਿਚਾਨੀਐ ਜੂ ਲਰੈ ਦੀਨ ਕੇ ਹੇਤ॥	
ਪੁਰਜਾ ਪੁਰਜਾ ਕਟਿ ਮਰੈ ਕਬਹੁ ਨ ਛਾਡੈ ਖੇਤੁ॥੨॥੨॥	(ਸਲੋਕ ਕਬੀਰ, ਪੰਨਾ 1105)
46. Old Testament.	
47. New Testament.	

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In Islam, Prophet Mohammad fought several battles in the name of Allah. *Jehād* in this religion is considered the duty of every conscientious Muslim.

In Hindūism, Rāma, the great *avatār* fought against Rāvaņa to rescue his abducted wife Sītā. Krishņa, the other great *avatār* urged Arjun in the battle-ground of Kurūkshetra to do his duty to fight as Kshatrīya. Arjun was reluctant to fight against his own kin who happened to confront him there. It was Krishņa who gave him counsel not to forsake fighting because it was legitimate to fight for the sake of justice. In the Hindū pantheon, gods and goddesses fought not only against demons but also among themselves.

## Conclusion

It is often asked, "Has God been actually encountered as warrior or did fighting communities sacrilize their own strife by such a characterization of God? Or is it merely a metaphoric characterization of God? If it is a metaphoric characterization, then, since he has no co-equal, He has always to be a conqueror (*Wāheguru jī kī Fateh*). The people concerned must believe that God is present among them (*Hāzrā huzūr*). The people believe that God being on the side of justice is on their side (*ang-sang*). That the possibility of metaphoric characterization in this sense possibly is the case of *Jāp Sāhib* is borne out by the fact that Gurū Gobind Singh in one of the verses in this work juxtaposes in one line two opposing epithets of God simultaneously – these are 'the author of strife' (*kalah kartā*) and 'the embodiment of peace' (*shānt rūpe*).

Since it is a powerful metaphor, it should not encourage any 'holy war' by people. We must let God fight for us because He knows where justice is. Moreover, His justice is divine justice tinged with mercy as well as forgiveness. It is not vengeful 'justice' of man. One must always let God fight the battle, "For the battle is not yours, but God's." (2 Chron.20.15-17).

# Spiritual Growth through Jāp Sāhib

Jap Sāhib is a work of intense meditation uttered by a prophet in a state of profound ecstasy. That is why, if a seeker chants it with real devotion, it can transport him into a state of intense spiritual activation. It provides the seeker experience of the Presence of the Almighty Lord in all His Grandeur and Glory. The Vision of the supreme Lord that one meets here is that of a valorous Lord at war with the forces of evil. In the superb verses of this unparalleled work, one discerns Divine Splendour brimming with holy Resoluteness, with the Flag of Righteousness held up for Him. It inspires the devotee to join the mighty forces of the Lord as His 'knight-at-arms'. One then automatically becomes responsive to His beck and call. One is impelled to bow before the Great Lord who is, at once, the maker of strife and the restorer of peace.<sup>1</sup> Meditative attention upon this work heralds the devoted seeker into realms of Divine Resplendence.

A devotee who lets his mind soak in the Names of God, would not find the need to observe rituals. To him any ritual begins to appear as vain, and so, he resolves to abandon it. He becomes the devout worshipper of the One Transcendent Reality, the Eternal Cosmic Person ( $Ak\bar{a}l$  Purakh). His singleminded devotion becomes charged with the ever-ascending spiritual optimism (*Charhdī Kalā*).

The devotee then finds the Presence of the Lord right by his side (*ang-sang*), supporting and sustaining him, providing him courage and valour and inspiring him to become the defender of the weak and the destroyer of the tyrannous. He gets at once imbued with spiritual inspiration and animated with resolute

1. Namo kalah kartā namo shānt rūpe. (V. 187)

gallantry. The spirit of sacrifice wells up in him and fear of death vanishes altogether.

In thought, word and deed, the devotee becomes prompted to look after those who are in need of care and help. In this, one considers oneself an inspired agent and a humble consignee of the Divine. He feels inspired into benevolent undertakings for the welfare of mankind. This he does because he finds in all humankind his own kinsfolk—the children of his own Father. He discovers that

Here, there and everywhere, He (the Lord) is pervasive as Love.<sup>2</sup>

One, who partakes of Divine Love, considers oneself accountable for that gift, and liable to reciprocate to it by providing love to every creature of the Lord. One comes to sense deeply that God, being *amazhabe* (*sans* a constrictive creed), belongs to no sectarian religion, and being *adharman* (*sans* religious binding) favours no schism. He is sheer Love, and His devotees must follow the model of His generosity. This, in effect, brings about a revolution in the spiritual life of the devotee.

We have seen already that  $J\bar{a}p S\bar{a}hib$  employs with equal ease diction derived from the Aryan as well as Arabic-Persian tradition. It also eulogises the Divine Names in vogue in both Indian and Semitic traditions. Such a non-sectarian attitude of this work impresses one with the universal import of this work. Anyone who recites this work with empathic insight, automatically rises above sectarian loyalties and ritual observances.

The panegyric hymnology of  $J\bar{a}p S\bar{a}hib$  makes one effortlessly eulogise the Almighty in the choicest terms having great spiritual import. Some accomplished souls vouchsafe that continual recitation of the verses of this great work—even just the monosyllabic verses 94 and 95—generates enormous spiritual insight in one who regularly dwells upon them.

Regular recitation of this powerful *bāņī* enhances one's psychic prowess and sharpens one's intuitive sensitivity. One's

2. Jattra tattra dishā vishā, hue phailio anurāg. (V. 80)