BANI OF BHAGATS

(Lives and selected works of saints included in
Sri Guru Granth Sahib)

by
Dr. G.S. Chauhan

Publisher:
Dr. Inderjit Kaur
President
All India Pingalwara Charitable Society (Regd.)
Amritsar.

(Free of Cost)
BANI OF BHAGATS

(Free of Cost)

Author:
G.S. Chauhan
B-202, Shri Ganesh, Apptts.,
Plot No. 12-B, Sector : 7, Dwarka,
New Delhi - 110075

Publisher:
Dr. Inderjit Kaur
Mukh Sevadar
All India Pingalwara Charitable Society (Regd.)
Amritsar.
Ph : 0183-2584586,2584713

Printer:
Printwell
146, Industrial Focal Point,
Amritsar. Ph : 0183-2587036
Dedication

This little work is dedicated to the Bhagti movement saints, but for whom India would have lost the ancient culture and religious heritage. Inclusion of Bhagat Bani in Sri Guru Granth Sahib, thus preserving it for posterity is a great contribution by Shri Guru Arjun Dev.
Foreward

The author, Dr. G.S. Chauhan, is an Electrical Engineer and a retired General Manager from the Indian Railways. After retirement in 1991, he has taken up the study of the Sikh Scriptures and also those of the other Indian Religions as an avocation. He has already translated Guru Nanak Dev’s Japji Sahib and Guru Arjan Dev’s Sukhmani Sahib in English and brought out these two books in a trilingual format. These books have been well-received and found useful, particularly, by the Non-Punjabi Readers.

Likewise, in the present book-‘Bani of Bhagats’ the author has taken great pains in studying the work of 15 self-realized saints of the Bhagti Movement Fame, 11 Bhatts and 3 Sikhs, which are included in Sri Guru Granth Sahib. He has taken up only the selected works of these authors and classified them under various heads such as: Uncertainty of Human Existence, Real Happiness, Secret of Self-Realization, Hypocrisy, Self-Criticism, Unity of All Religions, Victory over Illusive Power (Maya), Self-Control, Unavailing Rituals–Pilgrimages and Holy Baths, Unity of Creator and His Creation, Fear and Ignorance, True Religion, Non-violence, Honesty, Company of Saints, Complete Surrender to God, Worry and Anxiety, Prayer, Austerity and Simplicity, various Attributes of the Almighty and so on. I hope this book will go a long way in benefitting the large range of readers exuding interest in the Sikh School of Thought.

Last, but not the least, I am thankful to the author for entrusting me with the job of proof-reading and getting the book printed under the aegis of the All India Pingalwara Charitable Society (Regd.), Amritsar. I am also very grateful to Dr. Inderjit Kaur, Patron President of the Society for granting her gracious go-ahead in this matter.

Ar. Mukhtar Singh Goraya
Hony. Secreatry,
Pingalwara, Amritsar.
Preface

Eleventh to fourteenth centuries were very disturbed times in North India due to repeated invasions by Muslim Tribes from the West. Spirituality was being systematically destroyed, law and order situation was extremely poor, open loot and robberies were common. The public was crying in grief since economic and political activities were at very low ebb. The society was strongly divided into castes, high and low status, the rich and the poor, the landed and tenant communities, etc. The spiritual activities were confined to ritual worship and the spiritual leaders were just a farce.

In these difficult times, great saints like Swami Rama Nand, Kabir, Ravidas, Baba Sheikh Farid, Namdev, Trilochan and many others undertook to carry out a difficult task of reviewing Indians spiritual greatness and cultural heritage. One common link between them was that they were worshippers of one Unmanifest Lord and were against any distinctions in the human race. Although they were from different states, spiritual paths and cultural backgrounds, all of them gave the same message of love, peace, harmony and universal brotherhood.

Sri Guru Nanak Dev travelled far and wide in India and abroad i.e. Assam, Burma, Tibet, China in the East, Arabia and some parts of Africa in the west, Sri Lanka in the south and Kashmir and southern parts of Russia in the north. He met a very large number of self-realized saints, had discussions with them and recorded them in his own compositions for posterity. He also collected compositions of other saints wherever available like that of Sheikh Farid from his successors, Kabir, Ravidas, Rama Nand, Jaidev, Trilochan, etc. Compositions like "Sidh Gosht" and "Dakhni Oankar" are classical examples of his recorded discussions with Yogis and learned Brahmins.

Some of the saints were worshippers of manifest gods, like,
Namdev was devotee of Lord Vithal’s Statue. But, with their spiritual progress, they all realized the Un-manifest Lord. By including the compositions of the saints from different spiritual paths, Sri Guru Arjun Dev has set a unique example of secular aspect of Sikhism.

Sri Parmahansa Ramakrishan has very aptly described this: ‘A truly religious man should think that other religions are also paths leading to Truth. We should always maintain an attitude of respect towards other religions’. Similarly, Baba Virsa Singh of Gobind Sadan, Delhi has said, "All the Masters of different spiritual paths are brothers. If you show disrespect to a Master of other religion, the Master of that religion may forgive you, but your own Master shall not forgive for the disrespect shown to his brother". This message of universal brotherhood is spread throughout the compositions of saints and the Gurus.

Most of the saints whose compositions are included in Sri Guru Granth Sahib were practitioners of very hard and difficult spiritual practices which cannot be followed by worldly householders. Therefore, at many places, the Gurus have either clarified or supplemented the saints' message so that the householders do not get discouraged since they cannot follow practices or "Sadhanas" followed by the saints. Therefore, the Gurus have assured the disciples at many places that they need not go to the extent described by the saint and limit them within their capabilities.

The language used by the saints mostly is "Sant Bhasha". Since the saints travelled far and wide, they developed a lingua franca called "Sant Bhasha", but some like Jaidev have used Sanskrit language but most of the others have used common dialect.

The 11 Bhattas, Baba Sunder Ji, Rai Balwand and Satta, the bards, were disciples of the Gurus. They were very devoted, learned and self-realized. Guru Arjun Dev included their compositions in Sri Guru Granth Sahib as these compositions were also of very high spiritual value and explained very intricate spiritual problems on the spiritual path to help other devotees.

The compositions of saints are recoded in 22 ragas
(musical meters) apart from slokas and swayas. The total volume is very large. I have, therefore, tried to give brief life sketches of the saints and a few compositions to illustrate the range of ideas or subjects covered by them. Since no records are available about dates and place of birth of most of the saints, their parentage, etc., there are conflicting views expressed by different authors. I have mentioned the most accepted and logical details and avoided controversies. In any case, since the saints had achieved a state beyond time and space, any controversies about dates and place of birth are irrelevant.

This book was first published with original compositions in Roman script only. With the popularity of my two books on Gurbani i.e. "Japji Sahib" and "Sukhmani Sahib" wherein trilingual format was followed, Ar. Mukhtar Singh Goraya Hony. Secy., All India Pingalwara Charitable Society (Regd.), Amritsar very kindly suggested the same format for this book too and took exceptional pains to follow up with the printers and correct the proofs. I am grateful to him and Bibi Dr. Inderjit Kaur, Patron President, Pingalwara for publishing the book by Pingalwara.

My thanks are also due to my niece Ms. Jaswinder Kaur who set the book on computer originally with great devotion and painstakingly.

I am sure this little book will help the readers to appreciate the great service rendered by the Bhagti movement saints to humanity by preaching love of God, universal brotherhood and guiding the devotees on the spiritual path by giving them practical wisdom.

The readers are requested to kindly advise me of any mistake so that the same can be corrected in future editions.

25th December 2008
G.S. Chauhan
Bangalore
B-202 Shree Ganesh Apptts.
Plot No. 12-B; Sector 7, DWARKA
New Delhi-110075
Tel : 011-25086357
Email : gschauhan1@rediffmail.com
Contents

Chapter 1 - Swami Rama Nand Ji .....................................................1
Chapter 2 - Saint Kabir Ji ...............................................................6
Chapter 3 - Saint Ravidas Ji .........................................................55
Chapter 4 - Sheikh Farid Ji .........................................................76
Chapter 5 - Saint Namdev Ji .........................................................96
Chapter 6 - Saint Jaidev Ji .........................................................121
Chapter 7 - Saint Trilochan Ji ....................................................127
Chapter 8 - Saint Sadhna Ji .......................................................134
Chapter 9 - Saint Sain Ji ............................................................137
Chapter 10 - Saint Pipa Ji ..........................................................140
Chapter 11 - Saint Dhanna Ji .....................................................142
Chapter 12 - Saint Surdas Ji ......................................................148
Chapter 13 - Saint Parmanand Ji ..............................................151
Chapter 14 - Saint Bhikhan Ji ..................................................154
Chapter 15 - Saint Beni Ji ..........................................................157
Chapter 16 - The Bhattas and their Compositions .....................166
Chapter 17 - Baba Sunder Ji .....................................................180
Chapter 18 - Rai Balwand and Satta, the Bards .................184
Eleventh and twelveth centuries were very disturbed times in North India. Spiritualism being systematically destroyed. Law and order situation was extremely poor, open loot and robberies were common. Public was crying in grief because economic and political activities were at very low ebb due to increasing influence of invading Muslim tribes from the west. In such difficult times, a very powerful movement popularly called "Bhakti Movement" took birth to retrieve the nation out of the pits of economic, political and spiritual depression. Swami Rama Nand prepared the medicine called "Ram Naam" and administered it with the object to bring about equality, unity, brotherhood, love and co-operation among the masses. The society had been divided sharply according to caste, high and low status, the rich and the poor, the landed and the tenant communities etc. Swami Rama Nand spread the message that every person has an equal right to worship including the women and the so called "Shudras" and low castes. Thus, he took the Ganges of "Ram Naam" to the humble huts of the poor, deprived and shunned humanity.

Swami Rama Nand was born in Allahabad in 1356 AD. The exact dates are not available. His father's name was Pandit Pushap Sadan and mother's name was Smt. Sushila. As soon as he attained the tender age of six, his father took him to Swami Raghwa Nand Ashram at Kashi (Varanasi). After completing his education, Brahmchari Rama Nand,
took permission of his parents to renounce the world and become a "Sanyasi". Swami Raghwa Nand admitted him into "Sanyas Ashram" and soon after explaining intricacies of an "Acharya" or master, he himself went away to tour the country to spread the message of Yoga, Divine Knowledge, etc.

Swami Raghwa Nand belonged to the "Guru-Shishya" or master-disciple tradition of Shri Devacharya, the second and Sri Harya Nand. He came from south India and settled in Kashi (Varanasi). He spread the message of equality among all the four divisions of the society i.e. Brahmins, Kashatriyas, Vaishas and the Shudras and felt that it was not only the Brahmins but all sections of society and also the women who were eligible to do worship.

Swami Rama Nand’s message spread far and wide in North India in spite of the resistance from orthodox Brahmins and the vested interests. Among his well-known disciples, Kabir was a weaver, Ravidas was a cobbler, Dhana was a farmer, Sain was a barber, Parmavati was a lady and Pipa was a kashatriya. Thus, by declaring and spreading the message that devotion and meditation is the birth-right of all human beings and not a monopoly of the Brahmins, he brought about a great revolution. Saint Nabhadas, author of "Bhagatmal" has described Swami Rama Nand’s work as a historic bridge like that of Lord Ramchandra’s Rameshwar bridge. He spread the message of victory of truth and destruction of false-hood. Swami Rama Nand said that like the five elements i.e. water, earth, air, fire and ether are common property of all humanity, similarly "Raam Naam" is the birth-right of all men, women, Hindus, Muslims, Brahmins, Kashatriyas, Vaishas, Shudras belonging to any country or state. This message brought "Bhakti Movement" in direct confrontation with the ruling class and the orthodox Brahmins and Islamists. Saint Karamdass has very aptly described this as under :-

"Ham kahie hai nidar hoye kar, sanchi bat.
Yeh tab ki aur ab ki."
Rama Nand, Ravidas bin karte,  
Tughlak Lodhi suat sabh ki”

(I declare this fearlessly and speak truth about then and now that but for Rama Nand and Ravidas, the Tughlaks and the Lodhis would have converted everyone to Islam.)

Very few works of Swami Rama Nand are available. But some of his sayings have become popular proverbs, like, “Jat pat poochhey nah koi, Hari te bhajey so Hari ka hoye” i.e. whosoever meditates on God, belongs to God irrespective of caste and creed. It is said that Swami Raghwa Nand belonged to the line of Swami Ramanuja and was perfect in Yoga as well. This is why Yoga has very strong influence in the works of the disciples of his line.

**Works:**

Although many works of Swami Rama Nand are not traceable, according to the tradition, it is said that he wrote commentaries on "Brahm Sutras", "Sri Bhagwat Gita", "Vaishnav Matabaj Bhaskar". Among his works in Hindi language are "Ram Raksha". (it is available in India office London), "Gyan Lila", "Lambi ko Ang", "Yog Chintamani", "Gyan Tilak", "Mansi Sewa", "Bhagti Yoga", "Ram Ashtak" etc.

In Sri Guru Granth Sahib, there is only one stanza at page no 1195.

```

Bhagwan Nee Jee Jee 9

1. Phal Phal Phal Phal Phal

Phal saathiye te phal parali dehii

Abhui vichra te chale harab jaainghi pinda 11

Dev devcham bhar bahn bhavthr bhavthr

Ghoom chhaun chehra bhum vedi

Puran chal bhin bhum vedi

Meh bhum bhumcham bhum bhav jee bhav 11

Mann saathiye oor saadr phal

To poison vincham te saadr saadr

Bhum bhumcham saadr vekha mendi

Bhela abhuma saathiye chal bhin bhum vedi 12
```
"Kat jaiye re ghar lago rang
Mera chitt na chale mun bhaiyo pung (1) (Rahao)
Ek divas mun bhai umang
Ghus chandan choa bahu sugandh.
Pujan chali Brahm thai
So Brahm bataio guru mun hi mahi (1)
Jaha jaie tah jal pakhan
Tu pur rahio hai sabh saman.
Bed Puran sabh dekhe Joi
Uhan tau jaie jau ehan na hoi (2)
Satguru main balihari tore.
Jin sakal bikal bhum kahiya mor
Rama Nand Swami ramat Braham
Guru ka sabad kahiya kote karam (3) (1)"

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib, Page 1195)

Composition of Swami Rama Nand Ji score 1

The Lord is One, Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained with the grace of True Master.

Where am I to go when my heart is full of love.
I do not feel like moving anywhere and my mind has
gone limp.
    One day I had a great yearning (for worship)
    Therefore, I made paste of sandalwood and lot of other
scented things.
    And started for the temple of God
    But, the Master told me that the God is in my own
mind.
    Wherever one goes, there are stones and water
    God is therefore present equally everywhere
    I referred to all the Vedas and Puranas
    One may go there (temple) if God is not here (in one's
mind)
    Oh my Master! I am ready to sacrifice myself over You.
    Who has destroyed all my doubts and difficulties.
    Swami Rama Nand only worships Unmanifest God
    It is the Master's word (Mantra), which destroys
millions of sins of the disciple. (3) (1)
Chapter 2

Saint Kabir Ji

Saint Kabir is one of the most outstanding saints of middle ages. He was great social scientist, reformer, master of creative interests, and a poet of a very high order who raised his voice against the then unjust rulers and denominational heads of religious institutions. He was free from all bondages and free from any bias based on religion, caste, like, Brahmin, Kashatriyas, Vaishas, Shudras, ways of life, like, Brahmacharya, Grahast (family man), Vanprast and Sanyas; schools of thought, like, Vedant, Sankhya, Niai, Vaisheshik, Poorva Maimansa and Uttar maimansa etc. He truly treated all humanity as creation of one God, hence equal in all respects.

Like all other well-known saints, no authoritative historical facts are available about Saint Kabir. But, according to most reliable information, he was born in 1398 AD in Varanasi in a Muslim family. His father’s name was Neeru and that of mother was Neema. This view has been confirmed by his contemporary and exalted Saint Ravidas where he says that Kabir’s ancestors used to cut cows on the occasion of Id and Bakrid and had faith in Sheikhs and Pir. His father also continued to do the same; yet Kabir rose above all worldly bonds and became an exalted saint. From the beginning he had inclination towards Bhakti (devotion) and became a disciple of Swami Rama Nand. He has been very respectfully mentioned in the works of saint Ravidas, saint Dhanna and Guru Arjun Dev as below;

1) Saint Ravidas in his composition in Maru raga, as recorded on page 1106 of Sri Guru Granth Sahib, has said
"Namdev, Kabir, Tilochan, Sadhna, Sain tare.
Kahi Ravidas sunhu re santahu Hari jiu te sabhe sare" (2)

Saint Ravidas says that Namdev, Kabir, Trilochan, Sadhna and Sain (all belonging to low castes) were exalted and liberated by the Supreme Being who is capable of doing everything.

2) In Saint Dhanna’s composition, as recorded on page 487-488 of Sri Guru Granth Sahib, it is stated :-
"Bunana tanana tiag ke preet charan Kabira.
Neech kula julahra bhaio guni gahira."

i.e. after deserting preparing the threads as warp and woof and weaving the cloth, Kabir fell in love with the feet of the Supreme Being. Thus, a low caste weaver became a very accomplished person and store-house of all virtues.

3) Guru Arjun Dev has paid his compliment on page 1207 of Sri Guru Granth Sahib as under :-
"Bhalo Kabir Das dasan ko uttam Sain janu nai"

Kabir Das and Sain, the barber (who belonged to lower strata of society) were very exalted personages.

Saint Kabir was a staunch follower and preacher of Un-manifest form of the Lord. He criticized the blind faith and ritual worship of both Hindu and Muslim faiths. He was fearless in expressing his views. He took non-duality of God from Hindu philosophy, karma theory and extreme devotion from Vaishnavism, void "shuniya", non-violence and middle path from Buddhism and feeling of brotherhood from Sufism. Thus, he created an amalgam of good and practical qualities of all the contemporary systems of thought to bring about a revolution in caste ridden, depraved and disheartened society of that time. He preached equality of all human beings in very powerful terms as recorded at page 1349 of Sri Guru Granth Sahib as under:
Allah, the Creator, first created light. Everything i.e. all his creation is the slave of His Nature. From one light whole world came about without any distinction of good or bad.

O people! do not get lost in any illusion or delusion; the creator who feeds the whole creation is present in His creation and the creation is included in the Creator. Thus, the Supreme Being is present everywhere and in everything.

Saint Kabir has very boldly criticized Hindus and Muslims alike for their false beliefs.

1) While addressing a haughty Brahmin who considered himself to be superior to all other humans, Sant Kabir says

"Jau tu Brahmin Brahmini jaia,
Tau aan baat kahe nahin aiya"

If you consider yourself superior because you are a Brahmin born out of a Brahmin woman, then why were you not born in a different way? This is to stress the point that since the Brahmans are born to women in the same manner as the rest of humanity, they are equal to others and in no way superior.
2) "Kabir Mulan munare kya chareh Sain na bahira hoi."

i.e. Kabir is asking a Muslim priest as to why he goes up to tower of mosque and shouts because God is not deaf?

3) "Jau sabh mein ek Khudai kahat hai tau kiu murgi mare?
Mulan kahu niau Khudai, tere mun ka bharam na jai"

i.e. again Saint Kabir is asking a Muslim priest. If he says that the same God is present in all beings, then why does he kill a hen? This the Mullah calls God’s justice. Therefore, the Mullah is not able to get rid of his delusion or ignorance.

Saint Kabir has very powerfully expressed oneness of God. He says that God does not have two, four or eight arms (as portrayed in the statues of Hindu Gods) but has infinite number of arms. According to him, if somebody does not understand this simple fact, he is blind in spite of his eyes, has blind faith, is a hypocrite and is far away from the truth. This is why Saint Kabir has stressed on remembrance of the Lord’s Name, absorption in the word given by the Master, union of the word and the conscience (Shabad-surat). He has rejected idol worship, multiplicity of gods and the doctrine of reincarnation of gods in human form. The views expressed by him are very clear and explanatory. Thus, he could bring concept like Divine Knowledge ("Brahm Vichar"); self realization ("Atam Tatt") and spiritual instructions very close to the common man. This is why he is addressing common man as "O’ brother", "O Saints" etc and explains as under.

"Nirgun Ram japhu re bhai
Awigati ki gati kathi na jai
Char Ved jake Sumriti Purana
Nav vayakarna maram na jana"

i.e. O Brother! remeber the Unmanifest God (Rama who is present everywhere), it is not possible to understand His state as it is beyond the understanding of humans. Four Vedas, Simrities, Purans and the nine grammars have not been able to understand His secrets.
Works:

Although Saint Kabir was a prolific poet, yet he says that he has never touched ink and the paper and never held a pen. These words do not seem to be said in humility but may be true. His disciples must have written his works. There are 532 Stanzas, Shabads and Slokas by Saint Kabir and 9 works of the Gurus connected with Saint Kabir's compositions included in Sri Guru Granth Sahib. Apart from this, there are many compilations of his works like "Kabir Granthawali" by Babu Shayam Sunder Das of Kashi Nagri Parcharni Sabha; "Kabir Rachnavali" by Ayodhya Singh Upadhaye; "Kabir Ke Padya" by Kashiti Mohan Sen; "Kabir Granthawali" by Dr Paras Nath Tewari and "Kabir" By Dr. Hazari Prasad Dwivedi.

Saint Kabir's nature is very carefree and unattached to mundane interests. Even while addressing the Supreme Being he says:

```
Bhukhe bhagati na kije
Yeh mala apni lije
Hau mangau santan rena
Main nahin kisi ka deha (1)
Madho kaisi bane Tum sane
Aap na dehu ta levau mange (Rahao)
```

"Bhukhe bhagati na kije
Yeh mala apni lije
Hau mangau santan rena
Main nahin kisi ka deha (1)
Madho kaisi bane Tum sane
Aap na dehu ta levau mange (Rahao)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib, Page 656)
In this stanza Kabir very frankly tells the Supreme God that he cannot meditate when hungry. If the (appropriate) food is not provided then, He may take back his rosary. But (Kabir is not asking for the worldly food), he is asking for the holy person’s (saints) feet’s dust. Yet, he says that he owes nothing to anybody. Kabir does not stop here. He tells God if He does not give on His own, then Kabir will take it by begging from Him.

Saint Kabir’s works are recorded in 16 ‘ragas’ (musical meters) and as Slokas. The volume of his works is so large that these cannot be included in this volume in full. However, we will try to include some so as to give an idea of the range covered in these works.

1. Human existence is uncertain

Sri Raga Kabir Ji

"Janani janat sut bada hote hai
Itna ku na jani ji din din awadh ghatat hai
More more kari adhik laad
Dhari pekhat hi jamrau hase (1)
Aisa Tain jug bharam laia
Kaise bujhe jub mohia hai maia (1) (Rahao)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib Page 91-92)
The mother thinks that her son is increasing in age. But, she does not know that the duration for which her son would live on the earth is reducing every day. The mother showers her love on the child thinking that the child is hers. Seeing this fun, the god of death is laughing (on her ignorance that it is really his property and not that of the mother).

O God! you have spread this illusion (of attachment) in this world. How can anybody know the truth when the illusory phenomenon has charmed everybody?

2. False notions of religious symbols

Gauri Kabir Ji

"Nagan phirit jo paiye jog
Ban ka mirag mukut sabh hog (1)"
Kia nage kia badhe cham
Jab nahin chinas Atam Ram” (1) (Rahao)
Moond mundai jo sidhi pai
Mukti bhed na gaia kai (2)
Bindu rakh jau tariai bhai
Khusre kiu na Param Gati pai
Kahu kabir sunhu nar bhai
Ram Naam bin kin gati pai” (4) (4)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 324)

In this composition, saint Kabir has stressed that the outer garb or distinctive appearance does not lead one to liberation.

If roaming about naked will make one achieve yoga, then all the deer of the forest will attain liberation. So, there is no difference whether the skin of the body is naked or covered so long as one does not recognize or know the inner Atma.

If one is to attain liberation by close shave of the head etc. then the sheep are sure to achieve liberation. If celibacy can lead one to liberation, then why did the eunuchs not attain the highest stage of Nirwana?

Kabir says, O my brother humans, nobody has attained liberation without Ram Naam.

3. What is Real Happiness
सिम भल वहूँ तरची भक्ति सरल ॥
सिम वर जबुध जारिया फिरिया मपु ध्यायता ॥॥
सिम भल वहूँ जय न वैष्णव वर्धी ॥
प्रकोपं विशिष्टं उज्ज्वल वृत्त समस्ती ॥॥
सिम भल वर गंगा नहीं जली ॥
सिम भल लोह बने सुधौपांच ॥॥
सिम भल वहूँ तरी नव बवाण ॥॥
रन गुढ़ी गुरुरारो अस्तपादो कबीर जी की
भिकु पुर्ण प्रसादें ॥
गुण मोहत ठंडू आगे आवे ॥
सो गुड़ू हमें न मानिया भावे ॥॥
बिश्वास अवजु सुरत सुबि आसा ॥
कैसे होई है राजा गम निवामा ॥॥
इसु मुख ने सिर ब्रह्म जगना ॥
सो गुड़ी हमें गाय कहि जाना ॥॥
सन्तानादि का नाम अनि सेहा ॥
किन भी तन माह मनु नहीं पेरिया ॥॥
इसु मन कह कोई लोबहु भाई ॥
तन छुटे मनु कहा समाहि ॥॥
मुर परसादो जेतेदु नामहि ॥
भगवत के प्रेम इन हैं जाना ॥॥
इसु मन कह नहीं आवज जाना ॥
किंस का भमु गहा नितन मापु चर्म ॥॥
इसु मन कह तूमु न गीतर जाइंं ॥
हुक्में होइआ इसमु बुझी समाहि ॥॥
इस मन को कहै जाने भेंडु ॥
इह माह लीण भर सुबिदें ॥॥
जेंडु उहु अह असले सरोगा ॥
इसु मन कह रंग रहे कबीरा ॥॥

**Rag Gauri Ashtpadi Kabir ji ki**

Ik Onkar Satiguru Parsadi
‘Sukh mangat dukh aage awe
So sukh hamhu na mangia bhave
Bikhia ajahu surti sukh aasa
Kaise hoi hai Raja Ram niwas (1) Rahau
Is sukh te Shiv Braham darana
So sukh hamhu saach kar jana (2)
Sankadik Narad muni Sekha
Gauri meter by Kabir Ji

The Lord is One, Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained by grace of True Master.

In this composition, Saint Kabir has explained what is our real mind. It is not the mind we commonly think that is always desirous of comfort, happiness or possessions. The real mind is pure consciousness, which is present in everything and everywhere. Although it is present in everybody but it is One only.

The happiness which finally ends up in suffering, I do not want to ask for such happiness. (1)

This type of happiness connects our consciousness with sin and makes us desirous for more of such happiness. With this type of happiness, how can the Supreme Being dwell in us? (1) (Pause and ponder)

Even Lord Shiva and Lord Brahma were afraid of this type of happiness. But, we have taken this to be true happiness. (2)

Four sons of Lord Brahma i.e. Sanak, Sanadhan, Sanatan and Sanat; Narad Muni and Sheshnag, the mythical snake, even they did not consider such a happiness seeking mind in their bodies (3)

O brother! look out for this type of mind. When the body dies. Where does this mind go? (4)
With the grace of their guru, Saint Jaidev and Saint Namdev, have found their true minds due to their power of true devotion i.e. the intuitive mind which is aligned with God's will (5)

The true mind is neither born nor dies. Only those whose ignorance is destroyed recognize this truth and they have found the Truth (6)

The true mind has no form or outline. It comes with the will of God and after knowing His Will, it gets absorbed in the Supreme Being (7)

When somebody comes to know the secret of the true mind, he gets absorbed in it and becomes the form of happiness. Sage Sukhdeo was absorbed in this true mind (8)

The final conclusion saint Kabir has made that there are innumerable bodies with their innumerable false happiness seeking minds. But there is only one True Mind in all. Saint Kabir is meditating on this True Mind or the Universal mind (9) (1) (36)

4. Hypocrite spiritual leaders

4. Hypocrite spiritual leaders
Gauri Cheti meter
Ik Onkar Satiguru Parsadi

"Hari jus sunhi na Hari gun gawhe.
Batan hi asman girawhe
Aise logan siu kia kahie
Jo prabhu kie bhagti te bahaj
Tin te sada darane rahie (1) Rahao
Aap na deh churu bhar paani
Tih nindeh jih Ganga aani (2)
Baiithat uthat kutilta chaleh
Aap gae auran hu ghaleh (3)
Chhad kucharcha aan na janeh
Brahma hu ko kahio na maneh (4)
Aap gae auran hu khoweh
Aag lagaye mandir mai soweh (5)
Awaran hast aap hahi kane
Tin kau dekh Kabir lajane (6) (1) (44)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 332)

Gauri Cheti
The Lord is One, Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained by grace of True Master
In this composition saint Kabir has described the
working of common people or hypocrite spiritual leaders who are considered as bad company. No type of teaching or preaching can change such people. Instead they may spoil the one who tries to improve them. Therefore, Kabir advises to fear and avoid such people.

These people neither sing the praise of Hari nor listen to it. They only talk without any meaning behind what they say. They have no real knowledge or powers but claim that they can bring down the sky. Do not enter into any discussion or argument with them. Since God has deprived them of His devotion, be afraid of them i.e. avoid their company (1)

They are such in their behaviour that they would not offer palmful of water even on request yet they would criticize the great Bhagirath (ancestor of lord Rama of Ayodhya who brought Ganges down the Himalayas into plains (2)

There is deceit or conspiracy in all of their activities. They themselves are hopelessly gone cases and they destroy even those who come in contact with them. (3)

Except useless arguments, they know nothing. They would not learn even from lord Brahma (who is the source of all knowledge) (4)

They have lost the righteous path and they are misleading others also. Their fate is like the fools who would set the temple or house on fire and then go and sleep inside it. (5)

They make fun of others’ faults whereas they are themselves imperfect (for which they should be ashamed but they are not) Therefore, on seeing their action and behaviour; Kabir is ashamed (of human hypocrisy) (6) (1) (44)

5. Secret of Self-Realization

\[ \text{gauVI \ jIvq mrY mrY Puin jIvY AYsy suMin smwieAw \ AMjn mwih inrMjin rhIAY bhuiV n Bvjil pwieAw \ ]1\]
\[ \text{myry rwm AYsw KIru ibloeIAY \ ]gurmiq mnUAw AsiQru rwKhu ien ibiD AMimRqu pIEeIAY \ ]1\] rhwau 

\[ \text{5. Secret of Self-Realization} \]

\[ \text{मार्गी} \ II \]
\[ \text{सौंपूज मे मे सूक्ष्म नौरे सों नौपर मनस्थ्रिया} \ II \]
\[ \text{असतर अर्थ हिमलकिर्ति त्रिजय त हंसनकिर्ति धारणा} \ II1\]
\[ \text{संदे नभ अर्यरे सौर बिखरीनी} \ II \]
\[ \text{जलमहरु मूलरु आशिख मनाहु फिराहु बिने अंरुहु बौहर्टीनी} \ II1\] "तुधि" II
जीवन मेरे मेरे फूल जीव के ऐसे सूनि समाजा ॥
अजन भाव निरंजन रहिए ग्रंथ ने भजनम् पाइजा ॥
मेरे राम ऐसा योग किलोइए ॥
गुरमति मनुआ असंधियं ग्रहं हन विधि असंधियं पीठोइए ॥१॥ रहां ॥
गुर के भावन बजर कल छठी प्रभागीं वदु परगांश ॥
सकंि अधेर जेवहं भूमि चुलि निरंजन निव मारे जसा ॥२॥
तनि बिनु बाणि भलवु चढ़ाईए दुः जन वरिध भाई ॥
इस तिस बूढ़ि पति अनलेवे डांग़ रहीं लिंग लाई ॥३॥
उनमानि मनुआ सूनि समान दुखिता हुमलि भागि ॥
कहू कोणि अनभि इसे हें परिश्री गाम नामि लिंग लाई ॥४॥२॥४॥
Gauri Kabir Ji Ki

"Jiwat mare, mare fun jiwe aise sunn samaia
Anjan mahi niranjan rahie bahir na bhwjal paia (1)
Mere Ram aisa kheer biloie
Gurmati manua asthir rakahu in bidh amrit pie (i) Rahao
Guru ke baan bajjar kal chhedi pargatia pad pargasa
Sakat adher jewari bharam chuka nihchal shiv ghari basa (2)
Tin bin baanai dhanukh chadhaie eh jug bedhia bhai.
Dah dis boodi pawan jhulave dore rahi liv lai (3)
Unmanie manua sunn samana dubidha durmati bhagi
kahu kabir anbhau ik dekhia Raam Naam liv laagi (4) (2) (46)"
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 332-33)

Gauri Kabir Ji Ki

This composition appears to be a dialogue with a seeker of truth where Kabir has used "yogic", "vedantic" and "Bhakti Marag" terms. He has given his own personal experience to stress the point. In fact, this composition is a complete manual for achieving what is called Self-realization in the West.

One has to die and live after death. This means that one has to kill the worldly mind (refer composition 3) and
consequent death of body consciousness, live as a "Jiwan mukta" in divine consciousness by following intuitive mind, in this stage one would reach the state of "Samadhi which can be loosely described as thoughtless trance". After this state, one would live in the world but un-attached with the world (like lotus in the water) and never would come again in the cycle of birth and death (1)

Here Saint Kabir is referring to self-inquiry by giving the example of churning the curd to obtain butter; churning has to be done in moderation ('Sahaj') lest one loses the butter. Similarly, self inquiry as per "Gyan Marag" or "Bhakti Marag" has to be done not in hurry or under extreme austerities but in moderation i.e. in "Sahaj State". This can be achieved by keeping one's mind undisturbed under the Master's instructions. This is the way of drinking the nectar of self-realization. (1) (pause and ponder)

Now Kabir gives his personal experience. He says that with the arrow of his Master's instructions, stone-like hard ignorance has been pierced. With this, the state of enlightenment of Divine Knowledge has been achieved. Now the darkness of ignorance, (which made him take a rope for snake) has been destroyed and he is in permanent state of bliss i.e. he is absorbed in the Eternal Supreme Being (2).

The illusory phenomena (Maya) created by the God is so powerful that it has pierced the world without shooting any arrow from its bow. (This does not mean that one should leave the worldly existence and become a recluse. All this described above can be achieved while living in the world as a worldly person by the recipe given by saint Kabir as follows) The only way to escape the effect of Maya is to fly your (mind's) kite in all the ten directions but the thread of the mind should always be in the hands of God (3)

When the thread is in the God's hands, the mind will always be in a very high state of undisturbed trance. In this state, all evil tendencies, like duality, will go away. Kabir says that this is his personal experience as a result of which, he is always absorbed in devotion of Ram Naam (4) (2) (46)
6. Reality of Human Existence

Gauri

"Pani maila mati gori
Is mati ki putri jori
Main nahi kachhu ahi na mora
Tun dhan sab ras Gobind tora (1) Rahao
Is mati mahi pawan smaia
Jhootha parpanch jore chalaia (2)
Kinhu lakh panch ki jori
Ant ki bar gagra phori (3)
Kah Kabir ik niv usari
Khin mahi binis jai ahankari (4) (60)"

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 336-337)

Gauri musical meter

In this composition, Saint Kabir has described imper-
manence of human existence and futility of amassing wealth by unfair means.

God created human body from dirty (coloured) fluids and white earth (skin). With this type of materials, He fabricated a puppet. (Since all the body, mind, faculties and wealth is given by God) Saint Kabir thanks God by stating that the body, wealth and enjoyment are all gifts of God and there is nothing which is his own (1) pause and ponder.

(After creating the puppet) God put air into it (which made it work like human being).

As soon as it started working, it started a racket to collect wealth. (2) Some collected one lakh and some five lakhs i.e. enough wealth. But when they died, the relatives while taking the body to the funeral ground broke only an earthen pitcher (a valueless item). (3)

Kabir says that humans build foundations for large projects to satisfy their exalted egos. They do not understand that they may die any moment. (4) (1) (9) (60)

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism

7. Self Criticism
Gauri

"Nindau nindau mo kau log nindau
Ninda jun kau khari piari
Ninda baap ninda mahtari (1) Rahao
Ninda hoi ta baikunth jaie
Naam padarath maneh basaie
Ride sudh jau ninda hoi
hamre kapre nindak dhoi (1)
Ninda kare su hamra meet
Nindak mahi hamara cheet
Nindak so jo ninda hore
Hamra jiwan nindak lore (2)
Ninda hamri prem piar
Ninda hamra kare udhar
Jun Kabir kau ninda saar
Nindak dooba hum utre paar (3) (20) (71)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 339)

Gauri musical meter

In this beautiful composition Saint Kabir has described how to deal with the critics and criticism. To understand the under-lying idea, let us first learn that according to "Gyan Marag" (path of knowledge); the self-realized saints are beyond "karma" or the effect of their
actions on them. Those who praise them take the fruit of their good actions away and the punishment for bad action goes to those who criticize them. Therefore, Saint Kabir advises us to remain balanced in face of criticism and not to stop the critics.

O my critics! criticize me (as much as you can) because it is very dear to this humble person. I love criticism like my father and mother (because they are always wishing me well so are my critics and their criticism) (1)

(Because criticism enables one to correct oneself and overcome evil tendencies). One goes to paradise by being criticized. Criticism enables one to settle God’s Name (Naam) in one’s mind. (Because criticism enables one to know and correct one’s faults), one’s mind becomes pure as a result of criticism. In fact the critics wash the dirt (sins) of our clothes (mind) (1)

Therefore, whosoever criticizes us, is our dear friend. Our mind is always resting in the critics i.e. We would like to know our faults from them. (Criticism being so beneficial, therefore a person who stops his criticism is his own real critic. A critic is always our well-wisher and desirous of our long life. (A pure minded person without faults always lives long) (2)

On account of above reasons, we love our critics and he loves the criticism. Criticism in fact is the cause for our salvation. Kabir says that the criticism is the real substance for him as it is useful knowledge. (Here is the parody of all what is said above).  Because of the criticism, Kabir crossed the ocean of worldly mire but the critic was drowned.

8. Unity of All Religions

आत्मा ||
उन दमाली शीघ्रती जीव ||
चतुर ब्रम्ह पायेगं भीत ||
चौथ ब्रम्ह विश्व कृप्या धारक है ||
उद्वि वा जन्म देवे भक्ति कश्चिं ||
विग्रह प्राग जन्म भक्ति कश्चिं ||

d24
हज़ (Haj) पर सांप्रदायिक विचार

हज़ मुसलमानों के लिए मक्का की पवित्र यात्रा है। हज़ मस्लमानों के लिए यह एक मुहूर्त होता है जब वे अपने एलबाद को हज़ करने के लिए मक्का जाते हैं। हज़ की यात्रा अपने आप में मुसलमानों को दीक्षा देती है। हज़ के दौरान, मस्लमानों को खुशी के लिए तरफ़ी और मुश्किलों के लिए लाठ देने का अनुकूलन होता है। हज़ के दौरान मस्लमानों को उनके आत्मवांत्र और सामुदायिक जीवन को समझना होता है। हज़ में मस्लमानों को एक दूसरे के साथ-साथी के साथ हज़ करना पड़ता है।

हज़ के दौरान मस्लमानों को उनके आत्मवांत्र और सामुदायिक जीवन को समझना होता है। हज़ में मस्लमानों को एक दूसरे के साथ-साथी के साथ हज़ करना पड़ता है।

हज़ के दौरान मस्लमानों को उनके आत्मवांत्र और सामुदायिक जीवन को समझना होता है। हज़ में मस्लमानों को एक दूसरे के साथ-साथी के साथ हज़ करना पड़ता है。
and the Muslim holy persons known as Pirs. In the assembly of such holy personages, they beautifully sing the praise of God. Kabir says, he very much likes Hari Naam thus sung by sages (1) Pause and Ponder.

Such an assembly of sages is so great that even sage Narda (who plays veena) and Mother Sarda or Saraswati (who is goddess of all arts) serve this assembly. Even goddess Laxmi, the goddess of wealth, (instead of creating deception by illusion) is showering her blessing of good fortune over the assembly. (2)

Reverting to the subject of Haj, where one goes with a rosary around one’s neck, Kabir says that he has Ram Naam on his tongue and this is committed to his memory. This is his real rosary. After remembering Ram Naam every thousand times, he salutes (the assembly of sages referred to above which is his real Kabba) (3)

In the end Kabir says, he is trying to make both Hindus and Muslims understand that the real pilgrimage is singing the praise of the Supreme Being. (4) (4) (13)

9. Victory Over Illusive Power of Maya

अमा दिखबुझे ४ ||
मध्यली ते कृतिव मोह बकाश ||
मिरित बुद्धा विसमु हरामधु बकाश ||
मधु मधु मधुली विसमु तलिजे बजनी ||
मिरित संचादम बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा बुद्धा

आमा इकट्ठे ५ ||
सम्पन्न में उपरि नली बरी ||
ज्ञान ब्रह्मा विसमु महादेव छली ||
Aasa Ik Tuke 4

"Sarpni te upar nahi balia
Jin Brahma Bisan Mahadeo chhalia (1)
Mar mar sarpni nirmal jul paithi
Jin tribhawan dasiale Gur Parsadi dithi (1) Rahao
Sarpni sarpni kia kahau bhai
Jin sach pachhania tin sarpni khai (2)
Sarpni te aan chhuchh nahin awra
Sarpni jiti kaha kare Jamra (3)
Ih sarpani Ta ki kiti hoi
Bal abal kia is te hoi (4)
Ih basti ta basat sarira
Gur Parsadi sahaj tare Kabira" (5) (6) (19)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib pages 480-481)

In this composition saint Kabir is discussing about so-called invincibility of illusive and creative powers of God referred to as "Maya" in Indian spiritual texts. Here he gives the secret of winning over "Maya", its advantage, etc.

In this world, (it is claimed that) there is nothing more powerful than the serpent of "Maya". It deceived even the gods like Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva (there are many stories about this in Purans). After its victories over common people in this world and the nether and higher worlds, Maya has even made inroads into the pure waters i.e. learned persons and assembly of saints. In fact, it has stung people in all the three worlds. I have learnt the truth of "Maya" by the grace of my master. (1)
After describing powers of "Maya", Kabir now gives the secret as to how and why we can win over "Maya". Thus, Kabir says why be afraid of this snake? If one understands the Truth, one can eat or win over this serpent.

In fact there is nothing weaker than the snake of "Maya". But the advantage of winning over "Maya" is that if one understands the Truth, one can eat or win over this serpent (2).

In fact there is nothing weaker than the snake of "Maya". But the advantage of winning over "Maya" is that if one wins over it, then one goes beyond birth and death. Thus, the God of Death cannot do anything to such a person (3).

It is so because the Supreme Being creates this snake of Maya. Since everything that is created must perish (being impermanent), it has no power of its own. Before the Supreme Being, it is powerless. (4)

But, "Maya" is necessary so long one lives in the body to maintain the body. Gurbani states that Maya is necessary during our life just like warmth in the mother's womb during pregnancy. With the grace of the Master, Kabir says that he has won over "Maya" and crossed the oceans of Maya with equipoise. (5) (6) (19)

10. Do Not Pray for Temporary Things

10. Do Not Pray for Temporary Things

10. Do Not Pray for Temporary Things

10. Do Not Pray for Temporary Things

10. Do Not Pray for Temporary Things
Aasa

Lanka sa kote samund si khai
Tih Rawan ghar khabar na pai (1)
Kia mangau kichi thir na rahai
Dekhat nain chalo jug jai (1) (Rahao)
Ik lakh poot sawa lakh nati
Tih Rawan ghar dia na bati (2)
Chand Suraj ja ke tapat rasoi
Baisantar ja ke kapre dhoi (3)
Gurmati Rame Naam basai
Asthir rahe na katahu jai (4)
Kahat Kabir sunhu re Loi
Ram Naam bin mukat na hoii” (5) (8) (21)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 481)

Aasa musical meter

In this composition, Saint Kabir has explained with the example of Ravana, the king of Sri Lanka (who was very powerful, had impregnable fort of Sri Lanka with deep trench of the ocean, one hundred thousand sons and one hundred twenty five thousand grandsons, now there is no sign of him or his possessions), that it is useless to ask for temporary perishable objects. Ask for Ram Naam that is
permanent and source of salvation.

A powerful king Ravana who had strong fort of Sri Lanka and a trench of ocean around it has no news of his or his dwelling. Everything that exists in this world is perishing in front of my eyes. Therefore, what should I ask from the God? (1) Pause and Ponder.

Ravana who had progeny of one hundred thousand sons and one hundred and twenty five thousands grand sons, now there is no sign of a lamp or a wick in his house i.e. no descendant is traceable (2)

It is said that the Sun and Moon used to cook in his kitchen and the god of fire used to wash his clothes. (This is possible as per Indian philosophy; such spiritual powers called "Sidhies" can be acquired as a result of austerities). (3)

Now saint Kabir comes to the point as to for what one should pray? He says one should follow the instructions of his Master and be firm in Ram Naam in his heart. This asset of Ram Naam is permanent and does not go anywhere. (4)

Kabir says O' friends, no one can achieve liberation without Ram Naam (5) (8) (21).

11. A Puzzle
Aasa

"Pahila poot pichheri mai
Guru lago chele ki pai (1)
Ek achambhau sunhu tum bhai
Dekhat singh charawat gai (1) (Rahao)
Jal ki machhli tarwari biai
Dekhat kutra le gai bilai (2)
Tale re baisa ooper soola
Tis ke paid lage phal phoola (3)
Ghore char bhais charawan jai
Bahar bail gone ghar aai (4)
Kahat Kabir jo is pad bujhai

Ram ramat tis sabh kichh sujhai (5) (9) (22)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib  page 481)

Aasa musical meter

This is an interesting composition where Kabir has made eight impossible statements and in the end, he says that if one meditates on Ram Naam, he will understand the underlying idea behind these statements.

Instead of opening the secret in the first instance, it will be better to first give literal meaning and follow with the real underlying idea.

First son was born followed by the mother. The master is touching the feet of disciple (1)

O brother! now listen to another strange thing. I have seen a lion grazing cows (1) (Pause and Ponder)
A fish living in water bred on a tree. A cat took away the dog while others were watching. (2)

A tree has branches underneath and the roots on the top. The flowers and fruits are borne on the trunk of this tree. (3)

A buffalo goes grazing riding a horse. While the loads or bags have reached inside the house, the ox is still outside (4).

Kabir now gives a hint on this puzzle that if one meditates on Ram Naam, everything will be clear to him and he will understand this stanza. (5)

Now let us try to interpret from mataphysical point of view. In the last couplet, Kabir has stated that one who meditates on Ram Naam, everything will be clear to him. Taking a cue from this, we will try to solve this puzzle.

Human being is created from "Maya", the human is son and "Maya" is mother. When a human being with the power of Ram Naam realizes self, then "Maya" starts following him. Thus, the son leads and the mother follows. For the normal human being, the ego or the "I" considers itself the master and the "Atma" as the disciple. But after blessing of Ram Naam, the ego subsides and starts following or obeying the "Atma". This is taken as Master touching the feet of disciple (1)

O brother! now listen to a very strange happening i.e. I have seen a lion grazing cows. Now that the pure mind has started controlling the senses instead of being controlled by them, we can say that the purified mind (lion) is controlling (grazing) the senses (cows) (1) Pause and Ponder.

The mind of an ordinary person, which was lost in objects of the world like fish in water, is now gone to a higher level like to an assembly of saints and Ram Naam. This is like climbing a tree and become free from love for worldly objects i.e. water. After having reached higher levels, the mind now spreads good thoughts and actions,
which is like creating progeny. Thus, we can say that ordinary mind fond of objects (fish of water) on purification rises to heights of Ram Naam (climbing a tree) and spreads good actions and thoughts to create more of higher and pure minds (progeny).

Our consciousness keeps a watch on our actions and works as a watchdog. But, when with the blessing of Ram Naam, one develops contentment (cat) then one does not need watchman (the dog). Thus, we can say that with development of contentment (cat) takes away the (dog) of consciousness. (2)

With the blessing of Ram Naam, one develops dispassion for objects. Then, the desires (branches of the human existence), which were so far high above, come down and noble thoughts and dispassion (roots) become more powerful, thus they go up. This stage represents an upturned tree. Such a person undertakes noble action and kind thoughts (flowers). The divine knowledge dawns on him. This is the fruit. These flowers and fruits become easily visible to the public. Hence it is said that these are borne on the trunk. (3)

Our intellect, which is normally working on objects only is very gross, like a buffalo. With the blessing of Ram Naam, when the intellect is purified, it is in the state of ecstasy, which is like riding a horse. Thus, the gross intellect (buffalo) on purification is in the state of ecstasy and is like grazing while riding a horse. In this initial stage of meditation, one makes efforts to connect mind with Ram Naam. But, when the God’s grace descends, then effort is no longer necessary and the mind becomes one with Ram Naam. At this stage we can say that although the effort (ox) is not there (outside) the oneness with Ram Naam (goods) has already arrived in the house (our mind and intellect). (4)

Now, Kabir in the final couplet gives the secret. One who meditates on Ram Naam will understand all these puzzles (5) (9) (22)
12. Pilgrimage And Holy Baths Have No Use

 Antar mail je tirath nawe tis baikunth na jana
 Lok patine kachhu na hove nahi Ram iyana (1)
 Poojauh Ram ek hi deva
 Sacha nawan Guru ki sewa (1) Rahao
 Jal ke majan je gati hove, nit nit menduk naveh
 Jaise menduk taise oi nar, phir phir joni aveh (2)
 Manhu kathore mare Banaras, nark na banchia jai
 Hari ka sant mare Hadambe, ta saghi sain tarai (3)
 Dins na ren Baid na Shastra, taha base Nirankara
 Kah Kabir nar Tiseh dhiawhu bawria sansara (4) (4) (37)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 484-85)
Aasa musical meter

In this composition, saint Kabir has explained that mere pilgrimages, holy baths and death at a particularly holy place like Banaras does not automatically give any benefits.

If somebody with his heart hard as a stone chooses to die at Banaras, he will not escape hell. On the other hand, a saint dying at Maghahar (Hadamba) will not only obtain his salvation but will save all his relatives from going to hell (3)

Note: There is a belief that a person who dies in Banaras goes to heaven. But a person dying at Maghahar is born as a donkey in next birth. Saint Kabir is exploding the myth here. In fact saint Kabir, to prove his point, died at Maghahar although he lived at Banaras for whole of his life.

Now, saint Kabir in the last couplet explains the real abode of the Unmanifest Lord. He says there is no day or night there; the Vedas or Shastras also cannot reach there. Kabir, therefore, advises mad people of the world to meditate on Nirankar or formless God. (4) (4) (37)

13. Do Not Collect Wealth With Dishonest Means

सोटि

भू मंगळ देवि भव मंगळ हिमालये ॥
मुख रचना धर्म आंति दुर्गाते ॥१॥
भत भीम बुधु वर्ण न बोले ॥
अंध दिखाई उने नींव भिंड बोले ॥९॥ तारपूर ॥
किसी बिंदु उठ दौरे नन्द नाते ॥
उठ ऊँटी ध्वं बली धारणि न दाय ॥२॥
बंडु वर्णावे बोली तत्ता उठ ॥
शिष्ये दर्श बो न सर्पिं मंडें ॥४॥४॥

सोटि

भू मंगळ देवि ॥
भत पराचर करि पर धनु लिआसे ॥
Sorath

Ik Onkar Satgur Parsadi
Bahu parpanch kar par dhan liavai
Sut dara peh aan lutavai (1)
Mun mere bhule kapat na kije
Ant nibera tere jia peh lijai (1) Rahao
Chhin chhin tun chhije jara janavai
Tub teri oke koi panio na pavai (2)
Kahat Kabir koi nahi tera
Hirday Ram ki na japeh sawera (3) (9)"

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 656)

**Sorath musical meter**

The Lord is One, Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained by grace of True Master.

In this composition, saint Kabir very powerfully advises not to earn money by unfair means. Your family members will enjoy the money but it is you who have to face the consequences.

A person earns money or cheats others of their wealth with lot of dubious means. This money is showered on sons and wife. Here Saint Kabir gives advice to his own mind: do not indulge in dishonesty even by default. Because, finally it is you who have to face the consequences (1) Pause and Ponder.

When you grow old and your body will grow weaker by every moment then nobody will even put water on your palms (leave aside taking care, even simple help of giving water will be denied). (2)

Kabir says that there is nobody who is your well-wisher. Therefore, meditate on Ram Naam as early in life as possible.
14. Controls Over Human Existence

Soohi Lalit Kabir Jiu

"Ek kote panch sikdara, panche mageh hala
Jimi nahi main kisi ko bi aisa den dukhala (1)
Hari ke loga mo kau nit dase patwari

Upar bhuja kar main Guru pah pukaria tin hau lia ubari (1) Rahao
Nau dadi dus munsaf dhaweh raiat basan na dehi
Dori poori mapeh nahi bahu bistala lehi (2)
Bahatar ghar Ik Purukh samaia un dia naam likhai
Dharma Rai ka daftar sodhia baki rijm na kai (3)
Santa kau mut koi nindahu sant Ram hai eko
Kahu Kabir main so Guru paia ja ka Nau Bibeko (4) (5)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 793)
In this composition, saint Kabir has explained the controlling powers of five evils i.e. lust, anger, greed, attachment and arrogance, our nine doors of the body, ten senses and action organs etc. then he describes as to how he would save himself from the tyranny of five evils and ten senses etc.

I have one body, but there are five thieves (i.e. I have not taken anybody else’s rights, wealth or possessions), therefore, it is very hard on me to pay any taxes. (1)

O men of God! I am troubled by the revenue official (my mind) daily. I then raised my hands and cried for help to my Master who saved me. (1) Pause and Ponder.

The nine land surveyors (the nine sense organs) i.e. two eyes, ears, nose, mouth arms and the reproductive organ) and ten magistrates (five senses i.e. sight, smell, sound, touch and taste alongwith five organs for action) are always raiding the peasantry and do not let them live in peace. They never make correct measurement (they short measure) and demand lot in gratification. (they are unfair) (2)

There are seventy-two energy channels in our body and the energy or "Prana" flows in them continuously. It is Prana, which controls the working of our mind and body organs and limbs. The yogis achieve control over Prana to control their mind and tendencies. This happens when the Lord’s Name permeates Prana.

Kabir says that after having tired of the atrocities of the senses and tendencies, he appealed to his energy or Prana. Prana put everything in order. He, thus, corrected all office records of Dharam Rai (the mythical record keeper). After this nothing was left to be paid in dues or taxes (3).

Nobody should criticize the saints because the saints and Ram are one. Kabir says that he got a wonderful Master whose name is "Vivek" or discrimination. (4) (5)
15. Whom To Meet And Whom To Avoid?

उन्हें जोड़ बदटी बजाओ वो ॥
बसोंद ने भांति ?
भजों निरनिर विजों वजरीने ॥
भजप्र भांति बजट बजरीने ॥१॥
शदां बजायत विवर्णे बजरीने ॥
नैम राम तन कह जरीने ॥२॥
भजत निरनिर वजल दिवनानी ॥
भजत निरनिर वजल बजने ॥
शोध मलर विवर बजरीने ॥
उजर निरनिर विवर बजरीने ॥२॥
बजर वजीत हुए बदट बजरी ॥
वजर राम रज बजरे ॥

चंद्र गोप बजाले वजलन को ॥
कवींद जी घर ॥
भजत निरनिर वजल भजाने कहीं ॥
भजत निरनिर वजल इमरत कहीं ॥
बाहे बोलना किया कहीं ॥
जैसे राम नाम सब रहें ॥
सतन निज़ बोले उपकारी ॥
मूरक निज़ बोले झार मारी ॥
बाहे बोलना बदट विकारा ॥
किन मलरे किया कहे बीचारा ॥
कदू कवींद छुट्टा घटे बोले ॥
भरिया होत सु केरहू न बोले ॥

Raag Gond Bani Bhagtan Ki
Kabir ji ghar 1

"Sant mile kichh sunie kahie
Mile asant mast kar rahie (1)
Baba bolna kia kahie
Jaise Ram Naam ravi rahie (1) Rahao
Santan siu bole upkari
Moorkh siu bole jhakh mari (2)
Bolat bolat badheh bikara
Bin bole kya kare bechara (3)
Kahu Kabir chuuchha gati bole
Bharia hoi su kabhru na dole (4) (1)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 870)
Gond raga, composition of saints, Kabir ji score 1

If you meet a saint, enter into a dialogue with him. But, if you meet a person of bad ways, better maintain silence (1)

O holy person! what is there to speak with an evil person. Better repeat Ram Naam in such a situation and get absorbed in It (1) Pause and Ponder.

When you enter into dialogue with the saint, It is productive. But, when you speak to a fool, it is merely pettifogging. (2)

If you maintain a discussion with a fool, it will only increase deterioration of situation. If you do not speak, then what can the fool do? (3)

Kabir says that it is the empty pitcher, which makes sound. When it is full of water it remains silent and stable (4) (1)

16. Spiritual Practices Need Courage of A Warrior

Gagan damama bajio, pario nisane ghao.
Khet jo mandio surma, ab joojhan ko dao (1)
Soora so peehchanie jo laere deen ke het
Purja purja kat mare kabhoo na chhade khet (2) (2)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib ji page 1105)

"Sloke Kabir Ji"

This sloke has very deep meaning as it relates to state of Samadhi or deep trance in meditation.
When the war drum of the sky strikes (the crown chakra on the top of the head is activated with the Divine Grace, the senses and the mind become subdued and one goes in deep trance, then one experiences complete void which is frightening.) To proceed further and keep steady in this state is very difficult. Most people withdraw from meditation at this stage. The arrows (of Divine Grace) start striking their targets causing injuries to the negative tendencies. When the warriors are injured, it is the time to fight and continue the battle to achieve victory. (1)

The real warrior is one who fights as per rules of "Dharma" or faith. He would never desert the battlefield though having been cut into pieces (the body consciousness is being destroyed). (2) (2)

17. Creation and the Creator–Unity of

When the war drum of the sky strikes (the crown chakra on the top of the head is activated with the Divine Grace, the senses and the mind become subdued and one goes in deep trance, then one experiences complete void which is frightening.) To proceed further and keep steady in this state is very difficult. Most people withdraw from meditation at this stage. The arrows (of Divine Grace) start striking their targets causing injuries to the negative tendencies. When the warriors are injured, it is the time to fight and continue the battle to achieve victory. (1)

The real warrior is one who fights as per rules of "Dharma" or faith. He would never desert the battlefield though having been cut into pieces (the body consciousness is being destroyed). (2) (2)
“Prabhati”

"Awal Allah noor upaya kudrat ke sabh bande
Ek noor te sabh jug upjia kaun bhale ko mande (1)
Loga bharam na bhulahu bhai
Khalik khalak, khalak mahi khalik
Poore rahi sarbh thai (1) Rahao
Mati ek anek bhant kari saji Sajanhare
Na kachhu poch mati ke bhande, na kachhu poch kumbhare (2)
Sabh mahi sacha Eko soi, tis ka kia sabh kichh hoi
Hukum pachhane so Eko jane, banda kahie soi (3)
Allah alakh na jai lakhia, Guru gur dina meetha
Kahi Kabir meri sanka nasi, sarab Niranjan deetha (4) (3)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1349-50)

Prabhati musical meter

In this composition, saint Kabir has revealed a great secret i.e. God has created everybody good or bad. He is present in all His creation. Thus, we should not despise anybody for being apparently bad.

First of all, God created Light. From this light the whole world consisting of good and bad persons was created. Thus, all creations are subservient to God’s Nature. (1)

O friends! do not get lost in illusion. The Creator is present in His creation and the creation is present in the Creator. He is present everywhere and in everything. (1) Pause and Ponder.

From the same clay, the Creator created variety of objects. There is no deficiency, either in the earthen pots (creation i.e. human beings) or the potter (Creator). (Thus we should not label people as good or bad i.e. be not judgemental. Since all are His creation, all are good).

The same True One is present in all. He controls everything. The real person is one who finds Him in everybody and always follows His Will (3)

The God is unfathomable and nobody can ascertain His limits. When a Master makes one realize Him, one cannot say anything. It is like a dumb person eating raw-sugar, feeling happy but is not able to describe the sweet taste. Kabir says that when with the grace of his Master,
he was able to see the Unmanifest God (Nirankar), all his doubts and ignorance have since vanished.

18. Humility

Kabir says that he is worst of all. Everybody except him is good. One who realizes this is his friend. (7)

"Kabir sabh te hum bure, hum tuj bhalo sabh koi
jin aisa kar bujhia meet hamara soi" (7)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1372)
In these four slokas, saint Kabir has described true way in which a person should live in this world without causing hurt to others. These are in fact steps in humility for a man of God.

First of all, Kabir says that one should desert his ego and behave humbly like a pebble on the road. Only then with self-expression of humility of a servant one can meet Bhagwan, the Supreme Being (146).

Then, Kabir thinks again and says that pebble on the road may make a traveller to trip over it and cause hurt to him. The real servant of God should be like dust of the earth. (147)

Further, Kabir says that even being dust would not serve because it will fly and dirty the body of the traveller. A God’s man should be all-purpose water (148).

Now, water also becomes hot and cold and causes discomfort to others. This also means that whatever the water dissolves in it, it acquires the character of that thing. So, a man of God should not be like water because he might become bad in the company of bad persons.

Therefore, in conclusion, Kabir says that a God’s man should be like “Hari” or God Himself. (149)

In this sloka, Saint Kabir says that to find "Hari" i.e.
God, it is like separating sugar from sand. As a being with inflated ego like that of an elephant cannot do this.

But Kabir’s Master gave him a very good advice. He told Kabir to become humble like an ant, which can separate sugar from the sand easily (238).

19. On Fear And Ignorance

When one experiences Divine Knowledge, then there is no fear for him. So long there is fear, Hari does not come. After a lot of contemplation Kabir has reached this conclusion: O Saints! listen carefully and keep it in mind. (180)

Kabir says that those who have not bothered to learn true facts of life are able to have sound sleep happily. Kabir has learned what was to be learned; therefore, he has got into a host of troubles. This can also be interpreted like this: those who have considered this world as nothing i.e. of no consequence, they are very happy and their sleep of ingorance is dispelled. Kabir, due to learning about the world as of consequence, has got into a host of troubles. (181)

20. True Religion

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1374)
Kabir is addressing a Maulvi (Muslim priest of the mosque). Why do you climb the tower and shout at the top of your voice? God is not deaf. For whom you are shouting aloud (giving "baang") is residing in your own heart. The message is to look within one's heart and not outside for the God (184).

In this sloka, saint kabir is advising a Sheikh who had been to Haj of Mecca (pilgrimage to Kabba in Mecca.) Without contentment, the Haj pilgrimage is of no use. If one's heart is not pure, one cannot find God anywhere, even at a most holy place. (185)

Here Saint Kabir is giving the recipe for overcoming the worldly suffering. He says that one should pray to Allah (God) and remembrance of God shall dispel all suffering.
This will make God reside in one’s heart, which will extinguish the fire of desires - lust, anger, greed, attachment, ego, etc. (186).

21. Non violence

Kabir says that we kill an animal or bird by force and call it "Halal" i.e. permitted by religion or lawful. After your death, when the account of your action is inquired into in the office of the God then imagine what will be your fate? Here Kabir is explaining that whatever we want to do for our gratification, we say it is permitted by religion or is lawful ("Halal"), but all this hypocrisy will have to be accounted for in the court of the God. (187)

Kabir says that it is very good to eat "Khichri" (dish made out of rice and lentils, good diet for sick and poor people). This dish is very good and contains nectar of ghee (clarified butter) and salt. Who would get his throat cut for the sake of eating meat and roti (bread)?

This sloka is in reply to a Qazi’s (magistrate’s) statement that without meat the food is just like grass. Here Kabir has explained that humble Khichri contains

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1374)
nectar of ghee and salt and, therefore, not just grass. Moreover, one commits sin of killing or getting the animals killed for meat. For this, one will have to account for in the court of the Lord. (188)

22. The Master and the company of saints

The Master and the company of saints

Kabir ja ghar sadh na sevieh, Hari ki sewa nahi
Te ghar marghat sarkhe, bhoot base tin mahi (192)
Kabir gunga hua bawra, bahra hua kaan
Pawhu te pingal bhaia, maria Satguru Baan (193)
Kabir Satguru soorme, bahia baan jo ek.
Lagat hi bhui gir paria, para kareje chhek (194)
Kabir nirwal boond Akash ki, pari gai bhoon bikar.
Bin sangat iu manai, hoi gai bhath chhar (195)
abir nirwal boond akash ki, lini bhoom milai.
Anik siane puch gae, na nirwari jai (196)"

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1375)
Kabir says, a home in which the saints are not served, any amount of worship is not 'Hari' (God's) worship. Kabir goes further to compare such a house to the cremation ground and the residents in such a house as ghosts. (192)

In the next two Slokas, Kabir has described the effect of "Guru Mantra" or the magical formula of a True Master.

When the True Master shot the arrow of his "word", it was so effective that Kabir became dumb (could not speak untruth); insane (about worldly affairs); and his ears became deaf (for hearing anything adverse about others or back bite). He also became disabled from legs (for the purpose of going for evil actions). In other words, the Master's "word" effectively controlled Kabir's evil tendencies like, to speak untruth, take interest in worldly affairs, hearing others vilification and go about doing evil actions. (193)

The same trend continues in next Sloka. The Master by merely shooting just one arrow, made Kabir fall down on the ground due to a hole in his heart. This has a deeper meaning. Kabir is expressing the fact that with the Master's "Word", Kabir lost body consciousness. Thus with effect of piercing arrow in his heart (a hole in his heart) he lost body consciousness i.e. body was dead and he started living in his "Atma" or soul (194).

The next two Slokas describe the effect of Master's "word" on an unripe or in-eligible disciple and an eligible disciple. When the Master gave the "word" to his un-ripe disciple, the celestial nectar was wasted. When such a disciple further denied himself company of the saints, then it was like this drop of nectar was dropped on the ashes of the hearth. On this ash, the drop cannot make anything grow. Thus such a disciple is not at all benefitted from the Master's "word" (195).

When the celestial drop of nectar drops on good earth (the case of a ripe, eligible disciple) it is absorbed by the earth and produces fruitful result. After this, any number of clever persons may try to divert the disciple from the true path, they shall never succeed. The result will be as stated in Slokas 193 and 194 above. (196).
23. Complete surrender or ending duality

In these two slokas the method of ending of duality i.e. separateness of the being from the God is given. Further, he describes the state of one who is absorbed in the God.

Kabir says that there is nothing, which is really his own i.e. the body (gross and subtle), possessions and family etc, everything belongs to the God. Therefore, when he offers anything to the God, why should he feel sad?

This can be understood with an example. If a gardner grows flowers and fruits and offers a basket of them to the master of the garden, what is there for him to feel bad?

Swami Ramakrishan Paramhansa used to give the example of a day-nurse who looks after the children of a rich person during the day. At night the parent of the children will look after who is the real guardian. The nurse should not worry when her duty hours are over. Similarly, our family and possession and even our body is not ours, we are mere day nurses. We should do our duty faithfully and leave the rest to God. In case we have to offer anything to God, we should not worry. (203)

In this Sloka, Kabir describes the state in which he
was absorbed in God and his individuality was completely destroyed. When his "small self" was lost, he started seeing Him everywhere and in everything. Kabir says that due to saying "You" he has become "You" i.e. the God and his own existence or ego is destroyed. Now, wherever or whatever he sees, he finds only God. (204)

24. Worry And Anxiety

"Kabir jo mai chitwau na kare, kia mere chitwe hoi.
Apna chitwia "Hari kare jo mere chit na hoi (219)"
"Mahala 3"
"Chinta bhi aap kraisai achint bhi aape dei
Nanak So salahie Jo sabhna saar karei (220)"
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1376)

Kabir, I do not worry because my worrying will not produce any result. In my case, Hari, the God, worries for all, which is beyond the range of my mind. This means that our worrying is fruitless. This is why one should not worry. Without our knowledge or perception, God is worrying for us. (219)

This is sloka of Guru Amar Das (the third Master). In the last sloka, it was stated that our worrying is fruitless. Here doubt may arise whether we should worry or become free from all worries and leave everything to the God. In this sloka Guru Amar Das says that one should do the
latter and do one's duty of praising the God who takes care of everything. (220)

25. Association With Saints, Its Fruits

Kabir aisa beej boi, barah maas falant
Seetal chhaia gahir phal, pankhi khel karant (229)

Kabir Data tarwar daia phal, upkari jiwant
Pankhi chale disawri, birkha suphal falant (230)
kabir sadhu sang prapti, likhia hoi lilat  
Mukti padarath paie, thak na awghat ghat (231)

Kabir ek ghari, adhi ghari, adhi hoon te aadh  
Bhaglan seti goste, jo kine so labh (232)"
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1377)

In this sloka Kabir has explained with a simile that the Supreme Being is a tree. A tree has two uses. One to provide shade, which is cool protection from the heat (of worldly problems) and gives comfort to tired bodies. This shade is compared to the Saints who provide comfort and relief to the suffering humanity. The second use is the fruit, which gives enjoyment and energy. The tree of the God has dispassion (vairagya) as the fruit, which leads one to liberation (228)

Note: All trees planted by man bear fruit in one season only. But God’s remembrance gives fruit throughout the year. Therefore, Kabir advises to indulge in meditation. This would give cool shade i.e. bliss throughout the year.

Kabir now says that one should sow such a seed (i.e. devotion and meditation), which will yield fruit throughout the year. Such a tree would provide thick shade; abundant fruit and the birds will happily come to play on this tree. The idea behind this sloka is to stress the point that “Bhakti” or devotion is such a seed, which grows into a very beautiful tree providing thick shade, fruits and opportunity to the associates to grow in spirituality. Next sloka describes such a tree further (229)

The Guru or Master who is a very generous person is like a tree. His kindness to the devotees is the fruit. Those disciples, who have enjoyed the kindness and grace, have spread over foreign lands. They are always showing gratitude to the Master (tree) and always praying for long life and more powers for the Master (230).

Kabir says that association with the saints is possible only if it is in our fate. Due to association with the saints, one is liberated and does not find any obstruction at difficult shores i.e. while giving account of “karma” after
death. (Here one need not be disheartened. If one does good actions “Karma” now, God’s grace will descend and association with saints will be made possible to pave the way for liberation). (231)

Here Kabir describes the benefit of having discussion with the saints. He says that if one spends one “Ghari” i.e. 22.5 minutes, or half ghari or even half of the half ghari i.e. about 5 minutes, it would be very beneficial to the devotee. Whatever time is spent in the company of saints, it is all profit (232)

26. Discuss spiritual subjects with deserving persons only

Kabir Ram ratan mukh khothri, parakh aage khol.
Koi ai milego gahki, le go mahige mol (225)

(Kabir Ram ratan mukh khothri, parakh aage khol.
Koi ai milego gahki, le go mahige mol (225))

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1377)

Kabir says, “God’s name is a precious jewel. Therefore, open the mouth of the bag of jewels i.e. discuss the spiritual subjects only with such persons who understand these subjects. Because others will not appreciate and effort will go waste. If you choose the audience carefully, there may be a deserving disciple, who will pay heavy price i.e. great devotion and develop love for "Ram Naam". (225)
Chapter 3

Saint Ravidas Ji

Saint Ravidas ji was born in a suburb of Varanasi known as Manduadih near Varanasi cantonment in 1376 A.D. His father's name was Sri Mandas Raghu and mother's name was Smt. Karma Devi.

Saint Ravidas was the disciple of famous Swami Ramanand of Varanassi. He was friend of his disciple brothers : saint Kabir, saint Dhanna, saint Pipa and saint Sain. Saint Kabir has praised saint Ravidas in his composition as "santan mein Ravidas sant hain" i.e. among the saints; saint Ravidas is the most highly realized saint. Saint Kabir has paid homage to saint Ravidas's greatness, spiritual attainments, devotion and steadfastness. He was spiritual guide or "Guru" of famous saint Mira Bai. She has composed a verse in her guru's praise :-

"Mero mun lago Guru so, ab na rahungi atki.
Guru milia Ravidas ji mahana, dini gyan gutki.
Tum suno dayal mahari arji
Bhav sagar mahi bahi jat hoon, tum sache Satgur ji".

With saint Ravidas as my guru and his blessing of Divine Knowledge, my mind is attached to him. Therefore, there is no stopping to my liberation.

O king Master, please heed to my request. I am drifting in the ocean of Maya. Therefore, my True Master, save me from drowning.

Although saint Ravidas belonged to a low caste of a cobbler, his spiritual attainment was very high. He used to repair shoes, earn his living by hard work, serve the holy persons and spread the "Word" of God among his disciples.
He did not accept any offering and lived a very austere life. It is said that lord Vishnu wanted to test his powers of dispassion. Therefore, He dressed as an old mendicant and visited Saint Ravidas. He told Ravidas that he had philosopher’s stone (Paras pathar), which could change iron into gold. So being pleased with Ravidas's devotion and dedication, he wanted to give this stone to him, so that he could look after his and his disciples' needs. Saint Ravidas was not moved by this offer. He indifferently told the mendicant to place the philosopher’s stone in the thatched roof of his hut.

After one year, the same mendicant returned to saint Ravidas to find no change. Saint Ravidas lived in the same austere conditions and continued to do repair of shoes. Being surprised, the old man inquired about the philosopher’s stone. Saint Ravidas told him to check up the place where he had left it. So when the mendicant checked the thatched roof, he found the stone in the same place. Saint Ravidas explained to him that a true "Man of God" should accept the "Will of God" happily and earn an honest living. This was his state that even lord Vishnu could not trick him.

There are a number of stories about the miracles performed by saint Ravidas. Once a person came to saint Ravidas for repair of his shoes. Ravidas inquired of him as to where he was going. He said that he was going to mother Ganges for pilgrimage.

So Ravidas gave him two paisa coin to be offered to mother Ganges with the condition that the money should be given only if mother Ganges accepts the money in her own hand. The stranger went to the river and requested mother Ganges to give out her hand and accept the money. Mother Ganges did likewise. The stranger was surprised at this and narrated the whole incident to Saint Ravidas on his return.

Saint Ravidas was devotee of Unmanifest Lord. He has used the names like: "Jagat Guru", "Swami", "Bajigar", "Sagal Bhawan Ke Naika", "Bhawkhandan", "Pooran Kam", "Man of God".
"Mukti Ka Data", "Garib Niwaz", "Mukand" and "Neechahu Ooch Kare" etc. for the Supreme Being. He has mentioned "Ram", "Krishan", "Raghunath" and "Karunamaye" also. His devotion is devotion of love, total surrender, and humility with total absorption in the Supreme Being. This is why, Saint Ravidas is considered highest among the Saints.

Saint Ravidas has repeatedly mentioned his low caste in his compositions. He says that it is the grace of the God’s Name that the highborn Brahmins and rulers bow before a low caste Ravidas. The king of Chittaur who was his disciple once invited Saint Ravidas. The king gave a grand feast in his honour. The Brahmins objected to eat their food in the company of low caste Ravidas. The king arranged a separate enclosure for the Brahmins. But to their surprise, each Brahmin found that Ravidas was eating from his plate. Then the Brahmins apologized for their rudeness to saint Ravidas.

**Works:**

Shri Guru Granth Sahib contains 40 compositions by saint Ravidas in various ragas or musical meters.

**1. Loving Prayer**

```
सिसीरावु 

ंढीं भंजी भंजी अंढी अंढी केम 

कलम बाटिंबस अंढीन केम 

उdie न भंजी भंजी अंढीन केम 

धिंकी पाकठ केम एंठीं अंढीन केम 

जूम दू रापटि आंढीन अंढीन केम 

पूछ उं नू रापटि नू उं अंढीन केम 

भंजी भंजी नू बूंजी होंजी अंढीन केम 

उंचित्त नभ नभ नभ अंढीन केम 

अंढीन केम
```

```
सिसीरावु 

तोही भोही भोही तोही अंढी केम 

कनnd कटिक जल तंगर जैम 

जूउ दू अंढी न जम भरे अनन्त 

57
This stanza represents devotion of the highest order. Here saint Ravidas enters into a dialogue with the Supreme Being and brings out four examples of difference between the original and its modifications i.e.

1) Gold and its bangle
2) Water and its wave
3) Pure and impure
4) Human and God

These four have been divided into two categories in the last two lines. Pure and impure, human and gods have been created by the God to keep us in His devotion. The difference in the gold and bangle, water and wave are due to our understanding. Once we fully resolve these differences in our intellect, we would live in a state of likeness with the Supreme Being.

O Eternal infinite Lord! what is the difference between You and me or me and You? The difference is only like gold and its bangle or water and its wave (1)

It may be said that I am a sinner and You are pure. But I am practising devotion only to get purified. Therefore O’lord, if I did not commit sins, how would You be named "Redeemer of the sinners". (1) Pause and Ponder.
O Knower of everything! you are my Master and I am Your servant. A Master is known for his servants, and a servant is known for his Master (2)

O Lord! give me such understanding that I may continue Your devotion. Also provide me with the company of such a great soul who should explain to me the discrimination to understand that the differences are only an illusion. You and me are really one (3)

2. Utopia where Saints are Established

"वारिष्ठी विभवाम सी"  

dom n sym ek so AwhI  

Awbwdwnu sdw mshUr  

aUhW gnI bsih mwmUr  

2
diuv jau sYl krih ija BwvY  

mhrm mhl n ko AtkwvY  

kih rivdws Klws cmwrw  

jo hm shrI su mIqu hmwrw  

3

2
gauVI rivdws jI"  

bygm purw shr ko nwa  

dUKu AMdohu nhI iqih Twa  

nW qsvIs iKrwju n mwlu  

KaPu n Kqw n qrsu jvwlu  

1

Ab moih KUb vqn gh pweI  

åhW KYir sdw myry Bweé  

1

kwemu dwemu sdw pwiqswhI  

dom n sym Ek so AwhI  

Awbwdwnu sdw mshUr  

aUhW gnI bsih mwmUr  

2

diuv diuv sdw sajhu hau  

Brahm Bhav  n  n  Abdhv  

brah Vahtram janam vhrum  

Me n  mh mery hau  

3

2

"अज्जू श्रीदाम से"  

dom n sym n JeI  

ak shI vhrum  

2
dom n sym n JeI  

ak shI vhrum  

2

3

AwhI  

mhrm mhl n ko AtkwvY  

kih rivdws Klws cmwrw  

Jo hm shrI su mIqu hmwrw  

1

Ab moih KUb vqn gh pweI  

åhW KYir sdw myry Bweé  

1

kwemu dwemu sdw pwiqswhI  

dom n sym Ek so AwhI  

Awbwdwnu sdw mshUr  

aUhW gnI bsih mwmUr  

2

diuv diuv sdw sajhu hau  

Brahm Bhav  n  n  Abdhv  

brah Vahtram janam vhrum  

Me n  mh mery hau  

3

2

Ab moih KUb vqn gh pweI  

åhW KYir sdw myry Bweé  

1

kwemu dwemu sdw pwiqswhI  

dom n sym Ek so AwhI  

Awbwdwnu sdw mshUr  

aUhW gnI bsih mwmUr  

2

diuv jau sYl krih ija BwvY  

mhrm mhl n ko AtkwvY  

kih rivdws Klws cmwrw  

Jo hm shrI su mIqu hmwrw  

1
Gauri meter by Ravidas Ji

This composition describes a state when the saint’s consciousness rises to a very high level. This state has all bliss; no sorrows, taxes, inquiries or checks, etc. The saints have full access to the palace of the Lord. Saint Ravidas says that all residents of this city are his friends.

Saint Ravidas says that he has attained citizenship of a place or city where there is happiness or bliss all the time. The name of the place is “Begam Pura” i.e. city where there is no sorrow. There are no taxes, inquiries, fear of sins, failures or obstructions to progress (1) Pause and Ponder.

There is no fear of mutiny because the King Emperor (Supreme Being) is Eternal. There are no second or thirdrate citizens. All are equal.

This city is always inhabited and famous. All residents are very rich and generous. (2)

There is no restriction. Anybody can go wherever he desires. No body prevents one from going to the palace of the Lord. Ravidas, a cobbler who is liberated says that all
residents of this city are his friends. (3) (2)

Note: It is for the above mentioned reason that the prophets and saints of all the orders are brothers and we should not criticize any other prophet or saint. May be that the criticized prophet may pardon us but our Master will not spare us for this crime.

3. Way To Reach Utopia

"Ikomkar Satgur Parshad..
"Gauri Bairagan Ravidas Jiu"

"Ghat awghat doogar ghana, ik nirgun bail hamar
Ramaie siu ik benti, meri poonji rakh Murar (1)
Ko banjaro Ram ko, mera tanda ladiya jai re (1) Rahao
Hau banjaro Ram ko Sahaj karau byapar.
Mai Ram Naam dhan ladia, bikh laddi sansar (2)"
Urvar paar ke dania, likh lehu aal patal
Mohi jum dand na lagai, tajile sarab janjal (3)
Jaisa rang kusumbh ka, taisa eh sansar
Mere Ramaie rang majith ka, kahu Ravidas chamar (4) (1)"
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 345-346)

Attaining absorption in the Supreme Being is a very difficult process. Our body and mind are capable of walking on level and comfortable path. Path of the Lord is difficult one, up and down hilly terrain. In this composition saint Ravidas very humbly prays to the Lord to grant him success on this path.

Composition of Ravidas Ji in Gauri Bairagan meter

The path is mountainous, very difficult, up and down i.e. journey into spirituality is very tough. My bull (body) is very weak and without attributes. I humbly pray to the Supreme Being for protection of my wares (spiritual attainments) (1)

Now saint Ravidas prays to the saints for help, saying, his wares (Ram Naam) are being loaded on to the vehicles (his self). They may, therefore, kindly help. (1) Pause and Ponder.

After this, saint Ravidas looks around for help from other worldly people. He finds no help from them because, whereas he is dealing in Ram Naam with equipoise, others are dealing in worldly issues which are like poison to the saints. Thus, no help can be obtained by saints from the worldly people (2)

Here saint Ravidas addresses Chitar Gupta (the mythical angel who records one's good and bad actions). Ravidas says that he has deserted all involvement in life and, therefore, he cannot be punished by the messenger of death. Therefore, Chitra Gupta can write whatever he wants, the inner meaning of this is that the self-realized saints are not affected by good or bad actions (Karma). They are beyond "karma" or the effect of their actions (3)

Now saint Ravidas gives a word of advice. He says that
this world’s colour or resultant effect is temporary like the colour of "kasumbha flower" or (cartamus tinctorous). On the other hand, the colour of "Ram Naam" is like that of "majith" or (rubia munjista) which is very fast or permanent. Thus, he is advising that we should deal in "Ram Naam" the effect of which is permanent (4) (1)

4. World Is God's Play, How To Go Across?

Aasa
Maati ko putra kaise nachat hai
Daikhe daikhe sune bole daurio phirit hai (1) Rahao
Jab kachhu pawe tab garab karat hai
Maia gai tab rovan lagat hai (1)
Mun bach karam rus kaseh lubhana
Binis gaia jai kahun samana (2)
Keh Ravidas baji jug bhai
Bajigar sau mohi preet ban aai (3) (6)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 487)
In this composition saint Ravidas has described the working of an ordinary worldly person. He further says that the God is a great puppeteer, who makes all humans to play in Maya. In the end, he says that the way to escape this play is to fall in love with the puppeteer.

Saint Ravidas says that human beings are the clay puppets (human beings are composed of five elements which decompose into clay after death). But, look! how this puppet is dancing? This puppet looks hither and thither, speaks, hears and runs about. When this one achieves something, he feels very proud. But, when wealth is lost, he starts weeping.

He is attracted towards six tastes of life with thought, speech and action. But, when he dies, no body knows where he goes to (here Saint Ravidas means that he continues in innumerable birth and death cycles).

Note :- According to Ayurveda system of medicine, there are six tastes (1) sweet (2) sour (3) salty (4) pungent (5) bitter and (6) astringent.

Ravidas says that this world is the Lord's play. (He is not under effect of Maya) because he has been blessed with the love of the puppeteer (God) by Himself.

5. Self Surrender Is The Only Worthwhile Offering

\[ \text{GurI sRI rivdws jI ky pdy Gru 3} \]

\[ \text{siqgur pRswid} \]

\[ \text{DUd u bCrY Qnhu ibtwirE} \]

\[ \text{Pulu Bvir jlu mIin ibgwirE} \]

\[ \text{mweI goibMd pUjw khw lY crwvau} \]

\[ \text{Avru n PUlu AnUpu n pwvau} \]

\[ \text{mYlwgr byrHy hY BuieAMgw} \]

\[ \text{ibKu AMimRqu bsih iek sMgw} \]

\[ \text{DUp dIp neIbydih bwsw} \]

\[ \text{kYsy pUj krih qyrI dwsw} \]

\[ \text{qnu mnu Arpau pUj crwvau} \]

\[ \text{gur prswid inrMjnu pwvau} \]
Gujri Sri Ravidas Ji

Ik Onkar Satguru Parsadi
Doodh ta bachhare thanhu bitario
Phool bhawar jal meen bigario (1)
Mai Gobind pooja kaha le charawahu
Awar na phool Anoop na pawahu (1) Rahao
Mailagar bere hai bhuianga
Bikh amrit baseh ik sanga (2)
Dhoop deep naibedeh basa
Kaise pooj kareh Teri dasa (3)
Tun mun arpau pooj charawahu
Gur parsadi Niranajan pawahu (4)
Pooja archa ahi na Tori
Kahi ravidas kawan gati mori (5) (1)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 525)

Gauri meter Sri Ravidas Ji

In this stanza, saint Ravidas is exposing the hypocrisy behind the purity in formal worship of idols or spirits etc. in all religions. Normally, flowers, lamps, aromatic substance like sandal, milk and food etc. are used in worship. The worshippers insist on total purity of these substances.
Here saint Ravidas is proving that nothing is pure. All those items are contaminated. So the only offering worth offering is one’s own self i.e. self surrender.

The calf at the nipples of the cow contaminates the cow’s milk because the calf sucks the milk first. The flower sucking black bee contaminates the flowers. The fish contaminates the water. (1)

O mother! what should I offer in the worship of Supreme Being? I cannot find any other type of flowers or beautiful things to offer. (1) Pause and Ponder

Now Saint Ravidas comes to aromatic substances like sandal wood, joss sticks etc. He says that the poisonous snakes are living on the sandal-wood tree and are contaminating it with their poison. Thus, nectar (sandal-wood) and poison of the snake are found together (2)

While offering, devotee first smells the incense, lamps and other food offering thus contaminating these before reaching the altar. So how can the humble devotee find pure offerings and worship the deity? (3)

In this couplet, saint Ravidas answers the above question. He advises to make the offering of one’s body and mind to the Unmanifest Supreme Being. Then by the grace of the Master, one shall attain the Lord (4)

Saint Ravidas in the end says that since he does not know how to do worship of the Supreme Being, he wonders, he does not know what will be his plight? (5)

6. Dispassion

66
"Raga Suhi Bani Sri Ravidas Jiu Ki"

Ooche mandir saal rasoi
Aik ghri phuni rahan na hoi (1)
Ih tun aisa jaise ghas ki tati
Jal gaio ghas ral gaio mati (1) Rahao
Bhai bandh kutamb sahera
Oi bhi lage kadh sawera (2)
Ghar ki naar ureh tun lagi
Uh tau bhoot bhoot kar bhagi (3)
Keh Ravidas sabhe jag lootia
Hum tau Ek Ram keh chhutia (4) (3)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib 794)

Suhi meter by Ravidas ji

In this stanza Ravidas is discussing the uselessness of temporary possessions like palaces, cooking places, family, physical body, etc. After death, the near and dear ones are keen to get rid of your body quickly. This body is not worth more than the ash. So develop dispassion ("vairagya") towards these possessions and get attached to one Ram Naam.

Tall palaces and lovely cooking houses have to be deserted on death as one's corpse is not allowed to remain inside for even one "Ghari" (22.5 minutes) after the death. (1)

The human body is like a straw mat. When the grass is burnt, only some ash is left behind which mixes with the earth (1) Pause and Ponder.
The friends, family and well wishers, even they want the dead body to be disposed off early (2)

The wife who is close to the body and even embraces the chest, after death runs away from the dead body saying that it is a ghost (3)

Ravidas says that whole world has been robbed by the love of temporary possessions. Only Ravidas has escaped by the grace of Ram Naam (4) (3)

7. God’s Grace

The friends, family and well wishers, even they want the dead body to be disposed off early (2)

The wife who is close to the body and even embraces the chest, after death runs away from the dead body saying that it is a ghost (3)

Ravidas says that whole world has been robbed by the love of temporary possessions. Only Ravidas has escaped by the grace of Ram Naam (4) (3)
Bilawal meter by Saint Ravidas Ji

My condition is such that everybody laughs at my destitution. But with Your grace eighteen miraculous powers ("Sidhies") are available to me at my palms (1)

O Lord, annuller of the cycle of births and deaths, You know that I am nothing. It is only You who fulfil everyone's objectives and give them protection (1) Pause and Ponder

Those who come under your protection, they are relieved of their burden of sins. All people high and low are liberated from the difficult problems of this world (2)

In the end Saint Ravidas says, why prolong inexpressible Divine discourse. O Lord, You are only like Yourself. There is no simile to compare You with (3) (1)

8. Calumniator of a Saint Loses All His Virtues

8. Calumniator of a Saint Loses All His Virtues

8. Calumniator of a Saint Loses All His Virtues

8. Calumniator of a Saint Loses All His Virtues

8. Calumniator of a Saint Loses All His Virtues

8. Calumniator of a Saint Loses All His Virtues
अपना विशारि विशार्ना सांती || करै निंदा बहू जोनी होंदें ॥
निंदा कहा कहु संसार || निंदक को परमांत घाटां ॥
निंदक सांधि साधि जोधारिया ॥
कहु संत्दास यामो नरकं निशारिया ॥ ४॥२॥४॥८॥ ६॥ २॥ ४॥ ४॥ ६॥ ६॥ ८॥ ४॥

Raga Gond Bani Ravidas Jiu Ki
Je oh atsath tirath nawe. Je oh duadas sila pujawe
Je oh koop tataa dewave. Kare nind sabh birtha jawe (1)
Sadh ka nindak kaise tare. Sarpar janau narak hi pare (1) Rahao
Je oh grahan kare kulhait Arpe naar sigar samet
Sagli Simriti sarwani sune. Kare nind kawane nahi gune (2)
Je oh anik parsadi karawe. Bhumi daan sobha mandip pawe
Apna bigari birana sandhe. Kare nind bahu joni handhe (3)
Ninda kaha karhu sansara. Nindak ka pargat pahara
Nindak sodh sadhi bicharia
Kahu Ravidas papi narak sidharia. (4) (2) (11) (7) (2) (49) (total)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 875)

Gond meter by Ravidas Ji

If anyone bathes at sixty-eight holy pilgrim centres and worships the twelve self-manifest Shiva idols ("jyoti lingas"), if anyone gives wells and tanks in charity, on uttering calumny, all this goes waste (1)

The calumniator of saints cannot be liberated. He surely will go to hell immediately (1) Pause and Ponder.

If anyone takes holy bath at Kurukshetra (a holy place in Haryana, India) at the time of solar eclipse and offers his wife alongwith her bedecking in charity on this occasion, listens to all the "Vedas" with his ears, on uttering calumny, he will lose all merit for these good deeds (2)

If someone offers lot of food to the needy, gives land in charity, erects large temples will only receive lot of praise. If even neglecting his own work, goes out of way to accomplish others affairs, on uttering calumny, loses all merit for these good deeds and takes numerous births and deaths (3)

O people of the world! Why utter calumny of others? The calumniator gets exposed as clearly as a mountain.
Ravidas says that after much thought he comes to the conclusion that the calumniator is a sinner and shall go to hell (4) (2. 11. 7. 2.) (49 total)

9. Almighty Takes Care of Saints

Raga Maru Bani Ravidas Jiu Ki

Ik Onkar Satguru Parsadi
Aisi lal Tujh bin kaun kare
Garib Niwaz Gusaian mera mathe chhatar dhare (1) Rahao
Ja ki chhoti jagat kau lage, ta par Tu hi dhare
Nichah ooch kare mera Gobind kahu te na dare (1)
Namdev Kabir Tilochan Sadhana Sain tare
Kahi Ravidas sunhu re santahu Hari jiu te sabhe sare (2) (1)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1106)

Maru meter by Ravidas Ji

The Lord is one, Unmanifest and Manifest. He is Eternal and can be attained only by the grace of the Guru.
O my Divine Beloved! who except You can perform such great deeds? You are the Cherisher of the poor. O Lord, You can place canopy (sign of royalty) over the heads
of the humble (1) Pause and Ponder

Only You show favours to those whose touch defiles the worldly people (the so called untouchables as per Hindus) O Lord of the earth! You exalt the humble and are not afraid of anyone (1)

You have liberated saints, like Namdev, Kabir, Trilochan, Sadhana and Sain. O Saints! Ravidas says that Hari is Omnipotent (2) (1)

10. Who Is A Real Yogi

10. Who Is A Real Yogi

Bhuta Bhaajee Shraddass Jeeva kii Bhoo 2
16 MaitriNubh Bhagvi 11
Vidh dehi dehi Dehi Bhagvan 11 Sen Dehie Sen Hehdeh Vidhagun 11
Jadh MaitriNubh Sen Dehe Ram 11 Sen Jandari Vidhagun 11
Pahare Darhe Pahare Pahare 11 Darhe Darhe Darhe 11 Darhe 11
Se Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate
Maha Se Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate
Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare
Sah Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare
Maha Se Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate Bhate
Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare Pahare

Bhuta Bhaajee Shraddass Jeeva kii Bhoo 2
16 MaitriNubh Pragvaid 11
Bhuti Dehe Uppare Nahi Aajna 11 Jo Dehie Mora Hooj Vidhagun 11
Jadar Seh Bhej Jot Ram Bial 11 Se Jot Bial Bjal Bjal Bjal Bjal Bjal Bjal Bjal Bjal
Se Mora Man Kooj Bhog Bial 11 Bhumi Tumare Jee Deh Bial Bial
Man Kooj Bichk Bichk Bichk Bichk Bichk Bichk Bichk Bichk Bichk
Bhal Koon Fuli Bimaial 11 Fuli Laka Naka Fuli Fuli Bimal
Sah Bhumi Naka Aam Bimal 11 Bimal Bhumi Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal
Bhal Koon Bnal Bnal Bnal Bnal Bnal Bnal Bnal Bnal Bnal
Jeeva Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal
Sah Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal
Bhal Koon Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal
Bhal Koon Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal
Bhal Koon Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal
Bhal Koon Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal Bhal

72
Bhairon meter by Ravidas ji score 2

This composition is revealing great mysteries of spiritual journey like

1) Unless one sees something, yearning to obtain it does not arise. But, all that we see is perishable. God is invisible, so it is very difficult to have yearning for the God.

2) The God’s Name should be repeated with understanding. This is only then effective and makes a yogi attain liberation and become desireless.

3) If one remains absorbed in the God with love, it is like touching a philosopher’s stone which leaves no room for doubt or duality (1) pause and ponder.

4) A saint whose doubts have ended is able to have understanding of the three worlds without the use of his worldly senses.

5) Although everybody follows his mind’s inclinations, but the real doer is one who has become fearless (2)

6) All vegetation blooms to bear fruit but when fruit comes, the flowers whither away.

7) To obtain Divine Knowledge, one has to perform actions. But, after obtaining Divine Knowledge, all actions ("karma") are destroyed. It is like churning milk to obtain ghee (butter). Once butter comes, one stops churning (3).

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1167)
8) Those who have attained Divine Knowledge and have become “jiwan muktas” i.e. liberated while in physical body, are always free of all bondage. Ravidas says that this is the state of highest dispassion.

9) Saint Ravidas says, "O, Unfortunate person! why are you not remembering Ram in your heart?" (4) (1)

11. Ram Naam Is A Great Purifier

8) Those who have attained Divine Knowledge and have become “jiwan muktas” i.e. liberated while in physical body, are always free of all bondage. Ravidas says that this is the state of highest dispassion.

9) Saint Ravidas says, "O, Unfortunate person! why are you not remembering Ram in your heart?" (4) (1)
\textit{Raga Malar Bani Bhagat Ravidas Ji Ki}

Nagar janan meri jati bikhat chamarang
Ride Ram Gobind gun sarang (1) Rahao
Sursuri salal krit baruni,
Re sant jan karat nahn panang
Sura apvitar nat awar jai re
Sursuri milat nahi hoi anang (1)
Tur Tari apvitar kari manie
Re jaise kagra karat bicharang
Bhaqti Bhagaut likhie tih upre
Pujie kar namaskarang (2)
Meri jati kut bandhala dhore dhowanta
Niteh Banarasi aas pasa
Ab bipar pardhan tih kareh dandaut
Tere Naam sarnai Ravidas dasa (3) (1)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1293)

\textbf{Malar meter by Saint Ravidas Ji}

In this stanza saint Ravidas explains with his personal example how the Lord’s name glorifies even the humblest of persons and articles.

Oh respected citizens! my caste is well known as a cobbler. But Ram resides in my heart and I have virtues of "Gobind", the protector of the earth (1) Pause and Ponder.

If wine is made from Ganges waters the saints will not take it (here Saint Ravidas explains that even the purest of waters that of Ganges becomes polluted when made into an impure thing like wine. Similarly, a highly born person doing unholy acts loses position)

But wine though impure thing when poured into Ganga River loses its individuality and becomes pure like Ganga water. (1)

The toddy palm tree is considered to be impure (because alcoholic drink is made from its toddy). But when the paper is made from its pulp and devotional scriptures like "\textit{Bhagwut}" is written on this paper, then the same paper becomes worth worship and is saluted by all. (2)

My caste people are hide beaters and binders and carry carcasses of cattle around Varanasi. But, now my condition is such that chiefs of "Brahmins" prostrate before me. This is all due to the grace of surrendering to You.

O Lord, Ravidas is Your slave (3) (1)
Sheikh Farid was descendant of Farukh Sheikh, the king of Kabul in Afghanistan. When the great grandfather of Sheikh Farid was killed in a battle, his grandfather Sheikh Shaib ran away to Punjab and settled in Kasur now in Pakistan. The ruler of kasur was aware of high status of Sheikh Shaib. Therefore, he looked after his family with great respect and honour. Since Sheikh Shaib was very spiritually oriented person, he shifted to a village near Multan known as Kothiwal. This village later on came to be known as Chavli Mushekan because of center for Islamic education started by Sheikh Shaib there.

Sheikh Farid was born in 1173 A.D. His father’s name was Sheikh Jamaldin and that of his mother was Bibi Mariam who was descendant of Hazrat Ali. Sheikh Farid’s father expired when Sheikh Farid was very young, so his mother did his upbringing. She started his religious education very early. Sheikh Farid knew Quran Sharif by heart and started offering Namaz. His mother used to place some jaggery under the prayer mat as an allurement. One day when Sheikh Farid was in the forest at the time of Namaz, even there he found lot of jaggery under his prayer mat. He ate some sweet and distributed the rest among his playmates. When his mother came to know of this incident, she said Sheikh Farid is "Shakkar Ganj" i.e. fort of sweetness.

Sheikh Farid went to Mecca for "Haj" pilgrimage in 1189 AD. There he met a great saint of Baghdad, Abdul Quadar Jilani. Jilani gave him articles belonging to Hazrat
Mohammed Sahib. Sheikh Farid could have glimpse of Hazrat Sahib in a vision due to grace of Abdul Quadar Jilani. On his return to India, he went to Ajmer where he received spiritual instruction from Khawaja Gharib Nawaz. In Delhi, he met Faqir Qutubuddin and became his disciple. Faqir gave him four instructions (1) eat less (2) sleep less (3) speak less (4) meet people less.

Fakir Qutubuddin also advised him to complete his Islamic education. So he went to Sirsa and received instructions from Faqir Abdul Shakur and other saints there.

Finally, Sheikh Farid came to Pak Patan and settled there. It is said that Sheikh Farid went to central India, Junagarh and Assam areas and spent twelve years in the forests doing meditation. He spread Islam as a Sufi saint far and wide. Famous Sufi Faqir Nizzammuddin Aulia was his disciple. He was very austere in his food habits. While living in the forest, he sustained himself on wild fruit and leaves only.

He lived up to ripe age of 93 years and expired in 1266 AD. In his times, whereas the Muslim rulers and the priests were keen to spread Islam with the force of the sword, the Sufi Faqirs spread Islam with love. Sheikh Farid is said to be responsible for wholesale conversion of certain sub castes of Hindus to Islam in areas now in Pakistan.

Sheikh Farid’s outlook was secular and his works clearly show that he was preaching loving devotion to One God. He was unbiased with regard to caste, creed or religion and preached the true love among humanity and with the Creator.

Since Sheikh Farid’s time was much earlier to Guru Nanak Dev, the references of the Farid in Guru nanak Dev’s life story are for Sheikh Ibrahim who was tenth descendant of Sheikh Farid and was known as Sheikh Farid, the 2nd. Sheikh Farid’s works were given by him to Guru Nanak Dev and were included in Sri Guru Granth Sahib by Guru Arjun Dev.
Works:

1. The True And The False Spiritualists

Aama sang ho di sikh sikh du hom darte

1. The True And The False Spiritualists

Aama sang ho di sikh sikh du hom darte

1. The True And The False Spiritualists

Aama sang ho di sikh sikh du hom darte

1. The True And The False Spiritualists

Aama sang ho di sikh sikh du hom darte

1. The True And The False Spiritualists

Aama sang ho di sikh sikh du hom darte

"Aasa Sheikh Farid Jiu Ki Bani"

Ik Onkar Satguru Parsadi

Dilhu muhabbat jinh sei sachia

Jinh mun hore mukh hore se kandhe kachia (1)

Ratte isk khudai rang didar ke

Visriya jinh Naam te bhui bhar thie (1) Rahao

Aap lie lar lai dar darwes se

Teri pachhata sach chuman pair mu (3)

Sheikh Faride khair dije bandagi (4) (1)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 488)
Aasa meter by Sheikh Farid Ji

In the first two lines, there is comparison between the true believers and hypocrites. While praising the genuine devotees, Sheikh Farid prays for God’s grace and devotion. Those who have genuine love for the God, they are the true ones. Those who say something and mean something else i.e. the hypocrites are the false ones (1)

Those who are imbued with yearning for meeting the God are the true ones. Those who have forgotten the God’s Name are the undesirable burden on this earth (1) Pause and ponder.

Those whom the God has attached to Himself are the true saints. Blessed are the mothers of such saints who gave them the birth and their coming into this world has been fruitful (2)

O God, You are limitless, unfathomable and infinite. Sheikh Farid wants to kiss the feet of the holy men who have recognized this fact (3)

O God, I seek refuge in You and You are a great pardoner. Sheikh Farid prays for the alms of His devotion (4) (1)

2. Pangs Of Separation From The God

2. Pangs Of Separation From The God
भिकलनु मुखी मुहु फिकटी
धीमू धीमाहि तै भत्रु मुहति
मंध बजियं पंडु मारांक मंडरं ॥७॥

गुण सुही बाणी संख फरीद जी को ॥
ताप ताप लाहु लाहु हाद मसरु ॥
बालाल होइ सै महु लोरु ॥
तै माहि मन माहि कौआ गंदु ॥
मुहु असम मह नाही दोसु ॥१॥
तै माहिंब को मे जार न जानी ॥

जीवन खाई फले पुडानी ॥४॥ रहाँ ॥
काली कोइल तै किल मुन काली ॥
अपि आपिस के हुइ बिलहेज जाली ॥
पिराह बिलहन कनाहु सुखु पाए ॥
जा होइ किरपालु तामु भू मिलाए ॥२॥
विधण खुही भंध इकेली ॥

बा को साधी ना को बेली ॥
काँर किरपा भूभ साजारंग मेली ॥

जा फिर देखा तामु मेल अलुहु बेली ॥३॥
बाट हमारी खरी उड़ीणी ॥
खाट नहु निकली बुढ़ुन पिकिणी ॥
उसु उपार हैं मोरु मेल ॥

संख फरीद पंडु समारं सवें ॥८॥

Raga Suhi Bani Sheikh Farid Ji Ki
Tup tup luhi luhi hath marorau
Bawal hoi so Sahu lora
Tai Seh mun meh kia rosse
Mujh awagun Seh nahi dosse (1)
Tai Sahib ki mai saar na jani
Jiban Khoi pachhe pachhutani (1) Rahao
Kali koil tu kit guni kali
Apne pritam ke hau birhai jali
Pireh bahun kateh sukh pae
Ja hoi kirpal ta Prabhu milai (2)
Vidhan khuhi mundh ikeli
Na ko sathi na ko beli
Kar kirpa Prabhu saadh sang meli
Ja phir dekha ta mera Allahu beli (3)
Vaat hamari khari udini
Khaniahu tikhi bahut pieeni
Us upar hai marag mera  
Sheikh Farida panth samhari sawera (4) (1)  
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 794)

**Suhi meter by Sheikh Farid Ji**

In this composition Sheikh Farid is describing the state of his mind when he is suffering from pangs of separation from the God. He addresses a nightingale inquiring as to why is it black? Is it that it got burnt because of pangs of separation from its beloved?

Because of separation from the Lord, I am burning in pain, tossing and turning and wriggling my hands. I am looking for my beloved like mad. O my beloved! Have you caused this separation because you have taken offence at me? It is entirely my fault and none that of my beloved (1)

I did not realize your worth and did not care for you. Now that my youth is lost, there is nothing but regret is left for me (1) pause and ponder.

O nightingale! why are you so black? Is it that you got burnt because of your separation from your beloved?

Separated from the beloved, one can never be happy. When the Supreme Being is kind, He Himself will arrange meeting (2)

I am a lone woman by the side of an unfrequented well. I have no friends or companions. O Lord, be kind and give me the association of the saints. As I look around, my only friend is the Supreme Being (Allah). (3)

My path of spiritual journey is very tortuous. It is sharper than the sword's edge and narrow in extreme. Therefore, O Sheikh Farid! start early in the morning on this difficult journey (4) (1)

**3. Humility And Tolerance**

प्रेम
बलीरण से है भक्ति भविकाः विस्ता त भवे धुईं ।
आपायां त्रां भवि नारीने विस्ता विस्ता व्रते जुंग ॥

81
In these two slokas, Sheikh Farid is stressing the virtues of humility and tolerance. Sheikh Farid says that you should not hit hard those who strike you. But, in utter humility, kiss their feet and go back to your home without rancour (7).

In this sloka Sheikh Farid has revealed a great psychological fact. Anger causes many of the physical diseases. So Sheikh Farid advises that you should do good to those who harm you. Do not be angry. This will result in healthy body and you will be gainer in the end. (78)

4. Ageing And Meditation

In these two slokas, Sheikh Farid is stressing the virtues of humility and tolerance. Sheikh Farid says that you should not hit hard those who strike you. But, in utter humility, kiss their feet and go back to your home without rancour (7).

In this sloka Sheikh Farid has revealed a great psychological fact. Anger causes many of the physical diseases. So Sheikh Farid advises that you should do good to those who harm you. Do not be angry. This will result in healthy body and you will be gainer in the end. (78)

4. Ageing And Meditation

In these two slokas, Sheikh Farid is stressing the virtues of humility and tolerance. Sheikh Farid says that you should not hit hard those who strike you. But, in utter humility, kiss their feet and go back to your home without rancour (7).

In this sloka Sheikh Farid has revealed a great psychological fact. Anger causes many of the physical diseases. So Sheikh Farid advises that you should do good to those who harm you. Do not be angry. This will result in healthy body and you will be gainer in the end. (78)
Sheikh Farid in his sloka 12 says that in the young age when the hair is black, humans are busy in worldly enjoyments and forget about meditation or remembrance of God. By the time one is aged, hair turn grey, one’s habits are hardened and, therefore, one does not remember God. Therefore, Sheikh Farid says that develop love for the Lord and Master immediately. Then your love for the Lord will give you ever fresh colour i.e. age will not affect your meditation (12)

Guru Amardas, the third master thought that this might dishearten the old people who want to start on spiritual practices. He himself came to Guru Angad Dev the second master at the ripe age of about 60 years. He has thus clarified that one is never too old to develop the love for God.

Irrespective of young and old age, one can always attain the God. If one always remembers Him i.e. keep Him in mind. Everyone wishes to develop love for the God but this love for the God does not come merely with one’s own efforts. It is the gift of the God and He may give to anyone He may wish.

Thus, there are two essential factors to develop love for the God i.e. His grace and keeping Him in mind.

5. Humility
Sheikh Farid has given an excellent example of humility in sloka 16. The un-metalled road are uneven and the dust being loose flies around. The villagers, to facilitate movement of carts on these roads, cut long grass and spread on these roads. This grass gets pressed under the traveller's feet and cut with the wheels of the carts. Sheikh Farid says that if one wants to get admitted to the Lord's house, one must be so humble as the grass on these roads i.e. tolerate the bad words of others and continue serving everybody (16)

In the next sloka Sheikh Farid has given the example of dust or earth. He says that though the dust is so worthless but do not criticize or humiliate it. Although it remains under your feet when you are alive, but it covers you when you die and are buried. Then it gives you the comfort.

The inner meaning being that the saints are always humble but do not criticize them. Do not make fun of their humility as after your death, it is the saints who shall occupy highest echelons in the heavens and given you the protection (17)

6. Aspiration
Farida galie chikad dur ghar nal Piare nehu
Chala ta bhije kambli, rahan ta tute nehu (24)
Bhijau sijau kambli, Allah warsau mehu
Jai milan tina sajna, tutau nahi nehu (25)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1379)

Sheikh Farid here describes the difficulties in the path of love for the God with an example of a lover going to meet the beloved in heavy pouring rain and mud in the street. He says that the street is full of mud, the house is far away but my love for the beloved is great. If I walk in the rain, my blanket gets wet and if I do not go, that will be a breach of promise. Then in the 25th sloka, he says that he does not care whether the blanket gets soaked in the rain and there is heavy downpour; he will go and meet the Beloved but shall not break the promise.

For the spiritual seeker, suffering is the rain, the attraction of worldly enjoyments is mud, which hampers the progress of the seeker. The God tests His saints by problems, which are like heavy downpour. Under all such tests, and suffering, the spiritual seeker should continue and the journey would continue to become short. Finally a seeker shall meet his beloved the Lord (24, 25)

7. Austerity, Simplicity
Farida sakar khand niwat gur, makhio majha dudh.
Sabhe vastu mithian, Rub na pujan tudh (27)
Farida roti meri kath ki, lawan meri bhukh
Jinhan khadhi chopri, ghane sahange dukh (28)
Rukhi sukhi khaike, thanda pani piu
Farida na dekh parai chopri, na tarsae jiu (29)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1379)

Sheikh Farid has listed sweet items i.e. brown sugar, sugar, lump sugar, jaggery, honey and buffalo’s milk. All these items are sweet but they do not make one reach the God. Here Sheikh Sahib tries to explain that the ordinary worldly people, though like all sweet and attractive things, but the saints do not care for them. For the saints the God’s Name is the sweetest thing. (27)

In the next sloka, Sheikh Sahib says that his roti or bread is dry and very hard like wood and there is no accompaniment i.e. vegetables etc. Only his hunger is the salted accompaniment. He is happy with this. Those people who eat buttered soft bread i.e. enjoy the comforts and enjoyments of the world will finally have lots of suffering.

Here Sheikh Farid is explaining the merit of simple life of the saints. This will lead to happiness. Whereas the life of comforts and enjoyments will cause an ordinary person to commit sins to provide for these comforts etc, which shall finally result in suffering (28)

It is said that emperor Balban insisted that Sheikh Farid accept his offerings and wanted to give lot of gold. Sheikh Farid refused to accept the gold. Then he desired to offer a number of villages and lands. Sheikh Sahib refused this offer also saying that the emperor by giving gold and lands wants to put the Sheikh under obligation,
which was not acceptable to him. He then said that his principle in life is to be frugal and simple in food and habits and not to envy others.

Thus, in this sloka Sheikh Farid says that one should be content with whatever is available i.e. it may be simple dry chapatti made of mixed cereals and eaten with cold water (no accompaniments like vegetables or lintels etc.) One should not look towards others and envy those who eat buttered chapattis and lead comfortable affluent lives. This will avoid longing or desires in one’s mind and result in contentment. (29)

8. God takes care of you in this and the next world

This sloka appears to have been composed when some devotee said something praising spiritual attainment of Sheikh Farid. In all humility, he has said he did not worship the God in this world (parent house) and he, therefore, will not get any blessings in the next world (in-law’s house). Taking the God as husband, he wonders what sort of married lady he is? i.e. he is not loved by the God (31)

To dispell the depression likely to be caused by the above sloka of Sheikh Farid, Guru ji has said here in sloka 32 that the wife belongs to the husband whether she is in
her parent’s house or in-law’s house. The husband is unfathomable and limitless. Guru Nanak dev says that the wife is fortunate who is liked by such a generous (husband) God (32)

9. Worldly possessions and enjoyments

Farida ai wis gandla dharian khand liwar
Ik rahede reh gaye ik radhi gaye ujar (37)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1379)

Sheikh Farid says that the worldly possessions and enjoyments are in reality poisonous shorts but made attractive by sugar coating. Some people spend their lives in sowing them (Creating possessions and enjoyments) and other spend their lives in destroying the existing possessions etc. (37)

10. Long life and worldly powers

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 41, 45, 46)
Sheikh Farid says that he has aged so much that his body has started trembling. There is no use of living a very long life since this human body has to die and become earth one day. (In Muslim custom, the dead body is buried in the earth.) (41)

In the next two Slokas, Sheikh Farid describes the final end of powerful emperors and rich people.

Those powerful emperors who had big war drums, royal umbrellas, music at the main entrance of their palaces and the bards used to sing their praises, finally after death are lying in wilderness like other helpless orphans alongside them (45)

Those who built houses, villas and palaces also died. They made false bargain and finally lay in the graves. (46)
Farida kothe mandap marian, et na lai chit
Miti pai atolavi koi na hosi mit (57)
Farida mandap mal na lai, marag satani chit dhar
Sain jaye samhal, jithe hi tau wanjhana (58)
Farida jinni kami nahi gun, te kamare wisar
Mat sarminda thivahi, Sain de darbar (59)
Farida Sahib di kar chakari, dil di lahi bharand
Darwesan no lorie, rukhan di jirand (60)

Sheikh Farid says do not get attached to houses, villas or palaces. The earth, which makes these buildings, plenty of it will be put on you when you die. At that time no body will be your friend. (57)

Farid says, do not get attached to the beautiful buildings or wealth and remember the powerful death. All the possessions are temporary. Instead remember the Lord to whom you will finally go (58)

Farid says, do not do the works, which will not yield any profit, lest you have to feel sorry in the court of the Lord. (59)

Farid says, serve the Lord and remove all doubts from your mind. The saints have to have patience like the trees (the trees do not hit back when somebody may cut or damage them. Similarly, the saints tolerate all abuse and ill treatments). They only do good and give blessings like the trees, which give fruit when a stone is thrown on them (60)

12. Uncertainty and transitoriness of life

Farida Sahib di kar chakari, dil di lahi bharand
Darwesan no lorie, rukhan di jirand (60)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1381)
Farida kithe tainde mapia, jinni tu janiohe
Tere pasahu oe lud gae, tu aje na patinohe (73)
Kandhi ute rukhra, kichrak banne dhir
Farida kache bhande rakhie, kicher tai neer (96)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1381-82)

In these two slokas, Sheikh Farid has explained with examples that death is certain and the world is only transitory.

Sheikh Farid asks a question as to where are your parents who gave you birth? When they have left in your presence, you still have not understood that your death is also certain and you are also sure to go (73).

In this sloka, Sheikh Farid gives the example of a tree on the bank of a river. The river is eroding the bank and nobody knows as to when the tree will fall. But, the fall is certain. In the next example, he says that how long the water will stay in a unbaked earthen pot. The pot will surely dissolve in water and break and the water will leak out.

Thus human existence is uncertain and transitory (96)

13. Qualities of the Saints

13. Qualities of the Saints

मं ॐ ॥

बंधोता दुःख सुख लिख लाव दिल उं सर्थि विचारु ॥
अलोच्य द्रव्यों में ढूंढ उंग समी लयकारु ॥१०२॥

मं ॐ ॥

बंधोता दुःखी बनाशी बनाशी दुःखी बनाशी तर्का ॥
संसार मौदों से बनाशी सिंह अलोच्य वक्षार्ग प्रान उं ॥१०३॥

मं ॐ ॥

बंधोता दुःख दुःख दुःख दुःख दुःख दुःख दुःख दुःख दुःख दुःख दुःख
भिमल बंधोता आपानी मू प्रशीले उं रयकारी उं ॥१०४॥

मं ॐ ॥

फंडोता दुःख सुख उंक आप दिल ते लाहि विचारु ॥
अलोच्य भावि से संसार ती लभि दरभारु ॥१०५॥
These three Slokas are of the fifth Nanak, Guru Arjun Dev.

To attain Allah or the God, one should treat pain and pleasure as same and do not be disturbed in pain or be happy in pleasure. All desires and negative thoughts, be expelled from the mind. Next, whatever God wills, accept it as good. Then only you will be able to enter the court of the Lord (109)

The world is like a drum. When one drum player strikes a note, the other players follow him. Similarly, the worldly persons are busy in earning wealth, comforts and enjoyments and everybody is following each other with vengeance.

Thus, when the world is behaving like drum players, you are also doing the same. So guru Arjun Dev says that you should get out of this habit of copying others and remain absorbed in the love of the Lord. Only such persons who do not follow the world, are provided the protection by the Lord (110)

In this sloka, Guru Arjun Dev says that the mind is absorbed in the worldly affairs. But, the world is of no use.
The example of the saints is difficult to be followed. But, if one surrenders to the Lord, his Divine grace shall come and it will become possible (111)

14. Formula for controlling the Lord

Here, Sheikh Farid is raising very important questions. What is the "word"? What is the "quality"? What is the "magical formula"? What is the "dress code"? Which will bring my Lord in my control? (126)

In the next two Slokas, Sheikh Farid has himself answered these questions. Humility is the "word", forgiveness is the "quality", our tongue is the "magical formula". To put it simply, one should consider oneself as nothing, tolerate others' bad words and recite God's Name with the tongue. With these three things as the dress code, one can control the Lord.

Note 1: In Bhai Bala's "Janam Sakhi", it is mentioned
in 32nd "sakhi" that sloka 126 is the question put by Sheikh Farid and sloka 127 is the answer by Guru Nanak Dev.

**Note 2 :** Forgiveness means that one should not become angry by noticing others' faults. Only such a person can escape anger who does not consider a sinner as a sinner because even a sinner is God’s image.

Forgiveness has four stages. Anger is generated in oneself when one realizes that the other person has committed a wrong or inflicted an injury. Now this can be tolerated or forgiven. When one simply tolerates and does not forgive, one is trying to be tactful with the hope of taking revenge in due course. When one forgives, one considers the other person as not at fault but a victim of circumstances etc.

To understand the progressive stages of forgiveness, let us take the example of fire, which is like anger in its effect i.e. burning.

1) When the fire strikes straw and dry leaves, everything is burnt, only leaving ash. This is the case when there is no forgiveness.

2) When the fire strikes wood, it burns. But when water is poured over them, the fire is extinguished but it leaves black mark of burning on the wood. This is the initial stage when one is trying to practice.

3) Forgiveness: when fire strikes coals, they burn but by pouring water over them, the fire is extinguished leaving no marks of fire on the coals. This is an advanced stage in the practice of forgiveness.

4) When fire strikes stone or earth, nothing happens and the fire is extinguished by itself. Nothing burns. This is the final stage in forgiveness.

**Note 3 :**

1) Saint Kabir in his 155th sloka has said that wherever there is forgiveness, the Lord Himself is present there.

2) To practice forgiveness, one should follow precept in Sri Guru Granth Sahib, which says

"Tis ke bhane koi na bhula,
Jin sagla Brahm pachhania."

94
This means that one who is self-realized and considers everything is the Lord, knows that nobody is a sinner. (How can the Lord be a sinner?) (127)

Although one may be very wise, one should not display it. Even being very powerful, one should not show one’s powers and behave as meek.

Whatever little one has, one should share with the needy. One should expel the ego. Only such a person is a real saint (128)

15. Do not injure anybody’s feeling

In these Slokas, Sheikh Farid is advising not to break anybody’s heart by injuring his feelings because the Lord is in every heart, thus every heart is precious like a very costly precious pearl.

Never say bad words to anybody because the Lord is in everybody. Never break anybody’s heart because all the hearts are very precious, like precious pearls. (129)

All hearts are like very precious pearls. If you have love for the Lord, never break any body’s heart or injure anybody’s feelings. (130)
Chapter 5

Saint Namdev Ji

Saint Namdev Ji was among the five foremost saints of Maharashtra. He was contemporary of saint Gyaneshwar and saint Trilochan. He was born on 26th October, 1270 AD on a Sunday in village named Narsi Bamani. His father Shri Danashet was a prominent cloth dealer. He soon shifted his residence to Pandharpur, the town of Lord Vithal. His family belonged to tailor (chhipa) caste. Which is mentioned frequently in his compositions.

Saint Namdev was a family man, yet he achieved the highest stage of Lord’s devotion. He had four sons and one daughter. All his family members including his sister named Aubai and the maid servant saint Jainabai were poets and composed Marathi poems known as "Abhangs".

Saint Namdev was very emotional. As a result of intense devotion, he forced Lord vithal’s statue to drink milk at the age of eight years. In spiritual path, there is no greater sin than be without a Master. Although saint Namdev thought that lord Vithal was always with him so he did not need a master, yet it is said that lord Vithal himself persuaded him to adopt a Master. So he went to saint Vishowa Khechar. The saints have their own ways to test the faith of their disciples. Therefore, saint Vishowa Khechar lied down with his feet on holy "Shivling" in Nagnath temple with signs of leprosy all over his body. But saint Namdev with his clairvoyant sight detected the trick of his Master "Guru" and requested for his attunement. Thus, he found a "Guru" for his further spiritual growth.

Saint Gyaneshwar or Gyandev was a great spiritual
leader in Maharashtra. It was he who motivated saint Namdev to change over from worship of the Manifest Lord to that of the Unmanifest Lord. Saint Gyaneshwar and saint Namdev used to go on pilgrimages together. After demise of saint Gyaneshwar, saint Namdev came to north via Dwarka and Marwar in Rajasthan. After short stay near Saharanpur, he settled in village Ghuman, now in Gurdaspur district of Punjab. This village is really Namdev Nagar where saint Namdev stayed for two decades, set up temple of lord Vithal and finally passed away at the main door of the temple.

Saint Namdev propagated worship of the Unmanifest Lord in Maharashtra. His followers did not differentiate between high and low, male and female and different castes. All human beings had equal rights in all fields of life as well as for worship of the Lord. Saint Rama Nand took similar initiative in the north India. Kabir and saint Ravidas took up his lead. Both saints Kabir and Ravidas have very highly praised Saint Namdev in their compositions. Saint Kabir has described saint Namdev as the fountain head of the “devotion of love” towards the God. Saint Ravidas equated him to Maharishi Vyas and Sanak.

There are 61 compositions of saint Namdev included in Shri Guru Granth Sahib. All these compositions in 18 “ragas” belong to his later life when he saw the Lord manifest in all creation.

**Works**

1. The Lord Liberates All The Sinners

```punjabi
ਅਕਲਾਮ ਵੀ ਅੰਤਰ ਤੋਂ ਸੰਦਰਿਆ ਨੀਤੀ ਦੀ
ਰਖੀ ਮੈਂ ਵਾਲੀ ਧੂਲ ਦੀ ਦੁੱਪ
ਕੇਨਦਰ ਗੁਪਤ ਨੂੰ ਚੰਦਰ ਕੀਤੀ ਹੈ
ਗੁਪਤ ਵੰਗੂ ਤੇ ਕਰੇ ਦੇ ਇੱਕਾ ਕੀਤੀ
ਸੂਰੀ ਵੱਲ ਪੰਛੀ ਨਹੀ ਵਸਾ ਦੇ ਇੱਕਾ ਕੀਤੀ
ਲਹੀ ਲਹੀ ਤਾਲ਼ ਦੇ ਦੋ ਦੀ ਦੋ ਦੀ
ਨੇ ਜੀਤ ਦੇ ਦੋ ਦੀ ਦੋ ਦੀ ਦੋ
```

97
राम कहत जन कस न तरे (1) राहो

'राग गौरी चेती बानी नामदेव जी की
इक ओंकार सत्गुर पारसादी

देव पहान तराईलें

गङ्गा चूड़ी चेती बानी नामदेव जी की
पहाड़ी सलिखे प्रसादर

देवा दाहन तारीणे

गङ्गा चूड़ी चेती बानी नामदेव जी की
चर्म वायक जन तेंदू मुक्ति भए

हदू चालिक जिन गङ्गा कहँ

दासी सुन जनू बिद्रू सुदामा उगरसन कु र जन धीर

जप हीन तप हीन कुल हीन क्रम हीन

नामे के सुआमी तेंदू तरे

(2) (1)

(स्री गुरु ग्रन्थ साहिब पृष्ठ 345)

Composition of Saint Namdev Ji in Gauri Cheti Meter

The Lord is One, Unmanifest and Manifest. He is Eternal and can be attained only by the grace of the Guru.

Lord (Rama) made the stones float (while making the bridge from India to Sri Lanka in Ramayana), therefore why should human beings not be liberated by uttering Lord Rama's name? (1) Pause and Ponder.

The Lord liberated Ganika (the prostitute), ugly Kubija, Ajamal and Biadh (the hunter who shot an arrow on the foot of Lord Krishna taking the holy mark on the sole of his foot to be an eye of a deer).

Even the one who pierced the Lord's feet was liberated by him. (1)

The maid's son Bidar, Sudama were liberated and Ugarsen was made the king.
Nama's Lord will surely liberate those who are not doing any meditation, austerity, do not belong to high caste and also do not perform any good virtuous tasks (2) (1)

2. The Lord Is Omnipresent

Nama's Lord will surely liberate those who are not doing any meditation, austerity, do not belong to high caste and also do not perform any good virtuous tasks (2) (1)

2. The Lord Is Omnipresent

Assa Bani Sree Namdeu Ji Ki

Ik Onkar Satgur Parsadi
Aik Anek Biapak Poorak jut dekhau tut Soi
Maia chitra bachitra bimohit birla bujhe koi (1)
Sabh Gobind hai, sabh Gobind hai Gobind bin nahi koi
Soot aik mani sat sahans, jaise, ote pote Prabhu soi (1) Rahao
Jul tarang aur fen hubbuda, jul te bhin na hoi
Ih parpanch Parbrahm ki leela, bichratt aan na hoi (2)
Composition of Saint Namdev in Aasa meter of music

The Lord is One, Unmanifest and Manifest. He is Eternal and can be attained only by the grace of the Guru.

The Lord is One, many and prevails everywhere, maintains everything and is Omnipresent. Wherever I see, I find Him.

Maya, the Lord’s illusive and creative power presents a captivating, bewitching and beautiful picture. Only a rare person can understand this myth of Maya. (1)

Everything is Gobind, the Lord, everything is Gobind, the Lord. There is nothing except Gobind. (This is explained with the example of string of beads and cloth).

The same thread is there in hundreds and thousands of beads in a string. There is one thread in the warp and weft of cloth. Similarly, it is One Lord present in everything. (Pause and Ponder) (1)

The waves on water surface and the bubble of foam are not different from the water.

Similarly, this universe of five elements or the world is the play of the Lord. If one contemplates on this phenomenon, one will not find anything in this universe except the Lord (2)

The worldly people take illusion, delusion and things possessed in the dream to be real (by mistake).

When I was woken up from this illusion and delusion by the grace of teaching by the Master, my intellect persuaded me to carry out noble and virtuous tasks (3)

Namdev says that, after seeing the Lord’s creation, he is convinced in his mind that the Lord is prevailing in every heart, present always everywhere. He is the only One Murrari, the Lord. (4) (1)
3. The Lord Is Unmanifest

Anile kumbh bharaili udak, Thakur kau isnan karau
Baialis lakh jia jal meh hote, Bithal bhaila kai karau (1)
Jatar jau tut Bithal bhaila
maha anand kare sud kela (1) Rahao
Anile phool paroele mala Thakur ki hau Pooj karau
Pehle baas lai hai bhawrah Bithal bhaila kai karau (2)
Anile doodh ridhaie khirang Thakur kau naived karau
Pehle doodh bitario bachhare Bithal bhaila kae karau (3)
Eebhe Bithal, oobhe Bithal, Bithal bin sansar nahin
Than thanantar Nama pranve pur rahio Tu sarab mahi (4) (2)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 485)
In Aasa meter of music

In this composition, saint Namdev explains the futility of ritual worship and true purity of the offerings made to the deities like water, flowers, milk etc. In a way he is explaining that ritual worship with impure things is not disrespect of the deity.

Bring a pitcher and fill it with water to bathe the Lord. (But the holy books say that) there are 4.2 million living organism in water. How can I bathe my dear Bithal (The Lord) (with this impure water?)

Wherever I go, I find my dear Bithal (in Maharashtra, lord Vishnu is known as Bithal). He is always in great bliss and engaged in play (of this world) (1) Pause and Ponder

Bring the flowers to string them into garland to worship the Lord.

But the black bees have smelled the flowers first. Therefore, how can I offer these flowers to my dear Bithal? (2)

Bring milk to cook rice pudding to offer to the Lord.

But the calf had sucked the milk and thus polluted it. Therefore, how can I offer this (milk pudding) to my dear Bithal? (3)

Bithal is here and Bithal is there, the world cannot exist without Bithal. Nama is praying to You, O Lord. You are prevailing in every place and in between the places. You are present in everything (4)

4) Guide To Liberation

1)
“Aasa”

Mun mero gaj, jihba meri kati
Mupi mupi katau jum ki phasi
Kaha karau jati, kah karau pati
Ram ko Naam japau din rati (1) Rahao
Rangan rangau, seewan sewau
Ram Naam bin ghar na jiwau (2) Bhagat karau Hari ke gun gawau
Aath pahar apan Khasam dhiawau (3)
Suine ka sui, rupe ka dhaga
Name ka chit Hari sau laga (4) (3)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 485)
Saint Namdev was a tailor and dyer by profession. He has, therefore, explained how he is progressed in the spiritual path by giving examples from his professional functions to explain inner meaning of meditation.

i) In Aasa meter

My mind is the measuring rod or tape and my tongue is the scissors (this means that he is assessing his evil tendencies with the help of his mind by introspection and cutting them by remembering the Lord's Name with his tongue). Thus, the sins which would have been responsible for the hangman's noose are destroyed i.e. the rope of the hangman's noose is being cut by the Lord's Name as measured by the mind.

I do not care what my caste and family say about my actions. I only remember Ram's Name day and night (1) Pause and Ponder.

I engage myself in tailoring and dyeing jobs outwardly. But, in fact, I am all the time engaged in remembering Ram's Name, because I cannot survive without Ram's Name even for a small amount of time (2).
I spend my time in devotion to the Lord and sing praise of Hari. All the eight paharas (twenty-four hours; one pahar is 3 hours). I meditate on my Master (3)

My consciousness (needle) is pure like gold and the guidance of my Master is continuous and pure like thread of silver. I have stitched myself with the Lord Hari with this golden needle and silver thread. (3) (4)

**ii) In Aasa meter**

A snake sheds its skin (slough) but does not get rid of its poison. It is just like heron (crane) standing in water as if meditating with eyes closed but actually concentrating on how to catch a fish. (1)

These two examples are referring to imposters who dress like and pose as holy men but are actually cheats in practice.

What is the use of recitation or meditation on the Lord’s Name if one’s mind is not pure? (1) Pause and Ponder.

A person who earns his living by cheating and coercion is like a lion who finds its meal by hunting. He is the master of cheats (2).

Namdev says, the true path for salvation or liberation is to remember the Name of the Lord and forget all disputes. O traveller!, The true panacea is to drink the medicine of Ram’s Name (3) (4).

**5. Rise Above Idol Worship**

```
सुनवो नी रामचंद नी दे पहे नव १
कह कहरं भुजपन प्रवृत्तिः
ने गुलाप शून्य बांट चढ़ जाँगी
से जोध भालूगदी न विभार घोट साघी ||
दो जोध बन भर मां भरे भुज ठिकान तत्तु
मदुरास ने रोगियो उदाहरण सागर ||
भक्ति ने वार उन भाग्य नाना नायें ||
तमाम ढूंढ नजेरहिं विविध जागरण ||
निम्न ढूंढ देखिए बिचार साधनी ||
माडिकान प्रभुसे न मदाम साघी नृणी
```
गुज्री श्री नामदेव जी के घरे घर १

पहिं संगुर प्रसाद दिः

जो राघु देशह ते कवन खादी

जो भीमर मंगावहि त किका घट कहाई

नूं हारि भजू मन मंे पदु निरिहानु

बाहर न होइ तेरा आयन जानु

सभ ते उपाई भरम भुलाई

जिस नूं देवाहि निमाहि बुझाई

संगुर प्रसाद न भरहि जाई

किसू हउ पजउ दुहा नदरिं न आई

ढंगे पादर बोजू भाउ

दूंजे पादर धर्मुं पाउ

जे आउं देउ त औहु भी देवा

कहि नामदु हम हारि को सेवां

(Gujri Shree Namdev Ji Ke Pade Ghar 1)

Ik Onkar Sat Guru Parsadi

Jo raj deh ta kawan badai

Jo bhikh mangaweh ta kia ghut jai (1)

Tu Hari bhaj mun mere padu nirban

Bahur na hoi tera awan jaan (1) Rahao

Sabh Tai upai bharam bhulai

Jis Tu deveh tise bhujhai (2)

Satgur mile ta sahsa jai

Kis hau poojau dooja nadir na aai (3)

Eke pathar kije bhaau

Dooje pather dharie pau

Je oh deu ta oh bhi dewa

Keh Namdeu hum Hari ki sewa

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 525)

Composition of Shree Namdev in Gujri meter

The God is one, both Manifest and Unmanifest. He is Eternal and can be attained only by the grace of true Master.
If the Lord makes you a king, there is nothing great about it. (Therefore do not be proud of an exalted station).

If the lord makes you beg. This does not make you small (1)

O my mind, remember the name of Hari. This will liberate you. After this, there will be no coming and going or birth and death (1) Pause and Ponder.

O Lord! You created this universe and through Your Maya, You created illusion over all the creation. Only those persons whom You blessed with Divine Knowledge understand this great Truth (2)

When one meets the true Master (Sat Guru), then all his doubts as to whom he should worship, vanish. Because there is nobody other than the Lord whom one can worship (3)

One type of stone (idol) is worshipped with love (in the temples and houses), whereas we put our foot on the other stone (flooring etc.). If the first stone is a god or deity, the other stone is also worth worshipping or is a deity. Namdev says that it is to avoid this confusion, that he is not indulging in idol worship and is only serving Lord Hari. (4) (1)

6. The Lord only expects love in return for his boons

6. The Lord only expects love in return for his boons
सोहे दुगत ललित मनोरी दीहउ मो कर बेदी देहु बनाई हो।
सै बाईं बेदी देनु न जाई। देखु बेदी गहौं समाई।
हमारे बेदी प्राण अधार॥।॥ गहौ॥
बेदी प्रीति मन्त्री मांगे जउ कोंब छैन छावे हो।
लोग कुटिय श्रमूह वे तीरे तु आफन बेदी आवे हो।
अससै बेदी न भाल न आफन सभ अंतर भेत।
मुमें महा अंतर रस चाँदिया पूछे कहूँ।
बेदी के गुण सुधि ही बाईं जलदिय बाधि धू भाभी।
नाम के सुजातिनी नींज बहौं लेक भमेयक आधिविं।

“Ghar 4 Sorath”
Par parosan puchhile Nama, ka pahi chhan chhawai ho.
To peh doogani majoori dehau, mo kau bedhi dehu batai ho (1)
Ri bai bedhi den na jai. Dekh bedhi rahio samai
Hamare bedhi paran adhara (1) Rahao
Bedhi preet majoori mange jau kouu chhan chhavave ho
Log kutamb sabhahu te tore, tau aapan bedhi awe ho (2)
Aiso bedhi baran na sakau, sabh antar sabh thai ho
Goone maha amrit ras chakhia, poochhe kahan na jai ho (3)
Bedhi ke gun sun ri bai, jaladib bandh Dhru thapio ho
Name ke Suami See Bahori, Lanka Bhabikhan apio ho (4) (2)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 657)

4th score Sorath meter
Saint Nam Dev’s neighbouring lady asked Namdev ji as to who had built his hut. (saint Nam Dev’s hut was made by the Lord in the guise of a carpenter). If he tells her who is the carpenter, she would pay double the wages to him. (1)

Namdev said, O sister, carpenter’s wages cannot be paid by you. Look, the carpenter is pervading everywhere. The carpenter is the source and strength of our life (1)
Pause and Ponder.

The carpenter demands love as his wages from those who want their hut built by Him. He comes only when you break your attachment to your people and family. (2)

Such a carpenter is beyond description. He pervades in everything and everywhere. My condition is like a dumb person who, when asked to describe the taste, cannot say
anything even after tasting nectar (3)

O sister, listen to the greatness of my carpenter. He has kept the sea at its place and fixed saint Dhruv as pole star forever. Namdev's Lord Hari secured the return of Sita and made Bhabhikhan the sovereign of Lanka. (4) (2)

7. A Prayer

Tilang Namdev Ji

Main andhule ki tek, tera Naam Khundkara
Main garib, main maskin tera Naam hai adhara (1) Rahao
Kariman Rahiman Allah Tu Gani
Hajra hajoor dari pesi Tu mani (1)
Darai Tu dihand Tu bisiar Tu dhani
Deh leh Ek Tu digar ko nahn (2)
Tu dana, Tu bina, mai bichar kia kari
Name che suami bakhsand Tu Hari (3) (2)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 727)
Composition of saint Namdev in Tilang meter

The Lord is One, Manifest and Unmanifest. He can be attained only through grace of the perfect Master.

O Lord, I am blind and Your Name is my only support. I am poor, humble and Your Name is my only property (1)
Pause and Ponder.

O gracious, merciful Allah you are the bestower of boons. You are present everywhere and forever by my side (1)
You are ocean of compassion, great and possessor of all wealth. You are the one who gives and takes. There is nobody else other than You (2)
You are All-knowing, All-seeing; I cannot fathom Your doings. O Hari, Master of Namdev, You are the pardoner (3) (2)

8. Namdev rises above deity worship and beholds the Lord
Bilawal Gond meter

In this composition saint Nam Dev describes his state on attaining Unmanifest Lord. It is so high a state that no worldly persons whom Namdev calls fools, can understand. The deities as worshipped by Hindus had their own weakness, like, Gyatri mantra is only three and half lines. The fourth line being incomplete, he calls it lame.

Similarly, when lord Shiva returned home after considerable time and saw a boy who claimed to be his son and blocked his entry to his own house, lord Shiva killed him in anger. Later on, when Parvati explained the true situation, lord Shiva killed an elephant and put its head on his son's body. This is known as lord Ganesha.

Similarly, lord Ram Chandra got into trouble with king Rawana by cutting his sister's nose. This resulted in loss of his wife and battle in Sri Lanka as per the story of Ramayana.

Today Nama has beheld the Lord Bithal. How can he make the fools (worldly people) understand this fact (1) Pause and Ponder.
O Brahmin, I saw your Gayatri grazing in Lodha's (a farmer caste) field. The Lodha broke her leg with a stick and she was limping (relying to the incomplete 4th line) (1).

O Brahmin, I saw your lord Shiva coming riding a white ox. When Parvati was cooking food, her son was killed (by him) (2).

O Brahmin, I saw the advent of lord Ram Chandra. He entered into conflict with the king Ravana in which he lost his wife (3).

Hindu is blind in both eyes and Muslim in one eye. God-enlightened ones are the wiser than both. Hindus worship in the temples of deities and the Mohammedans in the Mosques. Nama has worshipped Him who is contained neither in the temple nor in the mosque (4) (3) (7).

9. Namdev’s Extent Of Love For The Lord

Hindu is blind in both eyes and Muslim in one eye. God-enlightened ones are the wiser than both. Hindus worship in the temples of deities and the Mohammedans in the Mosques. Nama has worshipped Him who is contained neither in the temple nor in the mosque (4) (3) (7).
Bhairau Namdev Jiu Ghar 2
Ik Onkar Satguru Parsadi

Jaisi bhuke preet anaaj, Trikhawant jul seti kaj
Jaisi moor kutamb prain, Aisi Name preet Narain (1)
Name preet Narain lagi, Sahaj subhai bhaio bairagi (1) Rahao
Jaisi par purkha rut nari, lobhi nar dhan ka hitkari
Kami purakh kamini piari, aisi Name preet Murari (2)
Sai preet je Aape lae, Gur parsadi dubidha jae
Kabhu na tutasi rahia samai, Name chit laia sache Nai (3)
Jaisi preet barik aru mata, aisa Hari seti mun rata
Pranve Namdev lagi preet, Gobind base hamare cheet (4) (1) (7)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1164)

Composition of Namdev ji in Bhairau meter score 2

The Lord is only One, Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained only with the grace of True Master.

As a hungry person loves food, as a thirsty person seeks water, as a fool is lost in the love of his family, similar is the love of Namdev’s for the Lord Narayan (1)

Namdev is in love with the Lord. He has become dispassionate effortlessly (1) Pause and Ponder.

As is the wanton woman lost in other men, as a greedy man is in love with wealth, as a lecherous man is in love with women, similar is the love of Namdev’s with the Lord Murari. (2)

True love is that which the Lord Himself inspires.

The duality vanishes with the grace of the Master. Such a person is always absorbed in the Lord and is never cut off from Him. Namdev’s heart is as such connected to the Lord’s Name. (3)

As is the love of the child and mother, my mind is attached as such with the Lord Hari. Namdev says this with all humility that the Lord Gobind resides in his mind. (4) (1) (7)

10. Get rid of the greed and attachments of the world


113
तुम दे ठगभुज़ी धारण ||१२|| ठगभुज़ी ||

से मे मां काजल भाग्य वधे ||

वर्ष महत बो महि तड़ी खड़े ||

अखाड़ मुखर्ची सोहित रूप रहे ||

अम मार्ग मध्य धारण भेद ||१३||

मिश्र पूर्व मध्य मंडे भारत ||

भारत राज मध्य बृह रोले बरत ||

बनावृत बरते मंडे भारत ||

माता धारण धूरे हेरे असे भेद। ||१४||

भारत मध्य धारण भुज वधे ||

मे भारत के ताराधे याचे ||

भारत मंडे माघे भाजी भरद ||

यथा पद्धो उठे तोंडे आर्थिक पुरा ||१५||

भारत वेंप जिमौल भारत मंडे ||

मायामाफ़त धनुष मछी तड़ी बढ़े ||

बुध रामकेशु उर ची अफ़ज ||

हिमेखत धारें बनामे वरादक ||१६||

सारंग काळी नामदेव जी का ||

केरे र मन विधिता बन जाओ ||

भूली र ठगभुज़ी गाड़ी || || रहाउ ||

अले माँ का पानी माह रहे ||

काल जान की सुधिन नहीं लहे ||

जिन्हा सुआदी लोकित लहे ||

ऐसे कुनक कामनी चारित्रों में माइ ||१७||

जिक मधु मातकी संघे अधार ||

मधु तौनौ मुख दोनी छाड़ ||

घुँ बाख का संघे खिंच ||

गला बाधें दुख लेड आसे ||१८||

माइआ कामनी युमु अलट करे ||

ओ माइआ ले गाड़े धरे ||

अल संघे समझु नहीं मुड़ ||

धुन धारत नतु हीड़ माइआ बाखे ||२२||

काम कंड हिसना अलट जरे ||

साधारण संधु नहीं करे ||

कृपा नामदेव ना चर आणि ||

निम्ने होड़ भजिएँ भगवान ||५०||
Sarang Bani Namdev Jiu Ki
Ik Onkar Satguru Parsadi
Kae re mun bikhia bun jai
Bhulo re thugmoori khae (1) Rahao
Jaise meen pani meh rahe
Kal jal ki sudh nahi lahe
Jhba suadi lilat loh
Aise kanik kamani badhio moh (1)
Jiu madhu makhi sanche apar
Madhu lino mukh dini chhar
Gau bachh kau sanche khir
Gala bandh duhi lai ahir (2)
Maya karan saram ati kare
So maya lai gade dhare
Ati sanche, samjhe nahin moor
Dhan, dharti, tun hoi gaio dhoor (3)
Kaam, karodh, trisna ati jare
Sadh sangat kabhu nahin kare
Kahat Namdeo ta chi aan
Nirbhai hoi bhajie Bhagwan (4) (1)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1252)

Composition by Sri Namdev ji in Sarang meter

The Lord is one, Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained only by the grace of True Master.

O my mind, why go into the poisonous forest of the world. There you will go astray by eating the stupefying herbs of Maya (the illusive and creative power of the Lord) (1) Pause and Ponder.

It is like a fish living in water. It is not worried about the net, which will cause its death. For pleasure of palate, it even swallows the iron hook (which results in its death.)

Similar is the fate of those who are bound by attachment to wealth and women. (1)

It is like a honeybee, which collects lot of honey. Its honey is snatched and it gets only ashes thrown in its mouth.

It is like a cow which generates milk for it’s calf. But the cowherd ties the calf and milks the cow (2)

A man does lot of labour to earn the wealth. Then he
buries it in the earth. While collecting this wealth, the foolish man does not realize that the wealth, lands and the body will all change into dust (3)

The man possesses a lot of lust, desires, anger etc. but does not keep company of holy persons ever.

Namdev tells such persons to take shelter in the Lord and be devoted to Him without any fear. (4) (9)

11. What the Lord does for his saints?

This composition and the next are by saint Kabir and Guru Arjun Dev dedicated to saint Namdev. Saint Kabir has described the greatness of saint Namdev and also sung praise of the Lord as to how He helped his devotee saints out of love for them.

Note : In this composition, saint Kabir has referred to various spiritual stages and historical facts concerning saints. These are briefly explained to enable the reader to fully appreciate this composition.

1) Mukati - it means liberation from the cycle of birth and death. There are 4 levels
   a. Salokya- when the devotee reaches the higher world escaping transmigration
   b. Samipya- when the devotee gets close to the Lord.
   c. Sarupya- when the devotee assumes His form.
   d. Sayujya- when the devotee merges in Him.
2) Sidhi:- These are mystical powers like capability to assume minute or very large form, fly in the air, take any form and produce things from nowhere etc.
3) Chahau Yug- four ages i.e. Satyug, Treta, Dwapar and Kaliyug
4) Sankh- ocean shell. Also mark on the palms of the hands and soles of feet of great persons.
5) Chakra-subtle energy centres in the human body
6) Bhabhikhan- king Ravana of Sri Lanka's brother who was made king after Ravana was killed by lord Rama.
7) Nav Nidhi- nine spiritual treasures.
8) Sudama- a close friend and classmate of lord Krishna who was very poor.
9) Dhruva- a saint who became eternal with the Lord's Blessing. The pole star in the sky is called Dhruva in Indian mythology.

10) Harnakash- a demon king father of saint Prahlad

11) Narsingh- an incarnation of lord Vishnu, which had body of man and head of a lion. He assumed this form to kill Harnakash.

12) Bali- a descendant of saint Prahlad from whom lord Vishnu in the guise of a dwarf asked for land equal to his three steps.

Kabir Ka Sabad Raga Maroo Bani Namdeo Ji Ki
Ik Onkar Satgur Parsadi
Char mukti chare sidhi mili ke, dulha Prabhu ki saran pario
Mukat bhaio chauhun jug janio,
jus kirti mathe chhatar dhario (1)
Raja Ram japat ko ko na tario
Gur updes sadh ki sangat Bhagat
Bhagat ta ko naam pario (1) Rahao
Sankh, chakra, mala, tilak birajat dekh partap jum dario
Nirbhau bhai Ram bal garjat, Janam maran santap hirio (2)
Ambrik kau dio abhe pad, raj Bhabhikhan adhik kario
Nau nidh Thakur dei Sudame, Dharu atal ajhu na tario (3)
Bhagat het mario Harnakash Narsingh roop hoi deh dhario
Nama kahe Bhagat basi Kesav ajhu Bali ke duar kharo (4) (1)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1105)

Hymn from Kabir in Maroo meter
Composition of venerable Namdev

The Lord is One, Manifest and also Unmanifest. He can be attained by the grace of True Master.

The Lord bridegroom blesses his devotee saints with four types of liberation and four types of mystical powers. Such saints are not only liberated but are known in all the four ages. They are blessed with glory and fame like the kings who carry canopy of state.

Who has not been saved by meditation on the lord Rama?

Those who adopt their Master's teachings and keep company with the holy men are known as saints (1) Pause and Ponder

Such saints have mystical sea shell signs on their palms and soles of feet, their mystical energy centers (Chakras) are activated, they have holy blessed rosary and holy mark on the forehead etc., on seeing which even the messengers of death are terrified. All their woes of birth and death are destroyed when the force of the Lord thunders and makes the saints fearless (2)

King Ambrik was blessed with spiritual stage of liberation from fear. Bhabhikhan was exalted as king. Sudama was blessed with nine treasures by lord Krishna and saint Dhruva was made immutable. He still shines as pole star. (3)
For the sake of His devotee (Prahalad), the Lord incarnated as Narsingh (half lion and half man) and killed Harnakasha. Namdev says that Lord Keshava is still in the control of his devotee, king Bali (4) (1)

12. Saint Namdev's Recipe for Attaining The Lord

These three Slokas recorded under composition of saint Kabir dedicated to Saint Namdev were composed by Guru Arjun Dev ji, where true worship and need for company of saints is stressed. This is dialogue between two saints, Namdev and Trilochan

Mahalla 5
Nama maya mohia, kahe Tilochan meet
Kahe chhipahu chhai le, Ram na lawahu cheet (212)
Nama kahe Tilochana, mukh te Ram samhal
Hath pau kar kaam sabh, cheet Niranjan naal (213)

Mahalla 5
Dhoondhat doleh andh gati ar cheenat nahi sant
Keh Nama kiu paie, bin bhagtahu Bhagwant (241)
Composition of the 5th Master

Namdev’s friend saint Trilochan told him that he is bewitched by Maya (the Lord’s illusive powers) because he is engaged in printing cloth and is not connecting his mind with the Lord Ram. (212)

Namdev replies to saint Trilochan that the mouth preserves the Lord’s name. Whereas the hands and feet do all the worldly work, the mind is always connected with the spotless Lord (213)

Why are you searching the Lord like a blind man? You are not recognizing a saint. Namdev says, how can you attain the Lord without His devoted saints? (241)
Chapter 6

Saint Jaidev Ji

Saint Jaidev was an exalted and revered saint from Bengal. He is the author of famous poem "Geet Gobind". It is said that while writing this "Geet Gobind" he could not complete a couplet. When confused, he went to the forest for meditation on lord Vishnu. In his absence, the Lord came in his guise, completed the couplet and went away. On return from the forest, saint Jaidev found the miracle. This is beautifully described by Bhai Gurdas in the 10th paragraph of his 10th ballad.

Saint Ravidas, saint Kabir, Guru Arjun Dev have mentioned the exalted state of saint Jaidev in their compositions.

Saint Jaidev was born in village Keduli of Birbhum district. Shri Bhojdev was his father and his mother's name was Shrimati Vamadevi.

There is some confusion, some critics believe that saint Jaidev was born in Punjab and is different from the author of "Geet Gobind" but Bhai Gurdas who was the scribe of Guru Granth Sahib has described the story of the Lord completing saint Jaidev's poem "Geet Gobind" settles the issue.

There are two compositions of saint Jaidev in Guru Granth Sahib at pages 526 and 1106. The language is difficult Sanskrit and the subject matter is meditation on the Unmanifest Lord by collecting all the senses and energies through practice of Yoga and Pranayama.
गुजरी स्री जैदेव जी० का पद भुज 4

‘सत संतुष्ट प्रसाद’

परमादि पूर्व-कान्तिकाके सारा आदि भव रत्न ॥
परमभूतनाम विद्वान वण जीविति सरस गदे ॥
क्रेक गाम नाम मोरम ॥
ज्ञान आंगत तत द्वैत ॥

‘न द्वीतीय ज्ञानानं ज्ञानं ज्ञानं मण्डलं भयं इति’ रहाँ ॥
श्रद्धा पार भरभर ज्ञ समग्र सुकृति ज्ञात ॥
भव भूत भाव समविश्व सरस विश्वाय इति ॥
लोकाभिद दुर्गाति पर दिए निती आश्वायन ॥
तव सकल दुःखित दुःखित भूत चक्षूर मणिं ॥
हरिभसत नित स्वनिश्चित स्वरूप क्रमात्र वर्णम् ॥
ज्ञात ज्ञात ज्ञात ज्ञात ज्ञात ज्ञात ज्ञात ॥
गोविन्द गोविन्द गोविन्द जिउँ पर सकल सिद्धी पदे ॥
जैदेव आहू सरस सहूँ भव भूत रत्न गदे ॥

Gujri Sri Jaidev Jiu Ka Pada Ghar 4
Ik Onkar Satguru Parsadi

Parmad Purkhmanopimag sat adi bhav ratang
Parmadbhutang parkriti parang jadichinti sarab gatang (1)
Kewal Ram Naam manormang
Badi amrit tut maiang

Na danot jasmarne janam jadadhi maran bhaiang (1) Rahao
Ichhis jamad parahayang jus swasati sukrat kritang
Bhav bhut bhav sambind durman parman parankamidang (2)
Lobhadi drisht par grihang jadibidhi acharang

Taj sakal duhkrit durmati bhaj Chakardhar sareang (3)
Hari Bhagat nij nihkevla rid karman bacha
Jugen king jagen king danen king tapas (4)
Composition of Sri Jaidev in Gujri meter Score 4

In this composition, saint Jaidev has described deep secrets of devotion like
1) Described the various names of the Lord like Rama, Hari, Chakardhar (wearer of discus as a weapon) and Gobind.
2) Described the qualities of the Lord, like
   a. Origin of all that exists
   b. Beyond description
   c. Sat Chit Anand i.e. existence, knowledge and bliss
   d. Absorbed in Sat Chit Anand
   e. Most astonishing
   f. Beyond maya i.e. Manifest universe
   g. Beyond contemplation etc.
   h. By contemplating on Whom, one gets liberated
3) Saint Jaidev meditated on the Lord as described by him and advises others to meditate
4) Devotion has two parts:
   a. Meditation on the Lord's Name and
   b. Praise the Lord like singing praise in "kirtan". Do good deeds and describe various gifts by the Lord
5) Devotion is of three types:
   a. "Nij Bhagti" i.e. devotion to the beloved Lord.
   b. Pure devotion without any selfishness.
   c. Complete devotion with mind, speech and actions
6) This devotion is based on high moral character and doing moral deeds.
7) Prevented from degrading activities, which are generally done by ritual worshippers and persons of low morals.
8) Advantage of devotion like
   a. No need of Yoga, austerities and charity, etc.
   b. Fear of birth and death due to re-incarnation is expelled.
c. All the mystical powers (Sidhies) are attained.
d. In the end saint Jaidev says that it is not only words but also he is acting on those teachings. He has taken shelter with the Lord who is prevailing everywhere and is capable of granting liberation to everyone.

The Lord is the root cause of all that is created. He is beyond comparison and description (there is nothing with which he can be compared). He is absorbed in Existence-Knowledge and Bliss.

He is most astonishing, beyond "Maya" beyond contemplation and is prevailing everywhere (meditate on him) (1)

He is prevailing in all hearts. His name is "Rama". Only repeat this Name because this is nectar and shall lead the meditator to the Lord.

By meditating on Him, the cycle of birth and death is ended. The fear of old age, sickness and death is also destroyed. (1) Pause and Ponder.

O brother, if you desire to win over the messengers of death, then praise the Lord who is personification of benediction and virtuous deeds. The Lord is Eternal and beyond time and change. He is the form of bliss (2)

With this, all sins and evil tendencies like lust, anger, greed, attachments and pride etc. shall vanish. Other evil actions like dishonestly taking away other’s wealth, looking at others’ women with evil eye is also discarded. So seek shelter with the Lord who is wearer of discus and enjoy His protection (3)

A person who is lucky to be blessed with devotion of the Lord with mind, speech and actions, does not have to do activities like Yoga, austerities, charities and fire offerings etc. (4)

O human being, only meditate on Gobind. You will be granted all "Sidhies" i.e. supernatural powers that come with Yoga and Pranayama etc.

Jaidev has come under the shelter of the Lord who is prevailing everywhere and is capable of granting liberation in all the three times i.e. past, present and future (5)(1)
2) Secret of Samadhi

बच्चा मदु श्रद्धा तैलेपू सोई की

"Rag Maroo Bani Jaideo Jio Ki"

Ik Onkar Satgur Parsadi

Chand sut bhedia, nad sut pooria
Soor sut khorsa dutt kia
Abal bal toria achar chal thapia
Aghar gharia taha apio pia (1)
Mun adi gun adi wakhania
Teri dubhidha dristi samania (1) Rahao
Ardhi kau ardhia sardhi kau sardhia
Salal kau salil saman aia
Badati Jaideo Jaidev kau ramia Brahm
Nirbanu livleen paia (2) (1)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1106)
Composition of Sri Jaidev in Maroo meter

In this composition saint Jaidev has described the process of going into "Samadhi" or deep state of meditation. First of all, he describes the process of "Pranayama". In this process a Yogi regulates his breathing alternately from left and right nostrils and also by holding breath for pre-determined duration. This practice will activate "sushmana nadi". This in turn activates "Kundilini" in "Muladhar chakra" and vital energy in it rises to the "Sahasrara chakra" on the crown of the head. This activity pacifies all senses and the mind. The Yogi is then fully absorbed in the Lord and in a state like water in water.

By breathing through left and right nostrils alternatively sixteen times, I activated my Ida nadi (moon or cold) pingla nadi (sun or hot) and also sushmana nadi.

The assertive mind was then made humble and poised. Thus the peaceful mind was fashioned to drink the nectar of the union with the Lord.

As the praise and qualities of the Lord were described, the sense of duality of my mind was eliminated.

As the Lord is worthy of supplication and veneration, He was offered due supplication and veneration. My self was absorbed in the Lord like river water joins the ocean water.

Jaidev says, as he contemplated on the Lord, he attained liberation and was fully absorbed in the All-pervasive Lord. (2) (1)
Chapter 7  
Saint Trilochan Ji

Saint Trilochan was contemporary of saint Namdev. As per some records, he was born in 1267 AD in village Barsi in Solapur district of Maharashtra. He was a Vaisha, a great Vaishnav devotee and a house holder. He used to serve the fellow devotees.

Saint Trilochan had great faith and love towards saint Namdev. He used to visit Namdev every morning when they would meditate together and Namdev used to narrate stories of great devotees.

Bhai Gurdas in his 10th “Vaar” has narrated an incident when Saint Trilochan requested Namdev to request the Lord to appear before him. When Namdev did so, the Lord laughed and told him that he is not pleased with the offerings made by Trilochan. However, He is under the control of saints. Only with devotion, does He visit His devotees and more easily if there is saint to intercede on the devotee’s behalf.

In the Slokas of Sri Guru Arjun Dev included in saint Kabir’s slokas, there is mention of Namdev advising Trilochan that one should do worldly business with hands and feet but the mind should always be connected with the Lord (refer) to chapter 5 Para 12)

It is said that the Lord was so much pleased with Trilochan that He served in his house. But his wife was very ill mannered, so He left.

Saint Ravidas has also praised saint Trilochan in his works.

There are three compositions of saint Trilochan in Sri Guru Granth Sahib
1) Inner purity is required. Outer garb will not make one true Sanyasi

1) Inner purity is required. Outer garb will not make one true Sanyasi

Gujri Sri Trilochan Jio Ke Pade Ghar 1

Ik Onkar Satgur Parsadi

Antar mal nirmal nahi kina, bahar bhekh udasi
Hirde kamal ghati Brahm na cheena, kahe bhaia sanyasi (1)
Bharme bhuli re Jai Chanda

Nahi nahi cheenia Parmananda (1) Rahao
Ghari ghari khaia, pind badhaia khintha munda maia
Bhoom masan ki bhasam lagai, Gur bin tut na paia (2)
Kai japahu re kai tapahu re, kai bilowahu pani.
Lakh chaurasih jinhi upai so simarahu Nirbani (3)
Kai kamandal Kapria re, athsath kai phirahi

Badati Trilochan sunu re prani kan bin gahu ki pahi (4) (1)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 525-526)
Composition of saint Trilochan Ji score 1, Gujari meter

The lord is One, Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained only by the grace of the True Master.

When there is impurity in one's heart i.e. it is not cleaned, what is the use of outside garb of an Udasi (anchorite)?

When in the heart chakra (lotus), one has not realized the Supreme Being, what is the use of becoming a Sanyasi?

O Jai Chanda (a Brahmin disciple) you are lost in illusion of the world. You have not realized the Lord, the source of supreme joy (1) Pause and Ponder.

False Sanyasis have eaten in every house and increased their physical body. Their patched cloak and earings are just a fraud. Although they put on ashes of the cremation ground on their body but they do not get the essence without a Master.

There is no use of uttering texts or undertaking austerities. These are just like churning water. Remember the liberation giving Lord who has created eighty-four lakhs forms of life (3)

O wearer of ascetic garb! Why carry a begging bowel? Why wander at sixty-eight pilgrim places?

Trilochan says, O creature of the Lord why tread empty straw without grain of wheat in it? (4) (1)

2) Your Last Moment Thoughts Effect Next Incarnation

2) 2) 2) 2) 2) Y YY Y Your Last Moment Thoughts Effect Next Incarnation our Last Moment Thoughts Effect Next Incarnation our Last Moment Thoughts Effect Next Incarnation our Last Moment Thoughts Effect Next Incarnation
Gujari

अंत काल जो लक्ष्मी सिसरे ऐसी चिंता माह जे मरे ॥
सरप जो निन बाल वाल अउनरे ॥१॥
अरी बाई गोबिंद नामो सिसरे बौरे ॥ गहाँ ॥
अंत काल जो इनी सिसरे ऐसी चिंता माह जे मरे ॥
सेसवा जो निन बाल वाल अउनरे ॥२॥
अंत काल जो लड़के सिसरे ऐसी चिंता माह जे मरे ॥
सुकर जो निन बाल वाल अउनरे ॥३॥
अंत कालिं जो मंदर सिसरे ऐसी चिंता माह जे मरे ॥
प्रेत जो निन बाल वाल अउनरे ॥४॥
अंत कालिं नरगुंडु सिसरे ऐसी चिंता माह जे मरे ॥
बदनि नंदोंगु ने नर मुका पीतंयु बा के रंगे बरने ॥५॥

"Gujari"

Ant kal jo lachhmi simre, aisi chinta meh je mare
Sarap jone wali wali autre (1)
Ari bai Gobind Naam mati bisre. Rahao
Ant kal jo istri simre, aisi chinta meh je mare
Biswa jone wali wali autre (2)
Ant kal jo larke simre, aisi chinta meh je mare
Sookar jone wali wali autre (3)
Aaant kal jo mandir simre, aisi chinta meh je mare
Prait jone wali wali autre (4)
Ant kal Narain simre, aisi chinta meh je mare
Badati Tilochan te nar mukta, Pitambar va ke ride base (5) (2)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 526)

Gujari meter

One who thinks of wealth at his last moments and dies contemplating such, shall reincarnate again and again as a snake (1)

(Therefore) O sister (make sure), do not forget the Lord's Name (1) Pause and Ponder.

One who thinks of woman at his last moments and dies contemplating such, shall reincarnate as a prostitute again and again. (2)

One who thinks of sons at his last moments and dies contemplating such, shall reincarnate as a swine again and again. (3)

One, who thinks of his house at his last moments and dies contemplating such, shall reincarnate as a goblin again and again. (4)
One, who thinks of the Lord Narain at his last moments and dies contemplating on Him, shall be liberated from the cycle of reincarnation. The Lord always resides in his heart (5) (2).

3) The effect of one's actions is ineffaceable

One, who thinks of the Lord Narain at his last moments and dies contemplating on Him, shall be liberated from the cycle of reincarnation. The Lord always resides in his heart (5) (2).
एक्यक पाठक अनूदित हस्तत विभन्न नायक रे
तौरंद तौरंद भ्रमण लहैं न पाएँ रे ॥
कर्म करिर कथालु मफ़ीतासे रे ॥२॥
अध्यात्म संसीध धेरे साक्ष्मो कल्पातर निम्नरि
सुनामग नदी चे नाथ ॥
कर्म करिर खादु मफ़ीतासे रे ॥३॥
दाखले लेखा गळू उपाधीले साधन
बणु शालि विनयि आँधि तौरिले हरि ॥
कर्म करि कहुठो मफ़ीतासे रे ॥४॥
पुखली हिन्न कर्मु न मिटू रे
घर गेहंिि ता चे मोहि जरहेले ग्राम चे नाम ॥
बदलि निम्नरि ग्राम जी ॥५॥

Dhanasari Bani Bhagtan Ki Trilochan
Ik Onkar Satgur Parsadi

Narain nindis kai bhooli gawari
Dukrit sukrit tharo karam ri (1) Rahao
Sankra mastik basta Sursuri isnan re
Kul jan madhe milho Sarag Pan re
Karam kari kalank mafitas ri (1)

Bisaw ka deepak swami ta che re suarathi
Pankhi rai garur ta che badhwa
Karam kari Arun pingla ri (2)
Anik patik harta Tribhawan Nath ri
Tirath tirath bharmata lahe na par ri
Karam kari kapal mafitas ri (3)

Amrit sasia dhen Lachhmi Kalpatar sikhri
Sunagar nadi che nathang
Karam kari khar mafitas ri (4)
Dadhile Lanka gharh uparile Rawan
Ban sal bisal aan tokhile Hari
Karam kar kachhauti mafitas ri
Purablo krit karam na mite ri (5)

Ghar gehni ta che mohi japiile Ram che Namang
Badati Trilochan Ram ji (6) (1)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 695)

In this composition saint Trilochan advises his wife (who was not appreciative of his meditation) that all good and bad happenings in our lives take place as a result of our own actions in the past (including past lives). Why blame the Lord for all this like a fool and illiterate person.
Then he gives five examples from mythology to prove his point. Even great personages like Moon, Arun, lord Shiva, Oceans and Hanuman could not escape the effect of their bad karma, how can anybody else do it? To lessen the impact of their bad actions, worship of the Lord Rama helps and that is what Trilochan was doing.

Composition of saint Trilochan in Dhanasari meter

The Lord is one, Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained with the grace of True Master.

O foolish illiterate woman, why are you criticizing the Lord. All bad and good happenings are only because of your past actions (1) Pause and Ponder.

The Moon, which abides on lord Shiva’s forehead and bathes in Ganges river and in his family lord Krishna was born (lord Krishna was a Chandra Vanshi), yet because of his evil deed, his curse is ineffaceable. (1)

Arun who is charioteer of Lord Sun, the lamp of the world, who has the king of the birds Garur as his brother cannot get rid of the curse on him (for piercing a butterfly with a thorn) and is handicapped (2)

Lord Shiva who can pardon great sins and is the lord of the three worlds, who is roaming from one pilgrim center to another and does not come to the end of his journey, is still stuck with the skull of Brahma (3)

The ocean which gave precious jewels like nectar, moon, celestial cow, Lakshmi (goddess of wealth), wish fulfilling tree Kalapatru, legendary horse Sikhar and is the Lord of all the rivers is saltiest because of curse (of saints Agastya) (4)

Lord Hanuman who burnt Lanka and destroyed the fort of Ravana, his garden, brought the wondrous herb for reviving Lakshmana and thus pleased lord Rama could not remove his curse of wearing only lion cloth. (5)

Therefore, the effect of past actions cannot be obliterated. O my wife and master of my home, Trilochan says that it is only for this reason that he meditates on Lord Rama (6) (1)
Chapter 8

Saint Sadhna Ji

Saint Sadhna was born in village Sehwan in Hyderabad of Sindh province (now in Pakistan). This place is 142 miles from Rohri junction. Guru Nanak Dev visited this place and a memorial exists in an old fort which is worshipped by the local Muslim public.

Saint Sadhna was a butcher by profession. He was selling meat but did not kill the animals. He was very much devoted towards meditation of the Lord right from the childhood. He was personification of compassion and mercy. He had "saligram" or stone images of idols for weightment in his house. When a Sadhu saw them, he said that it was not correct to use idols for weights and took them away for his worship. But the stones did not like to remain with the Sadhu and he returned them to Sadhna.

Saint Sadhna was contemporary of Shri Namdev and Saint Gyaneshwar. He is said to have met both the saints near Ellora caves in Maharshtra State during pilgrimage.

There is a story in which it is said that saint Sadhna was on way to Jagan Nath Puri on pilgrimage. While resting in a town, one woman on seeing his youthful figure was attracted towards him. Sadhna did not reciprocate. The lady thought that her husband was coming in the way of her love, so she killed her husband. When Sadhna did not respond even then, she started shouting that Sadhna had killed her husband. Sadhna was arrested and imprisoned. His hands were imputed as punishment and he was freed.

When he started again towards Puri, the Lord sent a
chariot for his journey. The Lord appeared in his dream and told him that in the last birth he was a renowned learned Pundit of Kashi. This lady was a cow and her husband was butcher but they both died thinking of the Lord at their last moment. So they reincarnated as husband and wife. Sadhna's hands were also restored.

It is said that this composition in Bilawal raga included in Sri Guru Granth Sahib was a prayer to the Lord made by him when in the prison.

A Prayer To Save From Karma

श्चरी सनि कै सर गुरु विलक्कु
पहरू मानितू मसादार

चिंत बिंतें वे बरतें चित्र विंग संगीती
चाँगड़ियों सयःयों वा वा थेन सवःवों

उव जाने ब्रज लगात गुज नहीं बनाहु व तरुणे
सिंध मसत वच्च दरसी घंटी संजःबुझ अणी

पूर्ण ज्ञान सजात सिकै इंदू बागम त आएँ
पूर्ण सं ज्ञान विख तरी वाई सिंध बागम

बुढ़ा भूत रूढ़िकार सिकै ब्रज वालं चच्चाखं
मे तरूर करह उप संती बिख आधि त भंड
अंत्यमात तस्म राधि संग सफःत मनु संग

रामी सवन्त की गय बिलाकु
पहरू मानितू ऐसाद

निप कोंता के करने हकु भास भेंड्खारी
कामार्धों सुआर्थों वा की धेत सवारी

तव गुजः कहा जगत गुजः जउ करमें न नासी
सिंध ससन कत जाइँए जउ जेवूकु गाओँ

एक बंदू जल करने चालिक दुखू पावे
प्रान गए सागरू मिले पुलिं काम न आइँ

प्रान जः थाके चिंतु नहीं कैसे विसामडः
बँध मुगु नउका मिले कहू काँह चडावः
मे नहीं कहू तउ नहीं किचु आइँ न मोश
अउसर लजः गावः लेहु सधा ज्ञु लोगः

135
"Bani Sadhna Ki Rag Bilawal"
Ik Onkar Satgur Parsadi

Nrip Kaniya ke karne ik bhaia bhekhdhari
Kamarathi, suarathi wa ki paij swari (1)
Tav gun kaha Jagat Gura jau karam na nase
Singh saran kat jaie jau jambuk grase. Rahao
Ek boond jal karne chatrik dukh pawe
Pran gae sagar mile phun kaam na awe (2)
Pran ju thake thir nahin kaise birmawau
Bood mooe nauka mile kahu kahe chadhawau (3)
Main nahin kuchu hau nahin kichh ahi na mora
Ausar lajja rakh leh Sadhna jun tora (4) (1)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 858)

Composition of Saint Sadhna in Bilawal meter

In first couplet, Sadhna ji has given an example when a man, lust seeker, self seeker disguised himself as Lord Vishnu for the love of a king's daughter, the Lord saved his honour. Then he goes to the fact that if the Lord cannot relieve one of one's karma or past actions, what is the use of the Enlightener of the world. Further he requested the Lord to give him timely help before he dies.

O Lord, you saved the honour of a man who was lust seeker selfish person when he impersonated as Lord Vishnu for the love of a King's daughter (1)

O Enlightener of the world, what is your merit if our retribution of deeds (karma) does not leave us. If the jackal (karma) has to eat us, what is the use of taking shelter with the Lion (The Lord) (1) Pause and Ponder

The chatrik (a species of pied cuckoo which drinks only the rain drops) suffers for a drop of rain. What is the use of getting an ocean after death? (If the chatrik does not get a rain drop when alive?) (2)

Tired, without poise is my life, how may I persevere in supplicating Thee? If I get a boat after drowning, who will ride that boat? (3)

I am nothing, no pride is mine, and nothing is mine. O Lord, on this occasion save the honour of Sadhna, your servant (4) (1)
Chapter 9

Saint Sain Ji

Saint Sain was contemporary of saint Kabir Das, saint Ravidas, saint Pipa and saint Dhanna. He was also a disciple of Swami Rama Nand ji.

There are three views about the place of birth of Saint Sain ji. One view is that he was born in Maharashtra and served as a barber in the court of Bidar. The only fact to support this view is existence of many devotional songs in Marathi language in the name of Saint Sain.

The second view is that he was born in Rewa in Rajasthan and that he served the king Ram Singh of Bandhogarh. One day a number of Sadhus came and stayed with Saint Sain. Whole night and the next morning they sang devotional songs (kirtan). When the Lord saw that Saint Sain was busy in His devotion, He assumed the form of Saint Sain and served the king. That day the king enjoyed the services very much. When the king came to know the fact, he was very much impressed and adopted Saint Sain as his Guru (Master).

The third view is that Saint Sain was born in village Sohal in Amritsar district of Punjab state. His father’s name was Shri Mukand Rai and mother’s name was Shrimati Jiwan Devi. He is said to have been born with the blessings of a saint named Guria. There are a number of temples in Punjab in the memory of Saint Sain.

The general view is that he was born in Punjab but toured all over India where he may have served both the kings of Bandhogarh and Bidar.

Bhai Gurdas in his "Vaar" 10 Para 16 has given the
story of Saint Sain. He has described that after listening to the glory of saint Kabir, he adopted saint Ramanand as his Guru. After this he gives the story of the saints visiting Sain, their night long kirtan and the lord serving the king as barber assuming Sain's form.

There is only one composition of Saint Sain in Sri Guru Granth Sahib on page 695.

Composition of saint Sain in Dhanasari musical meter

Saint Sain has described his mode of worship. He says that he has arranged incense, lamp and clarified butter and does “arti” or devotional prayers to the immaculate Lord. He says that he is sacrifice to the Lord (1)

O Auspicious Lord, You are the source of all bliss. I daily sing the glory of blissful Lord King prevailing
everywhere (Pause and Ponder)

O Lord, beyond Maya, You are my noble lamp and holy wick (2)

The way to divine devotion is known to my master Rama Nand. He expounds the supreme bliss of perfection incarnate the Lord (3)

O Lord of charming figure, take me across the ocean of birth and death cycles and make me fearless. Sain says that the Master of supreme bliss should be worshipped (4)(1)
Chapter 10

Saint Pipa Ji

Saint Pipa was also a disciple of Swami Ramanand. He was born a prince of Ghatan Nagar in a Rajput family and became ruler of Gagrongarh, 45 miles from Kota in Rajasthan state. He was a worshipper of goddess. It is said that the goddess told him to go to swami Ramanand in Kashi, who will bless him with Divine Knowledge. So he went to meet swami Ramanand with royal splendour. Swami refused to meet him saying that he was a beggar and the kings had no place in a beggar's home. So Pipa again came in all humility. Swami Ramanand asked him to go and jump into a well. When Pipa was going to do so, Ramanand's disciples saved him and Swami Rama Nand blessed him with discipleship very lovingly.

Pipa was younger to saints Kabir and Ravidas. Therefore he treated them with great reverence like elder brothers. There are large numbers of miracles connected with Saint Pipa Ji. Giani Narain Singh has narrated 48 such instances in his book "Bhagatmal".

Saint Pipa was a perfect devotee of the Unmanifest Lord, did not approve of idol or ritual worship. The main subject of his compositions is need for company of saints, service to humanity, meditation on the Lord's Name and love for the Lord and His creation. Some of the sayings have become proverbs like.

"Jo Brahmande soi pinde, jo khoje so pave"

i.e. whatever is in the cosmos is also in our body. Only one who searches shall find.

There are lot of followers of Saint Pipa in Bikaner. It is said that when Pipa became a recluse, his associates also
became followers of non-violence and adopted the profession of tailoring clothes to earn an honest living.

There is only one composition of Saint Pipa in Sri Guru Granth Sahib at page 695 in Dhanasari raga.

Pipa states that the self is the deity; the self is the temple. The self is wandering ascetic and the pilgrim. The self is incense, the lamp and the offering to the deity. The self is the flower and leaf offerings (1)

In searching the continents of the self, one finds the nine treasures. The Lord be my witness, nothing is born or dies (1) Pause and Ponder

Whatever is in the cosmos is present too in the self. Whoever seeks shall attain this secret.

Pipa states in all humility that the Lord is the Supreme Being. The holy preceptor or Master may bless one with this wisdom (2) (1)
Chapter II

Saint Dhanna Ji

Saint Dhanna was a carefree saint. He created such a relation with the Lord that his story became world famous. He was born in village Dhuan in Tonk district of Rajasthan in a farmer family.

According to one story, Dhanna once asked one Brahmin named Trilochan to lend him a sacred idol. The crafty Brahmin gave him a round weighting stone to get rid of Dhanna. Dhanna took the stone home worshipped it and offered food and requested the Lord to accept food and went on praying for 2-3 days. Finally impressed by Dhanna's sincerity, the Lord appeared, partook of the food and then only Dhanna ate the rest.

Saint Dhanna was a disciple of Swami Rama Nand and contemporary of saints Ravidas and Namdev. Shri Nabha Swami has mentioned a few miracles like growing of harvest without sowing of seeds and increase in output of the crops in his neighbour's fields.

Saint Dhanna was a simple, humble and carefree mendicant. There are four of his compositions in Shri Guru Granth Sahib, three in Aasa raga and one in Dhanasari Raga.

1. How a worldly person is saved by the Lord

अमर ज्वाटह ज्वाल यो न ती त्रै

142
In this composition, saint Dhanna has described the normal actions of a worldly person in forgetting the moral ethics and remembrance of the Lord. From the 3rd couplet...
onwards, he gives his own experience and assures of the Lord's help and guidance in leading to the path of liberation.

Many births have been wasted in wandering yet one is not satiated in the body, mind and the wealth. (Because the body dies, the mind wanders in doubts, the wealth vanishes). The mind forgets the precious diamond like the Lord and is absorbed in poison of greed and desires (1)

Pause and Ponder

Unmindful of moral ethics, the bitter fruits of evil tendencies taste sweet to the mad worldly person. His love for things other than virtues increases. Therefore, the cycle of transmigration is weaved again and again. (1)

Even after knowing the way to liberation, it was not taken to heart. Thus, while burning in the fires of desires one was caught in the hangman's noose. The fellow collected so many bitter fruits (of poison like greed, lust, etc.) that his mind forgot about the Supreme Creator (2)

(Now saint Dhanna gives the method to liberation based on his own experience)

When my Master blessed me with the wealth of the Lord's Name and the Divine Knowledge dawns on me, I meditated on the Lord's Name. Thus I became one with the Lord and was absorbed in Him. Then only I realized bliss of Atma, devotion of love of the Lord and I was liberated. My self was completely satiated (3)

In whosoever the all-pervasive Divine light resides, attains to the Lord undeluded by "Maya". Dhanna has attained the Lord, Who is the support of the universe and is absorbed in Him in the company of holy saints. (4) (1)

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints

2. How The Lord Honours His Saints
In this composition recorded under Saint Dhanna, Guru Arjun Dev, the fifth Master must have supplemented or made some changes. This is why the heading of Mohalla 5 is given.

Saint Namdev while meditating on Gobind continuously, was absorbed in Him. Thus a printer and dyer worth half a copper became worth lakhs or a millionaire (in spiritual value) (1) Pause and Ponder
Saint Kabir, by discarding weaving and carding yarn was absorbed in the Lord's feet. A low caste weaver thus became the treasure of merit. (1)

Saint Ravidas who was engaged in carrying carcasses always, discarded his worldliness ("Maya"). He beheld the Divine sight and became prominent in holy company (2)

Saint Sain, the barber who used to run errands, as the people knew him, was counted prominently among holy saints when the Lord took abode in his heart (3)

By listening to the glory of these saints, the poor farmer (Saint Dhanna) also engaged himself in devotion. The Lord manifested Himself to Dhanna, such was his good fortune (4) (2)

3. Dhanna's Prayer For Worldly Needs

```
phal bap bap jag ko par
lagnal deva bhavat //

nainu jumal bapar
vadene dita de ram mukundat ||11|| dhanu ||

ranak mooler bhajane bhande ||

jagat bhumte kareh dita hindo ||

dharm ashant roopa //

aham bhakuta manu ma bhav ||19||

bhande bhande hukaydhe ||

hindu jangal deh plangi //

bhul dih kripya chhe //

nadh pathe khedhe bhav //24||
```

```
manasri bapri bhagat ko shana
goapal nera arata //
jo jun tumhari bhagat
kahate hiti ke kaj sakat //11|| rehut //

dalal tithya mahar Chad //

hamga bhumi kare hiti jiut //

purnima chandtwo nika //

agni mahar sati ma ka //11||

cher bhaps mahar lahate //

vik tahal tehi chhate //

ghar ko gorhain chhate //

jo jun shana leche mangi //24||
```
Dhansari Bani Bhagtan Ki Dhanna

Gopal tera aarta
Jo jun tumri bhagt karante,
Tin ke kaj sawarta (1) Rahao
Daal, sidha mangau ghiu
Hamra khusi kare nit jiu
Pania chhadan nika
Anaj maghau sut si ka (1)
Gau bhai maghau laveri
Ik tajan turi changeri
Ghar ki gihan changi
Jun Dhanna leve mangi (2) (4)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 695)

Composition of saint Dhanna in Dhannasari

musical meter

O Lord, I pray to you about my afflictions. You fulfil the desire of those who are your devotees (1) Pause and Ponder

I beg for lentils, flour and clarified butter. By this much, my heart will be delighted. I also beg for shoes and good clothes. The grain should be from the land ploughed seven times (1)

I need milch cow and buffalo and also a good Arabian mare. Give me a good wife and housekeeper. This is what your servant Dhanna wants. (2) (4)
Chapter 12

Saint Surdas Ji

Saint Surdas was living at Gaughat between Agra and Mathura with his disciples. He became a disciple of Shri Vallabhacharya and took over the services of Shri Nath temple at Goverdhan. He was a very dedicated devotee of lord Krishna. He used to call himself a balladeer (Dhadee) of lord Krishna.

He was born in village Sihi located between Delhi and Mathura in a Saraswat Brahmin family in 1492 AD and died in 1595 AD at a ripe age of 103 years. His famous book is "Sur Sagar". This book is loose explanation of 10th chapter of Shrimad Bhagwat Puran. Although this was the first book in "Braj Bhasha" i.e. language of modern Uttar Pradesh, but it is of very high standard from thought and poetry point of view. Although he was blind, but his inner eyes being open, he described the love of lord Krishna, Radha and the "gories" vividly. He is rightly called Sun in the sky of poetry and Shri Tulsidas author of "Ram Chritar Manas" the Moon. Other authors are merely stars. Saint Surdas was a very highly exalted devotee of the Lord. His devotion was of love and he believed in dispassion, compassion and equality of all beings. He used to say that service of the mind is the highest compared to that of body and wealth.

Some critics try to compartmentalize saints as devotees of Rama, Krishna, Shiva; Unmanifest and Manifest Lord etc. This is a sign or narrow-mindedness. In the path of devotion i.e. "Bhagti Marag", a stage comes when only one Lord is seen everywhere, as is said in Gurbani:

"Nirgun Aap Sargun bhi Ohi, kaladhar jin sagli mohi"
i.e. He, the Lord, is Himself Unmanifest and Manifest. He has bewitched the whole world by his nature ("Maya")

The saints and incarnations (Avtaras) appear different because they come from different cultures, backgrounds and times. Once they become self-realized, they are one with the Lord, and are all the same, like, when different rivers join the ocean, they become ocean and cannot by differentiated.

There is only one composition of Saint Surdas in Guru Granth Sahib at page 1253. Several scholars including Pundit Narain Singh are of the view that when Saint Surdas composed the line "Chhadi mun Hari bikhman ko sang" he became so emotional that he went into deep Samadhi. Shri Guru Arjun Dev completed the rest of the stanza under the name of Surdas.

"Chhadi Mun hari Bimukhan Ko Sung"

Sarang Mohalla 5 Surdas

IK Onkar Satgur Parsadi

Hari ke sang base Hari loke
O my mind, leave the company of those turned away from God.

In Sarang meter, composition of Guru Arjun Dev in the name of Surdas

The Lord is One, both Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained by the grace of True Master.

Only the God's devotees abide with Him. They have dedicated their body, mind and all else to Him. They are always intoxicated with the ecstasy of Divine Music (1)

Pause and Ponder.

At the sight of the Lord, they are relieved of their evil tendencies and have achieved all boons. Except the sight of beautiful visages of the Lord, they are attached to nothing else. Those who discard the beautiful Lord and seek other things are like leeches sucking the leper's blood. Surdas says that the Lord has grasped his heart and the joy of this is like granting of the next world. (2) (1) (8)

Note: The leper's blood becomes sweet but poisonous. The leech loves to suck the blood but dies soon after. Similar is the fate of those who desert the Lord and are attached to worldly objects.
Chapter 13

Saint Parmanand Ji

Saint Parmanand was a poet of a very high order. He was a very gentle and faithful devotee of Lord Krishna. He was born in 1407 AD at Kanauj; district Farukhabad in Uttar Pradesh in a Kanya Kubaj Brahmin Family. From his childhood he was fond of writing and singing devotional songs and he became famous for this in the neighbouring areas.

When at the age of 26 years, he went to Allahabad, he met Swami Shri Vallabhacharya who fell in love with his singing and hymns. Parmanand was also very much impressed by the great teacher and he became his disciple. It is said that after listening to one hymn sung by saint Parmanand, the great Vallabhacharya went into deep trance and remained in this state for 3 days continuously.

Saint Parmanand mostly stayed in Vrindaban near Mathura. His love for lord Krishna was like that of a milkmaid (Gopi). He has mostly described the Lord Krishna in the age of 12 years. He was a singer and a poet. He used both these qualities to sing praises of the Lord.

He is said to have authored 6 books, namely, Parmanand Sagar, Parmanand Dasji ke pudd, Dan Leela, Udhav Leela, Dhruv Chrit and Sanskrit Ratanmala. There is only one composition of his in Shri Guru Granth Sahib at page 1253 in Sarang Raga.
Anpawni bhagati nahi upji, bhukhe dan na dina (1) Rahao
Kaam na bisrio, karodh na bisrio lobh na chhutio Deva
Par ninda mukh te nahi chhuti nifal bhai sabb sewa (1)
Bat par, ghari moos birano, pait bhare apradhi
Jih parlok jai apkirat soi abidia sadhi (2)
Hinsa tau mun te nahi chhuti, jia daia nahi pali
Parmanand sadh sangati mil katha puneet na chali (3) (1) (6)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1253)

**Sarang meter**

The lord is One, Manifest and Unmanifest. He can be attained by the grace of True Master.

O being, what have you gained by listening to Puranas?

Neither the desire for ceaseless devotion nor feeling
for charity to the hungry has arisen in you (1) Pause and Ponder

Neither you have discarded lust nor wrath and greed have left you. All your devotional services have gone waste if calumny of others has not left your lips (1)

O criminal, by highway robbery, cheating and theft in others homes you have filled your belly. You have perfected only such ignorance, which will bring you ignominy in the next world. (2)

Violence has not left your mind; you show no compassion to the God’s creation. Parmanand says that you have not even listened to spiritual discourses in the congregation of holy persons (3) (1) (6)
Chapter 14

Saint Bhikhan Ji

There are conflicting views about identity of Saint Bhikhan. One view is that he was Sheikh Bhikhan, a Sufi from village Kakori who was a great scholar of Islam. But, from his language in the two compositions included in Sri Guru Granth Sahib, this does not appear to be correct.

According to Pundit Narain Singh, he was born in a Hindu family at village Pakai in Luckhnow district in 1473 AD. When he was only 10-12 years of age, one group of holy saints visited their village. His association with these saints impressed him so much that he neglected all his worldly business and was engaged in association with holy persons. His parents got him married to divert his attention but it was of no avail. Although a householder, he rose very high spiritually and passed away at the age of 90 years.

There are two compositions of Saint Bhikhan ji in Sorath meter at page 659 in Sri Guru Granth Sahib. Both these stanzas are full of emotions in describing benefits of the Lord's Name.

1. The Lord’s Name is the only medicine for all suffering

    तज्जु मेविचि बकडी रवाड़ टोकत भो बि
    १४७ रिंदवाद भुमि
    तैह्राय रंजू तेजेउ टुडू भोर जान जुप बते ॥
    तरप तंडल गड्डेत तलो तिरछे अयू बिभाव बतचित धरती ॥
    तभ हरी टीहि बेठ गड़तर हरी ॥
    अपवें मेटच रंजु लिखली ॥१॥ वच्चूः ॥

154
The Lord is One, Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained with the grace of True Master.

In this composition, Saint Bhikhan has described the condition of beings in old age when all faculties become useless. He says that the Lord’s Name is the only remedy in all types of suffering.

In old age when hair go grey, body becomes weak and eyes start watering, the throat is choked and the words cannot be spoken. In this state what can a human being do?

The Lord is the Supreme Physician who saves His devotees (1) Pause and Ponder
There is ache in the head, the body is burning and there is pain in the heart. The torment is such that no remedy is found. (2)

The Lord's Name is the pure nectar water, which is the remedy for the whole world. Bhikhan says that with the grace of the Master, one may attain the door to liberation (3) (1)

2. The Lord's Name is the most precious jewel

"Aisa Naam ratan nirmolak punn padarath paia
Anik jatan kar hirdai rakhia ratan na chhape chhapaia (1)
Hari gun kahite kahan na jai jaise gunge ki mathiai (1) Rahao
Rasna ramat sunat sukh sarwana, chit chete sukh hoii
Kahu Bhikhan doi nain santokhe, jah dekha tah Soi (2) (2)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 659)

For my good deeds, as a reward, I got the invaluable jewel of the Lord's Name.

By innumerable devices, I tried to hide it in my heart, but this jewel cannot be concealed (1)

The Lord's merits are beyond description like the taste of sweet to a dumb person (1) Pause and Ponder

By uttering by tongue, hearing with the ears and contemplating by mind one can enjoy bliss. Bhikhan says that now both his eyes are content because he beholds the Lord wherever he looks (2) (2)
Chapter 15

Saint Beni Ji

There are no records available about the time or place of birth of saint Beni. It is presumed that he was from North India and belonged to the time of saint Namdev and that Guru Nanak Dev collected his works.

As per mention of saint Beni in Bhai Gurdas's “vaars”, he was very much dedicated to the Lord’s devotion and used to go to lonely spots for meditation. He used to tell his people that he goes to the king’s court for service. He thus would pass his time by bluff. There was poverty in his house but saint Beni was always one pointed in his mind towards the Lord’s devotion. One day the Lord in the guise of the king came to his house in his absence and gave an unlimited wealth and assurance about further help. This is how the Lord saves the honour of his servants.

There are three compositions of saint Beni included in Sri Guru Granth Sahib. He is mentioned as a great devotee of the Lord by Guru Arjun Dev as well as by Shri Kul Bhatt (Chapter 16) in their works.

1. Remember the Lord’s Name, lest you may have to repent. Work for liberation while in this body

Sāya pari bhādā ḍhājī ᵇhē ṭi āṭhī vo ||

धारिता वै धारिता ग्राहण ॥

१६४ बिंदुवाल धूरा ॥

उ तत्र जानन उदाहरन पव सहभाग घूमन विद्धर भिक्ष हसना ॥

विद्धर विभिन्न पर ये तर नयं भवितमस रंग अविभास सु तन्त्रा ॥

उ तम समिक्सा वा सत सत प्रस्थ भास स्तित अविभास प्रागिता ॥

कतरव दृढ़ भिक्ष रंगस अविभास उधिं तत्वार्थ सुस्ति विभासका ॥१॥
विनिगत वहजनविधिव भविष्यवादी बुध जनसंग्रह भवज जलजर
वित रण रणी नम विंदु नाबिज़ा नमु विऴण भलजन
युग विवेश विचार वर जजव्य विनु विशार विशार
नमु नव सनम रेमी नुकिल विनिगत नव रवान "अग्राण"
विद्यानिवार वनब रवान रवान नुव अग्राण महती नव विवेशवाद
जुड़ते उसे पल परिर न हैं नंदव न्याय न जलजनविधी
विद्यापत वानिग बन विनु वनि नव पुस्त न विलिवशाद
रतु रघु मृग विनु नव वालविधि रवान विनु विनु विनु महती
कब्ज़ा भवज भवजनविधि भवज उँचे बन बुध नवीन भावानी
उप उन किन्तु बन बुध नवीन वालविधि कब्ज़ा लड़ाता
अविनास विनिगत रेमी नुव नुव वनब वलजन
विनिगतेन् देव विनेश प्रसन्ने नव जलजर तली जली
संबोध बने नाबेड़ बन बुध शंभर बन तुली बनी
तथाकार उँचे रवानविधि भवज नवीन वालविधि नव महती
बंगटे बने माहु ने बंगटे भवज नवीन विवेशवाद
निकृंटी देह देखि धृति उपजे मान कल नहीं बढ़ी ||
लालच करे जीवन पद कारन लोपन कहूँ न सुधी ||
थाका तू उड़हा मन मेंखो पर आगाने न सुखाई ||
बेणी कहे सुनहु रे भरानहु मन मुक्ति किनि पाई ||

**Sri Rag Bani Bhagat Beni Jiu Ki**

Pahiria Ke Ghar Gawna

1k Onkar Satguru Parsadi

Re nar garbh kundal jub achhat urdh dhian liv laga
Mirtak pind pud mud na ahinis ek agian su naga
Te din samul kast maha dukh, ab chit adhik pasaria
Garabh chhod mrit mandal aia tau Narhari manhu bisaria (1)
Phir pachhutawehga muria tu kawan kumat bhram laga
Chet Ram nahi jum pur jahiga jun bichre anradha (2) Rahao
Bal binod chind rus laga, khin khin mohi biape
Rus mis medh amrit bikh chakhi, tau punch pragat santape
Jup tup sanjam chhodi sukrit mut, Ram Naam na aradhia
Uchhilia kaam kal mati lagi, tau an sakati gul bandhia (2)
Trun tej pur tria mukh johahi, sur apsur na pachhania
Unmati kami maha bikh bhule, paap pun na pachhania
Sut sampati dekh ih mun garbia, Ram ride te khoia
Awar marat maia mun tole, tau bhug mukh janam wigoia (3)
Punder kes kusum te dhaule, sapat patal ki bani
Lochan sarmeh budh bul nathi, ta kamu paws madhani
Ta te bikhe bhai mati paws, kaia kamal kumlana
Awgati ban chhodi mrit mandal, tau pachhe pachhutana (4)
Nikuti dekh dhun upje, maan karat nahi bujhe
Lalch kare jiwan pud karan, lochan kachhu na sujhe
Thaka tej udiya mun pankhi, ghar angan na sukhai
Beni kahe sunhu re bhagatahu, maran muki kin pai (5)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 93)

**Composition of saint Beni in Sri musical meter**

In this composition, saint Beni has drawn a beautiful sketch of a worldly person who is proud of his possessions, sons and powers etc. and is always busy in enjoyments and collecting wealth by fair and foul means in young age. When one grows old, physical and astral strength is lost and the loved ones on whom the person was spending his wealth and energies also neglect him when he is helpless.
Therefore, saint Beni advises that one should instead of spending time and energies on amassing wealth and enjoyments, work for one's liberation. Liberation can only be attained when in this body and not after death.

O man, when you were in the spiral of your mother's womb, you meditated on the Lord. Then all that time during day and night, you had no pride in your body of clay.

O man, now (after birth) you have expanded your mind in all directions. Just remember those days of torment.

Now that you have come out of the womb into this world of mortality, you have forgotten the Lord. (1)

O fool, what sort of doubts and wrong actions you have fallen in. You will have to repent later.

Remember the Lord, otherwise you will go to Yama's domain. Do not behave like an ignorant person (1) pause and ponder

As a child, you were busy in games and pleasures of eating. Every instant love for food and pastimes gripped you.

As a juvenile, you consumed everything even poison taking these to be nectar. As a result, five negative emotions (lust, anger, greed, attachment and pride) started tormenting you.

You did not indulge in contemplation, austerities, restraints, and discarded virtuous deeds. You never meditated on the Lord's Name.

As tide of lust rose, your wisdom was stained, then a woman was tied to your neck (you were married) (2)

In the flush of youth, you became oblivious of good and bad; started seeking faces of other's women.

Intoxicated with powerful poison of lust, you did not discriminate between sin and virtue

You were feeling proud on seeing your sons and wealth and the Lord was cast out of your mind.

When others died, you only weighed the wealth you would gain from them. You wasted your life in lust and pleasure of palate (3)

In old age, your hair became whiter than white lotus
flower and your voice so feeble as if it came from seventh nether region.

Passion still churns your mind though your eyes are watering and power of mind and body have gone feeble.

Because the physical and astral body has become so weak, the mind is diffused.

Because one has forgotten about the Immortal Lord's Word and is all the time busy with material world, at this stage, one has nothing to do but repent on this behaviour (4)

On growing older, one's body is bent and its sight raises cry of pity. If the others say something in his honour, the old man does not understand.

Even at this age, when eyes are sightless, all powers exhausted, the bird of mind has flown away, the old man is still greedy about living longer.

Saint Beni says: O devotees of God! By merely dying, none ever got liberation (this means, all effort has to be made in this life only) (5)

2. Secret Of Samadhi

Saint Beni says: O devotees of God! By merely dying, none ever got liberation (this means, all effort has to be made in this life only) (5)
अनुस तो छ। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू। र्यक्तू।

Ramkali Bani Beni Jiu Ki
1k Onkar Satguru Parsadi

Ira pingla aur sukhmana teen basih ik thi
Beni sangam tah Pirag mun majan kare tithai (1)
Santahu taha Niranjani Rama hai. Gur gum chine birla koi
Taha Niranjani Ramaia hoi (1) Rahao

Dev sthane kia nisani. Tah baje sabad anahad bani
Tah chand na suraj, paun na pani. Sakhi jagi Gurmukh jani (2)
Upje gyan durmat chhije. Amrit rus gaganantar bhije
Ais kala jo jane bheu. Bhte tas Param Gurdeo (3)
Dasam duara agam apara, Param Purakh ki ghati
Upar hat, hat par ala, ale bhitar thati (4)
Jagat rahe su kabahu na sowe. Teen tilok samadhi palowe
Bij mantar lai hirday hare. Manua ulat sun mahi gahe (5)
Jagat rahe na alia bhakhe. Panchau indri bus kar rakhe
Gur ki sakhi rakhe cheet. Mun tun arpe Krisan preet (6)
Kar palav sakha bichare. Apana janam na jue hare
Asur nadi ka bandhe mool. Pachham pher chadawe sur
Ajar jare su nijhar jhare. Jagan Nath siu gosat kare (7)
Chaumukh diva joti duar. Paloo anat mool bichkari
Sarab kala le ahe rahe. Mun manak ratna mahi guhe (8)
Mastak padam duale mani. Mahi Niranjan tribhawan dhani
Panch sabad nirmail baje. Dhuske chawar sankh ghan gaje
Dali mali daitahu Gurmukh gyan. Beni jache Tera Naam (9) (1)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 974)

Ramkali meter by Beni ji

In this composition, saint Beni has very eloquently described the state of "Samadhi". In and around our body, there are subtle energies which flow in mystical lotuses (chakras) and nadis. These cannot be seen by our normal eyes but only by the clairvoyants. When a saint goes in the state of "Samadhi", his thoughts, emotions are absolutely still and his connection with the Lord is established. He is then possessed of unlimited powers.

The three subtle flows in our spinal chord are ida (left or Moon flow from left nostril to the base of spine), Pingola (right or the Sun flow from the right nostril to the base of spine) and Sukhmana (central flow) are in perfect harmony.

Beni says that this condition of the three nadis in harmony is the true confluence of rivers Ganges, Yamuna and Saraswati.) The self then bathes in this confluence of the three nadis. (1)

O saints, this state is the abode of the Immaculate Lord Rama. Only with the grace of the Master, some rare persons can attain this state. This is the true abode of the Lord beyond Maya (1) Pause and Ponder.

163
What are the marks (signs) of Divine abode? There rings the unstuck music and His Word ("Anahad Bani")

There exists no Sun, Moon, Air or Water. There is only holy teachings by the Master and Self Realization. (2)

Enlightenment comes and the foul thinking departs in this state. The seeker’s crown chakra (sahasrara chakra, the tenth door on the top of the head) is drenched in holy nectar.

Whosoever realizes the mystery of this miracle shall have meeting with Supreme Divine Enlightener. (3)

The tenth door, the abode of the Supreme Being is unknowable and beyond human limits. Located above loaf shaped instrument of intellect (brain) is the tenth door (crown chakra) is the abode of the Supreme Being.

One who is enlightened is always aware and never sleeps. The three qualities ("satwik", "rajsik" and "tamsik") and the three worlds vanish in his state of absorption in the Lord.

The seed formula "beej mantra" is settled in his mind. His mind is turned away from the world and abides in cosmic and "shunya" (5)

Whoever is awake in spirit, never speaks untruth. He has full control over his five senses. He always bears in mind teachings of his Master. His mind and body are always devoted to the love of the Lord (6)

He who takes his hands as leaves and body as branches never looses his life in the gamble of worldliness.

He dams up the river of demoniac thoughts at the origin itself. Then the Sun of enlightenment rises from the West which is the abode of ignorance. Whoever controls the uncontrollable, fountains of ecstasy flow for him. Such a person will hold dialogues with the Lord of the Universe (7)

At the portal, a four way-facing lamp shedding brightness is seen. Amid endless leaves of creation lies the root essence. With all his faculties, there abides the Lord. The Lord is found when pearl of mind is joined with jewel of breath (when one is aware of the Lord’s Name with each breath). (8)
Within the head is the "sahasara" or the "crown chakra" surrounded by jewel of enlightenment or the "Divine Light". Inside this is lodged the Lord of the three worlds.

The holy five sounds play there, with flywhisk waving and conch shells sounding. With the Master granting enlightenment, the demons of evil are crushed. O Lord, Beni supplicates for devotion to Your Name (9) (1)
Chapter 16

The Bhattas and their Compositions

There are 11 Bhattas whose works are included in Sri Guru Granth Sahib. They were Saraswat Bhramins, residents of a village in Karnal district (Haryana state) located somewhere along Saraswati River. Some of their descendants have now migrated to Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Shri Bhagirath was their grandfather who had six sons named Bhikha, Sokha, Tokha, Gokha, Chokha and Roda. The eleven Bhattas who came to Guru Arjun Dev were their sons. These Bhattas were highly spiritually oriented and were worshippers of various gods. They were looking for a True Master and during their search, they assembled in Kashi. There, they heard about Guru Arjun Dev and came to him seeking enlightenment.

Some scholars say they were incarnations of the Vedas and Lord Brahma. There is a story told by Pandit Narain Singh ji. Once Lord Vishnu went to the meeting of the Lord Brahma. When he entered, Lord Brahma and the Vedas did not stand up to show him the respect due to his status. Thus Lord Vishnu took this rude behaviour to be due to their sense of pride and, therefore, cursed them to take birth in Kali Yuga.

Disturbed by the curse, Lord Brahma and the Vedas requested to be forgiven and apologized. Lord Vishnu then told that the fifth incarnation of Guru Nanak Dev would deliver them. Thus, the four Vedas and Lord Brahma reincarnated thus:

1. Samved : Mathura, Jalap (Jal), Harbans and Bal.
2. Rigved : Kalsahar (Tull or Kul) and Nal.
3. Yajurved : Salya and Bhall  
4. Atharved : Kirat and Gayand  
5. Brahma : Bhikha  

When these Bhatts came to Guru Arjun Dev, they found him to be a True Master and stayed there. They were already advanced and well versed in spiritual practices. Therefore, they got the Divine Knowledge by the grace of Guru Arjun Dev. Since they were scholars of great merit, they expressed their desire to compose poetry in praise of the Gurus. Guru Arjun Dev asked them to praise Guru Nanak Dev. To demonstrate that Guru Nanak Dev and the Supreme Being were one, he composed first 9 swayas. Then the Bhatts said that their hearts were not yet clean. So they requested Guru ji to clean their hearts so that they could compose poetry of this high spiritual significance. Then Guru Arjun Dev composed further 11 swayas to end their "body consciousness" and make the Bhatts realize Supreme Being in their consciousness. Thus Guru Arjun Dev composed the first 20 paragraphs.

Then the 11 Bhatts, between themselves composed 123 swayas making a total of 143 stanzas under he heading of "Bhatt Bani".

Compositions of Guru Arjun Dev

1. In praise of the Lord

\[
\begin{align*}
&
\text{Jeevi siq nwmu krqw purKu inrBau inrvYru}
\text{Akwl mUriq AjUnI sYBM gur pRswid}
\text{svXy sRI muKbwk´ mhlw 5} \quad \|
\text{Awid purK krqwr kwrx sB Awpy} \quad |
\text{srb rihE BrpUir sgl Gt rihE ibAwpy} \quad |
\text{b´wpqu dyKIAY jgiq jwnY kaunu qyrI giq}
\text{srb kI rK´w krY Awpy hir piq} \quad |
\text{AibnwsI Aibgq Awpy Awip auqpiq} \quad |
\text{eykY qUhI eykY An nwhI qum Biq} \quad |
\text{hir AMqu nwhI pwrwvwru kaunu hY} \quad|
\text{krY bIcwru jgq ipqw hY sRb pRwn ko ADwru} \quad |
\end{align*}
\]
The Lord is One, Manifest and Unmanifest. His name is Eternal, Creator, Immanent, Fearless, without enmity. His form is Eternal, Unincarnated; Self-Created and can be realized by the grace of True Master.
Swayas by holy tongue of Guru Arjun Dev

The Primal Supreme Being, Immanent, Creator, Almighty is All-Pervasive in all creations and is All-Manifest.

He is Manifest in all creation. Who can know His reality?

The Lord, Divine Master, Immortal, Formless, Self-Created grants protection to all.

You are Unique. There is none like You.

The Lord is without limits and extent. Who has the power to contemplate on Him?

The Lord, father of the universe, prop of all beings, what can Nanak, servant of God and devotee narrate merits of Your devotion just with one tongue.

To Him, I am always a sacrifice. (1)

Kawan jog kaun gayan dhayan kawan bidhi ustat karie
Sidh sadhik tetis core Tiru keem na parie
Brahmadik Sankadi Sekh gun unt na pai
Agahu gahio nahi jai pur sarab rahio samai
Jih kati silk dayal Prabh sei jun lage bhagte
Hari Guru Nanak jinah parsio te it ut sada mukte (8)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1386)

With what yogic powers, musical meter, meditation or any technique His praise can be sung?
Accomplished yogis, practitioners of yoga and the thirty-three crore deities have not been able to evaluate Him.

Brahma and other gods, sages like Sanak and Sanandan (Brahma’s sons), Shesh Nag (the snake god with a thousand hoods) have not been able to realize the extent of His merits.

Beyond our grasp, He is pervasive in all creations.

The Lord with His grace has cut the noose of those who are engaged in His devotion.

Those who have worshipped Guru Nanak Dev, they are liberated in this and the next world. (8)

3. This world is a dream, therefore remember the Lord

3. This world is a dream, therefore remember the Lord

3. This world is a dream, therefore remember the Lord

Swaye Shri Mukhbak 5
Ik Onkar Satgur Parsadi

Re mun moos bila meh garbat, kartab karat maha mughna
Sampat dole jhole sang jhulat, maya magan bharmat ghughna
Sut banita sajan sukh bandhap, ta siu moh badhio so ghana
Swayas of Shri Guru Arjun Dev

O my mind, you are feeling proud like a mouse in its hole and doing most thoughtless actions.
You are fully involved and swinging in the swing of Maya. You are wandering like an owl.
While enjoying leisure in the company of your progeny, wife, friends and relatives, your attachments to these have increased.
From the seed sown by you, shoot of egoism has grown.
Thus, your life is passing in committing of sins.
The cat of death is watching you with its mouth wide open. With all the enjoyments, your desires have not ceased.
In the company of saints, remember the Compassionate Lord. Guru Nanak Dev says that this world should be treated like a dream. (4)

Compositions by the Bhattas

1. In praise of Guru Nanak Dev Ji

Boio beej aham mum ankur, bitat audh karat aghna
Mirat manjar pasari mukh nirkhat,
Bhunchat bhugati bhukh bhukha
Simir Gopal Dayal satsangati, Nanak jug janat supna (4)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1387)
In the nether world devotees like Shesh Nag in serpent form sing His laudation.

Lord Shiva, yogi, celibate and wandering hermit too sing His laudation.

Sage Vyasa who wrote Vedas and Sanskrit grammars (nine of them) too sings His laudation.

Lord Brahma who by Divine Ordinance accomplished whole creation too sings His laudation.

Over the Universe, Guru Nanak Dev realized Unmanifest and Manifest aspects of the Supreme Being.

Kul says, he too sings laudation of Guru Nanak Dev who practised raja-yoga. (9)

2. In Praise of Guru Angad Dev Ji

\[\text{Amia drist subh kare hare agh pap sakal mul}\
\text{Kaam karodh aur lobh moh wasi kare sabhe bal}\
\text{Sada sukh mun wase dukh sansarah khowai}\]
Guru nav nidhi dariau janam hum kalakh dhowai
Su kahu Tull Gur sawie ahinis sahaj subhai
Darsan parsie Guru ke janam marn dukh jai (10)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1392)

If the Master (Guru Angad Dev) throws his kind ambrosial glance, he takes away all sins and evils and destroys them.

All the powerful enemies like lust, wrath, greed attachment, pride etc. are subdued.

Eternal joy abides in the heart of such a recipient of ambrosial glance and his worldly sorrows are effaced.

The Master is the river of grace and the nine treasures. He washes away our life’s blackness.

Therefore Tull says that such a Benefactor Master should be served upon day and night spontaneously.

By mere sight of the Master sufferings of transmigration are annulled (10)

Note: The last two lines are so popular that these are narrated before opening of Sri Guru Granth Sahib and reading of "Vaak".

3. In Praise of Guru Amardas Ji

(i) Ji mati gahi Jaidev, ji mati Name samani
    Ji mati Trilochan chit, bhagat Kabireh jani
The enlightenment that Jaidev acquired and that entered Namdev's mind; the enlightenment that entered the mind of Trilochan and Kabir; the enlightenment whereby Rukmangad engaged in contemplation of God and that whereby Ambrik and Prahlad acquired liberation by seeking God's succour.

O Guru Amardas by the same enlightenment you discarded greed, wrath and desire.

The bard Jalh says that by the same noble wisdom you acquired the skill (to discard the evils). Guru Amardas is the embodiment of devotion. His very sight brings liberation (4) (13)

(ii) Ganhar boond basua romawal kusam basant ganant na awe. Ravi sasi kiran udar sagar ko, Gang tarang antu ko pawe Rudra dhian gyan Satgur ke kabi jun Bhall unah jo gawe Bhale Amardas gun tere, teri upma tohi buni awe (1) (22)

In this composition, poet Bhall has described limitlessness of the greatness and qualities of Guru Amardas giving similes of drops in a cloud, flowers and blades of grass in the spring, rays of sun and moon, depth of ocean, waves on river Ganges, meditation by Lord Shiva and Divine Knowledge of the True Master.
Note: The last line is the blessing by Guru Angad Dev on Guru Amardas.

Drops of water in a cloud, flowers and blades of grass that grow in spring season cannot be counted.

There is limit of rays and sun and moon, depth of ocean and the waves on the river Ganges.

There is no limit of meditations by Lord Shiva or the Divine Knowledge of the True Master the description of which poet Bhall could sing.

O Amardas of Bhalla clan, your qualities are limitless. Your greatness is unique. There is no parallel. (1) (22)

4. In Praise of Guru Ramdas Ji

Guru Nanak Dev realized the Immaculate Name and performed devotion with deep love.

Thereby Guru Angad Dev abiding by his side was the ocean (of the Lord’s Name) that rained down meditation (with consciousness absorbed in the holy Word) on the world.

The story of Guru Amardas is beyond narration. It is not possible to say anything just with one tongue.

Now exaltation was conferred on Guru Ramdas Sodhi to liberate the whole world.
We are full of demerits without a single virtue. Discarding nectar "amrit" we are swallowing poison.

Deluded by Maya, attachment and doubt, we are attached to progeny and wife.

We have heard that the Master’s congregation is the noble path, by joining which, the Yama’s terror is effaced.

Bard Kirat makes this supplication to Guru Ramdas "pray keep us under your shelter" (4) (58)

5. In Praise of Guru Arjun Dev Ji
(i) Unt na pawat dev sabai, muni Indra Maha Siva jog kari
Phuni Baid biranch bichar rahiho, Hari jaap na chhadio ek ghari
Mathura jun ko Prabhu Din Dayal hai, sangat sristi nihal kari
Ramdas Guru jug taran kau Guru Joti Arjun mahi dhari (4)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 1408-09)

All the deities, sages, Indira, the great Shiva who have
practised yoga have not realized the Lord's extent.

Not even Brahma who contemplated Vedas and did
not cease utterance of the Lord's Name even for a short
measure of time (Ghari is 22.5 minutes).

Mathura says that the Lord is gracious to his servants
and has conferred bliss on the entire creation.

Similarly, Guru Ramdas imparted the apostolic light
to Guru Arjun Dev to save the world. (4)

(ii) Ajay Ganga jul atal sikh sangat sabh nawe
Nit Puran bachieh, Baid Brahma mukh gawe
Ajay chawar sir dhule Naam amrit mukh liau
Guru arjun siri Chhattar aap Parmesari diau
Mil Nanak Angad Amar Gur, Guru Ramdas Hari peh gayau
Haribans jagati jus sancharayau
Su kawan kahe Sri Guru muyau (1)
The invincible, eternal Ganges river of the Lord's Name flows by the Guru's side in which the disciples' congregation is bathing. (This seems to be referring to Amritsar tank).

Holy texts ("puran" used symbolically) are ever recited and Brahma enunciates Vedas with his tongue.

The immortal whisk waves over his (Guru Arjun Dev's) head.

He utters ambrosia of the Lord's Name with his tongue.

The Supreme Being has himself spread the umbrella of sovereignty over Guru Arjun Dev's head.

Guru Ramdas, with Guru Nanak Dev, Guru Angad Dev and Guru Amardas are united with the Lord.

Bard Haribans says that Guru Ramdas's laudation has spread over the world. Who says that holy Guru is subject to death? (1)

Guru Ramdas, beloved of Supreme Being departed for
the divine realm. The Lord granted him a throne and made him sit on it.

The gods expressed jubilation and hailed his triumph. The demons, trembling with their sins within them fled away.

The sins of those who attained to Guru Ramdas were annulled.

Guru Ramdas conferred the umbrella and throne of sovereignty to Guru Arjuan Dev before departing. (2) (21) (9) (11) (10) (10) (22) (60) (143)
Chapter 17

Baba Sunder Ji

Baba Sunder ji was great grandson of Guru Amardas, the third Guru. Guru Amardas had two sons Baba Mohri and Baba Mohan. Baba Mohri’s son was Baba Anand and Baba Sunder was his son. He was a very learned and saintly person. When Guru Arjun Dev was compiling Guru Granth Sahib, he went to Baba Sunder and requested him to narrate the incidents at the time of passing away of Guru Amardas. Baba Sunder composed 6 stanzas of "sadd" in "Ramkali Raga" which was included in Guru Granth Sahib as "Ramkali Sadd" on pages 923-924. "Sadd" in Punjabi means call.

Baba Sunder ji has described all Gurus as one spirit. It is also stated that no one should weep after death, but should take it as the Lord’s Will and sing the Lord’s praise in "kirtan". It is also stated that Guru Amardas called all his family members and relations and made them to surrender to Guru Ramdas. Guru Amardas himself anointed him with sandal paste on the forehead as a mark of consecration. This is first time that the details of last moments of any Guru have been preserved.

Guru Arjun Dev was so pleased with Baba Sunder ji that he blessed him and said that whosoever will recite this Sadd at his last moments; the messengers of Yama will not be able to approach him.

1) Guru Amardas announces, he has received the call

180
मेरे सिख सुख सुनहू पुत्र भाईहो मेरे हरि भगवान आउ मे पांसी जीउ ॥
हरि भगवान पुरुष भाई जेरा हरि प्रभ के साधारण जीउ ॥
भगत सत्गुरु पुरुष सोई जसो हरि प्रभ भगवान भाव ॥
अनन्द अनहद वजह के हरि आप मां देवई मेलाए ॥
तुमी पुत्र भाई परवार मेरा मनि वेखइ हरि निरंजान जीउ ॥
दुरू दिलिखिया परवाणा नमी नहीं गुरु जाई हरि प्रभ पांसी जीउ ॥

"Ramkali Sadd"

1k Onkar Satgur Parsadi

Mere sjkh sunhu put bhaiho mere, Hari bhana aao mai pasi jiu
Hari bhana Gur bhaia mera Hari Prabhu kare sabas jiu
Bhagat Satguru purukh soi, jis Hari Prabhu bhana bhawae
Anand anhad wajeh waje, Hari Aap gale melawae
Tusi put bhai pariwar mera, mun wekhahu kari nirjas jiu
Dhuri likhia parwana phire nahi Guru jaai Hari Prabhu
pas jiu (3)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 923)

Ram kali musical meter. Sadd

The Lord is one, Unmanifest and Manifest. He can be attained by the grace of the True Master.

The holy Guru said: "listen my disciples, sons and brothers". The Lord's command has come, Himself calling me.

The Lord's pleasure is showered on me and I have obeyed the Lord's Will.

The true devotees of Guru are those who willingly obey his command.
For them there will be mystic bliss and unstuck music and they are held in the Lord's clasp.

You, who are my sons, brothers and family, test this way for yourself.

None can turn away the writ issued from the Divine Court. Therefore, the holy Guru must take departure towards the Lord (3).

2) Anointment of Guru Ramdas

By his wish, the holy Guru called his entire family to himself. The Guru told them not to weep after him. This shall not please him.

Those in love with their friend, should feel happy in his honour and joy.

O my sons and brothers, consider carefully; the Lord has honoured the holy Guru.

The holy Guru in his own presence has conferred royalty on Guru Ramdas.
All his disciples, relations, sons, brothers were enjoined upon to bow to Guru Ramdas. (4)

### 3) Everyone bows to Guru Ramdas

As guided by the holy Guru, his disciples bowed to his will. His son Mohri came forward and touched Ramdas's feet. Everyone touched the feet of Guru Ramdas on whom the holy Guru conferred his light ("jyoti").

Anyone who out of envy refrained from bowing, offered his obeisance by Master's commandment.

Predestined as writ by the Lord since Primal time, this greatness was conferred (on Guru Ramdas) by Divine Will.

Sunder says, 0 saints listen, the whole world made obeisance at Ramdas's feet. (6) (1)
Chapter 18

Rai Balwand and Satta, the Bards

Rai Baiwand and Satta were the musicians in the court of Sri Guru Arjun Dev. They were brothers. They were in difficult financial position. Somehow, they got the impression that the money offered by the devotees was the result of their good singing and thus the prosperity of Guru was only because of them. Therefore, at the time of their sister's marriage, they requested Guru ji, to give them one day's offering. Guru Ji agreed to this. But, as luck would have it, that day's offering was very meagre. They were very much upset by this and blamed Guru Ji of the conspiracy to deny them the money. They were so angry that they even said things against Guru Angad Dev and his successors to mean that they were all ordinary worldly persons but became great only because of the singers in their court.

Guru Arjun Dev had great patience. He could tolerate things against himself but not against his Masters. So he told them to go away and not to show their faces again. They went away and tried alternative avenues for living but failed. Things became really bad when they, in addition to poverty, were bodily inflicted with skin eruptions. Since Guru Ji had banished them, no disciple would help them. Infact Guru Ji had said that the two bards had committed an unpardonable sin by saying things against the honour of great Gurus. Anybody advocating their cause would be punished and made to ride a donkey with his face blackened.
At that time there was a great devotee of Guru ji at Lahore by the name, Bhai Ladha, the benevolent. So the duo went to him. At first he bolted his door from inside but later on seeing their condition relented and agreed to help them. Therefore, he inflicted the punishment proposed for helping the two bards by himself. He blackened his face and rode a donkey and marched from Lahore to Amritsar accompanied by beat of drums to present himself before Guru Ji to plead for Balwand and Satta.

By then, the two bards had realized their blunder. Therefore, they wanted to pray for apology. Between them, they composed and sang eight stanzas ("Pauries") which is recorded in Sri Guru Granth Sahib at page 966 to 968 under the heading "Ramkali ki Vaar Rai Baiwand tatha Satte doom akhi". Guru Ji was so pleased with the two bards on their transformation from calumniators to honest pure hearted praise singers that he bestowed the title of "Rai" on them. This title is normally given to Brahmin scholars.

The "vaar" is also known as "tikke di vaar" because vivid scenes at the times of succession of Guru Angad Dcv, Guru Amardas, Guru Ramdas and Guru Arjun Dev are described. It was, therefore, sung customarily at the time of succession of the Gurus. It is also sung at the time of coronation of Sikh rulers.

1) Coronation of Guru Angad Dev Ji

185
रामकली की बार राह बलवंड हिंदु तथा सती दृष्टि आखी
पृष्ठ मृत्युर प्रसादि

नाओ करता कादु करे किउ बोल होरे सेहोबद्दे
दे गुना सति भेषण भवान हे पारंगत पनु पढ़ीदे
नानकक गुजु चलाइ रंगु कोटु मनाणी नीव दे
लहोण धरिजोत्त छुए निमित कीर सिफती प्रभुभु घोड़े
माति गर आलम देव दी खाँगौ जीर पराकु जीर दे

शैह चेले रहिरस सोई नानक कलामक धीरें

साहि दिका दितीसु जीवे (1)

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 966)

Ballad in Ramkali meter by Rai Balwand and Satta

The Creator of the Universe and the Nature is very just. Who can dare question His doings? When everything is weighed on the scales of justice.

The Divine Qualities and the Truth are sisters and brother. Whoever is tested in their crush gets the bounty of liberation.

Guru Nanak Dev reigned in this corrupted world with the solid foundation and protective fort of acting on Divine Qualities and the Truth.

Then Guru Nanak Dev placed the canopy of this Divine Rule on the head of Bhai Lehna (Guru Angad Dev) who drank nectar of praise of the founder of this rule.

Guru Nanak Dev, the true Master, taught Bhai Lehna the Divine Lord’s teachings and handed the secret and open happenings and also granted the gift of powerful life.

Guru Nanak Dev appointed his disciple while in physical body as his successor with proper ceremony. Guru
Nanak blessed Guru Angad Dev with the holy sandal paste mark which was given to him by the Lord. (1)

The duo of Balwand and Satta sang with such devotion and sincerity that the whole congregation was calm and their minds became one pointed on the thoughts of Guru Nanak Dev and Guru Angad Dev.

After completing the singing of first stanza, the two brothers and Bhai Ladha prostrated before Guru Arjun Dev and stood up in attendance. Then the two bards sang and the same environment continued till the 5th stanza was sung.

2) The Guru is beyond this world. His calumniators are destroyed

Pheri wasaia Pheruaani Satguru Khadur
japu tapu sanjamu nali, tudh hore muchu garur
Lab wihane mansa, jiu paani boore
Warhiai durgah Guru ki Qudarti noor
jit su haath na labhai tu oh tharur

Pheri wasaia Pheruaani Satguru Khadur
japu tapu sanjamu nali, tudh hore muchu garur
Lab wihane mansa, jiu paani boore
Warhiai durgah Guru ki Qudarti noor
jit su haath na labhai tu oh tharur

187
Guru Angad Dev, son of Shri Pheru, founded the township of Shri Khadur Sahib. Guru Angad Dev is embodiment of meditation, austerity and contentment and he has destroyed his pride. Greed destroys humans just like scum pollutes the lake water. In the Guru’s court Divine refulgence rains in abundance.

O Guru Ji! You are that cool ocean, the limits of which cannot be found. The treasure of the Lord’s Name, which is the true nine treasures, is in abundance with you. Whosoever calumniates you is totally destroyed. The people of the world can only see the things in this world (with their physical eyes), but you see things beyond (can see the three worlds simultaneously).

Shri Pheru’s son founded the township of Shri Khadur Sahib (5)

The two brothers prostrated at the end of the 5th stanza and stood up. Just when they had said "ninda teri jo kare so wanjhe choor", Guru ji opened his eyes. Since the bards were genuinely sorry and expressing their true feelings, Guru ji blessed them with a kind, healing look. The eruptions on their body started healing. The duo again sang praise of Guru Arjun Dev in the eighth stanza in which they have also mentioned about compilation of Sri Guru Granth Sahib.

3. In praise of Guru Arjun Dev

\[
\begin{align*}
    \text{वरं नामि चन्द्र नरी भवात्स कर्मण्य अरुणे वेषम् कर्म} \\
    \text{आपीर्कृ साध्य मांर्गितु सर्वे वीरि विभूणे कर्म} \\
    \text{सत्य उपरी कर्म अरुणे अरुणे सिम्फोनिय वेषम् कर्म} \\
    \text{संव चैश्चर्य अवबल साध्ये सर्वे वीरि विभूणे कर्म} \\
\end{align*}
\]
Chare jage chahu jugi, panchain ape hoa
Apine aap sajion aape hi thuum khaloa
Aape patti kalam aap, aap likhinhara hoa
Sabh ummat awan jawani, aape hi nawa naroa
Takhat baitha Arjun Guru, Satguru ka khtiwe chandoa
Ugwanaahu tai athwanahu, chahu chaki kian loa
Jinnhi Guru na sawio manmukha paia moa
Dooni chauni karamati sache ka sacha dhoa
Chare jage chahu jugi, panchain ape hoa (8) (1)
(Sri Guru Granth Sahib page 968)

O Guru Nanak Dev! You were your first four incarnations and you are also the fifth one (Guru Arjun Dev)
You have created these five incarnations from yourself and you are their main support (main pillar)
(Referring to Guru Granth Sahib compilation) you are the tablet, you are the pen and scribe. (Sri Guru Granth Sahib is your manifestation)
The devotees come and go, (you are busy in construction of temples, tanks, wells, cities, rest houses, etc.) yet you are ever fresh.
Guru Arjun Dev is sitting on the throne and the canopy of the holy preceptor (Guru Nanak Dev) is luminous over him.
His light is spreading in all the four directions from sunrise to sunset.

Those egoists who do not serve the Guru are subject to death.

Your miraculous powers are increasing two-fold and four-fold. This is the holy gift to you by the True Lord.

Your four incarnations appeared at four times and you are yourself the fifth one (8) (1)

- - - - -

*May the Lord bless the reader with true understanding of Gurbani and love of His Name!*

- Author
Appeal

Sewak kau sewa ban ayee..
hukam boojh parm pad payee..

In the healthy environment of Gurdwara Dehra Sahib Lahore and in the light of the teachings of Gurbani, the work of selfless service which was started by Bhagat Puran Singh at Lahore was implemented after arriving at Amritsar. At the time of partition of the country, on reaching the refugee camp at the Khalsa College, Amritsar on 18-08-1947, Bhagat Puran Singh started the service of suffering humanity with full vigour, which had become need of the hour due to the outbreak of cholera epidemic. After this, he never looked back and for giving the present shape to the Pingalwara, its founder had to struggle very hard, round the clock.

At this time (on 31.03.2009 A.D.) Pingalwara has about 1370 inmates which are being looked after without any discrimination of religion, caste, creed or colour. They include destitutes, cripples, sick and insane men, women, children and the aged. Some of them are suffering from incurable diseases.

In addition to this, a lot of literature is printed and distributed free of cost, free education is given to the poor children, free artificial limbs are provided to the handicapped, and to save and improve the environment, free tree plantation is done in government and common lands, etc. etc.

The daily expenditure of Pingalwara is over Rs. 2,75,000/- (Rs. Two lacs seventy five thousand) which is being incurred out of the donations and help received from the donors and well-wishers.

Donors are humbly requested to send donations through money-orders, bank drafts, cheques, etc., so that the good work of selfless service is kept going.

Dr. Inderjit Kaur

President

All India Pingalwara Charitable Society (Regd.) Amritsar.
Ph: 0183-2584713, Tele-Fax: 0183-2584586
अभिक्र

मेघवन कहते मेघा बच्च आठी।
मृत्यु दुःख पश्चात शोक पत्नी॥

पुलम्बाजन भेंट मारविक मापेत दे सर्वैं भारुल विच अवे लुकारी ती निहीनतां 'दे संलिपियां उगाड़ गुजार मिसिव हे स लावेट दिखो निस्रपण मेघा चा वेंच आपेन्द्र बीता मी, पुंहा तू अभिनवत उपेश बे अपारी समा बुद्धिपुष्टिः विश्वास। हेंग ली बेंड मोहे 18 अगस्त 1947 हूं भक्तम बालरूप अभिनवत दे ललितानी बैठे विच यंगे बेंड बे गुजार सी दे दुखी भक्तमाय दो मेघा बलिन शैलुक रत्न आपेन्द्र वा दिखे दीवी में लिखा ली वेंच वेरल पुंहा चेरे ली बेंड बंध वाली मी। दिखे ले पिंडी दुरुपा दे लली घुड़ तो लली अभिनव मोहे तुषा विच विवाहकुट्टा वस्तु खेंध दिखे ली बही तुषा नाड़ शिव का बे सब आपेन्द्र भएलिया दीवी। विवाहकुट्टा विच दिखे ले 31.03.2009 ही।

ते सुधा आश्रम, रघुनंदन अनुपयोग देने मर्म महिला बीतारी तुषा हे, जावी बीतारी मुंहुँ भुजन भितरम, अवारणा मुंहुँ भुजन बादलेंटी बहे अनुपयोग की संरक्षण अजैं भुजन जय कही साक्ष्यों अजैं मासिकां चरण विच भुजन जें लाये संप्रे पहल, दिखाधेर।

विवाहकुट्टा द्वारा देवी द्वारा विवाह 2,75,000/- उभये दे दी बेंड हे दे विच दानी मंडां अजैं विवाहकुट्टे दे विवाहकुट्टे बेंड दीवी देवी एंग्ल अजैं मासिकां तात दीवी है।

दानी मंडां मुंहुँ महिला अपील बीतारी तुषा हे विच संवाद मुंहुँ राती आपेन्द्र, सैकंड उदारत अजैं चेरे नाय राती एंग्ल बेंड दी विवाहकुट्टा वस्तु उन्मे दे दिखे मृत्यु वेंच मुंहुँ मर्म महिला दीवी है।

माग. दिनेशकुट्टा वेंड
भुजन
भाग दिखाधेर विवाहकुट्टा चैतीवर्ष मंगाठिया (कार्य) अभिनवत
देत : 0183-2584713, टेली-फॉक्स 0183-2584586

192