ardhanArIshvaram

Ragam: kumudakriyA {51st Melakartha (Panthuvarali) Janyam}

ARO: S R1 G3 M2 D1 S
AVA: S N3 D1 M2 G3 R1 S

Talam: Rupakam

Composer: Muthuswamy Dikshitar
Version: Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer
Lyrics Courtesy: Lakshman Ragde

Pallavi:
ardhanArIshvaram ArAdhayAmi satatam atri bhrgu vasiSThAdi muni brnda vanditam shrI

Anupallavi:
ardhayAma alankAra vishESa prabhAvam
ardhanArIshvarI priya karam abhayakaram shivam

Charanam:
nAgEndra maNi bhUSitam nandi turagArOhitam
shrI guruguha pUjitam kumudakriyA rAganutam
AgamAdi sannutam ananta vEda ghOSitam
amarEshAdi sEvitam Arakta varNa shObhitam

Meaning: (Approximate – please report errors):
P: I always (“satatam”) worship (“ArAdhayAmi”) Ardha Nareeswara, who was saluted (“vanditam”) by the group of saints (“brnda”) like Athri, Brugu and Vasishta.

A: The special (“vishESa”) decoration (“alankAra”) at midnight (“ardhayAma”) is powerful and wonderful (“prabhAvam”). He is liked (“priya”) by Ardha Nareshwari, and he gives fearlessness (“abhayakaram”).

C: He is adorned (“bhUSitam”) by the serpent (“nAgEndra”) stone (“maNi”). He rides on the bull (“turagArOhitam”) Nandi. He is worshipped by Subrahmany (“guruguha”). He is praised by Raga (“rAga-nutam”) Kumuda Kriya, He is praised (“sannutam”) by Agamas and extolled (“ghOSitam”) by Vedas, He is served (“sEvitam”) by Indra and others (“amarEshAdi”). He shines (“shObhitam”) in his red (“Arakta”) colour (“varNa”).

Pallavi:
ardhanArIshvaram ArAdhayAmi satatam atri bhrgu vasiSThAdi muni brnda vanditam shrI

Sahityam: ardhanArIshvaram ArAdhayAmi satatam
I always (“satatam”) worship (“ArAdhayAmi”) Ardha Nareeswara,
Sahityam: atrī bhṛgu vāsiṣṭhādī muni brṇḍa vanditam śhrī
Meaning: … who was saluted (“vanditam”) by the group of saints (“brṇḍa”) like Athri, Brugu and Vasiṣṭha.

Anupallavi: 
ardhayāma alankāra vīṣṇu prabhavam ardhanārīshvarī priya karam abhayakaram shivam

Sahityam: ardhayāma alankāra vīṣṇu prabhavam
Meaning: The special (“vīṣṇu”) decoration (“alankāra”) at midnight (“ardhayāma”) is powerful and wonderful (“prabhavam”).
**Sahityam**: ardhanAri shvarI priya karam abhayakaram shivam

**Meaning**: He is liked (“priya”) by Ardha Nareshwari, and he gives fearlessness (“abhayakaram”).

S r-g , R m g-r g || r S- r s n d s , m D ||
ardhanA - rI shva rI priya karam a bhaya karam shivam (param or smaram)

S ; dSrs- D ; M || gmdm R- gr rsS ||
Ar - dha- nA - - rI - - - shva ram - -

gr sr sr- gm g r G || gmgm D-ds dm dr ||
A - - -- rA- - - dha yA- - - mi sa ta tam

S r- n s -s D , m D || g m- R g- m g m dm d r ||
a tri bhr gu va siS ThAdi muni brn da van- di tam- shrI-

S ; nsrs- D ; M || gmdm R- G ; ; ||
Ar - dha- nA - - rI - - - shva ram - -

**Charanam**: nAgEndra maNi bhUSitam nandi turaGArOhitam shrI guruguha pUjitam kumudakriyA rAga-nutam
AgamAdi sannutam ananta vEda ghOSitam amarEshAdi sEvitam Arakta varNa shObhitam

**Sahityam**: nAgEndra maNi bhUSitam

**Meaning**: He is adorned (“bhUSitam”) by the serpent (“nAgEndra”) stone (“maNi”).

G ; ; M R G || G M mgmg R S ||
nA - gE - ndra maNi bhU- - Sitam

**Sahityam**: nandi turagArOhitam

**Meaning**: He rides on the bull (“turaGArOhitam”) Nandi.

S , n D - M G ; || mgM dm D R S ||
Nan- di tu ra gA - - rO- - hitam

G ; ; mm R G || gm dm gmG R S ||
nA - gE - ndra ma- Ni bhU- - Sitam

S , n D - M G ; || mgM dm D R S || ; ; ; ; ; ||
Nan- di tu ra gA - - rO- - hitam -- -- --

**Sahityam**: shrI guruguha pUjitam

**Meaning**: He is worshipped by Subrahmanyas (“guruguha”).

sn D G R GM || G mg R- rs S ; ||
shrI - guru guha pU- - ji tam - -

**Sahityam**: kumudakriyA rAga-nutam

**Meaning**: He is praised by Raga (“rAga-nutam”) Kumuda Kriya,

G M D - R , S , || sn D M - G M ; ||
Kumu da kri yA rA- - ga nu tam

sn D G R GM || gmdm . g R- rs S ; ||
shrI - guru guha pU- - ji tam - -
Sahityam: AgamAdi sannutam ananta vEda ghOSitam

Meaning: He is praised (“sannutam”) by Agamas and extolled (“ghOSitam”) by Vedas,

G m- g , r – S  r S ;    ||  m G m  d  m d - d  d r S  ||
A gamA  di san nutam   a nanta  vE - da ghO- Sitam

Sahityam: amarEshAdi sEvitam Arakta varNa shObhitam

Meaning: He is served (“sEvitam”) by Indra and others (“amarEshAdi”).
He shines (“shObhitam”) in his red (“Arakta”) colour (“varNa”).

S ;  dsrs – D ; M  ||  gmdm   R – gr  rsS  ||
Ar -  dha- nA  - -  rl - - -  shva ram  - -

Contemplation on the prayogas or phrases Sa Ni Dha Ri’, Ri Ga Ma Dha Sa; etc. invoke a sense of fantasy, make-believe or illusion. Imagine suddenly walking into somebody who is split into a perfect half of a perfect man and a perfect woman! It certainly is a heart-stopping sight! Absolutely dazzling and surreal! Kumudakriya, a breathtaking raga of fantasy, bestows wonderful events, fantastic happenings in life. Ragas yield results only when the “jeeva swaras” (soul-notes) are tapped and mastered. Mere humming or rendering of the scale are not sufficient to induce life into the raga.