## Shree Kamalaambike Avaava (Avarana 8 of Navavarna Krithis)

Ragam: Ghanta (20th mela janyam)

https://guruguha.org/blog/2016/10/07/ghanta-raga-era/

ARO: S G2 R\*2 G2 M2 P D1 P N2 D\*2 N2 S

AVA: S N2 D1 P M1 G2 R1 S

Talam: Adi (2 kalai)

Composer: Muthuswami Dikshitar

Version: D.K. Jayaraman (<a href="https://youtu.be/AQLuRqjRRkU?t=1694">https://youtu.be/AQLuRqjRRkU?t=1694</a>)

Lyrics / Meaning Courtesy: https://guru-guha.blogspot.com/2007/09/dikshitar-kriti-sri-kamalaambikae.html

Youtube Class: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZOAruslb8o

Audio MP3 Class: http://www.shivkumar.org/music/srikamalambike-avava-ghanta-class.mp3

### Pallavi:

SrI kamalAmbikE avAva SivE kara dhRta Suka SArikE

## Anupallavi:

lOka pAlini kapAlini SUlini lOka janani bhaga mAlini sakRd-

# Madhyama kAla sAhityam:

AlOkaya mAM sarva siddhi-pradAyikE tripurAmbikE bAlAmbikE

### caraNam

santapta hEma sannibha dEhE sadA(a)khaNDaika rasa pravAhE santApa hara trikONa gEhE sakAmESvari Sakti samUhE santataM mukti ghaNTA maNi ghOshAyamAna kavATa dvArE ananta guru guha viditE karAnguli nakhOdaya vishNu daSAvatArE

#### Madhvama kAla sAhitvam:

antaHkaraNEkshu kArmuka SabdAdi panca tanmAtra viSikhA(a)tyanta rAga pASa dvEshAnkuSa dhara karE(a)ti rahasya yOginI parE

Meaning Courtesy: http://guru-guha.blogspot.com/2007/09/dikshitar-kriti-kamalaambikaayaastava.html

Pallavi:

Sahityam: SrI kamalAmbikE avAva SivE kara dhRta Suka SArikE

Meaning: O Goddess Kamalamba! Protect me, O Auspicious one! O the One holding a parakeet as a talking bird in your hand!

SrI kamalAmbikE - O Goddess Kamalamba!
ava-ava - Protect, protect (me)!
SivE - O auspicious one!

kara dhRta Suka SArikE - O one holding a parakeet as a talking bird or pet in your hand!

Anupallavi:

<u>Sahityam</u>: lOka pAlini kapAlini SUlini lOka janani bhaga mAlini sakRd-

Meaning: O protector of the world! ... O one holding a skull ... O one carrying a trident! ... O mother of the worlds!... O Goddess

Bhagamalini...

IOka pAlini- O protector of the world!kapAlini- O one holding a skull,SUlini- O one carrying a trident!IOka janani- O mother of the worlds!

bhaga mAlini - O Goddess Bhagamalini...

sakRd - once (at least).

<u>Sahityam</u>: AlOkaya mAM sarva siddhi-pradAyikE tripurAmbikE bAlAmbikE

Meaning: O giver of all Siddhis! ... O mother Tripura! ... O youthful goddess (bAlA tripurasundari)! Please glance at me once!

AlOkaya mAM - Glance at me
sakRd - once (at least).
sarva siddhi-pradAyikE - O giver of all Siddhis!
tripura-ambikE - O mother Tripura!

bAlA-ambikE - O youthful goddess (bAlA tripurasundari)!

Charanam:

Sahityam: santapta hEma sannibha dEhE sadA(a)khaNDaika rasa pravAhE

Meaning: O one whose body shines like molten gold! ... O one who is always a flood of infinite sheer bliss!

santapta hEma sannibha dEhE - O one whose body (dEhE) shines (sannibha) like molten (santapta) gold (hEma)!

sadA-akhaNDaika rasa pravAhE - O one who is always (sadA) a flood or river (pravAhE) of infinite sheer

(akhaNDaika) bliss (rasa)!

<u>Sahityam</u>: santApa hara trikONa gEhE sakAmESvari Sakti samUhE

Meaning: O one whose home is the triangle that dispels all sorrows! ... O one in the company of the goddesses led by

Kameshvari!

santApa hara trikONa gEhE - O one whose home (gEhE) is the triangle (trikONa) that dispels all sorrows (santApa

hara)!

sa-kAmESvari Sakti samUhE - O one in the company (samUhE) of the goddesses (Sakti) led (sa-) by Kameshvari!

Sahityam: santataM mukti ghaNTA maNi - ghOshAyamAna kavATa dvArE

Meaning: O one whose doors have jeweled bells that constantly proclaim liberation!

santataM mukti - ... forever liberation!

ghaNTA maNi-ghOshAyamAna - jeweled bells that constantly proclaim

kavATa dvArE - O one whose doors have

<u>Sahityam</u>: ananta guru guha viditE karAnguli nakhOdaya vishNu daSAvatArE

Meaning: O one understood by the infinite Guruguha ... O one from the nails (nakha) of whose hands'(kara) fingers (anguli) the

ten incarnations (daSa-avatarE) of Vishnu have sprung forth ...

ananta guru guha viditE - O one understood (viditE) by the infinite (Ananta) Guruguha,

kara-anguli nakha-udaya - O one from the nails (nakha) of whose hands'(kara) fingers (anguli) ...
vishNu daSa-avatArE - the ten incarnations (daSa-avatarE) of Vishnu have sprung forth ...

Madhyama Kala Sahityam (Charanam):

Sahityam: antaHkaraNEkshu kArmuka SabdAdi - panca tanmAtra viSikhA(a)tyanta -

Meaning: O one who has a sugarcane bow symbolising the mind and arrows that signify the five sense objects beginning with

sound!

antaH-karaNa-ikshu kArmuka - One who has a sugarcane (ikshu) bow (kArmuka) symbolising the mind (antaH-

karaNa)

Sabda-Adi-panca tanmAtra viSikhA - ...and arrows (viSikhA) that signify the five (panca) sense objects (tanmAtra)

 $beginning\ with\ (Adi)\ sound\ (Sabda)\ !$ 

<u>Sahityam</u>: rAga pASa dvEshAnkuSa dhara - karE(a)ti rahasya yOginI parE

Meaning: O one holding in your hands a noose that signifies intense passion and a goad that signifies hate! O one who is attended

to by very secret Yoginis!

Atyanta - Intense

rAga pASa - noose (pASa) that signifies intense passion (rAga) dvEsha-ankuSa - goad (ankuSa) that signifies hate (dvEsha)!

dhara-karE - O one holding in your hands

ati rahasya yOginI parE - O one who is attended to by very secret Yoginis!

#### Pallavi:

SrI kamalAmbikE avAva SivE kara dhRta Suka SArikE

<u>Sahityam</u>: SrI kamalAmbikE avAva SivE kara dhRta Suka SArikE

Meaning: O Goddess Kamalamba! Protect me, O Auspicious one! O the One holding a parakeet as a talking bird in your hand!

SrI kamalAmbikE - O Goddess Kamalamba!
ava-ava - Protect, protect (me)!
SivE - O auspicious one!

kara dhRta Suka SArikE - O one holding a parakeet as a talking bird or pet in your hand!

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5
                                           6
N ; ; ; ; D,p d*NdD; ; ; P; |PMP; dNdP-P|PGMPPMPD
SrI - - - - - ka - ma-lAm -- bi - kE - - - - - a vA - - - va - - -
             2
                     3
                                        5
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pmpm M; DP - G P pMg G R R S - nRs | sRn - D* N S G R S | S gr R,n S; P ,d* ||
Si -- vE-- -- ka- ra - dhR- ta - Su- ka-- SA- -- ri -- kE - - - - Am ba
                   3
                                                      7
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N \ ; \ ; \ ; \ ; \ D \ , p \quad d*Nd \ D \ ; \ ; ; \ P \ ; \quad | \ P \ M \ P \ ; \quad dNd \ P \ - P \quad | \ P \ G \ M \ P \quad P \ M \ P \ D
                                                                         SrI - - - - ka - ma-lAm -- bi - kE - --
                                         --- a vA--- va---
                     3
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pmpm D; DP - G D ppmg G R R S - nRs | sRn - D* N S G R S | S gr R,n S; S S ||
Si - - vE-- - - ka- ra - dhR- ta - Su- ka-- SA- - - ri -- kE - - - - - Am ba
                                   5
                                           6
Snd N:
         ; ; D,p d*NdD; ;; P; |PMP; dNdP-P |PGMPPMPD
                                                                         SrI - - - - ka - ma-lAm -- bi - kE - - - a vA - - - va - - -
                      3
                                         5
pmpm M; DP-GD ppmg GR RS-nRs | sRn-D*N SGRS | Sgr R,n S;; |
Si - - vE-- - - ka- ra - dhR- ta - Su- ka-- SA- - - ri - kE - - -
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### Anupallavi:

lOka pAlini kapAlini SUlini lOka janani bhaga mAlini sakRd-

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Sahityam: lOka pAlini kapAlini SUlini lOka janani bhaga mAlini sakRd-
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Meaning: O protector of the world! ... O one holding a skull ... O one carrying a trident! ... O mother of the worlds!... O Goddess

Bhagamalini... lOka pAlini

O protector of the world!O one holding a skull,

kapAlini SUlini lOka janani

O one carrying a trident!
O mother of the worlds!
O Goddess Bhagamalini...

bhaga mAlini - O Goddess Bhag sakRd - once (at least).

## Madhyama kAla sAhityam:

AlOkaya mAM sarva siddhi-pradAyikE tripurAmbikE bAlAmbikE

<u>Sahityam</u>: AlOkaya mAM sarva siddhi-pradAyikE tripurAmbikE bAlAmbikE

Meaning: O giver of all Siddhis! ... O mother Tripura! ... O youthful goddess (bAlA tripurasundari)! Please glance at me once!

AlOkaya mAM - Glance at me sakRd - once (at least). sarva siddhi-pradAyikE - O giver of all Siddhis!

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tripura-ambikE
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- O mother Tripura!

bAlA-ambikE - O youthful goddess (bAlA tripurasundari)!

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
N; S mg gR, S - G; M - P sn - D P - pn S,g | rs- R S- S N S; - N | D P - mdp-p, g M - P; ||
10- kaya- mAM- sar va si - - ddhi- pra-dA- yi- kE- tri pu rAm bi kE- bA—lAm- bi kE-

N; S mg  $\underline{gR}$ , S – G; M – P sn – D P – pn S,g | rs- R S- S N S; - N | D P – mdp-p , g M – P, d\* | lO- kaya- mAM- sar va si - - ddhi- pra-dA- yi- kE- tri pu rAm bi kE- bA—lAm- bi kE-

Sahityam: SrI kamalAmbikE avAva SivE kara dhRta Suka SArikE

Meaning: O Goddess Kamalamba! Protect me, O Auspicious one! O the One holding a parakeet as a talking bird in your hand!

## caraNam

santapta hEma sannibha dEhE sadA(a)khaNDaika rasa pravAhE santApa hara trikONa gEhE sakAmESvari Sakti samUhE santataM mukti ghaNTA maNi ghOshAyamAna kavATa dvArE ananta guru guha viditE karAnguli nakhOdaya vishNu daSAvatArE

Sahityam: santapta hEma sannibha dEhE sadA(a)khaNDaika rasa pravAhE

<u>Meaning</u>: O one whose body shines like molten gold! ... O one who is always a flood of infinite sheer bliss! santapta hEma sannibha dEhE - O one whose body (dEhE) shines (sannibha) like molten (santapta) gold (hEma)!

sadA-akhaNDaika rasa pravAhE - O one who is always (sadA) a flood or river (pravAhE) of infinite sheer (akhaNDaika) bliss (rasa)!

<u>Sahityam</u>: santApa hara trikONa gEhE sakAmESvari Sakti samUhE

Meaning: O one whose home is the triangle that dispels all sorrows! ... O one in the company of the goddesses led by Kameshvari!

- O one whose home (gEhE) is the triangle (trikONa) that dispels all sorrows (santApa hara)!

sa-kAmESvari Sakti samUhE - O one in the company (samUhE) of the goddesses (Sakti) led (sa-) by Kameshvari!

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Sahityam: santataM mukti ghaNTA maNi - ghOshAyamAna kavATa dvArE
Meaning: O one whose doors have jeweled bells that constantly proclaim liberation!
santataM mukti
                                     - ... forever liberation !
ghaNTA maNi-ghOshAyamAna
                                     - jeweled bells that constantly proclaim
kavATa dvArE
                                     - O one whose doors have
                                                 5
    1
                                                                6
                                                             P;;;
;; N;
           N; SG
                      R*;- S G
                                   R^*; G; | G M gmP
                                                                       |;;PM;P;N||
          ta - taM- - - mu-
                                   - - kti
                                              ghaN- - - -
                                                           TA-
                                                                            - maNi - - ghO - -
\operatorname{ns};;; \operatorname{NR} \operatorname{nsn} \operatorname{D}, \operatorname{P}; \operatorname{PN} \operatorname{NS} - \operatorname{SR} \operatorname{R*GRS} \operatorname{NS} \operatorname{nsR} \operatorname{S}; \operatorname{S} \operatorname{\parallel}
shA--- ra ka- vA--- Ta---
                                                                           dvA- -- rE - - A
Sahityam: ananta guru guha viditE
                                     karAnguli nakhOdaya vishNu daSAvatArE
Meaning: O one understood by the infinite Guruguha ... O one from the nails (nakha) of whose hands'(kara) fingers (anguli) the
ten incarnations (daSa-avatarE) of Vishnu have sprung forth ...
                                     - O one understood (viditE) by the infinite (Ananta) Guruguha,
ananta guru guha viditE
kara-anguli nakha-udaya
                                     - O one from the nails (nakha) of whose hands'(kara) fingers (anguli) ...
vishNu daSa-avatArE
                                     - the ten incarnations (daSa-avatarE) of Vishnu have sprung forth ...
                                           4
                                                      5
    1
                              3
              S : -NR \quad snD-P : P, m \quad P : S : nD, P
                                                                  ; ; mdP \mid P,gM;
                                                                                          ; P N; ||
              ta - gu- ru- - gu- ha - - vi - di tE -
                                                                  - - ka--
                                                                               rA- n-
nan- ---
                                       Srn N; \mid D^*N-S; ; RS; \mid NS \text{ ns R} \quad S; ; S
S, nNS
             ; ,g rR,
                          S; - Nrs
                                       --- shNu da- ShA- -- va
na- khO-
             - - da-
                          va vi-
                                                                              tA- --- rE- -A
NS-nsR S; -NR snD-P; P, m P; | S; nD, P
                                                                  ; ; mdP \mid P,gM; ; PN; \parallel
nan- ---
              ta - gu- ru- - gu- ha - - vi - di tE -
                                                                 - - ka--
                                                                               rA- n-
                                                                                           - gu li-
                          S; -Nrs Srn N; | D*N-S; ; R S; | N S ns R S; ;
S, n N S
             ; ,g rR,
                          ya vi - - - shNu da - ShA- - - va
na- khO-
             - - da-
                                                                              tA- ---
Madhyama kAla sAhityam:
antaHkaraNEkshu kArmuka SabdAdi -
panca tanmAtra viSikhA(a)tyanta -
rAga pASa dvEshAnkuSa dhara -
karE(a)ti rahasya yOginI parE
Madhyama Kala Sahityam (Charanam):
Sahityam: antaHkaraNEkshu kArmuka SabdAdi - panca tanmAtra viSikhA(a)tyanta -
Meaning: O one who has a sugarcane bow symbolising the mind and arrows that signify the five sense objects beginning with
sound!
antaH-karaNa-ikshu kArmuka
                                     - One who has a sugarcane (ikshu) bow (kArmuka) symbolising the mind (antaH-
karaNa)
Sabda-Adi-panca tanmAtra viSikhA
                                      - ...and arrows (viSikhA) that signify the five (panca) sense objects (tanmAtra)
beginning with (Adi) sound (Sabda)!
                                           4
                                                       5
G \text{ nd } P; M M - mpG R S - Srn S N - D*N | S; S - S G R* - G M | P; P - S \text{ sn- N S}; \parallel
An- taH ka ra NE- - kshu kAr muka Sha- bdA-di – pan - cha tan-
                                                                               mA- tra vi Shi khA- -
Sahityam: rAga pASa dvEshAnkuSa dhara -
                                                    karE(a)ti rahasya yOginI parE
Meaning: O one holding in your hands a noose that signifies intense passion and a goad that signifies hate! O one who is attended
to by very secret Yoginis!
Atyanta
                                     - Intense
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- noose (pASa) that signifies intense passion (rAga)

rAga pASa

dvEsha-ankuSa dhara-karE ati rahasya yOginI parE

- goad (ankuSa) that signifies hate (dvEsha)!
- O one holding in your hands
- O one who is attended to by very secret Yoginis!

Sahityam: SrI kamalAmbikE avAva SivE kara dhRta Suka SArikE

Meaning: O Goddess Kamalamba! Protect me, O Auspicious one! O the One holding a parakeet as a talking bird in your hand!

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# Meaning (From Todd Mc Comb's web page:

http://www.medieval.org/music/world/carnatic/lyrics/srao/kamala.html,

Original: T.K. Govinda Rao's book):

May goddess Kamalambika, spouse ("shive") of Shiva, She who ("shaarike") holds ("druta") a parrot ("shuka") in Her hand ("kara"), protect me ("avaava").

She is the protector ("paalini") of the world ("loka").

She is adorned with the Kapala skull ("kapaalini") and the Shula trident ("shoolini").

Mother of the universe ("shakrudaa") and also known as Bhagamalini.

May She bestow Her glance ("alokaya") on me ("maam"), and confer all ("sarva") accomplishments ("siddhi") on me.

She is Tripurambika and Balambika.

Her body ("dehe") is like ("sannibha") burnished ("santapta") gold ("hema").

She is the eternal ("sadaa") stream ("pravaahe") of undifferentiated ("akhanda") unique ("eka") bliss ("rasa").

She is the remover ("apahara") of sufferings ("santa").

She resides (''gehe'') in the Trikona triangle, which obliterates the three kinds of miseries.

She is in the company ("sa") of Kameshvari and a host ("samuhe") of Shaktis.

In the wide (''kavaata'') doorway (''dvaare'') of Her abode, wherein the jewelled bell (''ghantaa-mani'') constantly (''santatam'') announces (''ghosaayamaana'') salvation (''mukthi'').

She is understood ("vidite") by Guruguha, who is eternal ("ananta").

From Her ten fingernails (''kara-anguli-nakho''), She created (''udaya'') the ten (''dasha'') incarnations (''avataare'') of Vishnu.

She is the supremely ("ati") secret ("rahasya") Yogini, who holds ("dhara") in Her four hands ("kare") the sugar cane ("ikshu") bow ("kaarmuka") symbolising the mind ("antahkarana"), five arrows symbolising the five ("pancha") Tanmatras - essences, sounds ("shabda") etc ("aadi") of the

five elements, the noose ("paasha") symbolising attachment ("raaga"), and the goad ("ankusha") symbolising hatred ("dvesha").

Notes from Sri Dikshita Kirtana Mala by Sri. A. Sundaram Iyer:

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Avarana Keertanam:

- 1) This avaranam is known as Sarva Siddhiprada chakram.
- 2) He who recites this continuously is certain to get every desire fulfilled.

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Thanks to Mrs. Janaki Krishnamoorthy for the following notes based upon "KritiManiMaalai" (Dikshitar editition) by Ranga Ramanuja Iyengar and "Yantra" by Madhu Khanna (Thames and Hudson Limited, Publishers)

## Sri Chakra, A brief introduction

The Saktam sect of Hinduism approaches the Brahman or Absolue consciousness through the worship of Sri Tripura Sundari, the Supreme Mother. She is the source of all creation. In Her knowledge aspect, She is called Sri Vidya. The Sri Yantram is the most celebrated of all yantras and is employed in Sri Vidya Upasana. Yantra and mantra together represent the union of space and sound. They are inseparable, with mantra being the soul and yantra being the body of Subtle Sound (Nada Brahman). Yantras are geometric objects (involving shapes of triangle, squares and circles) in either 2 or 3 dimensions.

They are used as an aid in meditation and in tantric worship practices. In most yantras for meditation, the stages of progression from material or gross to subtle are clearly marked. Closed, concentric circuits (mandalas) of various geometric shapes correspond to the planes of consciousness of the sadhaka. Each enclosure is an ascent of one's being, a way station, toward the innermost, the Absolute Unity.

The Sri Yantra is composed of interpenetrating triangles, symbolizing the unity of Siva and Sakti.. The four upward pointing triangles emanate from the Siva Principle and denote the individual soul and its vital energies. The five downward pointing triangles represent the Sakti principle and from them arise the five material elements (Pancha Bhootas, earth, water, fire, air and space). All the vowels and consonants in Sanskrit are inscribed in the vertices of the Sri Yantra. The Sri Yantra also has nine circuits (avaranas). In each of the enclosures specific deities are invoked, each circuit being considered as a cosmological form which supports devata-clusters, or groups of goddesses. The deity-clusters are like veils concealing the yantra's innermost essence. After the sadhaka has invoked all the devatas in the prescribed manner for meditation, he reaches a level of consciousness in which all the devata-circles are fused to become the presiding deity at the center of the yantra. Gradually, this central deity itself disappears and merges into the center of spiritual consciousness, the Bindu (the focal point or center) of the yantra and the highest psychic center between the adept's eyebrows.

A spiritual journey is taken as a pilgrimage in which every step is an ascent to the center, a movement beyond one's limited existence. Traditionally such a journey is mapped in nine stages, and each of these stages corresponds with one of the nine circuits of which the yantra is composed. Starting from the outer square and moving inwards, the nine rings bear specific names, related to their characteristics.

- (1) The first Avaranam is Bhoopuram and the Chakram is Trailokyamohana chakra 'enchants the three worlds'; The yogini is Prakata, the mental state of the aspirant is Jagrata, Chakra Iswari is Tripura and the Saktis are 28 that include the ten starting with Anima, the eight starting with Brahmya and the ten Mudra Saktis. [ANANDA BHAIRAVI: Kamalamba Samrakshatu]
- (2) The second Avaranam is Shodasa Dalam, and the Chakram is Sarvasaparipuraka chakra, 'fulfills all expectations'; The yogini is Gupta Yogini. The mental state is Swapna, the Chakra Iswari is Tripurasi and the Saktis are the sixteen starting with Kamakarshini. [KALYANI: Kamalambam Bhajare]

- (3) The third Avaranam is Ashtha Dalam; The Chakram is Sarvasamkshobana chakra, 'agitates all'; the Yogini is Gupta Tara Yogini. The mental state is Sushupti, the Chakra Iswari is Tripura Sundari and the Saktis are the eight starting with Ananga Kusuma. [SHANKARABHARANAM: Shree Kamalaambikayaa Kataakshitoham]
- (4) The fourth Avaranam is Chaturdasaram; the Chakram is Sarvasaubhagyadayaka chakra, 'grants excellence'; the Yogini is Sampradaya Yogini. The mental state is Iswara Vicharam, Chakra Iswari is Tripura Vasini and the Saktis are the fourteen starting with Samkshobhini. [KAMBODHI: Kamalaambikaayai Kanakamshukaayai]
- (5) The fifth Avaranam is Bahirdasaram; the Chakram is Sarvarthasadhakachakra, is the 'accomplisher of all'; the Yogini is Kulotteerna yogini. The mental state is Guroopa Sadanam; the Chakra Iswari is Tripura Sri and the Saktis are the ten starting with Sarva Siddhi Prada. [BHAIRAVI: Shree Kamalaambikaayaah Param Nahire]
- (6) The sixth Avaranam is Antardasaram; the Chakram is Sarvaraksakara chakra, 'protects all'; the Yogini is Nigarbha Yogini. The mental state is Upadesam; the Chakra Iswari is Tripura Malini and the Saktis are the ten starting with Sarvagnya. [PUNNAGAVARALI: Kamalaambikaayaastava Bhaktoham]
- (7) The Seventh Avaranam is Asthakonam; the Chakram is Sarvarogahara chakra, 'cures all ills'; the Yogini is Rahasya Yogini. The mental state is Mananam; the chakra Iswari is Tripura Siddhaa and the Saktis are the eight, starting with Vashini. [SAHANA: Shree Kamalaambikaayaam Bhaktim Karomi]
- (8) The eighth Avaranam is Trikonam; the Chakram is Sarvasiddhiprada chakra, 'grants all perfection'; the Yogini is Ati Rahasya Yogini. The mental state is Nitidhyasanam; the Chakra Iswari is Tripuramba and the Saktis are the three starting with Kameshwari. [GHANTA: Shree Kamalaambike Avaava]
- (9) The ninth Avaranam is the Bindu and the highest Chakram is Sarvanandamaya chakra, 'replete with bliss'. The mental state is Savikalpa Samadhi; the Chakra Iswari is Maha Tripura Sundari and the Shakti is Maha Tripura Sundai, the very personification of Para Brahman. [AHIRI: Shree Kamalaambaa Jayati]

At the periphery of the Sri Yantra, the square, the adept contemplates his own passions such as anger, fear, lust, etc., to overcome or conquer them. The eight psychological tendencies that are considered obstacles of the mind are also invoked, as eight Matrika Saktis, in the second line of the outer periphery. Either they flank the four 'doors' of the yantra or they are invoked in the square band (bhupura). Generally they are what we experience of the world through sense-activity and the cravings of our egotism.

# Note on Sri Kamalamba Nava Avarana Kritis

A spiritual aspirant needs to seek a guru and be initiated into the esoteric practice of Sri Vidya Upasana. The practice itself requires strict adherence to lists of Do's and Don't's. Most people would find that the task of finding the guru and the rigors of the pracice are difficult. Sri Muthuswamy Dikshitar was a great Devi Upasaka and was well versed in all aspects of Sri Vidya Upasana. Out of his devotion to Sri Kamalamba, (one of the 64 Sakti Peethams in India), the celebrated deity at the famous Tyagaraja Temple in Tiruvarur and his compassion for all bhaktas, Sri Muthuswamy Dikshitar composed the Kamalamba Nava Avarana kritis, expounding in each of the nine kritis, the details of the each avarana of the Sri Chakra, including the devatas and the yoginis. Singing these kritis with devotion, sraddha and understanding would be the easy way to Sri Vidya Upasana for most people.

The set also includes a dhyana kriti, a mangala kriti and traditionally sung on the nine days of Navaratri. One starts with the Ganasa kriti followed by the guru kriti (to Sri BalaSubrahmanya) and continues with the dhyana and each of the avarana kritis. The rendering concludes with the mangalam kriti.