

A Garland of One Hundred Eight Names of Śrī Sundarakucāmba

I worship Lord Gaṇeśa.

I worship the one with beautiful breasts,¹ goddess²
spouse of Tejinīśvara,³ most auspicious daughter,⁴
delightful⁵ fruit of Kātyāyana's tapas,⁶
born in the waters of the flowering pool;⁷
skilled in giving boons to Vikacendī,⁸
virgin⁹ from the land where it rains three times a month.¹⁰

I worship the goddess with the smiling face,¹¹ most brilliant,¹²
dressed in red,¹³ the fortunate¹⁴ daughter of the mountain,¹⁵
beloved of Śiva,¹⁶ full of food,¹⁷ giver of food¹⁸,
deity who is devoid of suffering¹⁹ by her meditation.²⁰

I Worship the goddess who is the color of the china rose,²¹
with a smiling face,²² dangling golden earrings,²³
wearing clinging garments;²⁴ the shining one²⁵
with tinkling anklets and belts,²⁶ a pearl necklace
hanging over the top of her breasts,²⁷ and is adorned
with brilliant jingling bangles and bracelets.²⁸

I worship the goddess with curved eyebrows,²⁹
eyes like a deer,³⁰ a gaze full of compassion,³¹
a sweet voice like a cooing cuckoo,³²
who is lovely to behold.³³

I worship the goddess who is beloved of Sarasvātī,
Lakṣmī, and the earth;³⁴ giver of eloquence,³⁵
who takes away the misery of birth³⁶
and lifts up the weak and abandoned.³⁷

I worship the goddess who is given offerings by
the wishing cow, the wish fulfilling tree, and others;³⁸
submerged in bliss,³⁹ the fair one,⁴⁰ ocean of compassion,⁴¹
who succeeds in everything,⁴² and is resplendent.⁴³

I worship the goddess who is truth,⁴⁴ supremely auspicious,⁴⁵
radiant,⁴⁶ and supremely beautiful;⁴⁷ the ax that cuts down
the tree rebirth,⁴⁸ beloved⁴⁹ and merciful,⁵⁰
who mends the tears and twists of the world.⁵¹

I worship the goddess, the giver of riches,⁵²
the first to be joined⁵³ with supreme⁵⁴ wisdom,⁵⁵
who grants wishes to devotees,⁵⁶ resting in comfort
on a bed bedecked with wishing stones.⁵⁷

I worship the goddess who sits on the lap of Śiva⁵⁸
and is naked in the forest of wishing trees;⁵⁹
her loveliness is like lightning,⁶⁰ and whose throne of gems
is established in the shade of the tree of the five gods,⁶¹
the picture of perfect beauty,⁶² dwelling in the mountains.⁶³

I worship the goddess with feet embraced by Kalyāṇasundar,
mounted on bull;⁶⁴ abundant in victory⁶⁵ and well served
by Durga.⁶⁶ She is fanned with fly whisks on the left and right
by Lakṣmī and Sarasvatī,⁶⁷ and is guarded by Indrani holding
an umbrella.⁶⁸ She is the path that reveals delight,⁶⁹ and is
given offerings by lovely celestial ladies.⁷⁰ She rests in the lap
of Śiva,⁷¹ and is attended on by Viṣṇu who sprinkles water.⁷²

I worship the goddess of Tejini city,⁷³ who chose Śiva as her own.⁷⁴
She is enchanting to Śiva,⁷⁵ beloved of Śiva,⁷⁶
gives numerous pleasures to yogis,⁷⁷ and gives
the boon of liberation to all who seek release.⁷⁸

I worship the goddess bathed in the milk of the wishing cow.⁷⁹
whose breasts gush forth rivers of milk.⁸⁰
She delighted Manmatha with the gift of
a sugar cane bow and flower arrows.⁸¹

I worship the goddess whose sandals are praised by Kāma
who was able to conquer the world,⁸²
who revived Kāma,⁸³ great queen,⁸⁴
Śaṅkarā who vanquished Kāma.⁸⁵

I worship the goddess who gives sons and grandsons,⁸⁶
takes away sorrow,⁸⁷ and bestows fortune.⁸⁸
She is filled with waves of compassion,⁸⁹ the loving⁹⁰
goddess of desire,⁹¹ who is praised by all.⁹²

I worship the goddess with breasts as high as the peak of
Mount Meru.⁹³ She is garlanded with the moon,⁹⁴
with a streak of vermilion in the part of her long hair⁹⁵
that is impetuously curled.⁹⁶

I Worship the goddess whose tender side-long glance,
full of compassion, is a treasure for devotees;⁹⁷
whose feet destroy misfortune.⁹⁸ She is the fruit of tapas
on the snowy mountain,⁹⁹ and performs austerities.¹⁰⁰

I worship the goddess who lives in the lotus hearts
of excellent yogis,¹⁰¹ is well praised by Viṣṇu,¹⁰²
whose feet are worshipped by Viṣṇu's eyes,¹⁰³
and who gives all desired ends.¹⁰⁴

I worship the wondrous¹⁰⁵ goddess who gives birth
to the world,¹⁰⁶ who takes the form of the letters
of the Akṣamātraka mantra,¹⁰⁷ and is the embodiment
of the powers of will, knowledge, and action.¹⁰⁸

I worship the goddess with beautiful breasts.¹⁰⁹

This concludes garland of one hundred eight names to Śrī Sundarakucāmba.¹¹⁰

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This text is one of hundreds of a genre called a *Nāmāvali*, or garland of names, which is a list of 108 or 1000 names of a particular deity that are offered as part of a ritual in which the devotee, or a priest officiating on their behalf, recites the list and offers a flower or a pinch of ash or red powder to the deity with each recitation of a name.

This particular *Nāmāvali* comes from a text called the: *Sri Tejinivana Mahathmyam* (Chennai; Sri Bhagawan Nama Publications, 2010). I found the text reproduced on a website called sanskritdocuments.org devoted to the distribution of Sanskrit religious texts to the general public. The text was transcribed by Sivakumar Thyagarajan. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him and all the other volunteers who have offered these texts to the world.

The *Tejinivana Mahathmyam* is written in Sanskrit and is one of a class of myth cycles that were written to glorify a particular temple. In this case, the temple is dedicated to Śiva with the name of Vīlinātasvāmi (Veerinathaswami) in the town of Tiruvīlimīlai, in Nannilam Taluk near Kumbakonam, in Tamil Nadu. *Tejinivana* is the Sanskrit name of this temple.

I had a chance to visit this temple in January, 2018. I arrived in the middle of the morning and there were only a handful of people in attendance. I was able to spend more than half an hour by myself in the goddess sanctum, and I had what my Indian friends might call a “very good *darshan*”. I started looking for any text that might honor this particular goddess, and I eventually found this website and this *Nāmāvali*.

My first aim in translating this text was just to understand what the names meant. Once I had finished my first draft, I thought that I might be able to reformat the names into a form that was easier to read. I notice that texts like the *Lalitāsahasaranāma* are often presented in *Śloka* form, with the individual names separated out for the purpose of offering them in worship. In this case, I am reversing this precedent and turning a text that was intended as a list to be recited as an offering, into poetry, which I like to think of as my own personal offering.

In so doing, I have tried to take as few liberties with the original text as possible. I have kept the names in their original order and have numbered each with footnotes that contain the original name in both Devanagari and Roman transliteration.. The greatest change I have made is to combine several names into single phrases, often attributing adjectives that appear as individual names as modifiers for names that follow them.

I also noticed that the original author groups names into units that make sense when arranged together. I used this to organize the names into verses. I did take the liberty of adding the phrase: “I worship the goddess . . .” at the start of each verse. This takes the place of the word “*namah*” that appears as the end of each name.

Careful readers will, undoubtedly, notice many instances where my translation is flat out wrong. For this, I crave their indulgence, and also their suggestions and corrections. I have particular doubts about numbers: 16, 27, 48, 51, 61, 62, 72, 95, and 96. I would have preferred to translate 84 and 85 as “great queen OF Śaṅkara, who vanquished Kāma” to make it more consistent with the standard mythology in which Kāma is burned by Śiva and revived by Pārvati, as mentioned in 83. However, the text clearly uses the feminine form of Śaṅkarā to conform with the frequent attribution of all of Śiva’s actions and qualities to his consort.

This is my first attempt at translating a Sanskrit text on my own, and I am sure my ignorance is obvious. I will admit that on several occasions, when I could not find a word in a dictionary, or when I did, I chose the meaning that best suited what *I thought the passage ought to say*. The American poet Robert Frost once quipped that “Poetry is that which is lost in translation.” The Russian poet Yuri Yevtushenko observed that “Translation is like a woman. If it is beautiful, it is not faithful. If it is faithful, it is most certainly not beautiful.” (I wonder if this was translated properly from Russian). Witticisms notwithstanding, any translation is always a series of individual choices. These are mine.

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1	ॐ श्री गणेशाय नमः	OM Śrī Gaṇeśāya namaḥ
	ॐ सुन्दरकुचायै नमः	OM Sundra-kucāyai namaḥ
2	ॐ देव्यै नमः	OM Devyai namaḥ
3	ॐ तेजिनीश्वरनायिकायै नमः	OM Tejin-īśvara-nāyikāyai namaḥ
4	ॐ सुमङ्गलासुतायै नमः	OM Sumaṅgalā-sutāyai namaḥ
5	ॐ रम्यायै नमः	OM Ramāyai namaḥ
6	ॐ कात्यायनतपःफलायै नमः	OM Kātyāyana-tapaḥ-phalāyai namaḥ
7	ॐ तीर्थपुष्करिणीजातायै नमः	OM Tīrtha-puṣkariṇī-jātāyai namaḥ
8	ॐ विकचेन्दीवरोद्गतोयै नमः	OM Vikacendī vara-udgatoyai namaḥ
9	ॐ कन्यायै नमः	OM Kanyāyai namaḥ
10	ॐ त्रिवर्षदेशीयोयै नमः	OM Trivarṣa-deśīyāyai namaḥ
11	ॐ स्मेरवक्त्रायै नमः	OM smera-vaktrāyai namaḥ
12	ॐ महाद्युतये नमः	OM Mahādyutaye namaḥ
13	ॐ कात्यायन्यै नमः	OM Kātyāyanyai namaḥ
14	ॐ ॐ कल्याण्यै नमः	OM Kalyānyai namaḥ
15	ॐ गिरिजातायै नमः	OM Giri-jātāyai namaḥ
16	ॐ शिवेरितोयै नमः	OM Śiveritāyai namaḥ
17	ॐ अन्नपुर्णायै नमः	OM Anna-purṇāyai namaḥ
18	ॐ अन्नदयै नमः	OM Anna-dāyai namaḥ
19	ॐ अन्नाधिदेवतायै नमः	OM An-ādhi-devatāyai namaḥ
20	ॐ जपाकृत्यै नमः	OM japā-kṛtyai namaḥ

21	ॐ	ॐ जपावर्णायै नमः	OM japā-varṇāyai namaḥ
22	ॐ	स्मितमुख्यै नमः	OM smita-mukhyai namaḥ
23	ॐ	वल्गात्कनकुण्डलायौ नमः	OM valgat-kana-kuṇḍalāyai namaḥ
24	ॐ	सक्ताम्बरधरायै नमः	OM Sakta-āmbara-dharāyai namaḥ
25	ॐ	दीप्तायै नमः	OM Dīptāyai namaḥ
26	ॐ	शिञ्जन्मञ्जीरमेखलायै नमः	OM Śiñjan-mañjīra-mekhalāyai namaḥ
27	ॐ	मुक्तादमप्रिष्वक्ततुङ्गपीनपयोधरायै नमः OM muktādama-priṣvakta-tuṅga-pina-payodharāyai namaḥ	
28	ॐ	मणिकेयुरपतककटकभरणाञ्जितायै नमः OM Maṇi-keyura-pataka-kaṭaka-abharaṇa-añjitāyai namaḥ	
29	ॐ	नमद्भ्रुवे नमः	OM namad-bhruve namaḥ
30	ॐ	विशालाक्ष्यै नमः	OM Viśālākṣyai namaḥ
31	ॐ	करुणापूर्णवीक्षणायै नमः	OM Karuṇā-pūrṇa-viḥṣaṇāyai namaḥ
32	ॐ	कोकिलालापमधुवाचे नमः	OM Kokilā-lāpa-madhu-vāce namaḥ
33	ॐ	आसेचनकदर्शनायै नमः	OM Āsecanaka-darśanāyai namaḥ
34	ॐ	सरस्वतीधरासक्ष्मीवृतायै नमः	OM Sarasvatī-dharā-lakṣmī-vṛtāyai namaḥ
35	ॐ	सारस्वतप्रदायै नमः	OM Sārasvata-pradāyai namaḥ
36	ॐ	जन्ममूक्तवहरिण्यै नमः	OM Janmamūkta-vahariṇyai namaḥ
37	ॐ	क्षामक्षेपसमुद्यतायै नमः	OM Kṣāma-kṣepa-samudyatāyai namaḥ
38	ॐ	कल्पद्रुकामधेन्वादिपूजितायै नमः OM Kalpadru-kāmadhenu-ādi-pūjitāyai namaḥ	
39	ॐ	आनन्दसम्प्लुतायै नमः	OM Ānanda-samplutāyai namaḥ
40	ॐ	गौर्यै नमः	OM Gauryai namaḥ

41	ॐ	कारुण्यजलधये नमः	OM Kāruṇya-jaladhaye namaḥ
42	ॐ	सर्वसम्पत्कर्यै नमः	OM Sarva-sampat-karyai namaḥ
43	ॐ	शुभायै नमः	OM Subhāyai namaḥ
44	ॐ	सत्यै नमः	OM Satyai namaḥ
45	ॐ	परमकल्याण्यै नमः	OM Paramakalyānyai namaḥ
46	ॐ	शुभ्रायै नमः	OM Śubhrāyai namaḥ
47	ॐ	परमशोभनायै नमः	OM Parama-śobhanāyai namaḥ
48	ॐ	संसारविवृक्षच्छित्कुठारायै नमः OM Samsāra-viva-vṛkṣa-cchit-kuṭhārāyai namaḥ	
49	ॐ	दयिन्यै नमः	OM Dayinyai namaḥ
50	ॐ	दयायै मनः	OM Dayāyai namaḥ
51	ॐ	दारिद्र्यविनमल्लोककल्पवल्लयै नमः OM dāri-drya-vinamal-loka-kalpa-vallayai namaḥ	
52	ॐ	धनप्रदायै नमः	OM dhana-pradāyai namaḥ
53	ॐ	आदिसक्त्यै नमः	OM Ādi-saktayai namaḥ
54	ॐ	परायै मनः	OM Parāyai namaḥ
55	ॐ	विद्यायै नमः	OM Vidyāyai namaḥ
56	ॐ	भक्ताभीष्टप्रदायिन्यै नमः	OM bhakta-abhīṣṭa-pradāyinyai namaḥ
57	ॐ	चिन्तामण्युत्पर्यङ्कसुखाशीनायै नमः OM cintāmaṇi-upta-paryāṅka-sukha-āśīnāyai namaḥ	
58	ॐ	शिवाङ्गायै नमः	OM Śiva-aṅkagāyai namaḥ
59	ॐ	कल्पद्रुकाननावासायै नमः	OM Kalpadru-kānana-avāsāyai namaḥ
60	ॐ	विद्युत्प्रतिमकान्तिमते नमः	OM Vidyut-pratima-kāntimate namaḥ

- 61 ॐ पञ्चदेवद्रुच्छायाकूप्तरत्नमयासनायै नमः
OM Pañca-deva-dru-c-chāyā-klpta-ratna-maya-āsanāyai namaḥ
- 62 ॐ सौन्दर्यसारसस्वभूतायै नमः
OM Saundarya-sārarsa-svabhūtāyai namaḥ
- 63 ॐ गिरिविहारिण्यै नमः OM Giri-vihāriṇyai namaḥ
- 64 ॐ वृषादिरूढकल्याणसुन्दराश्लिष्टदोर्युगायै नमः
OM Vṛṣa-adi-rūḍha-kalyāṇa-sundar-āśliṣṭa-dor-yugāyai namaḥ
- 65 ॐ जयाकर्यवलम्बाढ्यायै नमः OM jayākarya-va-lamba-ādhyāyai namaḥ
- 66 ॐ विजयापरिसेवितायै नमः OM Vijayā-pari-sevitāyai namaḥ
- 67 ॐ सचामररमावाणीसव्यदक्षिणसेवितायै नमः
OM sacāmara-ramā-vāṇī-savya-dakṣiṇa-sevitāyai namaḥ
- 68 ॐ शचिधृतच्छत्रगुप्तायै नमः OM Śaci-dhṛtac-chatra-guptāyai namaḥ
- 69 ॐ नन्दिदर्सितमार्गगायै नामः OM Nandi-darsita-mārgāyai namaḥ
- 70 ॐ दिव्याङ्गनोपचरितायौ नमः OM Divya-aṅganā-upacaritāyai namaḥ
- 71 ॐ शिवाङ्गाध्यासनेरतायै नमः OM Śivāṅka-adhyāsan-eratāyai namaḥ
- 72 ॐ हरिश्रुतापयःसिक्तायै नमः OM Hari-śruta-āpayah-siktāyai namaḥ
- 73 ॐ तेजिनीनगरेश्वर्यै नमः OM Tejinī-nagara-iśvarai namaḥ
- 74 ॐ शिवस्वयंवृतायै नमः OM Śiva-svayaṃ-vṛtāyai namaḥ
- 75 ॐ शम्भुमोहिन्यै नमः OM Śambhu-mohinyai namaḥ
- 76 ॐ शिवोवल्लभायै नमः OM Śiva-vallabhāyai namaḥ
- 77 ॐ योगिनां भोगगणदायै नमः OM Yoginaṃ bhoga-gaṇa-dāyai namaḥ
- 78 ॐ मुमुक्षुवरमुक्तिदायै नमः OM mumukṣu-vara-mukti-dāyai namaḥ
- 79 ॐ कामदेनुपयःस्नातायै नमः OM Kāmadenu-payah-snātāyai namaḥ

- 80 ॐ पयोधारापगावृतायै नमः OM payodhāra-āpagā-vṛtāyai namaḥ
- 81 ॐ पुष्पशुगेक्षुचपादिदानतोषितमन्मथायै नमः
 OM puṣpa-śuga-ikṣu-capā-ādi-dāna-toṣita-manmathāyai namaḥ
- 82 ॐ जगज्जैतृत्वसम्पन्नकामवन्दितपादुकायै नमः
 OM jagaj-jaitṛtva-sampanna-kāma-vandita-pādukāyai namaḥ
- 83 ॐ कन्दर्पजीवन्यै नमः OM kandarpa-jīvanyai namaḥ
- 84 ॐ राज्ञ्यै नमः OM Rājñyai namaḥ
- 85 ॐ कामनिर्जितशङ्करायै नमः OM kāma-nirjita-śaṅkarāyai namaḥ
- 86 ॐ पुत्रपौत्रप्रदायै नमः OM Putra-pautra-pradāyai namaḥ
- 87 ॐ दुःखमोचिन्यै नमः OM Duḥkha-mocinyai namaḥ
- 88 ॐ शुभदायिन्यै नमः OM Śubha-dāyinyai namaḥ
- 89 ॐ उल्लोलकरुणाधिनायै नमः OM ullola-karuṇa-ādhināyai namaḥ
- 90 ॐ काम्यायै नमः OM Kāmyāyai namaḥ
- 91 ॐ कामेश्वर्यै नमः OM Kāmeśvaryai namaḥ
- 92 ॐ ईडितायै नमः OM Īditāyai namaḥ
- 93 ॐ सुमेरुशिखरोत्तुङ्गकुचायै नमः
 OM Sumeru-śikara-uttuṅga-kucāyai namaḥ
- 94 ॐ चन्द्रावतंसिकायै नमः OM Candra-avataṃsikāyai namaḥ
- 95 ॐ केशान्तन्यस्तसिन्दूरेखिकायै नमः
 OM Keśānta-nyasta-sindūra-rekhikāyai namaḥ
- 96 ॐ ललितालकायै नमः OM Lalitālakāyai namaḥ
- 97 ॐ कटाक्षकरुणापुरकन्दलद्भक्तवैभवायै नमः
 OM Kaṭākṣa-karuṇā-pura-kandalad-bhakta-vaibhavāyai namaḥ

- 98 ॐ पादान्तविपद्ध्यै नमः OM Pādānta-vipad-d-hantryai namaḥ
- 99 ॐ प्रालेयाद्रितपःफलायै नमः OM Prāleyādri-tapaḥ-phalāyai namaḥ
- 100 ॐ तपोमय्यै नमः OM Tapomayyai namaḥ
- 101 ॐ योगिवर्यहृदम्भोजवासिन्यै नमः
 OM yogi-varya-hṛd-ambhoja-vāsinyai namaḥ
- 102 ॐ विष्णुसंस्तुतायै नमः OM Viṣṇu-saṁstutāyai namaḥ
- 103 ॐ विष्णुनेत्रार्चितपदायै नमः OM Viṣṇu-netra-archita-padāyai namaḥ
- 104 ॐ प्रेप्सितार्थप्रदायिन्यै नमः OM prepsita-ārtha-pradāyinyai namaḥ
- 105 ॐ चित्रायै नमः OM citrāyai namaḥ
- 106 ॐ जगत्प्रसुवे नमः OM jagat-prasuve namaḥ
- 107 ॐ अक्षमातृकाक्षररूपिण्यै OM Akṣa-mātrka-akṣara-rūpiṇyai namaḥ
- 108 ॐ इच्छाशक्तिज्ञाशक्तिक्रियाशक्तिस्वरूपिण्यै नमः
 OM Iccha-śakti-jñāna-śakti-kriyā-śakti-svarūpiṇyai namaḥ
- 109 श्री सुन्दरकुचाम्बिकायै नमः Śrī Sundarakucāmbikāyai namaḥ
- 110 इति श्रीसुन्दरकुचाम्बाष्टोत्तशतनामावलि समप्ता ।
 iti Śrī-sundara-kucāmba-aṣṭottaśata-nāmāvali samaptā