

Dr. Shuddhananda
Bharati

Adi Shankara
Bhagavan

Written for the Young



ASSA
Editions

Homage

Let's pay homage to Adi Sankara Bhagavan,
the torch of *Veda Vedanta*.

Let's join our hands in supplication
to the ascetic of Advaita,
the lamp of knowledge,
the Adi Sankara Bhagavan.

O Jagat Guru, You appeared on this earth
to promote Sanatana Dharma.
You are the Bliss that pulsates in our hearts
You are eternal and Love embodied.

Let's fall at the feet of Sankara.
Born at Kaladi, he came to
bestow favour on the world
and blessed the great four (four direct disciples).

Inside the body of sinews and muscles
throbs he with his 'Om Tatsat, Om'.
His knowledge is as vast as the sky
and he shows us the path of bliss.

Let's pray to Adi Sankara Bhagavan.
May his fame last forever
like the light of the sun.
He is a divine genius who
expounded the *Upanishad*, *Gita* and *Sutra*.
Let's pay homage to him.



Adi Shankara Bhagavan

Introduction

Adi Shankara Bhagavan

to the first edition in Tamil published in March 1963 by
Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyar

Vice Chancellor Annamalai University

Yogi Shuddhananda Bharatiar has already laid the reading public under a debt of gratitude to him by his publications of useful and interesting handbooks of several aspects of Yoga, Vedanta and Saiva Siddhanta. In his *Voice of Thayumanar* he has, in continuation of the work done by a noted scholar and statesman, Sir. P. Arunachalam, brought the hymns of the Tamil sage and the lessons of his life to the notice of discerning students of Tamil hymnology. Yogi Shuddhananda Bharati claims as his ancestors some of the ministers of the Naik rulers (one of whom brought Thayumanar to Ramnad incognito) and also Sadasiva Brahmam. With this background, the author has now produced a biography of Adi Sankara Bhagavan comprising full details of his early life and the maternal and spiritual urges that operated on the great Acharya and elucidating his well-nigh omniscient erudition in practically every aspect of the sacred and secular literature extant during his time. The book contains a careful and loving account of Sankara's sojourn in the holy places of India and the incidents that characterised his travels, like his encounter with the foolish grammarian that led to the composition of *Bhaja Govindam*, his dialogue with Siva in the guise of a Chandala after which he wrote the *Manisha Panchakam*, his contact

with Padma Pada and with the others who became his chosen disciples. The author gives a stirring description of the episode in Mahishmati which led to the disputation with Mandana Misra and with the great Bharati, the spouse of Mandana Misra, which ultimately resulted in the emergence of Mandana Misra as Sankara's successor and commentator under his later name of Sureswaracharya. As the author rightly observes, the contributions made by Bharati (as the beacon light) to the evolution of Sankara's personality cannot be over estimated and as he aptly states, the term Bharati is among the titles borne by Sankaracharya and is really a tribute to the work of the great woman saint and savant. The exequial ceremonies of his mother performed daringly and unconventionally by Sankara, his meeting with Hastamalakar and Thotakacharya and the founding of the Sringeri Pitha are recounted with a great minuteness and the account of Sankara Vijaya is replete with information as to the holy places visited and inspired by Sankara including Rameswaram, Kanyakumari, Chidambaram and Kancheepuram in the south and Puri, Nasik, Ujjain, Dwarka and Jyothir Mutt in the north. The book is not only a biography but a repertory of many of the memorable sayings and hymns of Sankaracharya set out both in the original Sanskrit and in its Tamil translation. To summarise, this handbook is a remarkable and compendious account of one of the great pioneers of philosophy who was simultaneously a deep thinker, a master of poetic melody and an illustrious exemplar and exponent of one of the most formative and creative interpretations of the doctrine envisaged in our *Vedas* and *Upanishads*.

C. P. Ramaswamy Ayyar



Editor's Notes

Adi Shankara Bhagavan

Foreword to the first edition in Tamil - 1963

By Shuddhananda Bharati

The religion of Bharat is Vedanta. The preceptor of Vedanta was Adi Sankara, whose fame had spread all around the world. The yeoman service that he had done to the field of education within a short span of thirty-two years is remarkable. His work is eternal. Sankara's words are accepted by the entire world. Sankara's entire life can be termed as sacrifice for the cause of knowledge. This book has been written to enable the young in our country to know something about the wonderful life that Sankara led and his teachings. The life of Sankara would enrich the minds of our young people and thus make our future India bright. It was with this intention that this book was written.

This book owes for its material the various books on Sankara in Sanskrit and Tamil. Then there were the detailed lectures on Sankara delivered by the great Narasimha Bharati during 1919 in Sivaganga. The notes made while visiting the various places where Sankara had either stayed or had served the cause of Vedanta also form part of the book. The material was thus collected and discussed with great scholars and then it was written. This book was read in front of friends during the Sunday meetings of Yoga Samajam. Friends wanted this book to be published.

I had the fortune of meeting Sringeri Sankarachari Shri Abhinava Vidya Tirthar on a Friday in January 1961. I received his blessings. Just as Buddhist ascetics install the idols of Buddha and do their service to the cause of their religion, it was felt by Sri Sankarachari that Veda Dharma should be revived by a team of trained devotees who would spread Sankara Vedanta throughout the world, install the idols of Sankara in the places of worship and serve the cause of Vedanta with the zeal of Christian missionaries. A number of lectures were held in Sankara Mutt.

At that time I had the fortune of getting the friendship of a great man. The sincere friend Vaidhya Subramania Aiyar came to Yoga Samaja one day and said that I should write a children's *Book of Sankara*. He gave me every possible help for this project. His devotion to Sankara and his service mentality to the cause of religion are truly remarkable. If this work is in the form of a published book, the credit goes only to this great devotee.

The great sayings of Sankara feature in this book. Detailed versions will be published subsequently. The same will come out in English, Hindi, Telugu and French.

Sringeri Maha Sananidanam has sent a message for this book. I consider myself singularly fortunate in this and I am grateful to him. Many more books explaining Vedanta Sanatana Dharma are yet to be published. I request friends with means to help them get printed. Like our Buddhist, Christian and Muslim friends, we should also spread our rich, old Vedanta around the world. A number of books elucidating the Vedanta should be published. Ascetics should be given proper

training and be sent all over the world to give the true knowledge of Vedanta. May I request the heads of the various mutts, friends with means and enthusiastic devotees to make this endeavour a success?

Shuddhananda Bharati

Yoga Samajam Chennai, 15.3.1963.

It is a real pleasure for me to present *Adi Shankara Bhagavan* to you. Thank you, Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati for having transmitted *Adi Shankara Bhagavan* to us. With the blessing of Aum Shuddha Shakti Aum.

Editions ASSA is progressing in a beautiful way. Soon we will print the 50th book by Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati. Its universal and visionary message makes it a precursor of the way to go for the happiness of mankind.

It is also a pleasure for me to thank Daye Craddock for all her help for the correction and precision to the text of all these books.

The next books to come are the major work of Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati, *Bharata Shakti*, the Epic of God-men, in 50,000 lines. This monumental work written during a silence of 25 years can be placed among masterpieces like Valmiki, Vyasa, Kalidasa, Kamban, Valluvar, Homer, Dante, Virgil, Racine, Shakespeare and Milton. The basic story is a spiritual allegory into which the saintly author weaves elegantly, the lives and teaching of prophets.

Christian Piaget



Song of Unity

*Unite. Unite, Unite, Oh Souls
Unite and play your roles
Unite in mind, unite in heart
Unite in whole, unite in part
Like words and tunes and sense in song
Let East and West unite and live long
Trees are many; the grove is one
Branches are many; tree is one
Shores are many; sea is one
Limbs are many; body is one
Bodies are many; self is one
Stars are many; sky is one
Flowers are many; honey is one
Pages are many; book is one
Thoughts are many; thinker is one
Tastes are many; taster is one
Actors are many; the drama is one
Nations are many; the world is one
Religions are many; Truth is one
The wise are many; Wisdom is one
Beings are many; breath is one
Classes are many; college is one
Find out this One behind the many
Then life shall enjoy peaceful harmony*

Peace Anthem

*Peace for all, peace for all
For all the countries peace
Joy for all, joy for all
For all the nations joy
A rosy morning peace
A smiling summer joy (Peace for all)*

*All for each and each for all
This is the golden rule
Life and Light and Love for all
For all that live our love (Peace for all)*

*Work and food and clothes for all
Equal status for all
Health and home and school for all
A happy world for all (Peace for all)*

*No idle rich, no more beggars
All are equal workers
No more tears, no more fears
The heart is full of cheers (Peace for all)*

*No atom scare, no fat mammon
No room for war demon
Like leaves in trees, like rays in the sun
We are one communion,
One Divine communion (Peace for all)*

*The good in you is good for all
Your life is life for all
The God in you is God for all
Your love is love for all (Peace for all)*

*For he or she or it or rest
This collective life is best
This Universal Life is best
North or South, or East or West (Peace for all)*

*Peace for plants and birds and beasts
For hills and streams and woods
Peace in home - land and air and sea
Dynamic peace we see
Peace for all, peace for all*

Immortal Peace for All



Presentation of Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati

11th May 1897 – 7th March 1990

The wise one to the cosmic age

Although more than 90 years old, in his school in the south of India, *Kavi Yogi Maharishi* (great divine visionary, wise poet), Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati worked like a young man of twenty. When he was asked his age, he answered: "My age is Courage!" The Yogi wrote several hundred works in English, French, Tamil, Hindi, Telugu and Sanskrit; five thousand songs, and fifteen hundred poems in French. The magnum opus of the man conscious of the presence of God in him, *Bharata Shakti*, (in 50,000 verses) described his ideal: only One Humanity living in communion with only One God in a transformed world! *Bharata Shakti* is a monumental and unique work. The Yogi depicts the essence of all the religions, of all the prophets and saints, all the approaches of Yoga and all the cultures on an allegorical fabric. It is a book for any age which all spiritual researchers and all nations should read and meditate on. His commitment is summarized in his book celebrating his life, *Pilgrim Soul*. The two poems mentioned in the opening express perfectly his ideal. His mantra, *Aum Shuddha Shakti Aum*, nourishes our souls and guides our steps toward the inner joy *Ananda*. It means: The light of Grace and power of the pure supreme Almighty bless us of peace, happiness and prosperity! Let the beauty and greatness of soul of Dr. Bharati Shuddhananda bloom and scent the entire Earth of its divine message and his spiritual and unifying benefactor!

Editions ASSA

Part I

1. Our universal teacher

Mother: The city wears a festive look. The presence of a great saint benefits the very world.

Kannan: Mother, who is that great saint? Shall we see him?

Mother: Jagat Guru (the Universal Teacher) Sankarachari has come to our city. Your father has gone to see him. Kanna, we shall also go there. Have you had your bath and worn clean clothes? I hope you have recited your prayers after applying Viboothi (sacred ash) on your forehead?

Kannan: Why do you ask me such a question, Mother? Does not my appearance suggest to you that I have?

Mother: You are smart, dear. This is how we should follow the observances of our tradition. By doing so, our faces will become bright and our knowledge deeper. Now put a dot of sandalwood paste on the Viboothi and on top of it put a vermilion dot. Now your face is glowing.

Kannan: Mother, Father usually has his bath in the morning after taking his coffee and after reading his newspaper. But today surprisingly he finished his bath very early like you and after reciting Gayatri has gone out singing 'Baja Govindam'.

Mother: This is the greatness of Jagat Guru. His presence attracts devotees like a magnet; like a breath of spring great men appear on this earth. All the devotees who are true believers are going to pay their obeisance to him after performing their daily religious duties.

Kannan: Why is he referred to as Jagat Guru?

Mother: Sankarachari teaches something that is essential to all mankind i.e., self knowledge or the knowledge of the soul. And he has written detailed commentaries on *Gita*, *Upanishads* and *Brahma Sutra* etc., which are considered to be the best scriptures in the world. That is why we call him Jagat Guru.

Kannan: What is soul? What is meant by knowledge of the soul?

Mother: You are asking me a difficult question, Kanna. When we sleep, we are not conscious of our bodies - but we continue to breathe, dream and wake up. How? What is behind these? It is the soul. It makes the eyes see, ears hear, tongue taste and the heart beat. It is the essence of life. The realisation of this is self knowledge.

Kannan: How do we find it? Please tell me.

Mother: I am unable to. Thousands of unwanted thoughts crowd in my mind and prevent me from explaining it to you.

Kannan: Then I will ask Father

Mother: Your father does read a lot and can tell you stories but he will not be able to explain soul.

Kannan: Isn't there anyone who can explain it to us? Are there no books on it?

Mother: The book that explains self knowledge is *Veda*. And the Enlightened One who explains it to us is our Jagat Guru.

Kannan: Mother, what are *Vedas*? Explain in detail.

Mother: I shall tell you whatever I know. *Vedas* are a mine of knowledge. They are of four treatises or subjects. *Rig Veda*, *Yajur Veda*, *Sama Veda* and *Adarva Veda*. *Vedas* have three cantos or sections. *Karma Kantam* (section dealing with action), *Upasana Kantam* (section on worship) and *Jnana Kantam* (section dealing with knowledge). The observances that we should follow every day, rules regarding our conduct, the methods by which man can purify himself, worship of God, devotion to God, meditation and the knowledge that man should attain - all these are dealt in detail in the *Vedas*.

Kannan: I have not understood anything of what you have said. Please tell me in simple language what *Vedas* teach.

Mother: Child - I am afraid that this is all I know. Now recite with me:

Satyam Vada Always speak the truth.

Dharmam Chara Perform your duties.

<i>Matru Devo Bhava</i>	Consider your mother as God and worship her.
<i>Pitru Devo Bhava</i>	Worship your father considering him as God.
<i>Acharya Devo Bhava</i>	Worship your teacher considering him as God.
<i>Athithi Devo Bhava</i>	Treat every guest like God and worship him as God.
<i>Brahma Vit Aabnothi Param</i>	Only a person who knows and understands Brahman will attain salvation.

Kannan: I get the point now. Who is the present revered teacher?

Mother: Jagat Guru Sankarachari.

Kannan: Who was his guru? Who was his guru's guru? Who was the first guru of all?

Mother: The guru who we are meeting today is Shri Abhinava Vidya Thirtha Swami. His guru was the great saint Chandrasekhara Bharathi. His guru was the great leader Sachidananda Narasimha Bharati. Your father and I have had the privilege of meeting all these three great men.

Kannan: Who was the first guru of all these great men?

Mother: He was Sankara Bhagavat Padachari. We refer to him as Adi Sankara. The saint who adorns his exalted seat now is the Sankarachari, who we are going to meet today.

Kannan: Mother, now tell me about Adi Sankara's greatness.

Mother: Where shall I find words to describe the greatness of such a holy man? Your father is a great scholar. Let him describe it and we will all listen to him.

All right, now we have come to his holy presence - there is your father.

Kannan: Father, please tell me the story of Adi Sankara.

Father: Sh..... not now. I will tell you the story in the night. Watch the Jagat Guru performing the puja. With his absolute knowledge of Atma, he is glowing like a torch. *Vedas* are being chanted by everyone. The music of hymns is resounding here. All devotees are worshipping the guru with great reverence.

"Sariram Surupam tathaiva, Kalatram Ysascharu citram dhanam Merutulyam Manascenna lagnam guroranghri padme, Tatah Kim tatah, kim tatah, kim, tatah kim". This means: devotion to preceptor is man's greatest possession or wealth. A man may have good looks, he might have a very attractive wife, he might be very famous and amass immense wealth - but if he does not have devotion to his guru, everything is a waste.

Kannan: Yes, Father. Without being conscious of it, a sense of devotion to the guru springs forth within us.

Father: Kanna - recite the prayer to the guru that I have taught you. Prostrate before the guru and keep

observing the puja. After it is over, once the holy water is distributed, we will go home.

Guru Vandana (prayer to guru)

*Namastasmai Bhagavate
Sankara charya Rupine.
Yena Vedanta Vidhyeyam,
Uthrida Veda Sagarat.*

I salute that preceptor who is in the form of Sankaracharya who brought out the system of philosophy - Vedanta from the ocean of *Vedas*.

*Sarva Tantra Swatantraya
Sadatma Advaita Rupine
Srimathe Sankaracharya
Vedanta Guruve Namaha.*

I salute Shri Sankara - the great preceptor on Vedanta, who is well versed in all sciences and who is the embodiment of Advaita.

*Vidita kila sastra sudha jaladhe
Mahitopanishad gati tardha vide
Hridaya kalaya vimalam charanam
bhava Sankara desike saranam.*

I meditate at the divine feet of Sri Sankara who has understood and taken out the essence of the great *Upanishads* from the vast ocean of sciences (*Vedas*). I seek refuge in him.

*Bhavata janata suhita pavita
Nijabodha vicharna sarumate
Kalayeshwra jeeva viveka vidham*

Bhava sankara desikame saranam.

O Sankara, I salute you who has purified mankind, by his intelligent and analytical discourses and who has the discerning knowledge. I seek refuge in you.

*Guru pungava pungava ketanate
Samata mayatam nahi kopi
sudhi Saranagatha vatsala tatva vidhe
Bhava sankara desikame saranam.*

I seek refuge in you O Sankara, who holds the flag aloft with the insignia of the bull, the foremost of the preceptors. There is no one to equal you in intellect. You have understood the ultimate principles of life. You are compassionate towards those who seek you. (Thotakachari).

2. The holy land

It was a moonlit night, cool breeze was blowing, Kannan had brought all his friends home. "Father, we have come to listen to the story of Lord Adi Sankara," said he and sat down. His father Atmanathan talked fondly to the endearing children. O holy land, the birthplace of great men, O renowned country of Bharat, You are the lamp of the universe and provider of plenty. You have given the world many good things - the best being Sankara who has spread Veda and Vedanta. Kanna, our land is India. It is a holy land. It is the immortal spring of Self Knowledge. India has been the birthplace of many a great man who has shown the right path to the rest of the world. Agastya, Valmiki, Vyasa, Sugar, Janaka, Krishna, Rama, Buddha,

Chaitanya, Tulasidas, Meera, Kabir, Tukaram, Ramadas, Nammalvar, Rama Krishna, Vivekananda - all these divine people lived in this land. In the same holy land appeared Lord Adi Sankara. Do you know why? When mankind was torn apart by sorrows and sufferings, Rama and Krishna made their appearance in this world. They destroyed the forces of evil and protected Dharma. This we know in the same way, there was a time when our holy land lost sight of the Vedic principles and suffered consequently. I'll give you an example. Suppose we do not clean or sweep our house for months together, what would happen? The house would be filled with garbage and infested with insects etc. Suppose it does not have a single light then the house would be filled with darkness. What would be the use even if the house had a collection of excellent books? It would be a sheer waste.

Similarly there was a time when the light of Vedanta dimmed in our country. People failed to realize the truth about Atma, i.e. "Atma is knowledge and Atma is You". People did not give a thought to the immortal soul. They did not seek Brahma gyanam (knowledge of Brahman) either. Each man as per his convenience started a religion of his own. "I am a Saiva, you are a Saktha, he is a Buddhist and that one is a Jain. There goes a Bairav, he is a Kapaliga, that one is a Tantric and this one is a Mandram," said man, dividing people into various sects. In the name of religion many unimaginable atrocities were committed. On the other hand, some people argued that there was no God, no Atma and no salvation. Everything was just a nightmare born out of sorrow. Everywhere there was

chaos. Darkness and confusion reigned supreme. The world was in the grip of materialistic thoughts.

To lift man from this slough of despondency, the torch of Sankara appeared. We refer to Sankara as Bharat Jyoti, i.e Torch of India, but actually he belongs to the universe. His knowledge shone like a sun, the light of which removed the darkness of ignorance from the minds of people. He lived in his mortal body only for 32 years, but within that short period he achieved what others would not have done in a few centuries. Now we read *Gita*, chant *Upanishads*, listen to *Brahma Sutra*, study *Viveka Chudamani*, we sing many a hymn in praise of God. All these have been gifted to us by Adi Sankara. We are able to discuss Vedanta now, only because of the knowledge imparted to us by Sankara. His words have removed the darkness of ignorance from the world. He has shown us the path of eternal self attainment. All the great saints who came after him are all followers of the philosophy of Sankara.

When a mention is made of India, immediately the following four come to mind. Himalayas, *Gita*, *Ramayana* and Sankara.

Kannan: Was our Lord Sankara so great? When did he live?

Father: Vedic families believe that Sankara lived during 6th Century BC. As per our gurus he lived in Kaliyug 2593. The modern scholars claim that Sankara was born during 788 AD and died in 820 AD. Let the historians argue about the dates. As far as we are concerned Sankara was always present, he is present now and will always be present. In fact, Sankara who has left the mortal

body and become an immortal soul will live for ever as a torch of Vedanta.

Kannan: That seems to be right attitude to take. Father, now tell us who Sankara's parents were and also what his childhood was like, what did he study? Tell us in detail.

3. Sankara Jayanthi

Father: Look at the map of India. This is Kerala. Look for Alwaye, here about six miles from Alwaye you will find Kalady. It is known as Tiruvur also. It is on the banks of the River Poorna. It is a beautiful and fertile place. In that place everyone followed his observances very religiously. The Brahmins chanted the *Vedas* regularly and recited their prayers. The Namboodri Brahmins who were predominant there were great men who had divine powers. One of these men, Vidyati Raja, was scholarly, rich, respected and well thought of. He had a good son whose name was Shivaguru. Shivaguru studied the *Vedas*, learnt the scriptures and after leading the life of a Brahmachari for a number of years got married. Shivaguru's wife was Aryambal, who was also referred to as Subhadra. Aryambal was the daughter of Trichur Mahi Pandit. The house that she lived in is referred to as 'Payasappanai Illam'. The last resting place of Aryambal is still to be seen there.

Shivaguru was a great devotee of Lord Shiva - a scholar of *Vedas* and a well disciplined godly man. Aryambal was the embodiment of love, knowledge, beauty and virtue. Both of them lived very happily together. Their married life had heaven's choicest blessings. The house of Shivaguru resounded with the chantings of *Vedas* and prayers to Lord Shiva. They kept an open house where guests were always welcome. The only flaw in their otherwise perfect life was that they did not have a child. Shivaguru and Aryambal went to the temple of Trichur Paramashiva and observed strict penance, praying for the birth of a good son. They anointed Shiva's shrine with pure clarified butter and led a very austere life, eating only the offerings made to Lord Shiva. Their penance succeeded one day. Lord Shiva appeared in Shivaguru's dream and asked him: "Would you like to have a hundred sons of low intellect or one son of very high intelligence who unfortunately would not live long?" Shivaguru opted for the intelligent son and received the Lord's blessings.

Aryambal became pregnant. Shivaguru lived in the Kalady house with his wife without a care. Aryambal saw a number of miraculous happenings during her pregnancy. The day of happiness dawned.

The holy child was born on the day auspicious to Lord Shiva, during Nandana Year. After his birth, the world was uplifted. Since he was born due to the blessings of Lord Shiva, the elders named him Sankara (doer of good). They cast his horoscope.

Kannan: Father let us sing in praise of Lord Sankara's birth.

Father: Good. Let's all sing together. Siva Siva Sankara, Hara Hara Sankara Lord Sankara, may victory be with thee. O Lord the result of the penance of Shivaguru and Aryambal, I salute thee, I salute thee the light of Kaladi. Like the rain drops which make the drying crops grow again, your verses revived the *Vedas*. During your carefree childhood days, you learnt and understood philosophy. You escaped from the illusion of crocodile and renounced the world. You quenched our thirst for knowledge by passing on the teachings of Govinda Pada. You went to Benares and analysed Vedantas, and gathered a treasure house of knowledge. You were an unsurpassed scholar and won over Markimandanar. You spread Advaita throughout the country and founded four mutts (institutions). You lit the lamp of Vedanta so that each home could be illuminated. You blessed Sringeri Sarada Mutt that it should flourish. You were the philosopher and guide of the enlightened Salakya Peetam. You left this mortal body in Jyothir Mutt, which you founded, and O Jagat Guru, it is your voice that resounds in the Kedar Mutt and touches a chord in everyone's heart.

4. The tears of the mother

Sankara was a child prodigy. He started talking at the age of two and at the age of three learnt to recite prayers which were taught by his father. Whatever he heard once got

imprinted in his mind immediately. He knew how to control his mind so that it would not vacillate and he had mastered the art of concentration. Since the astrologers had predicted that he would live only for eight years the parents pampered him. Shivaguru made elaborate arrangements for his schooling - but Fate decided otherwise... One day while chanting his prayers, Shivaguru breathed his last. Aryambal, who could not bear the loss, lamented: "O God - my husband who was alive this morning is no more now, and I have been widowed. Sankara, O we have been orphaned." She shed copious tears. One who had been respected as Shivaguru Namboodri was just a corpse now. People referred to him not as a man but as a corpse and said: "Remove the corpse," while the mother shed tears. Sankara meditated on this.

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