

Japuji Sahib

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I begin by apologizing for any mistake / omission from the translation. I would love to hear about them at the above email address. I am no authority on Gurbani or Japuji Sahib, this work follows from my love for the same.

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ਸਤਿ ਨਾਮੁ
ਕਰਤਾ ਪੁਰਖੁ
ਨਿਰਭਉ
ਨਿਰਵੈਰੁ
ਅਕਾਲ ਮੂਰਤਿ
ਅਜੂਨੀ
ਸੈਭੰ
ਗੁਰ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ ॥

There is just ONE God.
Only His name is the truth.
He is the creator being.
He is not afraid of anyone.
He does not have enmity towards anyone.
He is timeless.
He is free from the cycle of birth and death.
He has created Himself.
He can only be attained through the True Guru.

ਜਪੁ ॥

ਆਦਿ ਸਚੁ ਜੁਗਾਦਿ ਸਚੁ ॥
ਹੈ ਭੀ ਸਚੁ ਨਾਨਕ ਹੋਸੀ ਭੀ ਸਚੁ ॥੧॥

ਸੋਚੈ ਸੋਚਿ ਨ ਹੋਵਈ
ਜੇ ਸੋਚੀ ਲਖ ਵਾਰ ॥
ਚੁਪੈ ਚੁਪ ਨ ਹੋਵਈ
ਜੇ ਲਾਇ ਰਹਾ ਲਿਵ ਤਾਰ ॥
ਭੁਖਿਆ ਭੁਖ ਨ ਉਤਰੀ
ਜੇ ਬੰਨਾ ਪੁਰੀਆ ਭਾਰ ॥
ਸਹਸ ਸਿਆਣਪਾ ਲਖ ਹੋਹਿ
ਤ ਇਕ ਨ ਚਲੈ ਨਾਲਿ ॥
ਕਿਵ ਸਚਿਆਰਾ ਹੋਈਐ
ਕਿਵ ਕੂੜੈ ਤੁਟੈ ਪਾਲਿ ॥
ਹੁਕਮਿ ਰਜਾਈ ਚਲਣਾ
ਨਾਨਕ ਲਿਖਿਆ ਨਾਲਿ ॥੧॥

Worship...

...the Creator Being, Who has been the Truth since inception, Who alone has remained the Truth through the four ages, Who is still the Truth, and Guru Nanak says, Who will remain the Truth for the time to come.

- **Purity** of mind cannot be achieved even by purifying oneself lakhs of time.
- **Peace** of mind cannot be created merely by sitting alone and closing the eyes.
- Our **Thirst** cannot be satisfied, even if all the world's treasures lay at your feet.
- Even if we have a million **Virtues**, not one will help us in the hour of need.

If this is so, then how can we get purity and peace of mind, satisfy thirst and be virtuous? How can we attain the True Knowledge? How can we free ourselves from the rubble we are in?

The first step, says Guru Nanak, is to abide by His Hukam (order).

The rest of the Japuji Sahib is in answer to these questions.

ਹੁਕਮੀ ਹੋਵਨਿ ਆਕਾਰ
 ਹੁਕਮੁ ਨ ਕਹਿਆ ਜਾਈ ॥
 ਹੁਕਮੀ ਹੋਵਨਿ ਜੀਅ
 ਹੁਕਮਿ ਮਿਲੈ ਵਡਿਆਈ ॥
 ਹੁਕਮੀ ਉਤਮੁ ਨੀਚੁ
 ਹੁਕਮਿ ਲਿਖਿ ਦੁਖ ਸੁਖ ਪਾਈਅਹਿ ॥
 ਇਕਨਾ ਹੁਕਮੀ ਬਖਸੀਸ
 ਇਕਿ ਹੁਕਮੀ ਸਦਾ ਭਵਾਈਅਹਿ ॥
 ਹੁਕਮੈ ਅੰਦਰਿ ਸਭੁ ਕੋ
 ਬਾਹਰਿ ਹੁਕਮ ਨ ਕੋਇ ॥
 ਨਾਨਕ ਹੁਕਮੈ ਜੇ ਬੁਝੈ
 ਤ ਹਉਮੈ ਕਹੈ ਨ ਕੋਇ ॥੨॥

In this stanza (Pauri), Guru Nanak narrates the importance of His Hukam (order).

With His order, (everything in this world) takes shape. Yet, His order cannot be described or foretold. Again, only with His order, (everyone) is born. With His order, one attains a good name. His order can turn the best into the worst. His order decides our happiness or sorrow. Through his order, he blesses someone and ordains another to roam around (in cycles of birth and death). Everyone (and everything) is within (the powers of) His order, and no one is beyond. Says Guru Nanak, those who understand (the power of) His order lose their false pride.

ਗਾਵੈ ਕੋ ਤਾਣੁ ਹੋਵੈ ਕਿਸੈ ਤਾਣੁ ॥
 ਗਾਵੈ ਕੋ ਦਾਤਿ ਜਾਣੈ ਨੀਸਾਣੁ ॥
 ਗਾਵੈ ਕੋ ਗੁਣ ਵਡਿਆਈਆ ਚਾਰ ॥
 ਗਾਵੈ ਕੋ ਵਿਦਿਆ ਵਿਖਮੁ ਵੀਚਾਰੁ ॥
 ਗਾਵੈ ਕੋ ਸਾਜਿ ਕਰੇ ਤਨੁ ਖੇਹ ॥
 ਗਾਵੈ ਕੋ ਜੀਅ ਲੈ ਫਿਰਿ ਦੇਹ ॥
 ਗਾਵੈ ਕੋ ਜਾਪੈ ਦਿਸੈ ਦੂਰਿ ॥
 ਗਾਵੈ ਕੋ ਵੇਖੈ ਹਾਦਰਾ ਹਦੂਰਿ ॥
 ਕਥਨਾ ਕਥੀ ਨ ਆਵੈ ਤੋਟਿ ॥
 ਕਥਿ ਕਥਿ ਕਥੀ ਕੋਟੀ ਕੋਟਿ ਕੋਟਿ ॥
 ਦੇਦਾ ਦੇ ਲੈਦੇ ਥਕਿ ਪਾਹਿ ॥
 ਜੁਗਾ ਜੁਗੰਤਰਿ ਖਾਹੀ ਖਾਹਿ ॥
 ਹੁਕਮੀ ਹੁਕਮੁ ਚਲਾਏ ਰਾਹੁ ॥
 ਨਾਨਕ ਵਿਗਸੈ ਵੇਪਰਵਾਹੁ ॥੩॥

This stanza highlights the importance of singing his True Name.

Some people sing His praise through parables. Other sing of His bounties, knowing His presence. Still others sing of the virtues He has. Others, still, sing of Him through the complex education and thoughts they have had. Say some, He first creates, then unites one with ashes. Others counter, He transfers life from one form to another.

Say some, He appears to be far away. Others counter by saying that He can see us all.

So much is said about Him, that even if I go on, not everything can be told. Crores of crores (a crore is equivalent to ten million) have been telling about Him, and having told, have exhausted themselves.

However, only one thing is known for sure. That He has been giving us, and is giving so much, that we have got tired of taking! We have been eating what He has given us all, through the four ages. Yet, through His order, he is driving the universe. Says Guru Nanak, He is still giving away, without any fear of exhausting his supplies.

ਸਾਚਾ ਸਾਹਿਬੁ ਸਾਚੁ ਨਾਇ
 ਭਾਖਿਆ ਭਾਉ ਅਪਾਰੁ ॥
 ਆਖਹਿ ਮੰਗਹਿ ਦੇਹਿ ਦੇਹਿ
 ਦਾਤਿ ਕਰੇ ਦਾਤਾਰੁ ॥
 ਫੇਰਿ ਕਿ ਅਗੈ ਰਖੀਐ
 ਜਿਤੁ ਦਿਸੈ ਦਰਬਾਰੁ ॥
 ਮੁਹੰ ਕਿ ਬੋਲਣੁ ਬੋਲੀਐ
 ਜਿਤੁ ਸੁਣਿ ਧਰੇ ਪਿਆਰੁ ॥
 ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਵੇਲਾ ਸਚੁ ਨਾਉ
 ਵਡਿਆਈ ਵੀਚਾਰੁ ॥
 ਕਰਮੀ ਆਵੈ ਕਪੜਾ
 ਨਦਰੀ ਮੋਖੁ ਦੁਆਰੁ ॥
 ਨਾਨਕ ਏਵੈ ਜਾਣੀਐ
 ਸਭੁ ਆਪੇ ਸਚਿਆਰੁ ॥੪॥

In this stanza, the question previously asked, "How can we attain the True Knowledge?" is answered.

Truth is the Lord, Truth is His Name. His language is one of great love. He has been providing us with whatever we have asked for. Then, if he has given everything we have, what do we have that we can offer Him so that we can see His court? What can we utter, that will please Him, and will make Him like us? Recite His True name and benevolence at dawn. Through your actions, you can achieve either another birth, or see the doors to *Moksha* (freedom from the cycle of birth and death). Says Guru Nanak, this is how one can find out and attain True Knowledge.

ਬਾਪਿਆ ਨ ਜਾਇ ਕੀਤਾ ਨ ਹੋਇ ॥
 ਆਪੇ ਆਪਿ ਨਿਰੰਜਨੁ ਸੋਇ ॥
 ਜਿਨਿ ਸੇਵਿਆ ਤਿਨਿ ਪਾਇਆ ਮਾਨੁ ॥
 ਨਾਨਕ ਗਾਵੀਐ ਗੁਣੀ ਨਿਧਾਨੁ ॥
 ਗਾਵੀਐ ਸੁਣੀਐ ਮਨਿ ਰਖੀਐ ਭਾਉ ॥
 ਦੁਖੁ ਪਰਹਰਿ ਸੁਖੁ ਘਰਿ ਲੈ ਜਾਇ ॥
 ਗੁਰਮੁਖਿ ਨਾਦੰ ਗੁਰਮੁਖਿ ਵੇਦੰ
 ਗੁਰਮੁਖਿ ਰਹਿਆ ਸਮਾਈ ॥
 ਗੁਰੁ ਈਸਰੁ ਗੁਰੁ ਗੋਰਖੁ ਬਰਮਾ
 ਗੁਰੁ ਪਾਰਬਤੀ ਮਾਈ ॥
 ਜੇ ਹਉ ਜਾਣਾ ਆਖਾ ਨਾਹੀ
 ਕਹਣਾ ਕਥਨੁ ਨ ਜਾਈ ॥
 ਗੁਰਾ ਇਕ ਦੇਹਿ ਬੁਝਾਈ ॥
 ਸਭਨਾ ਜੀਆ ਕਾ ਇਕੁ ਦਾਤਾ
 ਸੋ ਮੈ ਵਿਸਰਿ ਨ ਜਾਈ ॥੫॥

He can neither be created nor has anyone created Him. He Himself has created Himself, free from the effect of *maya* (materialistic needs). Those who have served Him have been respected. Let us all sing the praise of one who has all virtues. Singing and listening to His praise, and filling our mind with love for Him, our sorrows will be relieved. Through the Guru's (teacher) word, we come to know about Him, and through Guru's help, we get to sing His praise. Through the Guru's word, we attain the knowledge that He is all pervading. For me, the Guru is Shiva, Vishnu, Brahma, Parvati and Lakhshmi (Gods and Goddesses). Even if I know Him, I cannot describe him, for He cannot be told in words. Guru, grant that I may never forget one who is the sole provider for all beings.

[This work is underway, please check back for updates.]