









# shrIman nigamAnta mahAdeshikai: anugrihItam || Kumara Lokacharya Panchasat || | Vyakhyana Saram



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## Lokacharya Panchasat Vyakhyana Saram – Ed. 1

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## Vedanta Desikan Thaniyan

श्रीमान् वेङ्कटनाथार्यः कवितार्किक केसरी।

वेदान्ताचार्यवर्यों मे सन्निधत्ताम सदा हृदि॥

shrImAn ve~NkaTanAthArya: kavitArkika kesarI | vedAntAchAryavaryo me sannidhattAm sadA hrudi ||

**Meaning:** 

vEdAntAchArya varya: - (May) the acharya known as Vedantacharya (Vedanta

Desikan).

vE~NkaTanAthArya: - who is named Venkatanatha,

shrImAn - who possesses the wealth such as bhagavat njAna,

bhagavat bhakti and bhagavat kainkarya which are the

hallmarks of a Srivaishnava and

kavi tArkika kEsarI - who is like a lion to other poets and philosophers,

sadA - always sannidhattAm - reside mE hrudi

- in my heart.

### Shloka 1

कावेरि पुलिनान्तराळ लहरी कल्लोल मालालसत् पर्यञ्कीकृत पन्नगेश्वरतनौ निद्रानिबद्धादरं।

कस्त्ररी तिलकाञ्चितं कमलजेनाराधितं श्रीसखं

वस्तु स्वीकृत कौस्तुभं दिशतु न स्वस्ति प्रशस्तं स्वतः॥

kAveri pulinAntarALa laharI kallola mAlAlasat parya~nkIkruta pannageshvaratanau nidrAnibaddhAdaram | kastUrI tilakA~nchitam kamalajenArAdhitam shrIsakham vastu svIkruta kaustubham dishatu na: svasti prashastam svata: ||

**Meaning:** 

- (May) that divine being

nidrA nibaddha Adaram - who likes to rest

parya~nkIkruta

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pannageshvara tanau - on the divine body of Adisesha which is made like a bed, a who is rocked gently by the small and big waves

kAveri pulinAntarALa - amidst the sand banks of Kaveri,

kastUrI tilaka a~nchitam
 who wears the Kasturi tilaka in His divine forehead,
 who has the Kaustuba jewel in His divine chest,
 who was worshipped (in Satya Loka) by Brahma,

svata: prashastam - who is great by Himself, and

shrIsakham - who is the Lord of Sri (Periya Pirattiyar),

dishatu na: - give us svasti - prosperity.

### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Swami Desikan wrote this work in praise of Pillai Lokacharyar, the son of Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai. In the first ten shlokas, he praises the acharya lineage of Sri Ranganatha, Sri Ranga Nachchiyar, Senai Mudhaliyar, Nammazhvar, Ramanuja, Kooraththazhvan / Embar / Bhattar / Nanjeeyar, Nampillai, Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai , Pillai Lokacharyar and Azhagiya Manavala Perumal Nayanar. From the eleventh shloka onward, the work is entirely about Pillai Lokacharyar.

In the first shloka, he performs mangalashasana to Sri Ranaganatha - the Perumal who was worshipped by Brahma in Satya Loka and then given to the Ikshvaku vamsa and eventually prayed to by Sri Rama Himself. After Sri Rama's coronation, He was given to Vibheeshana and was established by him in the middle of Kaveri River at Srirangam. Vedanta Desikan asks that this Lord give us all prosperity.

### Shloka 2

नतलोकपालनधिया मरुद्वृधा

पुळिनं जगाम नळिनं विहाय या।

मिय सा तरङ्गयतु रङ्गिणः प्रिया

करुणा तरङ्ग विततीरपाङ्गजाः॥

natalokapAlanadhiyA marudvrudhA puLinam jagAma naLinam vihAya yA | mayi sA tara~Ngayatu ra~NgiNa: priyA karuNA tara~Nga vitatIrapA~NgajA: ||

## Meaning:

yA - Who,

nataloka pAlanadhiyA - in the thought that that She has to protect those that

worship Her,

naLinam vihAya - left Her abode of the lotus flower,

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jagAma - and reached

marudvrudhA puLinam - the sandy banks of Kaveri;

sA - (May) that

ra~NgiNa: priyA - Ranganatha's dear one (Sriranga Nachchiyar)'s

karuNA tara~Nga vitatI - waves of grace,

apA~NgajA: - that flow from the corner of Her eyes,

tara~Ngayatu - reach mayi - me.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In the second shloka, he performs mangalashasana to Periya Pirattiyar. She is praised as being the Mother of this world and who left Her lotus and came to Srirangam to be close to Her children. He asks that the grace that flows in great waves from the corners of Her eyes should reach us.

#### Shloka 3

यत्पाणिपद्मधृत काञ्चन वेत्रवही

स्पन्दस् सुरेन्द्रभय भञ्जन लम्पटात्मा।

वैकुण्ठसूरिपरिषत्प्रभुरत्र शर्म

सोयं विकासयतु सूत्रवतीपतिर्मे॥

yatpANipadmadhruta kA~nchana vetravallI spandas suredrabhaya bha~njana lampaTAtmA | vaikuNThasUripariShatprabhuratra sharma soyam vikAsayatu sUtravatIpatirme ||

#### **Meaning:**

ayam - (May) Senai Mudhaliyar, yatpANipadma - who in his lotus like hands dhruta kA~nchana vetravallI - has the slender golden sceptre

spanda: - whose movement

surendra bhaya bha~njana

lampaTa AtmA - has the wish of removing the fear in the mind of Indra,

vaikuNTha sUri pariShat

prabhu: - who is the leader of the nityasUris in Vaikunta,

sUtravatI pati: - who is the husband of Sutravati,

vikAsayatu - help blossom sharma - happiness me - in me

atra - in this world.

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## Vyakhyana Saram:

In this shloka, he performs mangalashasana to Senai Mudhaliyar. Vishvaksena carries a sceptre in his hand which represents that he has been given the responsibility to run this world by the Lord. Swami Desikan is stating that the mere gentle movement of this stick is enough to chase away all the asuras and evil doers and make them run away; thereby removing the fear in the minds of Indra and the devas. He is the leader of all nityasuris in Paramapadham and his wife's name is Sutravati ("ondodiyAL sUthravathi uRai mArban vAzhiyE").

### Shloka 4

मुहुर्नत्वा मूर्घा विनतविविधापत् प्रशमने

शठारेः पादाङो मधुरकविदेवस्य शरणे।

इदं याचे वाचाप्यलकवकुळाळी परिगळत्

मधूळीमाधुर्यं मम वचनभङ्ग्याम् स दिशतु॥

muhurnatvA mUrdhnA vinatavividhApat prashamane shaThAre: pAdAbje madhurakavidevasya sharaNe |

idam yAche vAchApyalakavakuLALI parigaLat

madhULImAdhuryam mama vachanabha~NgyAm sa dishatu ||

#### **Meaning:**

natvA - I worship
mUrdhnA - with my head
muhu: - time and again

shaThAre: pAdAbje - the divine lotus feet of Nammazhvar,

vinata vividha Apat prashamane - which remove the very many dangers of the

worshipping devotees, and

sharaNe - are the means to surrender madhurakavi devasya - for Madhurakavi Azhvar. sa: - (May) that Nammazhvar

dishatu - grant

alaka vakuLALI parigaLat

madhULI mAdhuryam - that honey like sweetness, which comes from the Vakula

garland worn on his hair

mama - (to) my

vachana bha~NgyAm - clever speech.

vAche - I pray

idam - for this matter vAchA api - with my words.

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#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In this shloka, Vedanta Desikan prays to Nammazhvar to grant him the sweetness of his pasurams so that he too can write shlokas with the same sweetness. Madhurakavi Azhvar too had said "aNNikkum amudhURum en nAvukkE". Nammazhvar is famous for wearing the garland made of Vakula flowers - he is known as 'Vakulabharana". Swami Desikan is asking for the honey like sweetness of those flowers to be in his speech.

Nammazhvar's divine feet are the refuge of Madhurakavi Azhvar - "mEvinEn avan ponnadi meymmaiyE" is Madhurakavi Azhvar's words. The Lord's divine feet are known as Shathari - which is the name for Shathakopa. Nammazhvar's divine feet are known as Madhurakavi.

#### Shloka 5

विकासियत्वा निगमान्दभाष्य

सिद्धाञ्जनात् कामपि दीर्घ दृश्टिं।

प्रादर्शयद्यः परमं पुमाम्सं

स पातु मां सम्यमिसार्व भौमः॥

vikAsayitvA nigamAndabhAShya siddhA~njanAt kAmapi dIrgha drushTim | prAdarshayadya: paramam pumAmsam sa pAtu mAm samyamisArva bhauma: ||

#### **Meaning:**

sa: samyami sArva bhauma: - (May) that Ramanuja who is the leader of the Yatis,

va: - who

nigamAnda bhAShya

siddhA~njanAt - through Sri Bhashya which is the commentary on Vedanta

Sutra,

vikAsayitvA - made blossom

kAmapi - the undescribable, special and

dIrgha drushTim - deep knowledge, prAdarshayat - and showed

paramam pumAmsam - the Parama Purusha who is Sriman Narayana,

pAtu - protect mAm - me.

## **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In this shloka, Swami Desikan is saluting Swami Ramanuja. Ramanuja's commentary Sri Bashyam is on Veda Vyasa's Brahma Sutra. It was based on Bodhayana's vrutti that he obtained by traveling to Kashmir along with Kooraththazhvan. This event is well

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dcoumented in Guru Parampara. This authoritative work is a must read for all Srivaishnavas - as determined by Swami himself. Vedanta Desikan is stating that it is through this work that one gains the deep knowledge that is needed to truly 'see' the parama purusha.

#### Shloka 6

कूरेश गोविन्द पदारविन्द
सेवारसामोदित चिथ्थ भूमा।
भट्टार्यवर्योपि सुखम् ददातु
ममाद्य वेदान्तिमृनीश्वरेण॥

kUresha govinda padAravinda sevArasAmodita chiththa bhUmA | bhaTTAryavaryopi sukham dadAtu mamAdya vedAntimunIshvareNa ||

## **Meaning:**

bhaTTAryavaryopi - (May) Sri Parasara Bhattar

vedAnti munIshvareNa - along with Nanjeeyar (who was known as Vedanti),

sevArasa Amodita chiththa

bhUmA - who has the heart filled with pleasure due to the

sweetness of the service

kUresha govinda

padAravinda - done at the divine lotus feet of Kooraththazhvan and

Embar,

dadAtu - give sukham - happiness mama - to me adya - now.

## **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In this shloka, Swami Desikan is doing mangalashasanam to four acharyas: Sri Kooraththazhvan, Sri Embar, Sri Parasara Bhattar and Nanjeeyar.

Kooraththazhvan is the father and acharya to Bhattar. Another of Ramanuja's disciples, Embar, is also an acharya to Bhattar.

When Bhattar and his brother Srirama Pillai were born, Sri Ramanuja came to see the children of Kooraththazhvan. It was Embar who carried the children to Udaiyavar. When Ramanuja saw the kids he asked about the divine fragrance on them. Embar admitted that to protect the children he had said the Dvaya mantram in their ears. So, Ramanuja

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decided that Embar should be their acharya. However, one time when Kooraththazhvan was teaching the meanings of the rahasya traya to his disciples, he also included Bhattar in the group, as he feared that postponing teaching the great meanings of the rahasyas was not a good thing.

Bhattar's disciple Nanjeeyar was called Vedanti prior to surrendering to Bhattar. After Bhattar won Vedanti over in a debate (through the meanings of Thirunedunthandagam), he left him at Thirunarayanapuram and returned to Srirangam. Due to the behaviour of his wives toward Srivaishnavas one time, Vedanti renounced everything, became a sanyasi and came to Bhattar. Seeing him, Bhattar exclaimed 'Come, Our Jeeya! ("vArIr! nam jIyarE")'. From that time onward he came to be known as Nanjeeyar.

Swami Desikan is saluting these great acharyas in this shloka.

#### Shloka 7

यजिह्वाग्र विशालरङ्गरसिका वणी प्रवीणानिशं

न्नुत्यन्ती द्रविडार्यसम्स्कृतवपुर्दत्ते कवीनां प्रियं।

लोकार्यः कलिवैरि दासगुरुरित्यन्याभिधानस्स मे

कुर्यादुत्तरवीथि कृष्ण महिताचार्यः कलासम्पदं॥

yajjihvAgra vishAlara~NgarasikA vaNI pravINAnisham nrutyantI draviDAryasamskrutavapurdatte kavInAm priyam | lokArya: kalivairi dAsagururityanyAbhidhAnassa me kuryAduttaravIthi kR^iShNa mahitAchArya: kalAsampadam ||

### Meaning:

pravINA vANI - Sarasvati who is learned in all arts

jat jihvA agra vishAla

ra~NgarasikA - wishes to dance in the tongue tips which is like a great

dancing hall

draviDArya samskruta vapu - of the Dravida Vedantacharyas, and having her nature

corrected by them

anisham nrutyantI - she dances always and

datte - forms priyam - happiness

kavInAm - to the poets such as the Azhvars.

sa: - (May) that

anya abhidhAna - acharya who has the different name

kalivairi dAsa guru iti - Thirukkalikanridasa,

uttara vIthi kR^iShNa mahita

AchArya: - who is the acharya praised by Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip

Pillai known as Krishna,

lokarya: - that Lokacharya who is Nampillai

kuryAt - give me - to me

kalAsampadam - the art that is writing poetry.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In this shloka, Swami Desikan is saluting the great Acharya who was first called Lokacharya by Kandhadai Thozhappar after seeing his great magnanimity. His acharya Nanjeeyar called him Nampillai after seeing his great knowledge. He was born on Karththigai thirunakshathram in the month of Karththigai - the same as Thirumangai Azhvar, who is called Kalikanri. Hence he was called Kalikanri Dasar. He is the mahAcharya who gave us the incomparable Idu vyakhyanam for Azhvar's Thiruvaymozhi. His disciple was Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai whose children were Pillai Lokacharyar (named for Nampillai) and Azhagiya Manavala Perumal Nayanar.

#### Shloka 8

अतुलः कलिवैरि दासवाणी

मणिवल्ली वलनावलम्ब शाखी।

गुरुरुथ्थरवीथिकानिवासी

मम भद्राणि तनोतु कृष्णनामा॥

atula: kalivairi dAsavANI

maNivallI valanAvalamba shAkhI |

gururuththaravIthikAnivAsI

mama bhadrANi tanotu kR^iShNanAmA ||

#### **Meaning:**

atula: guru - (May) that incomparable acharya,

kalivairi dAsa vANI maNivallI

valana avalamba shAkhI - who is like the supporting tree to the beautiful creepers

that are the divine Sri Suktis of Nampillai,

uththara vIthikA nivAsI - who lives in the Vadakku Thiruveedhi (in Srirangam),

kR^iShNa nAmA - who is named Krishna,

tanotu - create

bhadrANi - auspiciousness

mama - in me.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Jagadacharya Ramanuja created the 74 simhasanadhipathis to spread the glorious Srivaishnava sampradhayam. One of these was Mudumbai Nambigal. In his lineage was

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born the incomparable Sri Krishnar. He lived in the Uththara veedhi of Srirangam and hence was called Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai. He was the disciple of Nampillai. During the day he would hear Nampillai's kalakshepam on Bhagavad Vishayam – the commentary on Azhvar's Thiruvaymozhi, and in the night he would write them down to the word. This became the grand 36000padi Idu vyakhyanam - the magnum opus commentary for Thiruvaymozhi.

Here Swami Desikan is saluting this great acharya for providing us the Sri Suktis of Swami Nampillai in written form so they continue to last for a long time.

## Shloka 9

वत्सान्ववाय वरणीय पयः पयोधेः

जातोदयौ जगित कौस्तुभ चन्द्रबिम्बौ।

मन्ये जगत्वितत कान्ति कलाविलासौ

लोकार्य सुन्दरवरौ किल कृष्ण हृद्यौ॥

vatsAnvavAya varaNIya paya: payodhe:

jAtodayau jagati kaustubha chandrabimbau l

manye jagatvitata kAnti kalAvilAsau

lokArya sundaravarau kila kR^iShNa hR^idyau ||

#### **Meaning:**

manye - I meditate on

lokArya sundaravarau - Pillai Lokacharyar and Azhagiya Manavalap Perumal

Nayanar, who are

kaustubha chandrabimbau - like the Kaustubha jewel and the Moon

jAta udayau - which were born jagati - in this world

paya: payodhe: - from the milky ocean vatsa anvavAya - known as Srivatsa lineage

varaNIya - which is desirable,

jagat vitata kAnti kalA

vilAsau - who possess the shining light and arts that are famous in

this world, and

kR^iShNa hR^idyau - who are the sons of Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai who

bring delight to his heart.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Pillai Lokacharyar and Azhagiya Manavalap Perumal Nayanar are the two illustrious sons of Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai. Lokacharyar was the name given to Nampillai by Kandhadai Thozhappar. When a son was born to Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai through

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the blessings of his acharya Nampillai, he named him Pillai Lokacharya in honor of his acharya. Later, a second son was born to him with the blessings of Sri Ranganathan Himself and he named him Azhagiya Manavalap Perumal Nayanar.

The two brothers stayed as brahmacharis throughout their lives and dedicated themselves to the growth of Ramanuja sampradhayam. They wrote amazing works such as Srivachana Bhushanam and Acharya Hrudhayam.

Swami Desikan is saluting these great acharyas of the sampradhayam in this shloka. It is to be noted that both these acharyas were much older than Vedanta Desikan (by about 60 years or so). It is likely that Nayanar had attained paramapadham by the time Vedanta Desikan arrived at Srirangam while Pillai Lokacharyar was very elderly and decorating the senior acharya position at Srirangam. Pillai Lokacharyar and Vedanta Desikan were key in saving our sampradhayam (Namperumal and the treatise Sruta Prakasika) during the islamic army's sacking of Srirangam.

In this shloka, the adjectives of possessing the shining light like the Kaustubha jewel and the arts like the Moon are directed toward both Pillai Lokacharyar and Azhagiya Manavalap Perumal Nayanar.

#### Shloka 10

वाणीपुण्यसुधापगां शटजितः स्वैरं विगाह्याद्रात् आनीयामृतमत्र चक्रतुरुभौ पानीयशालात्मकं। यौ वाग्भूषण देसिकेन्द्रहृदयाभिख्य प्रबन्धद्वयं तौ वन्दे भुवनार्य सुन्द्रवरौ कृष्णात्मजौ देशिकौ॥

vANIpuNyasudhApagAm shaTajita: svairam vigAhyAdarAt
AnIyAmR^itamatra chakraturubhau pAnIyashAlAtmakam |
yau vAgbhUShaNa desikendrahR^idayAbhikhya prabandhadvayam
tau vande bhuvanArya sundaravarau kR^iShNAtmajau deshikau ||

#### **Meaning:**

vande - I salute tau - those

deshikau - two acharyas

bhuvanArya - Pillai Lokacharyar and

sundaravarau - Azhagiya Manavalap Perumal Nayanar

kR^iShNa Atmajau - who are the sons of Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai, and

yau ubhau - who

AdarAt - with great pleasure svairam vigAhya - immersed freely

vANI puNya sudhApagAm - in the pure and divine nectar like Sri Suktis

shaTajita: - of Nammazhvar and amR^itam AnIya - brought the nectar atra - to this world

pAnIya shAlA Atmakam - in the form of a water center (as easy to attain)

chakratu - by authoring

vAk bhUShaNa desikendra hR^idaya

abhikhya prabandha dvayam - the two granthas known as Srivachana Bhushanam and

Acharya Hrudhayam.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Pillai Lokacharyar authored eighteen rahasya granthas called the Ashtadasa Rahasyangal. Of these, the work Srivachana Bhushanam is considered the greatest by Srivaishnava Acharyas. Swami Manavala Mamunigal has dedicated seven verses in his Upadesa Raththinamalai to show the greatness of this work.

Azhagiya Manavalap Perumal Nayanar has written several granthas and vyakhyanams but many are not available at this time. Amongst these works, the grantha Acharya Hrudhayam is considered to be the greatest work. It was written to show the greatness of Swami Nammazhvar and his works as at that time some people were showing tendencies to put down Azhvar.

Swami Desikan is saluting these acharyas for their great contributions which show that Nammazhvar's works are the essence of the four Vedas and that these two granthas are like water to the people of this world who are trapped in the desert like samsAra.

## Shloka 11

मधुरिपुमहिलायाः स्फितवीक्षासरोजात् मधुरफणितिभृङ्गी निर्गता कासिदेषा। भुवनगुरु पदाङा ध्वन्द्व निर्यन्मरन्डान् अनुदिनमनुभूयानन्द सान्द्रा ममास्तु॥

madhuripumahilAyA: sphitavIkshAsarojAt madhuraphaNitibhR^i~NgI nirgatA kAsideShA | bhuvanaguru padAbja dhvandva niryanmaranDAn anudinamanubhUyAnanda sAndrA mamAstu ||

**Meaning:** 

eShA - This mama - my

kAsit - unparalleled

madhuraphaNiti bhR^i~NgI - sweet speech which is like a female bee

nirgatA - came out of

sphita vIkshA sarojAt - the broad eyes lotus like eyes of

madhuripu mahilAyA: - Sri Mahalakshmi who is the wife of Madhusudhana.

astu - May it

Ananda sAndrA - get fattened due to happiness

anubhUya - by drinking anudinam - every day

bhuvanaguru padAbja dhvandva

niryanmaranDAn - the honey that flows out of the divine lotus feet of Pillai

Lokacharyar.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Swami Desikan's speech became sweet and divine because it came out of the lotus like eyes of Sri Ranga Nachchiyar. He says they are like the bee that left the lotuses that are Sri Mahalskhmi's divine eyes. Having left these lotuses, it is now fattening itself due to the great pleasure of drinking the sweet nectar which are the words of Swami Pillai Lokacharyar.

He got his ability to write divine poetry due to the blessings from the divine look of Sri Mahalakshmi. That capacity gained its purpose by praising Pillai Lokacharyar.

## Shloka 12

मणिप्रवाळाञ्चित सूक्तिसूनैः

विभूषिताशेष सहस्रशाखं।

अकल्पयत् कञ्चन कल्पवृक्षं

कृष्णः क्षितौ लोकगुरूत्तमाख्यं॥

maNipravALA~nchita sUktisUnai:

vibhUShitAsheSha sahasrashAkham |

akalpayat ka~nchana kalpavR^iksham

kR^iShNa: kshitau lokagurUttamAkhyam ||

## **Meaning:**

ka~nchana kalpa vR^iksham - The unparalleled Karpaga tree loka gurUttamAkhyam - known as Pillai Lokacharyar asheSha sahasra shAkham vibhUShita - has thousands of branches - that are decorated with

a~nchita - beautiful

sUkti sUnai: - flowers that are Sri Suktis, which are

maNi pravALa - made of Sankrit and Tamil,

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akalpayat - was created by

kR^iShNa: - Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai.

### Vyakhyana Saram:

Pillai Lokacharyar is the eldest son of Sri Krishnar, also known as Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai. In this shloka, Swami Desikan is saying that Sri Krishnar brought forth an amazing Karpaga Vruksham. Azhvars have compared the Lord to a Karpaga tree ("sezhung kaRpagaththai", "karpagach sOlai" etc), Vedanta Desikan has called Andal a Karpaga creeper ("shrI viShnu chitta kula nandana kalpa vallIm") and acharyas have glorified other acharyas as Karpaga trees (Ramanuja Nutrandhadhi states "ennai ALa vandha kaRpagam" about Ramanuja). Swami Desikan is following that tradition in this shloka. The Karpaga tree (or Kalpa tree) would have countless branches and flowers. Vedanta Desikan is showing the similarity with Lokacharyar - he too has countless grantha vakhyams (which are like the branches of a tree) and these give rise to the flower like beautiful maNi pravALa letters and words which are the Sri Suktis of Pillai Lokacharyar.

And just as the Karpaga tree showers those who seek shelter under it with everything that they need, so too Swami Lokacharyar showers through his divine Sri Suktis the most amazing meanings of the sampradhayam, which is all that the devotees need.

### Shloka 13

देवीशु पद्मनिलया दियता बबूव

भक्तेशु सोपि वगुळङ्क मुनिवरेण्य।

आर्येशु निर्मल गुणस्त्वयमन्तरङ्गः

रङ्गातिपस्य नुपते जगतार्यनामा॥

devIshu padmanilayA dayitA babUva bhakteshu sopi vaguLa~Nka munirvareNya | Aryeshu nirmala guNastvayamantara~Nga: ra~NgAtipasya nR^ipate jagatAryanAmA ||

#### **Meaning:**

devIshu - Amongst the consorts of

rangAtipasya nR^ipate - Sriranganatha, who is the Lord of Srirangam,

padma nilayA - Periya Pirattiyar who lives on a lotus

dayitA babUva - is most dear to His heart. bhakteshu - Amongst the devotees

sa: - the famous

vaguLa~Nka muni: api - Sathakopa who wears the Vakula garland

vareNya babUva - became the most desirable

Aryeshutu - Amongst the acharyas ayam jagatArya nAmA - this Pillai Lokacharyar nirmala guNa: - who has faultless qualities antara~Nga: babUva - became worthy of keeping near.

## Vyakhyana Saram:

Swami Desikan further extolls the great acharya Pillai Lokacharyar in this shloka. He tells us who is most dear to the Lord amongst His consorts (Sri Mahalakshmi), amongst the Azhvars (Nammazhvar) and amongst the acharyas (Pillai Lokacharyar).

She is always with Him to protect the chetanas; Nammazhvar showed us the path of sharaNagati to Him through the mediation of Mahalakshmi; Lokacharyar gave us the essence of Nammazhvar's Thiruvaymozhi in the grantha Srivachana Bhushanam.

### Shloka 14

हृदयमुकुर बिम्बं यत् त्वहङ्कारपङ्क

स्थगित विमलरूपं स्वोक्तिशुद्धाम्बुपूरैः।

भुवनगुरुवर स्तचोधयित्वा जनानां

चिदचिद्धिपतीं त्रीन् दर्शयन् भाति तत्र॥

hR^idayamukura bimbam yat tvaha~NkArapa~Nka sthagita vimalarUpam svoktishuddhAmbupUrai: | bhuvanaguruvara stacchodhayitvA janAnAm chidachidadhipatIm trIn darshayan bhAti tatra ||

### **Meaning:**

bhuvanaguruvara: - Pillai Lokacharyar chodhayitva - washed away

sva ukti shuddha ambupUrai: - with the water flow that are his Sri Suktis

aha~NkAra pa~Nka sthagita - the Ahankara which is like dirt on hR^idaya mukura bimbam - the mirror which is the mind

janAnAm - of the people

tat yat asti vimalarUpam - and made it spotless;

darshayan - showing

trIn - the three principles which are chit achit adhipatIn - chit, achit and the Paramatma

bhAti - he exists

tatra - there (Srirangam or the people's minds).

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Pillai Lokacharyar removed the darkness in this world through his divine 18 rahasya

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granthas, called Ashtadasa Rahasyas. By doing that he removed the avidya that had covered the minds of the jIvas and made them forget their true nature, as well as the nature of the Lord and the prakruti.

His works such as Tattva Trayam and Tattva Sekaram explain the three principles - the tattva trayam - that is a cornerstone of our sampradhayam. Through these works, he showed that the jIva is not a svatantra but a paratantra. That is, the jIva is not independent but is the property of the Lord and is bound to Him. With his Sri Suktis, he cleaned the ahankAra in the minds of the people that made them forget their subservient nature to the Lord. By giving them the true knowledge, he now forever exists in the minds of the people.

#### Shloka 15

जनिजलधिपरीतागार लीनात्मपङ्गौ

त्रिविधविषय तृइणाराक्षसीपीडितायै।

भुवनगुरुवरोदात् श्रीमतीं सुक्तिभूषां

पवनज इव देव्यै पाणिभूषां स्वभर्तुः॥

janijaladhiparItAgAra IInAtmapa~Nktyai trividhaviShaya tR^ishNArAkshasIpIDitAyai | bhuvanaguruvarodAt shrImatIm sUktibhUShAm pavanaja iva devyai pANibhUShAm svabhartu: ||

#### **Meaning:**

pavanaja iva - In the same way that Maruti gave to

devyai - Sita devi

sva bhartu: pANi bhUShAm - the ring in the hand of Her spouse Sri Rama,

janijaladhi parIta AgAra

IIn Atma pa~Nktyai - to the jIvAtmas that are surrounded by the ocean that is

birth

trividha viShaya tR^ishNA

rAkshasI pIDitAyai - that are tortured by the three rakshasis (land, gold and

lust),

bhuvanaguruvara: - Pillai Lokacharyar

adAt - gave

shrImatIm sUktibhUShAm - Srivachana Bhushanam that has beauty of words and

meaning.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Sitadevi was kindapped by Ravana and placed in the middle of the ocean in the Asoka vana. There She was surrounded by rAkshasis who tortured in many ways trying to force

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Her to accept the improper advances of Ravana. To Her in this state came Hanuman bringing the message of the Lord and His ring.

In this situation, She represents the jIva; the ocean represents the samsAra with its birth and death; Hanuman represents the acharya who brings the message of the Lord to the suffering jIva (that He is the one who is looking for the jIva and trying to attain him). The rAkshasis torturing Her represent the desires of land, gold and lust, which torture the jIva and push them to an undesirable state which is represented by Ravana.

Here, Swami Desikan is saluting Swami Pillai Lokacharyar as the acharya who is bringing the message of the Lord to the suffering jIva samUha. Just as Maruti brought a ring from the Lord to Her, so too Pillai Lokacharyar has brought forth this jewel amongst granthas called Srivachana Bhushanam.

#### Shloka 16

फणितिकिरणजालैर्मानयन् मानसाङां

चरनमुषित दोषारूडगाडान्धकारः।

अपर इव वपुष्मानम्शुमाली जनानां

पदमिव भुवनार्यो भासयन् भाति विष्णोः॥

phaNitikiraNajAlairmAnayan mAnasAbjam charanamuShita doShArUDagADAndhakAra: | apara iva vapuShmAnamshumAlI janAnAm padamiva bhuvanAryo bhAsayan bhAti viShNo: ||

### Meaning:

amshumAlI iva - Like the Sun

charanamuShita doShA ArUDa

gADa andhakAra: - who drives the darkness of the night with his rays of light

viShNo: padam - from space

bhAsayan - and makes it (bright), bhuvanArya: - Pillai Lokacharyar

bhAti - is

apara: vapuShmAn amshumAlI - like another Sun

charanamuShita doShA ArUDa

gADa andhakAra: - who drives the ahankAra mamkAra doshas, by

association with his divine feet,

phaNiti kiraNa jAlai: - with the rays of light that are his Sri Suktis,

janAnAm - from the people's mAnasa abjam - lotus like minds

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mAnayan - and makes them respected (by blossoming with

knowledge).

### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Acharyas and Azhvars are compared to the Sun that drives out darkness. The normal Sun drives out the outside darkness. With their Sri Suktis, Azhvars and Acharyas drive out the darkness in our minds. Our minds are like lotuses and are closed due to the darkness of the ahankAra and mamakAra. Azhvars and Acharyas are like the Sun and drive out this darkness and make the mind blossom. (They are also like water that sustains the lotus in the presence of the sun like Lord.)

Nammazhvar is called Vakula Bhushana Bhaskara. Here Swami Desikan is describing Pillai Lokacharyar as the Sun (amshumAlI). And when this mind blossoms, then one finds the Lord seated in that lotus.

#### Shloka 17

अन्तर्विलोचनमनन्ततमोनिगूढं

आलोख्य जन्तु निवहस्य दयार्द्रचेताः।

उन्मीलयन्नुपहितेन रहस्यत्रयार्थ

दीपेन यो जयति लोकगुरुं तमीडे॥

antarvilochanamanantatamonigUDham Alokhya jantu nivahasya dayArdrachetA: | unmIlayannupahitena rahasyatrayArtha dIpena yo jayati lokagurum tamIDe ||

#### **Meaning:**

tam lOkagurum IDe - I salute that Pillai Lokacharya,

ya: - who Alokhya - seeing

jantu nivahasya - the collection of beings antar vilochanam - whose minds (the inner eye)

ananta tamo nigUDham - are covered by unlimited ignorance, - with his mind drenched in mercy,

upahitena - lit in their minds

rahasya traya artha dIpena - the lamp (Mumukshuppadi) which is the meaning of the

Rahasya Traya

unmIlayan - and opened them,

jayati - (and therefore is) above everyone.

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## Vyakhyana Saram:

Pillai Lokacharyar gave the true meanings of the Rahasya Traya through his rahasya granthas and made them readily available to the people of this world whose minds are covered by the darkness of ignorance. Knowing the varied nature of the people of this world, he gave the meanings in many different forms - in short, in some detail and in great detail. The works that give the meanings of the Rahsya Traya are Yathrucchikappadi, Mumukshuppadi, Sriya:pathippadi, Paranthapadi, ThanippraNavam, Thanithdvayam, Thaniccharamam & Sarasangraham.

Swami Desikan is saluting the great mercy in Pillai Lokacharyar's heart that made him stand above all in providing these works, that gave the Rahasya Traya knowledge to the people and drove away the avidya in their minds.

## Shloka 18

बुवनगुरूत्तम चतुररन्ग पुरापणिकः

कलिरिपु दासवर्य कलितामल सूक्तिमणीन्।

गुणपणसन्यहेण निपुणाय ददातिहितान्

अत पुनरेव वृत्तिमुपयान्ति विचित्रमिदं॥

#### **Meaning:**

buvana gurUttama - Pillai Lokacharyar

chatura rangapura ApaNika: - who is the shopkeeper in the talented shop which is

Srirangam

dadAti - gives

nipuNAya - to the smart disciple

tAn - the popular

kaliripu dAsavarya kalit

amala sUktimaNIn - faultless jewels that are the sUktis of Kalikanri Dasa

(Nampillai),

guNapaNa sangraheNa - taking as cost the good qualities of his disciples.

ata - Then

upayAnti - (these jewels) attain punar eva vR^ittim - growth again.

idam vichitramhi - Is this not amazing?

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## Vyakhyana Saram:

Swami Desikan is stating that Nampillai's divine suktis are faultless jewels. This is most appropriate. The story of the acharya who used one of his srisuktis to remove the doubt on Ramayana in the mind of the king should be remembered here. His disciples have written a pasuram that states that a few words of Nampillai will fetch a whole country.

As opposed to the jewels of this world that stay the same, Vedanta Desikan points out that Nampillai's srisuktis grow after they have been given by Pillai Lokacharyar to his disciples. This is the nature of knowledge. It does not reduce or stay stagnant but keeps growing. It is like a shopkeeper (Pillai Lokacharyar) who sells jewels but they keep growing in his shop - Swami Desikan is pointing out this amazing situation in his shloka.

#### Shloka 19

दृडमभवद्विद्यावस्त्ररी वासनाद्भिः

समयविहितपोषा विस्तृता कर्मवृक्षे।

भुवनगुरुवरोक्तिप्रौडजञ्जामरुद्भिः

सतरुरफ़ता सा क्षेत्रिणो भग्नमूला॥

#### **Meaning:**

kshetriNa: - Jeevatma's

avidyA vallarI - ignorance which is a creeper samaya vihita poShA - attained timely growth vAsanA adbhi: - in desire which is like water,

vistR^itA - and creeping around

karma vR^ikshe - the tree made of sins and good acts

dR^iDam abhavat - it became strong.

prauDa ja~njA marudbhi: - By the great cyclonic wind

bhuvana guruvar ukti - which are the Srisuktis of Pillai Lokacharya,

sA - that creeper

sataru: - along with the tree bhagna mUlA - and the shredded root

aphR^itA abhavat - got ripped.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

The ignorance in the minds of the Jeevatama's is like a creeper; it is made strong by the quality of desire and holds on to the karmas committed by the jeeva. In order to attain the

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abode of that Parama Purusha, a soul must lose all karmas - good and bad. Swami Desikan is saluting Pillai Lokacharyar's works which are like a great wind that rip and shred this creeper as well as the karma tree that it surrounds, thereby lighting the lamp of knowledge inside the jeeva and setting him free. And, when they remove this ignorance, they remove it to the root, so that it never returns due to vAsana and prior relationship.

#### Shloka 20

यतिप्रवर भारतीजलनिधिं प्रपीयामलं

जगत्गुरुवलाहकः पट्ट ववर्ष भूमौ जलं।

विकासमगमत् परं विनतसस्य पङ्किस्तदा

प्रवाहबहुलाभवत् निगममौलिविद्यानदी॥

yatipravara bhAratIjalanidhim prapIyAmalam jagatguruvalAhaka: paTu vavarSha bhUmau jalam | vikAsamagamat param vinatasasya pa~NktistadA pravAhabahulAbhavat nigamamaulividyAnadI ||

#### **Meaning:**

jagatguru valAhaka: - The cloud that is Nampillai

prapIya - drank well

amalam yatipravara bhAratI

jalanidhim - from the blemishless ocean that are the Srisuktis of

Yatiraja (Nanjeeyar)

paTu vavarSha - and well rained jalam - the water bhUmau - on the earth. tadA - At that time

nigamamauli vidyA nadI - the river that is Vedantic knowledge

pravAha bahulA abhavat - became a flood.

vinatasasya pa~Nkti - (Therefore) the field that is the devotees

param vikAsam agamat - blossomed.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In our sampradhayam we say that the Lord is the ocean and that Nammazhvar is the cloud that drank from that ocean and rained his grace on this world. Swami Desikan is showing a similar comparison in this shloka - here Nampillai who blessed Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai (who is the father of Pillai Lokacharyar) is the cloud, that drank from the ocean that are the Srisuktis of his acharya Nanjeeyar. Nanjeeyar was a great acharya and a sanyasi and therefore he is refered to as yati pravara - the best amongst yatis.

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The great meanings broughtforth by Nampillai became a flood of Vedantic knowledge in this world and all devotees who immersed in that had the lamp of knowledge lit in their hearts.

The word jagatguru - Lokacharyar - originally was given to Nampillai ("thunnu pugazh kanthAdai thOzhappar tham ugappAl, enna ulagAriyanO enRuraikka"). It was later given to the elder son of Vadakkuth Thiruveedhip Pillai - who came to be known as Pillai Lokacharyar.

This shloka can also be shown to apply to him - that is, the word jagatguru refering to Pillai Lokacharyar. In that case, the yatipravara would refer to Swami Ramanuja himself. Pillai Lokacharyar would be the cloud that drank from the Srisukti ocean of Ramanuja and poured the great meanings on this world for the upliftment of devotees. It has been shown by great acharyas that the divine meanings of the rahasya granthas given by Pillai Lokacharyar are the same as told by Swami Ramanuja.

#### Shloka 21

पटुप्रथमदेशिकैर्विरचिताः प्रबन्धाः परे

रहस्यत्रयपदावलीविवरणे प्रत्ताः परं।

जगद्गुरुमुखोदिताः जगति भान्त्यमी भास्कराः

भवप्रभवसर्वरी विभव मोचनाहस्कराः॥

paTuprathamadeshikairvirachitA: prabandhA: pare rahasyatrayapadAvalIvivaraNe pravR^ttA: param | jagadgurumukhoditA: jagati bhAntyamI bhAskarA: bhavaprabhavasarvarI vibhava mochanAhaskarA: ||

#### **Meaning:**

pare prabandhA:
virachitA:
- Great works
- authored

paTu prathamadeshikai: - by intellectual pUrvacharyas

param pravR^ttA: - are engaged

rahasya traya pada AvalI

vivaraNe - in explaining the range of parts of the Rahasya Trayam

(Thirumanthram, Dvayam and Charama Shlokam).

amI prabandhA:

- The works explaining the Rahasya Trayam

jagadguru mukha uditA: - that come from the divine mouth of Pillai Lokacharyar

bhAnti - shine

bhAskarA: - (like) the Sun

para prabhavasarvarI vibhava

mochana ahaskarA - that removes the darkness of the night which is the

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countless births and deaths in this samsara

jagati - in this world.

### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Poorvacharyas such as Kooraththazhvan and Bhattar wrote works that explained the meanings of the Rahasya Traya. But these works have become nonextant or are short in length (though deep in meaning). Pillai Lokacharyar wrote extensive works on the Rahasya Traya - some short, some long and some medium; some focusing on all three and some explaining only one of the three; some in maNi pravaLAm and some in Tamil. Through these great works which shine like the Sun, he removed the darkness of this world which is nothing but being caught in the endless cycle of samsara. Swami Desikan is saluting the nobility of Pillai Lokacharyar and his works in this shloka.

## Shloka 22

अगम्यमहिमा जनैर्निगममौलिकान्तारभू

विहाररिसको वृक्षक्षितिभृतो वसन् कन्दरे।

विभाति विमतोन्मद्द्विरद्कुम्भसम्भेदन

क्षमोक्तिनखरो महान् स जगदार्यकण्टीरवः॥

agamyamahimA janairnigamamaulikAntArabhU vihArarasiko vR^ikshakshitibhR^ito vasan kandare | vibhAti vimatonmadadviradakumbhasambhedana kshamoktinakharo mahAn sa jagadAryakaNTIrava: ||

## Meaning:

agamya mahimA - Having the greatness not understood

janai: - by ordinary folk,

nigamamauli kAntArabhU

vihAra rasika: - understanding the taste of moving in the forest of Vedanta

sastra,

vasan - while living kandare - in the cave

vR^iksha kshitibhR^ita: - in the mountain of Dharma (or in the Thiruvengada

mountains)

vimata unmadadvirada kumbha sambhedana

kshama ukti nakhara: - having the Srisuktis that are like the claws that are

capable of breaking the heads of the elephants who are

the followers of other philosophies,

sa: - the famed mahAn - and great

jagadArya kaNTIrava: - lion that is Pillai Lokacharya

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vibhAti - is present.

## Vyakhyana Saram:

In our sampradhayam, acharyas have been compared to the elephant and the lion. In Ramanuja Nutrandhadhi, Thiruvarangaththamudhanar compares Ramanuja to both - "engaL irAmAnusa muni vEzham" and "vali mikka sIyam". In this shloka, Swami Desikan is saluting Pillai Lokacharyar as a great lion.

This lion has claws that are capable of ripping the heads (brains) of elephants - the elephants in this case are the followers and/or leaders of other sampradhayams. Through his divine Sri Suktis, Pillai Lokacharyar has removed and corrected the ideas made by them that show the Lord in the wrong light.

#### Shloka 23

विगतविषयतृश्णः कृष्णपादाश्रयात्मा

द्रमिडनिगमदर्शी देशिकानाम् प्रधानः।

मधुरकविवचोभिः माननीयो ममासौ

शटरिपुरिव लोकाचार्यवर्यो विभाति॥

vigataviShayatR^ishNa: kR^iShNapAdAshrayAtmA dramiDanigamadarshI deshikAnAm pradhAna: | madhurakavivachobhi: mAnanIyo mamAsau shaTaripuriva lokAchAryavaryo vibhAti ||

#### **Meaning:**

shaTaripuriva - Like Nammazhvar,

vigata viShaya tR^ishNa: - who did not have affinity to the lowly matters of this

world,

kR^iShNa pAda Ashraya

AtmA - who had the mind that considers the divine feet of Lord

Krishna as its place,

dramiDa nigama darshI - who created the Tamil Vedas (Thiruviruththam,

ThiruvAsiriyam, Periya Thiruvandhadhi and

Thiruvaymozhi),

deshikAnAm pradhAna: - who is the most important amongst acharyas,

mAnanIya: - who is worthy of being praised and honored

madhurakavi vachobhi: - by the verses of Madhurakavi Azhvar,

the verses of Madifulation 172

asau - this

lokAchAryavarya: - Pillai Lokacharyar

vibhAti - is present mama - to me.

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## Vyakhyana Saram:

In this shloka Swami Desikan is stating that he is saluting Pillai Lokacharyar through his verses just like Madhurakavi Azhvar praised and honored Nammazhvar through his eleven verses known as Kanninun Siruththambu. Thus, Lokacharya Panchasat can be called as Lokacharya Kanninun Siruththambu.

The first three lines of this shloka are about Nammazhvar, but they can also be interpreted as being about Pillai Lokacharyar. Then, the meaning for those lines would be as follows: kR^iShNa pAda Ashraya AtmA - one who surrendered to Krishnapada who is also known as Vadakku Thiruveedhip Pillai; dramiDa nigama darshI - one who understands the Tamil Vedas; madhurakavi vachobhi: - through the sweet verses of poets. This is the poetic excellence of Swami Desikan.

#### Shloka 24

चुलुकितभवसिन्धुं चित्तजकोधदैत्य प्रमथनपटुबुद्धिं श्रीजगत्देसिकेन्द्रं। दिरविडफणितिदक्षं दक्षिणाशानिषण्णं

कलशतनयमन्यं मन्यते मे मनस्त्वां॥

chulukitabhavasindhum chittajakrodhadaitya pramathanapaTubuddhim shrIjagatdesikendram | diraviDaphaNitidaksham dakshiNAshAniShaNNam kalashatanayamanyam manyate me manastvAm ||

#### **Meaning:**

shrIjagatdesikendram tvAm - O! Swami known as Pillai Lokacharyar

chulukita bhavasindhum - who makes the samsara ocean to be small like the little

amount of water used for achamanam,

chittajakrodhadaitya pramathana

paTubuddhim - who has the knowledge to kill the asura in the mind that is

anger, and

dakshiNA AshAniShaNNam - who lives in the southern direction.

me mana: - My mind manyate - thinks

anyam kalashatanayam - of you as another Agastya muni.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In this shloka, Vedanta Desikan says that he considers Pillai Loakcharyar in his mind as Agastya muni.

Lokacharya Panchasat Vyakhyana Saram – Ed. 1

Agastya used the ocean water as the water to perform achamanam (the water used for ritual purification). He digested and killed the asura Vatapi. He is proficient in the Tamil language (Tamil is known as Agastyam). He resides in the southern direction.

Pillai Lokacharyar reduces the samsara ocean to be the small quantity used in achamanam. He kills the terrible asura that is anger. He is proficient in the verses of Azhvars written in the Tamil language. He lives in Srirangam that is in the south.

Due to these, Swami Desikan considers Pillai Lokacharyar to be another Agastya.

### Shloka 25

श्रीवत्सरूपरुचिरोSप्यरतिः प्रिया ते

प्रीतिमधुद्विषि भवप्रभवा न भीतिः।

लोकावलीविमललोचनगोचराङ्गः

कृष्णात्मजस्त्वमपरः किमु मन्मथोऽसि॥

shrIvatsarUparuchiropyarati: priyA te

prItimadhudviShi bhavaprabhavA na bhIti: |

lokAvalIvimalalochanagocharA~Nga:

kR^iShNAtmajastvamapara: kimu manmathoSsi ||

#### **Meaning:**

api shrIvatsarUparuchira: asi - (O Lokacharya!) You have the form like that of Vishnu

and are therefore beautiful (like Manmatha).

tatApi - But

te priyA - your wife

arati: - is different from Rati devi.

te prIti: madhudviShi - you have affection for the enemy of Vasantarutu.

bhava prabhavA bhIti: - The fear of Shiva

na - is not there te - for you.

loka AvalI vimala lochana

gochara a~Nga: bhavasi - You have the form that is the target for the spotless eyes

of the crowds of people.

kR^iShNa Atmaja: tvam - You who are the son of Krishna (Vadakku Thiruveedhi

Pillai)

apara: manmatha: asi kimu - are like another Manmatha.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In this shloka, Vedanta Desikan is considering Pillai Lokacharyar as another Manmatha. Manmatha is the son of Krishna. Pillai Lokacharyar is the son of Vadakku Thiruveedhi

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Pillai whose name is also Krishna. Pillai Lokacharyar too has a beautiful form just like Manmatha.

However, there are also some key differences between the two. Manmatha's wife is Rati devi. Rati means the pleasure or love. Pillai Lokacharyar's affection goes to 'arati' - that is, he has distate and indifference toward worldly pleasures.

Manmatha has love for Vasantarutu which is also known as madhu. It is during the season of Vasanta that Manmatha incites desire in people. Lokacharyar has love for the enemy of the asura Madhu, which is Sriman Narayana.

Manmatha fears Shiva who is also known as Bhava:. Pillai Lokacharyar has no fear of samsara (also known as bhava:) as He is the devotee of Vishnu.

Manmatha's body was burned by Shiva and therefore no one can see him. Pillai Lokacharyar has the form that is visible to people whose eyes are virtuous to be able to see him.

### Shloka 26

दृष्ट्वा ते भुवनार्य सुन्दरवपुः केचित् भवाम्भोनिधिं

सन्तीर्णाः श्रवणामृतं तव गुणं श्रुत्वा सकृत् केचन।

अन्ये केSपि सुधासहोदरगिरः पीत्वाभवन्निर्मलाः

तस्मात् संसृतिवर्तनी क्शितितलेक्शीणा बभूव क्शणात्॥

dR^iShTvA te bhuvanArya sundaravapu: kechit bhavAmbhonidhim santIrNA: shravaNAmR^itam tava guNam shrutvA sakR^it kechana | anye kepi sudhAsahodaragira: pItvAbhavannirmalA: tasmAt samsR^itivartanI kshititalekshINA babhUva kshaNAt ||

#### **Meaning:**

he bhuvanArya - O! Lokacharya

dR^iShTvA - Seeing te - your

sundara vapu: - beautiful body

kechit - some

santIrNA: - have crossed bhava ambhonidhim - the samsara ocean.

kechana - Some others shrutvA - having heard

sakR^it - once

tava guNam - your divine qualities

shravaNa amR^itam - that are sweet to hear

bhavAmbhonidhim santIrNA: - have crossed the samsara ocean.

anye kepi - Others pItvA - drank te - your

sudhAsahodaragira: - nectar-like sweet Sri Suktis

nirmalA: abhavan - and became devoid of the impure.

tasmAt - Therefore
kshititale - in this world
samsR^iti vartanI - the path of samsara
kshINA babhUva - got destroyed
kshaNAt - in a moment.

### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Swami Desikan is stating in this shloka that Pillai Lokacharyar has destroyed the samsara ocean and gives moksha to everyone through the beauty of his divine body, his auspicious qualities and his Sri Suktis. Just as the Lord has provided several paths to moksha, so too Lokacharyar has provided several paths. We also see in this world, how a plantain tree provides many things through every part - such as the leaf, the fruit, the trunk, etc. Similarly, without difference Lokacharyar's divine body, his qualities and his speech all become reasons for the upliftment of the samsaris.

## Shloka 27

तव चरणसरोजस्पर्शधन्यस्तु कश्चित्

फणिपतिपुर बाह्योद्यान सीमानिवासी।

भुवनगुरुवर श्रीपद्मनाभस्य पादे

विलयमगमदारान्मानवैर्दृश्यमानः॥

tava charaNasarojasparshadhanyastu kashchit phaNipatipura bAhyodyAna sImAnivAsI | bhuvanaguruvara shrIpadmanAbhasya pAde vilayamagamadArAnmAnavairdR^ishyamAna: ||

Meaning:

bhuvanaguruvara - O! Pillai Lokacharya

tava charaNa saroja

sparshadhanya: - through the merit of the relationship with your divine

lotus feet,

ka: chit - Vilanjsolai Pillai

phaNipati pura bAhya

udyAna sImA nivAsI - who lived in the outskirts of Thiruvananthapuram,

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vilayam agamad ArAn - attained

shrI padmanAbhasya pAde - the divine feet of Padmanabha mAnavai: dR^ishyamAna: - while being watched by the people.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Vilanjsolai Pillai was one of the disciples of Pillai Lokacharyar. He was born in a low caste like Thiruppanazhvar and Maraneri Nambi. It was to Vilanjsolai Pillai and Koorakuloththama Dasar that Pillai Lokacharyar instructed to bring Thiruvaymozhi Pillai, then known as Srisailesa, into the Srivaishnava fold from his position as minister in the city of Madurai. Thiruvaymozhi Pillai also learned the meanings of Sri Vachana Bhushanam from Vilanjsolai Pillai at Thiruvananthapuram, as per the instruction of Koorakuloththama Dasar. When Vilanjsolai Pillai left this world there, Thiruvaymozhi Pillai performed final rites for him without worrying about caste - just like Periya Nambi did for Maraneri nambi.

Vilanjsolai Pillai wrote the work Saptha Kadhai which explains in seven pasurams the greatness of acharya vaibhavam.

Vedanta Desikan is saluting this disciple of Pillai Lokacharyar in this shloka. His ascension to His divine abode, at Thiruvananthapuram, is explained as being due to the relationship with the divine lotus feet of Pillai Lokacharyar. In the Srivaishnava sampradhayam, it is the relationship to the acharya's lotus feet that gets moksha to a Srivaishnava.

## Shloka 28

सञ्चीवनी चरणरेणुकणावली ते

संसारतक्षक मुखक्षत मुग्धजन्तोः।

लोकार्यवर्य करुणामृत सारणी तु

संविल्लतां कलयते हृदये प्ररूढां॥

sa~nchIvanI charaNareNukaNAvalI te samsAratakshaka mukhakshata mugdhajanto: | lokAryavarya karuNAmR^ita sAraNI tu samvillatAm kalayate hR^idaye prarUDhAm ||

## **Meaning:**

lokAryavarya - O! Lokacharya

tava charaNa reNu kaNa AvalI - a small portion of the dust from your divine feet

sa~nchIvanI - becomes the medicine that revives

kshata mugdha janto: - the being that fainted due to the wound caused by the bite

samsAra takshaka mukha - of the mouth of the snake that is samsara.

te karuNA amR^ita sAraNI tu - Your mercy that flows like a nectarine canal

prarUDhAm kalayate - grows

samvit latAm - the plant which is knowledge hR^idaye - in the heart (of devotees).

## Vyakhyana Saram:

Samsara has been described as a snake in our sampradhayam. It is the five headed snake that binds us through the five senses. Our acharyas have also described our body as a snake. When Anandazhvan was bit by a snake in his garden in Thirumalai, he remarked that one snake had bit another and waited to see which snake was stronger. Swami Desikan states that this snake has bit the beings of this world and they are collapsed due to that. Their revival and crossing of this ocean is faciliated by the mere dust off the divine feet of Pillai Lokacharyar.

His mercy flows like a river of nectar and through his Sri Suktis he grows the plant of knowledge in the hearts of devotees and leads them to liberation.

## Shloka 29

शिष्येषु वाग्भूषणभूषितेषु

जगद्गरों ते करुणाSभिषेकात्।

स कूरवम्शोत्तम दासनामा

मान्यो गुरुणामभवन्महिम्ना॥

shiShyeShu vAgbhUShaNabhUShiteShu jagadguro te karuNASbhiShekAt | sa kUravamshottama dAsanAmA mAnyo guruNAmabhavanmahimnA ||

#### **Meaning:**

jagadguro - O! Lokacharya.

shiShyeShu - Amongst your disciples that are

vAgbhUShaNa bhUShiteShu - decorated by Sri Vachana Bhushanam (well versed in Sri

Vachana Bhushanam)

sa: kUravamsha uttama

dAsanAmA - the celebrated disciple known as Kurakulottamadasar,

mahimnA - by his greatness

abhavat - became

mAnya: - worthy of being honored

gurUNAm - by acharyas,

te karuNA abhiShekAt - as he was submerged in your grace.

## Vyakhyana Saram:

Kurakuloththama Dasar was one of the primary disciples of Pillai Lokacharyar. Yatindra Pravana Prabahavam states that he along with other select disciples spent their time entirely in the service of Pillai Lokacharyar. When Pillai Lokacharyar was in the final stages of his life in this world, he told Kurakuloththama Dasar and Vilanjsolai Pillai about Thirumalaiyazhvar (also known as Srisailesar) who was in the services of the king at Madurai, and told them to bring him back into the Srivaishnava fold. Just as Alavandar asked his disciples to teach Ramanuja the various rahasyas and meanings, so too Pillai Lokacharyar told his disciples to teach Srisailesar the various meanings.

Of this, Kurakuloththama Dasar was instructed to teach Srisailesar the meanings of the work Sri Vachana Bhushanam. Similar to Manakkal Nambi rescuing Alavandar from royal matters into the sampradhayam, Kurakuloththama Dasar rescued Srisailesar from the king's court. He then taught him Sri Vachana Bhushanam and its inner meanings. In the Rahasya grantha acharya paramparai, Kurakuloththama Dasar comes after Pillai Lokacharyar.

Swami Desikan is saluting this great acharya in this shloka. As he was well versed in Sri Vachana Bhushanam and taught that to Srisailesar, he talks about that also in this shloka. He states that Kurakuloththama Dasar attained that knowledge and the honors that followed it, due to the fact that he was near and dear to Pillai Lokacharyar and was submerged in the flood of grace that flowed from Pillai Lokacharyar.

#### Shloka 30

रूपं पुराणमणिभिः श्वतिवज्रदीप्तं पद्मापतेर्मुनिजनस्तदलञ्चकार। तत्र त्वया विरचितं तु मणिप्रवाल

वाग्भूषणं हि नितरां भुवनार्य भाति॥

rUpam purANamaNibhi: shR^itivajradIptam padmApatermunijanastadala~nchakAra | tatra tvayA virachitam tu maNipravAla vAgbhUShaNam hi nitarAm bhuvanArya bhAti ||

**Meaning:** 

bhuvanArya - O! Lokacharya.

munijana: - Rishis such as Parasara and Vyasa

purANa maNibhi: - with the purana jewels such as Vishnu Puranam and

Mahabharatam,

ala~nchakAra - decorated

tatrUpam - the celebrated divine body of

padmApate: - Sriman Narayana

shruti vajra dIptam - that is illuminated by the diamond like Vedas.

tatra - In that divine body

maNipravAla vAgbhUShaNam

tu - Sri Vachana Bhushanam written in maNi pravALAm (a

mixture of Sanskrit and Tamil - gems and corals)

virachitam - authored tvayA - by you

nitarAm bhAti hi - is shining very brightly.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In this shloka, Vedanta Desikan says that the Lord's divine and delicate body is protected by the Vedas that form a very hard (hard as a diamond) armor. And on that armor, the puranas are the garlands made of gems - puranas such as Sri Vishnu Puranam authored by Parasara maharishi and Mahabharatam authored by Vyasa maharishi.

However, Swami Desikan says, more than the diamond like armor and the garland made of gems, it is Sri Vachana Bhushanam authored by Pillai Lokacharyar, that is made of precious stones (Sanskrit words) and corals (Tamil words), that especially illuminates His divine body.

## Shloka 31

कामं भवन्तु गुरवो विविधागमार्थ

विज्ञानविश्वविदिताः विहितप्रबन्धाः।

त्वत्सूक्तिमौक्तिकगणो यदलञ्चकार

रङ्गाधिपश्चतियुगं भुवनार्य किम् तैः॥

kAmam bhavantu guravo vividhAgamArtha viGYAnavishvaviditA: vihitaprabandhA: |

tvatsUktimauktikagaNo yadala~nchakAra

ra~NgAdhipashrutiyugam bhuvanArya kim tai: ||

#### **Meaning:**

bhuvanArya - O! Lokacharya.

gurava: - Acharyas

vividha Agama artha

viGYAna - who well understood the meanings of the various Vedas

vishva viditA:

- become celebrated in this world
vihita prabandhA:

- and have authored many works.

kAmam bhavantu - Let them be.

tvatsUkti mauktika gaNa: - Because the multitude of pearls that are your Sri Suktis

ala~nchakAra yat - have decorated

ra~NgAdhipa shrutiyugam - the two ears of Sri Ranganatha,

tai: kim - what do we need from the other acharyas?

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

This shloka might appear at first hand to be speaking lowly of other acharyas. However, by the principle that words of acharyas and elders are meant to praise one thing or person but not put down another (nahi nindA nyAyam), this shloka is simply meant to praise the great Sri Suktis of Pillai Lokacharyar.

Swami Desikan is stating that the rahasya granthas of Lokacharyar are the ornaments worn by Sri Ranganatha (similar to what was expressed in the previous shloka) and that these are sufficient for the chetanas that seek libreation from the ocean of samsara.

### Shloka 32

श्रुतिनिकरगभीर काननान्तर्

विहरण विश्रुत बुद्धिना त्वयैव।

प्रपदनसरणिर्विशोधिताSभूत्

भुवनगुरो भुवि लोकसाधनीया॥

shrutinikaragabhIra kAnanAntar viharaNa vishruta buddhinA tvayaiva | prapadanasaraNirvishodhitASbhUt bhuvanaguro bhuvi lokasAdhanIyA ||

### **Meaning:**

bhuvanaguro - O! Lokacharya. tvayaiva - Only by You

viharaNa vishruta buddhinA - who has the knowledge due to wandering

shruti nikara gabhIra

kAnana antar: - inside the dense forest of Vedas, prapadana saraNi: - the path to liberation called Prapatti

abhUt - became vishodhitA - cleared

loka sAdhanIyA - and capable of being followed even by ordinary people,

bhuvi - in this world.

## Vyakhyana Saram:

Vedas are a dense forest and it is easy for someone to get lost in them and lose direction. Only the great acharyas can walk through that forest and shed light on the correct path to

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the common people. Vedanta Desikan is saluting Pillai Lokacharyar for doing that and showing the path of prapatti such that even the ordinary person can walk through it.

In his work Sri Vachana Bhushanam, Pillai Lokacharyar says that any one can perform prapatti at any place, at any time and for any reason. The only condition is to whom it is performed. Through such churnais, Pillai Lokacharyar has cleared this path and made it available to everyone.

#### Shloka 33

त्विय विलसित रङ्गे शेषतल्पेन पुम्सा जगित गुरुवर श्रीदृष्टिपूराभिषिक्ते। कथिमव भुवनार्य त्वां विनान्यं भजन्ते सित दिनकरिबम्बे के प्रदीपं वहन्ति॥

tvayi vilasati ra~Nge sheShatalpena pumsA jagati guruvara shrIdR^iShTipUrAbhiShikte | kathamiva bhuvanArya tvAm vinAnyam bhajante sati dinakarabimbe ke pradIpam vahanti ||

### **Meaning:**

bhuvanArya guruvara - O Lokacharya who is best amongst acharyas.

tvayi vilasati - When you are shining

ra~Nge - in Srirangam,

shrIdR^iShTipUra abhiShikte - washed by the merciful flood from the eyes sheShatalpena pumsA - of the Lord who rests on the bed of Adisesha,

tvAm vinA - leaving you

kathamiva (janA:) bhajante - how will (people) seek

anyam - another?

dinakarabimbe sati - When Sunlight is there ke pradIpam vahanti - will anyone carry a lamp?

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In this shloka, Vedanta Desikan states that Pillai Lokacharyar is like a Sun compared to others. Again, this is not to put down other acharyas, but to praise Lokacharyar ("nahi nindA nyAya"). In our sampradhayam, our Azhvars and Acharyas have been called the Sun, because, just as the Sun removes the external darkness, they were born and removed the internal darkness. Azhvar is called "vakuLa bhUShaNa bhAskara"; Thirumangai Azhvar is called "loka divAkara"; Ramanuja is called "rAmAnuja divAkara:". Swami Desikan says that with this Sun present, why seek anyone else?

#### Shloka 34

अवनसवनकर्मण्यात्मलोकस्य रङ्गी

भुवनगुरुवर त्वां कल्पयित्वा समर्थं।

तदनु भुजगराजोत्तुङ्ग पर्यङ्कशायी

रचयति सुखनिद्रां रघवाणां कुलेन्द्रः॥

avanasavanakarmaNyAtmalokasya ra~NgI bhuvanaguruvara tvAm kalpayitvA samartham | tadanu bhujagarAjottu~Nga parya~NkashAyI rachayati sukhanidrAm raghavANAm kulendra: ||

#### **Meaning:**

bhuvanaguruvara - O! LOkacharya. ra~NgI - Sri Ranganatha

raghavANAm kula indra: - who is the family deity for the Raghu lineage of kings

samartham - being competent

avana savana karmaNi - in the big act of saving the

Atma lokasya - multitude of jIvas tvAm kalpayitvA - conceived of you;

tadanu - after that rachayati - He does

sukha nidrAm - the act of resting comfortably (without thought)

bhujagarAja uttu~Nga

parya~Nka shAyI - on the lofty bed of Adisesha.

#### Vvakhvana Saram:

Sriman Narayana gave the chetanas their bodies and senses so that they can surrender to Him and attain His divine abode. Through the rishis, He gave the Sastras so that they can gain the appropriate knowledge. Throuh Nara, Periya Pirattiyar and Arjuna, He gave the Rahasy Trayam. He also descended as various avataras and through instruction and performance explained the same. As this did not bear fruit, He brought forth the Azhvars - to have chetanas follow other chetanas like themselves and reach Him. That did not work either. Azhvars sang pasurams about Him, but did not explain all the meanings of those pasurams to the common people. To explain those meanings and additional meanings, He sent forth the acharyas starting with Nathamunigal.

The early acharyas spoke mostly in the Sanskrit language. Ramanuja wrote his works in Sanskrit as well, but he also instructed his disciples and their disciples to explain all the critical meanings of the sampradhayam to everyone who is interested in the easily understood (at that time) language of maNi pravALam (a mixture of Sanskrit and Tamil).

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Pillai Lokacharyar wrote the ashtadasa rahasyas - 18 granthas in maNi pravaLam explaining these wonderful meanings, such that many people were able to understand and follow them and attain liberation.

Swami Desikan is stating in this shloka that because of this, Sri Ranganatha's work is being taken care of and He is able to rest comfortably on His bed of Adisesha.

### Shloka 35

परपदनिलयोSसौ पद्मया रङ्गनाथः

पुलिनतटमवाप्य त्वां भुवम्चापयित्वा।

चिरमभिलक्शितार्थं प्राप्य लोकार्य मन्ये

कलयति दरहासं फुल्लवऋारविन्दः॥

parapadanilayo**S**sau padmayA ra~NganAtha: pulinataTamavApya tvAm bhuvamchApayitvA | chiramabhilakshitArtham prApya lokArya manye kalayati darahAsam phullavaktrAravinda: ||

### Meaning:

lokArya - O! Lokacharya. asau ra~NganAtha: - That Ranganatha

parapada nilaya: - who has Paramapadam (Sri Vaikuntham) as His place

padmayA - together with Sri Mahalakshmi

avApya - reached

pulinataTam - the sandy banks (of Kaveri). bhuvam ApayitvA - He brought forth in this world

tvAm cha - you as well.

prApya - Attaining (therefore)

chiram abhilakshita artham - the task wished for a long time (of saving chetanas), phulla vaktra aravinda: - with the divine face like that of a blossomed lotus

darahAsam kalayati - (He) smiles, manye - I think.

### Vyakhyana Saram:

Sri Ranganatha is resting in the banks of Kaveri river at Srirangam for one purpose - to save all the chetanas and lift them from this samsara to His divine abode. Until He completes that, He will not leave from there. However, His task is immense - to catch the chetanas who try to slip away in every possible manner. So, how could He close His divine eyes and truly rest or have a smile on His divine lips?

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Swami Desikan states that He is able to do both now because He has brought forth into this world Pillai Lokacharyar, who with his divine Sri Suktis is correcting many chetanas and leading them to the Lord. They are now attaining good things in this world and reaching His abode. Vedanta Desikan says that because of that He is now able to close His divine eyes and have a smile on His divine lips.

# Shloka 36

बहुविधदुरितौघे मज्जतां मानवानां

द्वयमनुकरयुग्मं सम्प्रसार्याञ्जसा तान्।

तटभुवमुपनीय प्रापिताशेषविद्यान्

कलयसिभुवनार्य त्वं कृपाचोदितात्मा॥

bahuvidhaduritaughe majjatAm mAnavAnAm dvayamanukarayugmam samprasAryA~njasA tAn | taTabhuvamupanIya prApitAsheShavidyAn kalayasibhuvanArya tvam kR^ipAchoditAtmA ||

# **Meaning:**

bhuvanArya - O! Lokacharya.

kR^ipA chodita AtmA - Having the mind that is driven by mercy

tvam - you samprasArya - reach out

dvaya manukara yugmam - with a pair of divine hands which is Dvayam bahuvidha durita oghe - into the many types of floods of sin in which

mAnavAnAm - people

majjatAm - are drowning - and immediately tAn taTabhuvam upanIya - take them to the banks

kalayasi - and make them prApita asheSha vidyAn - attain all knowledge.

#### Vyakhyana Saram:

Dvaya mahamantram is capable of pulling the chetana out of the samsara ocean and take them ashore. If a person is barely drowning, someone can pull them out with one hand. If the same person is deeply submerged then the rescuer has to reach in with both hands stretched and pull them out. Here, Vedanta Desikan is stating that Pillai Lokacharyar's divine hands are Dvayam, with its two parts. Reaching the banks means that the chetana will cross the Viraja river and reach the banks of paramapadam.

Dvayopanishad states that if Dvayam is said once it saves a person from the ocean of samsara; at the moment of recitation, sins accumulated through seven births is destroyed;

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and that the person reciting Dvayam becomes the target of affection of Sriman Narayana. This shows the greatness of Dvayam.

Pillai Lokacharyar gives us the grand meanings of this mantra ratnam to us through his many divine Sri Suktis and through that imparts all knowledge.

# Shloka 37

वक्रेन्दोर्भुवनार्यवर्य भवतो वाणी सुधाधोदोरणी

जज्ञेS ष्टादशभेदपूर विहितत्राणात्मसस्या यतः।

एषा सम्सृतिभूरभूत् फलवती तस्मान्नदीमातृका

कृष्णाम्भोदविलोकिनी किल पुरा न प्राप वृद्धिं परां॥

vaktrendorbhuvanAryavarya bhavato vANI sudhAdhodoraNI jaGYeSShTAdashabhedapUra vihitatrANAtmasasyA yata: | eShA samsR^itibhUrabhUt phalavatI tasmAnnadImAtR^ikA kR^iShNAmbhodavilokinI kila purA na prApa vR^iddhim parAm ||

### **Meaning:**

he bhuvanArya varya - O! Lokacharya.

bhavata: vaktra indo: - From your moon like divine face

sudhAdhodoraNI - (how) the nectar flood of

vANI - Sri Suktis yata: jaGYe - was formed, tasmAt - through that,

eShA samsR^iti bhU: - this world of samsara

nadI mAtR^ikA - based on the water of that river itself aShTAdashabheda pUra - flowing through the 18 outlets, vihitatrANa Atma sasyA satI - has the saved souls in the fields

phalavatI abhUt - and became useful. eShA samsR^iti bhU: - This world of samsara

na prApa kila - did not attain parAm vR^iddhim - great growth

kR^iShNa ambhoda vilokinI - expecting (the water from) the dark cloud that is Krishna

purA - before.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

The land that is waiting for water from the rains is called deva mAtrukam, while the land that is expecting water from the rivers is called nadI mAtrukam. When this world was waiting for the water from the dark cloud that is Krishna, it was the former. The souls that are in the fields of this world were therefore dried up. However, Vedanta Desikan says, when the flood of Sri Suktis flowed from the divine face of Pillai Lokacharyar, this

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world became nadI mAtrukam. The ensuing river of mercy came out through 18 outlets (the ashtadasa rahasya granthas) and enriched the fields, thereby saving the souls in them.

Through his Sri Suktis these souls gathered the right knowledge and with the lamp lit by Pillai Lokacharyar in their minds, they attained liberation. The world therefore became useful only by the Sri Suktis of Pillai Lokacharyar, says Swami Desikan.

### Shloka 38

क्रोधः कापि पयोनिधौ निपतितः कामस्त्वनङ्गोSभवत्

दर्पः सर्प इव दृतं वनिबले मग्नो न दृग्गो चरः।

दम्भाहङ्कतिलोभमत्सरभटाः कुत्रापि कोणे गताः

जाते भूमितले विवेकमहिते लोकार्यवर्य त्विय॥

krodha: kvApi payonidhau nipatita: kAmastvana~NgoSbhavat darpa: sarpa iva dR^itam vanabile magno na dR^iggo chara: | dambhAha~NkR^itilobhamatsarabhaTA: kutrApi koNe gatA: jAte bhUmitale vivekamahite lokAryavarya tvayi ||

### **Meaning:**

lokAryavarya - O! Lokacharya.

tvayi - You,

viveka mahite - who were worshipped by common sense,

jAtesati - as soon as appeared bhUmitale - in this world

ana~Nga abhavat - had its body destroyed;

darpa: - Arrogance
dR^itam - went fast
sarpa: iva - like a snake
magna: - and hiding

vanabile - in a hole in the forest

dR^iggo na chara: - disappeared.

dambha aha~NkR^iti lobha

matsarabhaTA: - Hypocrisy, ego and greed that are the servants of anger,

passion etc

gatA: - went and hid kutrApi koNe - into some corner.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Swami Desikan is stating in this shloka that after the appearance of Pillai Lokacharyar in this world, the base qualities of tamas and rajas that lead to anger, passion, arrogance etc left the people and disappeared. Through instruction and through his granthas, he developed sattva qualities in their minds. As knowledge and devotion grew in their minds, the baser qualities disappeared, says Vedanta Desikan.

#### Shloka 39

दया मुदमुपागमत् दमशमक्षमा भूषिताः

विरक्तिरपिशोभते विमलविद्यया 🗷 लङ्कता।

मुह्स्सुमतिसम्स्कृता लसति विष्णुभक्तिर्गुणाः

विवेकजनकं जगद्गरुमुपाश्रिता भान्त्यमी॥

dayA mudamupAgamat damashamakshamA bhUShitA: viraktirapishobhate vimalavidyayAla~NkR^itA | muhussumatisamskR^itA lasati viShNubhaktirguNA: vivekajanakam jagadgurumupAshritA bhAntyamI ||

### Meaning:

dayA - Mercy upAgamat - attained mudam - happiness.

shama dama kshamA: - Control of the senses, modesty and patience

bhUShitA: - became decorated.

- Indifference to lowly things viraktirapi

ala~NkR^itA - that is decorated

- by the spotless knowledge vimala vidyayA

shobhate - shined.

viShNu bhakti: - Devotion to Sriman Narayana

muhu: sumati samskR^itA - that is frequently matured by good knowledge

- is present. lasati amI guNA: - These qualities - have attained upAshritA: santa: jagat gurum - Lokachariar,

viveka janakam - who creates common sense and knowledge,

bhAnti - and are present.

### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Mercy is the quality of feeling empathy on seeing someone else's difficulty. Virakti is the quality of indifference toward things that are not worthy of being sought (that is, seeking

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only Him). Vidya is the true knowledge. Bhakti is devotion to Sriman Narayana and His devotees.

Swami Desikan is stating in this shloka that all these qualities were formed with Pillai Lokachariar.

#### Shloka 40

जगद्गुरुवरानिशं चरणसम्भृता भूसुराः

मुमुक्षुजनशेकरास्त्वित न चित्रमत्रावनौ॥

विविच्य चिदचित्प्रभूम्स्तव कृपाञ्जनोध्यदृशा

निवृत्तिपथगामिनी सपदि भामिनी का Zप्यभूत्॥

jagadguruvarAnisham charaNasambhR^itA bhUsurA: mumukshujanashekarAstviti na chitramatrAvanau || vivichya chidachitprabhUmstava kR^ipA~njanodhyadR^ishA nivR^ittipathagAminI sapadi bhAminI kAZpyabhUt ||

## **Meaning:**

jagadguruvara - O! Lokacharya. bhUsurAstu - (That the) Brahmins anisham - who are always

tava charaNa sambhR^itA - taken care of by your divine feet

mumukshujana shekarA: iti - are respected amongst those seeking liberation

atra avanau - in this world, na chitram - is not unusual. kApi bhAminI - A woman vivichya - understood

chit achit prabhUn - the three tattvas of achit, chit and Ishvara

tava kR^ipA a~njana

udhyat dR^ishA - through the inner eye made brighter by the anoinment of

your mercy

sa padi - and immediately

nivR^ittipatha gAminI abhUt - attained the path of liberation (this is the unusual thing).

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Swami Desikan states in this shloka that it is a common thing for Vaidikas to seek the divine feet of Pillai Lokacharyar and become mumukshus. Thorugh his granthas such as Mumukshuppadi, he makes them understand the Tattva Trayam (Achit, Chit and Ishvara) and sets them in the path of seeking moksha. There is nothing unusual about that.

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However, he is pointing out an episode here, where a woman approaching Swami Lokacharyar, becoming the target of his mercy and attaining the knowledge of Tattva Trayam (a cornerstone of the sampradhayam). With that knowledge, she is immediately set in the path of liberation.

It is not clear who this lady was. From, Yatindra Pravan Prabahavam, it is known that there were several ladies such as the mother of Thirumalaiyazhvar (Thiruvaymozhi Pillai) who had surrendered at the divine feet of Lokacharyar. It could have been one of these women that is mentioned in this shloka.

## Shloka 41

चतुर्वदनसुन्दरी तव मुखारविन्दं श्रिता

रमापतिपदप्रिया लसति का∠िप भक्तिईदि।

विरक्तिरपि शोभते विदितनीलकण्ठाङ्गगा

वधूविमुखम् आः कथं भुवनदेशिकत्वां जगुः॥

chaturvadanasundarI tava mukhAravindam shritA ramApatipadapriyA lasati kAZpi bhaktirhR^idi | viraktirapi shobhate viditanIlakaNThA~NgagA vadhUvimukham A: katham bhuvandeshikatvAm jagu: ||

#### **Meaning:**

he bhuvana deshika - O! Lokacharya.

chaturvadana sundarI - Brahma's beautiful wife Sarasvati

shritA - has reached

tava - your

mukha aravindam - lotus like face. kApi - Unparalleled

bhakti: - devotion (who is like Sridevi)

ramApati pada priyA - who loves the divine feet of Sriman Narayana

lasati - resides hR^di - in your mind.

virakti api - Indifference to worldly things (who is like Parvati) vidita nIlakaNTha a~NgagA - who attained the body of the well known Shiva

(Nilakanta)

shobate - shines with you. katham - (Yet) How is it jagu: - that elders have said

tvAm - that you are

vadhU mukham - one who turns his face away from women.

A: - A surprise indeed.

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#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Swami Desikan says that the three women who are knowledge, devotion and freedom from worldly attachment have reached the tongue, mind and body of Pillai Lokacharyar. Yet, Pillai Lokacharyar is known as one who never even looked at a woman - a naishtika brahmachari, in this world. This is a play on the concept of using a feminine gender for the qualities of vidyA, bhakti and virakti in Sanskrit. Even though they are mentioned as feminine, that only applies to the word and not to the meaning of the word. The meanings of these words - which are the actual qualities exhibited by Pillai Lokacharyar - are not feminine and therefore do not truly affect his brahmacharya status.

Sarasvati resides in the tongue of Brahma; Sridevi seeks the divine feet of Sriman Narayana; Parvati resides within the body of Shiva. Therefore, in this shloka, Vedanta Desikan associates knowledge with Lokacharyar's face, devotion with his mind and indifference with his body.

#### Shloka 42

जगद्गुरुवर क्षितौ क्षपितकल्मषौघां कलां

चतुर्थपुरुषार्थदामपि कलौ वितत्य त्वि।

कृतवतरणे पुनः कृतयुगक्रमः शोभते

न को Zिप भुवि दृष्यते नरकवर्तमगामी नरः॥

jagadguruvara kshitau kshapitakalmaShaughAm kalAm chaturthapuruShArthadAmapi kalau vitatya tvayi | kR^itavataraNe puna: kR^itayugakrama: shobhate na koZpi bhuvi dR^iShyate narakavartamagAmI nara: ||

### **Meaning:**

jagadguruvara - O! Lokacharya. tvayi kR^itavataraNe - After you were born

kshitau - in this world kalau - in the Kali yuga

vitatya - and spread in a special way kalAm - the knowledge of the Sastras

kshapita kalmaSha oghAm - which removes the collections of sins

chaturtha puruShArthadAm api - and gives moksha which is the fourth purushartha,

kR^ita yuga krama: - the way of the Kruta yuga

puna: - was again shobate - established. bhuvi - In this world

kopi nara: - a man

narakavartama gAmI - going in the path to Naraka

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na dR^iShyate - is not seen (any more).

#### Vyakhyana Saram:

Swami Desikan is saying that after the birth of Pillai Lokacharyar in this world, he provided the inner knowledge of the sastras - that is, the meanings of Rahasya Trayam, Tattva Trayam and Artha Panchakam to everyone through his divine granthas and because of this, everyone is now reaching His divine abode and no one is going to Naraka. Therefore, even though this is the Kali yuga, it appears as if Kruta yuga has returned.

Nammazhvar said: "kaliyum kedum kaNdu koNmin .. naliyum naragamum naindha namanukku ingku yAdhonRum illai" (Thiruvaymozhi 5-2-1). This was Azhvar foreseeing the arrival of Ramanuja (Bhavishyadacharya) and the fact that Kali yuga would lose its power due to that. Vedanta Desikan is stating that after the arrival of Pillai Lokacharyar, Kali yuga was once again foiled.

Azhvar also said "thiriyum kali yugam nIngkith dhEvargaL thAmum pugundhu periya kidha yugam paRRip pErinba veLLam peruga" (Thiruvaymozhi 5-2-3). Swami Desikan is saying the same about Pillai Lokacharyar - that after his presence in this world, it appears that Kali yuga has been replaced by Kruta yuga.

## Shloka 43

हृदन्तरतमः प्रभामनुभवन्ति भक्तिं परे
प्रपत्तिमपि केचन प्रबलकर्मनिर्मूलिनीं।
जगद्गुरुवर द्वयं भवतु सिद्धिदं साधनं
वयं तव पदाम्बुज स्मरणमेव मन्यामहे॥

hR^idantaratama: prabhAmanubhavanti bhaktim pare prapattimapi kechana prabalakarmanirmUlinIm | jagadguruvara dvayam bhavatu siddhidam sAdhanam vayam tava padAmbuja smaraNameva manyAmahe ||

#### **Meaning:**

jagadguruvara - O! Lokacharya.

pare - Others anubhavanti - understand

bhaktim - devotion to the Lord

hR^id antara tama: prabhAm - as the light that removes the darkness of the mind.

kechana - Some anubhavanti - understand

prapattimapi - surrendering to the Lord

prabalakarma nirmUlinIm - as removing the strong sins completely.

bhavatu - Let it be

dvayam - that both of these

sAdhanam - means

siddhidam - accomplish the above said tasks.

vayam - We

manyAmahe - determine that

tava padAmbuja smaraNam eva - meditating on your divine feet alone

siddhidam sAdhanam - as the means that removes both ignorance and sins.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

There are many who say that Bhakti and Prapatti both are the appropriate means to destroy ignorance and the karmas and elevate the soul to liberation. This is not false. However, for us, the highest and surest path to moksha is the surrender to an acharya (panchamopAyam). It is this that is mentioned by Pillai Lokacharyar as "AchArya abhimAnamE uththArakam" and "bhakthiyil asakthanukku prapaththi; prapaththiyil asakthanukku idhu".

And Swami Desikan follows that by saying in this shloka that it is the divine feet of Pillai Lokacharyar that is our means to moksha.

### Shloka 44

गुरुर्भवति देहिनां भुवन्देशिकस्यादरात्

अपाङ्गलवविप्रुषः परिपतन्ति यस्याङ्गके।

शुभानि किल तं भजन्त्यथ कला समुज्जृम्भते

भवन्ति नवसम्पदो भजित मोक्षलक्ष्मीः स्वयं॥

gururbhavati dehinAm bhuvanadeshikasyAdarAt apA~NgalavavipruSha: paripatanti yasyA~Ngake | shubhAni kila tam bhajantyatha kalA samujjR^imbhate

bhavanti navasampado bhajati mokshalakshmI: svayam ||

#### **Meaning:**

yasya a~Ngake - On whose body

apA~Ngalava vipruSha: - the small waves in the river of grace from the eyes

bhuvandeshikasya - of Lokacharya

paripatanti - fall

AdarAt - with desire,

sa: - he

guru: bhavati - becomes an acharya

dehinAm - to the people.

tam - To him

shubhAni - (does not) auspiciousness

bhajanti kila - come and reach?

(tasmin - In him, the Sastric knowledge)

samujjR^imbhate - grows greatly; nava sampada: - New wealth bhavanti - happens.

mokshalakshmI: - The wealth that is moksha,

svayam - by itself tam bhajati - reaches him.

### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

It was said by Swami Desikan in the previous shloka that seeking the divine feet of Pillai Lokacharyar would remove all sins and ignorance in the minds of people. In this shloka, he adds that not only will his divine feet remove sins (pApa prakruti sambandha nivrutti), it will also add great auspiciousness and divine knowledge to the people who are the target of his grace. As these grow, the supreme wealth that is moksha will automatically attain them.

## Shloka 45

शृणोमि यदि वैदिकान् मखविधीन् जगद्देशिक

प्रकृष्टजनसेवितान् अहह मे मनः कम्पते।

अहेतुकद्यारसैरवति दीनजीवान् मुदा

रमापतिरिति त्वया रचितसूक्तिभिर्मोदते॥

shR^iNomi yadi vaidikAn makhavidhIn jagaddeshika prakR^iShTajanasevitAn ahaha me mana: kampate | ahetukadayArasairavati dInajIvAn mudA ramApatiriti tvayA rachitasUktibhirmodate ||

#### **Meaning:**

jagaddeshika - O! Lokacharya. yadi shR^iNomi - If I listen

vaidikAn makhavidhIn - to the acts said in the Vedas

prakR^iShTajanasevitAn - that are followed by the people who are great in

knowledge and power,

me manaL - my mind kampate - shudders. ahaha - Ah!

ramApati: - Sriman Narayana avati - saves (gives moksha)

mudA - with happiness

dInajIvAn - the poor souls that have nothing to do with the means

such as Karma yoga

ahetuka dayArasai: - with the grace that flows without expecting anything.

rachita sUktibhi: - Through the divine Srisuktis

tvayA - (authored) by you iti - (that say) thus me mana: - my mind

modate - becomes happy.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Those who desire to attain moksha through bhakti yoga have to do karma yoga first. As part of the karma yoga, they have to perform yagas and other acts. Swami Desikan says that his mind shudders upon hearing that. This is due to the fact that we have no strength to follow these strict rituals. Upon hearing the Srisuktis of Pillai Lokacharyar (such as Sri Vachana Bhushanam) that clearly delineate that Sriman Narayana gives moksha to us without desiring anything in return (nirhetuka krupa), Vedanta Desikan says that his fear was removed and his mind became happy.

## Shloka 46

आचक्रवालमवनौ भुवनार्य सर्वे

शम्सन्ति मङ्गळगुणान् विबुधप्रियाम्सते।

तेषु त्वदीय करुणां प्रगुणां तु मन्ये

रक्शां यया कलयसे भवभीतजन्तोः॥

AchakravAlamavanau bhuvanArya sarve shamsanti ma~NgaLaguNAn vibudhapriyAmsate | teShu tvadIya karuNAm praguNAm tu manye rakshAm yayA kalayase bhavabhItajanto: ||

Meaning:

bhuvanArya - O! Lokacharya.

sarve - All

avanau - those who live in this world

AchakravAlam - up to the mountain range called Chakravala that surrounds

the earth,

shamsanti - celebrate te - your

ma~NgaLa guNAn - auspicious qualities

vibudha priyAn - that are loved by the learned. teShu - Amongst those qualities,

yayA - by the quality

kalayase - with which you give

rakshAm - protection (by giving moksha) bhava bhIta janto: - to the people who fear samsara,

manye - I consider

tAm tvadIya karuNAm tu - that compassion of yours, raguNAm - as the highest quality.

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Swami Desikan celebrates the auspicious qualities of Pillai Lokacharyar. He says that, even though, Lokacharyar has many great qualities, it is that special quality of compassion to his fellow beings that shines the most. This is similar to celebrating the quality of vAtsalyam the most in Lord Srinivasa.

Vedanta Desikan is saying that it is this quality that led Lokacharyar to present the great meanings of the sampradhayam - such as the Lord's nirhetuka krupa - openly and in an easy form through his granthas to everyone; thereby removing their fear of samsara.

### Shloka 47

सुकृतलवविहीनं शुद्धभावैर्विमुक्तं

दुरितशतनिकेतं दूरयातं दयायाः।

पुनरपि जनमेनं वीक्शसे रक्शितुं त्वं

भुवनगुरुरसीत्थं को Zिप वात्सत्यसिन्धुः॥

sukR^italavavihInam shuddhabhAvairvimuktam duritashataniketam dUrayAtam dayAyA: | punarapi janamenam vIkshase rakshitum tvam bhuvanagururasIttham ko**Z**pi vAtsalyasindhu: ||

#### **Meaning:**

O! Lokacharya.

tvam - You punarapi - again

rakshitum vIkshase - try to protect

enamianam - me,

sukR^italava vihInam - who does not possess any good deeds,

duritashata niketam - who is the home for many sins,

shuddhabhAvai: vimuktam - who has been given up by good thoughts,

dayAyA: - and who leaves your grace

dUrayAtam - and goes far away. ittam - This way, (you who are)

kopi - an unparalleled vAtsalya sindhu: - ocean of compassion

bhuvanaguru: asi - become the acharya for this world.

### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In this shloka, Swami Desikan celebrates the quality of compassion in Pillai Lokacharyar. He states that he possessed no good deeds and was the home for all bad deeds. Due to that he did not seek Pillai Lokacharyar and instead went far away from him. However, due to his great vAtsalyam which is literally an ocean (similar to Namperumal calling Manavala Mamunigal an ocean of good qualities "guNa arNavam"), Lokacharyar ignores that behaviour. Again and again, without waiting for anyone, he comes himself and protects. This is what Madhurakavi Azhvar said about Nammazhvar in his pasuram as "payan anRAgilum paNgu allar Agilum seyal nanRAgath thirththi paNi koLvAn". It is due to this quality that he is the acharya for this world (lokAcharya) and not just to a few disciples.

### Shloka 48

विमतकुमतिपीडा मानसे सम्प्ररूडा

दृडममुमिह जीवं कृन्तित कूरवृत्तया।

अमृतरससखीभिस्तां निवार्याशु दृग्भिः

विरचय विधिशक्तं श्रीजगद्देशिकेन्द्रः॥

vimatakumatipIDA mAnase samprarUDA dR^iDamamumiha jIvam kR^intati krUravR^ittayA | amR^itarasasakhIbhistAm nivAryAshu dR^igbhi: virachaya vidhishaktam shrIjagaddeshikendra: ||

#### **Meaning:**

shrI jagaddeshikendra: - O! Lokacharya.

vimata kumati pIDA - The suffering caused by lowly thoughts

mAnase - in the mind

samprarUDA - come forth and gain root krUravR^ittayA - and through cruel acts

amum jIvam kR^intati - cuts me down. dR^igbhi: - With the vision

amR^itarasa sakhIbhi: - that flows like a flood of nectar

(you should)

Ashu - quickly

tAm nivArya - stop the lowly acts born out of those thoughts

virachaya - and have to make (me)

vidhishaktam get the strength to do good acts.

Lokacharya Panchasat Vyakhyana Saram – Ed. 1

### Vyakhyana Saram:

Swami Desikan is saying that once lowly thoughts gain root in the mind of a person, they drive that person to performing cruel acts. This vicious cycle cuts the person down eventually. He seeks Lokacharyar's grace that flows like a flood from His divine eyes to not only remove this lowly act, but also to push him toward doing good deeds. He seeks that strength from Pillai Lokacharyar.

### Shloka 49

दोषा येन कृता मुरारिकरुणासारापगारोधकाः

शैलेन्द्राः शतशो वसन्ति न गुणस्याणोरणुर्दश्यते।

लोकाचार्य जनम् तमेनमलसम् रक्षेद्भवाम्श्रेत् ततः

पद्माकान्तद्याद्यो वरगुणास्तरिमम्स्तु तेभ्यो नमः॥

doShA yena kR^itA murArikaruNAsArApagArodhakA:

shailendrA: shatasho vasanti na guNasyANoraNurdR^ishyate | lokAchArya janam tamenamalasam rakshedbhavAmshchet tata:

padmAkAntadayAdayo varaguNAstasmimstu tebhyo nama: ||

# **Meaning:**

lokAchArya - O! Lokacharya.

yena - By who

shatasha: kR^itA: doShA: - the hundreds of sins that were committed,

shailendrA: - that are like mountains

vasanti - that steadily

murAri karuNA sArApagA

rodhakA: - block the river of grace from the Lord;

(in who)

guNasya aNo: aNurapi - even the smallest of good deeds

na dR^ishyate - cannot be seen; bhavAn rakshet chet - if you save

alasam enam janam - such a lazy person,

tata: - after that tasmimstu - in him

vara guNA: - (whatever) lofty qualities

padmAkAnta dayAdaya: - of Sriman Narayana such as grace

yesanti - are present,

tebhyo nama: - a salute to them (that is, there is no need for them).

#### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

Sriman Narayana is known as the ocean of mercy. However, it is difficult for even His mercy to flow toward the chetana who has performed countless sins and no good deeds.

Lokacharya Panchasat Vyakhyana Saram – Ed. 1

Like a great mountain, they try to block even His grace. But, Pillai Lokacharyar's mercy flows even toward these souls and he lets them attain salvation. In this manner, he is even greater than Him. Hence Swami Desikan says that we can give a salute to His great qualities such as mercy as we now have Pillai Lokacharyar's grace.

Here it is appropriate to think of Lokacharyar's thaniyan that says he is the medicine that saves the soul that has been bit by the Samsara snake ("samsAra bhogi sandaShTa jIva jIvAtave nama:").

# Shloka 50

यस्यासीत् कुलदैवतं रघुवरेणाराधितः श्रीसखः

कावेरिसरिदन्तरीपनगरी वासस्थली पुण्यभूः।

कृष्णो मान्यगुरुवरेण्यमहिमा वेदान्तविद्यानिधिः

भ्राता सौम्यवरः स्वयम्च भुवनाचार्यौ Zिस कस्ते समः॥

yasyAsIt kuladaivatam raghuvareNArAdhita: shrIsakha:

kAverisaridantarIpanagarI vAsasthalI puNyabhU: |

kR^iShNo mAnyagururvareNyamahimA vedAntavidyAnidhi:

bhrAtA saumyavara: svayamcha bhuvanAchAryoZsi kaste sama: ||

#### **Meaning:**

kuladaivatam - The Kula Devata (Sri Ranganatha)
raghuvareNa ArAdhita: - was prayed to by Sri Rama and

shrIsakha: - is the consort of Sriranga Nachchiyar;

vAsasthalI - the residing place is

kAverisarit antarIpa nagarI
 puNyabhU:
 and is the land where good deeds grow;
 kR^iShNa:
 the father is) Vadakku Thiruveedhi Pillai,

vareNya mahimA - who has great fame

mAnya guru:
- who is the acharya worthy of being prayed to,
vedAnta vidyA nidhi:
- and who has the wealth of the Sanskrit and Tamil

Vedantas;

bhrAtA - the brother is

saumya vara: - Azhagiya Manavala Perumal Nayanar;

svayamcha - you yourself asi - became

bhuvanAchArya: - acharya to this world.

tasyatesama: ka: - To such a person who is equal?

#### Vyakhyana Saram:

In this shloka, Swami Desikan shows the different types of greatness associated with

Pillai Lokachariar.

Pillai Lokacharyar's family deity is none other than Sri Ranaganatha - who is the first amongst the 108 divyadesa deities and who was personally worshipped by Sri Rama Himself.

The place he resides is the lofty Srirangam where good deeds automatically grow and sins are removed.

His father is the renowned Vadakku Thiruveedhi Pillai, the disciple of Nampillai who himself was Lokacharya.

His brother is Azhagiya Manavala Perumal Nayanar, the author of the great work Acharya Hrudayam.

Other than being associated with such great people, he himself is called Pillai Lokacharyar - a most apt name for him.

Vedanta Desikan is asking who can equal such a personality.

#### Shloka 51

कावेरीयुगलाम्बुपूर लिलते पुण्यन्तरीपेZस्म्यहं लोकार्यो व्रज तद्विजेति वरदः प्रोवाच भक्ताय हि। इत्येवं गुरुसूक्तिभिर्गुरुवर त्वां मन्यमानस्त्वहं वन्दे वारणशैलशृङ्गनिलयं महैवतं श्रीसखं॥

kAverIyugalAmbupUra lalite puNyantarIpe**Z**smyaham lokAryo vraja tadvijeti varada: provAcha bhaktAya hi lityevam gurusUktibhirguruvara tvAm manyamAnastvaham vande vAraNashailashR^i~Nganilayam maddaivatam shrIsakham ||

### **Meaning:**

guruvara - O! Best amongst Acharyas.

varada: - Kanchi Varadaraja

provAcha hi iti - said thus

bhaktAya - to His devotee Manarpakkaththu Nambi

he dvija - "O! Brahmana.

aham - I

lokArya: asmi - am present as Lokacharya puNya antarIpe - in Srirangam that gives merit

kAverIyugala ambupUra lalite - and is desirable being amidst the two Kaveri rivers.

vraja - Go reach tat - that place."

evam guru sUktibhi: - By these words of Acharyas

ahamtu - I manyamAna: - think tvAm - of you

maddaivatam - as the Lord (Varadaraja) that I pray to,

shrI sakham - who is the consort of Sridevi (Perundevi Thayar) and

vAraNashaila shR^i~Nga nilayam - who resides on top of the Hasthigiri,

vande - and salute (you).

### **Vyakhyana Saram:**

In this shloka, Swami Desikan refers to the fact that Pillai Lokacharyar is none other than the avatara of Kanchi Varadaraja Perumal. The event of Perarulalan telling Manarapakkaththu Nambi to learn the meanings of the Rahasya Trayam from him between the banks of the Kaveri rivers is also recorded by Manavala Mamunigal in the avatharikai for Srivachana Bhushanam.

Being that, Vedanta Desikan salutes Pillai Lokacharyar as the Lord of Hasthigiri that he prays to - vAraNashaila shR^i~Nga nilayam manyamAna: vande. In addition, it can be taken as vAraNashaila shR^i~Nga nilayam tvAm manyamAna: vande - that is, whenever he looks at Varadaraja Perumal, he thinks that this is the Lord who came as Pillai Lokacharyar and worships Him.

So, when he sees Pillai Lokacharyar, he sees him as the incarnation of Varadaraja Perumal. And when he sees Varadaraja Perumal, he sees Him as that incarnation that leads to moksha; the acharya who is greater than even the Lord in that respect.

That is, the acharya is none other than the incarnation of the Lord in this world to lead the chetanas to liberation.

### Shloka 52

वेदान्तोक्तिविशोधितेषु च यतः कर्माद्यपायेषु मे

शक्तिर्न प्रगुणा निषिद्धकरणैर्मुह्यन्ति वागादयः।

श्रीवाणीरसजीवनं शमधनं रामानुजं मद्गुरुं

योगीन्द्रं भुवनार्य वीक्शय विमलैर्मां पालयालोकनैः॥

vedAntoktivishodhiteShu cha yata: karmAdyupAyeShu me shaktirna praguNA niShiddhakaraNairmuhyanti vAgAdaya: | shrIvANIrasajIvanam shamadhanam rAmAnujam madgurum yogIndram bhuvanArya vIkshaya vimalairmAm pAlayAlokanai: ||

Meaning:

he bhuvanArya - O! Lokacharya. yata: - For whatever reason praguNA shakti: - the excellent strength

karmAdi upAyeShu - in the paths of Karma yoga, Gyana yoga and Bhakti yoga

vedAntokti vishodhiteShu - that are well analyzed and made pure by Vedantas

na - is not there me - in me;

vAk Adaya: - my senses such as speech

niShiddha karaNai: - do what is not supposed to be done

muhyanti - and are trapped; tata: - for that reason,

vIkshaya - seeing

madgurum rAmAnujam - my acharya Athreya Ramanuja

shrIvANIrasa jIvanam - who has the divine words of elders as sustenance

shamadhanam - and has peace as his wealth,

yogIndram - and Ramanuja,

vimalai: Alokanai: - with your blemishless sight

pAlaya - protect

mAm - me (who is their disciple).

# Vyakhyana Saram:

Swami Alavandar, in his Stotra Ratnam, prays to the Lord that He should see neither his good deeds nor his bad deeds and instead should notice only the fact that he is associated with Sriman Nathamunigal and for that reason alone should shower His grace on him.

Similarly, in this shloka, Swami Desikan states that he does not have the strength to follow the paths of Karma, Bhakti or Gyana as stated in the Vedantas; and his senses are trapped by doing things that are forbidden in the Shastras. Therefore, he says that Swami Lokachariar, who is the avatara of Kanchi Varadaraja, should shower his grace on him by seeing only his association with his acharyas Athreya Ramanuja (his acharya Kidambi Ramanuja Pillan) and Swami Ramanuja.

This ties with Swami Lokachariar's srisukti "AchArya abhimAnamE uththAragam".

### Shloka 53

प्रणम्य चरणौ तव प्रणतदेहिनां कामदौ इदं किमपि वाश्चितं भुवनदेशिक प्रार्थये। असारफणितिक्षमाचरणमद्य हित्वा मनः

प्रयातु पदवीं शुभां वचनभूषणालङ्कतां॥

Lokacharya Panchasat Vyakhyana Saram – Ed. 1

praNamya charaNau tava praNatadehinAm kAmadau idam kimapi vA~nchitam bhuvanadeshika prArthaye | asAraphaNitikshamAcharaNamadya hitvA mana: prayAtu padavIm shubhAm vachanabhUShaNAla~NkR^itAm ||

Meaning:

bhuvanadeshika - O! Lokacharya. tava charaNau - At your divine feet

praNata dehinAm kAmadau - that give what the people who bow seek,

praNamya - I bow
prArthaye - and ask
idam kimapi - this one thing
vA~nchitam - that I seek.
hitvA - Giving up

asAra phaNiti kshamA

charaNam - wandering in the land of worthless words,

mana: - (let) my mind

adya - now prayAtu - follow

shubhAm padavIm - the divine path

vachanabhUShaNa

ala~NkR^itAm - that is decorated by Sri Vachana Bhushanam.

# Vyakhyana Saram:

In the final prakaranam of Sri Vachana Bhushanam, Pillai Lokachariar gives the essential meaning of the sampradhayam - which is that the true path to liberation is the affection of an acharya. Not the affection that a disciple has for an acharya, but the affection that the acharya has for his disciple. This is captured in his srisukti "AchArya abhimAnamE uththAragam". In this shloka, Swami Desikan prays to Pillai Lokachariar to have his mind let go of all other things and follow this divine path mentioned in that greatest of works, Sri Vachana Bhushanam.

#### Shloka 54

इत्थं जगद्गुरुवरप्रवणेन सर्व

तन्त्रस्वतन्त्र कवितार्किकसिंहनाम्ना।

श्रीवेङ्कटेशकविना कलितां स्तुतिं ये

स्निग्धाः पठन्ति भुवि यान्ति परां श्रियं ते॥

ittham jagadguruvarapravaNena sarva tantrasvatantra kavitArkikasimhanAmnA | shrIve~NkaTeshakavinA kalitAm stutim ye

Lokacharya Panchasat Vyakhyana Saram – Ed. 1

snigdhA: paThanti bhuvi yAnti parAm shriyam te ||

Meaning:

ye - Whosoever bhuvi - in this world

paThanti - reads

snigdhA: - with devotion

kalitAm stutim - the stotra (called Lokacharya Panchasat) authored

ittham - thus

shrIve~NkaTesha kavinA - by the poet named Srimath Venkatanatha, jagad guruvara pravaNena - who has devotion to Pillai Lokachariar,

sarvatantra svatantra - who possesses all Shastras, and

kavitArkika simha nAmnA - who has the name that he is like a lion amongst poets and

philosophers,

te - they
yAnti - will attain
parAm shriyam - great wealth.

### Vyakhyana Saram:

Through the shlokas thus far, Swami Desikan celebrated in detail all the greatness of Swami Pillai Lokachariar. In this final shloka (phala shruti), he states that whoever reads this work and thereby shows great devotion to Pillai Lokachariar will attain the great wealth that is moksha ('AchArya abhimAnam').

It is understood here that to show the veracity of his words, he is using his titles such as Sarvatantra Svatantra, Kavitarkika Simha and Sri Venkatesha Kavi.

# Vedanta Desikan Mangalam

कवितार्किकसिम्हाय कल्याणगुणशालिने।

श्रीमते वेङ्कटेशाय वेदान्तगुरवे नमः॥

kavitArkikasimhAya kalyANaguNashAline | shrImate ve~NkaTeshAya vedAntagurave nama: ||

**Meaning:** 

vedAntagurave nama: - I salute Vedanta Desika,

ve~NkaTeshAya - whose name is Sri Venkatesha,

kavitArkikasimhAya - who is lofty like the lion amongst poets and philosophers,

kalyANaguNashAline - who possesses the most auspicious qualities shrImate - and who has the wealth of Srivaishnavasri.

Vedanta Desikan Thiruvadigale Sharanam Pillai Lokacharyar Thiruvadigale Sharanam Azhvar Emberumanar Jeeyar Thiruvadigale Sharanam