

Nada Yoga I: Remembering the Stars

CD 1:

Jaya Shiva Shankara (track 2)

Raga lalit ; sadra tāl (10 beats). Composed by the Gundecha Brothers.

*Jaya Shiva Shankara
Bholā Mahādeva
Bhasma anga shisha gangā
Gale runda mālā*

Victory to Shiva, Shankara (happiness-maker)
Great God of innocence
Ashen limbs, Ganga at his head
Garland of serpents at his neck

Hum Vāri Mukh Pher Pyāre (track 4)

Raga asāvāri ; bhanumati tāl (11 beats). Verse by Kabir, from the Guru Granth Saheb, p.484 (anthology composed in 1604).

*Karvata bhalā na karvaṭa terī
Lāga gale suna binatī merī*

*Hau vārī mukh pher pyāre
Karvaṭa de mo kau kāhe kau māre*

*Jau tana chīreh anga na morau
Pinda parai tau prīta na torau*

*Hama Tuma bīcha Bhāiu nahī koī
Tumeh su kanta nara hama soī*

*Kahata Kabīr sunah re loī
Aba tumarī paratīta na hoī*

Better to be sawn apart than get the cold shoulder from you.
Embrace me now and listen to my prayer

I sacrifice myself: turn to me Beloved.
Why do you turn your back? How you are torturing me.

Cut these limbs apart, I won't loosen my embrace.
Let this corpse fall, I won't stop loving.

Between you and I, no other (*also*: no difference)

You are my husband and I your bride

Says Kabir, listen you people
Now I no longer put my faith in you.

CD 2

Saghana Bana Chāyo (track 8)

Raga Bhairav ; chautal (12 beats). Mian ki Tansen composition, from the Dagar family.

*Saghana bana chāyo druma beli
Mādho bhuvana ata prakāsa
Barana barana pushpa ranga lāyo*

*Kokila khanjana kira
Kapota ati ānanda kāri
Chahun aura jhara bara-sāyo*

(translation in progress)

This verse describes images of a forest being filled with the light of sunrise, flowers showing their colours and birds singing with joy.

Aisā Gyān Bichār Manā (track 9)

Raga bhairav ; adi tāl (16 beats). Verse by Guru Arjan, in the style of Kabir, from the Guru Granth p. 1160

*Jaba laga merī merī karai
Taba laga Kāj eka nahī sarai
Jaba merī merī mita jāi
Taba prabhu kāj savārah āi*

*Aisā gyāna bichāra manā
Hari kī na simarah dukha bhanjanā*

*Jaba laga singha rahai bana māhi
Taba laga bana phulai hī nāhi
Jaba hī siāra singha kau khāi
phul rahī sagala banarāi*

*Jīto bundai hāro tirai
Guru parasādi pār utarai
Dās Kabīr kahai samajhāi
Kevala Rām rahahu liva lāi
As long as we keep shouting ‘mine, mine’*

Nothing much is accomplished
When the mine-mine is brushed aside
The Lord sorts everything out

Ponder this wisdom, O heart-mind.
Why not meditate on Hari, remover of suffering

While the lion lurks in the jungle,
Not a single plant will flower.
But when the jackal eats the lion,
The whole forest will blossom.

The winner drowns: the loser gets across.
By the Guru's grace the crossing is made.
Kabir the slave speaks so you will understand:
Stay in love with Rām!

Jagata Janani (track 10)

Raga bhairavi ; tivra tal (7 beats). A very old composition found in a few lineages. This version is from the Senior Dagar Brothers.

*Jagata Jananī jvālā mukhī mātā Sarasvatī
Shāradā vidyā deni dayāni dukha harani*

*Johī johī māngata sohī phala Pāvata
Mana iccha purana karanī dukha haranī*

Birth-giver of the world with the radiant face, Mother Saraswati,
Autumnal Lady, giver of knowledge, compassionate remover of suffering

Those whoever ask shall receive the rewards of Parvati,
Fulfiller of the heart's desires, remover of suffering.