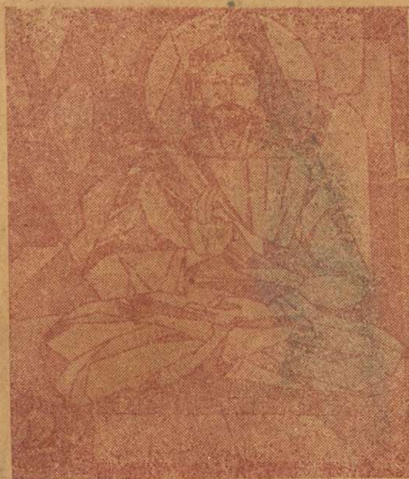


Kristu Sahasra Namam

Thousand Names of Christ

By

I. C. Chacko

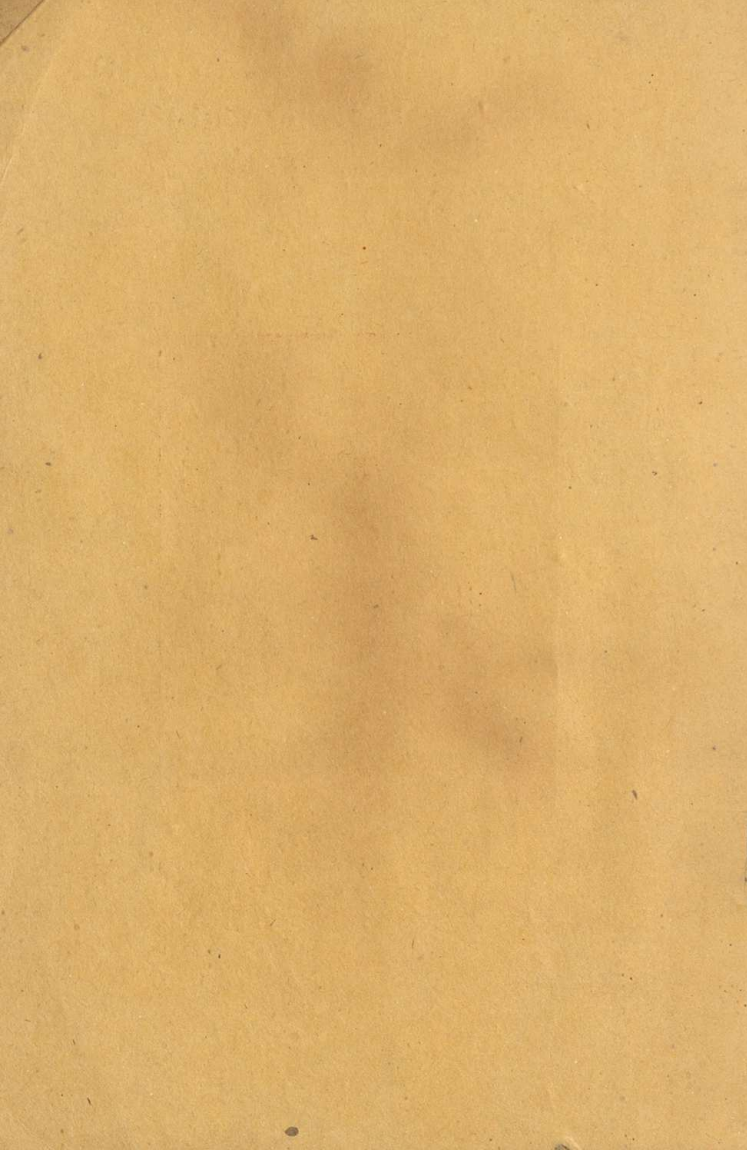


Edited & Translated by: V. F. Vineeth CMI

Music Anto Amarnād CMI

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Bangalore-560029

1985

KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Introduction

A deep longing welled up in my heart as I pored over the amazing work of Sri I. C. Chacko, the *Kristu Sahasra Namam* and it became my cherished dream to bring it to the devotional life of the Indian Christians. A thousand names of Christ! Just a thousand epithets and a thousand titles, in exquisite biblical lore, and in enticing poetical form and what is more, all presented in classical Sanskrit lyrics. Who would not be tempted to have a try? It enshrines the whole history of Christ, gathered from the New and the Old Testaments alike, all in one hymn of adoration, a long litany of praise. You can prayerfully recite it then, unawares, in accompanying rhythm; you are transported to the marvellous setting of the Gospels, Psalms and Book of Revelation. This is I. C. Chacko's *Kristu Sahasra Namam*, a Christian counterpart of the well-known Hindu *Vishnu Sahasra Namam*.

Almost seventy years ago, when the inculturation movement was rather at a low ebb, I. C. Chacko, a learned layman of

the ancient St. Thomas Church of Kerala, came forward with the challenging concept of a *Kristu Sahasranamam*. As Brahmabhandavu Upadhyaya was not fortunate enough to hear his famous hymn *Vande Saccidanandam* in the Christian Churches of his time, so too I. C., was not rewarded by an acceptance of his own contemporaries. The average Church tends to be cautious and conservative and is always too far behind the visionaries she herself produces to give them due recognition. Yet I. C. was an honoured lay scholar of the Church, an author of prolific creative work and according to the then accepted style of honouring, a Chevalier of the Church. Though an engineer by vocation, with creditable degrees from England, I. C. was an acknowledged Sanskrit scholar, a specialist in linguistics and, above all, a bold thinker in the Church of his time. Of the many other books of I. C., the one which deserves special mention is his famous work *Paniniya Pradhyodam* which secured the national award for displaying high scholarship in Sanskrit and linguistics.

I am indeed truly happy to present I. C.'s *Kristu Sahasranamam* to a wider Christian world today and really feel proud that the work has come from an unmatched Sanskrit

scholar who lived his Christian faith on word and deed. I found in the person of Anto Amarnād a composer who can feel, relish and revibrate I. C.'s thinking in the right musical rhythm. When the gifted artists, Fr. Palackal and Miss Indumathy lent their melodious voices to these Christological speculations of I. C. and the musical notes of Amarnād, the result was the much loved and eagerly awaited tape: *Kristu Sahasranamam*. I proudly present all these young artistes to the lovers of our church and culture, music and original ideas.

In the original Sanskrit verses all the thousand names are presented in the accusative case as the objects of verbs *Vande*, *Bhaje* or *Pranamami*, all of which are transitive verbs governing the direct object in Sanskrit. Since, in English the nominative and accusative cases do not show any difference in form, for clarity and better understanding, I have presented many of the names as simple qualifications of Jesus in the nominative always however, ultimately referring them to to Christ whom the devotees adore. Though poetical rhyme and rhythm are given due attention that is easily possible, the prime consideration is fidelity to the original.

The tape does not present all the thousand names of Christ but only a selection of the best among them, arranged under eight separate titles. Appropriate tunes are successfully provided by Amarnād, to match the moods and content of the selected texts.

In the fond hope that one day these verses will find their way into the prayer life of many a devoted christian, religious as well as lay, I present to the lyrical world this musical feat which is a happy blend of the classical rhythm of our country and sacred music of our Church.

Francis Vineeth CMI

Dharmaram College

1 - 1 - 1985

KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

SIDE A

I Kristum Kanyasutam Vande

- 1 *Kristum kanyāsutam vande
mṛtam mṛtyuñjayam param
raktīkṛtāsavam dehi-
kṛtāpupam anaśvaram
kristum kanyāsutam vande.*
- 2 *ākṣipta-vasanam vande
stāṇubaddha-kara-dvayam
bhaṭa-tādita-sarvāṅgam
pujyam-api-atidhikṛtam. Kristum....*
- 3 *kapotāvatarā-jñātam
divya-meṣam sanātanam
śantam śantimatām-ādyam
praṇamāmi-akhasūdanam. Kristum....*
- 4 *samudkīrṇa-karam
kīla-vidārita-pada-dvayam
śūla-viccinna-hṛdayam
trilokīsam-anaśvaram. Kristum....*
- 5 *śvetāsva-vāhanam
rakta-sikta-vāsasam īśvaram
divya-vāk-abhidham vande
rāja-rājam prabhu-prabhum Kristum....*

KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

SIDE A

I. I bow to thee, Jesus son of the
Virgin, the suffering servant.

I bow to thee, Christ, son of the Virgin
Who by dying overcame our death;
Wine you made your blood,
And your body you formed from bread.

Stripped of garments
With hands fastened to the pillar
Scourged by soldiers
Though all holy, you are ridiculed.
I bow to thee.

Proclaimed by the dove descending
You are the lamb divine, the everlasting
The peaceful, the prince of peace
I adore you, the slayer of malice.

O eternal Lord of the three worlds
Torn are your two feet by nails
Pierced are your hands
And cut is your heart by lance.

Clad in the dress drenched with blood
You ride on your horse gleaming white
The Word Divine is your name
King of kings, Lord of lords, I bow to thee.

- 6 *kṣata-pārśvam kṣata-tanum
dhṛta-kaṇṭaka-śīrṣakam
kṣata-pādam kṣata-karam
dhṛta-lōkākha-gauravam. Kristum....*

II Rajarsi-Gotrajam

- 1 *rājārṣi-gotrajam dhanyam
nīrddhanam nitya-yācakam
dinam dināśrayam vande
jagatām-ekam-īśvaram.*
- 2 *tārā-sūcita-janmānam
jyotishārāddham-arbhakam
gōṣṭha-jam pathikam vande
rājānam rāja-pūjitam*
- 3 *valāhakāvṛtam pūjyam
giriśam girivāsinam
śiṣyopasthitam-utkrṣṭam
pitṛ-ślakhitam-ātmajam*
- 4 *samādhi satham-atīśrānatam
kṣutāviṣṭam-upōṣitam
praṇamāmi niyantāram
piśāca-parisodhitam.*
- 5 *śama-vantam kṣamāvantam
titikṣāvantam-īśvaram
damavantam dayā-vantam
atmāvantam jagat-gurum*

Battered in body, with side pierced
The crown of thorns you wear
With bleeding feet and wounded hands
The sins of the world you bear
I bow to thee,

II Jesus the sage for India

Though born of the clan of kings
Though rich, you are the poor,
the eternal beggar
The abandoned, and yet the hope of the
forlorn
The one Lord of the universe, I bow to thee.
By star was your birth proclaimed
“ You the child, our king ”
the Magi acclaimed
Born in a manger you are the guide divine
O king, adored by kings, I bow to thee.
Surrounded by clouds in holy spell
The Lord of hills, on mounts you dwell
Though great with disciples you sojourned
The only Son by Father acclaimed.
Given to fast and hunger, fagged out though
You remain ever in equipose
Tested though by devil you are
The guide and fount of all, I adore you.
You are the great ascetic
The patient bearer of all sorrows
The self-controlled, the self-luminous
The ever merciful the world's teacher,
I bow to thee.

- 6 *akṛṣṭa-minam kaivartta-
śiṣyam-ekam jagat-gurum
upadiṣṭa-jagaddharmam
vande vandāru-vanditam*

III Yajakam Yajana - Dravyam

- 1 *yājakam yajana-dravyam
nityam yajña-bhujam bhajē bhajē
pāpaghnam pāpa-rahitam
lōka-pāpa-vaham param*
- 2 *pānīyam paramam bhakṣyam
uttamam praṇamāmi-aham
yad-abhuktvā narā yānti
narakam śāśvatam dṛdham*
- 3 *vēdajñam vidushām-ādyam
vēda-mūlam sanātanam
vaidikam paramam vande
bhiṣajam dēhi-dēhayoh*
- 4 *sugraham śānta-cittānām
durgraham viṣayaīṣiṇām
śaraṇam pāpinām-ēkam
taraṇam pāpa-vāridhēh*

IV Swargastham Pitṛparśvastham

- 1 *Kristum vande Kristum vande
Swargastham pitṛ pārsvastham
hṛdayastham jagal-patim
abhiṣikṭam-ṛṣi-prōktam
arvācinam purātanam. Kristum vande....*

You are the sole master of mankind
With disciples from among fishermen
Dharma you preach, the path universal
Praised eternally by choir celestial
I bow to thee.

III Jesus the offerer and oblation.

You are the offerer, you are the sacrifice
You are the eternal receiver of the offering
Sinless you are, you destroy all sins
Holy though you bear the world's stain
O supreme drink and choicest food,
I worship you the only God
Without absorbing you truly well
Mankind falls into eternal Hell

Well versed in Scriptures
And the first among doctors
The eternal strength of Holy Writ
Everlasting priest, physician of body and soul.
I bow to thee.

Peaceful men know you well
Unknown to all ruled by passions wild
You are the only hope of sinners
The safe boat to traverse the sea of samsara

IV Jesus, the glorious son of the Father

Beside the Father in heaven you reside
Deep down in our heart, Lord of all you abide
The anointed, announced by seers,
The ever Ancient and ever New,
I bow to thee.

- 2 *dṛśyādṛśya-vidhātāram
jagatām-ādi-kāraṇam
āgamiṣyantam-akṣōbhyaṃ
vandēham nīti-pālakam.*

Kristum vande ...

- 3 *preṣakam preṣitam vande
vyatitānvēṣakam śivam
hṛd-vicāyakam-ācāryam
hṛṣī-kēśam ṛṣiśvaram. Kristnm vande...*

SIDE B

V Martyaputram Devaputram

- 1 *martya-putram dēva-putram
naram-api-anaram param
kanyā-putram jagat-tātam
jātam-api-ajam-iśvaram.*

martya-putram....

- 2 *dvidīyam-api-advīdyam
trayam-api-ēkam-ēva ca
mṛtam-api-amaram nityam
jātam-api-akhilōlbhavam.*

martya-putram....

- 3 *adṛśyam api-ati-vyaktam
aparikṣyam-atīndriyam
prānadam varadam vande
dēvam jīvadam-ādṛtam.*

martya-putram....

The creator of all visible and invisible
The fountain head of the universe, ever prime,
Though unaffected, you come at the end
of time.
The dispenser of justice, I bow to thee.

You are sent to us, you auspicious one
And you send the disciples you won.
O master, you search all hearts, and
redeem the lost
The giver of joy, the Lord of seers,
I bow to thee.

SIDE B

V Jesus, Son of man, son of God

Son of God you are and son of man
Human though, the absolute, above man
Son of the Virgin, spring of the world,
The born yet unborn Lord,
I bow to thee.

Though second in person you are the non-dual
One and three at the same time,
Though dead, you are ever immortal
The fount of all, though born in mortal time.

Invisible, yet verily distinct
Beyond the pale of physical sense,
You are the bestower of breath and bliss
The adorable deity, the giver of life
I bow to thee.

- 4 *śāntākāram bhujaga-mathanam
swarga-vāsam mahābham
pāpārttānām śaranam-
akha-nirmūlanam mēkha-yānam
śyāma-kāntam vimala-hṛdayam
lōka-nātham mahēśam
vande dēvam sugamam-
akha-viccittayē kristum-iśam:*

VI Saptarksa-Panim

- 1 *saptarkṣa-pāṇim lōkēśam
tapta-pittala-pādakam
śvētāmbaram śvēta-kēśam
vande sūrya-mukham param.
vande sūrya-mukham....*
- 2 *pāvanam pāvakam pūtam
vande rajata-pāvanam
svarṇṇa-pāvanam-ācāryam
pāvanam-lōka-pāvanam.
vande sūrya-mukham....*
- 3 *śvētāmbara-balam khōram
jvalanōlgara-lōcanam
dvi-dhāra-gadga-vadanam
sva-nāmānkita-vāsasam.
vande sūrya-mukham....*
- 4 *sapta-śṛṅgam hata-prēkṣyam
saptākṣam mēṣa-śābakam
mudrā-sphodakam iśānam
vyōma-cāpāvṛtāsanam.
vande sūrya-mukham....*

O embodiment of peace, destroyer of evil,
You abide in heaven as resplendent light,
Remover of sin, hope of sinners,
Blessed God you are, the Lord of the world,
Your immaculate heart is adored by all,
You move among clouds, my God Christ,
I adore you.

VI Jesus the eschatological Lord

White-clad and white-haired you are
Ever hand some with hands of seven stars.
Like burnished bronze your feet shine
And with sun-lit face as Lord of all you reign.

Priests and people, gold and silver,
All you purify, render holy
O sacred sanctifier of fire
I bow to thee.

Clad in silver white, your army is ever great
Aglow with fire is your eye's sparkle
Like a two-edged sword is your face divine
And bearing your name is your dress sublime.

Seven are your eyes, seven your horns
You are the lamb that was small, and yet slain,
But you break open life's seals strong as stone
And wear rainbow-arches around your
royal throne.

- 5 *satyādhvānam dayā-mārgam*
śāntānām mārga-darśinam
dharmiṣṭham madhuram vande
pāpinām nyāya-dāyinam.
vande sūrya-mukham....
- 6 *mēkha-yānam tadīt-pāṇim*
khōrāram bhayānakam
pāpinām-antakam vande
dharmiṇām jīva-dāyinam-
vande sūrya-mukham....

VII Pavanam Bhavanam

- 1 *pāvanam bhāvanam*
jīva-sāadhanam sarvā-sōbhanam
kāraṇam śaraṇam
pāpa-soṣaṇam praṇamāmi-aham-
pāvanam....
- 2 *dōṣakṣnam-anakham*
rakta-śrāvāpaham-anuttamam
duṣ-pradharṣam mahā-vīryam
vande divyaushadham param.
pāvanam....
- 3 *pakṣa-vāta-haram*
dīna-trāṇa-lōlam jvaram damam
bhūta-dviṣam kuṣṭha-haram
vande divyaushadam param.
pāvanam....

Truth is your path, mercy your way,
To the peaceful you show the real way
To the sinners you give their share of justice
Sweet and just one, I bow to thee.

Perched on clouds you come, with hands
aglow with lightning
Magnificent is your form yet awe-inspiring
Dispeller of sinners you are
To the just their life's star
I bow to thee.

VII Jesus the Holy, the Healer, the Liberator

Holy you are dear creator
Life's bliss and the world's splendour,
Hope of all and source of all,
Adoring you, O sinless One, I prostrate.

Stains of sins you remove, O Holy One.
Woman you healed from her
ailing hemorrhage
Great is your power, insurmountable,
Thou holy medicine, all supreme, I adore you.

To the paralytic you gave health,
To the poor you are all their wealth,
Fever you subdue O medicine pure,
Demons you hate, Lepers you cure
O supreme one I bow to thee.

- 4 andhānām dṛṣṭidam vande
satya-sandham sanātanam
nigada-dvamsinam dēvam
ārtta-trāṇa-param param.

pāvanam....

- 5 vidhavā-karuṇam vande
para-mitram kṛpā-karam
vitāta-śāraṇam śrēṣṭham
patitōtkṣepiṇam prabhum. pāvanam....

VIII Santaya Santa-hṛdayaya

sāntāya śānta-hṛdayāya śama-priyāya
kāntāya kānta-caritāya kamālayāya
nityāya nitya-vijayāya niranantarāya
martyāya martya tanujāya namōstu

nityam

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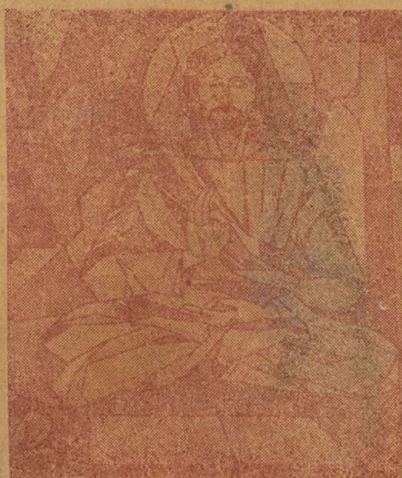
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