

International poetry day – EPFL

Poem-1 (Language: Telugu)

The following poem is written in Telugu.

- Telugu is the 2nd most spoken language in India after Hindi.
- Is called as Italian of the East because as all native words in Telugu end with a vowel sound like Italian.

Context: This poem is from a Hindu epic Maha Bharata. It's a big story. There is a saying

Whatever is here, is found elsewhere. But what is not here is nowhere else.

This poem is taken from Telugu translation of Maha Bharata.

ఒరులేయవి యొనరించిన
నరవర యస్రియము తన మనమునకగు డా
నొరులకు నవిసేయకునికి
పరాయణము పరమధర్మ పదములకెల్లన్

This poem highlights the greatest way of living. Out of all principles/morals to follow towards a right life, this is the highest moral to be practiced.

Meaning: If we get hurt or don't like someone doing something to us, the highest form of conduct is not to do the same to them.

Poem-2 (Language: Sanskrit)

This poem is written in Sanskrit.

- Known as Language of Gods.
- Sanskrit means “completely made”. The language is complete in alphabets so literally every pronunciation can be represented without ambiguity and every feeling or concept can be expressed.
- 56 alphabets

- The script is called Devanagari script (see in the following)

Context: This poem is written by the greatest Hindu saint Adi Sankaracharya (500BC). The poem answers to the famous “**who am I?**” question. The whole Indian spiritual philosophy is about breaking the **I-factor** which suggests that there is no God outside, everyone is a God- can be realized only by breaking the I-factor or ego completely. The following poems capture the right identity of every human and help to come over pseudo identity.

(only 2 out of 7 poems are presented here)

मनोबुद्ध्यहंकार चित्तानि नाहं न च श्रोत्रजिह्वे न च घ्राणनेत्रे ।
न च व्योम भूमिर्न तेजो न वायुः चिदानन्दरूपः शिवोऽहम् शिवोऽहम् ॥ १ ॥

manOBuddhyahankAra cittAni nAham
na ca SrOtrajihvE na ca ghrANanEtrE |
na ca vyOma bhoomirna tEjO na vAyu:
cidAnandarooPa: ShivOham ShivOham ||

Mind-intellect-thought-ego am I not, Neither have I ears, tongue, nor nostrils, nor eyes; I am not the five great elements; I am Pure Consciousness, Bliss, the Self; I am Auspiciousness, Auspiciousness alone.

न मे द्वेषरागौ न मे लोभमोहौ मदो नैव मे नैव मात्सर्यभावः ।
न धर्मो न चार्थो न कामो न मोक्षः चिदानन्दरूपः शिवोऽहम् शिवोऽहम् ॥ ३ ॥

na mE dvEsharAgau na mE lObhamOhau
madO naiva mE naiva mAtsaryabhava: |
na dharmO na cArthO na kAmO na mOksha:
cidAnandarupa: ShivOham ShivOham ||

I have neither likes or dislikes, Nor have I covetousness or greed, Nor I have any arrogant vanity nor any competition with anyone; I have not even a need for the four main ‘purposes of life’¹⁴ I am Auspiciousness, Auspiciousness alone .