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Mathematical encoding in pādukā sahasram by Sri Vedānta Deśika

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Abstract:

In his scholarly work of पादुका सहस्रं (Pādukā Sahasaram), the great scholar, Sri Vaiśnavite Acāryā स्वामी श्री वेदान्त देशिक (Svāmī Srī Vedānta Deśika), embedded numerous mathematical concepts and several theories that are still being researched on. In his 1008 verses, श्री निगमान्त महा देशिक (Srī Nigamānta Mahā Deśika) praises the holy sandals of श्री रङ्गनाथ (Srī Ranganātha) and this work is written in less than 3 hours (one यामम् -yāmam). The number 1008 has greater significance in Vedic literature and in today's spiritual practice as well. There are two numbers that are very significant when it comes to spirituality - 108 and 1008. Even modern science calls them as Angel numbers. श्री विष्णु सहस्रनाम स्तोत्रम् (Srī Viṣṇu Sahasranāma Stotram) explains 1008 names of श्री महा विष्णु (Srī Mahā Viṣṇu). Likewise, पादुका सहस्रं (Pādukā Sahasaram) also has 1008 verses. Poet श्री देशिकः (Srī Deśika:) like any other great poet in Sanskrit literature, secretly embedded details of the work in the first verse. This paper is an attempt to decode one such encoding to understand the greatness of the poet. To do that, a well-known Vedic Numerical Coding methodology is used.

Keyword: Sri Pādukā sahasram, Srī Nigamānta mahā deśika, vedic number 1008 (Angel number 1008), vedic numerical code

Introduction

पादुका सहस्रं (Pādukā Sahasaram) written by श्री वेदान्त देशिक (Srī Vedānta Deśika), occupies a unique place among Srī Vaiśnavite Bhakti literature. It has 1008 verses divided into 32 chapters. Each chapter is called पद्धति (paddhati). This number 32 is yet another significant number. प्रस्ताव पद्धति (Prastāva Paddhati) is the first of the 32 steps. The number 32 has significance in our सम्प्रदायम् (sampradāyam) as follows. 32 अपचारम् (apacāram) to be avoided in भगवदाराधनम् (bhagavadārādhanam); 32 ब्रह्म विद्या (brahma vidyā), and 32 principles of भगवद् रामानुज दर्शनम् (Bhagavad Rāmānuja darśanam) ranging from पृथ्वी (pṛtvī) to the Lord. In the first पद्धति (paddhati), the scholar gives introduction about his work and about the पादुका (Pādukā) of श्री रङ्गनाथ (Srī Ranganathā). This paper deals with a portion of the opening verse from the first पद्धति (paddhati).

सन्तः श्रीरङ्ग पृथ्वीश चरण त्राण शेखराः I
जयन्ति भुवन त्राण पद पङ्कज रेणवः II (1:1)

The literal meaning of this verse is as follows:

Great men bear on their heads, with great relish, the Pādukā of Sri Ranganathā (the Lord's śatāri, which is Nammazhwar personified). For this reason, they shine gloriously; the dust from their feet being potent enough to grant protection (and salvation, too) for all the worlds.

In this verse, until the words चरण त्राण (caraṇa trāṇa) which means पादुका (Pādukā) of श्री रङ्गनाथ (Srī Ranganathā) is taken up for discussion here.

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कटपयादि संख्या Assignment Table

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0
क	ख	ग	घ	ङ	च	छ	ज	झ	ञ
ट	ठ	ड	ढ	ण	त	थ	द	ध	न
प	फ	ब	भ	म					
य	र	ल	व	श	ष	स	ह	ळ	क्ष
ka	kha	ga	gha	ṅa	ca	cha	ja	jha	jña
ṭa	ṭha	ḍa	ḍha	ṇa	ta	tha	da	dha	na
pa	pha	ba	bha	ma					
ya	ra	la	va	śa	ṣa	sa	ha	la	kṣa

“सन्तः श्रीरङ्ग पृथ्वीश चरण त्राण”

Vedic Numerical Code कटपय सङ्ख्या (kaṭapaya saṅkhyā):

In this numerical system

1. The consonants (व्यञ्जनं) beginning with ka (क) and ta (ट) refer to digits from 1 to 9 (i.e. letters from ka (क) to jha (झ) and from ta (ट) to dha (ध) denote 1 to 9.
2. Pa (प) to ma (म) stand for 1 to 5.
3. Letters from ya (य) and ha (ह) represent the digits 1 to 8.
4. The nasal letters nya (ञ) and na (न) denote 0.
5. In the case of conjunct consonants, the number denoted only by the last consonant is taken into consideration.
6. The vowels following consonants have no value.
7. The vowels not preceded by any consonant represent 0.
8. The arrangement of the digits is from right to left as per the rule अङ्कानाम् वामतो गतिः (aṅkānām vāmato gatiḥ).
9. The letter la (ळ) peculiar to the Dravidian languages represent 9.

The letter ksha (क्ष) denotes 0

Katapaya Sankhya rule is as follows.

कादि नव टादि नव पादि पञ्च याद्यष्टौ ।

kādi nava ṭādi nava pādi pañca yādyasṭau |

1. कादि नव means ka and the following 8 letters ranging from digits 1 to 9.
2. टादि नव means ta and the following 8 letters ranging from digits 1 to 9.
3. पादि पञ्च means pa and the following 4 letters ranging from digits 1 to 5.
4. याद्यष्टौ means ya and the following 7 letters ranging from digits 1 to 8.
5. Ksha is equal to 0.

Using the above rule the table shown in the previous page is formed.

The finding

“सन्तः श्रीरङ्ग पृथ्वीश चरण त्राण”

In the above section of the verse under consideration, since we are going to decode using the Katapaya numerical code, a detailed explanation of the verse is not given here.

स – 7, न्तः – 6 → 76 transposes to 67

श्री – 2, र – 2, इग – 2 → 223 becomes 322

पृ – 1, थ्वी – 4, श – 5 → 145 becomes 541

च – 6, र – 2, ण – 5 / 0 → 625 / 620* 026

त्रा – 2, ण – 5 → 25 becomes 52

The number flips as shown above due to rule अङ्कानाम् वामतो गतिः (aṅkānām vāmato gatiḥ) अष्टाध्ययी (aṣṭādhyayī) of पाणिनि (Pāṇini) introduces a technical term, “इत्” (it) which is used for the sake of pronunciation. In the 14 माहेस्वर सूत्राणि (Māhesvara sūtrāṇi) ending letter in each line is called “इत्”. By the sutra “तस्य इतः” (tasya itaḥ) the grammarian gives the rule that इत् will disappear. Hence, here poet has given a clue that he has used “ण- त्” only for pronunciation and hence is not significant in decoding चरण (caraṇa). Using the above rule, we ignore ण from चरण (caraṇa) and त् from त्राण (trāṇa).

Result

Adding all the numbers above (67, 322, 541, 026, and 52) we get a total of 1008, the number of verses in पादुका सहस्रम् (Pādukā Sahasaram).

Conclusion

स्वामी श्री वेदान्त देशिक (Svāmī Śrī Vedānta Deśika) is a multi-faceted genius who was described as a Lion among Poets and Logicians, कवि-तार्किक-केसरि (Kavi-Tārkika-Kesari) and a सर्व-तन्त्र-स्वतन्त्र (Sarva-Tantra- Svatantra). This paper is only a ripple in the great ocean of literatures written by श्री वेदान्त देशिक (Śrī Vedānta Deśika).

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