

FIVE HYMNS TO SRI RAMANA

The author of these songs, Satyamangalam Sri Venkataramayyar, came to Bhagavan when Sri Bhagavan was at Virupaksha Cave. He composed the first four songs while at Virupaksha, one each day of his stay, and the fifth, *Ramana Satguru*, he wrote later and sent to the Ashram. These hymns, among the earliest (1910-11) in praise of Bhagavan, have a wonderful freshness as they are the outpouring of a soul in its first blossoming. As Saint Kannappar worshipped Siva for a week and yet won His grace, so too the author of these songs stayed with Bhagavan only one week. But it was a week filled with such devotion and grace, that the composer actually danced around Bhagavan in rapture as he performed these songs.

That this little-known figure received in full the grace of Bhagavan's compassionate gaze, is shown in the ninth verse of the *Kummi Pattu*:

With his gracious look he gave me a slap on the cheek
That seemed to say, 'O pious Venkataramana,
Why do you waste your time with words? See for yourself!'

Bhagavan once told the story of the day of the writing of this hymn¹, recalling that M. V. Ramaswami Aiyar and others, 'all crazy chaps', according to Bhagavan, joined Venkataramayyar in dancing while joining in on this song.

¹ See *Day by Day*, Jan. 1, 1947.

THE DAWN CHANT

1. Light is dawning on Aruna Hill;
Sweet Ramana, come!
Lord Arunachala, come!
2. In the bush the koel sings;
Dear Master Ramana, come!
Lord of Knowledge, come!
3. The conch blows, the stars are dim;
Sweet Ramana, come!
Lord God of gods, come!
4. The cocks crow, the birds chirp;
It is already time, come!
The dark night has fled, come!
5. The trumpets blow, the drums beat;
Gold-bright Ramana, come!
Knowledge Awakened, come!
6. The crows caw, it is morning;
Snake-decked Lord, come!
Blue-throated Lord, come!

KALAI PATTU

1. Aruṇan udit-tanan Aruṇa giri tannil
Azhagiya Ramaṇarē vārum
Aruṇā chalē-sarē vārum.
2. Sālaik kuyil-ōsai kālaiṛ kūviṭṭru
Sat-guru Ramaṇarē vārum
Sāmbavi bāgarē vārum.
3. Saṅgam olit-tadu tāragai maṅ-gina
Iṅgita Ramaṇarē vārum
Īśa surē-sarē vārum.
4. Kōzhi-gaḷ kūvina kuru-guha ḷiyam-bina
Nāzhi-gai ācchudu vārum
Naḷḷiruḷ agan-ḍradu vārum.
5. Chinnaṅgal kā-gaḷam bēri-gai yārt-tana
Ponnaṅga Ramaṇarē vārum
Bhōda swarū-parē vārum.
6. Kāgaṅ karain-dadu kālai-yum āyiṭṭru
Nāgā bhara-ṇarē vārum
Naṅjaṅi kaṅṭarē vārum.

7. Ignorance has fled, the lotuses open;
Wise Lord Ramana, come!
Crown of the Vedas, come!
8. Untainted by qualities, Lord of Liberation;
Benevolent Ramana, come!
Lord of Peace, come!
9. Sage and Lord,
One with Being-Knowledge-Bliss,
Lord dancing in joy, come!
10. Love incarnate on the pinnacle of knowledge,
Beyond pleasure and pain, come!
Blissful Silence, come!

7. Kaṟ-panai ozhin-dadu kamalañ-gaḷ alarn-dana
Viṟpana Ramaṇarē vārum
Vēdānta rūparē vārum.
8. Muk-guna rahi-tarē muktinā ḍaḷ-vōrē
Saṟ-guṇa Ramaṇarē vārum
Sānta swarū-parē vārum.
9. Sattuc chittā-nanda vaḍi-vinaic chārn-diḍun
Tat-tuva rāyarē vārum
Tāṇ-ḍava mūr-tiyē vārum.
10. Inba-tunba millā ēkānta mēḍaiyil
Anbu-ruk koṇḍōrē vārum
Ānanda mōnarē vārum.