

# ॥ एक श्लोकमातृस्तुतिः ॥

श्रीशंकरभगवत्पादाचार्याः स्वीयमातुरार्याम्बाया अन्तिमसमये संचारप्रदेशात् योग्यशक्त्या स्वमातृवासप्रदेशं समागत्य मातरं प्रणैमुः | तत्समये भगवत्पादनारविन्दादाविर्भूतोऽयं श्लोक इति कर्लदेशे प्रसिद्धिः ॥

आस्तां तावदियं प्रसूतिसमये दुर्वारशूलव्यथा  
 नैरुष्यं तनुशोषणं मलमयी शय्या च सांवत्सरी |  
 एकरयापि न गर्भभारभरणक्लेशस्य यस्याः क्षमो  
 दातुं निष्कृतिमुन्नतोऽपि तनयः तस्यै जनन्यै नमः ॥

The ‘Eka sloka Matrustuti’ is popular in many Kerala homes and is attributed to Sri Sankara. According to a tradition in Kerala, the above verse was composed by the Acharya Bhagavadpada himself in praise of his beloved mother Aryambal.

Is not mother, God in human form? Was Sruti -- मातृदेवो भव Treat your mother as God? Can a son ever adequately repay his mother for all the travails she willingly bears by carrying the child in her womb for ten months, and also bringing up and nourishing it in the early stages of infancy? Sankara asserts in un-equivocal terms that there is no parallel for such a mother. He surrenders himself to her by prostrating at her lotus feet.

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