



I bow to thee, I praise thee, Mother Land.

2020-01-26

By Acharya Suryanarayan Nanda
for Arya Samaj Greater Houston

- It is a Sanskrit poem written by **Bankim Chandra Chatterjee** in 1870s, which he included in his 1882 novel **Ananda math**.

- It played a vital role in the Indian independence movement.

- It became a **popular marching song** for political activism and Indian freedom movement in 1905.

- The song and the novel containing **it was banned** by the British government, but general public defied the ban, many went to colonial prisons repeatedly for singing it.



वन्दे मातरम्

सुजलां सुफलाम् मलयजशीतलाम् शस्यश्यामलाम् मातरम् ।

शुभ्रज्योत्स्ना पुलकित यामिनीम् फुल्ल कुसुमित द्रुमदल शोभिनीम्

सुहासिनीं सुमधुर भाषिणीम् सुखदां वरदां मातरम् ॥

Mother, I praise thee!
Rich with thy hurrying
streams,
bright with orchard gleams,
Cool with thy winds of
delight,
Dark fields waving Mother
of might,

2020-01-26

Glory of moonlight dreams,
Over thy branches and lordly
streams,
Clad in thy blossoming trees,
Mother, giver of ease
Laughing low and sweet!
Mother I kiss thy feet,
Speaker sweet and low!
Mother, to thee I praise thee.

Anything of great quality or virtue such as mercy (karuna), peace(shanti) wealth (Sri), mercy (daya), Kshamaa (patience) is also feminine in Sanskrit.

All Indian rivers are feminine because they nurture us like mothers.

Bhumi is also worshipped in feminine form.

Mother land



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While Western culture sees Nature as mere “resources” for human consumption, the Vedic seers advocate for a caring and reciprocal attitude. They see nature-human relation as mother-child relation.

The verses of the Vedas reveal deep respect towards the Earth, just as a child is ever committed to his/her mother.



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Mātā Bhūmih Putro'ham Pṛthivyāh,

Earth is my mother, I am her son

Atharva Veda.12.1.12

Mother land



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All of us have sprouted from Earth. We sit on her lap fearlessly.

Nature provides nourishment and shade.

The climate is kind and in favor. Blades of grass sway in joy. Sweet sounds of birds mesmerize us. There is diversity in flora & fauna. The mighty mountains protect us. Streams flow gently. Winds bring hope. The seasons wrap us with warmth and tenderness.



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You see these are all motherly qualities. So we treat the land as our own Mother.

We are in her grace and are immensely grateful.

There is less pride and more humility.

There is no patriotism but there is reverence.

We love and adore our motherland.



Mother land

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असंबाधं बध्यतो मानवानां यस्या उद्वतः प्रवतः समं बहु ।
नानावीर्या ओषधीर्या बिभर्ति पृथिवी नः प्रथतां राध्यतां नः ॥

Salutations to Mother Earth ! Who extends unimpeded freedom (both outer and inner) to human beings through her mountains, slopes and plains. She bears many plants and medicinal herbs of various potencies; May she extend her riches to us .

Atharva Veda.12.1.1



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विश्वंभरा वसुधानी प्रतिष्ठा हिरण्यवक्षा जगतो निवेशनी ।

वैश्वानरं बिभ्रती भूमिरग्निमिन्द्रऋषभा द्रविणे नो दधातु ॥

Salutations to Mother Earth ! She is **Viśvambharā** (all-bearing), **Vasudhā** (Producer of all Wealth), **Pratiṣṭhā** (Foundation on which we live), **Hiraṇyavakṣā** (of Golden Bosom) and the Dwelling Place of the World, She holds the **Vaiśvānara** (all mankind) within Her. May the Mother Earth bestow on us the splendor and make us strong.



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जनं विभ्रती बहुधा विवाचसं नानाधर्माणं पृथिवी यथौकसम् ।

सहस्रधारा द्रविणस्य मे दुहे ध्रुवेव धेनुरनपस्फुरन्ती ॥

The earth that holds people of manifold varied speech, of different customs, according to their habitations, as a reliable milch-cow that does not kick, shall she milk for me a thousand streams of wealth !

Atharva.12.1.45



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Thy many paths upon which people go, thy tracks for chariots and wagons to advance, upon which both good and evil men proceed, this road, free from enemies, and free from thieves, may we gain: with what is auspicious (on thee) be gracious to us! *Atharva.12.1.47*

The earth holds the fool and holds the wise, endures that good and bad dwell (upon her); she keeps company with the boar, gives herself up to the wild hog. *Atharva.12.1.48*



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Api svarṇamayī lankā na me Lakṣmana rocate,
Jananī janmabhūmiśca svargādapi gariyasī.

Lakshmana ! Even if Lanka is made of gold, I do not like it
because Mother and Motherland are far more superior to
heaven. *Ramayana*



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Mother land

Patriotism



Patriotism is in all our hearts.

We may not always know it until the call comes upon us. It brings out compassion, courage, work ethics, and bravery in us all.

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If we close our eyes and think about our country then what comes to mind ?

The flag, the anthem, the map (boundaries), fellow citizens, the culture and heritage, Industries and Infrastructures, Surely it brings a strong sense of pride, patriotism and unity.



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Patriotism

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- It is our heart feelings of loyalty and pride.
 - We feel loyalty for my country and my country's ideals.
 - We love and honor my country.
 - We feel a sense of duty to this country .

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भद्रमिच्छन्तः ऋषयः स्वर्विदस्तपो दीक्षामुपनिषेदुरग्रे ।
ततो राष्ट्रं बलमोजश्च जातं तदस्मै देवा उपसंनमन्तु ॥

Desirous of weal, attainers of light, the seers began
austerity and consecration in ancient times. Therefrom
the nation, strength and vigor was born. May the bounties
of nature bring all that under control of this person.

Atharva Veda.19.41.9



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सत्यं बृहदतमुग्रं दीक्षा तपो ब्रह्म यज्ञः पृथिवीं धारयन्ति।
सा नो भूतस्य भव्यस्य पत्न्युरुं लोकं पृथिवी नः कृणोतु॥

Salutations to Mother Earth, Truth, the Cosmic Divine Law
(universal order), strength. consecration, creative fervor , spiritual
exaltation, and self dedications sustain the Mother Earth for ages.
May this earth, the mistress of that which was and shall be, prepare
for us a broad domain! *Atharva Veda.12.1.1*



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Mother land

Our great leaders and visionaries sacrificed their everything including the right to rule, live and foster their immediate family's generation for our livelihoods in a truly free society and nation.



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