

Wehdatnama

A BOUQUET OF PUNJABI VEDANTIC
POETRY OF SWAMI RAMTIRTHA

बहदतनामा
وحدت نامہ
ਹਰਦਤਨਾਮਾ



Dr. Kedar Nath Prabhakar
Dr. Akash Chanda

Publisher
Sarveshwar N. Prabhakar
Ramtirtha Kendra, Saharanpur (U.P.) India
Mobile: +91-9897780544
Email: ramtirthakendra@gmail.com

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WEHDATNAMA

SALUTE TO PUNJAB

اس مٹی میں پہلی سی تب و تاب نہیں ہے
”دو آب“ ہے ”سہ آب“ ہے پنجاب نہیں ہے

This work, comprising untouched Punjabi Vedantic poetry of the great metaphysician Swami Ramtirtha, will be a landmark in the history of Punjabi literature enriched by saints, sufies and poets of the blessed land of five rivers - Satluj, Beas, Ravi, Chenab and Jhelum. But now according to Prof. Jagannath Azad, it has lost its former glory because after the partition of India, Punjab has become the land of 'Two Rivers' (Punjab - Bharat) and 'Three Rivers' (Punjab - Pakistan).

इस मिट्टी में पहली सी तबोताब नहीं है
'दोआब' है 'सैआब' है पंजाब नहीं है

LANGUAGES KNOWN

English, Hindi, Urdu, Sanskrit, Persian,
Arabic, German, Japanes.

SELF-REALISATION

August, 1898 - Brahmipuri
(near Laxman Jhula-Rishikesh) on the way to
Badrinath (Himalayas).

WORLDLY-DETACHMENT

July, 1900 (gave up all secular posts, left home forever
and went into the woods of the Himalayas)

RENUNCIATION

January, 1901 - Tehri, adopted Sanyas
(became a monk)

WORLD TOUR

Tokyo, Japan

August, 1902 - Dec., 1904

Oct. 1902 - Addressed International
Buddhist Conference -

U.S.A.

Nov. 1902-1904

- Lectured in various Universities of U.S.A. and was offered
D.Litt., which was gracefully refused with due gratitude.
- Presented a copy of 'an appeal to Americans on behalf of
India' to the worthy President of America, Mr. Theodore
Roosevelt for the freedom of India.

Egypt

Nov 1904

Discoursed in a grand mosque in Persian language on
Vedanta Philosophy in Ciaro.

DEMISE

October 17, 1906, at Simlasu (Tehri) Now Ramtirtha Sagar
(Tehri Dam) Uttarakhand.

A MULTILINGUAL VEDANTIC POET

The name of Swami Ramtirtha (1873-1906) shines like a brilliant star in the firmament of the great poet-philosophers of not only Punjabi but Hindi, Urdu, Persian and English also. 'Thou art That' - *tat tvam asi*; 'this individual soul is the cosmic soul' - *ayam atma Brahm*; 'I am the Brahm' - *aham Brahmasmi* and the true nature of 'Brahm is nothing but knowledge' - *prajnanam Brahm*. These four *Mahavakyas* of the four Vedas were revitalized by Swami Ramtirtha for his grand modern philosophical palace of applied Vedanta which he termed as Muscular Vedanta. It must be stated that Swami Ramtirtha has not discovered a new truth but has absorbed the spiritual heritage of the Vedic seers, made it his own, enriched it and gave it deeper significance and wide scope for the benefit of mankind in his day to day life.

Actually, Swami Ramtirtha was a Vedantic poet of the first order. This is the first time in the history of sacred poetry of the world that the Vedantic conception 'I am Brahm' *aham Brahmasmi* is taken so profoundly, profusely and boldly. In Swami Ramtirtha's poetry *Brahm* is taken as the first person, *Twamevham* or *'so-ham'*, means 'I am Thou', the supreme stage of spiritual development. Whether Rama pours out his intimate spiritual experience in Punjabi, Hindi, Urdu, Persian or English, he is perfectly one with the Supreme Self, Brahm. There exists not a single trace of duality, illusion or doubt of any kind.



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that awaits within.



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