

*This book, **Shiva Sutras: The Supreme Awakening**, is revealed by the twentieth century's great philosopher Saint Swami Lakshmanjoo. This spiritual treasure, gifted by God to the sage Vasugupta for the upliftment of humankind, is considered to be one of Kashmir Shaivism's most important scriptures. Here, Swami Lakshmanjoo gives the reader a penetrating vision of the glorious journey of Supreme Awakening; the traveling from limited individuality to absolute oneness with God. Swami Lakshmanjoo draws on his own experience and the lineage of Kashmir Shaiva Masters to reveal the esoteric commentary of Abhinavagupta's chief disciple Kshemaraja. The secrets of this sacred teaching are once again being made available for the upliftment of humankind.*

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Shiva Sutras
"The Supreme Awakening"

WITH THE COMMENTARY OF
Kshemaraja

REVEALED BY
Swami Lakshmanjoo

EDITED BY
John Hughes

Universal Shaiva Fellowship

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This book, *ShivaSutras: The Supreme Awakening*, is revealed by the twentieth century's great philosopher saint Swami Lakshmanjoo. This spiritual treasure, gifted by God to the sage Vasugupta for the upliftment of humankind, is considered to be one of Kashmir Shaivism's most important scriptures. Here, Swami Lakshmanjoo gives the reader a penetrating vision of the glorious journey of the Supreme Awakening; the traveling from limited individuality to absolute oneness with God. This secret teaching, contained within these pages, is revealed by Swami Lakshmanjoo for the first time. Drawing on his own experience Swami Lakshmanjoo, basing his rendering on the esoteric commentary of Abinavagupta's chief disciple Kshemaraja, shows us the way home.

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- 1.16. *suddha-tattva-samadhanadva'pasusaktih* 54
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- 3.4. *sarire, samharah kalanam* 137
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- 3.14.** *yatha tatra tathanyatra* **165**
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- 3.15.** *bijavadhanam* **167**
 Maintain breakless awareness on that **supreme** energy which is the seed of the universe.
- 3.16.** *asanasthah sukham hrade nimajjati* **169**
 Seated in that real posture, he effortlessly dives in the ocean of nectar.
- 3.17.** *svamatranirmanamapadayati* **171**
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- 3.18.** *vidya 'vinase* *janmavinashah* **173**
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- 3.19.** *kavargadisuh mahesvaryadyah* *pasumatarah* **175**
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- 3.20.** *trisu caturtham tailavadasecyam* **180**
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- 3.21.** *magnah svacittena* *praviset* **182**
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- 3.28.** *danamatmajnanam* **197**
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- 3,29. *yo'vipastho* *jnahetusca* 198
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- 3.32. *tatpravritavapyanirasah* *samvettribhavat* 206
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- 3.33. *sukhaduhkhayorbahirmananam* 208
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- 3.34. *tadvimuktastu* *kevali* 210
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- 3.35. *mohapratisariihatastu karmatma* 212
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- 3.36. *bhedatiraskare* *sargantarakarmatvam* 214
He drives away the field of differentiated perceptions and enters into a new world of God consciousness.

- 3.37. *karana saktih svato'nubhavat* **217**
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- 3.38. *tripadadyanuprananam* **219**
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- 3.39. *citta sthitivaccharira karanabahyesu* **224**
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- 3.40. *abhilasadbahirgatih sambahyasya* **226**
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- 3.41. *tadarudhapramitestatksayajjiva samksayah* **228**
 All desire vanishes in that fortunate person whose consciousness is established in his own real nature. For him the state of being a limited individual has ended.
- 3.42. *bhutakancuki tada vimukto bhuyah patisamah parah* **231**
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- 3.43. *naisargikah pranasambandhah* **234**
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Guide to Pronunciation

The following English words exemplify the pronunciation of selected Sanskrit vowels and consonants. The Romanized Sanskrit vowel or consonant is first listed and then a English word is given to aid you in its proper pronunciation.

a	as	a in America.
ā	as	a in father.
i	as	i in fill, lily.
ī	as	i in police.
u	as	u in full.
ū	as	u in rude.
ṛi	as	ri in merrily.
ṛī	as	ri in marine.
e	as	e in prey.
ai	as	ai in aisle.
o	as	o in stone.
au	as	ou in house
ś	as	s in sure
ṣ	as	s in shun , bush
s	as	s in saint, sin

Preface

This book is the distillation of over 16 hours of tape recorded audio lectures. It was Swami Lakshmanjoo's intent, in giving these lecture translations, to disclose in English the esoteric meaning of these *Siva Sutras* of Vasugupta as well as that of the commentary, called *Vimarsini*, by Ksemaraja, both of which were originally composed in Sanskrit. In attending these lectures it became obvious to this editor that Swami Lakshmanjoo was completely in command of his subject matter. Infact, his command of Sankrit was superior to that of English, a condition he declared many times during his discourses. So, although absolutely fluent in Sanskrit many times he had to search for the appropriate word in English to clearly elucidate the Sanskrit texts. In fact on occasion he would tell us that he was not looking to translate the Sanskrit closely, but rather to give us the essential meaning of the text. Realizing that Kashmir Saivism is an oral tradition and to maintain the flavor and strict intent of Swami Lakshmanjoo's translation I have tried, as much as possible, to preserve his style of English and vocabulary. Because of this at times the English rendering may seem stilted, uneven and repetitive. I beg your indulgence and ask for your understanding in this regard. To be honest I am awed and humbled by the power and depth of Swami Lakshmanjoo's understanding. I only pray that I have been able to do justice to his rendering of this great Kashmir Shaiva scripture.

The text used by Swami Lakshmanjoo in this rendering is the *Siva Sutra Vimarsini*, published in 1911 as a volume in the

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Kashmir Series of Texts and Studies. This text was actually the first volume of an extensive series of Kashmir Shaiva texts which were collected, edited and published in the early part of the 20th century by the Research Department of Kashmir State under the authority of the Government of the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir. This work was done at the express wish of the Maharaja Pratab Singh who had a great fondness for Kashmir Saivism. Swami Lakshmanjoo, in using this early text of the Siva Sutra Vimarsim, discovered numerous errors, omissions and extraneous additions which he corrected in his own copy and incorporated in this rendering. This original text in Devanagari, incorporating Swami Lakshmanjoo's textual corrections, is appended at the end of this book.

To preserve a smooth flow of the text for the English reader, with the exception of the Sutras themselves the Sanskrit for the verses being referenced in Ksemaraja's commentary is not included in the body of this work. The interested Sanskrit reader can find these verses in their original Devanagari in the appendix.

Acknowledgments

I want to offer my deepest thanks to my teacher and spiritual master Swami Lakshmanjoo who charged me with the blessed task of editing and publishing his sacred translations and who had unending confidence in my abilities even though at times I was filled with doubt.

I want to thank my wife Denise for offering me her unwavering support on every level even though at times it must have been very difficult. I want to thank my good friend and guru brother Michael Van Winkle without whose help support none of this would have been possible. I want to thank George Van Den Barselaar for tirelessly reading and re-reading the manuscript and offering his very insightful suggestions. I want to thank Claudia Dose for performing the very difficult task of type setting the *Shiva Sutras* in *Devanagari*. I want to thank Bernadine Dawes for her selfless help in typesetting and re-typesetting this book. And finally I want to thank Dr. Jagdish Sharma for reading through both the English and Devanagari portions of the manuscript making his valuable suggestions and pointing out any textual errors.

The Author

Swami Lakshmanjoo

Swami Lakshmanjoo was born in Srinagar, Kashmir on May 9, 1907. He was the last and the greatest of the saints and masters of the tradition of Kashmir Shaivism. Having a deep understanding of the philosophy and practices of Kashmir Shaivism, he was like a splendid and rare jewel. Beginning from childhood he spent his whole life studying and practicing the teachings of this unique sacred tradition. Because of his intellectual power and strength of awareness, he realized both spiritually and intellectually the reality of its thought.

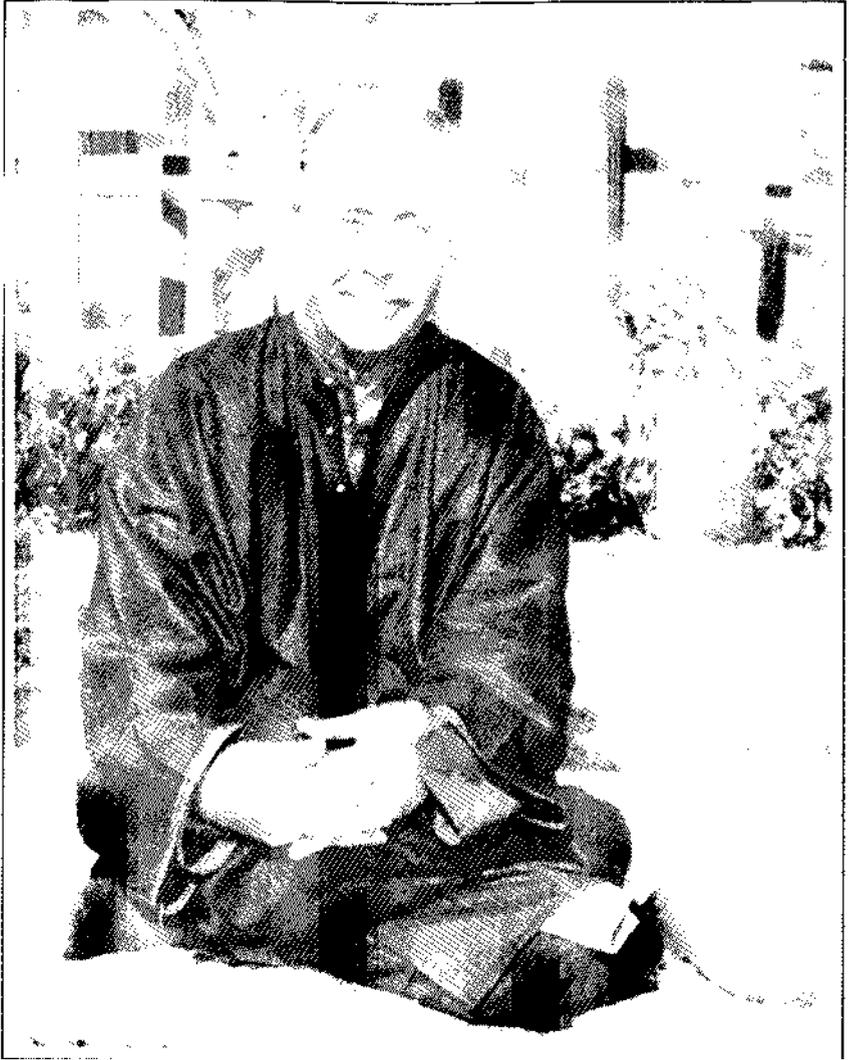
Being born with a photographic memory learning was always easy. In addition to complete knowledge of Kashmir Shaivism he had a vast knowledge of the traditional religious and philosophical texts of India. When translating or teaching he would freely draw on other texts to clarify, expand and substantiate his teaching. He could recall an entire text by simply remembering the first few words of the verse.

In time his reputation as a learned philosopher and spiritual adept spread. Spiritual leaders and scholars journeyed from all over the world to receive his blessing and to ask him questions about various aspects of Kashmir Shaiva philosophy. He gained renown as a devotee of Lord Shiva and as a master of the nondual tradition of Kashmir Shaivism.

Throughout his life Swami Lakshmanjoo taught his disciples and devotees the ways of devotion and awareness. He shunned fame and recognition and did not seek his own glory. He knew Kashmir Shaivism was a most precious jewel and that by God's

grace, those who desired to learn would be attracted to its teachings. His earnest wish was that Kashmir Shaivism be preserved and made available to all who desired to know it.

On September 27, 1991 Swami Lakshmanjoo attained the great liberation and left his physical body.



Swamiji

Introduction

The series of twenty lectures derived from the revelations that comprise this book began on 7 June 1975, at the ashram of the preeminent Kashmir Saivaite philosopher/saint Swami Lakshmanjoo. Lakshmanjoo, known to his devotees as Swamiji, lived on the eastern side of the Kashmir Valley on a hill overlooking the famous Dal Lake just near the famous Mogul garden, Nishat. The area surrounding Swamiji's ashram has for centuries been sanctified by the sacred feet of great Saivaite masters. Abhinavagupta and others frequented this peaceful tract of land and enjoyed the beautiful orchards that spread majestically over the hillside. To the north, within walking distance, is the valley of Harvan where, at the foot of Mahadeva Mountain, the *Siva Sutras* were revealed centuries ago to the great sage and Siva devotee, Vasugupta.

Swamiji met with us in the morning once or twice a week in a small glassed-in lecture hall, its mud walls adorned with the illustrations of gods, goddesses, and the pictures of saints and holy men. Those attending these lectures - about eight in all - gathered at nine in the morning at the entrance of the ashram and waited for Swamiji to come and open the gate. I remember the excitement I would experience each morning in anticipation of his lecture. I knew that these talks were filled with precious knowledge. This doesn't mean that I fully understood everything Swamiji taught us but I did have a clear intimation of its importance. I was convinced that these lectures contained a secret knowledge that held the key to the human predicament.

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Here, humankind was being given the understanding and means to obtain liberation from the bondage of *samsara* - the endless cycle of birth and death.

Upon opening the gate, Swamiji would greet us warmly and invite us to follow him along a short path to the building that housed the lecture hall. After entering the hall, we would each find our own place on the soft Kashmiri rugs covering the mud floor across from Swamiji, who would face us sitting cross-legged on a rug behind a small table where he placed his Sanskrit copy of the *Siva Sutra Vimarsini*. In preparing to give the lecture, Swamiji would wait patiently while he was fitted with a lapel microphone and while I checked to see that the tape-recorder was working. Swamiji was always concerned about the lectures being recorded and would never start until I gave him the assurance that everything was in working order.

The recording of Swamiji's lectures first began in 1971. I had arrived in Kashmir for the sole purpose of asking him if he would teach me Kashmir Saivism. His reply was, "Yes ... if you have enough time I will be willing to teach you." I then asked him if I could record his lectures. He agreed readily, saying, "It would be a good idea to make recordings of my lectures." As time passed and I continued my studies, I meticulously recorded everything that Swamiji said during our meetings. One day, before commencing our class, Swamiji turned to me and said, "I am very pleased with your continued efforts to tape-record and preserve my teachings. Before, I was concerned that the tradition and understanding of Kashmir Saivism would be lost with my passing from this world. Now, however, because there are audio recordings of my teachings, I am hopeful that the true understanding of Kashmir Saivism will be preserved and will not be lost."

Although he was obviously well-versed in all aspects of Indian and Saiva philosophy, Swamiji never approached any teaching from a detached scholarly point of view. Sitting at his feet and hearing him translate and explain the *Siva Sutras*, I realized that these sutras and their true understanding was not at all foreign to his own experience. In fact, I understood that in explaining the *Siva Sutras*, Swamiji was actually revealing his

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own experience. I have heard it said somewhere that the philosophy of Kashmir Saivism is the mystical geography of awareness. How true this seemed to be. Sitting at Swamiji's feet, I understood that he had realized this geography. It was his own home. He was not like a scholar describing the ocean while standing on the shore. He was the ocean. This makes the translation presented here even more real and personal. It is for this reason that I emphasize that this book stands as a revelation and not as a strict translation.

THE SIVA SUTRAS

Kashmir Saivism is a system of philosophy known as the Trika system. The Sanskrit word *trika* means "threefold." In Kashmir Saivism, *trika* is used to refer to the threefold signs of humankind and their world. These three signs are Siva, Sakti and the bound individual (*nara*), and the three energies of Siva. These three energies are *para Sakti*, supreme energy; *parapara sakti*, medium energy; and *apara sakti*, inferior energy. Trika philosophy explains that the realm of *apara sakti*, the lowest energy, is found in states of wakefulness (*jagrat*) and dreaming (*svapna*). The domain of *parapara sakti*, the medium energy, is established in the state of sound sleep (*susupti*). And finally, the province of *parasakti*, the supreme energy, is found in the fourth (*turya*) state. These three primary energies represent the threefold activities of the world. The philosophy of Trika Saivism declares that the whole universe and every action in it, whether spiritual, physical, or worldly exists within these three energies.

In his book, *Kashmir Saivism, the Secret Supreme*, Swami Lakshmanjoo tells us that Trika philosophy is intended for any human being without restriction of caste, creed, or color. Its purpose is to enable the aspirant to rise from individuality to universality. Trika Saivism is composed of four schools of practice and philosophy. These are the *Pratyabhijna* system, the *Kula* system, the *Krama* system and the *Spanda* system. All four of these schools of Kashmir Saivism accept and

are based on sacred scriptures called *agamas*. The word *agamas* refers to the sacred teachings that exist within Lord Siva. And so these scriptures, as *agamas*, are understood to be Siva's revelation.

In Saivism, there are 92 *agamas*, delineated as follows: the monistic *Bhairava Sastras*, which are supreme (*para*), number 64; the mono-dualistic *Rudra Sastras*, which are medium (*parapara*), number 18; and the dualistic and inferior (*apara*) *Siva Sastras* number 10.

Because the *Siva Sutras* were revealed to the sage Vasugupta by Lord Siva, they are also considered a divine revelation and as such are accepted as *agama sastra*. In fact, in revealing the absolute monism central to the philosophy of Kashmir Saivism, the *Siva Sutras* are considered to be one of the most important *agamas* of Trika Saivism.

Sutras are short sentence statements, many times without a formal verb, which, like a string, run through and bind together that which they are revealing. There are three complete commentaries and one smaller commentary available on the *Siva Sutras*. These commentaries are the *Siva Sutra Vimarsini* by Ksemaraja, the *Siva Sutra Varttikam* by Bhatta Bhaskara, the *Siva Sutra Varttikam* by Varadaraja and a brief commentary known as the *Siva Sutra Vrtti* by an unknown author. Ksemaraja, the author of the *Vimarsini*, lived in the tenth century C.E. Bhatta Bhaskara, the author of the *Siva Sutra Varttikam* lived in the eleventh century C.E. Varadaraja, the author of the other *Varttikam* on the *Siva Sutra*, lived in the fifteenth century C.E. It is not known when the *Vrtti* was written but because it corresponds so closely with the *Vimarsini* of Ksemaraja, it is thought that it must have been written during the time of Ksemaraja.

KSEMARAJA, THE COMMENTATOR

Ksemaraja is the author of the commentary known as *Vimarsini*, upon which Swami Lakshmanjoo bases his rendering of the *Siva Sutras*. Swamiji tells us that Ksemaraja was

the chief disciple of the great Kashmir Saivaite philosopher-saint Abhinavagupta, who lived in the tenth century C.E. Ksemaraja was a prolific writer who possessed a keen philosophical intellect. His writings possess a command and understanding of one who has actually lived the experience he is explaining. The authority expressed in his writings also suggests that he was spiritually quite advanced. But because he wrote about the deepest and most subtle of human spiritual experiences, his writings are said to be complex and hard to understand. For the most part, in writing about a most refined and universal experience, Ksemaraja had to employ a language and cognitive framework suitable to express that reality. Those who have not actually experienced the ultimate universal reality central to the philosophy of Kashmir Saivism will not have acquired a point of reference with which to understand it. Explaining the nuances of the universal experience to those who can only imagine it, is like trying to explain the third dimension to those who can only experience two dimensions.

Along with the *Siva Sutra Vimarsini* of which the present work is a translation and elaboration, Ksemaraja also wrote the following works:

Pratyabhijnahrdayam (text on the philosophy of *Pratyabhijna*)
Spandanirnaya (commentary on the *Spanda Karika*)
Spandasandoha (commentary on the first verse of the *Spanda Karika*)

Parapravesika (a short introduction to the thought of Kashmir Saivism)

Commentary on *Svacchanda Tantra*

Commentary on *Netra Tantra*

Commentary on *Sivastotravali of Utpaladeva*

Commentary on *Stavacintamani of Bhatta Narayana*

Commentary on *Vijnanabhairava* (only about 25 verses **exist**)

ORGANIZATION

The *Siva Sutras* are divided into three parts. According to Ksemaraja, the three parts correspond to the three means

Introduction

(*upayas*) for the attainment of liberation (*moksa*), as revealed by Kashmir Saivism. The three *upayas* for traveling from individual limited consciousness to universal God consciousness are *sambhavopaya*, *saktopaya* and *anavopaya*. The first and highest means is called *sambhavopaya*. The second means, for aspirants of medium qualifications, is called *Saktopaya*. The third means, called *anavopaya*, is regarded as inferior.

Abhinavagupta, drawing from the *Malinivijaya Tantra*, defines *Sambhavopaya* as the *upaya* wherein the aspirant achieves entry (*samavesa*) into supreme consciousness just by the grace of his master, without adopting any process. He does not use thought (*dhyana*), *mantra*, or any other aid to meditation. *Saktopaya* is defined as the *upaya* where the aspirant achieves mystical entry (*samavesa*) through contemplation of the mental object that cannot be spoken or recited. *Anavopaya* is defined as the *upaya* where mystical entry takes place through concentration on parts of the body (*sthana-prakalpana*), contemplation (*dhyana*), recitation (*varna*), taking the support of the breath (*uccara*), and *mantras*.¹

The means of traveling from limited consciousness to universal consciousness depends on the ability of the aspirant. Abhinavagupta tells us in the *Tantraloka* that the aspirant should always try for the highest and best thing first. Failing that, he should try for the next best, and so on. Thus, in his *Tantraloka*, he has defined and elaborated the highest *upaya*, *Sambhavopaya*, first. His descriptions of *saktopaya* and *anavopaya* follow.

And so it is that the *Siva Sutras* also start with the highest and most refined means. The first awakening explains the highest *upaya*, *sambhavopaya*; the second awakening explains *saktopaya*, and the third awakening explains *anavopaya*.

1. Swami Lakshmanjoo, translation **and** commentary on *Tantraloka* 1.167, 1.169; October 1975 tape-recording **in possession** of the editor.

First Awakening

The *Siva Sutras* are the sutras of Lord Siva himself. Ksemaraja, a disciple of Abhinavagupta, has provided us with a commentary on them. He begins with an introductory verse.

I surrender my body and mind to that supreme God consciousness of Siva, who is the whole universe and who is one in many. It is from Him that the *Rudras* and the *Ksetrajnas*¹ arise and it is in Him that they rest.

This universe, which is a world of consciousness, is filled with and is one with the supreme state of God consciousness. God consciousness is *spanda*, a unique reality of supreme movement filled with nectar and an outpouring of the supreme bliss of independence.

Ksemaraja says, "Although I know there are many commentaries existing on *Siva Sutras*, I find they all differ from each other and are all incorrect. Therefore, taking the protection of my masters and scriptures, I will present a new and fresh approach in commentating on these *Siva Sutras*."

Some time before in the valley of Kashmir, at the foot of Sri

1. *Ksetrajnas* are those beings who have achieved the fullness of God consciousness through spiritual practice. *Rudras* are those beings who are eternally filled with God consciousness.

Mahadeva Mountain, there lived a great devotee of Lord Siva named Vasugupta. He was absolutely unique and purified by the grace of Lord Siva. Filled with devotion, Vasugupta did not accept the theory and teachings of Buddhist philosophers.² Having purified his heart by the teachings of siddhas and yoginis,³ he was determined in meditating on Lord Siva.

After some time, Lord Siva, having decided to elevate the great master Vasugupta by filling him with true knowledge, appeared in a dream. In this dream, he told Vasugupta that at the foot of Mahadeva Mountain, there is a great boulder and under this boulder are inscribed his sacred verses (sutras). He then directed him to find these sutras and to practice their teaching. "If you do this," he said, "you will discover the truth of the reality of God consciousness."

Vasugupta awoke from his dream and set off in search of the great rock. Eventually, he found the rock just where Lord Siva said it would be, at the foot of Mahadeva Mountain. As soon as he touched it, it turned over and there, on the underside, he found the engraved sutras described by Lord Siva.

He was awestruck and filled with joy. He began intense study and reflection on these sutras. He read them thoroughly and exhaustively, concentrating and meditating upon each one, seeking to grasp its true and hidden meaning. Through this profound study and reflection, he gained the understanding and knowledge the sutras contained. He then began to share the theory and secrets of these sutras with his chief disciples, Bhattakallata and others. Simultaneously, he revealed the sutras in a book called *Spanda Karika*. Ksemaraja further clarified these *spanda* verses in his work entitled *Spanda Nirnaya*.

Now the Siva Sutras will be explained.

The first sutra of the *Siva Sutras* explains that the reality of

2. *Nagabodhi siddhas*.

3. *Siddhas* are those saints who are hidden, who do not reside in physical bodies. They reside in subtle bodies and are all pervading. *Yoginis* are female *siddhas*.

the universe is the real self. This self is not false. This is contrary to the theories of those philosophers who argue that the individual being is always individual being and universal being is always universal being. For these philosophers, universal being will never be united with individual being and individual being will never be united with universal being. This first sutra, on the other hand, states that individual being is one with universal being. The reality of this whole universe is God consciousness. It is filled with God consciousness.

1. *caitanyamatma*

*The independent state of supreme consciousness
is the reality of everything.*

In this verse, the word *atma* means "the reality of everything." Supreme consciousness, "*caitanyam*," is the reality of everything. Why? Because the one who has not come into consciousness does not exist at all. The act of consciousness is the same in the conscious and the unconscious. For the one who is conscious, the act of consciousness is there. For the one who is not conscious of the act of consciousness, it is also there in the background.

So, the conscious being is the being who makes others conscious. This being is independent in all knowledge and every action. Such a reality is called *caitanya*, which means "complete independence." All knowledge and all action are united in one consciousness - completely independent God consciousness. Only *Paramasiva* possesses this completely independent God consciousness.

From earth to *Anasrita Siva*⁴ all beings are dependent on the conscious being, Siva. Although the complete, independent state of Siva possesses many divine aspects - such as being eternal,

4. *Anasrita Siva* is that state of Siva where universal existence is excluded from his own nature because of the apprehension that universality

all-pervading, completely full and all-knowing - these divine aspects are not unique to Siva. They could also be found in other beings. The singularly unique aspect of Lord Siva is complete independence, *svatantrya*. This complete independence is not found anywhere except in the state of Lord Siva.

In this sutra, the state of complete independence is indicated and accomplished through the use of the word *caitanya*. On the other hand, the author would use the word *cetana*⁵ if he were to declare that other aspects, in addition to the aspect of complete independence (*svatantrya*), also existed in the state of Lord Siva. But only one aspect exists and that is *svatantrya*. The other aspects, such as being all-pervading, completely full, filled with bliss, etc., do not exist. It is only this one aspect, *svatantrya*, that is revealed by the word *caitanya*. This indicates that the word *caitanya* means "the independent state of consciousness."

The independent state of consciousness is the self. It is the self of everything, because whatever exists in the world is the state of Lord Siva. So Lord Siva is found everywhere.

We have already seen that different aspects of Lord Siva do not exist at all. Now I will show you why these "different aspects" are to be excluded from those of Lord Siva. If, for the moment, we accept that different aspects of Lord Siva do exist, then we must ask the question: Are these aspects filled with *svatantrya*? If they are not filled with *svatantrya*, then they are insentient (*jada*) and without consciousness (*anatma*). If, however, the aspects are also filled with the independent consciousness of Lord Siva, then why not just accept independent consciousness? Why postulate those independent aspects at all?

And, at the same time, if the state of God consciousness exists in the fullness of independence, and if time, space, and form are separate from the independent state of consciousness, then they would not exist at all. Time would not exist, space would not exist, and form would not exist. If, however, we accept these aspects, thinking that he is eternal, timeless, and the cause of the universe, then if they are accepted as indepen-

5. *Cetana* means "consciousness," "awareness," while *caitanya* refers to that state that is entirely independent in all knowledge and all action.

dent, they are filled with consciousness. If, however, they are not independent, then they have been carried away from God consciousness and they cannot exist at all in the state of Lord Siva.

Now, if all individual beings are filled with consciousness, then where is the difference in these beings? There can be no difference. So, all individual beings are one universal being.

Let us examine the theory of the *malas*, the veils of ignorance. Where does this ignorance exist? How can we say that ignorance exists? If ignorance is removed from God consciousness, it does not exist at all. So where does it exist? If ignorance is filled with the independent state of God consciousness, then it is not ignorance at all, but fullness of God consciousness. So ignorance cannot be found. Then what is it that remains? What is left? There is only independent supreme God consciousness - which is the reality of the self.

What if, for the time being, we were to say that the veil of ignorance exists before you are realized, and that afterwards, when you are realized, it does not exist? Then, if ignorance does not exist after realization, it is the truth that it did not exist at all. Why? Because at the time of realization, the aspirant realizes and knows that ignorance does not exist at all. So that ignorance never exists. Whatever he called ignorance existed, but it was not actually ignorance; it was really non-fullness of knowledge.

Ksemaraja talks about those aspirants who are on the path, who meditate day and night, and do not achieve anything. He says these aspirants are the same as ignorant people. This is not the real state of Siva. The real state of Siva is full realization. When full realization takes place, that is the fullness - the reality - of independent God consciousness. Until then, nothing has happened. Aspirants who practice day and night and do not achieve anything are just like ignorant worldly persons bound up in *samsara*. The reality of the self only exists when you are filled with the independent state of supreme God consciousness (*caitanya*). Until then, everything is useless and worthless.

So, there are not individual states of being, there is only the

universal state of being, and that is one. This is why, in the very first verse, the author has explained that God consciousness is one in many.

Now we can explain this verse another way. When a master teaches his disciples by asking them, "Who is the self?" the disciples reply by saying, "The body is not the self, the breath is not the self, the intellect is not the self, voidness is not the self, this universe is not the self, the tradition of the atheists is not the self, the tradition of the Vedas is not the self, the tradition of the Buddhists is not the self and the Madhyamika school of Buddhism is not the self." Then the master asks, "What is self?" And he answers his own question by saying, "Independent supreme God consciousness is the self and nothing else."

The independent state of God consciousness is also found in the individual states of body (*Sarira*), breath (*prana*), intellect (*buddhi*) and void (*Sunya*). In the body, he is above the body. In breath, he is above the breath. In intellect, he is the super intellect. In voidness, he is full. In nothingness, he is everything. This is the reality of universal I (*aham*).

Mrityunjidbhattacharaka also gives the same exposition of the self:'

This independent supreme state of God consciousness is the nature of the self, which is found in every *sastra*. It is the reality of the supreme self (*paramatman*). Beyond all coverings, it is fully exposed.

The *Vijnana Bhairava* says the same thing.

In each and every being exists the independent state of God consciousness. You must find this state of God consciousness. To accomplish this, concentrate on the totality of individuality, the state of universal consciousness. If this is done, you will conquer the differentiated state of world and will be carried above the individuality of consciousness. (*Vijnana Bhairava* 100)

This is also expressed by Vasugupta in two verses of the *Spanda Karika*:

If, through deep meditation, you examine the classes and activities of organs known as the organs of cognition and the organs of action, you will find in them the supreme independent state of God consciousness. (*Spanda Karika* 1.6, 1.7)

Ksemaraja now gives another exposition of this first sutra. He says that, in the verse, the word *atma* means "form." Thus the meaning is: "This supreme independent state of God consciousness (*caitanya*) is the form." But the author has not revealed whose form. He simply says that this supreme independent state of God consciousness is form. If it is not said whose form it is, you must conclude that this is the form of everything. So, the independent supreme state of God consciousness is the form of everything. It is the form of the nose, it is the form of the eye, it is the form of the face, it is the form of the arm, it is the form of the limbs. And even more than that: It is the form of an animal, such as a sheep; it is the form of a tree; it is the form of everything in this world.

The independent state of God consciousness is not only the form of the existing world, it is also the form of the nonexistent world. In the nonexistent world, you find the milk of a bird. Have you ever seen the milk of a bird? Of course not! But the milk of a bird also exists in the supreme independent state of God consciousness. Why? Because it can be thought. You can think of the milk of a bird. So, anything that can be thought exists. Although it may be nonexistent, it exists in the supreme independent state of God consciousness.

The formulation of the milk of a bird would never occur if it did not exist in consciousness. But it does exist in consciousness, and it can be conceived in thought. So formulations such as the son or daughter of a barren woman exist in the supreme independent state of God consciousness. Ksemaraja, therefore, concludes that nonexistent things also exist in God consciousness.

This is so because of the process of thinking. Thinking takes place in our intellect. That intellect exists in our consciousness and that individual consciousness exists in the supreme state of God consciousness. So everything exists. Whatever you think exists and whatever you do not think also exists.

How can these objects exist without the knowers of these objects? It is because of the knowers of these objects that these objects exist. So, the knower and the known are one. And it follows that there is nothing right and there is nothing wrong. Everything is filled with God consciousness. Whatever you do is divine and whatever you do not do is divine as well. Whatever you commit is divine, and whatever you do not commit is also divine. The individual being is filled with the universal state of being.

The independent supreme state of God consciousness is the formation of the universe. Therefore, how can you choose some means out of all the universe for its realization? If you choose some means from the universe, that too is that which is meant. Therefore, whatever means you select, say, *pranayama*, *dharana*, *dhyana*, or *samadhi*⁶ such a way is filled with God consciousness. Therefore, that is not actually means, that is, in reality, meant. That is the end, not the means to that end. So, there is no choosing various means, there is no process, there is no *sadhana*.

If, for the time being, you declare that things are not filled with God consciousness, even then they are dependent on the supreme state of God consciousness. They cannot be known, they cannot exist, unless they are found and realized in the supreme universal state of God consciousness. And the supreme state of God consciousness can never be covered by anything. Why? Because the covering cannot exist without supreme God consciousness.

It is also said in the revered scripture *Ucchasma Bhairava*:

You must know that the state of independent supreme God consciousness is existing in the same way, beyond your individual state, as your shadow exists. Although you try to cross it and

6. These four means form part of the eight limbs of yoga as set forth in Patanjali's *Yoga Sutra*. Traditionally, *pranayama* is understood to be the control of the breath, *dharana* is concentration, *dhyana* is meditation and *samadhi* is absorption. See sutra 6 of the Third Awakening for the expanded Kashmir Saiva explanation of these "limbs of yoga."

overtake it with your footsteps, you will never succeed. It cannot be overtaken just as the head cannot be in place of the foot.

This means that the supreme state of God consciousness can never be realized by any separate means; it can only be realized by the means that is filled with God consciousness. So then there is no need to realize anything; it is already realized. Just as one's shadow can never be overtaken, the supreme state of independent God consciousness can never become objective. It is never found, it is never realized. Why? Because it is the state of the finder, the state of the realizer.

In *Spanda*, it is revealed in these verses:

In which state this whole universe is existing, that is in **the real** sense the reality of being. (*Spanda Karika* 1.2, 1.5)

It is concluded, therefore, that the supreme reality of *Sankara's*⁷ consciousness is that it is in a state of movement. It is not fixed or situated in any one place. It is located everywhere. Wherever there is space, it is there. Wherever there is not space, it is there. It is in space and beyond it.

7. *Paramasiva* (Supreme Siva).

If *Paramasiva* is the formation of the whole universe, which is filled with both animate and inanimate objects the very nature of which is *caitanya*, then where can bondage exist? Actually, there can be no bondage. Bondage is not found anywhere! In this second sutra, the author, in joining and separating the first two sutras "*caitanya* *atma*" and "*jnanam bandhah*" by uniting the letter *a* and not uniting it, answers the question "Where can bondage exist?"

2. *jnanam bandhah*

Knowing differentiatedly is bondage and not knowing undifferentiatedly is bondage.

In the first reading, when you unite these two sutras with the letter *a*, it reads *caitanya* *atma*, *ajnanam bandhah*. When you do not unite them, then the reading will be *caitanya* *atma*, *jnanam bandhah*. So the author defines the meaning of *jnana* in two ways: *Jnanam bandhah*, knowing is bondage, and *ajnanam bandhah*, not knowing is bondage. Thus the meaning of the verse is knowing differentiatedly is bondage and not knowing undifferentiatedly is bondage. So, knowing (*jnanam*) is bondage and not knowing (*ajnanam*) is bondage. These two meanings arise from combining and not combining the words in the first two verses, *caitanya* *atma* from the first verse and *jnanam bandhah* from the second verse. Knowledge is bondage. What knowledge is bondage? Differentiated knowledge. What not knowing is bondage? Not knowing your own undifferentiated self. So knowing individual consciousness as one's own nature and not knowing

universal consciousness as one's own nature, are both bondage. In the path of Saivism, there is nothing that exists or that does not exist that is separated from *citprakasa*, the conscious self. Impurity (*mala*), therefore, also does not exist. So how can impurity (*mala*) come between you and the conscious self, creating obstacles and bondage? It cannot. Then what is impurity (*malap*). Impurity is not dirt, impurity is ignorance.

We are told this in the *Malini Vijaya Tantra*:

Impurity (*mala*) is the ignorance (*ajnana*) of undifferentiated nature and the knowledge of differentiated nature. That ignorance is the cause of the sprout of *samsara*.⁸ (*Malini Vijaya Tantra*)

It is also said in the *Sarvacara Tantra*:

Because of this ignorance, you are filled with differentiated, not undifferentiated, knowledge and you become bound in the wheel of repeated births and deaths. This happens in innumerable ways. (*Sarvacara Tantra*)

This contraction or limitation is caused by Paramesvara's great illusive energy. This is the great force of illusion that has risen by the power of his freedom. By this energy of his freedom, he conceals his nature and reveals this limitation in his own self just for play, not in trying to satisfy some deficiency or for pleasure.

The self is only a vacuum full of consciousness (*akasakalpi*). And within that vacuum, that contraction or limitation, are found the states from *Anasrita Siva* to limited *jiva*. The demonstration of limitation is bondage. The contraction is in the form of not knowing. It is ignorance, but ignorance of what? Ignorance of the oneness of Siva. The sign of bondage is the feeling that you are incomplete (*apurnamanyata*). You agree that you are incomplete, that you are not full. That is the impurity (*mala*) known as *anavamala*. It is shrunken

8. The sprout leading to repeated births and deaths.

knowledge and it is ignorance. Why? It is shrunken knowledge because it is knowledge of the differentiated world and it is ignorance because it is ignorance of the undifferentiated state. When you do not know your undifferentiated state, that is *ajnana* (ignorance), and when you know your differentiated state, that is also limited *jnana* (knowledge). *Jnana* is bondage and *ajnana* is also bondage.

Bondage is not separate from being, it is combined with being. It is not possible that bondage comes from another source. Bondage is a result of your own freedom, your own free will with which you have bound yourself. This is the explanation given in this verse in *Spanda Karika*:

When, by your own freedom, your own free will, you become worthless, powerless, incapable of anything... (*Spanda Karika* 1.9)

Not only knowledge is bondage. We have seen above that ignorance is also bondage. When you think, "I am not the real self, I am not universal consciousness," that is bondage. But that is not the only bondage. When you insert ego into your body, that too is bondage. So there are two ways to explain this sutra. We can either explain it as *ajnanam bandhah* or *jnanam bandhah*. *Ajnanam bandhah*, "not knowing your own nature is bondage," and *jnanam bandhah*, "knowing your body as your own nature is bondage."

This is explained in this verse in *Spanda Karika*,

The supreme nectar is carried away from your nature ... (*Spanda Karika* 3.14)

We concluded in the first sutra that the word *caitanya* means "complete freedom of universal consciousness." With regard to universal consciousness, *anavamala* is defined in two ways. In the first definition, *anavamala* is defined as the state of limited consciousness that exists when you are not in *samadhi*. In this definition of *anavamala*, even though you realize the nature of consciousness where you are always conscious and aware, you

feel that this consciousness only exists while *samadhi* exists. When *samadhi* ends, the state of consciousness also ends.

The second understanding of *anavamala* is defined as that state of limited consciousness where you lose consciousness of your nature after coming out from *samadhi* where you are now free and enter into the external world. Here, in this variation of *anavamala*, when you come out of *samadhi* and enter into the external world, you are free but then lose consciousness of your own nature and must return to the internal world to regain your consciousness. Both of these kinds of *anavamala* are bondage.

You must either always remain in *samadhi*, where you are in your own real nature of consciousness, or while residing in the real nature of consciousness, you come out from that real nature into the external world. Then as soon as you come out from that real nature into the external world, you begin to lose that nature. So *anavamala* pervades two worlds, the external world and the internal world. When it pervades the internal world, then you cannot come out from there. When it pervades the external world, then it is pervading and yet, as soon as you come out into the external world, the consciousness of your real nature ends.

This is explained in this *sloka* in the *Pratyabhijna Karika*:

This *anavamala* is said to be twofold. Sometimes in the state of your consciousness, there is no freedom. That state of consciousness comes by the grace of God, not by your own will. Or if you find freedom (*svatantrya*), you will not experience universal consciousness in the same way you did in *samadhi*. Though you have freedom, universal consciousness is lessened.

Sometimes there is no freedom (*svatantryahani*), sometimes there is no awareness (*abodha*). In this way, the aspirant's real nature is taken away from him.

Now the author tells us that *anavamala* is not the **only bondage**. There is something more.

3. *yonivargah kalasariram //*

Mayiyamala and karmamala are also bondage.

Here, the word *yonivarga* means "differentiated knowledge." He is mine, he is not mine. This is beautiful, this is not beautiful. This is good, this is bad. All these statements are examples of the knowledge that is *yonivarga*. This kind of knowledge is the impurity known as *mayiyamala*.

The Sanskrit words *kala sariram* mean "the embodiment of action." This is done, this is to be done. This is half done, this is well done. These statements are examples of knowledge that is *kala sarira*. This kind of knowledge is the impurity known as *karmamala*. It is bondage and *yonivarga*, separated knowledge, is also bondage.

For understanding, the word *bandhah* (bondage) must be inserted in this sutra. The sutra would thus read, "*yonivarga kala sariram bandhah*," which gives the same meaning as above and adding "this is also bondage."

What is *yonivarga*? The word *yonivarga* comes from combining the two words *yon* and *varga*. The word *yon* means "the cause of the universe." The word *varga* means "class; your own class that is directly or indirectly attached to your body." The universe is the product of the energy of illusion and its class (*varga*).

There is your own class, which is directly attached to your body. This is good, this is bad. This is one finger, this is another

finger. This is the knee. This is direct *yonivarga*. All these statements are examples of classes directly attached to your body. Indirect attachment is that which is referred to in statements such as: this is a wife, this is a disciple, this is a servant, this is a cook, this is rice, this is a plate. All these are indirect attachments.

These two classes, direct or indirect, are the cause of the rise of your body and your own separate individual world attached to your body. That body is *yonivarga*. That is to say, when you are limited in every way - limited in action and limited in knowing - that is *yonivarga*. You experience this limitation from *kala* to earth. Why? Because the manifestation of the differentiated world, *maya*, starts from the element *kala*. Above *maya* is found the pure element *suddhavidya*. So, from the element earth to the element *kala* is *yonivarga* and that is *mayiyamala*.

Now consider *kala sarira*, the embodiment of actions. When an action enters your body, your self in your knowledge, and your mind in your thought, and leaves an impression in you, that is *kala sariram*. This is *karmamala*. When a person thinks, "I am nothing, I am lost, I have lost my precious wife, I am no longer living, I am almost dead," this kind of thinking is the result of *karmamala*. It is also bondage.

These two kinds of bondage are defined in *Spanda Karika* in this verse:

When, by your own freedom, your own free will (the cause of your own impurity), you become worthless, powerless, incapable of anything, then desire rises in you for doing this and doing that. (*Spanda Karika* 1.9)

The full explanation of this point is to be found in Ksemaraja's commentary on *spanda*, entitled the *Spanda Nirnaya*:

Kala means doing some limited action. *Vidya* means having limited knowledge. *Raga* means a passion for attachment to everything. *Niyati* means attachment for a particular object. *Kala* means being bound to a particular time, space and form. (*Spanda Nirnaya* 2.39-41)

The nature of limitation is located on the surface of *anavamala*. When *anavamala* exists, the other two *malas*, *karmamala* and *mayimala*, are also existing. When *anavamala* has ceased to exist, then these other two *malas* will also vanish.

This is said in *Svacchanda Tantra*:

We have concluded that the word *caitanya* means the complete freedom of universal consciousness. Because of the impurity *anavamala*, which is attached with *kala* (limited action) and *vidya* (limited knowledge), *caitanya* (independent universal consciousness) is lost. It is absorbed in *raga* (attachment) and limited by *kala* (time). It is confined in the bondage of *niyati* (attachment to a particular object).⁹ This limitation is strengthened by the limitation of the ego. It is absorbed in the body of *prakriti* and ever united with three *gunas*, *sattva*, *rajas* and *tamas*. It is established in the reality of *buddhi* (intellect).¹⁰ This Universal I is limited in individual I. It is limited by the mind, by the organs of knowledge, by the organs of action, by the five *tanmatras*¹¹ and finally, by the five gross elements. (*Svacchanda Tantra*)

It is said in the *Malini Vijaya Tantra* that *karmamala* also binds one's reality of *caitanya*:

This action, good or bad, gives joy and sadness. (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 1.24)

9. Because of *niyati*, you think, "This house here is my house. That other house is your home. It is not my house." In reality, though, this is not your home, but *niyati* has made you think that it is your house. This is limitation caused by *niyati*.

10. Beyond intellect, there is *caitanya*. When *caitanya* becomes limited, it is transformed into the nature of the intellect, the intellectual state, and it becomes intellect.

11. The five *tanmatras* - *sabda* (sound), *sparsa* (touch), *rupa* (form), *rasa* (taste) and *gandha* (smell) - are subtle elements attached and corresponding to the five great gross elements: *akasa* (ether), *vayu* (air), *tejas* (fire), *jala* (water) and *prithvi* (earth).

When there is joy,¹² one is deprived of sadness, sadness is carried away. So, sadness is there and it is carried away. When sadness is there, joy is carried away. So when there is joy, there is also sadness. And when there is sadness, there is also joy. When there is one, there is the other. It is said in *Sri Pratyabhijna*:

Karmamala and *mayiyamala* always reside in *anavamala*. It is the foundation of these two, which are no other than contracted particular knowledge. (*Pratyabhijna Karika*)

Contracted knowledge is particular (*visista*), not universal (*samanya*). If you know this particular object, that is particular (*visista*) knowledge.¹³ If you know the universe, that is universal (*samanya*) knowledge. It is said in *Pratyabhijna*:

In this field of *anavamala*, differentiated knowledge is *mayiya mala*. When the doer is not properly recognized,¹⁴ that is *karmamala*. That gives you repeated births and deaths, enjoyment and sadness. When there is enjoyment, there is sadness and when there is death, there is life. (*Pratyabhijna Karika*)

Karma is either good or bad. Whenever you do any action, it will be a good or a bad action. With good actions, you will fall, with bad actions, you will fall. There is no way of rising with any action. You may do good or you may do bad. Bad actions carry you downwards, good actions carry you downwards. Only independent action carries you to the Lord. And this is not actually action, but *svatantrya*. Action is always limited and always good or bad.

12. The bliss (*ananda*) of one's own nature is different from the joy being referred to here, which is the joy of everyday life. *Ananda* is not joy. *Ananda* is universal joy. That universal joy is bliss, whereas the joy and sadness we are discussing is the pleasure of the organs.

13. When you perceive an object, you have to ignore something that is not that object; when you perceive that other object, then you have to ignore the previous object. This is a limitation. Through this process, knowledge is contracted and limited. This is particular (*visista*) knowledge. In ultimate reality, there is no other, there is only one.

14. "Not properly recognized" means being not universally realized.

But now the question can be asked, how does this threefold *mala* become the cause of bondage?

4. *jnanadhithanam matrika //*

The Universal Mother commands this triple knowledge.

Matrika, the Universal Mother, is the master director of the triple knowledge consisting of *anavamala*, *mayiyamala* and *karmamala*. Here, the word *matrika* means *ajnata mata*. *Ajnata mata* is the state where universal energy is known in the wrong way. When universal energy is known in a correct way, it is simple *svatantrya sakti*. When it is known in the wrong way, it is energy of illusion and it is called *maya sakti*. So *matrika* is both. *Matrika* means *ajnata mata* when universal energy is not known correctly and *svatantrya* when it is known correctly. This means that *svatantrya* controls the three instruments of bondage. *Svatantrya* is your own will! If you bind yourself or if you free yourself, both are under your control.

The threefold *mala*, which was defined earlier, is first "the feeling of incompleteness" (*apurnammanyata*); second, "differentiated knowledge" (*bhinnavedyapratha*); and third, "the impressions of pleasures and pain" (*subhasubhavasana*). The administrator of these threefold *malas* is the Universal Mother, who pervades all the letters of the alphabet from *a* to *ksa*. This mother not only pervades the world of the alphabet (*vacaka*), but she also pervades the world of objects (*vacya*) designated by those letters. *Vacya* means the world or objects designated by words, which are created by a combination of letters. For example, in the sentence, "This is a chair", the word "chair" is spelled C-H-A-I-R. This is the world of letters. And the object called "chair" sitting in front of you is

what is nominated by that word "chair." This is the world of objects. The objects of this world are known by the words that refer to them. Thus the Universal Mother pervades not only letters, but also objects designated by letters and words. Universal Mother is the creator of the universe.

When universal energy, residing in the field of *māya*, possesses differentiated and constricted knowledge, she appears to be limited, and thinks such thoughts as, "I am not full," "I am weak," "I am stout," "I am the only fortunate person in the world," or "I am a great master," "I have so many disciples," "I am a world renowned teacher." By these words, these letters and these objects, she is sometimes filled with grief, sometimes with wonder, sometimes with joy, sometimes with anger, and sometimes with attachment. And so what finally happens to this victim? This mother (*matrika*) does something terrible. She makes this victim her plaything.

This Universal Mother (*citi*¹⁵ *matrika*) resides in the center of *brahmarandhra*.¹⁶ Around that mother, seated at her feet are the organs of knowledge, the organs of action, mind, intellect and ego (*pithesvari*)¹⁷ These *pithesvaris* become very fearful (*mahaghora*). At every turn, they¹⁸ invariably create illusion and continually strive to bind him even more. Here, the mother (*matrika*) is the essential factor and *pithesvaris* are the agents.

This is a verse from the *Timirodghatta*:

15. *Citi* means consciousness.

16. The *brahmarandhra* is a subtle opening existing at the top of the skull which is pierced by the force of *cit kundalini* when, traveling up the central vein, it rises from *muladhara cakra* to the top of the skull. It then penetrates the subtle opening of *brahmarandhra* and moves from the body to the universe, the great ether of consciousness.

17. These are all *pithesvaris* for the one who has become the play of the mother. The one who is the player is not played by mother. He is existing in the state of being player.

18. The deities of these organs of action, organs of knowledge, mind, intellect and ego are *gocari*, *khecari*, *dikcari*, and *bhucari*.

In *brahmarandhra* there is the Universal Mother. Around her are gathered all the deities who delude the one she is playing with. But the one who is a player with mother is not deluded at all.

And the way he becomes the victim of pleasure and pain is by the words that he hears. For example, he will hear the words "our business has decreased," even though it has not decreased. When he hears that his business is ruined, he will be the victim of grief. And when, on occasion, he hears that his business is doing well, he will be the victim of pleasure. In both cases, he is played by *matrika*. He becomes the victim of grief, the victim of pleasure, the victim of sex or the victim of enjoyment. These are the good and bad things we face in our daily lives. But the one who is player, he will never be sad. All these things will be enjoyed by him. He is aware of his nature. He will never be bound.

The objective world (*vacya*) is the world that is named. The subjective world are the names (*vacaka*) of those objects. When you unite the objective and the subjective states, that is bondage. When they are kept separate, then there is no bondage.

If somebody tells you your father has died, and if you associate this word "father" with your real father, that is bondage. If you keep it separate then there is no connection between the word "father" and your real father. There will only be a collection of letters F-A-T-H-E-R I-S D-E-A-D. You won't be bound by this. If you are bound, then you will be the victim of grief or pleasure. So it is the written characters of letters that gives rise to the wheel of energies.

When the Universal Mother *Matrika* kisses each of the four-fold energies of the lord, *amba*, *jyestha*, *raudri* and *vama*, each energy has its own distinct fruit. When she kisses the energy of *amba*, then you are kept from either rising or falling. You are held at the same place. When she kisses the energy of *vama*, you are given the fruit *samsara*. When she kisses the energy of *raudri*, you are unable to make any decisions, either good or bad. When she kisses the energy of *jyestha*, you rise to the knowledge of your own nature.

By kissing these four energies, you are deprived of your real nature of universal consciousness. Not even for a moment are you situated in one-pointedness. Your organs of action and organs of knowledge lead you to the external, not the internal, world. Thus, these threefold *malas* are correctly said to bind your own nature. This is explained in these two verses of *Spanda*:

When by hearing some sound, good or bad, you are carried away from your own nature . . . (*Spanda Karika* 3.13)

and

The energies of Lord Siva are always determined **to cover and conceal** your own nature. (*Spanda Karika* 3.15)

Now, the author establishes the means that causes these three kinds of bondage - *anavamala*, *mayiyamala* and *karma mala* - to vanish, resulting in your resting in the desired state of consciousness.

5. *udyamo bhairavah //*

That effort - the flashing forth of active awareness - that instantaneously makes universal consciousness shine, is Bhairava.

There are two kinds of effort, passive and active. Here we are concerned with active effort, not passive effort. Active effort is elevating . It is effort that, when it flows out in active consciousness, makes one's universal consciousness shine instantaneously. Active effort is *bhairava* because it carries one to the state of *bhairava*.

And active effort that takes you abruptly, in one flight, to your consciousness and causes the supreme knowledge of being (*pratibha*) to radiate is *bhairava*, because all energies are diluted and digested in one energy, *svatantrya sakti*. It is also *bhairava* because the whole universe is filled with *svatantrya*, and because here all differentiated perception ends.

Active effort is called *bhairava* because it becomes the means of carrying you toward the state of *bhairava*. This kind of effort is found in real devotees whose consciousness is always introverted in the awareness of God consciousness. This is the meaning of this sutra. It is also said in *Malinivijaya Tantra*:

The penetrative inescapable state of trance, which absorbs your individual being, is called *sambhava samavesa*. Because of the

elevating infusion of power from the master, this *sambhava samavesa* is experienced by one who is capable of keeping away all thoughts and impressions. (*Malinivijaya Tantra* 2.23)

Our masters explain this verse in this way. When you are capable, then your master will uplift you. If you are not capable, he will not be successful in carrying you there. This means you must be capable of absorbing this kind of awareness.

In *Svacchanda Tantra* it is also said:

Oh Parvati, all *mantras* are successful for the one who contemplates on his own self as one with *bhairava* because he is always one with that awareness of consciousness (*samavesa*). (*Svacchanda Tantra*)

In this verse from the *Svacchanda Tantra*, "contemplates" means "to meditate on the introverted active state of elevating consciousness." This is explained in *Spanda* in the following verse:

Take one thought. Contemplate on that one thought with unwavering concentration. Then, when another movement rises in your mind from that first thought, that is *spanda* and that is *unmesa*.¹⁹ You have to observe it yourself and that will be *spanda*. (*Spanda Karika* 3.9)

Here it is explained how, after instantaneously taking hold of supreme consciousness, one attains establishment in *bhairava*, by which establishment he destroys the threefold bondage of ignorance. And if supreme consciousness is not held in an instant, it won't be held at all.

19. *Unmesa* means "opening the eyes." Here, we must understand that when one "opens the eyes," he is revealing his nature and when he "closes the eyes," he is hiding his nature.

Now, in the next sutra, the author explains how, by the intensity of meditation (*paramarsa*), the external state of dualistic consciousness is absorbed in nondualistic consciousness.

6. *sakticakrasamdhane*
visvasamharah //

*By establishing and meditating
on the wheel of energies, the differentiated universe
comes to an end.*

Bhairava, which has already been explained, carries you to the highest summit of active consciousness and is found together with *svatantrya sakti*. How is *svatantrya sakti* found as one with *Bhairava*? You will find Her as one with *Bhairava* by keeping your organs in action, and then by establishing yourself inside, observing the action within. This is *Bhairava mudra*. The supreme energy of *Bhairava* holds both the successive movement and nonsuccessive movement²⁰ of the collective totality of energies. But in fact, here there is neither a successive way or a nonsuccessive way of meditation. Why? Because, both nonsuccessive and successive ways of meditation require something to meditate on. Here there is nothing to meditate on.

So, in the state of *svatantrya sakti*, there is no meditation. It is not the means (*upaya*) of *sambhava*, or *sakta*, or *anava*. It is

20. "Non-successive movement" is just a point; there is no space. There is no journey in "non-successive" movement. It occurs in one flash. "Successive movement" occurs in stages 1,2,3,4. The "non-successive" *akrama* movement is embodied in the means known as *sambhavopaya* and the "successive" *krama* movement is embodied in the means known as *saktopaya* and *anavopaya*.

anupaya and beyond *anupaya*.²¹ Supreme energy excludes *sambhava*, *sakta* and *anava upayas* and, at the same time, they are all included. The state of *svatantrya Sakti* excludes everything and also includes everything. This is the state of *svatantrya sakti*. Why would they be excluded? They would be excluded because the way does not exist at all. There is no way to go, there is no traveling. From the point you start, that is what is to be held. You have to hold that starting point and that is all. Although this *svatantrya sakti* is both successive and nonsuccessive, it is above that. Why? Because it is the supreme energy of Lord Siva, which is absolutely independent awareness.

The play of creation, protection, and destruction is the recreation of *svatantrya sakti*.²² Where? In the ground of her own nature (*svarupa*). Right from the element earth (*prithvi*) up to the state of the supreme perceiver (*para pramatri*). When the heroic yogi meditates with continuous contemplation on that collective class²³ of energies of Siva (*Sakti cakra*), which is found in only one energy, *svatantrya sakti*, he destroys this dualistic universe right from *kalagni rudra*²⁴ up to *santatita kala*.²⁵ You must understand though, destruction does not mean that it is destroyed. Although it is individually

21. In Kashmir Saivism there are three *upayas* (means), *sambhavopaya*, *saktopaya*, and *anavopaya*. In addition to these three *upayas* another called *anupaya* is also mentioned. The Sanskrit word *anupaya* literally means "no *upaya*." As the name implies, *anupaya* is not actually an *upaya*, for in *anupaya* there are no means. The one who has attained *anupaya* has only to observe that nothing is to be done. Just to be is enough. In *anupaya* the aspirant experiences that everything is filled with his own God Consciousness. In fact, *anupaya* is the unexplainable reality of the liberated aspirant.

22. Here, in examining means, the creation of means is found in *anavopaya*, the protection of means is found in *saktopaya*, and the destruction of means is found in *sambhavopaya*.

23. The wheel of energies.

24. *Kalagni rudra* rests in the element *prithvi*. *Prithvi tattva* is the lowest element of the 36 *tattvas*.

25. *Santatita kala* is the abode of Lord Siva. It is **found** in the subtlest element, *siva tattva*.

found, externally found, or found in his own awareness, the heroic yogi feels that the entire universe has become one with the fire of supreme consciousness. The secret teaching is contained in special *tantras* that remain unwritten and have been orally transmitted from master to disciple.

It is also said in *Bhargasikha Sastra*:

When, at the time of meditating on the wheel of energies, he digests and destroys everything-death, the sphere of time, the collection of all activities found in the world, the totality of all emotions, becoming the object of all perceptions,²⁶ becoming the object of one thought or various thoughts - in his own supreme being he causes that whole to enter in that supreme consciousness of God.

The *Viravala Sastra* also says the same thing:

That consciousness, where everything is destroyed and the totality of thirty-six elements is burned to ashes, should be perceived in one's own body, shining like *kalagni rudra*.²⁷ (*Viravala Sastra*)

The *Malini Vijaya Tantra* also says the same thing.

The one who meditates on that unspeakable and indescribable being gains entry into his own nature by that trance called *sakta samavesa*. (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 2.22)

Now, the author of the commentary, Kshemaraja, tells us that he will not give us any further clarification because the *Malini*

26. Whenever you perceive an object, you become one with that object.

27. *Kalagni* resides in the left big toe. You have to imagine fire coming from *kalagni* and this fire burns your body so that nothing, no substance of the body, remains unburned. You must imagine that your whole body has become ashes and the highest peace of God consciousness will shine in your consciousness, in your knowledge. This practice is set out in the *Vijnana Bhairava*, where you are instructed to imagine that *kalagni*, the fire of God consciousness, has risen from the point of your big left toe.

Vijaya Tantra teaches us that this state and power of contemplation will only appear in the one who serves the feet of a master. He says that a more vivid explanation must come from the mouth of the master.

This is narrated in *Spanda Karikas* in this first verse and in the last verse:

By whose twinkling of the eyes, in their opening and closing,
this whole universe is created and destroyed ... (*Spanda Karika*
1.1)

When one is unflinchingly focused to one-pointedness, then he
enters in his supreme consciousness . . . (*Spanda Karika* 3.19)

There is no difference between a mystical trance (*samadhi*) and the world of action (*vyutthana*) when the world of dualistic perception is completely digested in one's own consciousness.

7. *jagratsvapnasusuptabhede*
*turyabhogasambhava*²⁸ //

Such a heroic yogi experiences the expansive state of turya in the differentiated states of waking, dreaming and deep sleep.

When that aspirant, who is a hero in meditation, through the flashing forth of active awareness²⁹ instantaneously makes universal consciousness shine (*udyamo bhairavah*), then for him the expansive state of *turya*³⁰ occurs in all states, waking (*jagrat*), dreaming (*svapna*) and deep sleep (*susupti*). For this yogi, all the states of experience, waking, dreaming and deep sleep, are one with *turya*. He does not experience any differ-

28. Some commentators of these *sutras* argue that the word "*sambhava*" should be replaced by the word "*samvit*" because the word "*samvit*" gives a more vivid explanation to the reader. In that case, the *sutra* would read "*jagrat svapna susupti bhede turyabhoga samvit*" which means, "the differentiated states of waking, dreaming and deep sleep, the expansive state of *turya* is held in consciousness (*samvit*)." If the word "*sambhava*" is correct, then it means "takes place, occurs." If the word "*samvit*" is correct then it means "it is held."

29. This heroic yogi possesses active, not passive, power of meditation. What is active meditating power? Active meditating power exists when there is no yawning, no leaning, and no other thought interfering during meditation. It is actively one-pointed awareness. Passive meditation will carry you towards nothingness. It is only a waste of time. Whenever you meditate, you must meditate in an active way.

30. *Turya* means "the fourth." When the individual subjective body travels in absolute subjective consciousness and becomes that subjective consciousness, this is the fourth state, *turya*.

ence between this world and the state of *samadhi*. This happens to that yogi who is a great yogi, with advanced development of awareness.

It is said in the *Candrajnana*:

Just like the moon, shining in the sky, beautiful like a flower, captivating the mind, instantaneously fills this world with happiness. In the same way, when this heroic yogi wanders about in this world, with the rays of his knowledge, he purifies and fills it with supreme bliss right from hell (*avichi*) to siva. (*Sri Candrajana*)

In the *Spanda Karika*, it is explained in this verse:

In the differentiated states of waking, dreaming and deep sleep, that supreme consciousness of *turya* is found as one. (*Spanda Karika*1.3)

Now, in the next three sutras, the author explains the three states of consciousness, waking (*jagrat*), dreaming (*svapna*), and deep sleep (*susupti*).

8. *jnanam jagrat //*

*External organic knowledge constitutes
the waking state.*

External organic knowledge (*jnanam*) is not knowledge of the self; it is dualistic knowledge.

9. *svapno vikalpah //*

*Internal perceptions and thoughts compose
the dreaming state.*

The Sanskrit word *vikalpah* means "internal perceptions." If internal perceptions are found in the waking state, it is also dreaming (*svapna*).

10. *aviveko mayasausuptam* //

Forgetfulness and the negation of awareness is the dreamless state or maya.

That which is the object of everyone because it is from the external organic world comprises the waking state (*jagrat*).

Those objects which are created in one's own mind and become perceptions of only one individual constitute the dreaming state. In the dreaming state, thought is predominant.

And when you are absolutely unaware, unable to differentiate your being - not being present where you are - this ignorance, this negation, is the state of deep sleep. This state is one with *maya*. It makes you absolutely deluded about your nature. So, although it is the dreamless state (*susupti*) that is explained here, you must understand that the state of *maya*, which must be discarded, has the same explanation.

Up to this point, we have explained the three states of consciousness, waking, dreaming, and deep sleep. You must now understand that each of these states contains three additional states. Thus in the waking state there are three states, in the dreaming state there are three states, and in the state of deep sleep there are three states. And these three additional states are waking, dreaming and deep sleep. So there is waking in wakefulness, dreaming in wakefulness and deep sleep in wakefulness.

You must know that in the waking state, whenever you find that there is external organic knowledge, that is wakefulness in the waking state. When there are only thoughts in the

waking state, that is dreaming in the waking state and when there is unawareness (*moha*), the negation of your self, in the waking state that is deep sleep in the waking state.

These three states also exist in the dreaming state. When, while dreaming, there is some subjective knowledge and you are conscious of dreaming, feeling that you are dreaming a dream, that dreaming state is called wakefulness in the dreaming state. When, while dreaming, you are given completely to perception without any awareness of that subjective consciousness, that is the dream state within a dream. And when these dreams are not remembered at all, that is the deep sleep state within a dream.

Now, take the state of deep sleep. Where can wakefulness be found in the deep sleep state? Where can wakefulness exist when there is the absolute negation of thoughts and awareness? Although thought does not exist in the state of deep sleep, there is a point before entering the state of deep sleep where one feels that he is going to get complete rest. This is wakefulness in the deep sleep state. When the impressions of the deep sleep state remain, causing one to think upon waking that he was sleeping and does not know anything, this is dreaming in the state of deep sleep. In the dreaming state of deep sleep, there are impressions and there are thoughts of these impressions, but these are not gross thoughts. Rather, these are thoughts held in a subtle way. They are thoughts in the state of impressions. The completely thoughtless state is deep sleep in the state of deep sleep.

Now we will analyze these three states: waking, dreaming and deep sleep from the yogic point of view. When a yogi is completely one-pointed in meditation (*dharana*), that is the waking state. Here the yogi is aware at the beginning of meditation that he is meditating and he is one-pointed about meditating. This is active, not passive,³¹ meditation. For yogis, the state of meditation is called wakefulness because here the yogi is given to one-pointedness.

31. In passive meditation, when you sit for meditation you may sit and think of someone else. When you sit for meditation, you must sit with consciousness. That is active meditation.

When one-pointedness is breaklessly maintained as the continuity of one thought, that, for the yogi, is the dreaming state. For the yogi, this state of dreaming is higher than wakefulness. And, for yogis, higher still is the state known as deep sleep. This state exists when both the state of objectivity and the state of subjectivity instantly vanish. This is *samadhi*, the thoughtless state of consciousness, and it is deep sleep for yogis.

This is why in *Malini Vijaya Tantra* the three states - wakefulness, dreaming and deep sleep - are shown one in another. In the waking state, there is wakefulness; in the dreaming state there is dreaming; and in the deep sleep state there is deep sleep. Also in the dreaming state as well as in deep sleep there is wakefulness, dreaming and deep sleep.

Also from the *yogic* point of view it is explained:

Abuddha is the state of wakefulness in wakefulness. *Buddha* is the state of wakefulness in dreaming, *prabuddha* is the state of wakefulness in deep sleep. And *suprabuddha* is the state of wakefulness in the fourth state (*turya*).

So these threefold states, waking, dreaming and deep sleep, are explained from the worldly point of view and the yogic point of view.

The heroic yogi, who has destroyed this entire universe by meditating on the collective wheel of energies and through that process has achieved the expansive state known as "the fourth" (*turya*), and who embraces everywhere, in waking, dreaming, deep sleep, and also in *turya*, the all-pervading oneness of God consciousness, ascends to and is established in that supreme summit of *turya*, the state known as "beyond the fourth" (*turyatitam*).

It is said in this sutra:

11. *tritayabhokta viresah //*

*The one who enjoys in the oneness of awareness all of **the** three states - waking, dreaming, and deep sleep - becomes the master of all organic energies.*

When this yogi, through meditating on the wheel of energies (*sakticakra*), apprehends the threefold state of waking, dreaming and deep sleep as absolutely free from all dualistic thoughts, filled with the nectar of bliss (*ananda rasa*) and completely mixed with *turya*, then this yogi has truly relished these three states in the oneness of awareness. He is one who, enjoying the oneness of these three states in *turya*, becomes *viresah*, the master of all active organic energies.³²

This heroic yogi is simultaneously aware of where objectivity and where subjectivity exist in the three states of waking, dreaming and deep sleep and is never stained by them.³³ This kind of yogi enjoys the unrivaled kingdom of the

32. He is a master of organic energies, not organic organs. Why is this distinction being made? Because there are two classes of organs, one is organic organs (*indriya vrittis*) and the other is organic energies (*indriya saktis*). Organic organs are organs found everywhere in every individual being. Organic energy, on the other hand, is found only in yogis because yogis are always aware. They are aware when they see, when they touch, when they smell, when they hear, when they taste, when they produce sounds, and when they talk. Yogis who are the masters of the active organic energies are called heroes (*viras*).

33. For example, you see an object such as a chair. When you see this object, the chair is the object but in this experience there is a subject, an experiencer who experiences, who sees, this chair. The one who experiences

universal self. He is filled with supreme bliss and becomes master of heroes (*viras*) who are dedicated to digesting the sense of difference in the universe. He is said to be one with *Manthana Bhairava*, which is *Bhairava* who churns everything, all objectivity, all cognition and all subjectivity, into one consciousness, producing a supreme undifferentiated mixture of universal consciousness. This is how it is explained in very rare *Tantras*.

On the other hand, the ordinary worldly man, who is not like this heroic yogi, is played by the three states, waking, dreaming and deep sleep. He is just like a beast. And so also that yogi who has not attained this supreme state of consciousness, he too is not the master of all active organic energies. He is also just like a beast. This is very well explained in sacred texts such as the *Svacchanda Tantra*:

The yogi, who has adopted independent yoga and because of that independent yoga is moving in an independent way and is situated in an independent state, gets entry in an independent being. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 7.260)

In *Spanda Karika*, the explanation is given in the following verse:

The knowledge of that spanda is held by him in the same way in waking, dreaming and deep sleep. (*Spanda Karika* 1.17)

In the waking state, the knowledge of that *spanda* is not less than it is in the dreaming state or in the state of deep sleep and vice versa. This yogi experiences that the state of *turya* is identical in all three states.

internally that this is a chair, that is the subject and this chair is the object. These two, subject and object, are found in all the three states, waking, dreaming and deep sleep. In ordinary life, when someone experiences an object, such as a chair, he is aware of the object and unaware of the experiencer, the subject. Here, in this same experience, the yogi experiences the objective world and the subjective world simultaneously. When he is experiencing the object, he is concurrently experiencing the subject, the experiencer. And, at the same time, he is above these and so he is never stained by them.

Now the author asks this question. Does such a yogi have any characteristics that would lead one to surmise that he is established in the state of *paramasiva*? The answer to this question is yes, there are signs. The author now explains in this sutra the signs by which we can determine that a yogi is established in that supreme state of Lord Siva.

12. *vismayo yogabhumikah //*

*The predominant sign of such a yogi is
joy-filled amazement.*

This yogi is filled with joy and amazement. The Sanskrit word *vismaya* means "amazement completely filled with joy." Just as a person seeing some wonderful object is amazed, in the same way, this yogi is filled with amazement who, in the objective world of senses, experiences entry in his own self filled with consciousness, which is unique, intense, always fresh and uncommonly charming, and by which entry all his varieties of organs are filled with blooming, ever smiling, one-pointed joy.

What kind of amazement is this? This yogi, upon entering into that limitless state of bliss (*ananda*), is never satiated with the experience. On the contrary, he feels bathed with the amazement of joy. This is the predominant state of yoga of a yogi who has become one with the supreme Lord, the supreme *tattva*, Siva *tattva*. And by this, you can surmise that he has ascended to the state of Siva.

On the other hand, to perceive at the place of rectum (*muladhara*) a joyful state of consciousness or to perceive effulgent light between the two eyebrows are not the states of such a yogi. These are to be discarded. There is only one sign of such a

yogi and that is that he is filled with amazement **overflowing with joy**. It is said in *Kulayukta Sastra*:

When yogis perceive the state of the self by their own effort, then in their own self they perceive the fullness of wonder filled with joy. (*Kulayukta Sastra*)

Here in this verse is the conclusion reached in *Spanda Karika*:

When he perceives his own nature through subjective perception, then he perceives that he is one with this reality. For him, being wonderstruck and filled with wonderful joy, there is no possibility of traveling the path of repeated births and deaths. (*Spanda Karika 1.11*)

Such a yogi, established **in this** kind of yoga, filled **with the** wonderful state of joy,

13. *iccha saktiruma kumari //*

*His will is the energy of Lord Siva and it is called
uma and it is called kumari.*

or,

*For such a yogi, his will is one with the energy of Lord
Siva, unobstructable, completely independent, always
given to play.*

His will is the energy (*sakti*) of Lord Siva. And, his will is not only energy it is also called *uma* and *kumari*. The author has provided these three names for the will of such a yogi.

The will of the yogi, who has attained complete entry into the state of Bhairava and become one with supreme Bhairava, is the energy of Lord Siva. It is one with *uma*. Here, in this sutra, the word *uma* does not refer to the wife of Lord Siva. Here the word *uma* refers to the independent energy of the supreme Lord (*svatantrya*).

The will of this yogi is also called *kumari*. The Sanskrit word *kumari* can be translated and understood in a number of ways. It could be that *kumari* refers to that energy that plays in the universe, creating, protecting, and destroying it. But why use this definition? Because in Sanskrit grammar, the word *kumara* is contained in the meaning of *krida*, which means "to play." *Kumari*, therefore, means that energy that is always given to play.

There is another meaning of *Kumari*. *Kumari* can be understood as *kum marayati*. Here *kum* means the differentiated perception in this world and *marayati* is the energy that destroys differentiated perception and directs it into one's own nature.

That is *kumari*. Also, *kumari* can be understood to mean "virgin." In this context, what do we mean by the word "virgin"? Here "virgin" is to be understood as referring to that girl that has never been enjoyed by any other agency. She is one who has established her own nature in the state of enjoyer. She is enjoying her own nature in her own way. She does not require any other vehicle for enjoyment. This is *kumari* and this is the state of being virgin. This kind of girl is always one with her own nature. She is not looking to the opposite sex for satisfaction. There is still another way to understand the meaning of *umakumari*. At the time when Uma was virgin, she was completely detached from the world of enjoyment. When she had given herself to perform penance in order to receive the blessing of Lord Siva, her mind was one-pointedly focused only on Lord Siva. She was always one with that being of Siva. In the same way, the desire of such a yogi is completely one-pointed. He always wills entry in his own nature and nothing else. This is how our masters have explained the meaning of this *sutra*.³⁴

So this kind of yogi, established in yoga in all three states and filled with joyous amazement, does not, like ordinary people, possess gross desire in his mind. On the contrary, his energy of will is always one with the supreme energy of Lord Siva and, therefore, there is no power that can obstruct it. This verse in the *Svacchanda Sastra* is saying the same thing:

Lord Siva's energy of will (*svatantrya sakti*) is one with devi (goddess) who, as His energy, is known by many different names. This energy of will is concealed with the magic of yoga and, named *Kumari*, is desired by every being. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 10.727)

Everyone wants to have this kind of will so that whatever he desires, he gets. In the *Netra Tantra*, the same thing is explained:

34. On the other hand, some other commentators of the *Siva Sutras* have argued that in place of *saktiruma*, the word *saktitama* should be used. If you accept this substitution, then in explaining the word *saktitama*, you can conclude that the meaning of this *sutra* is "the will of this yogi is filled with knowledge and action."

Oh Parvati! His will is one with my will, my supreme **energy**. It is one with myself and rises from my own nature.³⁵

The energy of the will of this yogi has become the cause of the entire universe because the energy of this yogi is one with the energy of Lord Siva, just as heat is one with fire and rays are one with the sun. In the same way, his energy is one with the self of Siva. (*Netra Tantra* 1.25-26)

This is concluded in *Spanda Karika* in this 'sloka.

He does not infuse the power of will in his senses but when he wills, it is done. He does not crave for any desire but, because he possesses the strength of supreme I, when he desires, he wills, and it is accomplished. (*Spanda Karika* 1.8)

35. His will doesn't rise from the senses. His will rises from the **nature** of the being of Lord Siva.

To such a great yogi who has such a great will, desire ...

14. *drisyam sariram //*

This entire perceived world is his own self.

or

His own body is just like an object to him.

In this sutra, the Sanskrit word *drisyam* means "perceived objective world." So in this case, the sutra would be translated "This entire perceived world is his own self." It can also be translated in a different and opposite way. The alternative translation would be "He perceives his own body just like an object." He does not perceive his body with the oneness of I consciousness. Why? Because he has no ego for that body.

These are two ways this sutra is to be translated. One, this whole objective world is his own self and two, his own body is an object. In the first way of translating this sutra, emphasis is on the reality that because he is one with every being, he perceives the perceived world of objects, the objective world, as his own self.

In the second way of translating this sutra, the yogi's perception of his body as an object is stressed. But here the perception of his body as an object is not perceiving his body in a subjective way, as we do. Our perception of our body is suggested in such statements as, "I am strong, I am very weak." But who is weak? The self is not weak. Because the body is weak, you say I am weak. You perceive your body as one with your own I consciousness. But this *yogi* does not. He perceives his own body, and not only this body, but the gross body of wake-

fulness, the body of the dreaming state, the body of **sound** sleep and body of voidness,³⁶ as an external object.

The question might be asked, "How it is that he experiences his body as an external object not one with I consciousness and yet, on the other hand, he perceives the entire world as his own self?" If he perceives this entire universe collectively, as one with I consciousness, that is correct, that is the reality of perceiving. He must not perceive individually, thinking, "this body is only mine," and then insert I consciousness in this body which he has owned. He must insert that I consciousness in everyone. That is the correct way of perceiving. It is erroneous to put I consciousness into only a portion of the world and preserve the remaining world as the objective world. This yogi does not make this mistake. He perceives the objective world as one with his own self and his own body as an object.

Because of the thought (*aham idam*) "I am this whole universe," whatever object he perceives in the objective world, whether it is existing internally or externally, he perceives as one with the limbs of his own body of I conscious being. So, by this great achievement of supreme I consciousness, just like *sadasiva*, he experiences this whole universe, in an undifferentiated way, as the limbs of his own body of I consciousness.

Hence, whether in his body or in the external world, such a yogi has the perception of oneness everywhere. He perceives this whole universe in oneness, just like the yolk of the egg of the peacock. For just as the yolk of the egg of the peacock has only one color and yet gives rise to the peacock, which has so many colors, so, in the same way, he perceives that this whole universe is made of that liquid of consciousness and bliss (*cidananda*). For him, there is no difference between one being and another being. He perceives the whole universe as one with that *ananda*.

36. Voidness comes at the time of death, because voidness is the link from this birth to another birth. The deceased enters voidness for some time and then entry takes place in another birth. According to our *Vaidic* tradition, that voidness remains for ten days after death. On the other hand, there is no birth and no death for the one who has entered in that supreme I consciousness.

It is also said in *Vijnana Bhairava*:

Just as waves are not separate from water, just as the flames are not separate from fire, just as rays are not separate from the sun, in the same way, all the currents and flows of the universe have come into manifestation from Me, that I consciousness which is Bhairava. (*Vijnana Bhairava* 110)

This is concluded in a verse from *Spanda Karika*:

Subjective energy is established in objective energy. Objective energy is no other than subjective energy. This objective world is one with the subjective world. Therefore, this is the kingdom of the subjective world, not the objective world. (*Spanda Karika* 2.4)

It has already been explained that such a yogi perceives that this whole objective world is his own self and he perceives his personal body to be just like an object. This kind of achievement is not difficult for such a yogi because,

15. *hridaye cittasamhattad*
 drisyasvapadarsanam //

*When his thoughts are diverted to the center of God
consciousness, then he feels the existence of
God consciousness in oneness in the objective world
and in the world of negation.*

The literal reading is "When all one's thoughts are diverted to the heart." Here the word heart (*hridaye*) does not mean our own physical heart. Rather, here the word "heart" means the light of consciousness (*cit prakasa*) which is the background, the basis, of the existence of the whole universe. On that basis, everything in this universe is moving, being born, dying, suffering, enjoying, smiling, laughing, marrying, etc. Everything has that center of God consciousness as its basis.

This yogi experiences the oneness of the existence of God consciousness in the objective world and in the world of negation. When does the experience of the negation of the objective world occur? The experience of the negation of the objective world takes place at the time of death and at the time of deep sleep. And, in these states also, the yogi effortlessly experiences the existence of God consciousness. How? The yogi accomplishes this by collecting his mind and putting it on that point. Although the mind is always flickering and does not exist in one point, through the practice (*sadhana*) of one-pointedness, it becomes easy for the yogi to maintain one point. He then discards the

differentiation of objectivity and subjectivity and perceives the objective world, which consists not only of external objects but also of his body of wakefulness, his body of the dreaming state, and his body of the dreamless state (*nila-deha-prana-buddhyatmanah*), and the negation of these, which is the void state (*Sunya*), in its real way as the limbs of his universal body. When you make your mind enter into the light of consciousness then your mind feels this whole universe as one with that universal being.

This is said in *Vijnana Bhairava*:

O Parvati!, the one who, with one-pointedness, directs all his organs including his mind in the voidness of that heart, which is the light of consciousness, and remains in between the two lotuses of this-ness and I-ness, becomes glorified with God consciousness. (*Vijnana Bhairava* 49)

By using the word "glory," this verse indicates that he becomes the ruler of everything that exists. In *Svacchanda Tantra*, such a yogi is defined as follows:

Such a yogi, situated as one with this whole universe, pervades it. Because he pervades everything which exists, all classes of beings in elements, in the organic world, in animate and inanimate objects, his consciousness is not called God consciousness but rather his God consciousness is transformed into Universal consciousness. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 4.310)

In the *Spanda Karika*, it is concluded in this verse:

Do not try to dwell in each and every being. Reside in your own self. When you reside in your self, you will reside in this whole universe because your real self is one with the universe. (*Spanda Karika* 3.7)

If you reside and are established in the existence of self, you will already be established in the universal self.

Now the author furnishes **another** means to attain **such a state** of yoga.

16. *suddha-tattva-samdhanadva'pasusaktih* //

*Or by aiming at the pure element of Siva, he possesses
Siva's unlimited energy.*

In the sutra, "the pure element" (*suddha tattva*) refers only to supreme Siva. Now, what do we have to do with that? We have to make this universal objectivity enter in that supreme consciousness of pure Siva. You must see that this universe is residing in that pure element. There you will never find any impure object. Everything will appear to you as divine.

When you target, which means "aim at," and then perceive that this whole universe is existing in the pure state of Siva, in this way you will discard and be separated from the entangling energy that binds you with the wheel of differentiated perception. Instantly, you will become one with this universal state that is just like the pure element of Siva (*sadasiva*) and you will become master of the universe.

This is also said in *Laksmikaularnava Tantra*:

The yogic powers which are attained with the perfection of an initiation from a great master, when compared with this supreme universal consciousness, are not equal to its sixteenth part. These yogic powers are nothing in comparison. They are all to be discarded. You have only to own and maintain this universal-I (*mantra virya*).

That is called *samdhana*. The Sanskrit word *samdhana* means "aiming." Aiming and entry, aiming and enjoying,

aiming and feeling, aiming and attaining. And it is not only aiming, for this is just what we do when we meditate. We may meditate for one hour, two hours or three hours and during this time, we are always aiming, aiming, aiming. We are only aiming. But we have to aim once and for all. Aim and attain it. That is what is called *samdhana* (aiming).

The *Vijnana Bhairava* also speaks in the same way:

With one-pointed attention, you must feel and perceive that this universe and your body are simultaneously one with God consciousness. Then the rise of that supreme God consciousness takes place. (*Vijnana bhairava* 36)

This is also explained in *Spanda Karika* in this verse:

For such a yogi who has this kind of perception, this world is a playground. Always filled with joy, he is never sad. Doubtlessly, he is liberated while living (*jivan mukta*). (*Spanda Karika* 2.5)

For such a yogi who possesses such exalted knowledge,

17. *vitarka atmajnanam //*

Any inference of such a yogi is knowledge of his own real self.

Whatever this yogi thinks, whatever he confirms, is one with the knowledge of his own self. It is his constant perception, "I am Lord Siva, one with the universe." This kind of perception³⁷ is his personal knowledge.

This is also quoted in *Vijnana Bhairava*:

The supreme Lord (Paramesvara) is all knowing, all doing and all pervading. The yogi thinks, "My self is one with the Lord because the aspects of Siva are my aspects." By attentive meditation on this, one becomes one with Siva. (*Vijnana Bhairava* 102)

In *Spanda* it is also said:

... this is said to be the real one-pointedness of thought, (*Spanda Karika* 2.7)

In this verse of *Spanda Karika*, we are told that the individual-I becoming one with the universal-I is knowledge of one's self.

37. In this sutra, the word *vitarka* not only means inference, it also means perception.

For **such a** yogi, it **also** happens that,

18. *lokanandah samadhisukham //*

*The joy of his samadhi is bliss for the whole **universe**.*

Whatever joy he feels while he is in *samadhi* is said to be the insertion of bliss for the whole universe. This yogi doesn't have to do anything. He only has to remain in *samadhi* and he will carry the whole universe into that supreme bliss.

In the sutra, the Sanskrit word *loka* is to be explained in two ways. Whatever is perceived is *loka* and the perceiver is also *loka*. The one who is the perceiver of everybody is *loka* and the object that is perceived is *loka*. When the objective world and the subjective world are simultaneously in movement together, what happens is

All individual beings perceive the objective world as separate from the subjective world and the subjective world as separate from the objective world. In this regard, there is a special exception for yogis. When yogis perceive the objective world, they perceive the subjective world in the objective world and the objective world in the subjective world. For these yogis, the objective world and the subjective world is not different in their consciousness because their subjective God consciousness is held everywhere. (*Vijnana Bhairava* 106)

According to such teachings found in the *Vijnana Bhairava*, when a yogi resides with full awareness in the state of subjectivity, with the full joy of experiencing his own nature (*camatkara*), this is said to be the joy of his *samadhi* (mystical rapture).

The same is quoted in *Vijnana Bhairava*:

When a yogi meditates that the entire universe or his body is simultaneously filled with the supreme bliss of the joy of the self, then through the flow of that joy, he becomes one with supreme joy. (*Vijnana Bhairava* 65)

This is narrated in *Spanda Karika* in this verse:

This is said to be the achievement of supreme amrita. (*Spanda Karika* 2.7)

There is another explanation of this sutra given by masters and that is, "Whenever this yogi, who is always residing in his own self (*svatmarama*), is introverted and established in his own self, then he naturally enjoys the bliss of *samadhi*. Anyone who sees this and thinks that this yogi is enjoying the bliss of *samadhi* will, at that very moment, also enter into *samadhi*. This is just like seeing a cobra not from distance, but face to face."

When you see a cobra and it bites you, you will be filled with the poison of that cobra. In the same way, when you observe a yogi who is established in the joy of *samadhi* and you understand that he is experiencing the joy of this *samadhi*, you will at once also relish the joy of this *samadhi*. This reveals how this bliss is bestowed on the whole world. But how does this observer enter in that state?

The bliss of that yogi penetrates the nature of that observer who sees and feels that he is in bliss. Then he also abruptly becomes one with that bliss.

From this quote taken from the *Candrajnanagrantha*, quoted earlier in the commentary of sutra 7, you can see that he has given the same kind of explanation of this statement "the whole world is enjoying the bliss of *samadhi*" (*lokananda samadhi sukham*).

What yogic **glory has this** yogi achieved?

19. *saktisandhane sarirotpattih //*

By infusing his energy of will, the embodiment of that which is willed occurs at once.

He does not have to pray to Lord Siva to bestow a boon on his devotees or on those who have come to take his refuge. He just has to infuse his energy of will thinking, "let this man achieve this," and it becomes true. That is the meaning of *sakti sandhana*. Here, with his supreme energy of will, he aims at the object that is desired by his devotee and the manifestation of that object takes place immediately without any encumbrance. This has already been explained in the sutra 13 of the First Awakening,

For such a yogi, his will is one with the energy of Lord Siva, unobstructable, completely independent, always given to play.

Whenever he aims the energy of will completely, not as an afterthought or superfluously but willing from the core of his heart, then what he wills must happen. Because of that force of will, whatever is desired comes true.

This is also quoted in *Mrtyunjayabhattacharaka* (the *Netra Tantra*),

The very moment he has willed something to happen, the power of that will begins to move for its accomplishment. The will of this yogi is faultless and beyond the imagination of a human being. And it is not only will, it is also knowledge and action.

The energy of will of such a yogi is said to be the energies of all gods and goddesses. Whenever he wills wholeheartedly, his will is unstoppable. This is the cause of everything with lire because it works abruptly and moon because it shines in supreme peace. Everything exists in the will of this yogi. (*Netra Tantra* 7.36-40)

In *Laksmikaularnava Tantra*, the glory of targeting his will is explained in this verse:

Initiation cannot be successful, powers will not really shine, the mantra received from his master will be useless, its proper recitation³⁸ will not be understood and yoga will not be achieved unless the will of such a yogi is focused. (*Laksmikaularnava Tantra*)

This is expressed in *Spanda* in this verse.

A yogi with attachment to the world attains the objects of his desire, which are necessarily manifest by the Universal Lord, just by inhaling and exhaling along with focusing his will. (*Spanda Karika* 3.1)

He has to focus his will along with inhaling once and exhaling once and the desired object is attained. There is no time, no space, no waiting. He only inhales and exhales along with focusing his will and it is realized and he has achieved it.

But this kind of achievement is only attained by those yogis who have attachment for the body, attachment for disciples, attachment for the public. It is for these yogis, who have slightly come down from God consciousness, that this kind of power takes place. For elevated yogis, these powers do not arise. Elevated yogis are always focused in their own supreme way of God consciousness. They do not care for these powers or for matters of the world.

38. When aspirants first recite their mantra, they cannot understand how to recite it. But eventually a time comes when, after reciting it blindly, they learn the reality of its recitation. That is *mantrayukti*. *Mantrayukti* comes by itself after a constant period of recitation. And this *mantrayukti* will not take place unless there is focusing of the will of such a yogi.

But for those yogis, who have not erased the impression of body consciousness from their minds, and whose internal consciousness is diverted to external consciousness³⁹ whatever they want to create, whatever they want to occur, takes place because Lord Siva manifests their desired objects simply by their breathing in and breathing out once. Whatever they want to create, whatever they want to occur, those things take place because *prakasa* and *ananda*⁴⁰ give rise to these two breaths as *soma* (moon) and *surya* (sun) and the energy of *prana sakti*, which is residing in the center of these two.

This is the meaning of this verse of *Spanda*:

In the same way, in dreaming state he can dream any dream he wishes. (*Spanda Karika*'i.2)

This is not exactly like the concept of *maya* for *Saivitics* or *prakriti* for the *Vedantins*. For *Vedantins*, *prakriti* controls the dreaming state and for *Saivaites*, *maya* is the controller of this state. Such a yogi, however, can dream any dream he wishes. He is not concerned with the consciousness of *maya* or *prakriti*. So also in the dreaming state, he can dream whatever he wishes to dream. This is called the independent world of the dreaming state (*svapnasvatantrya*). So, this yogi's waking state is not the only independent state. For this kind of yogi, both the waking state and the dreaming state are independent.

39. Unless external consciousness is maintained, no power can be achieved. Powers come only by maintaining external consciousness. Otherwise, what is the use of power when there is always internal consciousness? In internal consciousness, you are always powerful, always blissful. In internal consciousness, there is no need of anything. In internal consciousness, you are full and complete. Incompletion rises in the external world, not the internal world.

40. Here, inhaling is *prakasa* and exhaling is *ananda*.

This yogi is fully conscious everywhere. Even when he dies, he is fully conscious. He knows where and when to die in God consciousness. The one who is not aware of that God consciousness, he is unaware everywhere, in each and every aspect of his movements from waking to dreaming to deep sleep. Whenever he goes to the dreaming state, he doesn't know from which point he has entered the dreaming state. When he comes out from the dreaming state, he does not know when he came out from the dreaming state and entered the waking state. And, when he enters the dreamless state, he doesn't remember the point when he entered. Naturally, therefore, he doesn't remember the point of death. On the contrary, the one who remembers these three points will also remember the point of death. He will also be conscious and aware there. The point here is awareness, awareness must be developed. The more you develop awareness, the more you are near to God consciousness. Ksemaraja tells us that he has explained this idea thoroughly in his commentary on *spanda*.

By the glory of the supreme energy of will of such a *yogi*, other powers also come into existence.

20. *bhutasamdhana-bhutaprithaktva-
visvasamghattah //*

By the greatness of this achievement of the energy of will, the yogi can focus his awareness and heal the sick and suffering, separate elements from his body and be free from the limitations of space and time.

By the greatness of this achievement of the energy of will (*iccha sakti*), this *yogi* can concentrate on some particular person who is sick, who is suffering from pain or from sadness, and cause this sadness and suffering to leave him. That is the meaning of *bhuta samdhana*. This is one power that this *yogi* attains.

When it is destined that this *yogi* has to suffer constantly for three years in his bed, he can temporarily separate that affliction from his body and keep it separately locked away. Once he separates this trouble from his body, he can continue with his daily routine without any hindrance. He has separated his trouble and kept it locked away. Let his body be painful, his consciousness is never painful. And whenever he returns from his daily routine and sleeps, he opens this box of trouble and that trouble enters his body again, causing him suffering. This is the meaning of *bhuta prthaktva*. This is the second power this *yogi* attains.

There is also a third power this *yogi* achieves. This power gives him the ability to be free from the limitations of time and space. With this power, he can enter a past or future world and see what has happened or what is to come. This power is called *visva samghatta*.

The Sanskrit word *bhuta* means "that which exists." So, the body is *bhuta*, breath is *bhuta*, objects are *bhuta*. Simply by focus-

ing on some object with his energy of will, this yogi's desired results are obtained. Whenever this yogi focuses his will on a person to cause that person, who can be either living or dead, to recover either here or in heaven or hell, that person will recover. He can lift that person from sadness in all the three worlds. Or to get rid of the pain in his own body, he can separate that pain from his body, enabling him to continue to do his work. Or he can enter that world and that universe which is far away in time and space. He can focus his mind on a distant city and see its past, present or future. This is explained in each and every Tantra in the chapters on practices (*sadhana*), not in the chapters on attainments (*siddhas*). It is said in *Spanda*:

By taking hold of spanda, the energy of will, even a feeble person becomes capable and fit to do whatever work he intends doing. The one who is filled with extreme and intense hunger can subside his hunger by focusing the force of the energy of will (*iccha Sakti*). (*Spanda Karika* 3.6)

And,

The absence of awareness robs your body of the wealth of spirituality. This absence of awareness is created by your own ignorance. If you wash off that ignorance existing in you with spanda, the energy of will, then where does the possibility of the absence of awareness exist? (*Spanda Karika* 3.8)

And,

Just as when an object is initially not clearly seen by ordinary people and then, when they put their attention on that object, they see it clearly and know what it is now and in any subsequent perception.⁴¹ So, in the same way wherever and whenever any object is existing, you have only to focus your energy of will there and you can perceive that object in an instant. (*Spanda Karika* 3.5)

41. For instance, there is a rope lying on the ground. At first, the experiencer perceives that it is a snake. Then after perceiving it clearly, with awareness, he sees and understands that it is not a snake, it is a rope. So, at that time, he has clearly understood the object.

In the previous sutra, limited yogic powers were explained. Now in the twenty-first sutra, the author will explain unlimited yogic powers. When this yogi does not desire limited powers and is eager to attain the knowledge of universal being, then for such a yogi,

21. *suddhavidyodyaccakresatva-siddhih* //

... *pure knowledge rises and by that knowledge
he becomes the master of the
universal wheel.*

For this yogi, pure knowledge rises and by that pure knowledge, he becomes (*cakresvara*) lord of the universal wheel. This was just like Lord Krishna. Lord Krishna utilized his powers in a universal way, not a limited way. For example, Lord Krishna appeared in his universal form. That was the greatest yogic power. And furthermore, because he was master of the universal wheel, he displayed many additional powers. His powers were not limited. On the other hand, some yogis will tell you that when you take your school examination, you will achieve a good grade, or they will tell you that you will be successful tomorrow in your business dealings. These powers are called limited powers.

If, however, you want rainfall to come and rainfall comes, the power that caused that rainfall is an unlimited power, a universal power. If you want an earthquake to happen, that is universal power. If you want the destruction of the whole universe, that is universal power. If you want the rise of happiness for the universe, that is universal power. When in the background there is no individuality, that is universal power. That

is becoming master of the wheel of energies, *sakticakra*. By the rise of pure knowledge (*suddha vidya*), the yogi exhibits universal power and becomes the master of *Sakticakra*, the universal wheel.

When he concentrates his energy of will for attaining the universal state of being, he finds this pure knowledge arises in him, whereby he realizes, "I am the whole universe. I am not only my body, I am one with the universe." This yogi then attains the glory of the Lord, by which glory he becomes master of the universal wheel.

It is also quoted in the *Svacchanda Tantra*:

The knowledge that he attains is unequaled supreme knowledge because he simultaneously attains the supreme glories of all knowledge and all action. (*Svacchanda Tantra*)

This is said to be the supreme knowledge of this yogi. But what is this knowledge? In the next verse from the *Svacchanda Tantra*, more is revealed about supreme knowledge.

When the eternal aspect of Lord Siva, the energy of svatantrya, is known, and supreme I consciousness is also in his knowledge, then the absence of supreme consciousness is kept away. This is why it is called pure knowledge, *Suddhavidya*. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 6.396)

You should be established in that supreme knowledge and reveal in your own nature the supreme light of supreme being. When that supreme light is revealed, you become one with Lord Siva. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 6.397)

This is narrated in Spanda in this verse:

When he pervades the whole universe including his individual being, then what is to be explained or spoken to him? He understands his state by himself. (*Spanda Karika* 3.11)

On the other hand, there are some yogis who have no desire to create these universal yogic powers. In this regard, they are just

like Rama, the son of Dashratha. He did not possess or utilize any universal powers. He was above that. Because his mind was focused in his own nature, he didn't desire to have universal powers. Instead, he utilized his weapons, his strength and his energy.

In the next sutra, the author explains what happens to this yogi when he desires to reside in his own state of God consciousness, peacefully, without creating universal agitation outside or inside.⁴²

22. *mahahridanusamdhanan*
 mantraviryānubhavaḥ //

*By the attentive continuity of meditation on **the great**
 ocean of consciousness,
the power of supreme I is attained.*

Then, when this yogi meditates on the great ocean of consciousness with attentive continuity, the power of supreme I (*mantra virya*) is attained. In fact, this universe is created by this supreme energy of consciousness right from his internal energy of will to his energy of action.

Because there are so many currents rising in that universal consciousness, currents of sound, currents of touch, currents of smell, and so on, that supreme consciousness is said to be like a great ocean. All these currents are rising from that universal consciousness, which is absolutely pure and transparent. No one can stop this flow of supreme God consciousness, the depth of which is unlimited.

When he meditates on that supreme God consciousness by diverting all the flows of his organs to the introverted, not the extroverted, state, he obtains the state of supreme I (*mantra virya*) because the state of *mantra virya* is the power of all the letters of the Sanskrit alphabet beginning from the letter a and

42. Universal agitation is that agitation in which everyone is upset such as when an earthquake or other such disaster occurs.

ending with the letter *ksa*. Why? Because all sounds rise from those letters. That sound is called *sabdarasi*, the collective appearance of all letters. And the power and the essence of all those sounds is one sound, the soundless sound, the sound of I-being, *aham*, the supreme I and that is *mantra virya*. The yogi attains *mantra virya* not in an objective way but in a subjective way. Thinking and saying "this is *mantra virya*" is realizing it in an objective way. "I am *mantra virya*" is realizing it in a subjective way. This is said in the *Malinivijaya Tantra*:

That supreme (svatantrya) independent energy of Lord Siva is said to be one with Lord Siva. (*Malinivijaya Tantra* 3.5)

In the *Malinivijaya Tantra*, the author has begun from this point where "the supreme independent energy of Lord Siva is said to be one with Lord Siva." From *svatantrya sakti* arise the energy of will, the energy of knowledge, and the energy of action. And then all universal energies flow outward. The center, therefore, from which all these energies flow, is *svatantrya sakti*.

So the author has explained that this energy of independence (*svatantrya sakti*) of Lord Siva creates universal energies. It not only creates will, knowledge and action, but all universal energies are created by that one energy of Lord Siva.

This is why the rise of supreme I is explained as being held everywhere by yogis. It is held in "this," in "I," and also in "that." It is the universal first person held in the first person, in the second person and in the third person. It is the universal first person, not individual first person. As long as persons are concerned, these are all individual persons. The first person is "I", the second person is "you" and the third person is "he." When there is a universal person, then that is "I," that is "I" in "I," "I" in "you" and "I" in "him."

So that supreme energy of Lord Siva (*svatantrya sakti*) is said to be just like the supreme ocean of consciousness. When the yogi concentrates on that supreme energy of Lord Siva, he attains and experiences the state of *mantra virya* in the world of *matrikacakra* and in the world of *malini cakra*.

Matrikacakra is the successive creative way of I consciousness. *Malini* is the successive destructive way of I consciousness. The successive creative way of consciousness is synonymous with *aham* and the successive destructive way of I consciousness is synonymous with *mahaa* (pronounced *ma ha a*). The yogi experiences the state of I consciousness in both ways as creative and as destructive. It is well said in *Spanda* that:

All mantras live in and get life from that one mantra of I consciousness. (*Spanda Karika 2.1*)

Thus, in this first awakening of *Siva Sutras*, the first sutra is *caitanya atma*, "God consciousness is your self."

So first, he has accepted the fact that this self is, in its real sense, consciousness. Consciousness is the self, not the body, not the mind, not the organs. What is the self? Consciousness is the self and when the state of consciousness is absent, or lessened, or becomes weakened, then you must know that the rise of (*malas*) impurities has begun. These impurities are three and they are explained in the second and following sutras of the first awakening - *jnanam bandha*, *yonivargah kala sariram*, and so on. And that bondage is subsided by *udyamo Bhairava*, 'the Bhairava which is the supreme flow of super effort.' And then this entire universe is filled with divinity and all yogic powers, limited yogic powers, unlimited yogic powers or the internal residence of your own nature, are bestowed by that being.

Thus, this first awakening of the *Siva Sutras*, which is one with *sambhavopaya*, is explained. Though there are, many places, hints of *saktopaya*, that *saktopaya* is described only to make a distinction between *saktopaya* and *sambhavopaya* and, therefore, to direct you towards *sambhavopaya*.

This is the end of the First Awakening.



Swamiji

Second Awakening

In the second awakening of the *Siva Sutras*, the author explains the second means of awakening, called *saktopaya*.¹ The energy with which *saktopaya* is concerned is not ordinary energy. This energy is the expansion, the commentary, of *mantra virya*, the commentary of I-consciousness.

At the end of the first awakening, the author introduced *mantra virya* because he wanted the idea to be fully revealed and explained in the second awakening. To illuminate the actual state of *of mantra virya*, the author first explains the reality of mantra, and then the power of *mantra virya*.

1. The word *Saktopaya* refers to the "means" (*upaya*) pertaining to energy (*sakti*). *Sambhavopaya*, the first and supreme *upaya*, is *upaya* pertaining to *Siva*. And *anavopaya*, the third and inferior *upaya*, is *upaya* pertaining to individual being. *Sambhavopaya* is explained in the First Awakening of the *Siva Sutras*, *Saktopaya* is explained in the Second Awakening, and *anavopaya* is explained in the Third Awakening.

The first sutra is the explanation of mantra:

1. *cittam mantrah //*

Mind is mantra.

In this sutra, there are two understandings of the mind and both are divine. The first understanding is that the mind is the thought of a sacred word. The second understanding is that mind is the thought of a sacred aspirant who is treading on the sacred path.

The Sanskrit word *citta* means "the thought of a sacred word." This thought is said to be the exposition of mantra. "Mantra," therefore, means sacred word. Sacred word is also the rise of words and sentences in the internal mind of the aspirant. This is also mantra because this aspirant, like a sacred word, is absolutely purified inside and outside. So the aspirant's mind is mantra and a sacred word also is mantra.

The author now explains this sutra in these two ways. The word "mind" does not mean what we ordinarily understand by the word "mind." Here, the word mind means "that by which you become aware of supreme consciousness." So this mind is said to be that by which your self is exposed in its fullness. It is *vimarsa* - I consciousness - thought in two ways: in *prasada mantra* and in *pranava mantra*. *Prasada mantra* is "the mantra of external flow." *Pranava mantra* is "the mantra of external and internal flow." It is the internal flow in the external world and the external flow in the internal world.

Pranava is the mantra where both mantras - the *mantra aham* and *mantra ma-ha-a* - arise. When the *mantra aham* arises, it is external, and when *ma-ha-a* arises, it is internal. When *aham* occurs, it is coming out from your supreme God

consciousness and moving to objective God consciousness. This is traveling to objective God consciousness, not the objective world. When you rise from objective God consciousness to your subjective God consciousness, that is the rise of the *mantra ma-ha-a*. So in both ways, these are the states of *pranava*.

Prasada, on the other hand, is the state of the sacred word *sauh*. It is only external. It is rising from inside to outside. This is also rising. It is not falling when you move from inside to the outside world, it is a kind of rise. But it is the supreme rise when you rise in coming out and when you rise in going in. And this is the rise of *pranava mantra*. When you only rise in one way, that is the rise of *prasada mantra*.

So in both ways, this is the state of *citta* (thought). It is said to be mantra because it is secret (*guptam*). It is not written, it lives in a secret world. When you recite this mantra, you are not reciting it with lips, but with consciousness. When you recite and you are aware of the *prasada mantra "sauh,"* of its occurrence in your own self, you will understand that this whole universe is the expansion of yourself. This is the kind of rise that occurs when you travel from the internal world to the external world.

It is *pranava mantra* when you come out from the internal world and travel to the external world and then travel again from the external world to the internal world. So, it is said that this *pranava mantra* is truly a mantra, for the word "mantra" is made up from *man* and *tra*. *Man* from the word *manana* means "causes you to reside in your own God consciousness." *Tra* from the word *trana* means "protects you from all the evils of the world."² So when you focus your mind towards God consciousness, you are protected from all the horrors of the world. Here, this is the meaning of the word "mantra."

Now this exposition of mantra is explained in another way. Because the mind of this yogi is always purified and never thinks absurd thoughts, thinking only divine thoughts and being fo-

2. Here the word "evil" does not refer to the commission of what we ordinarily mean by "sin." Here the "evil" we are protected from is that of committing the greatest of all sins - coming out from God consciousness.

cused towards God consciousness, it is mantra. Whatever comes into the mind of this yogi is divine. So, all of his thoughts are divine and hence, his thought is also mantra.

om padmni om
om nama sivaya
svacchanda bhairavaya namah

These sentences are collections of sacred words. Collections of sacred words are not mantras, but just a waste of time for the aspirant. In a real sense, these two - the aspirant's mind and a sacred word experienced as *prasada* mantra and/or *pranava* mantra - are mantras.

The *Sarvajnanottara* also explains this in the same way.

Those mantras which are recited with the lips and with the mind are not really mantras. *Devatas* and *Gandharvas*, all these great - souls, have deluded themselves in thinking that these are actually mantras. And additionally, they are filled with tremendous pride thinking that they are verbally reciting the name of God. (*Sarvajnanottara* 16-17)

Those so-called mantras are not actually mantras. Mantra is divinity in the mind of the yogi or the flow of subjective God consciousness towards objective God consciousness or the simultaneous flow of subjective God consciousness towards objective God consciousness, and the flow of objective God consciousness towards subjective God consciousness.

In the *Tantra Sadbhava*, this same thing is also explained:

The life of all mantras is solely the energy of God consciousness. When that energy is absent, all those collections of words are useless just like a mass of clouds in the rainless autumn sky. (*Tantra Sadbhava*)

In the *Srikanthisamhita Sastra*, it is also said:

The one who recites mantra for the sake of realizing God will never attain the reality of God consciousness. There is only one

thing that a yogi must maintain and that is awareness, awareness of the union of objective God consciousness with subjective God consciousness and, in one driving push, the flow of objective and subjective God consciousness.

This is not a flow, it is a push. If you force it in this way, with great velocity, it will be just like a ball thrown against a wall. It will come to you again, and bring you back to subjective God consciousness. On the other hand, if you drive it slowly from subjective God consciousness to objective God consciousness, it will end in objective God consciousness and that is the state of *prasada*.³ When you push it with great velocity, it will travel to objective God consciousness and then again return to your subjective God consciousness.⁴

This is narrated in *Spanda* in this verse:

Because these words are digested along with the mind of the aspirant, they are said to be, along with the divinity of the yogi, one with divine God consciousness. (*Spanda Karika 2.2*)

3. *Prasada* is the highest elevated state. When you are situated in *Prasada* - the highest state of God consciousness - you become filled with joy.

4. This is *krama mudra* in its real sense.

2. *prayatnah sadhakah //*

(*For such a yogi*)

*pauseless effort brings about his attainment
of God consciousness.*

This yogi's attainment of God consciousness is realized by his continued effort. His effort must be pauseless effort (*prayatna*). That is *sadhaka*, the means for attaining God consciousness.

The mantra and its application, which was explained in the First Awakening of this scripture⁵ and which is carried out at the very start of any movement, gives rise to the union of the worshiped and the worshiper. Here, just begin with some movement, any movement, and stop. Hold the beginning point of that movement with awareness. In Sanskrit, this state is called *anusamdhitsa*. By holding the very beginning of that movement, the goal of uniting the seeker of God consciousness with the God consciousness he seeks, the spiritual aspirant with that to which he aspires, the one who recites mantra with *mantra devata*, that Lord for whom the mantra is recited, is achieved.

It is said in *Sri Tantrasadbhava*:

Just as when a vulture, flying in the sky observes a piece of meat in that sky and immediately, with spontaneous effort, catches that piece of meat, so in the same way the elevated yogi directs his mind to that point of light (*bindu prakasa*) of God consciousness.

Or just as when the archer, placing an arrow on the string of

5. See sutra 1.22

a bow and then pulling back on that arrow and letting it go, where it flies swiftly, striking the point at which it was aimed. It is in this same way, O Devi, the supreme light of God Consciousness (*prakasa*) is attained by just one thrust of awareness.

If the yogi is not successful in one push, he will not be successful at all. It must be attained in one thrust of awareness.

In some other place, it is also said:

In its true sense, the knowledge of awareness is the state of mantra.

The explanation of this sutra is that your effort must not be artificial (*akrita*). It must be absolutely natural, filled with intense desire and fervent longing, and originating from the center of your heart. By that force, this great yogi directs his mind to that point of supreme God consciousness.

This is narrated in *Spanda* in this verse:

The yogi must first possess such a determined longing that it will lead to the resolution, "I will sit until I attain the state of God consciousness or I will leave my body." The effort must be filled with such determination. It must not be passive effort, it must be active effort. That active effort itself is God consciousness. (*Spanda Karika* 2.6)

For such a great yogi, the mantra, universal I, and the splendor of that universal I is explained in this next sutra.

3. *vidyasarirasatta mantrarahasyam //*

*The secret essence of mantra
is establishment in the body of
the knowledge of oneness.*

Here, knowledge means the supreme knowledge of oneness. It is, in the real sense, the supreme God who is the formation of the collection of all sounds. It is from this point that all sounds are created and stored. So, in another sense, it is the state of God consciousness that is one with the universe and filled with supreme I consciousness.

This is the essence of all mantras. By the words "essence of all mantras" is not meant the mantras such as *om namah sivaya*, *om namo bhagavate vasudevaya*, etc. These mantras are not mantras in the real sense. Mantra, in the real sense, is that supreme I consciousness. This is the secret about mantras.

This is also quoted in Sri" *Tantrasadbhava Tantra*.

All letters are actually one with mantra and those mantras are one with mother, the energy of Lord Siva, and that mother is one with Lord Siva himself.

Even though this explanation is secret and can't be exposed or explained, it is revealed in the *Tantrasadbhava Sastra* in this way. This is said by Lord Siva to *Parvati*.

Oh Parvati, there are those who are not maintaining the discipline as taught in the scriptures who do not believe that our master is one with Lord Siva. They are crooked, attached to worldly pleasures and are not doing any spiritual practice. Because of these misdeeds I have extracted the splendor from their mantras. When that splendor is removed, these mantras become useless. For him who would wield these mantras, they are as good as letters. They have no value. You must have faith that the master is one with Lord Siva. You must maintain discipline and character. You must not be given to attachment or worldly pleasures. When you live in this way, then your mantra will be filled with splendor and will remain successful.

Now the *Tantrasadbhava* explains further:

That Divine Mother, who is filled with supreme light, has pervaded the whole universe up to *brahmaloka*. Oh devi, just as all letters are found in the first letter, the letter "a," in the same way, the whole universe is found in that Divine Mother.

Now I will explain to you some very essential characteristics of this Divine Mother. She is supreme, subtle, not limited to any particular school of philosophy or religion.⁶ This Divine Mother, called *Kundalini*,⁷ is placed in the center of the heart.⁸ There you will find that Divine Mother, just like a serpent in the sleeping state. Oh Parvati, there she rests in deep sleep, not perceiving anything other than her own self in a place called *muladhara*⁹ by our masters.

In addition, this goddess, places in her body the moon (*chandra*), fire (*agni*), the sun (*ravi*), all the stars (*naksatra*) and

6. She is not limited to any particular philosophy or religion because anyone - even a cat - can rise if Lord Siva puts some force in that being.

7. She is called *Kundalini* because she is internal power existing like a serpent in the shape of a coil. Actually, *kundalini sakti* is the revealing and concealing energy of Lord Siva. This *kundalini sakti* is not different from the existence of Lord Siva, just as the energy of light and the energy of the heat of a fire are not separate from the fire itself. *Kundalini*, therefore, is, in the true sense, the existence of Siva. It is the life and glory of Siva. It is Siva itself.

8. This heart is not the physical heart. This heart is the center of awareness. It is found everywhere in the body.

9. *Muladhara cakra* is found near the rectum.

all the fourteen worlds (*bhuvanani caturdasa*) and still she is absolutely unaware that this is happening in her own nature.

But how to awaken her? He now explains how this is done.

This goddess cannot be awakened with force. She can only be awakened by (*nada*) supreme I consciousness filled with supreme awareness. To awaken her, the yogi has to churn his point of one-pointedness in the heart, without break, again and again.

He must churn it by inserting sparks of awareness, one after another, again and again, in unbroken continuation. The process is to insert one spark of awareness. Let that one spark fade. Again, insert fresh awareness. Let that spark fade. Again, insert fresh awareness. This process must be continued over and over again in continuity.

Then, the body of energy, which is established in the body of the Divine Mother, *kundalini*, is churned by this awareness. Because of this churning, this yogi will initially experience very intense lights seeming to come from all sides. Because of these lights and that (*nada*) supreme I consciousness filled with supreme awareness, this *kundalini* rises. In the body of that *kundalini*, the yogi finds *bindu*.¹⁰ This *bindu*, which is residing in the body of the Divine Mother *kundalini*, has four projections radiating from its center.

The first projection is that of subjective awareness. The second projection is cognitive awareness. The third projection is objective awareness. And the fourth projection is digestive awareness.

Subjective awareness is awareness of the state of knower (*pramatri*). Awareness of the state of knowledge is cognitive awareness (*pramana*). Awareness of the state of the known is

10. Here, *bindu* refers to the supreme semen (*virya*) that becomes agitated there. The formation of *kundalini* is of that supreme semen. It is not individual semen. It is something beyond that, experienced only by yogis. Because *kundalini* is formed with the body of supreme semen, which is *bindu*, just imagine how joyous her formation would be!

objective awareness (*prameya*). These three kinds of awareness rise from that center of that Divine Mother *kundalini*.

The fourth projection is known as digestive awareness. This is that projection where subjective, cognitive and objective projections are digested in such a way that they are not differentiated one from the other. In the projection of digestive awareness, all these projections are one without distinction. In Sanskrit, this digestive projection is called *pramiti bhava*, the digestive state of thought.

O devi now you have to simultaneously put the churner and that which is to be churned in that body of *kundalini*. By doing that, *kundalini*, the Divine Mother, rises in a straight line. Here she is called *jyesthasakti* because she is absolutely established between these two points, the point of subjectivity (*pramatri*) and the point of objectivity (*prameya*).

Then, when these two points (*bindu*) of subjective awareness and cognitive awareness are also agitated by the process of continual churning, that *kundalini* gives rise to real pure supreme semen and that semen rises from bottom to top in the form of *kundalini*. That *kundalini* is known as the Divine Mother *rekhini*. Here you won't find either the subjective or the objective projection because these are both diluted in the oneness of that supreme bliss resulting from the rise of supreme semen.

At this point, when this semen rises, this yogi immediately comes out from his internal state because he cannot tolerate the joy he is experiencing, which is the creation of that nectar.¹¹ There the Divine Mother is called *tripatha* because she takes the formation of the three centers. And then again the three centers, the subjective center, the objective center and the cognitive center, rise. And when all these three centers again rise from *kundalini*, the energy of *kundalini* is called *raudri sakti* because it is that energy that puts obstacles in the way in the journey of final liberation.

11. This is a natural occurrence. He reaches this state of super intense joy and then he comes out from it. This is the way it happens to everyone who experiences this state.

The yogi must return inside again and again. He must not think that he has lost anything. He need not wait for the master's direction. Because the way of liberation (*moksa*) is stopped, he must continue to return inside again and again and maintain awareness of that oneness.

Then again she (*ambika*) takes the form of the half moon, which is half inside and half outside.¹² And so, even if that supreme Divine Mother is only one, yet she takes these three formations, one for the inferior yogi, one for the yogi who wants to experience enjoyment and one for the superior yogi.

By virtue of these energies of the Divine Mother *kundalini*, nine classes of letters have risen. The first is the class of letters from *a* to *visarga* (*avarga*). The next is the class of letters associated with *ka* (*kavarga*). The third is the class of letters associated with *ca* (*cavarga*). The fourth is the class of letters associated with *ta* (*tavarga*). The fifth is the class of letters associated with *ta* (*tavarga*). The sixth is the class of letters associated with *pa* (*pavarga*). The seventh is the class of letters associated with *ya* (*yavarga*). The eighth is the class of letters associated with *sa* (*savarga*). And the ninth is the class associated with *ksa* (*ksavarga*). All these classes of letters have risen from that Divine Mother *Kundalini*.

There are five sacred states of the self that rise from this *kundalini* and they are the five mouths of Lord Siva: *isana*, *tatpurusa*, *aghora*, *vamadeva* and *sadyajata*.¹³ These mouths have appeared from this *kundalini* so Lord Siva can speak to the public, helping them and, by illuminating that which is to be known, teach them.¹⁴

12. This state is the real state of *krama mudra*, which is ultimately experienced by blessed yogis.

13. In the beginning of *satyuga*, Lord Siva appeared in the form of *Svacchandana*. As *Svacchandana*, he had five heads and eighteen arms. His five heads came into manifestation through his five great energies: *cit sakti* (all consciousness), *ananda Sakti* (all bliss), *iccha Sakti* (all will), *jnana sakti* (all knowledge), and *kriya sakti* (all action). These five energies appeared in his five mouths known as *isana*, *tatpurusa*, *aghora*, *vamadeva*, and *sadyojata*.

14. Because these five mouths rise from *kundalini*, Lord Siva is dependent on *kundalini*.

Twelve vowels also rise from this Divine Mother *kundalini* and fifty letters also rise from the same Mother. And now consider the three kinds of speech: supreme, medium and inferior.

The supreme speech is said to be centered in the heart. This supreme speech is the supreme sound, called *pasyanti*. The throat is the center of *madhyama* speech and the tongue is the centre of *vaikhari* speech.

When something is to be said, it is first to be taken from one's heart. In the heart, there is no differentiation of letters or words; there is only consciousness. There is some force of what is to occur in the next moment. So in heart, it is just one point, one atom (*ekanava*), and that is called *pasyanti* speech (*vak*). The next speech (*vak*) is called *madhyama vak*. It is centered in the throat. And the third *vak* is called *vaikhari*, and it is centered in the tongue. It exists when you speak words.

All these sounds appear in the tongue. So, this whole universe resides on sound. This is the process of sound and that sound is carried from that soundless center of *kundalini*.

So, the supreme energy of supreme speech is the source of all speech. This is why all these letters emerge from the supreme center of that energy of God consciousness, the Divine Mother. And all mantras that are recited by spiritual aspirants (*sadhakas*) get their strength (*virya*) and splendor from that supreme *devi* of God consciousness, *kundalini*. This is why it is said that *matrika* and *malini*¹⁵ both rise from this *kundalini*.

Because the *Siva Sutras* are actually the most secret and essential thoughts of Lord Siva, in explaining them we have referred to so many *tantras*. You should not be worried about our giving so many references. And if you still do not under-

15. *Matrika* is the system of letters of the Sanskrit alphabet that begins with the first letter *a* and ends with the last letter *ksa*. In the English alphabet this would correspond to the letters *a* to *z*. In Kashmir Saivism, there is another understanding of the system of letters. In this system, the letters are not in order; it is an orderless world of letters. Such a system is one thing in all things and all things in one thing. In Kashmir Saivism this system is called *Malini*.

stand what *kundalini* actually is, even though we have given so many references to aid your understanding, then you should take hold of the feet of your master.

This meaning of the sutra is narrated in *Spanda* in this verse,

All mantras get their life from the Divine Mother *kundalini*.
She is the center of all mantras. (*Spanda Karika 2.1*)

Although the strength (*virya*) of the mantra is brought into existence by meditating on the supreme heart of I-consciousness, now and then, by the opposite will of Lord Siva, the will of concealing (*tirodhana*) his nature, some unfortunate men do not realize this I-consciousness and, on the contrary, satisfy their minds with limited yogic powers.¹⁶ This next sutra explains what will happen to these unfortunate yogis.

16. For instance, flying in the sky, giving boons to disciples, **etc.**

4. *garbhe cittavikaso'visista vidyasvapnah*

When a yogi's mind is satisfied with the expansive body of illusion, then he falls in the world of differentiated perceptions and his knowledge of being is just like that of ordinary living beings.

Here, the Sanskrit word *garbhe* means that expansive body of the energy of illusion. That is *mahamaya*, the great illusive energy of Lord Siva. The body of illusion that is being referred to are the limited yogic powers (e.g., creating divine incense or the materialization of sacred ash to give to disciples, walking on water, flying in air, etc.). All these powers are existing in the sphere of *maya*. When the yogi exhibits the world of limited powers and his mind becomes satisfied and does not move ahead, then for him, his knowledge of being is like the world of dreams; it is not knowledge at all. His knowledge is just the same as the knowledge held by ordinary worldly people. And so, like ordinary living beings, he falls and is established in the world of differentiation with various perceptions and thoughts.

This is also said in Patanjali's *Yoga Darsana*,

Those lights in the center of the eyebrows and divine sounds in the center of heart are obstacles for *samadhi*. (*Yoga Sutra* 3.37)

The experiences that come in front of this yogi are called *samadhau upasarga*, obstacles to attaining real *samadhi*. These

are obstacles for that yogi. For worldly men, on the other hand, they appear as great powers and they appreciate these powers. They say the yogi who possesses these powers is a real person, a real yogi. They applaud him, saying that he bestows these powers on his devotees.

This is narrated in *Spanda Karika* in this verse:

As soon as *spanda* is meditated upon, the yogi perceives some divine light emanating between the eyebrows, he hears divine sound resonating in the heart, divine form appears in his sight and divine taste is experienced on his tongue. These are all just a disturbance in the state of real being and are to be avoided by those yogis who wish to become fortunate. (*Spanda Karika* 3.10)

Then what happens to this yogi who puts these limited powers aside, even though they have appeared to him, and who holds in his mind the supreme state of I consciousness?

5. *vidyasamutthane svabhavike*
 khecari sivavastha //

*The pure knowledge of God consciousness
effortlessly rises and this state of Siva
is realized as one with the
state of khecari.*

When this pure knowledge (*suddha vidya*), which has been explained in previous sutras, effortlessly comes into existence and when, by the supreme independent will of Lord Siva, these limited powers subside and that real state of Lord Siva comes into being, then this yogi flies in the ether of supreme knowledge. This is the state of *khecari mudra* that comes into existence for him. The state of *khecari* is the state of Lord Siva, who is the supreme embodiment of consciousness. Here the aspirant (*sadhaka*) becomes one with Siva. This is the rise of one's own blissful state. This *khecari* is not the *khecari* described in these two verses:

When the yogi is seated in *padmasana*, he must put his mind, the master of all organs, in the center of the navel. He must sit erect until the time when the three ethers/voids, *sakti*, *vyapini* and *samana*, come into existence for him.

Then immediately this yogi should infuse the supreme void by taking hold of these three voids. By practicing in this way, this yogi enters in the *mudra* of *khecari*.

This state, described above, is not real *khecari mudra*. **It should** be avoided. What is real *khecari mudra*?

When you are treading the way of totality (*kulamargena*), you must see the totality in a piece of the totality. Take one part of the universe and see the whole universe existing there. That is the way of totality. So, just as its said in the *Tantrasadbhava*, this *khecari mudra* is becoming one with supreme consciousness.

You must understand that everything is filled with completion. If only one individual being is there, you must understand and you must feel that in that one individual being all individuals exist.

Take, for example, one grain of rice. See the power that exists in that grain of rice. This one grain of rice has the power of producing not only a hundred plants but thousands, millions, billions of plants. Innumerable plants exist in that one grain of rice. So, one part of the world is complete in itself.

You must, when treading the way of totality, feel the voidness of differentiated perceptions in each and every being. This, in the real sense, is *khecari*. It is this *khecari mudra* that is to be practiced.

So, the reality of this *khecari mudra* is just as it is explained in the *Tantrasadbhava*, "becoming one with supreme consciousness." And when the agitation of that differentiated illusion of Lord Siva fades into nothingness, then the power of all *mantras* and all *mudras* (states) appears and is experienced by such a yogi.

This is said in *Kulacudamani Sastra*:

When, by one germ of creative being and one germ of existence, this *khecari mudra* is created (*mantra virya*) and then established (*mudra virya*), and when these two states appear to this yogi, then he is established in that supreme and peaceful state of Lord Siva.

When that *mudra* is created, it is *mantra virya* and when that *mudra* is established, it is *mudra virya*.

In the *Spanda Karikas*, *mudra virya* is incorporated in the explanation of *mantra virya* so there is actually no difference between *mantra virya* and *mudra virya*. *Mantra virya* exists only at the beginning of creative energy and establishment in that creative energy is *mudra virya*.

When all these agitations end, then the state of Lord Siva comes into being. (*Spanda Karika* 1.9)

Even though there are other subjects that are explained in this verse from the *Spanda Karikas*, yet the subjects of *mantra virya* and *mudra virya* are also alluded to.

For attaining these two powers, the power of creative energy (*mantra virya*) and the power of establishment in that creative energy (*mudra virya*) . . .

6. *gururupayah* //

The master (guru) is the means.

These two powers can be attained only through the master (*guru*), no one else. But who is the master?

The one who demands that his disciples donate money to him or who requires his disciples to provide service to him, all in the guise of attaining enlightenment, is not the *guru*. Then who is the *guru*? The *guru* is that person who puts before you the reality of God consciousness. It is said that the *guru* is the means here because only he can make you realize the fullness of these two awarenesses, *mudra* and *mantra*.

It is declared in *Malinivijaya Tantra*:

Lord Siva tells Parvati, "That master who is the cause of your attaining the creative energy of Lord Siva and who then establishes you in that state is as good as me." (*Malinivijaya Tantra* 2.10)

In other words, that master is one with Lord Siva. In *Spanda Karika*, this point about the master is not discussed; however, in the last verse there is this reference.

I bow to that supreme and wonderful world of the master that gives rise to manifold ways of supreme thought that carry the disciple across the ocean of all doubts. (*Spanda Karika* 4.1)

Some other masters think, because of the teachings of the *Malinivijaya Tantra*, that the master is not a worldly being. For them, the master is, in the real sense, the supreme energy of Lord Siva. In this regard, it is said in *Malinivijaya Tantra*:

That is the wheel of all energies and that is the mouth of the master where everything is obtained. (*Malinivijaya Tantra*)

In the *Trisirobhairava Tantra*, it is said:

The great energy of that great Lord is said to be the mouth of the master; hence, that energy, being the cause of understanding, is the means (*upaya*). (*Trisirobhairava Tantra*)

Therefore, when the master is pleased,

7. *matrikacakrasambodhah //*

*(The disciple attains)
the knowledge of the wheel of the hidden
mother (Matrikacakra)*

The disciple attains the knowledge of *Matrikacakra* only by the grace of the master, and not in any other way. What is *matrikacakra*? *Matrika* is the mother who is unknown to the universe.¹⁷ She is the creative cause of all *mantras* and all knowledge. The word "*cakra*" means "wheel." So *matrikacakra* literally means the wheel of the hidden mother.

*Matrikacakra*¹⁸ is concerned with the theory of the Sanskrit alphabet from the letter "a" to the letter "ksa." There are fifty letters. The fifty letters represent the existence of the whole universe. The universe is composed of thirty-six elements and the thirty-six elements are represented by the fifty letters. The

17. She is unknown to her children. Why? When you descend to the objective field, the creative energy is mother and this creative energy is unknown in the objective field. When you ascend to subjective consciousness, then creative energy is known. In the subjective field, she is not *matrika*; there she is *cit sakti*, the energy of consciousness.

18. In Kashmir Saivism, there are two theories of the alphabet. These theories are known as *matrikacakra* and *malini*. The theory being referred to here is the theory of *Matrikacakra*, not *Malini*. *Matrika* is the systematic reading of the letters of the alphabet from a to *ksa*. *Malini* is the combined, joined reading of these letters. In *malini*, consonants are found in vowels and vowels are found in consonants. *Sakti* is found in Siva and Siva is found in *sakti*. When *sakti* and Siva are found separately, that is the system of *Matrika*. When Siva and *Sakti* are found together, combined in each other, that is the system of *malini*. The theory of *malini* is not explained in the *Siva Sutras*.

universe begins from *Siva tattva*, the element of Siva, and ends in *prithvi tattva*, the element of earth.

The representative letters of Siva, the first supreme element *siva tattva*, are the sixteen vowels beginning from "a" and ending in "h" visarga. The sixteen vowels represent, respectively, the existence of Lord Siva, the thirty-sixth *tattva*. It is explained that in the thirty-sixth *tattva* there are five energies: *cit sakti*, the energy of consciousness; *ananda sakti*, the energy of bliss; *iccha sakti*, the energy of will; *jnana sakti*, the energy of knowledge; and *kriya sakti*, the energy of action. These five energies combined together form the embodiment of Lord Siva and that is *siva tattva*.

In *Vedanta*, on the other hand, it is held that there are only three energies that comprise the embodiment of Lord Siva. These energies are *sat*, *cit* and *ananda*. *Sat* means "all existent, always existing," *cit* means "always conscious" and *ananda* is "always blissful." This is the way *Vedanta* has explained the state of Siva.

But Saivism understands it differently. Saivism argues that *sat* is not needed. It is already present. *Sat* is not an aspect of Lord Siva. *Satis* the reality of Lord Siva. Why, therefore, call it an aspect?

Siva tattva is explained in *Paratrimika Sastra* and in the *Tantraloka*:

The first movement (*kala*) of supreme I consciousness (*aham vimarsa*) is unparalleled (*anuttara*) undifferentiated totality (*akula*). And when it moves forward with the intention of creating His glory in the external world, it takes the formation of *ananda*.

Here, the word *kala* does not mean "part"; here *kala* means "first movement." It is the first movement of Siva. You should understand that Siva is always moving. Siva is not stable, unmovable, unmoving, as *Vedanta* has explained. *Vedanta* postulates that anything that moves ultimately comes to an end. So any movable object will, in the course of time, expire. This theory

of *Vedanta* is absolutely incorrect. Siva is always in movement. He is the embodiment of movement (*spanda*). This is why everything, even one small blade of grass, is in movement. And, it is not only a blade of grass that seems to us to be living; even a rock is in movement. Rocks seem to us to be absolutely dead, without life. But there is also life in a rock. In the course of time, a rock undergoes change.

The word *anuttara* means "unparalleled, where there is no similarity." The word *akula* means "where the totality is not differentiated, it is only undifferentiated totality."

The first movement of the state of Paramasiva was *anuttara*, unparalleled, and incomparable. But when Paramasiva keenly observes his nature, his self, his reality again and again, he feels the blissful state of his own self. Otherwise, in this first move, he does not feel that blissful state at all. In the first move, there is only all consciousness. The blissful state is digested in that all consciousness in the state of *anuttara*.

And when He takes the formation of *ananda*, the blissful state, it occurs only when He wants to observe it. For example, when you want to observe what you really are, that bliss comes. When you are not keen to observe your nature, your nature is in a natural way. You are who you are. When you do not observe again and again, then you are only filled with all consciousness. When you observe it again and again, then you feel the glory of your self. That is the formation of *ananda*, the blissful state.

Siva's glory is already created in the internal world of his being. In the next movement of Siva, when he has the intention of creating his glory in the external world, the blissful state appears and that is the form of *ananda*.

Anuttara, the unparalleled state of consciousness, is represented by the first letter in the Sanskrit alphabet, the letter *a*. The blissful state, *ananda*, is represented by the second letter in the Sanskrit alphabet, the letter *a*.

Then after *ananda*, two more movements come forth, *iccha* and *isana*. These two states of Lord Siva come into existence after the existence of that blissful state *ananda*. The first state

iccha is the subtle state of will. What does he desire in this state of will? He desires nothing. He only desires his own nature. So the energy of will exists here just to treasure his own nature. It is the energy of will when he admires his own nature, expressed by, "Yes, I am possessing this state." And in the world of vowels, that state is represented by the letter *i*.

Then he takes another movement and that is the gross state of will. In the subtle state of will, he only admires his own nature. In the gross state of will, he not only admires his own nature but he wants to own that nature, he wants to have it, he wants to possess it. And that desire of possessing it will carry him down. Why? Because when he desires to possess it, this means that he feels he is not already possessing the nature of his own self. This means he is moving away from his own nature. This is the state of *isana*. So, when he wants to possess the nature of his self which is full of consciousness and bliss, he wants to possess it in the state of *isana*, and that state is represented by the letter *I*.

After that, he produces another movement and that is *jnana*. This first movement of *jnana* is the state of *unmesa*, represented by the letter *u*. Here, he discovers that the universe is existing in his own nature which is full of all consciousness and all bliss. When he discovers this, then he begins another movement into the external world. In this next movement, he observes, "I want to find out what is existing in this self of mine." As soon as he desires to observe the differentiated realities existing in his own nature, the splendor of all consciousness and all bliss begins to move away. He now has the apprehension that this consciousness and bliss may be diminishing. It is not actually decreasing, but only the apprehension that it will decrease. This is the state of *unata*, represented by the letter *u*. The word *unata* means "lessening." This state is the apprehension of the lessening of that supreme consciousness and supreme bliss that is His own nature.

When he has the apprehension that his supreme consciousness and supreme bliss will be lessened, he then diverts his will again into the internal world. He takes his will back again

into his own nature and does not let it go out into the external world. This takes place in four ways. The first two movements are in the state of intention. The final two movements are in the state of establishment. First, he has the intention that this flow, this movement, must be diverted towards internal being and not the external world. He must take his will back to his own nature. Then there is the confirmation of that intention that it must be taken back. So these are two states, one is intention and the second is the confirmation of this intention.

Initially, there is only simple intention. This is what you find in lightning. When bolts of lightning are flashing forth from clouds, that is the first state. And when that lightning is observed flashing forth, that is the second state. So in the same way, first there is the intention of taking this whole movement into the internal world of consciousness, and second, there is the confirmation of this intention. This is represented by the letter *ri* and by the letter *ri*. The letter *ri* represents the intention of diverting his will again into the internal world. And *ri* is the confirmation of this intention. All this happens in the state of Siva.

There are now two additional movements in this process of taking will into internal consciousness. First, there is the intention to return. Then there is the confirmation of the intention to return. Next, there is the establishment of this intention of again going back. And finally, this establishment is confirmed. These final two processes of establishment and the confirmation of this establishment are represented by the letters *Iri* and *Iri*. The short letter *Iri* represents the establishment of carrying this entire process inside and the long letter *Iri* represents the actual carrying of this whole process into his own nature so it rests in his own supreme being. These are four states of Siva and they are in movement in one's own nature. Your state of consciousness is also in movement. Everything is in movement. But here it moves in his own nature, he does not come out of his own nature.

So, these four states are represented by the four vowels *ri ri Iri Iri*. Here, in these four movements, you get a glimpse of *ra* and *la*.

The semivowel *ra* gives you a glimpse of the first two movements and the semivowel *la* gives you a glimpse of the final two movements of carrying this whole process back into your own nature.

Accordingly, the whole process of universality is carried to one's own nature. Here, the whole universe is made one with His being of all consciousness and all bliss. Therefore, the four states residing in Siva are said to be "filled with nectar" (*amrita rupena*). These four letters are nominated by the great grammarian Panini as *amrita bija* because they reside in one's own nature, which is filled with bliss. Here, there is no indication of moving outside into the external world.

At this point, there is no hope of creating the universe. The creation of universe has completely ended. Being completely inverted, this whole universe is carried back to his own nature. Nothing can be created now.

The grammarian Panini also designated these four letters, which represent these four movements, as the eunuch states of Siva. They are called the eunuch states of Siva because here Siva has the impression that the splendor of his supreme state of being may be lessened. Fearing this, he does not have the courage to create.

Now what happens? In reality, Lord Siva is always full, always blissful; nothing can diminish his nature. And it seems to him a great shame not to create this universe. So he takes another step to create this universe afresh. Now another movement takes place. This time, however, he does not infuse the power of creation in his will or in the will of his knowledge. This time he infuses the power of creative consciousness in his own self, which is *anuttara* and *ananda* and then he infuses that creative power in his will. When that creative power again mixes in his will, he creates another internal world of his being. That world is the world of his energy of action. This energy of action is represented by four letters: *e*, *ai*, *o* and *au*. Not vivid (*asphuta*) energy of action is represented by the letter *e*, vivid (*sphuta*) is represented by the letter *ai*, more vivid (*sphutatara*) is represented by the letter *o* and most vivid (*sphutatama*) is represented by the letter *au*.

The four states of the energy of action (*kriya Saktih*) take

placesequentially. First, the energy of action that is not vivid is the ~~st~~ of the triangle (*trikona*). Why is this state of nonvivid energy of action said to be the state of the triangle? You already know what with the exception of the energy of consciousness and the energy of bliss, which are not to be included because they we one with Lord Siva, there are three energies. These three energies are also not separate but, because they existed after the creation of the state of his *ananda Saktih*, they are being explained as separate. These three energies are the energy [will, the energy of knowledge and the energy of action. In the energy of will, only the energy of will exists. In the energy (knowledge, two energies exist - the energy of will and the ~~en~~ of knowledge. In the energy of action, three energies exist-the energy of will, the energy of knowledge, and the energy action. Therefore, the nonvivid energy of action is said to be the state of the triangle because in this energy of action - there are three points, one point of will, one point of knowledge and the point of action.

In the first movement, Lord Siva infuses his creative power, *anuttara/ānanda*, in will. Here, consciousness (*anuttara*) and all bliss (*ānanda*), the letters *a* or letter *ā*, are combined with the energy of will, the letter *i*. This first state of energy of action, the nonvivid energy of action, the state of the triangle (*trikona*), is represented by the letter *e*. Now he infuses that creative power in knowledge. So *anuttara* or *ānanda*, the letters *a* and *ā* are combined with the energy of knowledge (*jñāna Saktih*), the letter *u*, infusing their creative power in the energy of knowledge, and another state of the energy of action comes into existence and that energy of action is represented by the letter *o*. This state of the energy of action is vivid energy of action. The purpose of this state is just to confirm that it is the energy of action that Lord Siva is going to create, that this universe will be created in spite of the fact that the four states of the energy of will (*icchā saktih*) *ṛi*, *ṛī*, *lṛi* and *lṛī*, have entered into the state of *anuch*. This is the power and the greatness of Lord Siva's energy of consciousness (*anuttara*) and all bliss (*ānanda*).

And now, when *anuttara/ānanda* are again to infuse the cre-

ative power, it is infused not in will, as it was in the first movement, it is infused in *trikona*. This infusion gives rise to the more vivid state of the energy of action called *satkona*.¹⁹This state is represented by the letter *o*. *Satkona* is the state where the whole universe is found in Lord Siva and Lord Siva is found in the universe. In this state, you won't find any difference between Lord Siva and this created universe. You may call it "created universe" or you may call it "Lord Siva"; it doesn't make any difference. If you want to see Lord Siva, see him in blades of grass, he is there, vividly existing. Therefore, in the letter *e* he was not vividly existing. In the letter *ai* he is vividly existing. In the letter *o* he is more vividly existing. In the letter *au* Lord Siva is most vividly existing.

The final state of the energy of action, represented by the letter *au*, will be found only in the universal state. That state is called *sulabija*, where the triple state of the three energies - will, knowledge, and action - is consumed in one universal point. This is why in this fourth state of energy of action all three energies of Lord Siva - the energy of will, the energy of knowledge and the energy of action - are most vividly found. They are not found as vivid in the first state of the energy of action, the letter *e*, or in the second, the letter *ai*, or in the third, the letter *o*. They are found most vividly existing in the fourth, the letter *au*. It is in *au* that you will find Lord Siva most vividly existing in the universe. So if you want to perceive the state of Lord Siva as it ought to be perceived, in its real sense, you must enjoy this universe. You won't find the real state of Lord Siva in *samadhi*. In the state of *samadhi*, you will find His nonvivid formation. You will find the exact state of Lord Siva in the universe.

Up to this point, all of Lord Siva's energies - the energy of consciousness, the energy of bliss, the energy of will, the en-

19. This is another movement of Lord Siva. When the two movements *anuttara* and *ananda* are reunited with the force *trikona* - the letter *e*, which was already created - and when these two energies, *anuttara* and *ananda*, come in contact with *iccha sakti* and *isana Sakti*, then two triangles are united, creating two shapes with six angles. This six-angled star is composed of three male angles and three female angles and is shaped like the Jewish star.

ergy of knowledge, the energy of his four eunuch states, along with his not vivid energy of action, his vivid energy of action, his more vivid energy of action, and his most vivid energy of action - are explained completely. But what is represented by the next two vowels *anusvara* "m" and *visarga* "h"?

The whole universe, beginning from the energy of consciousness (*cit saktih*) and ending in the most vivid energy of action (*kriya saktih*) is no universe at all. In other words, it is the expansion of your own nature, nothing else. In reality nothing is created at all. It is only the glory of His own nature that you will find in this so-called creation. This state of knowledge and confirmation is represented by the letter "m" *anusvara*. Here, there is only a point (*bindu*). A point cannot be created; it is only one-pointed. After accomplishing this expansive state of activity, this entire active world is dissolved in one point. So, if you are created, if you grow up, if you become old, if you die, if you come again in this world, what significance is there in this? It is only the glory of your own expansion of being. There is no creation, there is no death.

But if nothing is created, then what is it that happens to make it seem that it is just like creation? After all, you do feel like it is being created. This is explained by the next state of Lord Siva, *visarga* "h". In the previous state of knowledge and confirmation represented by the letter "m" *anusvara*, we saw that the universe is just the glory of his own nature. There is no creation. There is only one point. The whole universe is dissolved in one point. So now, after creating these five energies of his nature, he creates the state of *visarga*. This sixteenth letter of the vowels is represented by the letter "h". This state represents simultaneously the internal creative force and external creative force. Here, in this state of being of Lord Siva, if you observe in one way, you will find that nothing is created. This is the internal creative force. If, on the other hand, you observe in another way, you will find that everything is created. This is the external creative force. So by observing in one way, nothing is created, and if at the same time you observe in another way, you will find that everything is created.

Here is a story that will help clarify this teaching, which is the supreme truth. In earlier times in this universe, there was a yogi and his name was Macchandana. He was considered to be a great yogi and he had many disciples. One day his chief disciple Gorakhanatha was traveling in a far off country. There to his surprise, he saw his master making love with a beautiful woman from a nearby town. Gorakhanatha was furious with his master for this unacceptable action. But his master had fallen in love with this woman and he married her. Living together, this master and his wife had many, many children. Gorakhanatha observed that his master was absolutely given to his wife and these children.

Then after some time, Gorakhanatha returned to his own country. He went to his master's *asram*. Upon arriving at the *asram*, Gorakhanatha was dumbfounded to find his master there in perfect *samadhi*. He knew his master was attached to his wife and children and yet here he was without his wife and children. Here he was, alone, absolutely given to *samadhi*. In fact, his brother disciples told him, his master had never left the *asram*. He has always been here in his *asram*. He had not gone anywhere.

Gorakhanatha was puzzled by this. Earlier he had seen his master, along with his wife and children, residing happily in that faroff place. Now he sees his master residing in his *asram* absolutely given to *samadhi*. "What is happening?" Gorakhanatha thought to himself. To answer this, he again, through his yogic powers, returned to the far-off country and again saw his master totally given in love and affection to his wife and his children. Then Gorakhanatha was filled with awe and totally surrendered to his master. His master then explained to him, "From one point, you will see that I have fallen in love and am attached to the world, and from another point you will see that I have not fallen in love at all, that I am Lord Siva."

So, if from one point you look to see what has been created, you will see nothing is created. You will see it is only the glory of your own I consciousness and nothing else. And yet, if you see from another point of view, you will see that everything is created. Such a state is represented by the Sanskrit letter *h*,

and is written in *Devanāgarī* as “:,” two points in a vertical line, one above and one below.

Visarga is classified in three ways in Śaivism. The first *visarga* is concerned with Śiva. The second *visarga* is concerned with his energy (*śaktiḥ*). And the third *visarga* is concerned with individual being. The first *visarga* concerned with Śiva is called *para visarga*, the supreme creative energy of Śiva. The second *visarga* concerned with *śaktiḥ* is called *parāpara visarga*, his medium creative energy. The third *visarga* concerned with the individual is called *apara visarga*, his inferior creative energy. These three energies are represented respectively by three letters. The supreme energy is represented by the second vowel of the alphabet *ā*, which is *ānanda śaktiḥ*. *Ānanda śaktiḥ* is the supreme energy of creation pertaining to Śiva. And the medium creative energy pertaining to *śaktiḥ* is *visarga, ḥ*, the sixteenth vowel of the Sanskrit alphabet. And finally, the inferior creative energy, which pertains to individual being (*jīva*), is represented by the letter *ha*, the last letter of the Sanskrit alphabet.

In addition to this, it is explained that the supreme energy of Lord Śiva, which is the first *visarga*, is called *cittapralayaḥ*,²⁰ because Lord Śiva does not have a mind. In place of mind Lord Śiva has only supreme independent consciousness of self. Because of this, the supreme creative energy is called *citta pralaya*.

The creative energy pertaining to his energy (*śaktiḥ*) is called *citta sambodhaḥ*, where the mind is fully aware, because here the possessor of that creative energy is *śaktiḥ*. This is the second *visarga*. Here, *śaktiḥ* means “all power.” But power of what? It is the power of maintaining complete awareness of self. Here, the mind is fully aware without any differentiated thoughts. Differentiated thoughts do not arise. Here, there is only the awareness of one thought. This is why it is called *citta sambodha*.

20. The kind of *visarga* existing in the state of *ānanda śakti* and represented by the letter *ā*, is called *sāmbhava visarga*. This *sāmbhava visarga* is *cittapralayaḥ*. *Cittapralayaḥ* means “where your mind does not function.” It is the thoughtless state. And so *sāmbhava visarga* is the thoughtless flow.

The third state of inferior creative energy is called *citta-visranti*. The state of *cittavisranti* is where one-pointedness is established. One-pointedness does not mean one-pointedness found in the *ekagrata* state.²¹ Rather, it is the one-pointedness of thought called *niruddhah*. In this state, you do not have to maintain one pointedness; one-pointedness is automatically maintained. So, in *niruddhah*, one-pointedness is not maintained with effort. *Niruddha* is effortless one-pointedness. One-pointedness maintained with effort is called the state of *ekagrata*. And one-pointedness attained without effort - one-pointedness already existing - is called *niruddha*. This third *visarga* is called *citta visranti*.

There is, therefore, the perception in the state of Siva of being introverted and the perception in the state of Siva of being extroverted - internal and external. When you perceive all these states of Siva internally, there you find the state of "m" *anusvara*. And when you also perceive that state externally, then you find the state of *visarga*, "h" or : .

So when perception from the external point of view takes place, perception from the internal point of view already exists in Siva. The perception from the external point of view will spread in the body of the whole universe. This body of the universe begins from the most inferior element, earth (*prithvi*), and ends with the most supreme element, which is the element *saktih*, not Siva. Why is the supreme element *saktih* and not Siva? Because Siva is the source of all elements and pervades them all.

And now, when you move to external observation, in the world of the created embodiment of Lord Siva, to observe what is created, what has happened in this creation, you will feel that five classes of consonants are created. That creation is composed of

21. The *ekagrata* state of mind exists when you are determined to maintain your mind on one point with concentration. When you keep your mind in the state of being one-pointed, it will occasionally try to move to another object. You must be attentive in such a way that you prevent it from going to that object. When it goes to that object, you drive it back to its original point. This is the state of mind known as *ekagrata*.

one class of five elements, one class of five *tanmatras*, one class of five energies of action and one class of five energies of knowledge.

As you know, Siva has five energies: the energy of consciousness (*cit saktih*), the energy of bliss (*ananda saktih*), the energy of will (*iccha saktih*), the energy of knowledge (*jnana sakti*) and the energy of action (*kriya Saktih*). From the energy of his consciousness, the five great elements (*mahabhutas*) - earth, water, fire, air and ether - have been created. Why are these elements created by his energy of consciousness? Actually, these five gross elements ought to be created by his energy of action, not his energy of consciousness. These five elements are the grossest created things in this universe. It has already been pointed out that Lord Siva does not fear coming down into the gross world. This is the glory of Lord Siva, that by his sweet will he comes down and he goes up again. So he rushes towards this extreme end of creation and by his subtlest energy of consciousness, creates the grossest element.

As we have seen earlier, in the energy of consciousness (*cit sakti*), the other four *saktis* exist. Also in the energy of bliss (*ananda sakti*), the energy of will (*iccha sakti*), the energy of knowledge (*jnana sakti*) and the energy of action (*kriya sakti*), all the other four *saktis* exist. So in each and every energy of Lord Siva, all five energies exist.

Both external perception and internal perception begin from *anuttara* (*cit sakti*). But how does external perception unfold? External perception begins from *cit sakti* (*anuttara*) and *ananda sakti*, the Sanskrit letters *a* and *ā*, which are one and filled with the five energies. From these two energies arise the five consonants *ka*, *kha*, *ga*, *gha* and *na*. These five consonants represent the state of the five gross to grossest elements: earth (*prithvi*), water (*jala*), fire (*agni*), air (*vayu*) and ether (*akasa*). Then from *iccha sakti*, the letters *ī* and *ī̄*, five consonants arise and these are the consonants *ca*, *cha*, *ja*, *jha* and *na*. These five consonants represent the states of the five *tanmatras*: smell (*gandha*), taste (*rasa*), form (*rupa*), touch (*sparsa*) and sound (*sabda*). Then the two letters *ṛī* and *ṛī̄*, which are *anasritasiva*, along with five energies give rise to the five consonants *ta*, *tha*, *da*, *dha* and *na*. These consonants represent the five organs of

action (*karmendriya*). The five consonants *ta, tha, da, dha* and *na*, which represent the five organs of knowledge (*jnanendriya*), are produced by the same five energies through the letters *lri* and *lri*. *Jnana sakti*, the energy of knowledge, the letters *u* and *u*, along with the five energies, gives rise to the five consonants *pa, pha, ba, bha* and *ma* and these produce the five elements *manas, buddhi, ahankara, prakriti* and *purusa*. So, from earth (*prithvi*) to *purusa* there are twenty-five elements, because five energies exist in each energy of Lord Siva. Therefore, the energy of consciousness (*cit saktih*), the energy of bliss (*ananda saktih*), the energy of will (*iccha saktih*), the energy of knowledge (*jnana sakti*) and the energy of action (*kriya saktih*) are all filled with *cit sakti, ananda sakti, iccha sakti, jnana sakti* and *kriya sakti*. And therefore, these five energies are each filled with five energies and this calculates as five times five, which equals twenty-five.

The next four semivowels *ya, ra, la, and va* correspond to the six elements of *kala, vidya, raga, kala, and niyati* along with *maya*.²² These elements of Lord Siva are known as the six coverings (*sat kancukas*), which are reduced to four by combining *niyati* with *raga* and *kala* with *kala*.

From the master grammarian Panini's point of view, the six elements of Lord Siva, *kala, vidya, raga, kala, niyati, and maya*, pertain to the individual being. They do not relate to the elements because all these energies are found inside, not outside, the individual being. They are inside the thought and inside the perception of the individual being. For this reason Panini has designated the letters *ya, ra, la, and va*, which represent these coverings, as *antahstha* because they remain inside the individual being.

On the other hand, in the *tantras* of our Saivism, these five elements *niyati, kala, raga, vidya, kala* along with *maya*, are called *dharana* because they give life to the individual being.

22. *Maya* is the energy of illusion. *Kala* is the energy of limited action. *Vidya* is the energy of limited knowledge. *Raga* is the energy of attachment to limited things. *Kala* is the limitation of time. *Niyati* is the energy of being situated in only one particular place.

The individual being lives in these five elements. Without these five elements, the individual being has no life; there would only be the sphere of Lord Siva. Therefore, in Saivism we argue that these elements are not *antahstha*, being inside the individual being, rather they are *dharana* because they are what gives life to the individual being. The individual being is created and glorified by these coverings, for limitation is the glory of limited being.

When you subside these six coverings and move ahead, crossing the bondage of these coverings, differentiated perception vanishes and undifferentiated perception comes before you. Then your self is about to bloom into existence (*unmesa*). This blooming of the self is represented by the four letters *sa, sa, sa* and *ha*. The grammarian Panini has designated these four letters '*sa, sa, sa, and ha* as *usma* letters because the Sanskrit word *usma* means that the internal light, internal fire, internal warmth, has again come forth. When this internal light, this internal warmth, comes forth, it is the state of *suddhavidya*, the state of *isvara*, the state of *sadasivah* and the state of *sakti*. These states are represented by these four letters *sa, sa, sa, and ha*. The letter *sa* represents the state of *suddhavidya*. The letter *sa* represents the state of *isvara*. The letter *sa* represents the state of *sadasivah*. And the letter *ha* represents the state of *sakti*. Here ends the world of the alphabet. This world is called *matrikacakram*, the wheel of the mother.

In this world of the alphabet, when creation ends, it ends in its fullness of being, in absolute supremacy, not in its fullness of inferiority. The creative world is found in its supreme state in the state of *sadasivah* which as we've seen above, is represented by the letter *sa*. This is the reason the author Ksemaraja tells us that in the end of all this creation what is is exactly what ought to be, and this is filled with the nectar of supreme consciousness. This is the state of *sadasivah*. It is the state whose essence is captured in the experience "*aham idam*," "I am this whole universe." In our philosophy, this letter *sa* is called *amrita bija*, the seed of nectar.

And in the end of that *amrita bija*, *prana bija* is created. This *prana* is the life of Siva. What is life for Siva? Siva's life is

Siva's *sakti*. So *pranabija* is the life of Siva and that is *sakti*. This state of '*sakti* is called *anahata*, the automatic energy of Lord Siva. It is represented by the letter *ha*. This letter *ha* is not to be recited; it is to be experienced. We, however, do recite the mantra "*so'ham*." In reciting *so'ham*, we recite *amrita bija*, *prana bija* and *anusvara*. The letter *sa* is *amrita bija*, the letter *ha* is *prana bija* and *m* is *anusvara*. We recite it but this kind of recitation is incorrect recitation. Actually, these three letters cannot be recited at all; they are automatic. They are to be perceived, not recited. As long as you are reciting, it is an imitation of these letters. It is not real. And yet, in the beginning, you have to recite these letters. And then, when the reality comes in front of you, recitation ends. Then there is only the experiencing of these three letters: what *m* is, what *amrita* is and what *prana bija* is. This is why it is called *anahata*. The Sanskrit word *anahata* means that which cannot be recited. Why? Because it is impossible to recite.

So, this is the complete history of the universe that has been created from earth (*prithvi*) to *sakti*. This knowledge is the theory of *matrikacakram* which is referred to by Panini in his sutra:

Put the first letter and put the last letter and combine them.

In perceiving, you should not perceive things one by one. See what is in the beginning and see what is in the end. Take these two and combine them and you have perceived the whole universe. This is *pratyahara*. To employ *pratyahara*, you take *anuttara*, the first letter *a* and *anahata*, the last letter *ha* and combine them. But how can you combine them? They can't be combined. You can, however, unite them by means of taking them in one point. That one point is *anusvara*, the letter *m*. So the letters *a*, *ha* and *m* when combined in one point become *aham*. This is *aham paramarsa*, the perception of universal I and it is the essence of *aham vimarsa*, the supreme mantra in our philosophy.

The Kashmir Saivaite philosopher Utpaladeva has also explained this state of Siva in this verse:

Whatever is perceived is *prakasa*.²³ It is the state of universal I. Carrying all that is perceived to your own nature, to that point of the self, and establishing it there is called *svatantrya*. It is called all action and it is called the universal glory of Siva. (*Ajadapramatrisiddhi*, 22-23)

Now, the author of this commentary, Ksemaraja, reveals the secret of *matrikacakra*. In *matrika*, there are three worlds, the subjective world, the cognitive world and the objective world. We are situated in the objective world. Being in the objective world, we are not aware of the cognitive world or the subjective world. The question is, how can we unite the objective world with the subjective world? The subjective world is found in *anuttara a* and the objective world is found in *anahata, ha*. How, therefore, can these two very different worlds be united?

This question is answered by this precious secret of *matrikacakra*, which explains how to become successful in uniting the objective and the subjective world. First, you have to extract subjectivity from subjectivity and insert that subjectivity into objectivity. Then you have to extract objectivity from the real objectivity and insert that objectivity into inferior objectivity. Supreme objectivity is found in *ha* and supreme subjectivity is found in *anuttara, a*. Because *anuttara* has given rise to the five elements represented by the letters *ka, kha, ga, gha* and *na*, inferior subjectivity is found in the letter *ka*. So you have to extract subjectivity from that real subjectivity of the state of *anuttara* and insert that subjectivity into objectivity in the letter *ka*. That is *prithvi*(earth); where we are actually situated. And then you have to extract objectivity from that real objectivity of *sakti* and insert that objectivity into another

23. Whatever you see, whatever you hear, whatever you smell, whatever you taste, whatever you touch is *prakasa*. The sensation of touch, the sensation of smell, the sensation of taste, the sensation of seeing anything, whatever you perceive, not only think but perceive, with any or all of your five organs of perception, is called *prakasa*.

inferior objectivity, which is *sa*. You must then unite that subjectivity *cum* objectivity and objectivity *cum* objectivity. This will create the letter *ksa* which is the combination of *ka* and *sa*. The letter *ka* is the objectivity *cum* subjectivity, because subjectivity has entered into that objectivity, and the letter *sa* is objectivity *cum* objectivity because here supreme objectivity has come into inferior objectivity. Uniting them creates another *pratyahara* of *ksa* (i.e., the combination of *ka* and *sa*).

This is the *sakti pratyahara*. It is the combination of one object with another object, not one subject and another object as was found in the combination of Siva and *sakti* found in *matrika*. This combination of *sakti* and *sakti* is found in this state of individual being. It is the unification of *sakti* with *sakti*, the unification of *ka* with the letter *sa*, that creates the letter *ksa*. This is called *kutabija*, or *bija* that has arisen from female energy. Here, there is no utilization of male energy at all.

This philosophy of *matrika* is supreme. The knowledge of *matrika cakra* is perceived by that disciple who receives the grace of his master. What is that *cakra* (wheel)? It is the wheel of *matrika* made of the five great energies of Siva, the energy of consciousness (*cit-sakti*), the energy of bliss (*ananda sakti*), the energy of will (*iccha sakti*), the energy of knowledge (*jnana sakti*) and the energy of action (*kriya sakti*). All these energies together are called *cakras* because they move like wheels. This yogi does not feel that these energies in that wheel are separate from Siva. On the contrary, he finds all these five energies filled with the nature of Siva. This is the knowledge of *matrika cakra*.

Here, in the *Siva Sutras*, we have briefly introduced the reader to the philosophy of *matrikacakra*. This philosophy is explained vividly and in great detail by our distinguished master Abhinavagupta in his *Tantraloka* and in his commentary on the *Paratrimika*.

In *Siddhamrita Tantra*, it is said:

In fact, in this world of *matrika*, the supreme hero is *kundalini*. *Kundalini* takes the roles of all these states. *Kundalini* is the real heroine. She is not only the life of the world of *matrika*, but filled with consciousness she is the germ of its root. And from

that *kundalini* arise the three letters a, i and u. (*Siddhamrita Tantra*)

In the beginning, in his system of the Sanskrit alphabet, the great grammarian Panini also established three letters. These three letters are the letters, "*aiun*"; "*a-i-un*" is the first sutra of Panini. The letters *a*, *i* and *u* are first because *anuttara* is first as the letter *a*, *iccha* is second as the letter *i* and *unmesa* is third as the letter *u*. From these three letters all other letters are produced.

Now he explains how this takes place:

The letter *a* rises from the letter *a* and so on, until the flow of *visarga* arises. And from that *visarga* arise the letters from *ka* to *sa* and that is fivefold. (*Siddhamrita Tantra*)

This awareness of I consciousness pervades in all the five supreme states. It pervades in the external world, in the internal world, in the world of sound, in the world of the supreme state and in the world of the supreme void. If this secret of *matrika* is not realized, all the recitations of mantras are useless just like empty rainless clouds in the autumn sky. (*Siddhamrita Tantra*)

There are five supreme states of Lord Siva. There is the external state of Siva and the internal state of Siva. The external state of Siva is the heart of universe. The internal state of Siva is the heart of the body. The heart of the body is not the physical heart. The heart of the body is in the state of perceiving and that is all-pervading. It pervades the whole body. For example, when an ant crawls on your foot, you are aware of it; that is the heart. That abode of awareness is that heart.

The external heart is the universe. This entire universe is the external heart. The internal heart is the heart abiding in one's own body and that is consciousness. Then there is the heart of sound. All sounds are produced from that soundless sound, that sound is called *nada*. *Nada* is sound that is not produced but which simply occurs. The fourth state is the supreme state of consciousness and the fifth state is the supreme state of supreme void.

The qualification of a master is only this, he causes you to realize what is first and what is last and how to combine it. That master is to be adored in the same way people adore me (Lord Siva).

Once you realize the reality of *matrika cakra*, whatever you do and whatever you say in your daily life will become divine and will be filled with that supreme universal consciousness of I. (*Siddhamrita Tantra*)

These are the sayings of Lord Siva. You must not consider this master as an ordinary human being. This master is beyond humanity.

This teaching is also given in *Spanda* in this verse:

This energy of action of Lord Siva entangles Lord Siva in the individual state of life. And when Lord Siva realizes the nature of this energy of his own self, then it will cease to entangle him. It entangles only when it is not realized. Once it is realized, you are freed from all the bondages of life. (*Spanda Karika* 3.16)

Here ends the theory of *matrika*.

For the yogi who is fully aware of *matrikacakra*

8. *sariram havih*

*The establishment of I consciousness on the body
becomes an offering in the fire of
God consciousness.*

When I consciousness (*pramatri bhava*) is established on the body the experiencer perceives, "I am this gross body in the waking state, I am this subtle body in the dreaming state and I am this subtlest body in the state of deep sleep." All worldly people have inaugurated (*abhisikta*) their I consciousness by inserting their I-ness in these three bodies. When I consciousness is established in these three bodies, they are called the three veils the three coverings. You must remove I consciousness from these three bodily states, gross, subtle and subtlest, because when I consciousness is established in these bodies, then you perceive that you are these bodies.

I consciousness on these three bodies is called *sarira*. For such a yogi, all these three bodies, including I consciousness, become offerings (*havih*) in the fire of God consciousness. By these offerings, all these three states of I consciousness become one with God consciousness.

Because this great yogi offers these three flows of consciousness causing them to be digested in the fire of God consciousness' only God consciousness and no other consciousness remains. This yogi finds the kingdom of God consciousness everywhere, in the gross body, in the subtle body and in the subtlest body. So in this way, he subsides I consciousness on these threefold bodies and he gains entry in God consciousness.

This is said in *Sri Vijnanabhairava Tantra*:

When all the five elements, all the organs and all the perceptions of the organs, including one's mind, are offered in the fire of the great voidness with the sacrificial ladle (*srukca*) of awareness, that is, in the real sense, the great fire sacrifice (*havana*). (*Vijnanabhairava* 149)

In *Timirodghata Tantra* it is also said:

When, in the fire of God consciousness, you subside the attachment to one whom you love, to the one who is your friend, to the one who is your close relative, to the one who fills you with happiness and to the one who is your beloved, then you are situated in the courtyard of the supreme ether of voidness. (*Timirodghata Tantra*)

In essence, this is just to subside the oneness of I consciousness on these threefold bodies.

It is also said in *Bhagavadgita*:

The way of action of great yogis is to offer all the actions of the organs of the senses and all the actions of breathing completely in the fire of the one-pointedness of God consciousness. (*Bhagavadgita* 4.27)

The author Kallata has explained the meaning of agitation this way in his commentary of *Spanda Karika*:

When all agitations end, then the supreme state of God consciousness is revealed. (*Spanda Karika* 1.9)

In this verse, the word "agitation" refers to that state which exists when you put your I consciousness on these threefold bodies. When I consciousness on these threefold bodies is removed and inserted in God consciousness, then agitation ends. There is no further agitation.

9. *jnanamannam* //

(For such a yogi)
differentiated perception is his food

or

knowledge of his own nature is his food.

This yogi eats and digests differentiated perception in his own supreme nature of consciousness.

Previously in the second sutra of the First Awakening of the *Siva Sutra*, we are told *jnanariibandhah*, "bondage is differentiated perception." And when that differentiated perception is carried in God consciousness by great Saiva yogis, it does not live, it expires. Then, there is no residue of that differentiated perception. This is why he has said in the present sutra, "differentiated perception is his food," because he takes it in and digests it in his own nature of God consciousness.

Previously, this point was communicated in this verse:

In that state, where he carries all differentiated perception into one God consciousness and digests it, not only are differentiated perceptions digested but along with differentiated perceptions, death, time, all actions good or bad, all changes of life, all perceptions good or bad, and all discussions of the question of monism or dualism are also digested in that supreme oneness of God consciousness. (*Bhargasikha Sastra*)

This is one explanation of this sutra. There is also another way to explain it. In this explanation, take the word *jnana* to mean *knowledge of your own real self*, and not *differentiated perception*. Thus, the reading would be:

For such a *yogi*, knowledge of his own nature is his food. •

So, in one way, because this *yogi* carries differentiated perceptions from the differentiated to the undifferentiated state, he has explained that all kinds of differentiated perceptions are this *yogi*'s food. This *yogi* carries these differentiated perceptions from darkness to light, from sadness to joy. Everything for him is joyous, filled with light and glory. This is one way of explaining the word *jnana*.

The other way to explain the word *jnana* is that *jnana* is the real knowledge of your own nature. This is his food and he is satisfied with this food. Being always satisfied with this food means he doesn't crave for physical food. Of course he eats, he does not starve himself, but he is not attached to food. He is always intoxicated in his own self because the knowledge of his real nature gives him complete satisfaction.

It is also said in *Vijnanabhairava*:

Take any one means, in this world of one hundred and twelve means (*upayas*), for entering in God Consciousness, and meditate according to that means. The fullness you experience by practicing consistently day by day on that means will give you perfect satisfaction and perfect fullness of self. (*Vijnanabhairava* 148)

Here, the author says that it doesn't matter which means you take out of these one hundred and twelve ways. The fullness you experience through constant practice gives you perfect satisfaction and fullness of self.

This is stated in *Spanda* in this verse:

Always maintain awareness in all your activities.
(*Spanda Karika* 3.12)

If you lose awareness, then you are gone. You have destroyed the reality of life. You must, therefore, be aware. If you are fully aware of your thoughts, then you will not see any thoughts there. You can't be partially aware while thinking; this won't accomplish anything. Be fully aware of what you are thinking and

you won't think anything. If you are aware of what is happening next, nothing will happen. If you are aware that you are dying, you won't die. If you are aware that you are going from wakefulness to the dreaming state, you won't go. On the contrary, by establishing this awareness, you will get entry into God consciousness. This is the greatness of awareness, that if you are always aware in continuation, always one-pointed and residing in the one-pointed state of God consciousness, you won't think anything. If, on the other hand, you are unaware, you will miss the reality of your life.

When this yogi does not maintain awareness in continuity, then, although he possesses the knowledge of God consciousness, there are many occasions when he lacks awareness. For example, if this yogi is aware of God consciousness now and after a short time he becomes unaware, missing that awareness, then again after a few minutes he is again maintaining that awareness, this is not the way to maintain awareness. Awareness must be maintained in continuity. And when this yogi doesn't maintain unbroken awareness, what happens to him?

10. *vidyasamhare*
tadutthasvapnadarsanam //

*Although he is established in
God consciousness in samadhi,
yet not being able to maintain awareness,
after a short time he enters into the
dreaming state.*

This is the meaning of this sutra. When you have completely entered in *samadhi* and while in *samadhi*, you do not maintain your awareness wholeheartedly with great effort, then after a while you enter into the dreaming state. This happens to all yogis. This losing awareness is the great crisis in the yogic world. All yogis generally experience this state of losing awareness. And when they do, they go to the dreaming state because that state is subtler than the waking state.

In the world of experience and awareness, the grossest state is the waking state. A more subtle state is the dreaming state. More subtle still is soundless sleep. And the most subtle state is *samadhi*. So it is very difficult to maintain awareness in *samadhi*. There is only one way you can maintain awareness in

samadhi and that is when your master is exceedingly pleased with you. When he is pleased with you, you will be able to maintain awareness; otherwise, it is impossible.

But the question is why, when you are in *samadhi* and are unable to maintain awareness, do you enter the dreaming state rather than the waking state? It is because in wakefulness you are more aware than you are in the dreaming state. For instance, say your father has been dead for two years. While you are in the waking state, someone says your father has come to visit. Will you believe it? No, you won't believe it. If, on the other hand, you had this same experience in the dreaming state, you would believe it. So you are not as aware in the dreaming state.

But here the question can be raised, if awareness is not as full in the dreaming state as it is in the waking state, then why is the dreaming state said to be more subtle than the waking state? Surely, the waking state should be the subtlest because there is more awareness in that state.

The dreaming state is more subtle than the waking state because the awareness existing in the waking state, which is more full, is awareness of the differentiated state. In fact, the awareness existing in the waking state, or in the dreaming state or in the dreamless state, is awareness of differentiated perceptions. In these three states, undifferentiated perception does not exist. This is the nature of these three states.

If you meditate more and more, and expand your awareness in meditation, then initially you will enter *samadhi* through the dreaming state because the dreaming state is subtler than the waking state and you can maintain awareness more easily in that state. Initially, you never enter *samadhi* while in the waking state. You will always enter by way of the dreaming state. When your awareness is fully established, then you can also gain entry into *samadhi* while in the waking state.

And those yogis who do not have much capacity or ability to meditate enter *samadhi*, not in the dreaming state, but in sound sleep. If they continue meditating, then after some time they will get entry into *samadhi* in the dreaming state. And when their awareness is further strengthened and developed, they

will gain entry to *samadhi* through the waking state. Once you enter *samadhi* through the waking state, that *samadhi* becomes the most firm. So this is the reason why, when that supreme knowledge of God consciousness is weakened by the lack of awareness, you enter the dreaming state.

When it is said that the supreme pure knowledge of God consciousness, which is the expansion of knowledge of one's own self, is destroyed by the lack of awareness, the destruction being referred to here is not real destruction. Saying the supreme pure knowledge of God consciousness is destroyed means this supreme pure knowledge of God consciousness subsides, it diminishes. And because of that lessening, the yogi enters the dreaming state and is thrown into the world of differentiated perception.

When, through meditating in continuity, your thought becomes ever more subtle, you will feel that you are about to go to sleep. Sleep comes for those who can not maintain awareness. Those who can maintain awareness do not fall asleep. They enter the gap, the junction of these two states of waking and dreaming. That junction is *turya*, the real state of being.

This is also said in *Malinivijaya Tantra*:

This state of God consciousness was not explained to Parvati by Lord Siva until he was absolutely and wholeheartedly happy with her. It was at that time he explained to her the way of entering God consciousness. This is the reason why, even though your master has initiated you wholeheartedly, you still can not maintain awareness in that state. There must be ample satisfaction in the heart of your master first, before the entry into God consciousness occurs. (*Malinivijaya Tantra*)

The supreme path of reality was not explained to Parvati by Lord Siva when he was not pleased with her. It was only when Lord Siva was absolutely pleased with Parvati, his life partner, that he explained to her the reality of God consciousness. So the entry into God consciousness takes place only when your master is absolutely pleased with you.

Hence, the fruit of this entry into God consciousness comes

after an utmost struggle. And even if that state of reality has come nearer to your awareness, even then you cannot maintain awareness there. It is very difficult to touch it. As soon as you want to touch it, you become unaware. You lose awareness. Your connection of awareness is severed at once. Ksemaraja tells us that if this happens, you must understand that your master was not really happy with you when he initiated you. Therefore, you must ask your master to initiate you only when he is completely happy with you. You must not pressure your master to initiate you. By using pressure, nothing can be accomplished. This is the teaching of Ksemaraja. I don't necessarily agree with this point of view.

It is further stated in the *Malinivijaya Tantra*:

The yogi who does not maintain awareness at the time he achieves supreme yogic powers becomes detached from the awareness of God consciousness. This yogi has diminished his power of moving forward and the obstacles of life toy with him. (*Malinivijaya Tantra*)

At the point when a yogi attains supreme yogic powers, his awareness may be prevented from further achievement because of his being so filled with the enjoyment of these powers. For example, a yogi gains the power of flying in the air. If at that time, because he is overjoyed - so happy to have gained so much - he becomes detached from the awareness of God consciousness, then his awareness decreases and his power of going forward on the path is reduced. Having weakened his power of going forward, through the attainment of these yogic powers, all the obstacles of life play with him.

In *Spanda*, in this verse it is said:

The creative energy of Lord Siva, becoming independent of that yogi who is lacking awareness, plays with him who now acts and experiences wakefulness and the dreaming state just like ordinary people. (*Spanda Karika* 3.3)

This yogi lacks awareness. He does not maintain the full awareness of God consciousness. Because of this, the creative energy

of Lord Siva, previously contingent on his maintaining awareness, becomes independent of him. This creative energy plays with him just like she does with ordinary people. In wakefulness he does what worldly people do and in the dreaming state he experiences what they experience. Now there is no difference between this yogi and the common person.

So no matter what happens, a yogi must maintain awareness in continuity. This is what we are being taught here.

This is said in *Malini Vijaya Tantra*:

Do not become attached to *yogic* powers, be detached from them.
(*Malini Vijaya Tantra*)

In *Spanda*, it is also said:

The one who is always completely aware to apprehend the essence of *spanda* in each and every movement of life quickly gains entry in God consciousness in the very state of wakefulness.
(*Spanda Karika* 1.21)

So, beginning from the first sutra of this chapter, *cittam mantrah*, "the yogi's mind is mantra," *Saktopaya* is explained, which is filled with *mantra virya* and with *mudra virya*.²⁴

That means (*upaya*), wherein one, by meditating only with thought, gains entry in God consciousness, through maintaining awareness on an object of perception which can not be uttered, is called *saktopaya*. (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 2.22)

In *saktopaya*, the object of meditation is not differentiated perception; it is an object of your own nature which you meditate on with thought. This meditation is not accomplished through the recitation of mantra. It is only accomplished with thought. You must maintain awareness of that object. This is the way of *Saktopaya*.

24. See sutras 1.22 and 2.5, for an explanation of *mantra virya* and *mudra virva*

There are some yogis who are treading on the path of *Saktopaya* who are unable to maintain awareness. For them, this last sutra has been explained.

When this yogi's state of pure knowledge (*suddha vidya*) is destroyed by lack of awareness, he enters the dreaming state. At this point, his future is uncertain. God only knows what will happen to him. He has lost everything and from a yogic point of view, he is a pauper.

So now, to aid this yogi, the author will explain the means called *anavopaya* whereby he can learn how, in time, he will be able to maintain awareness and thereby reach and secure entry into *Saktopaya* and, in the end, gain entry into *sambhavo-paya*.

This is the end of the Second **Awakening**.

Third Awakening

In the First Awakening, the explanation of *Sambhavopaya* is given. In the Second Awakening, *saktopaya* is explained. Now, in the Third Awakening, the explanation of *anavopaya* will be given.

In the first sutra of the First Awakening, the definition of your own self is given. In the first sutra of the Second Awakening, Ksemaraja has again defined the reality of the self. And in the first sutra of the Third Awakening, he also explains the reality of the self. But there is a difference in these three explanations.

The explanation given in the first sutra of the First Awakening is for the self situated in his real way of being in *sambhavopaya*. So in that verse (*caitanyamatma*), he says, "Independent God consciousness is the reality of the self."

In the first sutra of the Second Awakening, he says (*cittam mantrah*) "the mind is mantra." In this sutra, the author has descended slightly from "the real way of being" of the first sutra of the First Awakening to the "experience of the impressions of thoughts." In this sutra, he is residing in the world of the mind, not in the world of his real nature. But here his mind is so purified that it has become the embodiment of all mantras. And that embodiment of all mantras is *aham*, supreme I-consciousness.

Now, in the first sutra of the Third Awakening, he again explains the formation of the self. Here though, the self is defined as being absolutely one with the limited state of thought which is the mind.

And while explaining the Third Awakening of the *Siva Sutras*, which is concerned with *anavopayah*, the means of the individual limited being, he will elucidate the formation of individual being.

1. *atma cittam*

Individual being is the mind entangled in the wheel of repeated birth and death.

Here, individual being has been transformed into the nature (*svarupa*) of mind. But what kind of mind is this? It is not the mind filled with (*mantrah*), the God consciousness of supreme I. It is that mind which is eternally saturated with the impressions of sensual pleasures.

This individual is attached to the three intellectual organs - mind, intellect and ego. The function of these three organs is as follows. First, understanding what is to be done is accomplished by the organ of intellect. Second, the thought of how to do it is accomplished by the organ of mind. Third, the ego is attached when we say, "this is to be done by me."

These three movements are the functions of the mind of that individual being. It is this mind of the individual being which is *atma*. Here the Sanskrit word *atma* does not mean "individual being." The word *atma* comes from the verbal root *ata*. In grammar, the meaning of *ata* is *satatya gamane*, "who comes and goes, who is always in movement, moving in repeated births and deaths, being born and dying again and again." So he who is always entangled in the wheel of repeated births and deaths is *atma*. And that mind is *atma*.

Why does he move in repeated births and deaths? This happens when he neglects the knowledge of his own real nature. This individual being moves in various wombs, by possessing at different times either a (*sattvika*) pure state of thought, a (*rajasika*) active state of thought, or a (*tamasika*) dull state of

thought. And when at the time of death he is situated in the *sattvika* state, he moves to a higher life. When at the time of death he is situated in a *rajasika* disposition, he enters into those lives filled with luxuries. And when he is situated in a *tamasika* mood, he enters into beasts, trees, or into other states of deadened consciousness. This is the nature of this *atma*, which is the substance of individual being.

On the other hand, the mind that has become one with God consciousness does not remain in this way. He moves in his own real nature. This is why the first sutra of the First Awakening is *caitanyam atma*, "independent God consciousness is the reality of the self." So in this sutra, the word *atma* in *caitanyam atma* was explained in such a way that you will understand that *atma* is no other than God consciousness. But here, in the present sutra, *atma* is defined as a truly inferior being. This is the state of individuality. It exists when the supreme being possesses the state of individuality. Possessing this state and being shrunk from all sides, he becomes an individual being.

You should not think, therefore, that the author has explained *atma* in different ways. The explanation given for *atma* in the first sutra of the First Awakening is correct in that state of being and the explanation given for *atma* in the present sutra is correct in the present state of being, described above as "who comes and goes."

What happens to this individual being who has become one with the limited mind which is soaked in the impressions of worldly pleasures?

2. *jnanam bandhah* //

(For this limited individual),
all knowledge is bondage.

Whatever knowledge this individual possesses is bondage for him. The meaning of the present sutra is different from the meaning given for the second *sutra* of the First Awakening which is also *jnanam bandhah*. We've seen that this second *sutra* of the First Awakening is to be understood as *jnanam bandhah* and *ajnanam bandhah*, "Knowing differentiatedly is bondage and not knowing undifferentiatedly is bondage." But here, in the present sutra, whatever knowledge he possesses in the state of limited individuality is differentiated knowledge. In this state, there is no possibility of possessing undifferentiated knowledge.

Depending on the three intellectual organs, intellect, mind and ego, the knowledge found here functions in three ways. The three intellectual organs first understand what is to be enjoyed, then establish that understanding, and finally attach ego to that understanding. And these three intellectual acts are one with (*sukha*) pleasure, (*duhkha*) pain and (*moha*) illusion. *Sukha* is connected with the *sattvika* state of life, *duhkha* is connected with the *rajasik* state of life and *moha* is connected with the *tamasik* state of life. These three states of life are controlled by this limited knowledge of the individual being. Therefore, this kind of knowledge causes you to possess only differentiated knowledge, not undifferentiated knowledge. When he is entangled by these three kinds of differentiated knowledge,

he travels in the world of repeated births and deaths in various ways and that, in reality, is bondage.

It is said in *Tantrasadbhava Sastra*,

Sometimes he is situated in the state of *sattva guna*. At other times, he is situated in the state of *rajas guna*. And, at other times he is situated in the *tamas guna* state of being. In brief words, he is only residing in the perceptions of the *gunas*, not beyond them. This is why, being disconnected with the previous state of life and united with the next state of life, he moves in various births and deaths. (*Tantrasadbhava*)

This is told in *Spanda* in these one-and-a-half verses,

When the five *tanmatras*¹ give rise to the three intellectual organs, intellect, mind and ego, then collectively there are eight organs. These eight organs are said to be *puryastaka* and they function in our dreaming state. This *puryastaka* prevents you from getting through to the reality of your self. When the reality of your nature is ignored, then you are dependent on enjoyment which cannot be refused. Because of this, you are played and entangled by the wheel of repeated births and deaths.

Now you will be told how to end this wheel of repeated births and deaths. (*Spanda Karika* 3.17-18)

1. The five *tanmatras* are *gandha*, *rasa*, *rupa*, *sabda*, and *sparsa*. These five *tanmatras* correspond to the five great elements (*mahabhutas*). *Gandha tanmatra* arises from the element of earth (*prithvi mahabhuta*). *Gandha tanmatra* is the home of smell. *Rasa tanmatra* has come out from the element of water (*jala mahabhuta*). *Rasa tanmatra* is the residence of the impression of taste (*rasa*). From the element of fire (*tejas mahabhuta*) issues forth *rupa tanmatra*. *Rupa tanmatra* is the residence of form, where the impression of form resides. From the element of air (*vayu mahabhuta*) rises *sparsa tanmatra*, which is the sensation of touch. And finally, rising from the element of ether (*akasa mahabhuta*) is *sabda tanmatra*, the *tanmatra* of sound

3. *kaladinam tattvanamaviveko maya //*

Being unable to possess the undifferentiated knowledge of the 31 elements, you live in those elements, from kala to prithvi (earth), which are the expansion of the energy of illusion (maya sakti).

In the scriptures, it is established that knowledge is enlightening and *atma* is also enlightening. It is said the *atma* and knowledge are in reality one. This is explained in this way in the *Sri Vijnanabhairava Tantra*:

Knowledge is filled with enlightenment and the knower is also filled with enlightenment. Therefore, you can be enlightened completely by either knowledge or the knower. This is because in knowledge you will find the residence of the knower and in the knower you will find the residence of knowledge. These are not two different aspects of being, they are one aspect of being. Knowledge and the knower (*atma*) are, in the real sense, one. (*Vijnanabhairava* 137)

So, it is said, there you will find that knowledge is also filled with enlightenment. Knowledge, therefore, can only enlighten you, not deprive you of enlightenment. So, the question must be answered, how is it that in this sutra you have explained that all knowledge is bondage?

The author answers by stating that he accepts as correct the theory that knowledge and the knower are one with one condition. It is only correct when, by the grace of the Lord, you know this whole universe is filled with knowledge and knower, that knowledge and knower are one, that "this" and "I" are one be-

ing. If you know it, then it is not bondage; if you don't know it, then it is bondage.

The thirty-one elements (*tattvas*) beginning from *maya tattva* and ending in *prithvi tattva*, (earth) are the thirty-one elements existing in the world of illusion. *Samsara* begins with the element *kala* and ends with earth.

In the world of enlightenment, there are five elements (*tattvas*): *suddhavidya*, *isvara*, *sadasiva*, *sakti* and *Siva*. These five elements are pure. The thirty-one elements that comprise *samsara*, being filled with ignorance, are impure. When you are not aware that everything is filled with divinity, with knower and knowledge, then you live in these thirty-one elements. You are unable to possess that undifferentiated knowledge that is the actual state of these thirty-one elements. When you do not possess undifferentiated knowledge of these thirty-one elements, then these elements are impure and are existing in the kingdom of *maya*. By possessing undifferentiated knowledge, when you are aware that the knower is inside knowledge and that knowledge is inside the knower, then these thirty-one elements are recognized as one with the five pure elements and they are known to be divine and to be the expansion of your *svatantrya sakti*.

Kala is the first element found when descending from your own real nature. Being limited by *Kala tattva* is to be separated from possessing the energy of unlimited action. Because of *kala tattva*, you possess the energy of limited action, limited creativity. And so also, possessing only some limited knowledge, you are disconnected from being all-knowing. In this way, you descend into the world of limitation where you finally enter into the state of (*prithvi*) earth, the grossest state of *samsara*.

So, in descending from your own real nature, first there is *maya* and the five *kancukas*, which are six coverings which cover your real nature. Then there is *puryastaka*, which is composed of the five *tanmatras* (subtle elements), *manas*, *buddhi*, and *ahamkara*. Then there are the five organs of knowledge, the five organs of action, and the five gross elements.

When you know these elements as differentiated and not as undifferentiated, thinking they are different from your own nature and not one with it, then you have descended. Even

though in reality these thirty-one elements are one with that supreme being, still you think you are one with that differentiated reality. On the one hand, you think that actually the reality of being is not one with differentiated reality and on the other hand, you think that you are one with that differentiated reality. You think that you are one with your own body and God is not. When you understand in this way, then you have descended. And when you know that all bodies are my bodies and all bodies are universal bodies and you know you possess a universal body, knowing, "I am God," then you are truly elevated. For you, there is no possibility of again becoming immersed in this world of ignorance.

So, when you know you are one with that differentiated reality, you have come down. Descending in such a way, you are absolutely deprived of your real nature. That is *maya*.

It is said in *Tantrasadbhava*:

The results of your God consciousness (*caitanya*) being fenced in by the five coverings is that you act in a limited way, know in a limited way, love in a limited way, live in a limited way and possess in a limited way. Being attached to this path with your organs of knowledge and organs of action, you are guided to walk the spiritual path in a limited way. Your attachment to this path is such that even if you meet an elevated soul who desires to show you the correct path, you will not accept his guidance.

Consequently, in your world of illusion, where you remain filled with insecurity and fear, these limitations are bondage. Here, being completely dependent on that illusive energy of knowledge and being without real knowledge, you are continuously doing right or wrong. So, being completely entangled in that fence you become just like a beast. (*Tantrasadbhava*)

In this verse in the *Spanda Sastra*, it is also said:

For those who are fully aware of God consciousness, all the organs of cognition, organs of action and organs of the intellect lead them to that supreme state of God consciousness. For those who are not aware, these same organs deprive them completely of that God consciousness. (*Spanda Karika* 1.20)

These organs, therefore, perform in two ways, depending on whether you are fully aware or not. Those who are deprived of awareness are pushed down into the field of ignorance. Those who possess the fullness of awareness, however, become completely elevated.

Therefore, to curtail this limitation of being:

4. *sarire samharah kalanam //*

You must make all the circles (kalas) in your body enter one into the other from gross to subtle.

Beginning from *prithvi* and ending in Siva, there are five circles. In this process of going from gross to subtle, you have to make one circle enter another circle. You do this by putting the effect in its cause, and then you put that cause in its cause, and then you also put that cause in its cause. And, in the end, you will find only Siva existing everywhere. When Siva is there, then you are one with Siva. You can't be an observer of Siva. There the observed and the observer become one.

To explain more clearly, from the element earth to *siva tattva*, there are five circles or enclosures that form the boundaries for all the thirty-six *tattvas*. These five circles (*kalas*) are *nivritti kala*, *pratistha kala*, *vidya kala*, *santa kala*, and *santatita kala*. You have to make these five circles (*kalas*) enter into each other in your own body, which is comprised of three states - waking, dreaming, and deep sleep. Here, you have to think that the grossest circle has entered in its nearest, more subtle circle, and that circle has entered in its nearest, still more subtle circle and so forth.

Nivritti kala is situated in the grossest element, which is the element "earth" (*prithvi tattva*). The next circle is *pratistha kala*. *Pratistha kala* possesses the twenty-four elements from "water" (*jala tattva*) to *prakriti tattva*. The third circle is called *vidya kala*. *Vidya kala* possesses six elements. These are the sixfold coverings (*sat kancukas*) *kala*, *vidya*, *raga*, *kala*, *niyati*, and *maya*, the illusive energy of God. You find the fourth circle *santa*

kala in that supreme pure being, from *suddha vidya tattva* to *sakti tattva*. The fifth circle *santatita kala* is found in the first and subtlest element, Siva.

So, to alleviate this state of being completely entangled in limitation, you have to practice going from gross to subtle, as outlined above. To do this, you must meditate and imagine that the gross state of *nivriti kala* has entered into *pratistha kala*. Then you have to imagine that *pratistha kala* has entered into *vidya kala*, and *vidya kala* has entered into *santa kala* and finally, that *santa kala* has entered into *santatita kala*. When *santatita kala* exists, you are situated in the state of Siva. Practicing in this way will subdue the differentiated state along with the grip of *maya*.

Let it be the gross body, let it be the subtle body, let it be the subtlest body. This body is either gross as the five gross elements (*mahabhuta*), subtle as *puryastaka*,² or subtlest as *sukma sarira*. In short, this gross, subtle, or subtlest body exists up to the circle of the thought of consciousness (*samanantam*).³ You have to make the gross body enter into the subtle body, and you have to make the subtle body enter into the subtlest body.

For example, be situated in your mind and think this gross world is only the invention of your mind. When you are situated in your mind, you are situated in the dreaming state. Although you are actually awake, you are in dreaming state. Now let that dreaming state enter into the dreamless state. In the dreamless state, you become thoughtless, one-pointed. At that time, you are very near to experiencing the state of *samadhi*. You must practice in this way to abolish the power of ignorance, the power of illusion.

2. *Puryastaka* is collectively composed of eight elements, the five *tanmatras*, *abda*, *sparsa*, *rupa*, *rasa*, *gandha*, the mind (*manas*), intellect (*buddhi*), and ego (*ahamkara*). As *puryastaka*, these eight elements function in our dreaming state. This is the substance of the subtle body.

3. *Samanantam* means "up to the state of *sarnana*." *Samana* is that state where the mind is totally destroyed with the exception of its impressions. The impressions remain. When one is burnt to ashes, the impressions of those ashes remain.

There is another type of meditation in which you imagine your gross body is consumed by flames and burned to ashes. Here, you must first meditate, imagining that this body pervades this whole universe, beginning from *Kalagni Rudra*, the grossest point of world, and ending with *santatita kala*, the subtlest point of the world. Then put your attention on the big toe of your left foot and imagine that *Kalagni Rudra*, vigorously producing its fire and burning brilliantly, is rising, consuming your body in flames so there is nothing left of your body but ashes. This kind of meditation uses the power of imagination. Ultimately, it will also be successful.

These two types of meditation are explained in these two verses of the *Vijnanabhairava*.

You have to meditate that the grossest orbit of the world, *bhuvanadhava*, has entered into the more subtle orbit of the world *tattvadhva*. And then this subtle representation of orbit has entered into its subtlest representation of *kaladhva*. Gross has entered into subtle and subtle has entered into subtlest. And when, in the end, your mind becomes unminded, then you are one with God. There is no difference between your being and God. (*Vijnanabhairava* 56)

First comes the grossest representation of an orbit (circle) (*adhva*), *bhuvanadhva*. A more subtle orbit is *tattvadhva*. The most subtle orbit is *kaladhva*. The grossest circle is *bhuvanadhava* because it is defined in 118 worlds. The more subtle circle is *tattvadhva* because it is explained in 36 elements. The most subtle circle is *kaladhva* because it is explained in five circles.

This kind of meditation is called *laya cintana* or *laya bhavana*⁴ because you take your attention from the gross (*sthula*) orbit to the subtle (*sukhma*) orbit and then to the subtlest (*para*) orbit, absorbing one in the other. So here you take your attention to the grossest orbit and then you absorb that orbit in the more subtle orbit. And finally, you merge that subtle orbit with the most subtle orbit. This is the threefold movement of entries.

4. Absorption of thought.

This next meditation also uses imagination.

The state of *kalagni rudra* resides in the big toe of your left foot. Using your imagination, generate fire from that *kalagni* and then, using that fire, completely incinerate your body. You must imagine your whole body has become ashes. Then the highest peace of God consciousness will shine in your consciousness. (*Vijnanabhairava* 52)

These kinds of meditation are found not only in this tantra, but in each and every tantra of Saivism. This is why in the *Malini Vijaya Tantra*, the means associated with meditation and the means associated with imagination are explained as being in the inferior world of *anavopaya*, not *Saktopaya* or *sambhavopaya*. And so, these inferior means are not explained in the *Spanda Sastra* because the *Spanda Sastra* only explains *saktopaya* and *sambhavopaya*, and not *anavopaya*.

5. *nadisamhara-bhutajaya-bhutakaivalya-
bhutaprithaktvani //*

*The merging of the movements of breathing,
controlling the gross elements,
diverting attention from all objective senses
and directing it towards the center of the movement of
the breath, and removing
your consciousness from the grip of the elementary field.*

As you know, the Third Awakening of the *Siva Sutras* is concerned with the inferior *upaya*, *anavopaya*. When, in explaining *anavopaya* you reach the terminus, there you will find a touch of *saktopaya*. And when you explain *saktopaya* in a beautiful way, in the end you will find its terminus in *sambhavopaya*. These are the beginning and ending terminations of *saktopaya*. So when the terminus of that point in *anavopaya* is found, there you will also find *saktopaya* in *anavopaya* because the terminus is not only the ending point, but also the beginning point. As the *Spanda Sastra* only explains *saktopaya* and *sambhavopaya*, or that point or terminus where *anavopaya* ends and *saktopaya* begins or commingles, it is in this context that you will find the *Spanda Sastra* quoted in the Third Awakening of the *Siva Sutras*.

So, this process of meditation, which is not outside of *anavopaya*, is explained. In this sutra, the other means of meditation which are interconnected with this process of meditation (*dhyana*) - *pranayama*, *dharana*, *pratyahara* and *samadhi* - are explained.

In this sutra the word *nadisamhara* means "merging the movements of breath." The word *bhutajaya* means "attaining control of the gross elements." When you have control of the

gross elements, then, when you suffer, you do not suffer internally. If you become feverish, internally you do not suffer any pain. In the sutra, the word *bhutaikaivalya* means "taking the mind away from gross objects of senses and directing it toward the center of the movement of the breath." The word *bhutaiprithaktvani* means "freeing your consciousness from the grip of the elementary field." For example, if you have a painful leg, you separate your consciousness from the pain of that leg and you are without pain. These powers are what yogis experience.

Now the commentator thoroughly explains this sutra. The word *nadisamhara* means "merging the movements of breath in the central vein (*susumna nadi*)." This is accomplished by maintaining awareness of the breath while inhaling and exhaling. By this "maintaining awareness of the breath," you direct and carry these movements of breath, both inhalation and exhalation, to the central vein.

About this process, the *Svacchanda Tantra* says:

Take your breath out through the right nostril and in through the left nostril. This is the purification of all veins and the purification of the path toward final liberation (*moksa*).

This retention of breath, (*pranayama*) is done in three ways - exhaling, inhaling and retaining. These three ways of the retention of the breath are gross and commonplace. There are, however, three other ways of retention which are internal and uncommon.

You have to take your breath out in the center of the navel. Don't let your breath actually go out, just push it a bit in the center of the navel. This is internal exhaling. Then you should again take it to the center of navel. This is internal inhaling. So, first give it a push and then take it back in the navel. In this uncommon practice of breathing exercise (*pranayama*), you have to just push and then back, push and back, without breathing out or in. So here *kumbhaka* functions in three ways. While

5. *Kumbhaka* is the restraining and controlling of breathing. The *Kumbhaka* referred to here is not a gross retention of breath but a subtle one, only done by advanced yogis.

breathing out it is not going away, it is already *kumbhaka*. When you breath in it is not going away. And when you retain it, it is there. So, these three processes of *pranayama* are to be done in the center of the naval. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 7.294-96)

The word *bhutamajaya* means to achieve control of the five elements from earth to ether through contemplation.

This is explained in the *Svacchanda Tantra* in this way:

Whenever you want to control the wind in your body,⁶ you must, through contemplation, put your awareness on the big toe of your left foot. When there is insufficient fire in your body (less warmth in your body), you should meditate by putting your awareness in the center of the navel. When there is a lessening of the flesh in your body, you have to contemplate on earth while putting your awareness in the pit of your throat to increase that flesh. When there is a lack of water or you are flooded, then you must contemplate on water while putting your attention on the inner tongue (*ghantika*)⁷ just near the *talv*. To attain all the powers that you desire, you must contemplate on the element ether (*akasa*) while putting your attention on your head. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 7.299-300)

The meaning of the word *bhutebhyah kaivalyam* is to be free of the elements. How is this accomplished? You must draw back (*pratyaharanam*) your mind from the objective field of sensory pleasures and concentrate it on the center of the breath.

So it is said in the *Svacchanda Tantra*:

Direct your consciousness to the center of the navel and also direct your mind to that center, carrying it away from the organs of the senses. This fourth breathing practice (*pranayama*) is a calmed means of retention. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 7.297)

In this *pranayama*, there is no breathing out and in. This has already been explained. From the heart, you should direct your

6. Controlling wind relieves rheumatic pain.

7. *Ghantika* refers to the uvula, a small, conical, fleshy mass of tissue suspended from the center of the soft palate.

consciousness to the center of the naval and at the same time, direct your mind, which is lost in objective pleasures, towards this center.

In the present sutra, the words *bhuta prithaktvanimean* "just to carry your awareness away from the gross elements." How does this happen? It happens when one's consciousness is not influenced by the elementary field.

About this subject, it is said in the *Svacchanda Tantra*:

When you subside the force of all of the five gross elements, up to the stage of *unmana* (beyond *samana*), you become one with Siva. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 7.327)

The words *nadisamhara-bhutajaya-bhutaikaivalya-bhuta-prithaktvani* found in the present sutra give you the same sense as the words *bhutasamdhana bhutapiithaktva visvasamghattah* found in the twentieth verse of the First Awakening of *Siva Sutras*, which is concerned with *sambhavopaya*. So why has he repeated this sutra again here in the awakening concerned with *anavopaya*?

There is a difference. The difference is when one is established in the trance of *sambhavopaya*, these powers come automatically, without effort, but for the practitioner (*sadhaka*) of *anavopaya*, these powers are attained only after applying effort to achieve them.

By yogic exercises, such as purification of the body (*dehasuddhi*), purification of the elementary field (*bhutasuddhi*), purification of the breath (*pranayama*), the diversion from objective pleasures to your own consciousness (*pratyahara*), one-pointed concentration (*dharana*), meditation (*dhyana*) and *samadhi*, powers are attained and one attains mastery of the elementary field. This kind of temporary power is achieved by yogis because they are covered by illusion and are not, in the real sense, directed towards the universal consciousness of self. If you actually know your real nature, you will not care about these powers.

This is explained in the next sutra:

6. *mohavaranaatsiddhih* //

*These powers are brought into existence
when a yogi's consciousness is covered by
the energy of illusion (maya).*

Maya is that which carries your consciousness away from the reality of the self. It is the energy of illusion. Due to this action of *maya*, a covering comes into existence where you will achieve those powers explained in the previous sutra. But in fact, due to these powers, the supreme consciousness of Lord Siva does not appear.

This is said in *Sn Laksmi Kaularnava Tantra*:

That being who arose spontaneously (*svayambhuh*) and appeared in this universe by his own free will (*svatantrya*), who is not entangled in the wheel of repeated births and deaths, who is the supreme state which is beyond various thoughts (*vikalpa*) and who is the eternal treasure is only Siva and none else. All ac-

tions of limited beings are witnessed by him. The one who is directed toward these limited yogic powers is carried away from the consciousness of Lord Siva and is not capable of experiencing His nature. (*Laksmi Kaularnava Tantra* 11)

On the other hand, that yogi whose covering of illusion has subsided and who also practices these same yogic exercises such as *asana*, *dhyana*, *dharana* and *samadhi*, is not caught in the grip of these limited yogic powers. For him, these yogic exercises are unique. They are uncommon and are not experienced by ordinary people.

First, he explains the uncommon meaning of *asana*. Ordinarily, *asana* means to sit in some particular posture. First, your master directs you to sit in a posture such as that known as *padmasana* or *svastika asana*.⁸ He tells you not to lean, just sit up straight. You try to do whatever he tells you to do. This is done first. But for such an advanced yogi, *asana* is also unique. What is that *asana* for this advanced yogi?

He is to direct his consciousness between his two breaths of exhaling and inhaling. After putting his consciousness in the center between these two breaths, he must hold his awareness in that center and there he must establish this power of awareness in continuity, not being diverted for even one moment. When he is established there, this is real posture (*asana*) for this yogi. (*Laksmi Kaularnava Tantra* 8.12)

Now after *asana*, this yogi must practice pranayama. For this yogi, however, this *pranayama* is unique.

Initially, this yogi experiences the gross movements of breathing in and breathing out. Then after some time,⁹ through the continuity of fixing awareness on these two breaths, his breath

8. *Padmasana* is the seated pose sometimes referred to as the "lotus pose." This is the classic seated pose where the yogi sits cross-legged with the right foot on top of the left leg and the left foot on top of the right leg. When Lord Siva is visually depicted, he is usually shown sitting in this pose. *Svastikasana* is another sitting pose known as the "auspicious posture."

9. "After some time" means, after half-an-hour, or after two days, or after one week, or after three weeks, or after months, or after years. . . .

(*prana*) becomes so very subtle (*suksma vritti*) that even he can't observe when he is breathing in and breathing out. Following this subtle state of breath (*suksma vritti*), the state which is said to be beyond this subtle state (*sukmatita*) comes into existence. When this yogi experiences this state of *sukmatita*, he has the apprehension that he will lose consciousness of awareness but in fact, his maintaining continuity of awareness does not allow this to happen. Now this yogi experiences an internal throbbing (*spandana*) and this throbbing again vibrates his awareness in fullness. (*Laksmi Kaularnava Tantra* 8.13)

When he is actually effecting this supreme *pranayama*, he experiences tremendous divine sounds rushing in his mind. Once this supreme *pranayama* is accomplished, this yogi will never fall from his reality of consciousness. This *pranayama* is explained in this way. (*Laksmi Kaularnava Tantra* 8.14)

Next is the yogic practice of *pratyahara*. In the practice of *pratyahara*, you are to divert your consciousness of mind from the senses toward your own self. For such a yogi, however, this is not really *pratyahara*. For him, *pratrahara* is something else.

At this point, this yogi has the apprehension of falling again into wordly consciousness. Here, he must wholeheartedly maintain his awareness and avoid its becoming weaker. He must not mind the sounds that he is experiencing, whether they be good, bad, furious, frightening or threatening.¹⁰ Then by remaining fully aware, he will gain entry into the supreme state of consciousness. This is called *pratyahara*. It cuts down and chops to pieces the bondage of ignorance (*ajnana*). (*Laksmi Kaularnava Tantra* 8.15)

10. When you leave these sounds aside, you should not remain inattentive to them. You should hear these sounds and not be afraid of them. When you allow them to frighten you and you become afraid, thinking, "It may do some harm to my body" or "No, no, no, I won't hear these sounds," etc., then you will come out and again you will be in the worldly field of consciousness. So, you should remain inattentive to these sounds, not shunning them and not giving them any importance.

The next yogic practice is *dhyana*. What is the real *dhyana* for such a yogi?

When these sounds subside and he goes beyond the experience of them he attains that supreme state of ecstasy which is ineffable and which only he knows. This is actually *dhyana*. (*Laksmi Kaularnava Tantra* 8.16)

Now for this yogi, what is the yogic practice known as *dharana*?

When he holds the consciousness of Lord Siva in continuity, eternally, without any break, that is *dharana*. (*Laksmi Kaularnava Tantra* 8.17)

What is *samadhi* for this yogi?

When such a yogi experiences the state of universal consciousness of Lord Siva, not only in his internal state of consciousness of self but also in the very active life of the universe, this is called real *samadhi*. (*Laksmi Kaularnava Tantra* 8.18)

So it is explained in the *Netra Tantra* that *dhyana*, *dharana* and *samadhi* will also direct you toward the state of consciousness of Lord Siva. So, the kind of *dharana* explained in the *Netra Tantra* will carry you toward the state of consciousness of Lord Siva and that kind of *dharana*, which leads to the attainment of yogic powers, will mislead you.

7. *mohajayad anantabhogat*
sahajavidyajayah //

*After conquering the field of illusion (maya)
by destroying its many impressions, one attains the
victory of the pure knowledge of consciousness.*

Maya can not be eliminated until its last faint impressions are also destroyed. Until then, this illusion (*moha*) will not end. And when these remaining faint impressions are also overcome and destroyed, then one achieves the victory of the pure knowledge of consciousness.

What is illusion (*moha*)? Illusion is this completely differentiated universe filled with impressions and experiences. When this illusion is conquered (*jayat*), which means overcome (*abhibhavat*), then victory is achieved. But this only occurs when the last faint impressions (*samskarah*) of this illusion are also destroyed. Through this pure knowledge (*vidya*) is realized, where eternal aspects are revealed and supreme God consciousness is obtained. Then being victorious, you attain and hold this supreme pure knowledge of consciousness.

Therefore, the conclusion here is that in *anavopaya* one also is capable of entering into *sambhavopaya* after entering and completing *saktopaya*. So first this yogi completes *anavopaya*.

Then he gets entry into *saktopaya*. And when *saktopaya* is completed, he gets entry into *samhhavopaya*.

It is also said in the *Svacchanda Tantra*:

O Devi, up to *samana*,¹¹ the collection of bondage is unlimited.

When you experience pure knowledge, you experience it in two ways: one, pervading and residing in God consciousness (*atmavyaptih*) and two, pervading universal God consciousness (*sivavyaptih*). If the experience of God consciousness takes place in the first way, that God consciousness is also bondage. You have to surpass that God consciousness (*atmavyaptih*). Only experiencing that state of God consciousness will not transport you to that supreme limit of reality (*sivavyaptih*). Now Lord Siva explains how God consciousness occurs.

It is said in the *Svacchanda Tantra*:

Bondage is just differentiated knowledge. It is experiencing the objects of the world as separate from God consciousness. Here, you think that God consciousness is pure and consciousness in worldly life is impure. You must quit experiencing these kinds of bondage (*pasas*) and focus your mind towards pure God consciousness. When you abandon this experience of bondage and direct your mind toward God consciousness, experiencing only yourself, that is known as the pervasion of God consciousness, the pervasion of the self (*atmavyapti*).

The pervasion of Siva (*sivavyapti*) is separate from and superior to the pervasion of God consciousness (*atmavyapti*). When you experience, just as Lord Siva experiences, that each and every object of the universe is completely filled with all knowledge, all action and all will, this is known as the pervasion of Siva (*aivavyapti*). This is the only way to be directed towards the kingdom of consciousness (*caitanya*), the state of ultimate freedom (*svatantrya*). (*Svacchanda Tantra* 5.434-35)

11. *Samana* is that state where the mind is totally destroyed, with the exception of its impressions. When one is burnt to ashes, the impressions of the ashes still remain.

So, this scripture tells us that the pervasion of God consciousness (*atmavyapti*) is also an illusion that must be overcome. When it is overcome, then you will be capable of achieving the pure knowledge which is beyond the mind (*unmana*). That is the pervasion of universal God consciousness, *sivavyapti*. As it has been said in *Svacchanda Tantra*:

When you experience casting aside the bondage of the bound individual (*pasah*) and put your consciousness in your own self, that is God consciousness. Then, after that, God consciousness is also to be abandoned and you must unite your consciousness in the pure knowledge of consciousness. There, because the mind (*manah*) is only the collection of differentiated knowledge (*samkalpa*), you will find that state where the mind (*manas*) is not existing at all (*unmana*).¹² (*Svacchanda Tantra* 5.393)

So,

When you progress beyond the idea (*samkalpa*) of good and bad, of pure and impure, then actually, when you think deeply about it, there is no difference between individual consciousness and God consciousness. This is that supreme knowledge where you find universal God consciousness, the pervasion of Siva (*sivavyapti*). There is no greater knowledge (*vidya*) than this. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 5.394)

God consciousness is the same as the individual consciousness in which we are living. Our life is filled with individual consciousness. A yogi's life is filled with God consciousness. And a supreme yogi's life is filled with universal God consciousness. Individual God consciousness is the state of the mind (*manah*). God consciousness is the state of self (*atma*), and that self too is to be abandoned. Universal God consciousness is the state beyond mind (*unmana*).

12. The mind (*manah*) is only the collection of differentiated knowledge (*samkalpa*). It does not matter whether it is pure knowledge or impure knowledge. Both of these exist in limitation, in the cycle of the mind in bondage.

Now *vidya* (knowledge) is denned. There are three aspects found in *vidya*: knowing (*vedana*), infusing your consciousness (*bodhana*) and the disposal of materials that are alien to yourself (*varjana*).

When knowledge (*vedana*) of the eternal aspects of Siva - universal knowledge, universal will and universal action - is held and the knowledge of supreme God consciousness is also achieved (*bodhana*), and when the negation of universal God consciousness is abandoned and universal God consciousness is possessed (*varjana*) that, in reality, is called knowledge (*vidya*). You must establish yourself there and then the supreme light of universal God consciousness, which is the only cause of entering into your real nature, will appear. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 5.395-96)

Now, for that yogi who has achieved this kind of **pure** knowledge of universal God consciousness,

8. *jagratdvityakarah* //

*The waking state is another form of his
real nature of consciousness.*

Wakefulness is not other than his own nature, his real nature of consciousness. It is another formation of his universal consciousness. In speaking of the waking state, the dreaming state and the state of sound sleep are also included. So for such a yogi, these three states, which are experienced in daily life, are not other than universal God consciousness.

The waking state (*jagrat*) is another formation, another ray of his being, his expansion of self. For him, the waking state is not separate nor is it foreign. It is, on the contrary, another form of his expansion of universal Self. The divinity that he gains in the state of universal God consciousness is found by him to exist equally in the waking state, in the dreaming state, and in the dreamless state, deep sleep.

And then, after achieving the state of pure knowledge, this yogi pervades this supreme knowledge with oneness. He is always aware of his universal consciousness. So, for such a yogi, the waking state is the second form of his establishment of being. Where does this yogi find this state? This state of wakefulness is not found in "I"-consciousness. It is found in "thisness," because "thisness" is absorbed and digested in Universal God Consciousness. So, for such a yogi, this whole objective world is another way of his being, another way of universal consciousness. The state of God consciousness, on the other hand, does not digest "thisness"; it only digests "I"-consciousness.

So, this yogi realizes that the state of wakefulness is just another ray of his universal consciousness. For him, this whole universe is not separate from him. It is his own expansion. It is only the sparks of his own being.

It is said also in *Vijnanabhairava Tantra*:

The universal consciousness of God is experienced in each and every way in this field of organic action (*aksamarga*), whether it be hearing, touching, seeing, tasting, or smelling. So, when the aspects of universal God consciousness are always present and when that universal God consciousness is the main aspect of that yogi, his universal God consciousness is filled everywhere. It is never absent for in absence it is also not absent. (*Vijnanabhairava Tantra* 117)

This is the meaning of this verse. Whatever is found in this universe is existing in universal consciousness. So there is nothing to eliminate, nothing to separate from your consciousness. When universal God consciousness is the foremost aspect of this yogi, then everything is filled with his universal consciousness. It is never absent. For in absence, it is also not absent. If it is absent that means it is also existing because the absence of universal consciousness is also existing in universal consciousness. So, in the absence of universal God consciousness, he also finds the presence of universal God consciousness. For, in the absence, his being is present because he is aware that universal God consciousness is not existing. Similarly, it is existing in negation because negation also exists in universal God consciousness.

This is not the same in God consciousness because in God consciousness the negation of God consciousness is discarded. It is only in universal God consciousness that both the affirmation and the negation of universal consciousness are digested. So, if you know universal God consciousness, it is there and if you do not know universal God consciousness, it is there. Both knowing and not knowing are existing there because not knowing is also existing in that supreme being. Not knowing cannot exist without universal God consciousness, because not knowing is also existing in supreme being. So absence is also present.

It is also said in *Sarvamangala Sastra*:

In this universe, there are only two aspects found - energy and the energy holder. Of these two, it is energy that is held in each and every part of the universe because this universe is, in fact, the existence of energy. And the energy holder is *Mahesvarah*¹³ himself alone. (*Sarvamangala Sastra*)

This universe includes everything, whatever you feel, whatever you hear, whatever you experience in the daily routine of life. That is the existence of energy. *Saktimana*, the energy holder, is the great lord (*mahesvarah*), Lord Siva himself.

So nothing is lost because when you lose something, you experience that there is something less. But that lessening of consciousness is also existing in universal God consciousness. If that lessening of consciousness is found as part of awareness, it will improve the functioning of that universal God consciousness. When, day by day, your consciousness becomes less and you are aware of it, nothing is lost. When a madman is completely mad and he knows he is mad, then he is not mad. If he is aware that he is mad, then he is not mad at all. But when he is unaware of his madness, then he is actually mad. So, when he is aware that he is actually mad, then he is not mad. When a yogi is aware that his nature of self has become less, then, because he is aware, it has not become less. The nature of the self is awareness. When awareness is held, everything is held.

13. *Mahesvara* means "Great Lord." It is another name for Lord Siva.

Such a yogi always resides in **the** consciousness of his nature.
For him,

9. *nartaka atma //*

*The dancer in this field of universal dance
is his self of
universal consciousness.*

What is this universal dance? It is everything that you experience in your life. It may be coming. It may be going. It may be birth, death, joy, sadness, depression, happiness, enjoyment. All of this forms part of the universal dance, and this dance is a drama. In this field of drama, the actor¹⁴ is your own nature, your own self of universal consciousness. This self of universal consciousness is the one who is aware, he is the actor in this universal drama. Those who are not aware are not actors; they are played in this drama. They experience sadness, they experience enjoyment, they become joyful, they become depressed. But those who are aware, they are always elevated; they are the real players in this drama.

So it is your own self of universal consciousness which is, in fact, the actor. Why? Because he acts. The actor is he who conceals his real nature. When you conceal the real nature of your being and, to the public, reveal another form of your being, that is the behavior of acting. Because when any person, say, a person named Denise, is the real actor and, as an actor, she ap-

14. In the text, to illustrate the creation of this universe and the concealed nature of the creator, the metaphor of dancing is used not acting. But the Sanskrit word *nartaka* also means "actor." In English, the metaphor of dancing does not carry the same weight and connotation as the metaphor of acting. Therefore, to add clarity to the present discussion, I have changed the references of dancing to acting.

pears as Lord Krisna, as Lord Siva, as a woman, as a child, as a silly fellow, then the real and actual state of her being is concealed. So for others, the actual state of her being is concealed and a superficial formation is revealed. But for her, the actual state of her being is not concealed. She knows she is Denise. At the time of becoming Lord Krisna or Siva or Jesus Christ, she is aware of her being Denise. In herself, she knows she is really Denise.

So, Lord Siva is the real actor. And although his nature of universal consciousness is concealed to the public, in fact, he knows that he is that reality. Actually, being filled with that awareness of universal God consciousness, he sometimes appears in the waking state, sometimes in the dreaming state, sometimes in the dreamless state, etc. This, however, is actually his play. It is not his real action. His real action is his being in his own universal God consciousness in each and every moment of revealing his differentiated forms. At the time of revealing his differentiated formation in the waking state, he diverts his universal consciousness in the state of wakefulness. And also in that state, he finds he is playing. Actually, this is play, he is not becoming that state. For although he has become the waking state, he has not actually become the waking state and he has not become the dreaming state or the state of deep sleep. In fact, he is already there in that universal God consciousness.

In the hymns composed by Devi contained in the seventh chapter of the *Tantras* known as the *Naisvasa Devi Mahesvaranartakakhye* it is said:

In one way, O Lord Siva, you are actually residing in your own nature, and yet you have put on different coverings. Covering that universal God consciousness in one way, it appears as wakefulness and covering it another way, it appears as the dreaming state or the state of deep sleep.

It is because of these coverings that this universal God consciousness is not found.

Bhattanarayana has also said in his *Sastra*, the *Stavacintamani*:

O Lord Siva you have present in your own self the germ of universal existence from which this universe has expanded. It is from this seed that you create the drama of the three worlds, the drama of waking state, the drama of the dreaming state and the drama of the state of deep sleep. O Lord, you create these three types of drama from the sprouting of that seed which is already residing in your real nature. This is only the course of your action of awareness. Who else can act in this way to create this drama and then withdraw it again? (*Stavacintamani* 59)

The *Pratyabhijna Sastra*, which expounds *pratyabhijna*, the way of recognition, the secret of all tantras, also says the same thing,

O Lord, in this world which is absolutely unaware of what is existing, only you are aware. You are the creator of the drama of this universe. You are unique and the one who is actually awake in this dreaming state. (*Pratyabhijna Karika*)

He has established the covering of the waking state, the covering of the dreaming state, and the covering of the dreamless state because he has to maintain the drama of the universe. It is for this reason that he takes good care of this covering. Otherwise, this covering has no meaning. Meaning only exists in universal God consciousness.

So, this entire universe is actually the result of a colossal universal drama which is taking place. And who is the hero in this drama? Here the part of the hero is played by the internal soul¹⁵ who is also the universal soul in disguise.

15. There are three kinds of souls: (1) the internal soul composed of *puryastaka* (mind, intellect and ego along with the five *tanmatras*), (2) the external soul, the soul that resides in the body, and (3) the universal soul. The universal soul is not the player in this universal drama. The external soul is also not the player. It is the internal soul that is the player. It is the internal soul that resides in dreaming state, the state of deep sleep, and in the void state. It is this soul that remains after death.

In his theatrical costume, he steps into the play, which is this drama of the universe. Now, in the next sutra his method of acting is explained,

10. *rango'ntaratma //*

The player is the internal soul.

In this universal drama this actor plays many different roles in various ways. For example he may play the part of Rama or of Sita, or he may play the part of Parvati, or so many other characters. This acting, called *abhinaya* in Sanskrit, is thought to be of three kinds: *sattvika*, *rajas*, and *tamas*.¹⁶ When the actor is portraying or acting the part of Rama, the audience must feel that this actor is actually Rama, not just a person pretending to be Rama. They must totally disregard the fact that he is an actor. If the audience is convinced that this actor is actually Rama, this is known as *sattvika abhinaya*. This is how great actors in this universal drama act, playing various parts in this world. *Rajas abhinaya* is that quality of acting where the audience feels that there is something of Rama in the actor and yet they still *feel* that this actor is not actually Rama. In *tamas abhinaya*, the audience feels that the actor playing the part of Rama is only an actor and nothing more.

Here in this universal drama, the actor is the internal soul. He is acting in this universe just to reveal that this universe is actually a universal drama. In the drama, this internal soul is

16. *Sattvika abhinaya* is the dramatic portrayal attached to *sattva guna*; *rajas abhinaya* is the dramatic portrayal attached to *rajas guna*; and *tamas abhinaya* is the portrayal attached to *tamas guna*.

the stage where he plays the parts of many various characters. And although this internal soul plays the parts of these many different characters, yet from the universal point of view the internal soul is only one.

And so, because this internal self has shrunk from the expansion of universality, it is this self in which the soul is residing in the dreaming state, in the state of deep sleep and in the void state. You should realize, however, that this internal self is not the external soul. It is the external soul which resides in the body in the waking state.

There, in that field of drama, the internal self steps in and begins his dance, revealing this drama of the world by infusing the movement (*spanda*) of his organs. Sometimes he is sad, sometimes he is weeping, sometimes he is laughing and all of this is his play. In actual fact, he is neither laughing nor dreaming nor sad nor joyous - he is one, just as he has always been.

This is already explained in *Svacchanda Tantra*:

By entering into the subtle body found in the dreaming state (*puryastaka*), he journeys in each and every womb in this universe. He is known as the interior self (*an taratma*). (*Svacchanda Tantra* 11.85)

Who are the spectators of this drama of that one **who acts** on the stage of the interior self?

11. *preksakanIndriyani* //

His own organs are spectators.

Thus, for a yogi, the observers of this drama are his own organs. It is a yogi who discovers that this world, as universal movement, is actually a universal drama taking place. Here the actor in this drama is only one, the interior self (*antaratma*), taking the part of so many beings, including even rocks.

This is experienced only by yogis, not by worldly people. Worldly people are overwhelmed by sadness, by pleasure, by pain, etc. Yogis are not overwhelmed in this way because they are absolutely aware of what they are doing in this world. The yogi knows that he is playing, and that this universe is just a drama, a play, filled with life, with death, with sorrow, with sadness, with joy, with happiness; filled with rising and with falling. He knows whatever happens in this world, it is just play.

Thus the cognitive organs of a yogi perceive the real nature of universal being in an internal, not external, way. And when that reality of the self is revealed by these organs, then inherent difference (*vibhagam*) is totally destroyed and vanishes. His organs become filled with universal joy and absolute independence (*svatantrya*).

This has already been said in *Vedanta*:

There are very few heroes who experience the reality of their own nature in an internal rather than external way. These heroes are always established in their internal being. There the external way has vanished. (*Katha Upanisad*. 2.4, 2.1)

And for such a yogi:

12. *dhivasatsattvasiddhih //*

*By means of a supreme intellect filled with
the awareness of the self, this yogi experiences
that he is actually acting.*

In this verse, the word *sattva* means *sattvika abhinaya* (true acting). It is the real essence of acting. Through the attainment of the reality of his supreme intellect, this yogi achieves the state of *sattvika abhinaya*, where he feels and experiences that he is actually acting in this world. This differs from those yogis who are acting in this world in the state of *rajas abhinaya*. In *rajas abhinaya*, yogis feel they are acting in this universal drama on the sidelines. And there are some other yogis in this world possessing *tamas abhinayah*. In this state, they feel they are only acting in this universal drama through imagination. Yogis possessing *tamas abhinaya* don't feel they are actually acting. But this yogi possessing *sattvika abhinaya* is certain that he is truly acting as each and every person in this world. This state of *sattvika abhinaya* occurs for only that yogi who possesses that supreme intellect filled with the awareness of self. This is the intellect that is absolutely pure and skillful in perceiving its real nature. By directing that kind of supreme pure intellect, the reality of self takes place in an internal manner.

In the external world of drama, true acting (*sattvika abhinaya*) also exists but it is not performed by ordinary actors. This kind of acting is only performed by great heroes who possess the reality of intellect. This true acting is the imitation of the fourfold conditions, which are *angika*, *vacika*, *aharya*, and *sattvika*.

The first condition is *angika*. *Angika* is appearance conveyed by bodily actions. The hero who is playing this part must affect the bodily actions of the person being portrayed in such a way that the spectator will feel this is actually the body of the person being portrayed and not the body of the actor. The audience must be thrilled in perceiving that. These bodily actions are called *angika abhinaya*.

The second condition is *vacika*. In *vacika*, the appearance is conveyed by words. Here the audience must feel that the words they are hearing are spoken by the person being portrayed and not by an actor.

Aharya is the third condition. In *aharya*, the appearance is conveyed by dress and ornaments. These dramatic costumes must be worn in such a way that the audience thinks these costumes are the actual dress of the person being portrayed and not the costumes of an actor. The kind of acting which causes the audience to feel the costumes being worn are not really costumes is called *aharya abhinayah*.

The fourth condition is *sattvika*. In *sattvika*, internal feelings expressed as the external manifestations smiling and weeping are convincingly conveyed. For instance, if his acting is *sattvika*, then if he is sad, he will make all of the spectators sad; if he is weeping, you will weep with him. If he is portraying sadness, then you will feel he is actually sad and filled with misery and you will also become miserable and sad. This is the way *sattvika abhinaya* is rendered by players in the external drama.

So, when this real nature is held by such a yogi, then,

13. *siddhah svatantrabhavah //*

*The state of absolute independence
is already achieved.*

In the verse, the word *siddhah* means *sampannah* (achieved). The word *svatantrabhavah* means the state of absolute independence. That absolute independence lies in all knowledge, all action and all will. By this absolute independence this yogi makes the whole universe dependent on him. This world is lying under the control of such a yogi. Whatever he wills in this universe will take place.

This was said by the great yogi *Sri Nathapada*:

You must own that energy of absolute independence **which is** really the energy of Bhairava.

In *Svacchanda Tantra*, it is also said:

All elementary worlds, all individuals, all words and all sentences are absolutely dependent on and under the control of such a yogi, who is always intent on determining the reality of Siva. Whatever he does and whatever he wills will do and undo. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 7.245)

For such a yogi:

14. *yatha tatra tathanyatra //*

*This [absolute independence] is the same in **the** external world as it was in samadhi.*

For this yogi, there is no difference between the independence experienced in *samadhi* and the independence experienced in the external state (*vyutthana*). He may reside in *samadhi* or he may be given to the activity of the world; his reality of independence is the same.

Wherever this yogi has experienced the reality of self in *samadhi*, that awareness is experienced by him in each and every aspect of external life. There is no difference for him in these two. Whether he remains in *samadhi* or outside *samadhi* in the external world, he is the same and his experience, his realization of the truth, also remains the same.

This is said in the *Svachandra Tantra*:

He is always independent. He is independent here, he is independent there, he is independent everywhere. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 7.260)

And in *Spanda*, it is also said:

That reality of the self, where unartificial¹⁷ universal indepen-

17. Unartificial (*akritrim*) means that it is not imaginary. Some yogis possess imaginary independence, which is artificial. These yogis permeate their thinking with thoughts such as "I am independent" or "I am Siva." To possess unartificial independence, they must actually be independent, they must be Siva, not just imagine they are.

dence will shine, should be sought with great reverence. (*Spanda Karika 1.7*)

Although he has utterly achieved the reality of independence, which is absolute freedom, he still must remain active for the whole of his life. This is a great task for such a yogi because for the remainder of his life, he has to remain absolutely active to realize the truth of reality again and again, again and again, so that in the end, he becomes one with Siva.

So he says:

15. *bijavadhanam* //

Maintain *breakless awareness on that supreme energy which is the seed of the universe.*

So *bija*, Sanskrit for "seed" or "germ," is understood and realized in *samadhi* as the cause of this whole universe. That *bija* is the supreme energy of Siva, *svatantrya sakti*.

The Sanskrit word *avadhana* means to be attentive, to put your mind and your intellect on a point that is to be meditated on, again and again, in continuity, without pause. Here, in this sutra, you are told to maintain breakless awareness on that supreme *svatantrya sakti*. This is to be done in continuity after you realize it, not before. Why? Because before you have realized it, you won't have the strength of awareness to do it in continuity. At the time you realize it, that strength of meditating on it in continuation comes spontaneously.

Suppose you are given to the state of *samadhi* but you have not yet realized your real nature. Until then, you want to relax, to take life easy, to rest and be at ease. But after you realize the reality of the self, you will naturally become active and you will remain active. You will never remain inactive. After realization, the cause of your being always active comes from above and you will remain fully active for the remainder of your life.

It is said in *Mrityujit (Netra Tantra)*.

That germ, which is the cause of the entire organic world, the cause of all energies, the cause of all breath, both incoming and outgoing, is that supreme energy of Lord Siva, the universal cause. (*Netra Tantra* 7.40)

This yogi has to put his mind and intellect on that **point again** and again, without any pause, in continuity.

Then, when such a yogi acts in this way:

16. *asanasthah sukham hrade nimajjati //*

Seated in that real posture, he effortlessly dives in the ocean of nectar.

Actually, the postures (*asanas*) explained in the *yogadarsana* are not really *asanas* at all. *Sivayoga* is the only posture that must be understood when you are seeking to understand the real posture for such a yogi. This real posture is the supreme energy of awareness. You are seated in that posture when you hold and possess the supreme energy of awareness. Then in each and every act of your life you are aware, you are seated in that posture. This is the real *asana*. The physical postures called *asanas* are not actually *asanas*. These so-called *asanas* are only imitations of the real *asana*. They are only imagination. The real *asana* actually exists when you are truly residing in the state of absolute awareness, the awareness of self.

The yogi who, leaving aside the effort of *asana* (yogic exercises), *pranayama* (breathing exercises), *dhyana* (contemplation), and *dharana* (meditation), simply remains in that posture with nothing left to do, aware of what he actually is. This is why the author has used the word *sukham* in the sutra because "effortlessly" means that without exerting any effort in respect to breathing or yogic exercise, contemplation or meditation, he remains seated in that posture.

So in an internal, not external, way he perceives the reality of his embodiment of awareness¹⁸ and without any effort finally

18. You must not be aware of your dress, your beauty, or charm, or your body. You must be aware of your nature, what you really are. That is, in the real sense, awareness.

immerses himself in the ocean from which the universe rises and expands. He dives and enters for good in that ocean, which is filled with real nectar.

What does diving mean? In diving into the ocean of nectar, he lets the impressions of the body (*deha*), of the breath (*prana*), of the eight constituents (*puryastaka*) and of the void (*sunya*) sink into that ocean and he becomes one with that nectar. This is the real way of diving.

In *Mrityujita Tantra* (*Netra Tantra*), it is said:

You do not have to concentrate above on *sahasrardha cakra* or below on *muladhara cakra*. You have not to concentrate on the tip of the nose, on the backside, or on the nostrils - breathing and exercising *prana* and *apana*.

Nor do you have to concentrate on someplace in your body or concentrate in a universal way. You do not have to put your concentration on ether nor do you have to concentrate downward.

You do not have to close your eyes. You do not have to open your eyes and keep your eyes wide open. You do not have to take any support in meditation, nor do you have to have absence of support.

You do not have to concentrate on your organic field, or on the universal elements, or on sensations of the five senses - sound (*sabda*), touch (*sparsa*), sight (*rupa*), taste (*rasa*) and smell (*gandha*). You have to put all of these aside and enter into that universal being of awareness. This is what Saivaite yogis do successfully.

Actually, this state of the Saivaite yogi is the real state of Siva. This state is not revealed to others; it is revealed only to the revealers. (*Netra Tantra* 8.41-45)

This state, which is the real nature of Siva, is not revealed; this state is the revealer. This state is subjective, not objective. So the aspirant must be active in an interior way, not in an external way. He must be active in being aware of himself. That is real activity. Real activity is not moving about here and there. The revealed is not the point to be sought; it is the revealer that is to be striven for. And this state of the revealer is not separate from subjective consciousness. It is only subjective consciousness.

When, by adopting the means of *anavopaya*, this yogi's breathing movements end, then, because he gains entry into *susumna*, the central path, he conquers the world of illusion and attains the power of *saktopaya*. And when that yogi acquires the supreme nectar of the *sambhava* state, then ...

17. *svamatranirmanamapadayati* //

*Experiencing that this objective world
is the product of his subjective consciousness,
he can create anything he desires.*

In this sutra, the word *svamatra* means "the product of one's own consciousness." When one's own consciousness congeals in the shape of time and space, that is the measure for the creativity of consciousness. So he can create this universe according to his choice. He can create whatever he thinks, whatever he desires. He does it because he creates it.

This is said in *Svacchanda Tantra*:

By taking the deception of grossness, he becomes gross in this universe and by taking the deception of subtleness, he becomes subtle. Therefore, existing in both, he alone is the player in the gross and subtle worlds. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 4.295)

In *Pratyabhijna Karika*, it is also said:

Because of his independent freedom of consciousness, he creates this universe directly from his own nature. So his reality of being becomes this universe, which is not separate from his being. This objective world is not created by the inherent power of this objectivity; it is created by subjective consciousness. (*Isvara-pratyabhijna Karika* 1.5, 1.15)

It is because of subjective consciousness that this objective world is created. So subjective consciousness is the player and the creator of everything that is created in the objective or subjective field.

In Tantra, it is also said:

O dear Parvati, the one who, by the grace of the master, realizes what reality lies in water and its solidified formation snow, nothing remains undone in this world. This is his last birth. Liberated while living (*jivanmukta*), he won't again enter into the wheel of repeated births and deaths.

There is a difference between water and snow. It is the formation of these two that is different - snow is snow and water is water. The substance of these two, however, is one. For the one who realizes this, nothing remains undone in this world.

The *Spanda Karika* expresses this same point of view in this verse:

For the one who observes that there is no difference between the universe and its creator, the creator having become the universe and the universe having become the creator, this universe is not defective, but a playful amusement. Realizing this, he is always attached to his own reality of self-consciousness. There is no doubt he is liberated in this very life (*jivanmukta*). (*Spanda Karika* 2.5)

This yogi has created, by his own *svatantrya Sakti*, a gross elementary body and a subtle body of emotions.¹⁹ For him, there is no longer any bondage of birth and death. This is explained in the next sutra.

18. *vidya 'vinase janmavinashah //*

When his knowledge of the Self is permanently established, then birth (and death) are gone forever.

When knowledge of being is established in continuation, and is therefore permanent, then the reality of repeated births and deaths no longer exists. In this sutra, the word *janma* includes both *janma* (birth) and *marana* (death). So, he is never born and he does not die.

When this pure knowledge of consciousness is established in continuity, then birth (*janma*) is gone forever. For him, there is no more birth and there is also no more death. What is the cause of birth (*janma*)? Action attached with ignorance is the cause of birth. That action creates the organs, the body and all its limbs. Therefore, when that action which is the cause ends, then the effect, being created and being born, also ceases to exist.

About this, the *Sri Kanthi Sastra* says:

For the one who has abandoned the world along with its diversity, including the perception of right and wrong, and who realizes that the blades of grass, leaves, rocks, both animate and

19. He has created *bhuta sarira*, the elementary body and *bhava Sarira*, the subtle body. The subtle body exists in the dreaming and the dreamless states. The elementary body exists in the waking state.

inanimate from Siva to the element earth (*prithvi*), all existent objects and nonexistent objects²⁰ are one with Lord Siva. He is never born again in this world.

In *Svacchanda Tantra*, it is also said:

When, through the successive teachings of the masters, one is established in one's own consciousness, which is supreme and pure, then one becomes liberated (*muktah*) and never again comes into this universe. (*Svacchanda Tantra*)

About this, **the** *Netra Tantra* says:

If, by adopting the divine path of yoga which is beyond the three-fold states of being, that supreme eternal stable state of being is experienced, then he does not again come into this world. (*Netra Tantra* 8.26-27)

20. Existent objects are **what** we feel. **Nonexistent objects are what we** imagine.

But when, however, this pure knowledge of his real being subsides, then,

19. *kavargadisu mahesvaryadyah*
pasumatarah //

*In the world of letters, words and sentences,
the eight energies of the Lord, who are the mothers of
beasts (take control and hold him).*

In this sutra, the word *kavargadisu* refers to the world of letters, words and sentences. First, there are letters, then words, and then sentences. Letters create words and words create sentences. In the world of these three, the eight energies of Lord Siva (*mahesvaryadyah*) - who are the mothers or rulers of beasts (*pasumatarah*) - mothers of beasts. Who is the beast? The ignorant human being. What is the function of these eight mothers? The first five energies are the five senses: hearing (*sabda*), touch (*sparsa*), seeing (*rupa*), taste (*rasa*) and smell (*gandha*). Then there are the three energies of mind (*manas*), intellect (*buddhi*) and limited ego (*ahamkara*). These eight mothers - the five senses, along with mind, intellect and limited ego - take you away from your reality of consciousness. This is the objective field upon which the eight ladies govern those who are ignorant.

Ksemaraja, in his commentary, says that the words *adisthatryo bhavanti*, which mean "they take charge of holding them," must be added to this sutra.

Now Ksemaraja offers the following references from the Tantras to explain how the supreme energy of Lord Siva, *svatantrya sakti*, seems to have descended to the level of the ignorant being. Actually, this supreme energy has not fallen at all but, for the ignorant, it seems as though it has.

This *svatantrya sakti*, the supreme energy of absolute independence, is always one with the creator of the universe, Lord Siva. (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 3.5)

When Lord Siva desires to manifest himself in this world, then *svatantrya sakti* is transformed into the energy of will (*iccha sakti*). (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 3.6)

O dear *Devi*, I will explain to you how that energy which is one with Lord Siva, although she is only one, taking many formations becomes many. (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 3.6)

When that energy of will (*icchasakti*) perceives that this is what is truly to be desired, then that energy of will is transformed into the energy of knowledge (*jnanasakti*). (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 3.7)

When the energy of will perceives that this is to be desired and this is not to be desired, which means she distinguishes between what is to be desired and what is not to be desired, then for him the energy of will is transformed into the energy of knowledge (*jnanasakti*).

And so, when that energy of knowledge actually wants this desire to be fulfilled, then that energy of knowledge becomes the energy of action (*kriya sakti*). (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 3.8)

This energy of will, which is the supreme energy of absolute independence of Lord Siva (*svatantrya sakti*), is just like the *cintamani* stone,²¹ for although she has become two as the energy of knowledge and the energy of action, yet because of objective perception, whatever object he desires, she becomes like that and becoming one with that object, she becomes many. (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 3.9)

The first formation she takes is *matrika cakra*, the wheel of the class of letters from "a" to "ksa." And this garland of letters has become twofold, ninefold and fiftyfold. (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 3.10)

21. The *cintamani* stone is a particular jewel that assumes the form of whatever is kept under it.

There are two classes in the garland of letters: one is the class of vowels and the second is the class of consonants. The letters from "a" to "h" (*visarga*) are the vowels and that is the germ (*bija*). The letters from "ka" to "ksa" are the consonants and that is the womb (*yoni*), the basis from which this *bija* is expanded. When this class is explained as ninefold, because of the nine *vargas*,²² then the first class is from the letter "a" to "h" (*visarga*). The second class is "ka" *varga*. The third class is "ca" *varga*. The fourth class is "ta" *varga*. The fifth class is "ya" *varga*, the sixth is "pa" *varga*, the seventh is "va" *varga*, the eighth is "sa" *varga*, and the ninth is "ksa" *varga*. The fifty-fold class comprises all the separate letters from "a" to "ksa." All these classes, the fiftyfold class, the ninefold class and the twofold class of the garland of letters, are adopted by *svatantrya sakti*. (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 3.11)

This germ is Lord Siva himself and the basis of this germ (*yoni*) is his energy of *svatantrya sakti*. These eight *vargas* are governed by the eight great mothers who command ignorant beings (*pasus*). (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 3.12)

When each letter is taken separately, then there are fiftyfold letters. These fifty letters corresponds to the fifty *rudras*. And by combining them together, along with the subjective field and the objective field, they become one hundred *rudras*. (*Malini Vijaya Tantra* 3.13)

By the explanation given in the *Malini Vijaya Tantra*, you will understand that when the supreme energy of Lord Siva (*paramesvari*), which is supreme transcendental speech (*paravak*),²³ descends to the field of the universe, she first be-

22. A *varga* is a division or class. Here, *varga* refers to the classes of letters that comprise the Sanskrit alphabet. In Sanskrit, the vowels are one class of letters. There are eight classes of consonants which are defined by where the letter is created.

23. *Paravak* is known as transcendental speech because it is speech not uttered through the lips, or through the mind, or through any other medium. This speech is automatic. *Paravak* is another name for that perfect independence (*svatantryam*). It is soundless sound that resides in your own universal consciousness. It is the supreme sound that has no sound, the life of the other three kinds of speech that comprise the kingdom of speech - *pasyanti*, *madyama*, and *vaikhari*.

comes will, then knowledge and then action. Then she assumes the form of the vowels (*bija*), the consonants (*yoni*), then the classes of letters (*varga*), and the holders of the classes. These are Siva - his energy and the eight great mothers.

There are two ways to observe this garland of letters - as *savikalpa* or as *nirvikalpa*. The Sanskrit word *savikalpa* means "with varieties of thoughts" and *nirvikalpa* means "without varieties of thoughts."

The *nirvikalpa* way of observing sounds, letters, and sentences is experienced by yogis. For example, if you say, "Get me a bucket of water, I want a bucket of water," then when you examine this statement in a *nirvikalpa* way, you won't get that bucket of water. Rather, you will observe this is only the flow of consciousness in its own nature. The word "get" will have no meaning. It is only the letters "g," "e," "t" and nothing else. There is no meaning in the separate letters. To derive meaning, you have to attach your individual consciousness. When individual consciousness is not attached to these letters, words and sentences, then you will become one with Lord Siva. This is the *nirvikalpa* reality of realization.

The *savikalpa* manner of observing these sounds is said to be existing when, in response to the request, "Get me a bucket of water," you actually go and fetch a bucket of water. This kind of observation is meant for ignorant beings. For those ignorant people, those beasts, these letters, words and sentences pierce their minds and make them weep, make them smile, make them laugh, make them joyous, make them happy and make them sad.

For example, when you hear the words "your father is dead," then, because you are a limited being (*pasu*), you begin to weep. But what is contained in these words "your father is dead" You hear "your" which are the letters "y," "o," "u," "v" and nothing else, and you hear "father" which are the letters "f," "a," "t," "h," "e," "r" and nothing else. What meaning has come out from these sounds? Nothing, it is all divine. This is the *nirvikalpa* way of understanding. With this understanding, you won't weep. But ignorant limited beings, who observe in the *savikalpa* way, are pierced through their senses and their minds.

They are governed by the eight mothers who are the mothers of beasts and who create in their minds sometimes wonder, sometimes joy, sometimes fear, sometimes attachment, sometimes detachment - all the things that happen in this universe in the realm of ignorance. And when they understand in this limited way, then that which is never limited by these letters, words and sentences, which is (*nirvikalpa*), always free and filled with consciousness, is covered by these energies and they become the object and are played by this limited way of being.

The *Timirodghata Tantra* also says the same thing:

In the center of *brahmarandhra*²⁴ is situated the supreme energy of Lord Siva, the Divine Mother, surrounded by the eight divine mothers of beasts. In their hands, they hold the noose (*brahma pasa*) which entangle and bind one with limitation, keeping one from the unlimited state. These supreme terrible (*mahaghora*) *Saktis*, create disturbance and ignorance again and again, and are very difficult to conquer.

This topic has already been referred to in the fourth sutra of the First Awakening which says, "The Universal Mother commands this triple knowledge." There this mother (*matrika*) who governs all differentiated knowledge is explained in a general way. But here, in this eighteenth sutra, she is clarified in a particular way. Here, we are told that if, through negligence, the yogi who has already perceived his own nature allows his awareness to ebb, then he becomes the object of those mothers of beasts (*pasumatarah*). By the penetration of the sounds of letters, words and sentences, he is oppressed with the delusion (*moha*) created by those who rule limited beings (*pasus*). This is the essence of this sutra.

24. The *brahmarandhra* is a subtle opening in the crown of head. Through this subtle opening, the *kundalini* departs from the entanglements of this body.

Now the author explains that a yogi must remain fully aware in each and every state of life so that this state of pure knowledge of consciousness remains stable and does not decline.

20. *trisu caturtham tailavadasecyam //*

*The fourth state (turya) must be expanded like oil
so that it pervades the other three:
waking, dreaming, and deep sleep.*

What are the three states? The three states are the waking state (*jagrat*), the dreaming state (*svapna*), and the state of deep sleep (*susupti*). The fourth state (*turya*), which is filled with pure knowledge, pure light and the ecstasy and joy of *turya*, must be sprinkled and expanded just as oil expands when it is poured on a smooth surface like a piece of cloth. For just as oil spreads on this surface, adhering to it, so in this way a yogi must expand the state of *turya* into the other three states.

The state of *turya* is found in all these three at the moment of entry and at the moment of exit. So at the time of entering into the state of wakefulness, or the dreaming state, or the dreamless state, and at the time of coming out from any one of these three states, the yogi finds *turya* existing.

The yogi must prolong *turya* in such a way that its nectar becomes established and pervades not only in the beginning and the end but also in the middle of these three states. And the means to accomplishing this in all three states is to "hold it." Hold it at the time of entry and hold it at the time of exit. This nectar of *turya* (*turyarasa*) must be properly held with full awareness so that it is expanded in the center of these three states. Accomplishing this, the yogi becomes one with that nectar of *turya* in all three states.

The present sutra is also explained in the seventh sutra of the First Awakening, which states, "Such a heroic yogi experiences the expansive state of *tureya* in the differentiated states of waking, dreaming and deep sleep." This sutra explains that *tureya* is already found in the states of waking, dreaming, and deep sleep. In addition, the eleventh sutra of the First Awakening is very similar. This sutra states, "The one who enjoys the oneness of the three states - waking, dreaming and deep sleep - in *tureya* becomes the master of all organic energies." In this sutra, it is explained that by utilizing *sambhavopaya* with force (*hathapakayuktya*), *jagrat*, *svapna*, and *susupti* subside and are melted in *tureya*.

In the present sutra of the Third Awakening, however, we are told that the three states - *jagrat*, *svapna*, and *susupti*, along with *tureya* - are like a sword and its sheath. Here, the three states are said to be found in the sheath of *tureya*. And although the three states are separated from *tureya*, as a sword is separated from its sheath, they are united with each other. In the same manner, the yogi must be aware that *jagrat*, *svapna* and *susupti* are found as one with *tureya*. This is the difference between these three sutras. So these sutras are not a repetition.

Now he indicates the means for attaining this end:

21. *magnah svacittena praviset //*

The yogi who is merged in his self must enter completely with his mind filled with great awareness.

When he establishes and resides in the awareness of his God consciousness in the waking state (*jagrat*), the dreaming state (*svapna*), and in the state of deep sleep (*susupti*), then the gross movement of his breath enters into the subtle movement of breath and the subtle movement of breath enters into that which is supreme, where he experiences the supreme motion (*spanda*) in his own nature. (*Netra Tantra* 8.12)

Here, the author Ksemaraja begins his commentary by saying:

. . . then you should enter with your mind fully aware of your God consciousness.

In the *Mrityujit Bhattaraka Sastra*, which is part of the *Netra Tantra*, this is explained by Lord Siva to Parvati in this way.

Set aside the gross means such as the holding of breath, concentration and contemplation, and by means of the thoughtless process, maintain one-pointed thought merged in the self (*svacitta*). And when his mind is merged in his own nature, then one must gain entry by that introverted knowledge (*antarmukha samvedanena*) where he finds the ecstasy (*camatkara*) of internal awareness (*vimarsa*). This means one must be absorbed in and become one with that.

But how is this achieved? . . . by becoming merged in his being. What is the meaning of "being merged"? When you have devel-

oped I-ness on the body of wakefulness, on the body of dreaming and on the body of deep sleep, which means you have developed I-ness on the gross body, I-ness on *prana*, and I-ness on *puryastaka*, then that I-ness is to be merged in the nectar of the ecstasy of consciousness (*citta camatkara*). This is the meaning of "becoming merged in that."

This was said earlier in the *Svacchanda Tantra*:

Keeping the activity of the mind apart, one must unite that activity in God consciousness. Then this bound limited being (*pasu*) will realize the state of Siva and be liberated (*muktah*). Thereupon, he is beyond the ocean of repeated births and deaths. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 4.437)

This is also said in the *Vijnanabhairava*:

When mind (*manasam*), individual consciousness (*cetana*), the energy of breathing (*saktih*), and ego (*atma*), disappear, then that formation of Bhairava is found existing there. (*Vijnanabhairava* 138)

This very point is explained in the *Jnanagarbha Stotra*:

O Mother, "when, in ordinary daily life one repels the actions of the mind and shatters dependence on the senses, by which one is enslaved, causing one to follow them according to their every wish, and instead diverts his senses towards God consciousness, then by your grace he instantly achieves that supreme state of God consciousness, which floods him with the unparalleled nectar of bliss (*ananda*)."

This is what is said by our great masters.

Now, for the one who is established in that supreme state of God consciousness, there is no mind, no breath, no thoughts, no senses. For him, nothing else exists, only God consciousness pervades everywhere. After a period of time, this yogi automatically comes out from the state of *samadhi*. So what happens to him when he comes out? This is explained in this next sutra.

22. *pranasamacare samadarsanam //*

When his breath begins to slowly move out toward the external state, then he also experiences the pervasion of God consciousness there.

When his breath slowly begins to move out to external *samadhi*, then he experiences that God Consciousness is also existing there, in the external world. He does not experience any difference between the waking state and *turya* or the dreaming state and *turya* or between the state of deep sleep and *turya*. For him, these three states are filled with the state of *turya*.

Filled with the fragrance of the supreme glittering (*sphurana*) of God consciousness, that yogi, slowly coming out from *samadhi*, feels his breath is filled with a supreme fragrance. And although his breath is moving out, he feels his breath is not moving out. He feels his breath is established in his Supreme Being. Then after exhaling very slowly, he experiences that the three states of waking, dreaming and deep sleep are filled with the dense nectar of God consciousness and he comes out in the waking state with this fragrance. He is a king of yogis. He never loses the fragrance of God consciousness. This means that his God consciousness endures in each and every state of his life, whether it be waking, dreaming, or deep sleep.

This has already been explained in *Ananda Bhairava Sastra*:

When he has brought the daily active routine of his life to an end and holds the monistic state which bestows final liberation, then he is one with each and every deity. All castes (*varna*) and positions in life (*asrama*), whether it be *brahmana*, *ksatriya*, *vaisya* or *sudra*, are equal to him. He does not discern any difference between what is to be eaten and what is not to be eaten, or what is forbidden and what is accepted. He is liberated (*muktah*), totally freed from all the various kinds of bondage of daily life.

In *Pratyabhijna*, Utpaladeva has also explained:

Although these great yogis come out in the waking, dreaming, and deep sleep states, working and performing all actions, they do not have any limitation of owning and disowning, pure and impure, good and bad. These limitations have ended for them. These yogis attain that supreme universal God consciousness.

But on the contrary, the yogi who cannot hold the nectar of *turya* in the waking, dreaming, and deep sleep states, as explained in the previous sutra, remains and becomes satisfied in that nectar of *turya* (*turyarasa*), which he experiences only during entry and exit of any of the three states. And even though he experiences this nectar while entering and exiting these three states, he does not experience it in the midst of wakefulness, dreaming, or dreamless deep sleep. For the one who is like that,

23. *madhye 'varaprasavah //*

He does not experience the state of God consciousness in the center of these three states.

He only experiences the state of God consciousness in the beginning and in the end of these three states of waking, dreaming, and deep sleep.

Though he experiences and enjoys the nectar of supreme God consciousness in the beginning and the end of these three states, what happens to him in the center, when he is in the midst of any of these states? In the center, he flows out but not in the supreme way. That is, he experiences in wakefulness, in dreaming and in deep sleep just as we do. It is only in the beginning and in the end of these states that he is filled with God consciousness. In the center he is just like us.

But you must not conclude that *"although he is established in God consciousness in samadhi, not being able to maintain awareness, after a few minutes he enters into the dreaming state,"*²⁵ he is away from God consciousness.

25. Sutra 2.10

He holds God consciousness in the beginning and in the end, but he is incapable of holding God consciousness in the center of these three states. So, he is not always covered with illusion. He is only covered with illusion in the middle of these three states.

About this, the *Malinivijaya Tantra* says:

Due to the impressions he has of what others think of him or expect from him and of his wanting to help others, to satisfy them with boons, he may lose his temper and become careless and uneven-minded, blocking his flow of God consciousness from the center of the three states of waking, dreaming and deep sleep. So, although he is aware of God consciousness in the beginning and in the end, he is played by this universe in the center, played by hunger, played by thirst, played by every aspect of daily life. Therefore, the one who desires to achieve the highest being should not be attached to these outer impressions. {*Malinivijaya Tantra*}

These impressions are keeping him from the center. If he does not have these thoughts, then his God consciousness will flow throughout, in the beginning, in the end and in the center. This has already been explained in previous sutras.

Previously, it was explained that some yogis experience this inferior generation of the self where they experience the nature of the self only in *turya* and not in the other three states. Now the next sutra explains what happens to that yogi when, even though the inferior generation (*avarah prasavah*) of his self has taken place, he again sprinkles the blissful nectar of *turya* in the other three states.

24. *matrasvapratyayasamdhanē*
nastasya punarutthanam //

When a yogi, in coming out from samadhi, also attempts to maintain awareness of God consciousness in the objective world, then, even though his real nature of self is destroyed by the inferior generation of self-consciousness, he again rises in that supreme nature of the self.

The expression from the sutra, "When a yogi also attempts to maintain awareness of God consciousness in the objective world . . ." is explained in the following two references:

Supreme God consciousness should be sought with great effort in whatever is seen by the eyes, whatever is felt by speech, whatever is thought by the mind, whatever is perceived by the intellect, whatever is owned by limited ego, whatever is existing in the objective world, and whatever is not existing in the objective world. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 12.163-64)

It is explained in the *Svacchanda Tantra* that when a yogi, whose God consciousness was totally destroyed by the inferior means used to generate that God consciousness, which means

that his nature was snatched away by an inferior type of trance, meditates thinking, "This whole universe is one with myself," and perceives the fullness of God consciousness in each and every object, then again he rises in his own nature. In other words, in this way, this yogi, whose nature was removed, again becomes one with the glory of God consciousness.

Again, in the *Svacchanda Tantra*, it is said:

Due to God's energy of *maya*, the minds of yogis are diverted by force towards worldly pleasures and away from God consciousness. But, in those masses of yogis, there exists some great yogi who is fully aware of his self. His state of God consciousness is fully established and totally complete and his mind is never diverted toward worldly pleasures. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 4.311-12)

Another thing that happens to this yogi:

Whenever the mind flows out, he centers his consciousness on that one God consciousness. Because he feels the oneness of Siva existing everywhere, if his mind moves here and there, even then it does not move at all because it moves in his own nature. Whenever he feels and experiences the existence of the objective world, he feels and experiences that the objective world is actually nothing but Siva. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 4.313-14)

Therefore, when a yogi has attained the supreme intensity of God consciousness:

25. *sivatulyo jayate //*

He becomes just like Siva.

This yogi does not become one with Siva, he becomes just like Siva. Through the intensity of meditating on *turya*, this yogi has realized and achieved the state of *turyatita*. He becomes like Lord Siva who is completely filled with pure independent consciousness and independent bliss.

He becomes like Lord Siva. Why is it said that he becomes like Lord Siva? Why not say that he becomes one with Siva? It cannot be said he becomes one with Siva because he has a body, a physical frame. As long as his physical frame is existing, he is *just like Siva*, he is not *one with Siva*. His having a physical frame will divert him toward inferior states. For instance, he may cough, have headaches, experience muscle pain, stomach aches, ulcers, or fever. Siva does not have these ailments or suffer these physical discomforts. So, as long as the yogi possesses a body, he can only be like Siva, not one with Siva. When he casts off this physical frame composed of the five elements, then he becomes one with Siva.

In *Sri Kalikakrama Sastra*, it is said:

So, without harboring the slightest doubt, you should learn from the mouth of your master this practical yoga for entering into God consciousness everywhere. You must consider his every word to be doubtless and true. Also, you should try to experience that state of God consciousness until you become one with that state. Lord Siva himself has said this, so it is absolutely true. (*Sri Kalikakrama Sastra*)

Because his physical body is existing, even when he becomes like Siva, that action (*karma*) that has brought his body into existence is ended by enjoying that action, not by casting it aside. *Prarabdha karma*²⁶ cannot be overcome unless it is enjoyed. For an embodied being, *prarabdha karma* is unavoidable. He may be just like Siva or he may be an ordinary person; *prarabdha karma* must be overcome by being enjoyed. It cannot be cast aside or abandoned.

So, for the remainder of his life, he must continue to exist with this physical frame. He must welcome whatever comes to him, whether it be good or bad. Whatever he gets to eat, he must eat. It is not worthwhile to cast his body aside. For such a yogi, this body is to be maintained until the time of death.

This he explains in the next verse.

26. *sariravrittirvratam* //

*His virtuous behavior is the
maintenance of his body.*

What is virtuous behavior? For ordinary beings, virtuous behavior may involve special ways of acting and being. For example, there is the special behavior that some people observe during the eclipse of the moon. These people fast and perform special ceremonies during the eclipse and continue these special actions until the eclipse has ended. For these people acting in this way during an eclipse is a virtuous act.

But for such a yogi, behaving virtuously is just to remain in his body as it is. For him, virtuous behavior involves getting up from bed at four o'clock in the morning, going to the bathroom,

taking bed tea, going for a walk, having lunch, gardening, taking a nap, cleaning up his living quarters and so on. Other than these ordinary daily actions, there is no need for him to adopt any other virtuous behavior. So routine talk, taking tea, going for a walk, going to the cinema; these assorted actions comprise the virtuous behavior he adopts for the remaining period of his life.

This is what this sutra says. For such a yogi, who is just like Siva, which means whose I-consciousness is just like Siva consciousness, existing in his physical frame is his virtuous behavior. Therefore, just to exist in his body is a virtuous act. This is because while he remains in his body, he is intent only on performing the supreme worship of Lord Siva in each and every action of his life - while eating, while drinking, while talking, while taking tea, while eating lunch, and so forth. Although everyone around him experiences that he is acting just like an ordinary human being, he is not, he is somewhere else.

About this, the *Svacchandra Tantra* says:

Whenever a fire is kindled on the ground, where are the flames seen? The flames are seen in the sky. In the same way, although this yogi's body is existing in the inferior field of individuality, this yogi is actually established in God consciousness. (*Svacchandra Tantra* 4.389)

The yogi is established in that God consciousness, just like a flame in the fire. Although he is residing in the inferior states of waking, dreaming, and deep sleep, he has already attained entry into Siva. And yet because his actions are just like ours, you must not think he is not fully aware of his God consciousness and therefore he is just like us. Even if he does all the same things we do, he is somewhere else; he is above. There are no other virtuous actions for him to adopt except to remain in this physical frame and perform actions.

26. *Prarabdha karma* is *karma* that has brought **your body into being** and is based on the actions of your past lives.

It is said in the *Trika Sastra*:

The one who is always stamped by the various poses associated with the body, such as taking tea, going to bed, resting, talking, joking, having lunch, walking and resting, is the real holder of all the postures (*mudras*) of yoga. All other yogis, who are not like him, only hold a bundle of bones.

The yogi's body has no flesh, no bones. You must not think that he is in a body with flesh and bones. Being one with God consciousness, he is supreme.

The energies of Lord Siva are classified in three ways: the supreme class of energies, the medium class of energies, and the inferior class of energies. The inferior class of energies, known as *ghoratari* energies, are determined to cause an individual to enter into the depths of the darkness of ignorance. The medium class of energies, known as *ghora* energies, cause one to stand still. These energies will not allow the individual to enter into the state of God consciousness. The supreme class of energies are known as *aghora* energies. In the next verse from the *Kulapancasika Sastra*, the *aghora* class of energies are clarified and explained.

The supreme *aghora* energies of God consciousness always embrace that yogi who lives in such a way that he remains absolutely unknown as a yogi. They carry him to God consciousness, where he is forever established. This is the secret of rising because this state of God consciousness has come forth from a secret point and he is residing in a secret way of life. That yogi, on the other hand, who is known to everyone as an elevated yogi, is not embraced by these *aghora* energies. They shun him and consequently, he is carried away from God consciousness.

In talking about the yogi who is hidden and embraced by the supreme energies of Lord Siva, everyone says that because he walks and talks just as they do and seems to be an enjoyer of sensual pleasures, he is an ordinary person. It is worthwhile, therefore, for a yogi to behave in such a way that he is not known as a yogi by the outside world. He must keep it a secret and not

publicize it. He must be known to the world as an ordinary person. As long as he does not publicize his spiritual state, he is there. Otherwise, he is carried away from God consciousness. This is the secret of rising.

Even the disciple must not know the depth of his master's realization. The master must also hide his power of spirituality from the disciple. He must absolutely conceal his spirituality within his nature and not expose it to anyone. The disciple must possess and maintain blind faith. This is the manner of the *Siva Sutras*.

For this kind of yogi,

27. *katha japah* ///

Ordinary talk of life is the recitation of mantra.

He recites mantra when he laughs with you, when he embraces you and talks to you, when he goes with you to the theater. All of this is, for him, the real recitation (*japah*) of mantra. So, for him, the ordinary talk of daily life is recitation of mantra because,

In talking, he experiences and is aware of his fullness of I-consciousness of God.²⁷ (*Svacchanda Tantra*)

This is explained in *Svacchanda Tantra* in this way:

He is always merged in that supreme I-consciousness of **God**.

It is also said in the *Kalikakrama Sastra*:

For him, who is one with that supreme cognitive state of the Lord, that supreme energy is awareness (*vimarsah*) and it is filled and shining with all knowledge.

It is explained in the *Sri Kalikakrama* that the daily conversations of the yogi, who is established in that unartificial awareness (*vimarsah*), which is self-generated and spontaneous, become the recitation (*japah*) of the real mantra of the self.

It is also said in the *Vijnanabhairava Tantra*:

Establishing the state of awareness in the state of God consciousness repeatedly without break or pause is real recitation of man-

tra. From this recitation which is full of universal "I", real "I" consciousness automatically flows forth. (*Vijnanabhairava Tantra* 145)

Again, it is said,

By going out he utters "sa," by coming in he utters "ha," in this way he recites the mantra *hamsa*, repeating *so 'ham, so 'ham, so 'ham* day and night. This sacred recitation is always existing for him. (*Vijnanabhairava Tantra* 155)

And again, it is said in the *Vijnanabhairava Tantra*:

He recites this mantra with breath twenty-one thousand six hundred times in a day and a night. This recitation, which is of that supreme energy of God consciousness, is very easy for those who are aware and very difficult for those who are not. (*Vijnanabhairava Tantra* 156)

27. In this verse from the *Svacchanda Tantra*, it is the "I-consciousness of God," not individual "I-consciousness," that is referred to. Therefore, we cannot call it "I-consciousness" because "I-consciousness" can also be individual consciousness. It is not individual "I-consciousness"; it is "I God consciousness."

The daily routine of the yogi who is immersed in **this kind of** automatic recitation (*ajapa gayatri*) is as follows:

28. *danamatmajnanam //*

His only purpose for remaining in his body is to impart his knowledge to others.

During the remainder of his life, his reason for living is giving his real knowledge of God consciousness to others. This is the meaning of this sutra.

The Sanskrit word *dana* found in the sutra has many meanings. Whatever this yogi, who has become one with God consciousness, experiences, which means whatever he sees in his own self, that is *dana* for him. The word *dana* can also mean that which gives him fullness of consciousness. Moreover, *dana* can mean that which destroys the differentiated perception of the universe. *Dana* can also be referring to that which remains when illusion ends. And, it is that state where the nature of his God consciousness is completely protected. This is how he acts during the remainder of his life.

The definitions of *dana* given above are in reference to his own person. There is another meaning of *dana*. In this case, *dana* is explained in reference to another and it means "whatever is given to another." So, those who are his devoted disciples get the knowledge of the self from him. This same thing is said in some tantras.

Those yogic heroes who are established in the *Kula* system reveal the reality of God consciousness to others by merely looking (*darsana*) or touching. By this revelation, all of their disciples cross over to the other side of the bondage (*samsara*) of repeated births and deaths and are liberated.

In fact, only that person who has become just like Siva,²⁸ being always busy in his daily routine with internal recitation (*ajapa*) and ruling his own wheel of energies, can be helpful in illuminating others. He explains this in the next sutra:

29. *yo'vipastho jnahetusca //*

The one who rules the wheel of energies becomes the cause of inserting knowledge in others.

The master who has established sovereignty over the wheel of energies (*sakticakra*) is not played by these energies but is instead the player. The wheel of energies is classified in two segments: the energies pertaining to cognition (*jnanendriyas*), and the energies pertaining to action (*karmendriyas*). This master is the player of both these kind of energies. They do not play with him as they do with us. Whatever our sensual energies ask for or demand, we are bound to obey them. But he is not like that. He maintains dominion over these energies and so he becomes the cause of inserting real knowledge into others. This is the meaning of this sutra.

Those who are ignorant are protected in their own way by this wheel of energies. These *sakti cakras* protect these ignorant souls by providing them with taste, with form, with touch, with smell, and with whatever else they need. This so-called protection is not really protection because it provides them with these sensual pleasures.

28. As we've seen above in sutra 25, this yogi is not one with Siva; he is "just like Siva." He will become one with Siva immediately upon leaving his physical body.

In sutra 19 of this Third Awakening of the *Siva Sutras*, these energies are said to be the mothers of these ignorant people. In that sutra, these energies are called *mahesvaryadi sakticakram*, which means those energies, *mahesvari*, *khecari*, *gocari*, *dikcari*, *bhucari*, etc., concerned with the organic field.

To say that a master has sovereignty *over* these energies is to say he is not played by them. On the contrary, he is the player and he becomes the cause of inserting knowledge into others.

In the present sutra, the Sanskrit word *jna* means the energy of knowledge (*jnanasakti*). For those who are his disciples, this master becomes the source of knowledge and by the energy of that knowledge, he becomes successful in inserting knowledge into his disciples.

The person who is influenced by the wheel of energies, which means who is dependent on his senses, is not able to protect himself, so how could he possibly protect others? He is constrained to follow the demand of his senses, so how could he possibly elevate others? He could not. It is impossible.

In this sutra, you will also find the Sanskrit word *yo* which is derived from the Sanskrit pronoun *yat*(who). In Sanskrit, whenever *yat* is found, then the pronoun *tat* must also be added to complete the sentence. Therefore, *Yo'yam avipasthah*, "the one who governs this wheel of energies" . . . *sa*, "that master" . . . *jnanaprabodhanahetu*, "becomes the cause of inserting knowledge into others." So it is well said in sutra 28 of this Third Awakening, *danamatmajnanam*, "he gives knowledge of the self to others."

Some commentators explain this sutra in another way. They say this sutra must be explained according to the words and letters as follows. Take the first word *yo'vipastho*. Because of the *yo* sound in *yogindra*, *yo* indicates *yogindra*, the foremost yogi. *Vi* indicates *vijnanam* "knowledge," *pa* indicates "state," *stha* refers to "the one who is established in that state." Now the last word *jnahetusca*. *Jna* means "who knows that." *He* indicates *heyah*, "what is to be abandoned." *Tu* indicates *tucchata*, "that which is abandoned is differentiated perception." And the *visargah* (h) refers to *visargasaktih*, creative energy. The word *ca* does not mean "and" here but rather indicates "one who does this."

So with this in mind, this meaning now emerges from this sutra:

That *yogindra* who (*vimarsasaktya*), by the energy of his awareness (*svarupatmavijnanapadasthah*) is established in his own nature of God consciousness becomes the knower and the doer. He can perceive and differentiate what is to be achieved and what is to be discarded and he does not own that which is to be discarded.

We, however, do not accept this explanation. So, if we do not accept this explanation then why include it? From my point of view, *Ksemaraja* should not have included it. After all, if one begins including incorrect explanations then they could be introduced for every sutra. I am only including it because it is part of *Ksemaraja's* commentary.

30. *svasaktipracayo'sya visvam //*

For him, this universe is the embodiment of his collective energies

For such a master, this universe is the collection of his own energies. He perceives that this universe is the embodiment of, and not separate from, his innumerable collective energies. So just as that master is said to be just like Siva, this whole universe is his own collective energy. And by saying this whole universe is nothing but Siva's energy, so then, in the same way, this universe is not only the collection of Siva's energies but also for the yogi, because he is one with that God consciousness, this universe is the collection and expansion of his energies. It is said in *Mrityujitabhataraka*:

This Lord Siva is filled with knowledge and that knowledge is the innumerable²⁹ knowledge found in the universe. Real knowledge is universal knowledge. The knowledge that frees you from the limited knowledge of the universe is called *netra*. By holding and possessing only one class of this limitless universe of knowledge, and by not possessing universal knowledge, you are bound with limitation. When your master reveals the universal truth to you, then you emerge from limitation and the whole universe becomes your possession. To possess the whole universe as your own self is real knowledge and that is *netra* and that is liberation. (*Netra Tantra* 9.12)

If you pick only one class of knowledge out of this universe and

29. This knowledge is said to be innumerable because it is the endlessly divisible knowledge of the particular. It is knowledge of a tree, a rock, a person, a second person, a third person, etc.

hold and possess only that one class, that is ignorance. But if you possess this whole universe as your own self, then you are liberated. This is what is meant by this verse of the *Netra Tantra*.

It is also said in the *Kalikakrama*:

This knowledge is found everywhere, inside and outside, because without knowledge, an object cannot exist. This entire universe is, therefore, filled with that knowledge. And that knowledge, which may be objective knowledge, is, in fact, knowledge of God consciousness.

No one has ever perceived an object without that knowledge. That knowledge, which is the real knowledge of God consciousness, has taken the form of the object. Objective knowledge is not separate from that knowledge of God consciousness. It is by that knowledge of God consciousness that this knowledge of objects takes place.

If you think that in practicing yoga, God consciousness is to be possessed and that which is other than God consciousness is to be discarded, that is not the proper understanding. The correct understanding is that you must unite these two together. God consciousness must be united with objective consciousness and objective consciousness must be united with God consciousness. This reality of knowledge, this reality of God consciousness, is established in the objective world because through meditation all these objects are found as one with God consciousness. As long as you meditate upon and are aware that this objective world is not separate from God consciousness, it will be just like God consciousness. And so, you will not find any difference between God consciousness and objective consciousness.

When you simultaneously possess this kind of knowledge, then knowledge and the known will be not separated. Known will become knowledge and knowledge will become known. (*Krama Stotra*)

Not only is this universe the expansion of his energies in the created sphere of the world, but it is also the expansion of his energies in impressions and in the void state (*laya*).

31. *sthitilayau* //

This universe is the expansion of his energy in objective impressions and in the dissolution of those impressions.

Not only is this universe the expansion of his energy in its creation, it is also the expansion of his energy in the impressions of the objective world left in your mind (*sthiti*) and in the void state where these impressions are absorbed (*laya*).

When this objective world is shining vividly in your sphere of organs, that is the state of creation (*sristi dasa*). But it is not only in the state of creation that this universe is one with his real energies of God consciousness. This universe is also one with his energies when only impressions of this objective world remain (*sthitidasa*) or when these impressions melt in voidness (*layadasa*) at the time of death or deep sleep, or when one is rendered unconscious. When only impressions remain, in those impressions you will find God consciousness prevailing. And in the state of dissolution when there is no impression, when the impression is dissolved in voidness, pure God consciousness prevails. God consciousness is never in any way absent from being.

Initially, this universe is revealed to you by the energy of action. And after this universe shines before you, the knowledge of the universe remains for some time as an impression in your objective consciousness. That is what is meant by the word *sthiti*.

Then the impression of this universe in your objective consciousness also melts away and all that is left is the void state where there is nothing. That is what is meant by the word *layah*. And this state where there is nothing is also held in consciousness.

For such an elevated soul, these two states are only the expansion of His energies and nothing else. For him, this objective world may be created in his sensual world, or it may be stored in his impressions, or it may be taken away from his impressions; but this threefold world is nothing more than the expansion of his God consciousness everywhere. Otherwise, if this threefold world was not existing in his God consciousness, then the impressions would not arise from that nothingness and from those impressions, this objective world would not arise. For example, when you go to sleep and enter the dreaming state and after dreaming, you enter the dreamless state and after some time, you wake up, throughout all of these states God consciousness is existing. If God consciousness were not existing throughout, then how would you be able to travel from one state to the next, from the dreaming state to the state of deep sleep, and from the state of deep sleep to the waking state? Between each of these states, there is a gap, a point where one state has ceased to exist and the next state has yet to begin. When you direct your consciousness from waking state to the dreaming state and from the dreaming state to the dreamless state, there is a point, a gap, when your consciousness, having left one world, has not yet entered the next world. How could you travel through that gap if God consciousness did not exist in that gap? So God consciousness must exist throughout. It is why the commentator Ksemaraja says "there would be disconnection of your consciousness."

As an example, consider that I am staying with you and before going to bed, I give you some money to keep for me. I then go to bed and enter the dreaming state and after that, I enter the state of dreamless sleep and after that, I wake up and again enter the waking state. And after waking, I ask you for the money I gave you to keep for me. If God consciousness did not persist in every moment, did not travel throughout all three

states, then the continuity of memory would not be possible and I would not remember to ask you for the money or even that I had given you this money to hold for me. It is God consciousness existing in all states that maintains the continuity of awareness and memory.

It is said in the *Sri Kalikakrama*:

That which exists, that which does not exist; this differentiation of existence and nonexistence and their connection [is only maintained by God consciousness].

This whole universe is absolutely pure, without any support, and one with the knowledge of the consciousness of self. If that consciousness of self is revealed and perceived, then at that very moment, he is without a doubt liberated in this very life. (*Kalikakrama Sastra*)

The previous sutras state that this whole universe is the expansion of his own glory, not only in creation (*sristi*), but also in protection (*sthiti*) and destruction (*samhara*). But now the question can be asked, "If this yogi feels that the universe, in creation, in protection, and in destruction, is the expansion of his own nature, then would not his nature be changeable? It would definitely change. In creation it would be one way, in protection another way, and in destruction another way. Therefore, as his original state of being would occasionally change, the essential nature of the self would not remain unchangeable. The next sutra answers this question.

32. *tatpravritavapyanirasah samvettribhavat //*

Although he is determined in creating, protecting, and destroying the universe, even then he is not separated from the real state of his subjectivity.

Although he creates, protects and destroys this universe, for him the reality of the self remains the same in creation, protection and destruction. This yogi is never separated from the state of the knower, which is that state where he holds the bliss of turya (*camatkara*). This subjectivity is the real state of being of the knower. In these threefold actions of creation, protection, and destruction, he is always one with that state.

If in these actions, he was separated from the reality of the self, then the state of creation, the state of protection and the state of destruction would not exist. The existence of these three states comes from the power of the reality of the knower.

It is said in the *Kalikakrama Sastra*:

Although the expansion of ignorance is destroyed, the being of the self is never destroyed because that self is beyond creation

and destruction. There is no creation and there is no destruction of that self. Therefore, if that being is one with this universe, then in reality, nothing is destroyed.

It is imagined that ignorance is created and ignorance is destroyed but ignorance itself cannot exist without the knowledge of truth. So ignorance cannot be created or destroyed because it is one with the real nature of the self. When it is the nature of the self that it is never destroyed, then how can it be destroyed in creation, protection and destruction? (*Kalikakrama Sastra*)

This is written in *Spanda*:

In the two states which are termed "doer" and "done," the aspect known as done is destroyed while the aspect known as doer always remains and can never be destroyed.

Only that force, which is the effort to create that which is to be done, is destroyed. But when that force is destroyed, ignorant people cry, saying, "we too are also destroyed." (*Spanda Karika* 1.14-15)

For example, a young woman gives birth. That baby is the outcome of your effort towards objectivity. If that baby is destroyed, why should that woman say that she is destroyed? She is never destroyed. But at that time, ignorant people think that they are also destroyed.

In the absence of the other agency, you can't say the introverted state is destroyed. If in the state of ignorance you are not aware of your reality of self, you cannot say that the self is destroyed. It is not destroyed but, because you are not aware of it, you remain away from it. (*Spanda Karika* 1.16)

For such a yogi:

33. *sukhadukkhayorbahirmananam* //

He experiences his joy and his sadness just like an object, with "this-consciousness" separate from his being.

Such a yogi experiences the state of pleasure (*sukha*) and pain (*duhkha*) with "this-consciousness," not "I-consciousness." For example, he does not experience joy thinking "I am joyous" and sadness thinking "I am sad." Rather, he experiences "this is sadness" and "this is joy," just as an ordinary person experiences external objects in his daily life. He experiences "this-consciousness" not "I-consciousness," thinking "this is a pot" or "this is a bottle." So, this yogi experiences his joy and sadness just like an object, separate from his being.

For this yogi, these two states of pleasure and pain, though touched by the known, are without the touch of the knower. He experiences his pleasure and pain just like other objects such as stoves or pots. He experiences pleasure and pain with "this-consciousness." He does not experience pleasure and pain like ignorant people do, by putting their I-consciousness in that experience, saying, "I am happy," "I am sad," or "I am never happy," "I am never sad." On the contrary, this yogi experiences, "I am always in myself, the same in happiness and sadness."

As explained in sutra 30 of this Third Awakening, "For him, this universe is the embodiment of his collective energies," so for such a yogi, this universe is the expansion of his own energy. This explanation reveals to us that he experiences this whole universe with I-consciousness and he experiences his individuality with this-consciousness. Because he is never individual being, he is always universal being, he experiences his nature as universal being and not as individual being. If he

were to experience his nature as individual being, then he would become sad and happy.

The present sutra is not concerned only with pleasure and pain. Here, "pleasure and pain" is a metaphor for everything that exists in this world. This yogi experiences whatever exists in this world in the individual mode as this-consciousness and when he remains in the universal mode he experiences everything with I-consciousness. "I am everything." Because this yogi has destroyed the attachment of his state of I-ness with *puryastaka*,³⁰ found in the waking state, dreaming state, and the state of deep sleep, how can he be touched by the two states of pleasure and pain?

In the commentary of *Sri Pratyabhijna*, it is also said,

Those yogis who have crossed the boundary of individuality, who have achieved the real state of universal being and are established in the state of universality, although in their daily lives they experience pleasure and pain, these experiences do not affect them at all. There is no apprehension that pain and pleasure will rise in them because the cause of the rise of pain and pleasure is individuality and they have destroyed individuality. They are apart from that and so, in the experience of pleasure and pain, they experience the real state of supreme beatitude, supreme bliss (*ananda*), which is actually more than bliss. (*Pratyabhijna*)

This is explained in *Spanda* in this verse:

Reality exists in that universal state where there is no pain, no pleasure, no object, no subject and not even the **negation** of **these**. (*Spanda Karika* 1.5)

30. Here, the word *puryastaka* does not only refer to the eightfold subtle body, consisting of mind, intellect, ego, and the five *tanmatras* (subtle elements) which exists in the dreaming state (*svapna*). Here, the word *puryastaka* is meant to include the body (*deha*) existing in the state of wakefulness (*jagrat*) and the void state (*sunya*) existing in the state of deep sleep (*susupti*).

The yogi who has crossed the individual state of **I-consciousness** is never touched by pleasure and pain. So,

34. *tadvimuktastu kevali //*

Separated from pleasure and pain, he is established in real seclusion.

What is real seclusion? Real seclusion is actually the state of I-consciousness where this-consciousness (as the opposite of I-consciousness) does not arise. When you are established in I-consciousness, this-consciousness is absent. As long as I-consciousness prevails, this-consciousness is excluded. Where this-consciousness is not excluded, then this-consciousness is also absorbed in I-consciousness. That is the state of seclusion (*kevali bhava*) where there is nothing.

It is rightly said in *Upanisads*:

In the beginning, there was only one Lord, and because he was only one, there being no other, he became afraid.

The *Upanisads* is telling us that this is the reason why those who are alone become afraid. They become frightened because in that state of being alone, this-ness is excluded. This is the state of *divitiya brahma*. When this-ness is not excluded, then you are only one and there is nothing to fear. That is what is delineated by the word "seclusion" (*kevali*). This is the state of seclusion (*kevali bhava*).

The one who is absolutely freed from pleasure and pain is solely established (*kevali*) in the formation of God consciousness. In *Kalikakrama*, it is said:

All those states, like the perception of pleasure and pain and the thoughts associated with them, have arisen by imagination. That differentiation is actually the great illusion of duality. Herein one distinguishes between two opposites, such as the differentiation between pleasure and pain, thinking pleasure is welcome and pain is to be avoided. The yogi who has destroyed this kind of illusion actually attains the real fruit of yoga. (*Kalikakrama Stotra*)

In the present sutra the word *tu* is not meant to indicate separation, but to indicate supremacy, to indicate that he is above the state of individuality.

And now, contrarily, the author will, in the next sutra, explain the state of individuality that is absolutely the opposite of this state.

35. *mohapratisamhatastu karmatma //*

The yogi whose God consciousness is destroyed by this state of illusion is dependent on his action.

On the contrary, the yogi whose God consciousness is destroyed by this state of illusion is dependent on his action. The past, present and future actions (*karmas*) of this yogi, whose God consciousness has been destroyed by the illusion of duality, will control him and make him their plaything. He is just an ordinary human being. He is not capable as a yogi. Having his state of being destroyed by this illusion of duality, he thinks, "This is pain and it is not good. This is pleasure and it is better than pain. I have a good job which is very nice. I have been fired and I am very sad!" This is the state of individual being.

The Sanskrit word *moha* means ignorance (*ajnana*). The words *prati samhatah* mean "who is constricted by this ignorance, this illusion" (*moha*). He is not the player of pain and pleasure as a yogi is. Being shrunk by illusion, he is pain and pleasure's plaything. He is said to be the embodiment of action (*karmatma*) and as such, he is dependent upon action. Actions will control him. He is always stained (*kalankita*) by good and bad actions.

This is well said in the *Kalikakrama Sastra*:

When this yogi does not maintain the awareness of God consciousness, having his God consciousness covered by ignorance, then because of his differentiated perception of the world, he does not experience the thirty-six elementary states of the universe, beginning with the element Siva and ending with the ele-

merit earth, in a supreme or universal manner. Only the states of good and bad appear to him, which are unfortunate and which, when experienced, cause supreme pain to shine within him. Because of this, he has become an absolutely unfortunate being.
(*Kalikakrama Sastra*)

So, although such a yogi has become dependent on his past actions, as ignorant persons are, when, by the means of the absolutely independent grace of Lord Siva, his state of perfect independence again shines, then,

36. *bhedatiraskare sargantarakarmatvam //*

He drives away the field of differentiated perceptions and enters into a new world of God consciousness.

In this verse we are told, "He drives away the field of differentiated perception." This means the differentiated perceptions of that subjective being are kept apart from his self. This subjective being is that individual who is residing in the *sakala* and *pralayakala* states because he has defined his ego in relation to the body (*sarira*), the vital breath (*prana*), the self of the dreaming state (*puryastaka*), and the self of deep sleep (*sunya*), and not in relation to his own real nature of God consciousness.

The Sanskrit word *tiraskare*, which I am rendering as "drives away," does not mean he totally ignores this differentiated perception. Here, "drives away" indicates that he ignores it through the mind. Although internally he does everything that other individuals do, he is not attached to those differentiated perceptions. So, although he lives in these differentiated perceptions, the nature of his God consciousness shines forth and these perceptions subside.

Then, successively, he enters into the world of *mantra pramata*, *mantresvara pramata* and *mantramahesvara pramata*, which are, consecutively, the states of *suddha vidya*, *Isvara*, and *sadasiva*.³¹ Here he attains his own real glory of God consciousness.

31. In any experience, there is the known, the object of perception, the means of experiencing, and the experiencer. The Sanskrit word for the object

Then, ignoring the previous state of degraded individual consciousness, he (*sargantara karmatvam*) enters into a new world of God consciousness wherein whatever he thinks, whatever he desires, comes true. This is already illustrated in *Svacchanda Tantra*:

When you fix your awareness not only in two, but in three, you are carried to God consciousness and you become one with *Svacchanda*.³² (*Svacchanda Tantra*)

What is the meaning of "triple awareness"? The verse tells us there must be triple awareness, not just awareness of two. Awareness of two is the awareness of two actions, such as inhaling and exhaling. Triple awareness includes the junction, the gap, between any two actions, between inhaling and exhaling and between exhaling and inhaling. It is the junction between one step and another step, between one thought and another thought, between one sensation and another sensation, etc. When you are aware of the three centers, then you are carried to *Svacchanda*, to God-consciousness.

And so it is explained in this verse in the *Svacchanda Tantra*, as he becomes one with *Svacchanda* (with *Bhairavanatha*), then differentiated perceptions do not exist. In another verse in the same Tantra, we are told:

He becomes so great he terrifies *Brahma*, *Visnu*, and *Indra*, the *Siddhas*, *Daityas*, and those who rule the great deities, *garuda*,

of perception is *prameya*. The word for the means of experience is *pramana*, and the word for the subject of the experience is *pramatii* or *pramata*. To further clarify, the *pramatii* is the state of the knower where the knower is attached to the known - to the object. In *suddhavidya tattva*, you find the state of *mantra pramata*, which is also called *suddhavidya pramatii*. In *isvara tattva*, you find the state of *mantresvara pramata*, which is also called *isvara pramatii*. And in *sadasiva tattva*, you experience the state of *mantra mahesvara pramata*. In the above three states, you find that both the state and the state holder - the state and the experiencer of that state - exist together simultaneously.

32. *Svacchanda* is that *Bhairava* who is absolutely filled with free will.

etc. He causes them to be fearful, or if he is satisfied with them, drives fear away from them. He is the bestower of boons and curses. Even the Lord of Death cannot stand before him. By the power of his will, he can level great mountains. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 6.54-55)

This is **not difficult for** him to attain, because:

37. *karana saktih svato'nubhavat //*

The power of creation is the experience of every individual.

It is the experience of each and every individual being that while they are in the dreaming state or using their imagination, they have the power to create and destroy as they will (*karanasakti*). When you are intoxicated with alcohol, you can think that you are the Lord and that no power *can* weaken you. That is your conception in that state. Or, when you enter the dreaming state, you can create a motorcar to drive, the road to drive on and the fields and vegetation to drive through. In this dream, the road is created by you, the motorcar is created by you, the trees on the sides of the road are created by you, and it is you who are seated in the car and you are you. Everything in this dream is you. If somebody comes in front of you and stops your car, that is also you. In this dream, you create the entire universe yourself because in dreams no one else is created except your own glory. So in this way, the power of creation is experienced by every individual, and in the same way, the power of creation of this yogi is universal.

It is your own experience that in the world of imagination or in the world of dreaming, you have the power of doing and undoing, enabling you to create a world by your own power of thinking, a world you are unable to create in the waking state.

In this respect, it is said in the *Pratibhijna Karika*:

So according to the thoughts he chooses, every individual being has the power of knowing and acting. (*Isvarapratyabhijna Karika* 1.6.11)

So, when it is proven that the power (*karana sakti*) to create and destroy already exists, then when he desires with an intense force of awareness, that desire will come true not only in the dreaming state or world of imagination, but also in the waking state. He can also create worlds of his own in the waking state. In fact, he can create whatever he desires in the outside world and these worlds which he has created can also be perceived by others.

It is also said in *Tattvagarbha*:

When those individuals, who are masters of the dreaming state and the world of imagination, discard the absence of the establishment of awareness and secure and strengthen the power of their awareness, then their desire becomes just like the heavenly wish-fulfilling tree (*kalpataru*).³³

They become just like Lord Siva and being just like Lord Siva, whatever they desire, whatever they think, that becomes true.

33. The *kalpataru* tree is one of the five trees of heaven, fabled to **fulfill all** desires.

And so, it is proved that the essence of this power of doing and undoing is *svatantrya 'sakti*, which is the essence of *pramata*, the subject, and which is one with *turya*. It is only the power of absolute independence that carries you to that supreme summit. Now the author tells us what we must do to regain that power which has been diminished by the power of illusion.

38. *tripadadyanuprananam* //

*Emerging from the state of turya,
insert the absolute bliss of that state into the **waking**,
dreaming, and deep sleep states,
and they will become one with that state of **turya**.*

Just as soon as you emerge from *samadhi*, coming out from the state of *turya*, insert the absolute bliss of that state into the other three states of consciousness - waking, dreaming and deep sleep - and in time, these four states will become one without distinction.

There are three states of creation; (*sristi*), protection (*sthiti*), and reabsorption (*layah*). The state of *creation* exists when you are just about to direct your consciousness towards an object (*bhavaunmukhya*). In the creative state, you have not yet directed your consciousness, but you are going to direct it. When your consciousness is positively directed towards that object (*bhavabhisvanga*), that is the *protective* state. And, when your consciousness is carried away from that object and is going to be inserted into another object, that is the state of *reabsorption*. In this state of reabsorption, your consciousness is being withdrawn from the object you are presently perceiving and is about to be inserted into a new object. Being inserted into another object is the creative state for that new object you are

about to perceive. But at this moment, in the state of reabsorption, your attention is not on either object. It has entered internal consciousness (*antarmukhabhava*).

Take the example of the perception of a pair of reading glasses. When you are going to perceive these glasses, that is the first state, the creative state. Next, when you are perceiving these glasses, that is the protective state. And when you have perceived these glasses, what happens next? You lose curiosity to perceive these glasses. When you lose curiosity to perceive them then you become curious to perceive another object, such as a book. In relation to your perception of the glasses, this is the third state, the state of reabsorption. But in your relation to your perception of the book, it is the first state, the creative state. In the third state, the state of reabsorption, your consciousness has entered into your God consciousness in the state of absolute voidness (*sunya*). This is the way of perception in this world. First, you are about to perceive an object. Then you perceive that object. Then after some time, you tire of perceiving that object and redirect your consciousness to perceive another object, and so on. In this world, perception continues in this chainlike fashion. This is why we agree with the Buddhists in this regard. They also recognize that perception is the flux of knowledge moving from one state to another state.

That which is residing in each and every point of these three states is the state of *turya*. This *turya* is filled with bliss and enjoys the ecstasy of all these three states. Although it is covered by the energy of illusion still when you are relishing these enjoyments of the senses in the beginning of enjoyment, in the center of enjoyment and in the end of enjoyment, when the curiosity has ended, that *turya* is felt for just one moment like a flash of lightning. It is revealed there for one instant. How is that point, that instantaneous flash, to be held, to be maintained? The technique of holding this point is only the trick of the master.

For example, when you take an ear of corn, which is well cooked and you taste that corn, at the time of tasting, even though this tasting is covered by the energy of illusion - just like lightning - God consciousness is found. If, by the grace of your Master, you have the power and the capacity to hold that

moment, then you will gain entry into God consciousness. That God consciousness is found in the beginning of that tasting. How to hold it is just a trick. You do not have to move here and there with breath. That will not accomplish it. It is a trick to hold that awareness. You cannot hold God consciousness with prayer, weeping, or worship, or by any other means. It can only be held by the trick of awareness which can be taught to you by your master.

So, even if your sense perceptions are covered by the energy of illusion, at the time when you enjoy any sensation, God consciousness is momentarily shining like a flash of lightning. What must be done in these moments where God consciousness shines is to be absolutely aware. If you do not maintain awareness, then you are finished; you are just like an ordinary human being.

Although this God consciousness rises for only one moment, you have to give life to it and sustain it with awareness. To accomplish this, just hold it internally by keeping your consciousness introverted, not extroverted. It is with introverted consciousness that you will be successful. With introverted successive unbroken consciousness, you must give life to that God consciousness which is held only momentarily. In these moments, you must give rise to that God consciousness again and again. It is said in *Vijnanabhairava Tantra*:

You must perceive the reality of that state which is filled with your own bliss of God consciousness, which is without differentiated thought and which is always full of the *sakti* of *Bhairava*. This state, which is absolutely pure and filled with universal consciousness, fills the whole universe with bliss. (*Vijnanabhairava Tantra* 15)

The experience of joy which rises at the moment you are united with and are absolutely embracing your life partner is actually the joy of *brahman*. This joy can only be known by a trick. If, however, you do not know this trick, then it is just the union of two beasts. (*Vijnanabhairava Tantra* 69)

O Devi, it is not only in the union of two partners where you will get entry in God consciousness but, if you possess the trick, then

also at the time of remembering that sexual union you will gain entry into God consciousness. (*Vijnanabhairava Tantra 70*)

It is not only in the matter of sex. Appearance will also carry you to that God consciousness.

By employing the trick of awareness, you will enter God consciousness at the very moment the joy, from seeing a desired thing after a long time, arises in your mind. (*Vijnanabhairava Tantra 71*)

For instance, your son, who has lived in a foreign country for twenty years, returns unexpectedly and you see him with great surprise. You didn't know he was coming. You had not received any communication from him informing you of his coming. He just arrives. So you were not prepared to see him, and then, suddenly, you see him. If you know the trick of awareness for gaining entry into God consciousness, then, at that very moment, when the joy of seeing your son arises in your mind and fills your being, you will enter God consciousness. That is meaning of this verse.

If you know the trick, you can also enter God consciousness through taste.

If at the time you experience the joy that arises in your consciousness when you eat a nicely prepared feast or taste a delicious drink you have the trick to attain the awareness of Bhairava, then you will enter in that bliss of God consciousness while eating or drinking. (*Vijnanabhairava Tantra 72*)

If, upon hearing a melodious song, he inserts his awareness into the sound of that song, he will, at that very moment in one flash, enter into and become one with Bhairava. (*Vijnanabhairava Tantra 73*)

This whole universe has come into existence just to carry you to God consciousness. It is not meant to push you down. This universe is meant for your upliftment.

In these **verses in** the *Spanda Karika*, it is said:

If, in those moments when you are completely overcome with rage, overwhelmed with happiness, filled with indecision or wracked with fear caused by being pursued by a fierce lion, you adopt the trick of awareness, you will, in those very moments, attain entry into God consciousness. (*Spanda Karika* 1.22)

So, it is not only in the experience of joy that you can play this trick. It can also be utilized in the experience of grief and sadness.

It is only the player of tricks who is always without any covering. There is nothing that can conceal his God consciousness. He is always present. (*Spanda Karika* 1.25)

Ksemaraja now tells us that in *Spanda Nirnaya* he has, with great authority, explained this and we would be well advised to examine that clarification.

In the Third Awakening, verse 20 said, "The fourth state (*turya*) must be expanded so that it pervades the other three - waking (*jagrat*), dreaming (*svapna*) and deep sleep (*susupti*)" - just as oil falling on a sheet expands and spreads.

What is the difference between this sutra 20 and our present sutra 38? There must be a difference even though Lord Siva has given us two sutras that seem to have the same meaning. In sutra 38, we are told that in three states, you must give life to that fourth state and in sutra 20, we are told that in three states, you must insert the fourth state. This seems to give essentially the same meaning to both of these verses.

But there is a difference of understanding in these two sutras. In sutra 20, we are to understand that ultimately we have to insert the state of *turya* into the waking state, the dreaming state and the dreamless state, so that these three states become one with the fourth state *turya*. In the present sutra 38, we are told that by using the trick of awareness, we have to insert *turya* into each and every act of our daily life. This is the difference between these two sutras.

A yogi should not only be satisfied to infuse the awareness of God consciousness into these three states - waking, dreaming, and deep sleep but also:

39. *citta sthitivaccharira karanabahyesu //*

*The awareness of God consciousness
should not only be infused in that state where
one's mind is established in one-pointedness,
but it should also be infused in the
establishment of his body,
in his organic actions,
and in the external objective world.*

He should also find the state of *turya* in the objective world. You must infuse *turya* - which gives life to the three states, waking, dreaming and deep sleep - in each and every action of the universe. When one is introverted and his mind is established in one-pointedness, that is the state of *turya*. In the same way, when his consciousness is directed toward the objective world, when he is extroverted and not introverted, then in the action of the body, in the action of the organs, and in the action of the external objective world, he should hold the awareness of internal consciousness. Then in time, he should also infuse the life of *turya* into that state.

It is said in *Vijnana Bhairava*:

You must infuse your consciousness with the awareness that this whole universe or your own body has been simultaneously filled with your own state of bliss. Through this bliss, you will become melted in supreme bliss. (*Vijnana Bhairava* 65)

Infuse consciousness in the beginning and also in the center of these three states and you will become one with that blissful state. There will be no difference between you and that blissful state.

In this way, in each and every state of life, the energy of absolute independence (*svatantrya sakti*), which is filled with supreme bliss, gives you whatever you desire.

And conversely, when this internal state of *turya* is not constantly maintained with awareness, then I-consciousness on body, I-consciousness on *puryastaka*, and I-consciousness on *prana* and *sunya* exists and he feels he is absolutely incomplete. Then desire appears in him.

40. *abhilasadbahirgatih sambahyasya //*

*Due to the insatiable and insistent desire
to fill that gap (in his nature), his flow and movement
are toward the objective world,
not subjective consciousness, and so he is carried from
one birth to another.*

This yogi feels there is a gap in his nature of being. Because of this feeling of incompleteness, a desire arises within him to fill his nature of being. And so to accomplish the fulfillment of this desire, he directs his attention toward the objective world and not subjective consciousness. And so, just like a beast, he is carried from one birth to another birth, from one death to another.

By whom is he carried? He is carried by those energies governed by the supreme wheel of the energies of God (*sakticakra*). And those energies are the six coverings (*kancuka*): *kala*, *vidya*, *raga*, *kala*, *niyati*, along with *maya*; the internal organs (*antahkarana*), mind, intellect, and ego; the five organs of actions, the five organs of the senses, and the five *tanmatras*: sound (*śabda*), touch (*sparsa*), form (*rupa*), taste (*rasa*), and smell (*gandha*). By these energies, he is carried from one state to another state, from one life to another life, from one womb to another womb. And so he is not a carrier; he is being carried. In brief, he is just like a beast (*pasu*), dependent upon his past

and future actions. And this insatiable and **insistent desire is** dirt, impurity (*mala*).

In this quote from the *Svacchanda Tantra*, we are told:

Anava mala, which has appeared by perceiving one's own self as incomplete, is ignorance (*avidya*). Because of this *anavamala*, desire (*abhilasa*) arises and one is carried outside to the external world and not to the internal world of spirituality. (*Svacchanda Tantra*)

Thus his consciousness is diverted toward worldly pleasures. He does not maintain awareness to become established internally in his own nature (*antarmukharupa*). That internal awareness is lost.

It is said in *Kalikakrama Sastra*:

When, by means of differentiated thought (*vikalpa*), that self is covered by ignorance, then he is unable to perceive this whole universe, beginning from earth and ending in Siva, as one with God consciousness.

And so he becomes the object of the two states, good and bad, and this causes him to experience only pain in his own nature. Thus even pleasure is experienced as that pain. When his consciousness is established on that which is not real, then he becomes the object of hells, not heaven.

So, just like bamboo trees, which are burned by their own internal fire,³⁴ he destroys himself by his own impurities and limitations.

Those who integrate into their nature those objects which are not beyond illusion, take the form of *maya* and cherish the nature of ignorance, not the nature of spirituality. In the end, they experience only pain (*klesas*) and sadness.

34. This fire is produced by the bamboo trees themselves when they are subjected to strong winds. The bamboo canes rub against one another and the resulting friction ignites a fire.

On the contrary, when the grace of Lord Siva is infused into his consciousness, this causes him to contemplate and realize his own nature in its true sense. He then destroys all desires in himself, refrains from moving toward the outside world, and is constantly centered in his own God consciousness.

That is what is explained in this next sutra.

41. *tadarudhapramitestatksayajjiva*
samksayah //

*All desire vanishes in that fortunate person
whose consciousness is established in his own
real nature. For him, the state of being a limited
individual has ended.*

In this sutra, the Sanskrit word *tat* means "real nature." In previous sutras, it was explained that this real nature, which is the state of *turya*, is only the state of the knower, not knowledge or the known. When his consciousness is established, which means his consciousness is fully aware in the state of supreme God consciousness, then desire, which seemed to be existing there, vanishes and individuality ends.

What is the meaning of the Sanskrit word *jiva* (individuality) used in this sutra? The word *jiva* refers to the state of being wherein the awareness exists that "I am the body," "I am the sense organs and organs of action," "I am the mind, the intellect, and the ego." This state of individuality (*jiva*) comes to an end and is alleviated when the yogi's consciousness shines in his own nature.

It is said in that *Kalikakrama*:

When one is experiencing in the dreaming state, he perceives many different dreams. And yet when he awakens, these dreams completely vanish and are not existing at all. In the same way, when a fortunate yogi puts his awareness on this objective world, thinking in this way, "This universe is not the objective world, it is only subjective consciousness," then, the more he puts his awareness in continuity on subjective consciousness, the more he becomes one with that subjective consciousness. (*Kalika-krama*)

Here, for this yogi, this imagination has become true. If you, with continuous awareness, imagine this universe is nothing but your own self, your own nature, then by continuing to meditate in this way, a time will come when you will become one with God consciousness.

Avoid those states which are existing and those states which are not existing and by the oneness of God consciousness, eliminate all the classes of imagination and hold that state which is established internally in your own nature.

That yogi, who is always established in his own nature and who is determined to destroy the sphere of time (Kala)³⁵ by fixing his consciousness on the timeless point, will in the near future find that time has ceased to exist. He is established in the final beautification of God consciousness and has achieved the state of final liberation. (*Kalikakrama*)

When your consciousness is resolute in finding the timeless point, then you are said to be *kalagrasaikatatparah*, "determined to destroy the sphere of time." Where is this timeless point to be found? It is found between two breaths, between one step and another step, between one word and another word.

In this verse, what is the meaning of *kaivalyapadabhag*? It means "final liberation." This yogi does not become the object of "being carried." He is not carried by anybody. He becomes

35. Here, the Sanskrit word *kala* does not mean "death," but "the sphere of time."

the carrier. He carries everyone from one state to another state. The question can now be asked, when this yogi's individuality vanishes, will he not have to immediately leave his physical body? But actually, we don't experience his leaving his physical body. Even after realization of God consciousness, he still maintains the body. But if he is still living in his physical body, which is filled entirely with individuality, how can it be said that he is established in God consciousness? This yogi, who is said to be established in God consciousness, continues to suffer from the limitations of the body. Sometimes he has to spit and sometimes he has to blow his nose. He may experience headaches, toothaches, or stomach aches. In short, he experiences all of the physical problems associated with a body. But, these physical problems are the concerns of the individual, not of God, so how can you say he is established in God consciousness? Therefore, this theory of yours is incorrect.

In the next sutra, this criticism is answered.

42. *bhutakancuki tada vimukto bhuyah*
patisamah parah //

*For him, the five elements are only coverings.
At that very moment, he is absolutely liberated, supreme
and just like Siva.*

In this sutra, he is said to be *bhutakancuki* - covered by the five elements. This means he maintains his physical frame externally and not in his internal consciousness. From the point of view of his internal consciousness, he is above the physical body. He does not insert ego or I-consciousness into the physical body nor does he say, "I am this body." He thinks, "This body is the frame, let it remain like this, what do I care?"

He is absolutely liberated from the misery of repeated births and deaths (*vimuktah*). He is supreme (*parah*) and just like Lord Siva (*patisamah*). And as I explained earlier,³⁶ when he leaves this physical frame, he becomes one with Lord Siva.

In this sutra, the Sanskrit word *tada* (then) means "when all desires disappear in him." This is the destruction of the state of the individual. This takes place when the attachment of his I-consciousness to his physical body disappears. When this occurs, he is said to be *bhutakancuki*, "covered by the five elements," not *bhutadharin*, "holding the five elements." The person who is covered by the five elements (*bhutakancuki*) thinks, "I can take off this physical body at any time I like." This body is just a case covering him. He does not insert his I-consciousness into that body, which covers him, so he is absolutely free

36. See the commentary for sutra 3.25

from that covering. As such, he is completely liberated (*vimuktah*). He actually is just like Lord Siva. He is supreme.

For him, this physical frame is like a different covering, such as a blanket. Limited beings (*jiva*) insert I-consciousness into their physical bodies thinking, "this is my body, I am this body." When they go to the doctor, they say, "Please check my pulse." In fact, they have no pulse. In the true sense, the pulse is the pulse of the body. But they say to the doctor, "Please check my pulse. I don't feel well." Actually, it is the body that is unwell; they are always the same.

And, so, he is said to be absolutely liberated (*vimuktah*), one with *nirvana* (blowing out or extinguishing). He is said to be exactly the same as Lord Siva. Having entered into the state of supreme God consciousness, he is supreme, full, and complete.

In sutra 26 of this Third Awakening, it was explained that his body is just like a sheath, the casing for a sword (*sariravrittirvratam*). This yogi does not infuse his I-consciousness into that sheath. Like the sword, he remains separate from the sheath.

It is said in *Kularatnamala Tantra*:

When a supreme master reveals to him the ultimate reality, then, from that very moment, he is said to be absolutely liberated. For him, the remaining portion of his life is just like a machine. (*Kularatnamala Tantra*)

After he is liberated, he lives in his body, which is just like a machine, without any awareness of that living. He is eternally centered in his God consciousness.

What can we say about that wise person who is established for only one second in that supreme Brahman? He becomes liberated and he liberates the whole universe.

It is also said in the *Netra Tantra*:

If one realizes the state of supreme God consciousness for only a fraction of the time it takes to blink one's eyes, then from that very moment, he is said to be completely liberated and will not come again into this world. (*Netra Tantra* 8.8)

In *Kulasara Sastra* it is also said,

O beautiful Goddess, the glory and greatness of the real nature of God consciousness is a wonder. If the word of that real nature of God consciousness travels only in sound from one ear to another, not in actual existence, then when the sound of that word has entered the other ear, that word will liberate him instantaneously. This is the greatness of that supreme state of God consciousness. (*Kulasara Sastra*)

In previous sutras, the author explained how this yogi was covered by the five elements. These five elements are not the elements of ignorance (*deha kahcukatad*) *deha*, *prana*, *puryastaka*, and *sunya*; they are the five elements of the elementary world (*panca mahabhutas*). And so it is that this body, covered with these five elements, does not produce fruit. So, what causes this covering of five elements to continue to exist after he has realized the real truth of his being? Why is it that this fivefold covering does not instantaneously disappear at the time of the realization of one's own reality of being? To this question, he answers,

43. *naisargikah pranasambandhah* //

This connection with breathing in and breathing out is his nature.

Upon returning from the eternal state of God consciousness the connection with breathing in and breathing out occurs naturally. It is his nature to travel with the breathing movement. So just as soon as he descends from the state of God consciousness he begins the journey of breathing in and breathing out. This has already been said by Kallatta, *praksamvit prane parinata*, "The first change of God consciousness takes place in the breath." Therefore, as long as he continues to breathe his body must also continue to exist so that breathing is possible. And so he maintains this body of five elements.

The word *naisargikah* (this is his nature) explains that his connection with breath comes about due to the nature of his energy of absolute independence (*svatantrya sakti*), because whenever this supreme Goddess of consciousness intends to create this differentiated universe, she first creates limitation

in her being by entering the state of the first breath, the breathless breath, *pranana*. When this *pranana* is existing, this body does not become lifeless and even though the body may not breathe in and out, it is not rigid. It is alive. Take your hand as an example. It is not breathing in and breathing out and yet it is not rigid. So there is the breath of life in your hand.

When a woman conceives a child in her womb, that child is initially produced with *pranana*. In that child, there is no breathing, there is only life. This breathless breath is the breath of life. At the first movement of that energy, this supreme Goddess is transformed into this kind of breath. And then that breath (*pranana*) is transformed into the second movement of breath, which is breathing in and breathing out (*prana*). This breath of life (*pranana*) is the seed of breathing in and breathing out. And here she holds the state of limited being and then also enters into the objective field. So this attachment with the breath that appeared at the beginning is the glory of her *svatantrya*.

In *Vajasaneya Samhita*, it is said:

That supreme and subtle energy is all-pervading, without impurities, always blissful, creating the entire class of energies of Lord Siva and filled with supreme bliss. This supreme energy *Mahaghoresvari*, fearful for the ignorant, is creative for those who are blissful and destructive for those who are unaware. *Mahaghoresvari* destroys the sphere of time, which flows in three ways as *Ida*, *pingala*, and *susumna*, which is existing in *prana*, *apana*, and *samana*³⁷ and which is found in present, past, and future. (*Vajasaneya Samhita*)

This energy of Lord Siva, which is not other than his consciousness, creates and destroys the sphere of time by entering the path of breath, and the three states of soma, *surya*, and *vahni*

37. *Prana*, *apana* and *samana* are three of the five states of the vital life force, which are *prana*, *apana*, *samana*, *udana*, and *vyana*. *Prana* is breathing in and out; *apana* exists when you go to the bathroom and push out your excrement or urine. *Samana* is the breath that keeps your nerves in tune and all vital channels in balance. *Udana* is the breath used to digest food in your body. *Vyana* is the breath that stimulates all this and directs it with vibrating force.

(fire). There, she first carries the three veins (*nadi*), *Ida*, *pingala*, and *susumna*³⁸ (*trivaham*). And she is filled in the three states of *soma nadi*, *surya nadi*, and *vahni nadi* (*trividham*). And she carries three times, past, present, and future (*tristham*). Not only does she carry time, she also destroys time. She destroys time and she creates it. She creates time for those who are ignorant and destroys time for those who are elevated.

In *Svacchanda Tantra*, it is said:

He is manifested first in the initial movement of that breath, which is only filled with life (*pranamayah*) and then in breathing in and breathing out (*prana*), which in exhaling, creates and in inhaling, destroys. In reality, this breath is residing in the heart of beings. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 7.25)

This second breath (*prana*) is represented by the Sanskrit letter "ha," which is (in *Sarada* script) shaped like a plough. The directing of creation and destruction is attributed to this breath. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 4.275)

So it is well said in the present sutra (*naisargikah pranasamband-hah*) "this connection to breath is Lord Siva's natural way."

And so as I said earlier, Bhattakallata in his book *Tattvartha Cintamani* has also explained this in this sutra:

Entering in breath (*prana*) is the first change of God consciousness. This is the initial step towards manifestation. (*Tattvartha-cintamani*)

38. *Ida*, *pingala*, and *susumna nadi* are three predominant subtle veins or channels that function as "the path of breath." The first vein in the left side is called *ida*, the predominant vein on the right side is called *pingala*, and the particular artery between these two veins is called *susumna*. These three veins pertain to the states of perceived (*prameya*), perceiving (*pramana*) and perceiver (*prainatri*). The state of the perceived (*prameya*) is the function of *Ida* vein (*nadi*). The state of perceiving (*pramana*) is the function of *pingala* vein, and the state of the perceiver (*pramatri*) is the function of *susumna*. They are represented by the moon, the sun, and fire. The moon is *Ida* vein (*nadi*), the perceived (*prameya*). The sun is *pingala* vein, state of perceiving (*pramana*). Fire is *susumna nadi*, the state of the perceiver (*pramatri*).

So, although this yogi breathes in and out just like an ordinary person, yet even in breathing, he is constantly aware of the supreme state of the internal being of consciousness. This yogi is exceptional. He is beyond the state of ordinary people.

44. *nasikantarmadhyasamyamat,*
kimatra, savyapasavyasausunnesu //

*If his consciousness is established in the central vein in
that force, which is the energy of life (pranan),
then he remains always the same.*

***For him, there is no difference in traveling in prana,
apana, or susumna.***

If his consciousness is attached to the life force (force of *kundalini*), then it does not matter to him how he journeys in this world. He may travel in any of the three veins, yet he always remains the same. He may travel in ordinary breathing in the right vein (*daksina nadi*) or in the left vein (*vamanadi*), or he may travel in *pranana sakti* the central vein (*madhyana nadi*). These three veins *Ida*, *pingala*, and *susuma* are predominant in all seventy-two thousand veins.³⁹

In this sutra, the word *nasika* means "that energy of breath that gives life and removes the stiffness in your body." When

39. The first start manifestation of *pranana*, the vibrating breath of life, is *cit* (consciousness). The second start is *spanda* (vibration). The third start is *prana*. When that movement (flux) of *prana* (*prana vritti*) enters into the grossness of a body, then it moves through the many subtle channels existing in the body. There are 72,000 principal veins and these are gross. Actually, there are more than 72,000 veins.

In the *Svacchanda Tantra*, these 72,000 veins are compared to the veins in the leaf of the Chinar Tree. Just like the veins in that leaf, so also in

your body dies and you leave this physical frame, your body becomes rigid. The flexibility it used to have no longer exists. The arms and legs can no longer be easily moved. This is because the life force (*pranasakti*) has left this body.

But for he whose consciousness is established in the center of that internal consciousness (*antari samvit*), and in the center of that central breath (*madhyam prana*), which is predominant in the whole of the body in each and every being,

the supreme energy of that being, who is Lord of Lords and who is one with the supreme cognition, is only the energy of awareness. It is all-knowing, all-acting, and completely glorious. (*Kalikakrama*)

When he puts his consciousness into the formation of that awareness (*tat samyamata*) by being aware in the continuity of his being, then what can we say about him? This person is established in, and glorified by, that supreme *samadhi* where, for him, there is no external state of dualistic consciousness (*vyutthanah*). This is also said in *Vijnanabhairava*:

Subjective knowledge and objective knowledge is the same for all living beings, except there is one difference for yogis. In both kinds of knowing, yogis always remain aware. (*Vijnanabhairava* 106)

This is the difference between yogis and ordinary people.

the body of *prana* there is only one central vein, from which are projected thousands of smaller secondary channels. As the threadlike veins in the leaf of a Palasa tree completely pervade that leaf, so do those innumerable subtle channels completely pervade (*vyaptam*) this body.

Now, the author tells us what the fruit of this yoga is for such a yogi. This sutra ends this scripture containing the theory of the *Siva Sutras*.

45. *bhuyah syatpratimilanam //*

This yogi simultaneously and repeatedly experiences the revealing state and the concealing state of the objective world.

When this universe has arisen from the state of God consciousness, then the yogi experiences the destruction of all differentiated impressions and this whole world enters into his own nature. Traveling toward the state of consciousness, it is eclipsed (*nimllana*). And again, repeatedly, he feels this universe has emerged from God consciousness afresh. This is what the yogi who is established on the supreme path of yoga repeatedly experiences.

This is well said in *Svacchanda Tantra*:

O Goddess, there is one state which is beyond the state of *unmana*, into which one should direct his consciousness. And when one's self is absolutely directed into that state, he becomes one with that state. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 6.332)

When fire, which has arisen from wood, has become absolutely pure, filled with glamour and shining with flames, it does not again enter into that wood. In the same way, when the self (*atma*) has separated itself from the differentiated perception of the universe, it does not again get entry into that differentiated universe. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 10.371)

Having destroyed the impurities (*mala*) *anavamala*, *mayiyamala* and *karmamala*, and become absolutely pure (*nirmala*), then, even though he lives in the world of impurity (*mala*), he does not become attached to it. (*Svacchanda Tantra* 10.372)

In this sutra, this word (*bhuyah*) "repeatedly" means he gets the consciousness of world, in and out, again and again. The world appears as if it has risen inside and then it again merges in his own self. And this happens over and over again, not once, not twice, but repeatedly. This is the purpose of saying that for this yogi, the state of being Siva is not fresh or new. It has not appeared for the first time. This state of being Siva is already his nature.

It is only due to the energy of *maya*, which causes you to be mentally inefficient, that differentiated perception arises. It is because of this you cannot hold the state of universal consciousness.

So, practicing in this way, repeatedly taking it out and then bringing it back to your own nature, is intended for knowing this very state of being.

This is the end of the Third Awakening.

Conclusion

1. I have placed this commentary on the *Siva Sutra* before the public because it is adorned with references from the *agamas* and the *Spanda Sastra*.

2. For the sake of destroying the differentiated perception of this universe, let those fortunate persons relish the nectar of this *Siva Sutra* commentary of mine. This *Siva Sutra Vimarsini*, from which flows the secret of Siva, is filled with that ever-new existent nectar and its essence.

3. The glory of this *Siva Sutra* commentary of mine is that it has the power to generate curiosity to realize Saivism in the minds of those who have no curiosity. It expands and generates a great change in their intellects. By merely tasting this nectar, the fear of birth, old age, and death is removed.

4. The ordinary public, because their consciousness is concealed by the adjustment of the ego on a limited body in the waking state, the dreaming state, and the state of deep sleep,⁴⁰ does not perceive the original state of their God consciousness, which is great and which belongs to Lord Siva himself. And when, because of the teaching of *Siva Sutra Vimarsini*, that rare soul realizes that this universe is only existing as congealed foam in the ocean of nectar of universal consciousness, then truly he has become one with Lord Siva.

40. These three states of ordinary consciousness - waking, dreaming, and deep sleep - are defined as being the states (*bhava*) of *dehapramatri*,

Conclusion

5. O fortunate ones, may you immediately cross this ocean of *samsara* and be established and rooted in the supreme state of God consciousness, which is filled with the nectar of eternal light (*prakasa*).

This *Siva Sutra*, which has come from the mouth of Lord Siva and which is shining with the real secret of his being, will, by the trick of your Master, cause you to quickly overcome differentiated universal perception.

Here ends the *Siva Sutra Vimarsini*.

puryastakpramatri, and *pranapramatri*. The state of *deha pramatri* - the state of the experiencer attached to the physical body - is the state found in the state of wakefulness. The state of *puryastakpramatri* - the state of the eight-fold experiencer - is the state found in the dreaming state. The state of *prana pramatri* is the state of limited being found when you are absorbed in the world of sound sleep.

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The Author

Swami Lakshmanjoo

Swami Lakshmanjoo was born in Srinagar, Kashmir on May 9, 1907. He was the last and the greatest of the saints and masters of the tradition of Kashmir Shaivism. Having a deep understanding of the philosophy and practices of Kashmir Shaivism, he was like a splendid and rare jewel. Beginning from childhood he spent his whole life studying and practicing the teachings of this unique sacred tradition. Because of his intellectual power and strength of awareness, he realized both spiritually and intellectually the reality of its thought.

Being born with a photographic memory learning was always easy. In addition to complete knowledge of Kashmir Shaivism he had a vast knowledge of the traditional religious and philosophical texts of India. When translating or teaching he would freely draw on other texts to clarify, expand and substantiate his teaching. He could recall an entire text by simply remembering the first few words of the verse.

In time his reputation as a learned philosopher and spiritual adept spread. Spiritual leaders and scholars journeyed from all over the world to receive his blessing and to ask him questions about various aspects of Kashmir Shaiva philosophy. He gained renown as a devotee of Lord Shiva and as a master of the nondual tradition of Kashmir Shaivism.

Throughout his life Swami Lakshmanjoo taught his disciples and devotees the ways of devotion and awareness. He shunned fame and recognition and did not seek his own glory. He knew Kashmir Shaivism was a most precious jewel and that by God's

grace, those who desired to learn would be attracted to its teachings. His earnest wish was that Kashmir Shaivism be preserved and made available to all who desired to know it.

On September 27, 1991 Swami Lakshmanjoo attained the great liberation and left his physical body.