These are Chandrika's offerings To God, Almighty Who alone hath power, Glory and total peity

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To graciously forgive, forget And Again to raise And to generously grant His vision at Him to gaze.

CHANDRIKA PRASAD SRIVASTAV

{ 1 } Shri Krishna, O God, I pray to thee. Immense is the ache, In my Heart to see

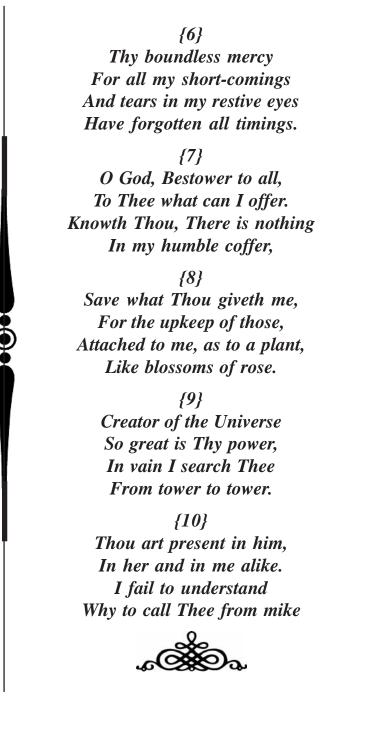
{2} Thy glimpses, no doubt, That are present. Everywhere and in all Thy light is meant.

{3} I dare not deny, Yet how can I believe, Unless I, O God, The glory and form perceive ?

*{4} O beloved of devotees, Quench the thirst of my eyes, Strengthen me to control, Concentrate and to rise.* 

{5} Lo! how dejected, desolate, Poor and weak, Helplessly I lie, At Thy lotus feet and seek





## *{11}*

So long, I depended on me, I met with fall and failure. Discarded, dishonoured, And dejected I was sure.

*{12}* 

Beholden to my despair That has attached me, With Thee and set me Free from pain and glee.

{13} Hold me fast, O God, In Thy steady grip, As sands below my feet Every moment slip.

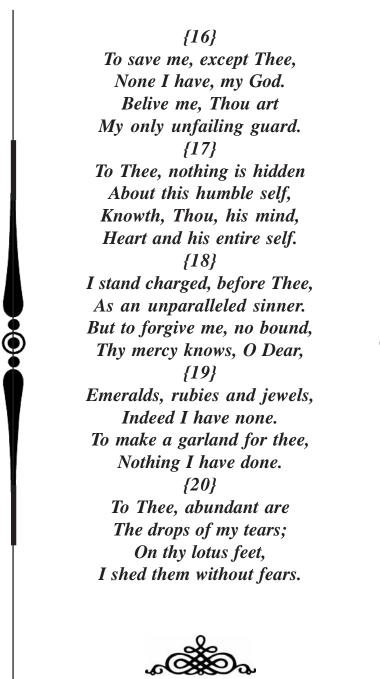
*{14}* 

Myself I am surrounded, By mighty illusions. Indeed to me, they are Like unpassable oceans,

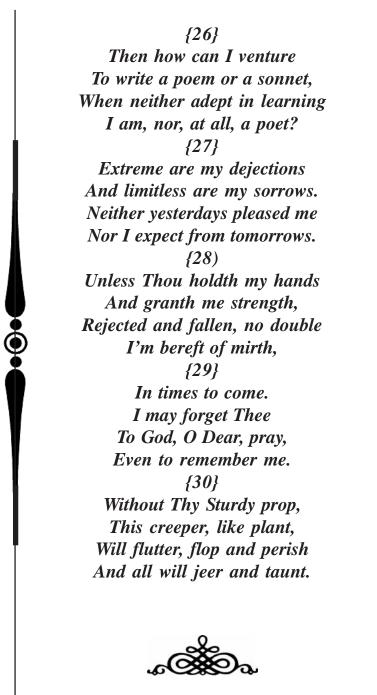
*{*15*}* 

I fear, O God and tremble And despaired I stand, Like Thy creatures of helpless And powerless brand.





*{21}* Fears, I don't have, Despite my sins so great, For Thy power to forgive Is of greater rate {22} In fact, proud I am, For my nefarious deed. But thy forgive me, Thou art more pound indeed. *{23}* How to pray to Thee, I know not Thy glory, O Father. Emotions overfill my heart And tongue begins to quiver, *{24}* Being tied in the mouth, No words to express, I have for Thy mighty form And Thy glorious dress. {25} In Thy reverence, when Gods, Goddesses and the Sun, The Moon, with all its heavenly Bodies, are in the run,



{31} Arjuna's<sup>1</sup> chariot Thou drovest to victory; Mira's<sup>2</sup> dances Thou sawst with ecestacy {32} To enjoy Sura's<sup>3</sup> songs, Thou sat all times; Attentive Thou wert To Rai Dasa's<sup>4</sup> rhymes.

Note :

1. Arjuna :- The most beloved devotee of God Shri Krishna who drove his chariot in the battle of Mahabharat and got him out victorious against Kaurvas. Who were Arjunas kith kin am refused Pandaas their shares in the kingdom.

2. The Rajput Princess who devoted her life in the love and worship of God Shri Krishna In her devotion she used to dance before his statue Sri Krishna the God, used to appear before her to see her dances.

3. Sur :- The blind devotee of God, Shri Krishna. He composed one and a quarter lakhs of songs in the praise of God, Shri Krishna.

4. Rai Das is another devotee of the God, a cobbler, by profession. He had composed many song in the reverence of God Shri Krishna.



*{*33*}* In Thy supreme glory, Benevolence and might And Thy peerless power To protect the right, *{34}* To sing Thy praise And befitting words to say, My throat is choked, And my voice knows on way. *{*35*}* To get to Thee I do try, But so great is Thy sway, That illusions surround, deceive and divert me a way. *{36}* Still I hesitate, fall, Rise, falter and devise, In the path of Thy love I amuse and agonise. *{*37*}* How compassionate and considerate Thou art in Thy dealings That endless Thou extended Her sari, at Dropadi's callings. Lady's wearing in Bharat specially. Note : Dropadithe Queen of Pandavas and relative of Lard Shri



Krishna. When Pandavas lost her in gambling go Kaurvas, Dushashn, one of ......

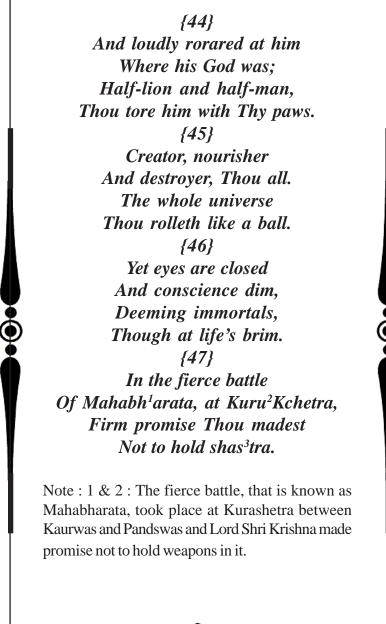
{38} That tired Dus hasan, while Pulling to make her naked. Thus saved her honour And ended his plan, so wicked. {39} I pray to Thee, O God, So they may not waste, As they are my tears, befitting to Thy taste, {40} For, to Thee, dearest are Those who are humble And helpless in the world, here, like a bubble.

Kaurvas dragged her out and wanted to make her naked by pulling her clothes from her body There upon she called God Shri Krishna Who extended her sari (Indian dress for ladies) endlessly.<sup>1</sup> Dushashan was tired of snatching away her clothes and making her naked.



*{41}* Sweetest of all sweets And tenderness personified, In might no parallel, And hardness identified. *{42}* Thou art the patron And God of all. With folded hands, I stand At Thy beck and call *{43}* For the sake of Prah<sup>1</sup>lada Thou emerged from the pillar, When full of fury, Harnak<sup>2</sup>yashap Held him, as a killer Note: 1 & 2: The giant king Prahlad was the son of Harnakshyap. Prahlad was his son but the dearest devotee of Lord Rama, which his father did not like, as he used to say that the himself was God. But Prahlad did not change him. At last Harnakashyap took up his sward and asked him where his Ram was Prahlad replied, "Everywhere" Then he asked "Is He also in this pillar"? The reply came 'Yes' Thereupon he hurled a blow from his sword on the pillar. Then the God appeared from the pillar, half lion & half man and tore Harnakashyap with his paws and killed him.







*{48}* But to keep the words Of Bhi<sup>1</sup>sma, Thou broke Thy own, As wheel in hand, rushed at him, Having changed Thy tone. *{49}* With courage and joy, Inded it overfills my heart, For the sake of Thy devotee, Thou discarded Thy part, *{50}* I pray to Thee, "I'm not at all A devotee, as Bhisma was. Yet in the path of Thy love Earnestly I look to Thy laws. 1. Bisma was the Commander - in Chief of

Kaurwa's army and he was also a devotee of God Shri Krishna. In the battle field he made promise that he would force Shri Krishna to hold weapons. It so happened that the God had to give up his vow and rushed to kill Bhisma with a wheel of the chariot in his hand. Thus for the sake of his devotee. He broke his own vow.



{51} In the horrible water battle, Gaj<sup>1</sup>raj, the elephant chief, Lost all courage and was Considerably filled with grief, {52} Against Gara<sup>2</sup>ha, crocodile King, And his Kith and Kin Deserted him, when the water Came up to his chin.

Note : 2- Graha was the king of crocodiles. When Gajraj went to drink water in the river the crocodile king caught hold of his leg and began to drag him inside the river water. Then the fierce battle took place between the two. Sometimes crocodile King succeeded in dragging him in water and sometimes the Elephant king used to drag him outside. All the kith & Kin of he Elephant king helped him but they failed and the crocodile king dragged him inside the water. Heuce his kith & Kin left him, Then the elephant king cried to Lord Sri Krishna who saved him as said in the poem above

Note : 1- Gajraj was the forest King of all elephants (2) Was the king of crocodiles.



*{53}* 

Shorn of all the wordly help, A lotus he picked up from the water. Tears in his eyes, offered it to Thee O God, with remedies no better.

*{54}* 

Hoving completely surrendered His pride, dear and near, With his heart so sincere, He cried to Thee, without fear, {55} On his surrender and weepings, Thy resistance broke its moorings, To rescue him, no time Thou lost according to Thy bearings. {56} With Cha<sup>1</sup>kra in Thy hand, Thou cut the crocodile King, Having seen Thy unlimited mercy, In Thy praise, D<sup>1</sup>ve<sup>2</sup>as began to sing.

Note : Chakra-Sudarshan, the weapon of God Shri Krishna (2) Devas mean Gods



{57} Against the declared invincible Masters of the warfare, Like Bhish<sup>1</sup> ma, Doo<sup>2</sup>rna and Kar<sup>8</sup>na To stand who could dare, {58} To fight to, kill them And to make them<sup>4</sup> free God yet Arju<sup>5</sup> na's chariot Thou drovest to victory. {59} Mira<sup>6</sup>s dances Thou sawst With great ecstacy, Engrossed in Thee, when Surrendered at Thy mercy.

Note : (1-3) Were the chieftains of the Kaurvas army and held the command of the Kaurvas army4 stand for the Pandavas.

Note : 5- Arjuna – One of the five Pandavas and the chief devotee of God Shri Krishna.

6- The Rajput princess who devoted her life in the rupreme devotion of God Shri Krishna and discarded worldly attachments.



*{60}* **Revealed** Thyself to her With Thy supreme glory And saved her for ever Form Ra<sup>2</sup>na's fury. *{61}* Dressed in garments, Yellow, green, blue and red, Flute in Thy hand And peacock crown on Thy head, *{62}* To enjoy Sura's melodies, Unfailingly, Thou sat all times, While Thy blind devotee, In Thy praise, composed his rhymes, 2- Rana was the husband of Mira. He was deadly against Mira for her devotion to God Shri Krishna and planned to destroy her. Then Shri Krishna came to her rescue and saved the princess. 3- The most renowned poet of Hindi litature and more reowred as a great devotee to God Shri Krishna.



18 An Offering To Lord Krishna



*{63}* Many immortal poems, On his behalf, Thou composed, Wherein such exquisite Quality of Poetry was exposed, *{64}* As in human memory Was neither made nor attempted. Indubiously beyond reach They are, only to be covetted. *{65}* Ka<sup>1</sup>re Thy endeared most Muslim devotee, went to see Thy glimpses in Thy holy Temple of Shri Jagann<sup>2</sup> athpuri. *{66}* At Thy door-step stopped Was, he, by Thy Hindu Puj<sup>3</sup>ari, Saying, "Being a Muslim, Connot enter the temple of Shri H<sup>4</sup>ari." Note : 1- Kare a beloved devotee of God Shri Krishna, 2 Jaggannathpuri is on the coast of the bay of Bengal. There stands very ancient temple of God Shri Krishna. Baldeo and Subhadra. 3- Temple worshipper. 4- God Shri Krishna.



*{67}* Down sat Kare dejected. But with unshakeable devotion, Profuse tears in his eyes And heart in Thy meditation, *{68}* To Thee he addressed, "If Thou Art the God of Hindus alone, Then, by the temple Pujari, to him, Right behaviour was shown. *{69}* "And should nt have a grudge And crave a claim on Thee, For a Muslim I'm indeed And wrongly aspired to see" *{70}* "Thy vision, but if Thou art The God of the whole Universe, Full right I've to catch thy sight And with Thee to converse." *{71}* To Thee my God, While drowning at Thy Kanire,<sup>1</sup> Shedding tears, impatiently Thus cried Kare Note : 1- Border

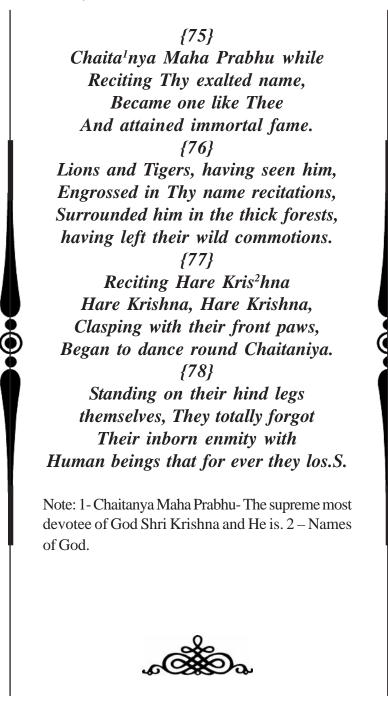


"Mush<sup>1</sup>fiq, Sha<sup>2</sup>fiq, Ra<sup>3</sup>fiq Dil<sup>4</sup>dost Ham<sup>5</sup>are Shri Krish<sup>6</sup>na Gov<sup>7</sup>ind Hare Mu<sup>8</sup>rare" {73} Having heard his prayer, O God, Thy patience exhausted. Between Kare and Thee No distance a moment lasted. {74} Thou appeared in person And held him in Thy embrace And disappeared with Thy devotee In Thy usual grace.

## Notes :

- 1. Kind
- 2. Kind
- 3. Friend
- 4. Bosom Friend
- 5. My own
- 6-8. Names of God Shri Krishna.





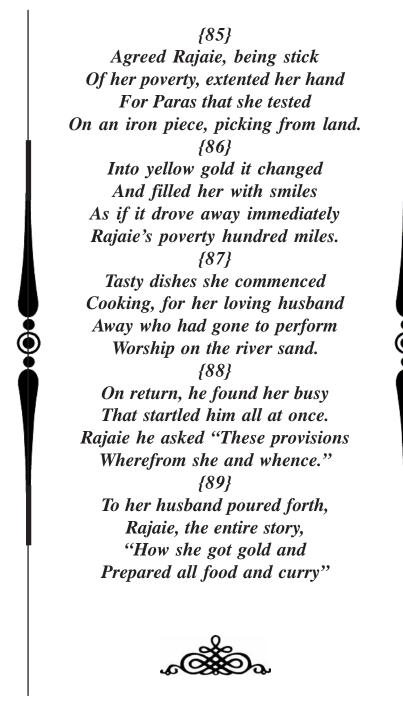


*{79}* Namdeo Thy favourite, Exceedingly poor no doubt he was. But to him not an iota Of dejection, poverty could cause. *{80}* Shri Krishna, Thy soothing name, Always he used to shout, Overjoved with Thy spiritual ecstacy, Even he moved about. *{81}* With Bhagwa<sup>2</sup>to's spouse, his wife, Raj<sup>3</sup>ie was be-friended And requisite help to her From time to time was extended. Note : 1- A great devotee to Lord Shri Krishna. 2-Arich man of Nam Deo's village 3-Rajaie the name of the wife of Nam Deo

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*{82}* As Bhagwata, the Brahman, possessed A piece of peculiar Paras-<sup>1</sup> Store, With its touch converted iron Into gold, to other, without having shown. *{83}* One day Bhagwata's wife Took pity on Rajaies poverty, That to her husband Nam Deo Never caused any anxiety. *{84}* Confided she with Rajie Quietly, Lest she be not heard "Sister, take my Paras And make gold," thus she whispered. Note : 1-A kind of stone. Its mere touch can convert iron into gold.





*{90}* Unaffected remained Nam Deo And said "All provision here piled, Will serve no purpose to us, Having been completely defiled." *{91}* "Of course gladly and freely, To others, they can be offered as charity," To the river, with Paras, he returned Immediately, To recite Thy name, for piety. *{92}* Having noticed delay in the return Of the Paras, Bhagwata's wife, To Rajaie's house ran considering. It, a problem of death and life. *{93}* Demanded back her Paras. But Rajaie Sadly replied to her That Paras, Nam Deoji took, To the side of the river. *{94}* She hurried back to Bhagwata Who when heard the whole matter, Swiftly paced to the river For the Paras, to meet the latter.



*{95}* When face to face came both. Nam Deo Ji greeted him well. But Bhagwata did not relish And in anger soon he fell. *{96}* Spread his hand for Paras, But Nam Deo told him all at once "His stone he threw in the river For to own it, was sheer non sense." *{97}* Shacked was Bhagwata, beyond measure And said nothing, except why. Thereupon replied Nam Dao 'Disgrace It is to Him Hence he should n't try" *{98}* On Bhagwatas insistence for his Paras, Some stones Nam Deo began to touch. All turned into goes proving That the glory of thy name was such. *{99}* Uplifted, now no doubt I'm, As my frustrations are dispelled, In definite superiority, Thy name To human wealth, I've held.

*{100}* In the sphere of my heart, Down deep I've planted Thy love, But fear I, it may not die, unless, Thou saveth it against times rub. *{101}* To God Shri Krishna, The peurless flute player, Most reverently I offer My heartiest prayer, *{102}* For Thou art the soul Consolation to Thy devotees In their troubles and to set Them free from anxieties. *{103}* I bow at Thy lotus feet, O Bestower of all pleasures. Thou art all knowledge And Thou art all treasures, *{104}* O Shy<sup>1</sup> am Thou art, like Unfading flowers, to Thy devotees And from Thee, alone Emerge all enchanting beauties. Note : 1- Another name of God Shri Krishna

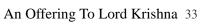
*{105}* O Ghan<sup>2</sup>shyam, to the worried hearts Certainly Thou art the repose. To Thy devotees, perennial blisses Always, from Thee, expose *{106}* When Thy devotees Remember Thee, ceaselessly All Thy patience to resist Exhausts immediately. *{107}* Unmindful of all hesitations, Thou appearth presently. And all their troubles, Thou removeth immediately. *{108}* indubiosly Thy sight Keeps Thy devotees happy, Who, ever in the recitation Of Thy name, are busy. *{109}* Pray, offer me the love Of Thy ceaseless devotion, And in the temple of my heart Pray, show me Thy vision.



*{110}* Thou art the soul support To my worried life. Kindly raise me, above The worldly strife. *{111}* From Thee, all Thy devotees Receive perennial strength. And from Thee, to them Emnates all heavenly mirth. *{112}* My reverence to Thee, O Kana<sup>1</sup>hiya Behari, My respects to Thee, O Moh<sup>2</sup>an Murari. *{113}* My homage to Thee, O God Khar<sup>3</sup>ari, My compliments to Thee, O Radha<sup>4</sup> Behari Note: 1 to 4 are the different names of God Almidhly by which. He is affectanately remembered by his devotees.



*{114}* Successful Thou maketh Always their lives. Hence for Thee, alone, Each devotee strives. {115} Let my devotion for Thee Always, be firm in my heart Like bees, to the lotus, I yearn to perform my part. *{116}* On Thee I want to fix My concentration, O Murli<sup>1</sup> Manohar Engrossed in Thee I wish, To remain O Shyam<sup>2</sup> Sunder. {117} Eager for Thee, ever I wish To be, O Murli Manohar, After my demise, I want to be Mingled with Thee, O Shyam Sunder. Note : 1 & 2 are the names of God Shri Krishna.

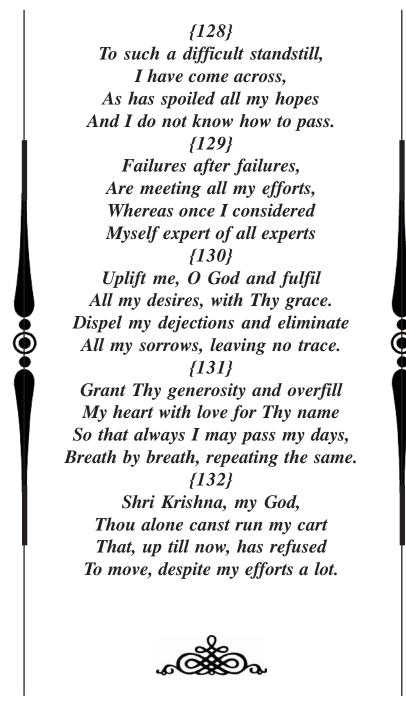




*{118}* Grant me Shri Krishna Thy ever-increasing love, With unmitigating devotion And burning desire to rub *{119}* Always, my head, reverently On Thy lotus feet. Give me the unquenchable thirst, Thy vision to meet. *{120}* O God, I bow before Thee With tears in my eyes "If I love Thee for fear of hell" Thus I raise loud cries, *{121}* "Let me suffer the atrocities Of hell, no objections have I. But if, for Thy vision, the principle Of Thy love, I never defy," {122} "If only to see Thy glory, I pray to Thee, day and night, Then pray, ever please my eyes By never departing from my sight"

*{123}* No moment I wish to pass In Thy unbearable separation, For always I long to enjoy The trance of Thy supreme devotion. *{124}* Tears rolling down my eyes And my heart attached to Thee, Mind to Thy unshaken devotion, With burning desire to see {125} Shri Krishna, my reverent God, With all Thy supreme glory That hither-to has been denied, Despite my hair turning hoary. *{126}* To the dejection, caused to me. I am wholly indebted, For always deeming myself doer Never I was frustrated, *{127}* In all my success and renowns, I forgot that Thou were the only cause. This, Oh, I realized fully well, When, at every step, I had to pause."





*{133}* Having tried all my strength, My well-wishers and their support Bodly I failed, But now I lie At Thy lotus feet and Thy love I import. *{134}* Thou art my God, Thou art my life Thou art to me above My sons and wife *{135}* Thou art my health, Thou art my breath, Thou art to me, Above all the wealth *{136}* Solemnly Thou declared to Narda, The sage "I live not in the Heaven, Nor in the hearts of Yogis<sup>2</sup>, My abode can be seen" Note : 1. The most beloved Maharish to God Shri Krishna 2. Yogis-supreme devotees who are busy in constant meditation on God.

*{137}* Whereever my devotees, Sing my glorious praise, There alone there alone, I pass my nights and days." *{133}* Shri Krishna, O God, I pray to Thee. Always in Thy presence, I long to be. *{139}* Thy separation, so severe, I cannot bear. I cannot live, unless Thy voice I hear. *{140}* Shri Krishna, O God, I pray to Thee. The petals of my heart I offer to Thee. *{141}* By the throbs of my heart, I remember Thee. Earnestly all these I do, Mostly to get to Thee

*{142}* Enough, enough, what further More, can I sing? In Thy service, what offerings Can I bring? *{143}* Save these broken words, From my heavy heart. To Thee, O God, This is my humble part *{144}* My prayer to Thee, O God, Shall never be complete, Unless, before Shri Radha<sup>1</sup>Rani I bow at Her lotus feet {145} At the lotus feet of Shri Radha Rani, most reverently, I bow, Mother, indeed, I know not At all, as to worship Thee how *{146}* Yet the prayer of Shri Krishna I venture to write Kindly granth me strength To make my line bright. Note : Goddess Mother feternal spouse to God Shri Krishna

{147} father, unless, Thou granth me the requisite strength Confident, I am to fail In my attempt, at length. *{148}* But pretty sure I am For Thy support, at the same time For God's prayer, I am going To reproduce into rhyme. *{149}* These are Chandrika's offerings To God, Almighty Who alone hath power Glory and total piety *{*150*}* To graciously forgive, forget And again to raise And to generously grant His vision at Him to gaze. CHANDRIKA PRASAD SRIVASTAV : } END { : -

