

The Opening Chant

Vande gurunam caranaravinde
Sandarsita svatma sukhava bodhe
Nih sreyase jangalikayamane
Samsara halahala mohasantyai
Abahu purusakaram
Sankhacakrasi dharinam
Sahasra sirasam svetam
Pranamami patanjalin

Translation

I bow to the lotus feet of the Gurus
Who awaken the insight of pure being,
Which is the complete absorption into joy,
acting like the jungle physician
To eliminate the delusion caused by the poison of samsara
I prostrate before the sage Patanjali who has thousands of
radiant white heads (as the divine serpent, Ananta) and who
has as far as his arms assumed human form, holding a
conch shell (representing divine sound), a wheel of fire
(discus of light representing infinite time)