

Chapter 40
O great master, all directions
praise Your glory

You protect the pilgrims from the
fear of thieves.

Save the *Sharanas* (suppliants)
from the trouble of anger etc.

Keeping me at your Lotus-feet
protect me.

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O Merciful *master*, You yourself gives knowledge of self to all beings. The knowledge of Brahma that you advise gets fixed in the purified mind. Abandoning the dual-thought, one forgets the desire of senses and sense objects. If one meditates upon pure non-duality, one will get precious jewels of knowledge. One's true nature is highly impossible without Guru's grace in which there is walk without feet, there is speech without tongue and there is sight without eyes. Therefore, one should worship *Sadguru* to gain one's real nature. Worldly people usually say, 'What's the necessity of gaining self-knowledge? What benefit do we get by meditating upon it? What lacks in our sense pleasures?' Siddharudha says to them, 'You all desire for happiness, don't you? You try to earn sense objects to be happy. You will totally give it (happiness) up if it is mixed with misery. So there must be misery in sense objects because the happiness you get from the sense objects is transitory. Therefore, seeking happiness in sensual pleasures is a waste. The happiness which is imperishable, never changing etc is called bliss of true nature (Swarupananda). Once, one attains this eternal bliss, one will not go for sensual pleasures. Therefore, attaining the true nature, one should achieve the end of misery. Recollect the happiness that you enjoyed in your deep sleep and think over it. There is bliss only in deep sleep, and no misery at all. Tendencies of the mind are dispelled in that state. One must know Him who witnesses this

state'. The devotees, present there
exclaimed with joy that they were

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blessed. They further told Him that
He showed them the way. Then
they saluted at the feet of *Sadguru*.
Now, hear the story of Kind
Sadguru.

People used to come to
Siddharshrama for the Shivaratri
festival in bullock carts from far off
villages. Once four bullock carts
set out from a certain village. There
were many women seated in the
bullock carts with their children.
Four men (belonging to them) were
coming on foot with them. The
women folk were decorated
themselves with valuable
ornaments such as bangles,
necklace etc. It was evening. There
were none except four men on the
road. About twenty-four robbers
came out suddenly from the bushes
nearby. They had their weapons in
their hands. They were cruel. The

women and the children were
frightened by the terrible
appearance of the robbers. Waving
their weapons with their hands,
they said, 'Catch them, beat them.'
The robbers first caught those four
men who were walking on foot and
the charioteers and tied each of
them to the trees. The women and
children remained in the bullock
carts. Seeing the robbers, they
began to lament. They saw that
their men were tied to the trees. So
they did not understand what to do.
Some of them tried to hide their
valuable ornaments. The others
covered their children with the end
of a saree (Which is put over the
shoulder). Some others asked the
robbers not to make the children
cry, but they themselves cried out.
One of them said, 'Having kept my
ornaments at home, I would have
come. Who had expected the
arrival of the robbers? I lost my
ornaments for the festival' 'It would
be a disgrace to none but to
Siddharudha because we've been
robbed when we are on the way to
the festival of Aarudha'. All
together, at this time prayed to
Sidharudha, 'O Sadgurunatha,
come running. People say that You
are the guardian of the devotees
and the helpless. Who is there, at
this time, to protect us? If You
don't save at this time, who is here
nearby to protect us? The thieves

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have tied our men to the trees. O
Guru, think over this. Many
devotees will come to You to have
Your darshan, Perhaps, You are
busy there to give them Your
darshan. Don't you come over
here? We, the helpless have
surrendered to You only.
Therefore, come quickly and
protect us. Here, the thieves really
fleece us. They are threatening by
holding the weapons in their hands.
Having seen their terrible faces, the
children are trembling with fear.
Come immediately. O *Sadguru*,
protector of the devotees, O
Merciful, none is here to guard us
without You. If You protect us,
we'll serve until our last breath. We
always sing 'Your fame' In this
way, all the women were lamenting
for their trouble. Having embraced
their children, all the women were
shouting the name of Siddharudha.
In the meanwhile, they all heard a
roaring sound as if it was a thunder
of the cloud in the rainy season.
Having climbed the bullock carts,
the thieves dragged the women and
said, 'We cut your necks.' Then
they began to snatch their valuable
ornaments like bangles etc. When
they were immersed in such a work
they heard the frightening roar.
They saw a ferocious form in the
east. They saw a man coming as
tall as a pine tree and his eyes were
shining like the sun. He was a dark-
faced and red tongued. His nails
looked like swords and body was
blue. The thieves were greatly
frightened by this marvelous
appearance which looked as if it
was swallowing them. Both the
women and the children were
looking at the same figure from the
bullock carts. It looked like a
superior form to them also. Its face
looked like *Sadguru*. The women
were very happy and they said,

`Siddha *Sadguru* came to save us.
There is no one equal to Him in
this world' That appearance was
terrible to the thieves. Having lost
their courage, they stood neutral.
The weapons in their hands slipped
down themselves. They were
shaking with fear. They tried to run
but in vain. Their legs failed to
move on. The ferocious man came
near them as though he was very
angry with them.

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Two thieves were climbing the
bullock cart. Holding them with the
hand, He threw them on a tree.
They began to hang from the
branches of the tree. The rest of the
thieves saw the dreadful action and
becoming dull, they fell on the
ground. They prayed to Goddess,
`O Bhadrakali, protect us. If we
escape from this man, we'll
construct a temple for you. O
Mother, come immediately and
release us from this ghost. We'll
give you religious vow that we
begged for, and worship you till
our death'. The man asked them if
they were worshipping the Goddess
Bhadrakali. He further told them
that she was behind Him and see
her. The goddess, who stood
behind Him said, `When you are

tormenting His devotees, how should I rescue you? He is the substratum for all Goddesses. We get strength from Him. It is He who gives us strength. He himself is situated in all creatures. No one is greater than He (is). When the devotees of such Jagadeesh are going to His place, you're troubling them. Who guards you? Therefore, soon go to Hubballi, approach Siddharudha and surrender to Him. Then only, this man leaves you. Until then, he won't leave you' Thus, Bhadrakali spoke and the strong man then woke up all those thieves and made them run to Hubballi. If they looked backward, they could see the ferocious appearance. They reached Siddhashrama running. The moment they saw Siddha *Sadguru*, they began to quiver with fever. 'The great form has sat quietly in the small form. That great form had the same form. The strong man looked very ferocious but this man (*Sadguru*) looks mild and gentle'. This man certainly kills us'. Thus saying they returned. But wherever they went, there they saw that cruel man. They thought that He would not leave them if they did not surrender to *Sadguru*. So, they came back again to Siddharudha. Having fallen at the feet of *Sadguru* 'O Merciful, Your ghost is rushing to swallow us. Please, protect us from it' Thus they said to *Sadguru*. Siddharudha said to them, 'Don't be afraid

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of anything. Your wicked deeds have come in that form in-order to scare you. From now onwards give-up stealing. Follow your own religion (study of self) as prescribed in rules. If you behave as I've told you, all ignorance will be removed and lust, anger etc run away'. As soon as they heard the gracious words, their mind turned towards the devotion. They said to Him, 'O Merciful, You've guarded us' Greatness of *Sadguru's* feet is immeasurable. Once His feet touch the head, wicked qualities go away themselves and the person surrendered becomes virtuous. Since then, the thieves became the devotees of *Sadguru* and served *Sadguru* devotedly. They took up the job of protecting the devotees who are on the way to Siddhashrama.

The women folk saw the thieves going towards Hubballi and they felt happy. They then began to praise Siddharudha, 'O Great man, Siddharudha, we can't understand Your greatness altogether. O Friend, Merciful, You protected us. How can we describe Your fame? You've protected a number of devotees. You proved it today having released us from the wicked hands. You spread Your name and fame in all directions'. Thus, they were speaking among themselves. Then they untied their men who were tied to the trees. They all went to Siddhasharma and there they met Siddharudha. They gave him a detailed account of what had happened on the way 'O *Sadgurunatha*, what a terrible form you wore in order to protect us You endured a lot for us' Hearing this, He said, 'O Women, it is your good will that made *Sadguru* wear that form to protect you. Look there.

They themselves were the thieves.
Having attained saintliness from
your association, now they are
serving here. Anyway, *Sadguru*
made a wonder' Hearing this story,
they all did *jayakara*. However we
can't describe the greatness of
Siddharudha'. They were speaking
thus.

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Now, hear the secondary meaning
of the story. Jeevas (individual
souls) went for the festival of
Pratyagatma and they used bullock
carts as *anthakaran chatustaya*
(mind, intellect, conscious and ego)
to go to Hubballi Men
accompanied them as sadhan
chatustaya. The thieves as twenty
four tattwas came on the way to rob
the valuable ornaments as the
qualities of true nature. They first
tied the sadhan chatustays to the
trees of *samsara* (mundane life)
and made them helpless. Jeevas
then prayed to *Pratyagatma* to
protect them. Soon He came
wearing a huge and terrible form.
On seeing the twenty-fifth tatwa
(*Pratyagatma*) the remaining
tattwas fall down defective. When

these tattwas prayed to their goddess, Bhadrakali, to protect them, she manifested herself in *Atma* (soul) and said to them, 'I myself depend upon His support. You, being against Him, who supports you? Now, go to Siddharudha who is Sagun Brahma Himself, surrender to Him and be happy there' Accordingly, they went to Siddharhrama to surrender to Him. But He is very large with gentle form. On seeing Him they ran away with fear. As they saw a large form every where, they came back to Sagun-Brahma helplessly and began to live with them happily. Jeevas released sadhan-chatustayas. They took the darshan of *Sadguru*. They also saw the tattwas serving *Sadguru*. All will attain Brahmananda (Eternal Bliss) by hearing Jeeva-Shivaikya (unification of Jeeva with Shiva). *Sadguru* Himself is Eternal Bliss. Nirgun *Sadguru* has incarnated in human form to cross the individual souls from the ocean of mundane life, which is the cycle of birth and death. Here Shivadas dedicates the fortieth chapter of 'Sri Siddharudha Kathamrita' at the Lotus feet of Sri Siddharudha, which burns all the sins by just hearing.

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Sri Ganeshaya Namah | Sri
Sadguru Siddharudhayanamah ||