

Om....

**Gurur Brahma Gurur Vishnu, Gurur Devo Maheshwaraha
Gurur Saakshaath Parabrahma, Tasmai Shree Gurave Namaha**

We bow to Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva, and, indeed the Almighty, who is the ultimate Guru.

**Aangikam Bhuvanam Yasya, Vachikam Sarva Vaangmayam
Aaharyam Chandra Thaaradhi, Tham Numah Saathvikam Shivam**

Whose body is the entire Universe, whose words are all literature, whose jewellery is the moon and the stars, to you we bow, O pure Lord Shiva

**Khantaanyat Lambayat Geetam, Hastana Artha Pradakshayat
Chakshubhyam Darshayat Bhaavam, Paadaabhyam Taalam Acherait**

Keep the song in your throat
Let your hands bring out the meaning
Your glance should be full of expression
While your feet maintain the rhythm

**Yatho Hasta-s Thatho Drishti, Yatho Drishti-s Thatho Manaha
Yatho Manas Thatho Bhaavo, Yatho Bhaava-s Thatho Rasaha**

Where the hand goes, the eyes should follow
Where the eyes are, the mind should follow
Where the mind is, there the expression will be brought out
Where the expression is, there the rasa or flavor will be experienced (by dancer and audience alike).

**Dharmyam yashasyam aayushyam, hitham buddhi vivardhanam
lokopadesha jananam, naatyam ethadh bhavishyathi
na thath gnanam na thath shilpam, na saa vidhya na saa kalaa
naasau yogo na thath karma, naatye asmin yanna drshyathe**

Dance confers spirituality, success, and longevity. It promotes the growth of pure intelligence. It generates worldly wisdom, and will always be in vogue. There is no purer knowledge, no purer sculpture, no purer learning, no purer art, neither yoga nor karma, than that found in dance.

**Om Sahanaavavathu Sahanau bhunakthu Sahaveeryam karavaavahai
Tejasvinaavadhee thamasthu maa vidhvishaavahai-i
Om Shanthi Shanthi Shanthihi**

May we all be protected; may we all be nourished; may we work together with vigor; may our intellect be sharpened; let there be no animosity between us. We pray for peace.