

ASPECTS OF THE DIVINE MOTHER

In Holy Mother and the Chandi

A New Oratorio with Words and Music
by Swami Atmavidyananda

LIBRETTO

Part 1: Praise of Holy Mother

Blessed is the Mother's grace – Soprano Solo
Rebecca Rasmussen

How great is Mother's fortitude, how blessed is her grace?
She harbors no annoyance, not the slightest trace.

She listens to so many coming day and night,
doing good to everyone and helping with their plight.

Her mother's heart took in all castes, no judgement in the least.
So people from all lands and faiths, the children of the West and East.

She treated each person as her own child, she welcomed them with loving grace.
Her all-embracing mother-heart made family of the human race.

A Veil so Thick – Chorus

The Holy Mother wrapped a veil of maya around herself,
A veil so thick that no one could see through it.
By this veil was shrouded her spiritual greatness.
We could not catch a glimpse of Her true nature.

Meditate on Mother's Life – Alto/Mezzo solo
Tuzy Ellis

Meditate on Mother's life, there is no greater purifier.
An incarnation most unique, no parallel exists through history.
Mother has been born this time to awaken womanhood.
To revive the wondrous shakti in the whole world.
The grace of Shakti is essential for all our accomplishments.
Meditate on Mother's life to purify your heart and mind.

**Master and Mother are really one (Sri Ramakrishna and Holy Mother)
Alto and Soprano Solos: Tuzy Ellis and Rebecca Rasmussen**

The Master and the Mother were in essence really one
Propitiate the Mother and the Master will be won.
Pray to Mother, be assured the prayer will be passed through,
Ramakrishna being pleased will shower grace on you.
Primordial power manifested in the Holy Mother,
tis she that holds the key to knowing Brahman and no other
Prayers are pleasing to the Mother and she will be our aide,
in dispelling ignorance, the illusory blockade.
Take refuge in the mother, it is she who holds the key
To shedding the illusion that obscures reality
Ramakrishna, being pleased, will shower his grace on you.

Part 2: Teachings of Holy Mother

**Have a fixed time – Alto/Mezzo Solo
Ariel Pisturino**

Have a fixed time for repeating God's name.
Its power is not understood.
As a clock goes ticking, so we should repeat God's name.
Continue repeating the Name of the Lord,
nothing more needs to be done.
The name of the Lord is just like a small seed that grows to become a tall banyan tree.
From repeating God's name comes in time moods divine,
it brings love and devotion supreme.
As a clock goes ticking, so we should repeat God's name.
Continue repeating the Name of the Lord,
nothing more needs to be done.
The Mantra will purify body and mind Your japa will purify you.
As the wind blows away clouds that hide the bright sun, so will japa dispel worldliness.
As a clock goes ticking, so we should repeat God's name.
Continue repeating the Name of the Lord,
nothing more needs to be done.
By japa the power of organs of sense will gradually be quite subdued.
By making a habit of chanting God's name Realization is surely attained.
As a clock goes ticking, so we should repeat God's name.

God's Name, Japa and Karma – Chorus

Due to past deeds we have to suffer.
 But by repeating God's name, we can lessen their intensity.
 The effects of karma can be counteracted to a great extent by japa and austerities.
 As the wind blows away the clouds
 the name of God will blow away the clouds of worldliness that cloud our mind.
 One becomes pure repeating God's name.
 May our mind and body become pure with daily japa. See this tiny tiny seed,
 from it grows a mighty banyan tree.
 What a tiny seed is God's name.
 From it in time will come devotion and pure love.
 From it comes spiritual consummation.

Work – Alto Solo

Tuzy Ellis

Always keep active, work for the Lord.
 Bondage of work is removed by the work.
 It is best for the mind to be busy with work.
 Your work helps to fend off those idle wicked thoughts.
 Fend off those thoughts, wicked idle thoughts.
 Work helps to fend off those wicked idle bad thoughts.
 Everything happens by God's will and yet,
 we work since God's will is expressed through our acts.
 Meditate every morning and evening,
 this keeps your work on the right path.
 Meditate mornings, Meditate evenings.
 this keeps your work on the right path.

Faults – Chorus

Fret not, my child, for human birth is full of lots of suffering,
 and one must endure it patiently.
 Take the name of God. Take the Name of God.
 Just think of Ramakrishna and pray to him sincerely.
 Your mental sin is not a sin in this, the kali yuga.
 Free your mind from worries on this point.
 Do not be afraid. Do not fear, my child.

For this is the kali yuga, so mental sins are not sins.

The mind is restless by its nature, as are all our senses,
It will have both good and evil thoughts.
Practice is the remedy. Practice faithfully.
The name of God is powerful. Let not your lapses trouble you.

All human beings make mistakes, but you should not notice them.
Otherwise your own mind gets polluted.
What could be your gain in that? It harms you alone.
Count not the faults of others, those thoughts leave impressions on your mind.

If you want peace of mind, my children, give up finding other's faults.
Better to be finding your own faults.
No one is a stranger. Every one's your own.
Accept all as your own. The whole world is your very own.

Love God Alone – Chorus

Blessed indeed is the one who can love God alone.
Always do your duty to others,
but love you must give to God alone.
Worldly love always brings in its wake misery.
But there is no suffering in loving God.
Love God alone.

Fear Not My Child – Chorus

Fear not my child the Master is there behind you.
I am your Mother what is there you could fear.
I am also with you.
Why should you be frightened?
Behind you is the Master and I the Mother too.
Life in the world is not removed from God.
He is everywhere.
Is there a place where He's not?
Be thee content wherever you may be.

If you call on Him, He'll lead you by the hand.
 Be free of worry, entrust your life to Me.
 The Master is protecting O why then should you fear.
 He is always watching He is always near.
 Depend upon the Master and you will have no fear.

Pray for Grace 6:8 version – Chorus

Pray for the grace of God for that is the one thing needful.
 Pray for grace; Grace is the one thing needful.
 Pray for grace; pray sincerely to God.
 Pray eagerly; Ask God for his grace.
 Pray eagerly; pray eagerly for grace.
 Call on the Lord for his grace.
 Call on the Lord who pervades all things,
 and he will shower his grace on you.
 He will shower his grace on you.

Life and Death – Chorus

How we pray to God for relief from pain,
 hoping that sorrow will vanish.
 Yet we apparently find no relief no relief from it,
 seemingly it is so.
 See that grief itself is a gift from God, a symbol of compassion.
 He who calls upon God and takes God's name has no fear of death.
 Great souls see that death is merely a play. Leaving the body, they laugh.
 What we think of as ours is left behind at the moment of death.
 Prominent thoughts in the mind determine our course after death.
 Think of your chosen ideal and you will certainly see Him.
 You will see your chosen ideal.

After Life – Chorus

Only our good and evil deeds follow us after death.
 Desires alone make us take yet another body.

The thought that is foremost in our mind before death,
 determines the course of our soul after death.

Thinking of the Master will certainly lead us to see our chosen ideal, our chosen ideal.

This vision may come in this life, in this very life,
or at least this blessed vision will come at the moment of death.

Part 3:Aspects of the Divine Mother:

Hail to the Goddess - School Anthem -Chorus

Hail to the Goddess of learning art and song.
We pray you grant us good hearts and voices strong.
By your grace will flower our creative power.
And through your will divine perfection with in us is manifested.
Hail to the Goddess, All Hail to Thee.
All dressed in white, how radiant is your face.
Embodiment of purity and grace.
We strive through learning to have thoughts inspiring.
And by your grace descending sweetly we will reach our goals completely.
Hail to the Goddess, all Hail to thee.
Pure sattva guna, the power that reveals.
That part of Maya that does not much conceal.
Consort of Brahma,
You're the bringer of all arts.
Oh, Knowledge learning music beauty You're our Mother Saraswati.
Hail to the Goddess,
All Hail to thee.

Praise and Prayers to Mother Lakshmi – Soprano

Rebecca Rasmussen

Praise to you, O Mother Lakshmi, dwelling here in earthly realm.
You, the source of sustenance, be ever at my helm.
Effects of Karma you alone to me can bring to light
And Mother you protect the world and make my future bright

Salutations to earth's mother,
Gladdening people like no other.
Hear my prayers, O please take notice,
You who sit upon the Lotus

Virtues all collect themselves where you have your dwelling
 All necessities of life and beauties beyond telling
 Shower like rain send to me your blessing
 Remove all obstacles from life and things I find distressing

Send your mercy, shower your grace
 With a glance from your sweet face
 Please remove all fear and terror
 Due to pain that's caused by error

I am helpless as can be, like a newborn child.
 But your mercy shall descend upon whom you have smiled
 And so I offer salutations through thought word and deed
 Knowing you will grant me wisdom which is all I need

You who grant me my desires
 Everything that I require
 Put me in the proper fashion
 To obtain your kind compassion

Kali Round: Chorus

Jai Kali, Kali Ma, Jai Ma

The Chandi:

Short Overture

4.1 Opening Story: Once upon a time

Recitative - Markandeya: Bass 1 Once upon a time a just king was forced to leave his kingdom by powerful adversaries both within and without. A merchant was likewise driven from his home by greedy family members. Both were wandering separately through the forest, until they met and shared their sad tales. Together they approached a sage and asked him for advice.

Recitative King, Sage,

I remain possessive / Creatures Gather Knowledge/Who is this Goddess?

King : Jon Keenan Oh noble sage we humbly bow and seek from you advice, for I and this fair merchant have similar dilemmas.

I remain possessive toward my kingdom that I have lost as if I have forgotten they're no longer mine.

This fellow has been humiliated by his children and wife, and still he feels affection, most exceeding affection for them.

We are both distressed, held by attachment to such things, even though we see their faults, attachments still remain.

How is it that we two fellows, who should know much better, can be so deluded even knowing its illusory nature?

Creatures Gather Knowledge

Norge Yip

Sage:

Creatures gather knowledge through their many sense perceptions.

This is how they formulate their feelings and conceptions.

In this way the animals and humans are the same.

Simple observations will now validate my claim.

Humans, like the animals for offspring do they yearn.

Surely, they expect to get some gratitude returned.

But instead by Mahamaya's power they are caught

Trapped by strong attachment, like a rope tied in a knot.

Mahamaya is the one who now deludes the world,

And causes Vishnu to be sleeping on the serpent curled.

She, the blessed goddess Mahamaya seizes minds.

With delusion, dumb and wise she easily binds.

She creates this universe, the moving and unmoving,

And liberation she bestows, our ignorance removing.

While causing us to cling to this impermanent creation,

Also, she's highest knowledge giving liberation.

Asuras represent the troubling aspects of our mind.

When Devi's called, she kills them all, and freedom we shall find.

Who is this Goddess:

King: Jon Keenan

Who is Mahamaya, this great goddess whom you call?

Tell me of her origin, her form, her works, and all?

Sage:Norge Yip

She Pervades All This:

She pervades all this, and so the world is her form.

And yet she issues from it to quell an evil storm.

Hear from me three stories which will illustrate

That she manifested power, glorious and great.

At the End of the Cosmic Day:

Sage: Norge Yip

At the end of the cosmic day, when the universe dissolved into the primordial ocean, the blessed lord Vishnu stretched out on the serpent Sesha and entered into meditative sleep.

Then two fearsome demons, the notorious Madhu and Kaitabha, issued forth from the wax in Vishnu's ears, just like destructive thoughts come into our mind.

Brahma: Joseph Garate

O Yogindra:

O Yogindra, the aspect of the mother who has settled over Vishnu's eyes. See how two asuras, Madhu and Kaitabha are intent on slaying me. Hear my salutations and prayer, and please awaken sleeping Vishnu so that he might slay these two asuras.

4.2 Brahma asks for help:Men's Quartet

You are the mantras of consecration

To all gods and to past generations. By you

Supporting this Universe, it has bloomed.

You are the protector by you it is consumed.

You are the Nectar of immortality
 Abiding as the transcendental totality.
 You, the creative force at the world's birth.
 Sustaining, destroying, all part of your mirth.

You're the great knowledge and also illusion.
 You're the great memory and great delusion.
 Whether true or untrue, whatever may be
 You are the power of all that we see.

Having extolled you, may Vishnu awaken.
 Defeat these asuras, I'll not be forsaken.
 Mashu and Kaitabha - may you confound
 With all your powers that are sure to astound.

Killing of Madhu and Kaitabha

Lord Vishnu Awaken:

Yogindra: Ariel Pisturino

Lord Vishnu, I command that you awaken from your slumber
 and do battle with these asuras who are two in number.

Vishnu battles Madhu and Kaitaba

Sage: Norge Yip

Madhu and Kaitabha: Joseph Buhler and Joseph Garate

Vishnu: Karl Whitmarsh

Sage: To save Lord Brahma Lord Vishnu awoke.
 But fighting these demons was not done with one big stroke.

Millenia passed and neither had won.
 So Mahamaya came round so she could have some fun.
 So, she confounded the pair with the pride of power.
 And now you'll see just how this trick will cause the two to glower.
 Their countenance soon turn quite dour. From arrogance
 And pride the two should be soon forced to cower.

Madhu and Kaitaba:

See us, Lord Vishnu, how mighty we are.
 As you will be done with soon, we'll grant you a boon.
 As we are stronger by far, you're not even on a par.

Vishnu:

The boon that I ask is to slay you right now.
 Up to you I will leave the where and the how.

Madu and Kaitabha: What do we do? What do we do? A loophole must be found.
 Here is a clue. Here is a clue. There is water all around.

Kaitabha:

We see that the world is all covered with water,
 where water is not is where you may slaughter.

Vishnu: Bass 3

My lap I believe will surely suffice; my discus will serve as the cutting device.

Long Ago Mahisa:**Sage: Norge Yip**

Long ago Mahisa, the demon chief,
 brought the Lord Indra and Devas to grief.
 They waged a war for one hundred years.
 Gods were then vanquished amidst demons' cheers.
 Brahma sought Vishnu and Shiva for aid
 To help the Devas to launch a crusade.

Brahma: Joseph Garate

This Mahisasura usurped all the posts
 Of Surya and Indra, the whole deva host.
 They roam like mere mortals, their powers all gone.
 They roam about with all their powers gone.

Vishnu:

Brahma and Shiva follow my example

From my countenance and yours issue forth
 A great radiance of shakti power. May all you other Gods
 Follow suit by issuing great light from your bodies.
 May our combined shakti power blaze forth.

Rejoice, Rejoice

Devas: Chorus

Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice. Manifested is the Devi,
 O Devi, please receive from us our weapons and our ornaments:

A trident from Lord Siva, The power over gunas;
 A discus from lord Vishnu the power over time.

The conch is from Varuna to get rid of ignorance,
 and awaken the awareness of divinity within.

Agni gives a spear to you of penetrating insight,
 and Vayu gives a bow and arrow to help you in your fight.

Ornaments and weapons, we now shower upon thee.
 Victory to the lion mounted glorious Devi.

Devi: Alto 2

Ah Ha Ha Ha Ha. I manifest as a mountain of power and light.

Killing of Mahisasura's Armies:

Devi: Ariel Pisturino

Sage: Norge Yip

Mahiasura: Scott Levin

Sage:

The asuras saw this great commotion and readied themselves for battle.

Mahisasura:

What is this great commotion?

Behold, it is a Radiant Being of feminine form.

She pervades the three worlds like a thunderstorm.

She bends the earth under her feet,
and with her crown the sky she greets.

When her bowstring resonates
The nether regions agitate.
Everywhere she penetrates
As thousand arms gesticulate.

Demon legions all get ready
for doing battle with this Devi.

Sage:

There upon, the battle began
between the Devi and demon clan.
Countless asuras with chariots many.
Generals, elephants, horses aplenty.
Each of them battled the Devi with weapons
trying to beat her and teach her a lesson.
But the great Devi showered all sorts of weapons.
When their armor was pierced, they were sent straight to heaven.
All the great generals lay stricken and dead.
So, Devas rejoiced as the warriors all fled.

From Heaven we shower our praises with flowers

Chorus:

From heaven we shower
our praises with flowers.
From every heaven
numbering seven
our praises we shower
With all sorts of flowers.
For the great generals lay stricken and dead
All of their warriors fled, all of their warriors immediately fled.

Killing of Mahisasura

Sage:

Elephants, chariots littered the field,
And yet Mahisasura still would not yield.

Mahisasura took Many Forms

Chorus:

With his army destroyed, Mahisasura himself came forth with his image transformed.
To frighten and destroy the Devi's forces he assumed his buffalo form.

Then He turned upon her lion throwing mountains with his terrible horns.

And the lashing of his tail caused a furious gale and oceans waves became airborne.

Ambika threw a noose, but a change in form allowed him to escape.

Mahisasura again changed forms. This time choosing to assume the body of a lion.

He continued to do battle with the Devi.

When she severed his head, he came out as a man, but The Devi just cut him to shreds.

But taking the form of an elephant he dragged the Devi's lion with his trunk.

The Devi chopped off his trunk and the buffalo form came again.

The Devi then decided that the time had come for this fellow to be thoroughly slain.

Bellow you Fool

Devi: Ariel Pisturino

Bellow, you fool, bellow for now while I drink this potion.

Behold now my form of supreme powerful cosmic power.

After I have slain you, the gods will cheer in this very place.

Now you are pinned down under my foot.

You cannot escape. I pierce you with my spear.

Aha! now your true form emerges from the mouth of your buffalo form.

Now I behead thee with my sword.

Asuras:

AH! Our leader is gone. We die of grief.

Sing Praises to Devi the Mother

Chorus: Sing Praises to Devi our Mother

Her beauty compares with no other.

Both seers and gods offer worship to her,
regarding her grace they concur.

Her splendor cannot be described.
Appellations galore are ascribed.
Yet Brahma and Shiva and even Lord Vishnu,
all fail when it comes to this issue.

Sing Praises to Devi's great power
To make and preserve and devour.
Destroyer of Evil and pain, you protect us.
Your prowess is truly momentous

With sound as your essence of being,
the scriptures are sung with great meaning
intent on conferring a sense of well-being.
You sent all the asuras fleeing.

We offer to you our oblations,
be gracious to all of creation.
We saw Mahisasura's power defeated
His army then quickly retreated.

Salutations to the Devi – Chorus

Salutations, O Devi. Salutations to you.
You remove fear from every creature.
You dispel all poverty and pain.
You who are the good of all good,
You are the all-knowing one.
Rescuer of the distressed.
Refuge for those seeking rest.
Calamity will not befall those who seek refuge at your feet.
Salutations, O Devi. Salutations to you.
You exist in the form of all.
You indeed are the ruler of all.
You're the cause of our delusion,
yet you are knowledge most supreme.
You're the goddess of good fortune.
You embody power.

The form of creative force are you.
 You are the cause of everything.
 Salutations, O Devi.
 Salutations to you.

**Though the enemies/Ask whatever you Wish/May you Destroy
 Chorus and Ariel Pisturino as Devi**

Though the enemies of the world have committed great evil, you think “May they reach heaven through death in battle with me.

With your gentle forms, protect us and the whole earth.

Devi:

All you gods, ask whatever you wish of me. Well pleased with your hymns, I will gladly grant it.”

Devas: Chorus

May you destroy our worst misfortunes.
 Whenever we remember you,
 whoever may praise you singing these hymns,
 May you bring increased success and wealth.

Devi: Ariel Pisturino

So, let it be.

Once again it came to pass

Sage: Norge Yip

Once again it came to pass that the gods lost their positions to asuras, this time named Shumbha and Nishumbha.

Remembering her promise, the Devas raised their voices in praise of the Devi:

Hymn: Ya Devi

Part 1

Chorus: Salutations to the Devi, who is the primordial cause and who is gracious.
 Salutations to Gauri, the eternal shining one who sustains the universe.

Salutations to Durga, who takes us through difficulties, creator and indwelling essence of all.

We bow to her who is at once most gentle and most fierce.

Salutation to the Devi, the gracious one, the primordial cause we bow to her the gracious one again and again.

Salutations to shining Gauri who sustains the universe.

We bow to her, we bow to her, we bow to her again and again

Salutations to Ma Durga who takes us through our problems of life.

Creator of all, indwelling of all, the essence of all.

To her who is both gentle and fierce, supporting the world and creativity.

We bow to her auspicious beauty; we bow to her again and again.

Chorus Part 2

Salutations to the Devi who abides in all beings in every conceivable aspect: Consciousness, intelligence, hunger, sleep, power, forgiveness, peace, faith, loveliness, good fortune, activity, memory, compassion.

Salutations to her who presides over the elements and the senses and is ever present in all beings.

Bowing low in devotion, we remember her who destroys all afflictions.

Chant: Part 3

Salutations to the Devi, The gracious one, the primordial cause

Bowing low in devotion, we remember her who destroys all afflictions.

Salutations to the shining one who sustains the universe.

Salutations to Ma Durga, our support through all hard times.

The Creator, who dwells in all, most gentle and most fierce as well.

Salutations to her who presides over the senses and elements. O Devi hear our prayers and once again remove our distress.

Devi's Conversation with the Messenger

While the gods were engaged in praise

Sage: Norge Yip

Parvati: Rebecca Rasmussen

Ambika: Nichole Renee Bouffard

Chanda: Joseph Garate

Munda: Scott Levin

Shumba: David Conley

Sugriva: Jon Keenan

Sage:

While the gods were engaged in praise and adoration Parvati came to the Ganga to bathe.

Parvati:

Whom are you praising? May I ask? With hymns that you sing?

Sage:

From her body emerged the auspicious form of Ambika.

Ambika:

The Devas are appealing to me because Shumbha and Nishumbha have defeated them in battle.

Chanda to Munda:

Behold that woman of captivating beauty.

Munda to Chanda:

Our king Shumbha should possess her.

Chanda to Munda:

Yes, we should inform him of her rare beauty.

Munda and Chanda:

O great King, an unknown woman of surpassing beauty dwells in the mountains. Since you have appropriated all other things of value, why should this woman not be seized for you as well?

Shumbha:

You serve me well. I will send Sugriva to this woman to entice her with sweet words that she will quickly come to me.

Sugriva:

O Devi, my dear, you should know that our Shumbha the Lord of all Asuras Is Sovereign supreme and I am Sugriva, his messenger loyal.

I'm here to tell you he always gets the best of all genres

Everything precious to being's celestial is now in his palace royal.

Now let me tell you he praises you highly as a jewel among women.
 His mind is made up that himself you should marry or his brave younger brother.
 This is the state that your dazzling radiant beauty has put him in.
 For dominion supreme, Please answer him yes as he'll not take any other.

Ambika:

You speak the truth, but I once long ago took a vow that he alone who conquers me in battle will become my husband. Therefore, let Shumbha or Nishumbha come here.
 Having conquered me, let him take my hand in marriage.

You speak the truth, but long ago, I tell you now I took a vow.
 Only the one who can conquer me in battle will I take as my Spouse.
 Therefore, let Shumbha or Nishumbha come now.
 When I am conquered, I will go to his house.

Sugriva:

You are arrogant, O Devi. Speak not so in my presence. What man in the three worlds surpasses Shumbha and Nishumbha, not to mention a woman? Go to them and avoid the indignity of being dragged there by your hair.

Ambika

So, must it be. Shumbha is mighty and Nishumbha is exceedingly heroic, but what can I do? My rash vow was made long ago. Go back and tell the chief of asuras exactly what I have said.

Defeat of Dhumralochana

Sugriva: Jon Keenan

Shumba: David Conley

Ambika: Nichole Renee Bouffard

Sugriva:

My Lord Shumbha, the Devi says she will only marry one who can defeat her in battle.

Shumbha:

This is outrageous. I will send my chieftain Dhumralochana and have that haughty lady dragged here.

Ambika:

Ah! Dhumralochana
 I see that you have been sent by Lord Shumbha.
 Ah! You are no match for me.
 This battle will be very short indeed.
 Your army will lose to my lion alone
 As I reduce you to ashes with a piercing tone! Ah!

Slaying of Chanda and Munda

Sugriva: This is no ordinary woman, My Lord
 She conquered them all without even a sword.

Chanda and Munda Slain

Sugriva: Jon Keenan

Shumba: David Conley

Sage: Norge Yip

My lord this is no ordinary woman.
 She easily defeated Dhumalochana and his entire army.

Shumbha:

Chanda and Munda you are great generals.
 Go there, take immense forces.
 Bring her here at once.
 Seize by the hair or tie her, bind her but do not let her escape.
 If you cannot do this, then let all the asuras with all their weapons strike her down in battle.

Sage:

Chanda and Munda headed up an army.
 Elephants, chariots, cavalry and infantry
 All went forth at Shumbha's command.

He wants the fairest lady of the land.

Ambika cried out angrily against those awesome foes.
From her scowling angry brow Kali Ma then arose.
She fought with the demon army and brought them to their knees.

Seeing his big army lying dead upon the field,
Chanda rushed at Kali armed with weapons, sword, and shield.
Arrows and Discuses descended on Mother Kali,
But Mother with mouth open simply swallowed the whole volley.

Kali with her sword in hand, severed the warrior's head.
Munda then attacked her but was likewise cut to shreds.
What remained of the mighty army with their leader dead and gone?
Fearful and in confusion they fled running here and yon.

Shumbha:

Here Ye, demon, demons all.
I, your king on you now call.
Chanda and Munda have both been killed.
My Vengeance on Devi must now be fulfilled

Chorus: The Devi manifested many forms.

The Devi manifested many forms to battle these asuras. Brave and powerful shakti, the gods' embodied powers, sprang forth from the bodies of the gods, mirroring the form of each. The enemy troops were met by this enraged band of Mothers.

Slaying of Raktabija: From Every Drop of Blood – Chorus

The great band of Mother Goddesses crushed, crushed the mighty army of asuras.
Seeing this, the great asura Raktabija strode forward to fight the Devis.
But he had received a very special boon.

From every drop of blood that dripped from that asura came forth another asura of equal strength and might.
Every drop of blood that dripped from that asura brought another one.
And those asuras born from Raktabija now filled the whole world.

They filled the whole world; the world was filled with asuras; born from Raktabija's blood they sprang.

The devas all were most alarmed and frightened.

They trembled.

They trembled at the sight of them filling the earth, the whole earth.

Then the Devi Chandika, seeing all the Devas fearful, on Kali did she call.

Oh Kali, Kali,

Oh, Kali Ma.

With your mouth catch every drop Catch all the blood.

Open wide to quickly catch the blood.

Roam about the battlefield devouring the asuras that spring forth from Him.

And catching all the drops of blood before they reach the ground.

Kali caught each drop of blood before it fell and reached the earth.

She caught each drop of blood before it fell to earth.

Then Darts spears arrows poured down on him.

The swords and spears and thunder bolts,

These struck the demon with great force.

The blood was caught by Kali Ma.

Stricken by many weapons,

Bloodless was the demon now.

He lay lifeless on the ground.

Sing Praises to the Devi,

She saved us from the demons, the demons of desire.

Devi thus destroys our desires, that multiply like Raktabija's blood drops.

So, let us dance and sing her praises.

DanceWomen's Chorus

Ah Ah

Slaying of Shumbha and Nishumbha

Sage: Norge Yip

Shumba: David Conley

Devi/ Ambika: Nichole Renee Bouffard

1.Sage:

Lord Shumbah fell into unparalleled rage,
as did Nishumbha his brother.
A battle with Devi they both would engage.
They'd beat her one way or the other.
The Demons remaining made up a new force,
Gathering weapons galore.
They followed Lord Shumbah who set the war course.
To him their allegiance they swore.
The demons set flying their weapons of war.
The Devi met each with her own.
Arrow met arrows, splitting the core,
no matter which way they were thrown.
The devi's best arrows would puncture a shield
causing asuras to panic.
This led to many just fleeing the field, their minds were so totally manic.
The lance of Nishumbha was crushed by her fist.
His club was destroyed by her trident.
Nishumbha at first would simply not desist,
But soon his campaign would be silent.
Her ax dealt a blow of significant force,
by arrows he found himself struck.
The battle then took on a different course,
for now on the ground he was stuck.
Shumbha moved forward now greatly enraged.
He led his fierce army to battle.
They charged like wild beasts set free from a cage
or a stampede of mad cattle.
But soon they would find all their strength had been sapped
by all sorts of deafening noise.
For into her arsenal Devi now tapped
a host of effective war toys.
She blew on her conch.
She vibrated her bowstring.
She rang her bell.
Her Lion roared.
Kali pounded the earth with a deafening noise.
Siva-Duti laughed a menacing laugh.

Devi:

Heh Heh heh Heh

Sage:

Devi released a loud thunderclap.
 Nishumbha revived and shot arrows galore,
 followed by ten thousand discuses.
 But glorious Durga was ready for more.
 She crushed them according to witnesses.
 Chandika pierced him clean through the heart
 with a swiftly hurled spear.
 A demon sprang forth from the hole in the heart
 but she cut off its head quick and clear.
 The lion of Devi and her many forms
 killed demons on left and on right.
 Together they took the asuras by storm,
 But Shumbha revived to fight.

Shumbha:

You have slaughtered my dear brother .Now you will see my full rage.
 See how unfairly you do battle assuming many forms.
 See how I deflect your wondrous weapons.
 Now that you are a single Devi.
 I am the king of earth and heavens
 You are no match for me,
 Oh Lady.
 I should obtain all things of beauty.
 You killed my brother with tactics shady.
 Yield to me now, it is your duty.
 You are no match for me,
 Oh Lady.

The Devi: Ariel

I withdraw my many forms.
 I stand alone as Ambika to fight you,
 Oh Shumbha.
 This is a wonderful play time for me.
 What fun blasting your weapons with glee.
 See how my arrows turn yours to debris.
 This is more like a warmup for me.
 Your efforts are useless,
 I'll make you defenseless.
 Your plans really are senseless.
 For this is my play.

For this is my play.
 For this is my play.
 Now what can you do with no arrows or bows.
 This is my sharp discus just see how I throw.
 Oh, how cleanly it cuts through your spear.
 One less weapon for you now, my dear.
 Gone is your chariot, also your lariat.
 Your looking quite desperate.
 Your time is up.
 Your time is now up.
 Your time is now up.

Shumbha:

I still have my fists. Take this blow to your heart.

Ambika:

Ha, this is how a blow is given. With my palm I send you down to the ground.

Shumbha:

But I rise again we shall fight mid-air.

Ambika Flung Him to the Earth

Chorus

Shumbha rose again in the air to battle with Ambika, but she flung him to the earth, thrust her spear through his chest, and he was dead. And thus, was the evil one slain. Then the universe became calm, regaining its natural order, and the sky cleared, and all was peaceful.

Salutations Be to You, Narayani – Chorus

Salutations be to you, Narayani, Narayani.

Who in the ferocious man lion form will kill the demons and thereby protect the worlds three.

Salutations be to you, Narayani, Narayani

Adorned with a diadem holding a thunderbolt, you slayed Vritra the demon of drought, when you came as the goddess Aindri.

Salutations be to you, Narayani, Narayani.

With a frightful gaze and a piercing shriek, you destroyed the army of mighty demons in your form as Shivaduti.

Be gracious Mother,
 Ruler of all, remover of suffering of those who worship you.
 Ruler of all, protect the universe.
 You who rule both the moving and unmoving.
 Salutations be to you, Narayani, Narayani.
 With necklace of serpents and trident supreme and riding a bull,
 the mightiest beast Maheshwari is your form.
 Salutations be to you, Narayani, Narayani.
 As Narasimhi half- lioness half women with discus huge and a toss of your mane,
 You scatter, the constellations.
 Salutations be to you, Narayani, Narayani.
 The form of Brahmani next you took riding a swan yoked chariot you sprinkled the
 sanctified water
 thus, sapping the demon's strength.
 Salutations be to you, Narayani, Narayani.
 May your terrible trident flaming and sharp protect us from dread as it slayed the
 asuras.
 Bhadrakali we salute you.
 Salutations be to you, Narayani, Narayani.
 Varahi, Vishnu's boar-like form powerfully lifting the earth with your tusks. Proving that
 you sustain it all.
 Auspicious Shakti of Hari.
 All forms of knowledge are aspects of you. all women of the world are aspects of you.
 O Devi, you have become all things and when praised you grant us liberation.

The Promise

Ariel Pisturino

O this I shall promise to all those who praise me
 with minds collected and devoted to me.
 I shall destroy all of the trouble of those who praise me with glorious hymns.
 Calamities and troubles from pestilence to earthquakes,
 wild animals and mental stress and battles with enemies.
 When you recite my glories with concentrated mind well-being will come,
 all misfortunes will be banished.
 The hearing of my story removes impurities
 and you will be blessed with an auspicious mind and deeds.
 And by my power robbers, beasts, and enemies will flee far away
 from those who remember my deeds.

Those hearing my glory, my prowess in battle,
their adversaries are destroyed.

O Devi, what words can extol you

Chorus

O Devi, how can words ever extol you?

You pervade the land and water, thus sustain the world.

The cause of our delusion, but also our hope for our liberation.

Be gracious and protect us, protect us who recount your glorious deeds.

You are the Creator.

You are the Preserver.

You are the Destroyer.

To begin all again, be gracious and protect us.

You pervade the land.

You pervade the water.

Be gracious and protect us who recant your glorious deeds.