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### RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### PRECIOUS, YET LESS HEARD!!!

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#### Abstract

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#### Introduction:-



**Sri Muthuswamy Dikshitar** (24 March 1775 – 21 October 1835), has given us a treasure of his compositions. Out of 400-500 compositions of his, almost all of them are performed and sung in many music concerts and by many. Dikshitar travelled to many holy shrines throughout his life, and composed Krithis on the deities and temples he visited. Each of his compositions are unique and incomparable, they involve great lyrical brilliance with a blend of rich classism. Muthuswamy Dikshitar has composed various group Keerthanams. Some of the group keerthanams, he has composed are Navagraha Keerthanams, Kamalamba Navavarnams, Panchalinga Kshetra Keerthanams, Neelothpalamba Vibhakti Keerthanams, Mayuram-Abhayamba Navavarnams. Lesser known group keerthanams may be Guruguha Vibhakti Krithis, Madhura-Madhuramba Vibhakti Krithis, Madhura-Meenakshi Devi Krithis, Tanjavur Brihadeeswari Devi Krithis (sung in concerts in recent times), Tiruvarur-Thyagaraja Vibhakti Krithis, Mayuram-Mayuranatha Swami Krithis, Chidambaram-Siva Kameswari Krithis, Chidambaram-Govinda

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RajeswaraKrithis, Thiruvaiyaru- Pranatharthiharana- PanchanadiswaraKrithis, Kala BhairavaKrithis, BalambikaKrithis,etc. Of these, we would be discussing four very rarely rendered Krithis:

### 1.“NavarathnamaalineenNatarajaPalineem“:-

This composition composed by Dikshitar in Gamakakriyaram and KhandaEkaThalam is considered as a protection or a kavacham against poisoning and enemies. The Charanam has the words, “Nava VidhaVishaadiAabhicharaadhiNaasineem”, which, means by singing this Krithis; one may conquer nine types of poisons. The lyrics for the Krithis may be seen as under:

#### pallavi

navaratnamAlinIMnatajanapAlinIM  
namAmi-ahaMnija guru guha-Adi-ArAdhinIm

Meaning: I salute the one wearing necklaces made of the nine gems, the protector of people who have prostrated (to her),the object of adoration of our own preceptor,Guruguha.

#### samashTicaraNam

bhavAnI-IsabhaktajanaduHkhadhvaMsinIM  
bhagamAllnakullbhiHpUjitajananIm  
(madhyamakalasaahityam)  
navavidhavisha-Adi-AbhicAra-AdinASinIM  
navamaNiratha-ArOhitayuddharangiNIm

Meaning:the one who annihilates the sorrows of devotees of Shiva (lord of Bhavani),the mother worshipped by (Shaktis such as) Bhagamali and Nakuli,the destroyer of the nine types of poison, sorcery etc.,the one who has ascended the chariots set with nine (types of) gems,the one in the battle-field!

### 2. “MangaLadEvatEparadEvatE”:-

This beautiful composition is in the rare ragam, MargadesiRagam(Janyam of Mayamalavagowla ragam),having theavarohanam and avarohanam as under:  
Aarohanam:SR1 G3 R1 G3 D1 M1 p D1 S  
Avarohanam: S D1 P M1 G3 R1 S  
The lyrical beauty of this Krithi may be seen under:

#### pallavi:

mangaLadEvatEparadEvatE  
mangaLaMbhavatunataadEvatE

Meaning:Oh Auspicious Goddess! Oh ,Supreme Goddess, May there be prosperity  
You are the one saluted by the Gods!

#### samashTicaraNam

angajapurakAlavairisahitE  
anAdyavidyAprapanarahitE  
(MadhyamakAlasaahityam)  
pungava guru guhAdimahitE  
satsangamArgadarSitEsurahitE

Meaning:

Oh one who is in the company of Lord Siva, who destroyed Manmatha,Tripura and Yama,you are the one who is unlike this ignorant universe. U are the one venerated by the brave heroic Guruguha, Oh , you are the one who shows the path to association with good people, Oh one , beneficial to the Devas.

This Krithi is in the eighth (SambhodhanaPrathama) Vibhakti  
The name paradEvatA is found in the LalitaSahasranamam  
The phrase “SatsangamArgadarshite“ contains the raga mudra of ShriDikshitar.

**3. “PanchaBHuta”:-**

This Krithi is a rare masterpiece by Sri MuthuswamyDikshitar in the raga Kiranavali, in KhandaJathiEkaTalam, on Lord Brihadeeshwara.

**pallavi:**

pancaBHutakiraNAvalim candra mauLim

bhAvayAmi guru guha tAtam santatam

Meaning:

Forever, I meditate upon Shiva, the one who has radiated out as the five elements, the one who wears the moon on his head, and who is the father of Guruguha.

**samashTicharanam:**

pancI kurta

phaNirAjABaraNampallavajayacaraNam

(

vancitaphalapradam

bruhadISamjagadISamsvayamprakAsam

Meaning:

The open beyond the universe, that is made of the five elements, the immeasurable one, the one wearing Adishesha as ornament, the one whose feet surpass shoots, the one who blesses desired benefits, the lord of Goddess Brihannayaki, the master of the universe and the self-effulgence one!  
This Krithi is in the second vibhakti.

**4. “mAtangimarakata” :-**

is a composition in the ragamDhautapanchamam and rupakathalam.

**pallavi:**

mAtangimarakata-angimAMpAlayakRpA-AlayE

Meaning:

Oh daughter of Sage Matanga, one whose limbs glow like emerald! Protect me!  
Oh abode of mercy

**samashTicaraNam:**

dhautapancamapriyE

tryambakamOditaHrdayE

SIIta-adrisutElalitESri

pUtacaritEbudhahitEpuruhUta-AdisEvitE

Meaning:

Oh one to whom Dhautapanchama Raga is dear! one whose heart delights in Shiva (the three-eyed), daughter of the white (snowy) mountain! graceful one! one praised by Guruguha (preceptor to Shiva), one whose conduct is pure! beneficent one to the wise! one served by gods led by Indra!  
This KriTi is in the eighth (SambodhanaPrathama) Vibhakti

Apart from the above Krithis, there are more Krithis ,unheard or less heard, like Sri Valmiki Lingam Ashraye and KashiVishveswara in Kambodhi, HatakeswaraSamrakshamaam in Bilahariragam, Kailasanatham in Vegavahiniragam, Salivatisvaram in Devagandhariragam. Considering the depth, Dikshitar's Ahityam takes us into, each time we visit them, it would not be surprising, if it takes a complete birth to be able to render these Krithis, understanding their lyrical excellence woven and beautifully crafted into apt ragams. For many, Dikshitar is the composer par excellence and for those who have grasped in a considerable amount of his Krithis, Dikshitar is himself “GURUGUHA”

**References:-**

for meaning of lyrics-<http://guru-guha.blogspot.com>.