Chevalier I. C. Chacko’s

Kristu Sahasra Nāmam

THOUSAND NAMES OF CHRIST
(Sanskrit Slōkās)
Selections from the Sanskrit poem by the same title by:


Vocal soloists:

Joseph J. Palackal and Indumathi Ephraim.

Text selected, translated, and introduced by:

Fr. Francis Vineeth, CMI.

Music in semi-classical style by:

Fr. Anto Amarnad, CMI.

Christian Musicological Society of India,
is an international forum for
interdisciplinary research, discussion,
and dissemination of knowledge, on the
Music, Dance and Art traditions of Christians in India,
who belong to a diverse set of communities
and linguistic groups and follow a variety of
liturgical traditions some of which date back to the
ey early Christian era.
The Society hopes that such researches will
draw attention to the lesser known aspects of India,
in connection with the rest of the world.

"Connecting the dots between two complementary concepts: India and Christianity."
A deep longing welled up in heart as I pondered over the amazing work of Chevalier I.C. Chacko, the `Kristu-sahasra-nāmam’. And it became my cherished dream to bring it to the devotional life of Indian Christians. A thousand names of Christ! Just a thousand epithets and thousand titles in exquisite biblical lore, and enticing poetical charm and what more, all presented in classical Sanskrit lyrics. Who would not be tempted to have a try? It enshrines the whole history of Christ, gathered from the New and Old Testaments alike, all in one hymn of adoration, a long litany of praise. You can pray fully recite it then, unawares, in accompanying rhythm; you are transported to the marvelous setting of the Gospels, Psalms and the Book of Revelation. This is I.C. Chacko’s `Kristu-sahasra-nāmam’, a Christian counterpart of the well known Hindu `Vishnu-sahasra-nāmam’.

Almost seventy years ago, when the enculturation movement was rather at low ebb, I.C Chacko, a learned layman of the ancient St. Thomas Christian Church of Kerala, came forward with the challenging concept of a `Kristu-sahasra-nāmam’. As Brahmabandhav Upadhyay (1861-1907) was not fortunate enough to hear his famous hymn `Vande Saccidānandam’ in the Christian churches of his time, so too I.C. Chacko was not rewarded by an immediate recognition of this Christian masterpiece as a prayer book of the church. Yet, I.C. an honoured lay scholar of the church, a prolific author of creative works, and, and according to the then accepted style of honouring, Chevalier of the church. Though an engineer by vocation, with creditable degree from England, I.C. was an acknowledged Sanskrit Scholar, a specialist in linguistics and, above all, a bold thinker in the Church of his time. Of the many other books of I.C., the one which deserves special mention is his famous `Pāniniyā Pradhyōdam’ which secured the national award for displaying high scholarship in Sanskrit and linguistics.

I am truly happy to present I.C.’s `Kristu-sahasra-nāmam’ to a wider Christian world today, and really feel proud that the work has come from an unmatched Sanskrit Scholar who lived his Christian faith in word and deed. I found in the person of Anto Amarnad, a composer who can feel, relish and reverberate I.C.’s thinking in the right musical rhythm. When the gifted artists, Fr. Joseph Palackal and Indumathi Ephrem lent their melodious voices to these Christological lyrics and musical notes of Fr. Anto Amarnad, the result was the much loved and eagerly awaited recording: `Kristu-sahasra-nāmam’. I gladly present all these young artists to the lovers of our Church and culture, rhyme and rhythm, with a blend of new ideas.

In the original Sanskrit verses, all the thousand names are presented in the accusative case as the objects of verbs `Vande, Bhaje, or Pranamami’, all of which ate transitive verbs, meaning ,”I revere and I adore.’. However in English translation for better understanding, I have presented many of the names as simple qualifications of Jesus, all of them ultimately referring to Christ whom the devotees adore. Though the poetic Rhyme and Rhythm are given due attention, the prime consideration was always fidelity to the original.

This recording does not present all the thousand names of Christ, but only a selection of the best among them, arranged under eight separate titles. Appropriate tunes are successfully provided by Amarnad to match the moods and content of the selected texts.

In the fond hope that one day these verses will find their way into the prayer life of many a devoted Christian, religious as well as lay, I present to the lyrical world this musical feat which is a happy blend of the classical rhythm of our country (India) and sacred music of our Church. And all Churches are parts or limbs of one universal Church, the mystical body of Christ,

Francis Vineeth C.M.I.
Dharmaram College
Jan1, 1985
KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Track 01 : Kristum Kanyakutam Vande

1  Kristum kanyakutam vande
   Mr̥tam mṛtyuñjayam param
   Raktilktasavam dehi-
   Kṛta-pupam anaśvaram
   Kristum kanyakutam vande

2  Ākṣipta-vasanam vande
   Stānubaddha-kara-dvayam
   Bhāta-tādita-sarvangām
   Puja-yam-api-atidhiḥkram. Kristum.....

3  Kapotavatara-jñātām
   Divya-mesam sanātanam
   Śantam śantimatām-ādyam
   Pranamām-akasūdanam. Kristum.....

4  Samudkīrmā-kaṇam
   Kīla-vidārī-pada-dvayam
   Śūla-viccīnā-hṛdayam
   Trīlokīsām-anaśvaram. Kristum...

5  Śvētāsva-vāhanam
   Raktā-sikā-vāsasam īśvaram
   Divya-vāk-abhidham vande
   Rāja-rājam prabhu-prabhum. Kristum....

6  Kṣata-pārśvam kṣata-tanum
   Dhṛta-kaṇṭaka-śīrṣakam
   Kṣata-pādam kṣata-karam
   Dhṛta-lokākha-gauravam. Kristum....

KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

I bow to thee, Jesus son of the Virgin, the suffering servant

I bow to thee, Christ, son of the Virgin
Who by dying overcame our death;
Wine you made your blood,
And your body you formed from bread.

Stripped off garments
With hands fastened to the pillar
Scourged by soldiers
Though all holy, you are ridiculed
I bow to Thee

Proclaimed by the dove descending
You are the lamb divine, the everlasting
The peaceful, the prince of peace
I adore you, the slayer of malice.

O eternal Lord of the three worlds
Torn are your two feet by nails
Pierced are your hands
And cut is your heart by lance.

Clad in the dress drenched with the blood
You ride on your horse gleaming white
The Word Divine is your name
King of kings, Lord of lords, I bow to thee.

Battered in body, with side pierced
The crown of thorns you wear
With bleeding feet and wounded hands
The sins of the world you bear
I bow to thee
KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Track 02 : Rajarsi-Gotrajam

1  Rājarṣi-gōtrajam dhanyam
   Nirddhanam nitya-yāccakam
   Dinam dināśrayam vande
   Jagatām-ekam-tīśvaram.

2  Tārā-sūcita-janmānam
   Jyotishārđdham-arbhakam
   Gōṣṭha-jam pathikam vande
   Rājānām rāja-pūjitam

3  Valāhakārta pūjyaṁ
   Giriśaṁ girivāsinam
   Śīyopasthitam-utkrśtam
   Pitr-ślākhitam-ātmajam

4  Samādiḥ stham-atiśrakāntam
   Kṣūṭāvīśam-upośitam
   Praṇāmāṁ niyāntārām
   Piśāca-pariśodhitam.

5  Śama-vantarum kṣamāvantam
   Titikṣāvantam-iśvaram
   Damantarum dayā-vantarum
   Ātmavantarum jagat-gurum

6  Aakṛṣṭa-minam kaivartta-
   Śisyam-ekam jagat-gurum
   Upadīṣṭa-jagadaddharmam
   Vande vandāru-vanditam.

KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Jesus the sage for India

Though born of the clan of kings
Though rich, you are the poor, the eternal beggar
The abandoned, and yet the hope of the forlorn
The one Lord of the Universe, I bow to thee

By star was your birth proclaimed
“You the child, our king” the Magi acclaimed
Born in a manger you are the guide divine
O king, adored by kings, I bow to thee.

Surrounded by clouds in holy spell
The Lord of hills, on mounts you dwell
Though great with disciples you sojourned
The only Son by Father acclaimed.

Given to fast and hunger, fagged out though
You remain ever equipoise
Tested though by devil you are
The guide and fount of all, I adore you.

You are the great ascetic
The patient bearer of sorrows
The self-controlled, the self-luminous
The ever merciful the world’s teacher,
I bow to thee.

You are the sole master of mankind
With the disciples from among fishermen
Dharma you preach, the path universal
Praised eternally by choir celestial
I bow to thee.

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KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Track 03: Yajakam Yajana Dravyam

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| 1 | Yājakam yajana dravyam  
   | Nityam yajña-bhujam bhajē bhajē  
   | Pāpaghnam pāpa-rahitam  
   | Lōka-pāpa-vaham param |
| 2 | Pāniyam paramam bhaksyam  
   | Uttamam praṇamāṁi-aham  
   | Yad-abhuktvā narā yānti  
   | Narakaṁ śāśvatam dṛḍham |
| 3 | Vēdajñāṁ vidushāṁ-adyaṁ  
   | Vēḍa-mūlāṁ sanātanāṁ  
   | Vaidikāṁ paramāṁ vande  
   | Bhiṣajām dē̵hi-dē̵hayoh |
| 4 | Sugrāhām śa̵nta-cittānāṁ  
   | Durgrāhāṁ viśayaśiṉāṁ  
   | Śa̵raṇāṁ pāpināṁ-ekām  
   | Taraṇāṁ pāpa-vāridhē |

KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Jesus the offerer and oblation.

You are the offerer, you are the sacrifice  
You are eternal receiver of offering  
Sinless you are, you destroy all sins  
Holy though you bear the world’s stain

O supreme drink and choicest food,  
I worship you the only God  
Without absorbing you truly well  
Mankind falls into eternal Hell

Well versed Scriptures  
And the first among doctors  
The eternal strength of Holy Writ  
Everlasting priest, physician of body and soul.  
I bow to thee.

Peaceful men know you well  
Unknown to all ruled by passions wild  
You are the only hope of sinners  
The safe boat of traverse the sea of samsara
KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Track 04: Swargastham Pitrparśvastham

1. Kristum vande Kristum vande
   Swargastham pitṛ pārśvastham
   Hṛdayastham jagat-patim
   Abhiśiktam-ṛṣi-prōktam
   Arvācīnām purātanaṃ. Kristum Vande

2. Drṣyādṛṣya-vidhātāram
   Jagatām-ādi-kāranam
   Āgamiṣyantam-aksōbhyam
   Vandēham nīti-pālakam.
   Kristum vande...

3. Preṣakam preṣitam vande
   Vyatītvēṣakam śivam
   Hṛd-vicāyakam-ācārayam
   Hṛṣi-keśam ṛṣīsvaram.
   Kristum Vande....

KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Jesus. The glorious son of the Father

Beside the Father, in the heaven you reside
Deep down in our hearts, Lord of all you abide
The anointed, announced by seers,
The ever Ancient and ever New,
   I bow to thee.

The creator of all visible and invisible
The fountainhead of the universe, ever prime,
Though unaffected, you come at the end of time
The dispenser of justice,
   I bow to thee.

You are sent to us, you auspicious one
And you send the disciples you won.
O master, you search all hearts, and redeem the lost
The giver of joy, the Lord of seers,
   I bow to thee.

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KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Track 05: Martyaputram Devaputram

1 Martya-putram dēva putram
   Naram-api-anaram param
   Kanyā-putram jagat-tātām
   Jātām-api-ajam-īśvaram.
   Martya-putram

2 Dvidiyam-api-advidiyam
   Trayam-api-ēkam-ēva ca
   Mṛtam-api-amaram nityam
   Jātām-api-akhilōbhavam.
   Martya putram....

3 Adṛśyam api-ati-vyaktam
   Apariksyam-atindriyam
   Prānadam varadam vande
   Dēvam jīvadam-ādṛtam.
   Martya putram....

4 Sāntākaram bhujaga-mathanam
   Svarga-vāsam mahābhām
   Pāpārttānām śaranam-
   Akha-nirmūlanam mēkha-yānām
   Śyāma-kāntam vimala-hṛdayam
   Lōka-nātham mahēśam
   Vande dēvam sugamam-
   Akha-viccittayē kristum-īśam:

KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Jesus, Son of man, son of God

Son of God you are and son of man
Human though, the absolute, above man
Son of the Virgin, spring of the world
The born yet unborn Lord,
I bow to thee.

Though second in person you are the non-dual
One and three at the same time,
Though dead, you are ever immortal
The fount of all, though born in mortal time.

Invisible, yet verily distinct
Beyond the pale of physical sense,
You are the bestower of breath and bliss
The adorable deity, the giver of life
I bow to thee.

O embodiment of peace, destroyer of evil,
You abide in heaven as resplendent light,
Remover of sin, hope of sinners,
Blessed God you are, the Lord of the world,
Your immaculate heart is adorned by all,
You move among the clouds, my God Christ,
I adore you.

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Track 06: Saptarksa- Panim

1  Saptarkṣa-pañim lōkēśam
    Tapta-pittala-pādakam
    Śvētāmbaram śvēta-kōśam
    Vande sūrya-mukham param.
    Vande sūrya-mukham.

2  Pāvanam pāvakam pūtam
    Vande rajata-pāvanam
    Svarṇa-pāvanam-ācāryam
    Pāvanam-lōka-pāvanam.
    Vande sūrya-mukham.

3  Śvētāmbara-balām khōram
    Jvalanōgara-lōcanam
    Dvi-dhāra-gadga-vadanam
    Sva-nāmānkitā-vāsasam
    vande sūrya mukham.

4  Sapta-śṛngam hata-prēksyam
    Saptākṣam mēṣa-śābakam
    Mudrā-sphōdakam iśānam
    Vyōma cāpāvṛtāsanam.
    vande sūrya mukham.

5  Satyadhvānam dayā-mārgam
    Sāntānām mārga-darśinām
    Dharmiṣṭham madhuram vande
    Pāpinām nyāya-dāyinām.
    vande sūrya-mukhan.

6  Mēkha-yānam tadit-pañim
    Khōrāram bhayānakam
    Papinām-antakam vande
    Dharmini jīva-dāyinam-
    vande sūrya-mukhan.

KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Jesus the eschatological Lord

White-clad and white-haired you are
Ever handsome with hands of seven stars.
Like burnished bronze your feet shine
And with sun-lit face as Lord of all you reign.

Priests and people, gold and silver,
All you purify, render holy
O sacred sanctifier of fire
I bow to thee.

Clad in silver white, your army is ever great
Aglow with fire is your eye’s sparkle
Like a two edged sword is your face divine
And bearing your name is your dress sublime.

Seven are your eyes, seven your horns
You are the lamb that was small, and yet slain,
But you break open life’s seals strong as stone
And wear rainbow-arches around your royal throne.

Truth is your path, mercy your way,
To the peaceful you show the real way
To the sinners you give their share of justice
Sweet and just one, I bow to thee.

Perched on clouds you come, with hands
Aglow with lightning
Magnificent is your from yet awe-inspiring
Dispeller of sinners you are
To the just their life’s star
I bow to thee.

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KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM

Track 07: Pavanam Bhavanam

1. Pavanam bhavanam
   Jiva-sadhana sarvah-sobhanam
   Karanam sharanam
   Papa-sosanam pranamami-aham-Pavanam.....

2. Dosakhnam-anakham
   Rakta-sravapaham-anuttamam
   Duṣ-pradhasam mahah-viryam
   Vande divyaushhadham param.
   Pavanam....

3. Paksha-vata-haram
   Dina-traña-loolam jvaram damam
   Bhuta-dvisam kuśtha-haram
   Vande divyaushadam param.
   Pavanam.....

4. Andhanam dṛṣṭidam vande
   Satya-sandham sanatanam
   Nigada-dvamsinam dēvam
   Āṛta-trāna-paramparam.
   Pavanam.....

5. Vidhava-kuruṇam vande
   Para-mitrām kṛpā-karam
   Vitāta-śaranaṃ śreṣṭham
   Patitōṭkṣepinam prabhum.
   Pavanam.....

Jesus the Holy, the Healer, the Liberator

Holy you are dear creator
Life’s bliss and world’s splendor,
Hope of all and source of all,
Adoring you, O sinless One, I prostrate.

Stains of sins you remove, O Holy One.
Woman you healed from her
----- hemorrhage
Great is your power, Insurmountable,
Thou holy medicine, all supreme, I adore you.

To the paralytic you gave health,
To the poor you are all their wealth,
Fever you subdue O medicine pure,
Demons you hate, Lepers you cure
O supreme one I bow to thee.

you give sight to the blind
Break all fetters that bind
You are God, true and eternal
You deliver the oppressed with love fraternal
O supreme I bow to thee.

Kind to widows, friend of strangers
The way of the wicked you destroy,
The hope of orphans par excellence
Lord merciful, to thee I make my obeisance.

Perched on clouds you come, with hands
Aglow with lightning
Magnificent is your from yet awe-inspiring
Dispeller of sinners you are
To the just their life’s star
I bow to thee.
Selections from the Sanskrit poem by the same title by Chevalier I. C. Chacko (1876-1966).
Vocal soloists: Joseph J. Palackal and Indumathy Ephraim.
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**KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM**

**Track 08: Santaya Santa-hrdhayaya**

Sāntāya śānta-hṛdayāya śama-priyāya  
Kāntāya kānta-caritāya kamālayāya  
Nityāya nitya-vijayāya nirantaryāya  
Martyāya martya tanujāya namōstu nityam

**KRISTU SAHASRA NAMAM**

**Concluding Hymn: Praise to Jesus our peace.**

Let praise be to the son of man never ending  
To the man of peace, peace-hearted, Peace imparting  
The handsome lord, ever perfect, enrapturing  
The lord eternal, ever triumphant, everlasting.
THOUSAND NAMES OF CHRIST
(Sanskrit Slōkās)

Selected verses from the famous Sanskrit poem by
Chev. Illipparampil Cora Chacko (1876-1966)

Text selected, translated, and introduced by Francis V. Vineeth, C.M.I.
Music: Anto Amarnad, C.M.I. | Lead singers: Joseph J. Palackal & Indumathi Ephrem
Music arrangements: Sundermurthy, Bangalore

Track 1:
Kristum kanyakāsutam wande 08:40
Jesus the suffering servant

Track 2:
Rājarṣīgūtrajam 05:04
Jesus the sage for India

Track 3:
Yājakam yajanadrawyam 05:04
Jesus the offeror and the oblation

Track 4:
Swargastam pitṛpārswastam 03:09
Jesus the glorious Son of the Father

Track 5:
Martyaputram dēwaputram 08:04
Jesus, Son of Man and Son of God

Track 6:
Saptarkshapānim 4: 09
Jesus the eschatological Lord

Track 7:
Pāwanam bhāwanam 7: 01
Jesus the holy, the healer, and the liberator

Track 8:
Śāntāya śāntahrdayāya 1:16
Praise to Jesus, our peace

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For a copy of the English transliteration and translation of the text and liner notes by Dr. V.F. Vineeth, C.M.I.,
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