Starting prayer:

_Vaishnava jan tho, A Hindu devotional Song_

_Vaishnava jan tho_ is a very popular Hindu devotional song. Mahatma Gandhi was very fond of this song. It was composed by the poet-saint Narsingh Mehta in the 15th century in Gujarati (language of the Northwestern Indian state of Gujarat) but can be understood by people who know Hindi. I have given below both the lyrics and lyrics with its meaning in English.

**Lyrics-only with cue for reciting**

Vaishnava jan tho, tene kahiye je, PeeD paraayi jaaNe ray,

(Music and vocalization)

_Vaishnava jan tho, tene kahiye je, PeeD paraayi jaaNe ray, _ 2 times

Par-dukhkhe upkaar kare toye, Manu abhimaan na aaNee ray,

_Vaishnava jan tho, tene kahiye je, PeeD paraayi jaaNe ray, _

(Music)

_SakaLa lok maan sahune vande, Nindaa na kare keni ray, _ 2 times

Vaach kaachh man nishchaL raakhe, dhan-dhan janani teni ray,

_Vaishnava jan tho, tene kahiye je, PeeD paraayi jaaNe ray, _

(Music vocalization)

_Sams-drIshI ne trishna tyaagi, Para-stree jene maath ray, _ 2 times

Jivha thaki asatyaa na bolay, Par-dhan nav jhaalee haath ray,

_Vaishnava jan tho, tene kahiye je, PeeD paraayi jaaNe ray, _

(Music and vocalization)

_Moh-maaya vyaaape nahi jene, DruDh vairaagya jeyna man maan ray, _ 2 times

Ram naam shoon taaLi laagi, SakaL tirath tena tan maan ray,

_Vaishnava jan tho, tene kahiye je, PeeD paraayi jaaNe ray, _

(Music)
VaN-lobhi ney kapaT-rahit chhe, Kaam-krodh nivaarya ray, | 2 times

BhaNe Narsaiyyo tenun darshan karta, KuL ekoter taarya ray,

Vaishnava jan tho, tene kahiye je, PeeD paraayi jaaNe ray,

Par-dukhkhe upkaar kare toye, Manu abhimaan na aaNe ray.

Lyrics with meaning in English

Vaishnava jan tho, tene kahiye je, PeeD paraayi jaaNe re,

[A Vaishnava (Hindu) is one who knows the pain of others]

Par-dukhkhe upkaar kare toye, Man abhimaan na aaNe re,

[Who does good to those who are in misery and does not let pride enter his mind]

Vaishnava jan tho ...

SakaL lok maan sahune vande, Nindaa na kare keni re,

[He tolerates and praises the entire world, and doesn’t say bad things about anyone]

Vaach kaachh man nishchaL raakhe, dhan-dhan janani teni re,

[One who keeps his/her words, and actions and thoughts pure, blessed is the mother who begets such a one]

Vaishnava jan tho ...

Sam-drishti ne trishna tyaagi, Par-stree jene maat re,

[He sees everything equally, rejects greed and avarice, and having rid himself of lust, he treats and reveres every woman as his mother]

Jivha thaki asatya na bole, Par-dhan nav jhaalee haath re,

[His tongue may get tired, but will never speak lies and not even touch someone else's property]

Vaishnava jan tho ...

Moh-maaya vyaape nahi jene, DriDh vairaagya jena man maan re

[He does not succumb to worldly attachments and his mind is deeply rooted in renunciation]

Ram naam shoon taalI laagi, SakaL tirath tena tan maan re,
[Every moment he is intent on reciting the name of the Lord Rama. All the holy places are ever present in his body]

Vaishnava jan tho …

VaN-lobhi ne kapaT-rahit chhe, Kaam-krodh nivaarya re,

[Who has no greed and deceit, and has renounced lust and anger]

BhaNe Narsaiyyo tenun darshan karta, KuL ekoter taarya re,

[The poet Narsi will like to see such a person, with who’s virtue, the entire family gets salvation]

Vaishnava jan tho …

Concluding prayer:

Thayumanasamy Somasundaram

October 28, 2009

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