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## Sandhyā Worship in the 14th Century Pāñcarātra: Theory and Practice?<sup>1</sup>

SUMMARY: In his *Pāñcarātrarakşā*, Venkaţanātha states that a Pāñcarātrin is not obliged to follow the prescriptions of the Pāñcarātra Samhitās, but can also follow those of the Vedic Sūtras when performing *sandhyā* worship. The paper tries to clarify the meaning and background of this statement by presenting and comparing various *sandhyā* prescriptions—from Venkaţanātha himself, from Vedic Sūtras, and from several Pāñcarātra Samhitās—and it investigates the question of whether this statement gives us insight into the relationship between theory and practice of *sandhyā* worship in Venkaţanātha's lifetime.

KEYWORDS: Venkațanātha, Vedāntadeśika, Pāñcarātrarakṣā, Pāñcarātra, sandhyā worship

Researchers of religious history must be aware of the fact that their main sources, namely texts, are usually normative and describe ideals. It is often difficult or even impossible to find out to what extent they were put into practice or if they had any social relevance, when we are not lucky enough to have information about their reception history.

Sometimes, however, a normative text can indeed offer a glimpse of the religious practice of its time, even if not always in the way its author had intended. An example for this is a statement of Venkatanātha in his *Pāñcarātrarakṣā*, which I will examine in the present paper.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> I would like to express my gratitude to Elisa Freschi for her valuable remarks and to Katharine Apostle for suggesting various stylistic corrections of the English manuscript.

Venkatanātha was a famous philosopher and theologian of the Viśiṣṭādvaita Vedānta who lived in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. He was also a Pāñcarātrin, which means that his religion was the Pāñcarātra, a Hindu tradition that worships Viṣṇu as supreme God.<sup>2</sup>

Venkațanātha wrote many works, among these the Pañcarātra-rakṣā, in which he defended, as its title says, the tradition of Pāñcarātra. Venkațanātha's aim was to show that the Pāñcarātra is an authoritative tradition from the point of view of the Vedic orthodoxy, that is, that the Pāñcarātra scriptures do not contradict the Vedic texts. In particular, he sought to show that the typical Pāñcarātric daily routine, the so-called *pāñcakālikadharma*, which in his opinion all Pāñcarātrins are obliged to practice,<sup>3</sup> does not contradict the prescriptions of the Vedic orthodoxy, and in this context he described this routine from getting up in the morning up to going to bed at night in great detail.

The passage that I would like to discuss follows a detailed description of the *sandhyā* rites (see pp. 240ff.), the "twilight rites" performed in the morning, evening and sometimes also at noon<sup>4</sup>. It runs as follows:

"Even if with regard to the [sandhyā ritual] three different kinds of sandhyā worship are described in the various [Pāñcarātra] Samhitās, namely, that related to the seers ( $\bar{a}r_s\bar{i}$ ), that related to Viṣṇu (vaiṣṇavī), [and] that related to Prajāpati (prājāpatyā), it is nevertheless proper to perform the sandhyā worship and other [rites] only as prescribed by one's Sūtra (1) because it is difficult to know these various modes [of sandhyā worship], as the largest portion of these Samhitās is lost, (2) because a tradition of proper instruction and performance even of the various modes of sandhyā worship that are seen in their entirety in Samhitās such as the Pārameśvara or the Parama is not established, [and] (3) because it is established that even if performed according to the Sūtras [the sandhyā worship] has the form of the worship of the Venerable One, since there is no insistence on giving up something that was adopted before because the samskāras and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For a general overview on the tradition of Pāñcarātra see, for example, Rastelli 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> On the *pañcakāla* rites cf. Rastelli 2000 and Rastelli 2006: 62–91.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Cf. Kane II/1: 312f.

the established rules of conduct ( $\bar{a}c\bar{a}ra$ ) that are taught by one's own Sūtra are approved in the Samhitās of the Venerable One's body of teachings (*bhagavacchāstra*) themselves.<sup>35</sup>

In this passage, Venkatanātha says that although the Pāñcarātra Samhitās contain prescriptions for *sandhyā* worship, a Pāñcarātrin is not obliged to follow these prescriptions, but can also follow only the prescriptions of his own Sūtras.

This seems to be quite an extraordinary statement: For Pāñcarātrins, the Pāñcarātra Samhitās are the most authoritative texts. Venkatanātha devotes the entire first chapter of this PRR to the proof that the Pāñcarātra and its scriptures are authoritative and a valid means of knowledge (*pramāna*). So why is it not necessary to follow their prescriptions?

The first reason Venkatanātha gives seems satisfactory: It is difficult to know what the Samhitās' prescriptions enjoin with regard to the various types of *sandhyā* rites that are known<sup>6</sup> because

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> PRR 110,5–12: tatra yady apy ārşī vaiṣṇavī prājāpatyeti trividhāh sandhyopāstibhedās tattatsamhitāsūcyante, tathāpi tāsām samhitānām luptaprāyatvena tattatprakārāņām durjānatvāt pārameśvaraparamasamhitādişu paripūrņadrśyamānasandhyopāsanaprakārabhedānām api yathāvadupadeśānuṣṭhānapāramparyāsiddheḥ, bhagavacchāstrasamhitāsv eva svasūtroktasamskārācārābhyanujñānāt prathamaparigrhītaparityāge nirbandhābhāvād yathāsūtram anuṣṭhāne 'pi bhagavatsamārādhanarūpatvasiddheḥ svasūtravihitam eva sandhyopāstyādikam kartum ucitam.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> I could not find a passage in any Samhitā that describes forms of the *sandhyā* bearing exactly the three names mentioned by Venkatanātha. A list that comes close to that of Venkatanātha's is that of NārS 11.64 which mentions three forms of *sandhyā* called *brāhmī*, *daivī* and *vaiṣṇavī* ("Then he should piously worship the *brāhmī* sandhyā with devotion after having sipped water, then he should worship the *daivī* sandhyā and the *vaiṣṇavī* sandhyā.", *tatas tu prayato brāhmīm sandhyām ācamya bhaktitaḥ* | *daivīm* sandhyām upāsīta vaiṣṇavīm tadanantaram ||). However, the meaning of these three *sandhyā*s performed consecutively is not clear.

most of them are lost. This is comprehensible: if one does not have the prescriptions, one cannot follow them.

But Venkatanātha's second reason already shows that there are Pāñcarātra prescriptions for the *sandhyā* rites that are entirely extant. However, he says, there is no tradition that properly teaches or follows these prescriptions. According to Venkatanātha, there is a divergence between theory and practice, to put it in the terms of the topic of the present volume.

Before we examine the third reason, we have to properly understand the alternative to the Samhitās' prescriptions. What does it mean if Venkatanātha says that a Pāñcarātrin should follow the prescriptions of his Sūtra? Are there specific Pāñcarātra Sūtras? No, there are not.

Although the Pāñcarātra presented itself, at least in its early days, as an alternative to the Veda,<sup>7</sup> there was a particular point in its

The *Pārameśvarapadyavivŗti* (17,14f.), a commentary on the PārS by Nrsimhayajvan (18<sup>th</sup> century, see preface p. 4 of the edition of the PārS), mentions three forms of the *sandhyā* that are probably identical with those mentioned by Venkaṭanātha: *prājāpatyāṣavaiṣṇavasandhyā* (em.; *prājāpatyāṣtavaiṣṇavasandhyā* ms.) *tu yeṣu prastutavaiṣṇavakramam upadiśati*, "He teaches the mentioned *vaiṣṇava* procedures (?) among which are the *prājāpatya*, *ārṣa* and *vaiṣṇava sandhyā*". He mentions these forms while commenting on PārS 2.96c–108 (see below p. 265f) but it is not clear if certain elements described in this passage refer to one of these specific forms of *sandhyā*. Possible candidates are the *jalāñjali* for sages (*vibudha =? rṣis* and therefore the *ārṣa* form?, PārS 2.98c–99b) and that for Hari (= Viṣṇu > vaiṣṇava form?, PārS 2.100c–101b), but it is not clear what would refer to *prājāpatya*.

The *Somaśambupaddhati* (I, pp. 45ff.) describes three forms of *sandhyā* called *brāhmī*, *vaiṣṇavī*, and *raudrī*. They are performed in the morning, at noon, and in the evening consecutively. In the first case, the Sandhyā, which is considered a deity, is worshipped as the goddess Brāhmī with a particular appearance, in the second case as Vaiṣṇavī, and in the third case as Raudrī. There is no evidence that forms of that manner are meant in the context of Pāñcarātra.

<sup>7</sup> The seers (r;i) that are often described in the *śāstrāvatāra* stories at the beginning of the Pāñcarātra Samhitās are an example for this.

history when some of its followers did not consider the Pāñcarātra Samhitās and the Vedic texts to be contradicting alternatives but rather perfectly compatible with each other. Stories like that contained in the *Pādmasamhitā* probably contain an aspect of truth. This story tells about a group of Brahmins headed by Aupagāyana and belonging to the Kanva and Madhyandina branches of the White Yajurveda, who were initiated into the Mantrasiddhanta, a sub-tradition of the Pāñcarātra, by Brahmā. Brahmā gave them the instruction to continue to study their Vedic texts and to continue to perform their Vedic rites but these rites should be "connected with the visualisation of Viṣṇu" (bhagavaddhyānasahita) and "characterised by His worship" (tatsamārādhanātmaka), meaning rites that are modified in comparison to the original Vedic orthodox ritual and that are devoted exclusively to Visnu.<sup>8</sup> It is difficult to say when such persons belonging both to the Pañcaratra and to a Vedic school first appeared in history but the earliest evidence is probably Yāmuna's Agamaprāmānya from the 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>9</sup> Venkatanātha himself certainly belonged to a group following the prescriptions of both the Pañcaratra Samhitas and the Vedic Sūtras, and such a group is his target audience.

Venkatanātha's third reason says that to perform the *sandhyā* rites following the Vedic Sūtras' prescriptions is in accordance with the Pāñcarātra Samhitās' prescriptions because the Sūtras meet the requirements of the Samhitās, namely that the *sandhyā* worship should have the form of the worship of Viṣnu-Nārāyaṇa. In addition, the Pāñcarātra Samhitās do not insist that a devotee should give up his adherence to the Vedic prescriptions but approve these. Subsequently, Venkatanātha quotes several passages from the Pāñcarātra

Although these seers have usually studied the Veda and perform Vedic rites, they are not successful in reaching their aims and ask for another means of doing so (which is later presented to them in the form of the Pāñcarātra Samhitā, e.g. JS 1.7–18b, ParS 1.3–6).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> PādS *cp* 21.2c–12; cf. also Rastelli 2006: 229–242 and Rastelli 2003.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Cf. Rastelli 2006: 218f.

Samhitās and works of the tradition's teachers in order to corroborate this argument.

Thus, at first view, Venkatanātha's statement gives us the impression that the Pāñcarātra Samhitās' prescriptions for the *sandhyā* rites were pure theory at his time and that the living practice was the performance of *sandhyā* worship according to the Vedic Sūtras. But could this be true? Is there a way to find out if this is true? And: what is actually the difference between the Pāñcarātric and the Vedic orthodox manner of *sandhyā* worship? Let us first answer the last question and examine the nature of both kinds of *sandhyā* worship.

#### The sandhyā According to Venkațanātha

In detail, Venkatanātha describes *sandhyā* worship at sunrise; *sandhyā* worship at sunset is described only in comparatively short passages (PRR 150,1-152,4; 164,3–165,8). According to his own description, it consists of the following sub–rites:

snāna	"Having bathed in such a manner [and]
ūrdhvapuņḍra	having applied the <i>ūrdhvapundras</i> , <sup>10</sup>
<i>tarpaņa</i> of the dei- ties, seers, ancestors	he should, as a part of the bath, satiate <sup>11</sup> the deities, seers and ancestors, who have the nature of the Venerable One,
ācamana	sip water, <sup>12</sup>
mantraprokṣaṇa	sprinkle [himself while reciting] mantras,13

<sup>11</sup> Satiating the deities etc. means offering libations of water to them.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The *ūrdhvapundra*s are marks applied on the forehead and parts of the body with white clay or another substance; cf. TAK1 s.v. *ūrdhvapundra*, Rangachari 1930: 56f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Sipping water ( $\bar{a}camana$ ) serves as a means of ritual inner purification. For descriptions of how to perform it see, e.g., Kane II/1: 315f. or Bühnemann 1988: 104–107.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> For this meaning of the term *mantraprokṣaṇa* cf. BaudhDhS 2.7.2:"... sprinkle his body with water while reciting the following: the Surabhimatī verse,

mantrācamana	sip water [while reciting] mantras,
prokṣaṇa	sprinkle [himself] again,
svātmaparișecana	sprinkle [water] around himself in the manner that has been taught by his Sūtra and his [Pāñcarātra] Samhitā.
arghyadāna	Then he should offer a form of <i>arghya</i> that consists of water over which the <i>gāyatrī</i> (cf. n. 14) has been recited to the Su- preme Self ( <i>paramātman</i> ) that is present in the sun. With regard to this, Pitāmaha taught Sanatkumāra that throwing the water <i>añjali</i> [should take place] three times: 'Being well concentrated he should take water with both hands, recite the <i>tāra</i> , the <i>vyāhrt</i> is and the <i>gāyatrī</i> <sup>14</sup> over the water, and, standing with his face di- rected towards the sun, throw [it] upwards three times at the two <i>sandhyās</i> .' (quotation unidentified)
pradakşiņā	Then he should walk around from left to right in order to shake off the malefaction of driving away the Rākşasas called Mandeha <sup>15</sup> who are hit by the water of the [ <i>arghya</i> offering] as it has become a thunderbolt.

the Ablinga verses, the Vāruņī verses, the Hiraņyavarņa verses, the Pāvamāņī verses, the Calls, and other purificatory formulas." (... surabhimatyāblingābhir vāruņībhir hiraņyavarņābhih pāvamānībhir vyāhrtibhir anyais ca pavitrair ātmānam prokṣya. Translation by Olivelle 2000: 267). For the detailed performance of prokṣaṇa and the subsequent pariṣecana in the context of the sandhyā see Rangachari 1930: 61 (with other mantras than those prescribed by the BaudhDhS).

<sup>14</sup> The term *tāra* designates the mantra *om*. The seven *vyāhrţis* are *om bhūh*, *om bhuvah*, *om svah*, *om mahah*, *om janah*, *om tapah*, *om satyám*. The wording of the gāyatrī is: *om tát savitúr várenyam bhárgo devásya dhīmahi* | *dhíyo yó nah pracodáyāt* ||. The wording of the gāyatrīśiras is: *om ápo jyótī ráso 'mītam bráhma bhúr bhúvah súvar om* (TaittĀ 10.27).

<sup>15</sup> Kane II/1: 314 gives information about the "Rākşasas called Mandeha": "Among the earliest references to Samdhyopāsana is the one in the Tai. Ār. II.2, where it is said that when brahmavādins facing the east throw up water consecrated by the Gāyatrī, the evil spirits that fight with the sun are sent tumbling into the country (called) Mandeha Aruṇa (of the evil spirits)." and he adds that later sources consider *mandeha* as the name of these Rākşasas (*ibid*.). In addition to the sources mentioned by Kane one could mention Rām 4.39.36–37, MBh \*14.4.1566–1567, ViṣṇuPur 2.8.49–52.

<i>tarpaṇa</i> of the lords of the months	He should satiate Keśava and the other lords of the months <sup>16</sup> starting with Mārgaśīrşa with their respective mantra.
prāņāyāma	He should perform three breath controls in the manner taught by [the verse]: 'Controlling his breath he should recite the $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{t}$ together with the $vy\bar{a}hytis$ , the pranava (i.e., $om$ ) and the <i>siras</i> three times. This is called breath control.' <sup>17</sup>
invitation and	He should invite <sup>18</sup> the $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{i}$
recitation of the <i>gāyatrī</i>	and recite the $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{i}$ 1008, 108 or 10 times according to one's abilities. $()^{19}$
recitation of the <i>astāksaramantra</i>	At the right moment at <i>sandhyā</i> [worship], the Venerable eight-syllable-mantra <sup>20</sup> that has been taught by the Śrī-vaiṣṇavadharmaśāstra such as '()' also has to be recited according to one's abilities.
	Bodhāyana <sup>21</sup> and others declare that the $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{i}$ should be recited 1000 times, together with breath control 100 times, and together with the special combination of <i>praṇava</i> and <i>vyāhrtis</i> 10 times. <sup>22</sup> () <sup>23</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> The names of these deities are Keśava, Nārāyaṇa, Mādhava, Govinda Viṣṇu, Madhusūdana, Trivikrama, Vāmana, Śrīdhara, Husīkeśa, Padmanābha, and Dāmodara. Sometimes this series starts with Viṣṇu (cf. below, p. 272 and Rastelli 2006: 348–361).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> This verse can be found, for example, in BaudhDhS 4.1.28, VasDhS 25.13, *Visnusmrti* 55.9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> The  $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{t}$  is considered a goddess here. She is invited before being recited. Einoo (1993a: 203f.) also describes that the goddess Gāyatrī was invited and worshipped before reciting it during a *sandhyā* ritual he observed in Mithilā 1987 and 1988, and an invitation of Gāyatrī during *sandhyā* worship is also prescribed in *Mānavagrhyasūtra* 1.2.2. Note that in PRR 109,10 (see below) Gāyatrī is asked for permission to worship God in the solar disk. However, it is not clear why she has to be asked for that.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> The passage that is skipped here contains quotations about the recitation of the  $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{i}$  and the astaksaramantra.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> om namo nārāyaņāya, cf., e.g., PādS cp 25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Cf. BaudhDhS 2.7.5–8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> PRR 106,1–107,12: evam snātah krtordhvapundrah snānāngam bhagavadātmakadevarsipitrtarpanam krtvā, ācamya, mantraproksana-

prāņāyāma	Having recited the $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{r}$ until sunrise in this way, standing with his face eastwards or north-eastwards ac- cording to the Smrti 'facing north-east [or] north-west' <sup>24</sup> , he should perform three breath controls as before,
saṃkalpa	formally declare <sup>25</sup> [to perform] the sandhyā worship,
anujñāpana	ask the <i>gāyatrī</i> for permission (cf. n. 18) by means of the mantra <i>uttame śikhare</i> (MNārU 343–344),
upasthāna	worship the Venerable One being present in the solar disk by means of the mantras that are taught by his own Sūtra,

mantrācamanapunaḥprokṣaṇasvātmapariṣecanāni svasūtrasamhitoktaprakāreņa krvā, gāyatryābhimantritajalam ādityāntaḥsthitāya paramātmane 'rghyarūpam dadyāt. atra jalāñjaliprakṣepas trir iti sanatkumārāya pitāmahaḥ prāha—"ubhābhyām toyam ādāya hastābhyām susamāhitaḥ | gāyatryā cābhimantryāpas tāravyāḥrtipūrvayā | raver abhimukhas tiṣṭhann ūrdhvam triḥ sandhyayoḥ kṣipet ||" iti. tato vajrībhūtatajjalanihatamandehākhyarakṣonirasanapāpmāvadhūnanārtham pradakṣiṇam prakramya, mārgasīrṣādimāsesān keśavādīn tattanmantreṇa tarpayitvā, "savyāḥrtim sapraṇavām gāyatrīm śirasā saha | triḥ paṭhed āyataprāṇaḥ prāṇāyāmaḥ sa ucyate ||" ityuktaprakāreṇa prāṇāyāmatrayam kr̥tvā, gāyatrīm āvāḥya, aṣtottarasahasram aṣṭottaraśatam yathāśakti daśavārām vā gāyatrīm japet. (...) iti śrīvaiṣṇavadharmaśāstroktaśrīmadaṣṭākṣarajapo 'pi yathāśakti sandhyāyām avasare kāryaḥ. prāṇāyāmena śatakr̥tvaḥ praṇavayāḥr̥tisambhedaviśeṣṣṇa daśakr̥tvo gāyatrījapam sahasratulyam bodhāyanādayaḥ smaranti.

<sup>23</sup> The passage that is skipped here describes variations concerning the recitation of the  $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{i}$  and the  $ast\bar{a}ksaramantra$  such as the position one can assume while reciting, the place at which one can recite, how the number of recitations can be counted, etc

<sup>24</sup> The source of this quotation is not yet identified. The quotation seems to contradict Veňkaṭanātha's statement. Probably, however, Veňkaṭanātha refers only to the morning while the quotation speaks about the morning and the evening. According to Kane II/1: 314, "the morning *samdhyā* is to be performed facing the east and the evening one facing the northwest".

<sup>25</sup> On the declaratory formula (*samkalpa*) that usually precedes rituals according to the Dharmaśāstric rules see Michaels 2005.

namaskāra for Sandhyā, etc.	bow down to the five [deities] Sandhyā,
	etc., <sup>26</sup>
pradakșiņā	who have the nature of the Venerable One and walk around from left to right,
<i>abhivādana</i> and <i>praņāma</i> for God present in the heart	respectfully salute and bow down to the Su- preme Self who is present in the heart as has been learned by [the statement]: 'He who is in the human being and he who is in the sun is the same', <sup>27</sup>
optional: <i>praņāma</i> for the cardinal directions, etc.	and if there is a tradition of instruction and performance by one's own ancestors of also bowing down to the cardinal di- rections, etc., he should also bow down to these, connected with the realisation that [these] have the nature of the Vener- able one. $()^{28}$
<i>tarpaṇa</i> of <i>ādhāraśakti</i> , etc., the dei- ties, the seers, and the ancestors	Then he should realise that the $\bar{a}dh\bar{a}ra\dot{s}akti$ and the other [constituents of God's throne] <sup>29</sup> up to [His] retinue and the dei- ties, the seers and the ancestors have the nature of the Venerable One and satiate them with their respective names preceded by the <i>praṇava</i> .
wringing out the bathing cloth	At a pure place he should wring out [his] bathing cloth,
ācamana	sip water

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Five deities beginning with Sandhyā are also mentioned in Isana*sivagurudevapaddhati sāmānyapāda* 9.140. Unfortunately, I was not able to find out the names of the other four deities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> TaittU 2.8 (in the original without *sa* at the beginning).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> The passage skipped here contains a quotation corroborating what has been said by Venkatanātha.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> For the constituents of God's throne see Rastelli 2002.

samāhāra of mantras	and draw back <sup>30</sup> the invited $t\bar{t}rtha$ and	
	the mantras into himself."31	

### The sources of Venkațanātha's prescriptions

If we consider Venkatanātha's statement quoted on pp. 236f, we could conclude that his prescriptions for *sandhyā* worship are based on Vedic Sūtras. If we examine the pertinent Sūtras, however, the case is not so clear.

First of all, the prescriptions for *sandhyā* rites in the Vedic Sūtras are not uniform. Prescriptions for *sandhyā* rites in the form we talk about in this paper can be found only in texts complementary to the Grhyasūtras, such as Grhyapariśiṣta texts and some Dharmasūtras. The Śrautasūtras and most of the Grhyasūtras describe different forms of morning and evening rites and for another performer, namely for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> If mantras were placed on the devotee's body, an object or a place during a ritual, they have to be drawn back when the ritual is completed. Before the devotee takes his bath he makes a holy bathing place ( $t\bar{t}rtha$ ) present at his bathing place, also by means of mantras. These mantras also have to be drawn back at the end of his bath (see JS 9.25–32 and 58–60, Rastelli 1999: 201f. and 207; I could not find a passage in the PRR which describes making a  $t\bar{t}rtha$  present at the devotee's bathing place).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> PRR 109,7–110,4: evam āsūryodayāt "pūrvottarāśābhimukhas tv aparottaradinmukhaḥ" ityādismŗtyanusāreņa prānmukhaḥ prāgudanmukho vā tisṭhan, gāyatrīm āvarttya, pūrvavat kŗtaprāņāyāmatrayaḥ, sandhyopasthānasankalpapūrvakam "uttame śikhare" iti mantreņa gāyatrīm anujñāpya, svasūtroktair mantrair ādityamaņḍalāntasthitaṃ bhagavantam upasthāya, sapradakṣiṇaṃ bhagavadātmakasandhyādipañcakanamaskāraṃ kŗtvā, "sa yaś cāyaṃ puruṣe yaś cāsāv āditye sa ekaḥ" ity adhītaṃ hŗdayāntasthitaṃ paramātmānam abhivādya praṇamya, digādinamaskārāṇām api svapūrvapūrvopadeśānuṣṭhānapāramparyam asti cet tatrāpi bhagavadātmakadhyānapūrvakaṃ praṇamet. (...) tata ādhāraśaktyādipāriṣadāntān devarṣipitīmś ca bhagavadātmakān dhyātvā, praṇavapūrvakais tattannāmabhiḥ santarpya, śucau deśe snānavastraṃ niṣpīḍya, ācamya, āvāhitatīrthaṃ mantrāṃś ca svātmani samāharet.

the *brahmacārin* instead of for the *grhastha*. Further, if the Grhyasūtras describe *sandhyā* worship it is usually much simpler than the form we discuss here.<sup>32</sup>

So Venkatanātha's sources could be Grhyapariśiṣta texts or Dharmasūtras. One Dharmasūtra that he mentions at least once in our context is that of Bodhāyana.<sup>33</sup> The *Baudhāyanadharmasūtra* contains a chapter on *sandhyā* worship (2.7) and, subsequently, chapters on the bath and libations (2.8–9). As the table below shows, the Baudh-DhS's prescriptions for *sandhyā* worship and the bath overlap in some aspects. They give the impression of describing two independent procedures that partly consist of the same elements rather than two consecutive sequences.<sup>34</sup> When we compare Venkatanātha's prescriptions with those of the BaudhDhS, we see that the former has parallels with the latter but that it also contains ritual elements that do not appear in the BaudhDhS.

PRR	BaudhDhS 2.7	BaudhDhS 2.8–9
snāna	bath or washing feet and hands (2)	washing hands, feet and body, entering the water $(8.1-2)^{35}$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> For the evolution of *sandhyā* worship in the Vedic Sūtras see Einoo 1993a and 1993b. Cf. also Kane II/1: 312-319.

<sup>35</sup> BaudhDhS 2.8.1–2: *atha hastau prakṣālya kamaṇḍalum mrtpiṇḍam ca* samgrhya tīrtham gatvā triḥ pādau prakṣālayate trir ātmānam || 1 atha haike

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> See PRR 107,12. In addition, he quotes a verse that appears in the BaudhDhS among others in PRR 106,11f. (see n. 17).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Govindasvāmin, the commentator of the BaudhDhS, presents the case as if BaudhDhS 2.8 was the description of the bath that is hinted at by the words *aprayato* '*bhişiktaḥ* in 2.7.2 (cf. BaudhDhSV 233,20: "[He] taught: 'having bathed if he had been ritually impure'. Incidentally, he teaches the prescription for this." '[a]prayato '*bhişikta*' *ity uktam. prasangāt tadvidhim āha.*). However, it is not probable that a devotee first performs the procedure described in BaudhDhS 2.8 and then that described in BaudhDhS 2.7 because then the recitation of the  $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{i}$  and the worship of the sun would be performed twice (which especially in the case of the latter is simply not possible: the sun rises only once a day).

PRR	BaudhDhS 2.7	BaudhDhS 2.8–9
ūrdhvapuņḍra		
<i>tarpaṇa</i> of the deities, seers, ancestors		
		<i>añjali</i> of water for one's own ben- efit and for the enemy's damage $(8.4-5)^{36}$
		washing one's hands ( <i>upasparśana</i> ) <sup>37</sup> (8.6)
		whirling the water around three times with his hand in a clockwise motion (Olivelle 2000: 269) in order to ban- ish evils <sup>38</sup> (8.6) <sup>39</sup>

*bruvate* | *śmaśānam āpo devagrham goṣtham yatra ca brāhmaṇā aprakṣālya pādau tan na praveṣṭavyam iti* ||. I do not give a translation of the BaudhDhS here in order to save space and because Olivelle's (2000) translation is easily accessible. If not indicated otherwise, my interpretation of the text follows Olivelle's translation.

<sup>36</sup> BaudhDhS 2.8.4–5: athāñjalināpa upahanti | sumitrā na āpa oṣadhayaḥ santv iti || 4 tām diśam nirukṣati yasyām asya diśi dveṣyo bhavati | durmitrās tasmai bhūyāsur yo 'smān dveṣṭi yam ca vayam dviṣma iti || 5.

<sup>37</sup> Olivelle 2000: 269 understands *upasprsya* as "he washes himself" but Govindasvāmin glosses *upasparsanam* with *pāṇiprakṣālanam* (BaudhDhSV 236,19), which seems to be more probable at this stage of the procedure.

<sup>38</sup> The *añjali* of water and whirling water around seem to be parallels of the *arghyadāna* and the subsequent *pradakṣiṇa* in order to drive away Rākṣasas in PRR 106,3–9, as they also aim at enemies.

Whirling water around in a clockwise direction (*pradaksinam*) could have been reinterpreted as walking around in a clockwise direction at some point in time. That Venkatanātha intends the latter meaning is without any doubt. *pradaksinam prakramya* (v.l. parikramya) hardly means whirling around. Also the reading of the edition of PādS *cp* 13.25d: *paribhramanam ātmanah* instead of *parikramya pradaksinam* in Venkatanātha's reading of the PādS (PRR 111,2) supports this interpretation.

<sup>39</sup> BaudhDhS 2.8.6: *athāpa upasprsya triķ pradaksiņam udakam āvarta*yati | yadapām krūram yad amedhyam yad asāntam tadapa gacchatād iti ||.

PRR	BaudhDhS 2.7	BaudhDhS 2.8–9
	DuudiiDiis 2.7	bathing and climbing back onto the bank (8.7, 8.10)
ācamana	ācamana (2)	ācamana (8.10)
mantraprokșaṇa	sprinkling ( <i>prokṣaṇa</i> ) oneself while reciting var- ious Vedic mantras (2) <sup>40</sup>	
mantrācamana		repeated <i>ācamana</i> (8.10) <sup>41</sup>
prokṣaṇa		
svātmaparișecana		<i>mārjana</i> <sup>42</sup> while reciting various mantras (8.11)
arghyadāna		[cf. n. 38]
pradakșiņā		[cf. n. 38]
<i>tarpaṇa</i> of the lords of the months		
prāņāyāma		3 <i>prāņāyāmas</i> while stand- ing in water, reciting the <i>aghamarṣaṇa</i> hymn (RV X.190) (8.11)
		climbing back onto the bank, wringing out the bathing cloth, putting on fresh clothes (8.11)
		ācamana (8.11)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> BaudhDhS 2.7.2: tīrtham gatvāprayato 'bhişiktah prayato vānabhişiktah praksālitapādapānir apa ācamya surabhimatyāblingābhir vārunībhir hiranyavarnābhih pāvamānībhir vyāhrtibhir anyais ca pavitrair ātmānam proksya prayato bhavati.

<sup>42</sup> Olivelle (2000: 271) translates *mārjayati* with "rubs his body with water". According to Kane II/1: 314, however, *mārjana* is "sprinkling himself with water to the accompaniment of several mantras". If we follow

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> BaudhDhS 2.8.7 and 10: *apsu nimajjyonmajjya* || 7 (...) *uttīryācam-yācāntah punar ācāmet* | *āpah punantu prthivīm prthivī pūtā punātu mām* | *punantu brahmaņaspatir brahma pūtā punātu mām* || *yad ucchiṣtam abhojyam yad vā duścaritam mama* | *sarvam punantu mām āpo asatām ca pratigraham svāheti* ||.

PRR	BaudhDhS 2.7	BaudhDhS 2.8-9
recitation of the gāyatrī	1000 recitations of the <i>sāvitrī</i> (= $gāyatrī$ ) or 100 recitations with <i>prāņāyāma</i> or 10 recita- tions of the <i>sāvitrī</i> together with <i>om</i> and the <i>vyāhī</i> tis (5–7) <sup>43</sup>	1000, 100, an unlimited number or 10 times of recitations of the $s\bar{a}vitr\bar{i}$ $(8.11)^{44}$
recitation of the <i>aṣṭākṣara-</i> mantra		
prāņāyāma	3 $pr\bar{a}n\bar{a}y\bar{a}mas$ with the <i>brahmah</i> rdaya <sup>45</sup> (8) <sup>46</sup>	
saṃkalpa		
anujñāpana		
upasthāna		worship of the sun ( <i>upasthāna</i> ) (8.12) <sup>47</sup>
namaskāra for Sandhyā, etc., pradaksiņā		

Kane's interpretation, *mārjana* would be a parallel of *svātmaparişecana* in PRR 106,2–3.

<sup>43</sup> BaudhDhS 2.7.5–7: darbheşv āsīno darbhān dhārayamāṇaḥ sodakena pāṇinā pratyanmukhaḥ sāvitrīm sahasrakrtva āvartayet || 5 prāṇāyāmaśo vā śatakrtvaḥ || 6 ubhayataḥ praṇavām sasaptavyāhrtikām manasā vā daśakrtvaḥ || 7.

<sup>44</sup> BaudhDhS 2.8.11: pavitre kŗtvādbhir mārjayati | āpo hi sthā mayobhuva iti tisrbhih | hiraņyavarņāh śucayah pāvakā iti catasrbhih | pavamānah suvarjana iti | etenānuvākena mārjayitvāntarjalagato 'ghamarşaņena trīn prāņāyāmān dhārayitvottīrya vāsah pīdayitvā praksālitopavātāny aklistāni vāsāmsi paridhāyāpa ācamya darbhesv āsīno darbhān dhārayamāņah prānmukhah sāvitrīm sahasrakrtva āvartayec chatakrtvo 'parimitakrtvo vā daśāvaram ||.

<sup>45</sup> *brahmahrdaya* means reciting the mantra *om bhūh om bhuvah* (cf. BaudhDhSV 228,18: *brahmahrdayam 'om bhūh* | *om bhuvah 'ity anuvākah*.)

<sup>46</sup> BaudhDhS 2.7.8: *tribhiś ca prāņāyāmais tānto brahmahrdayena*.

<sup>47</sup> BaudhDhS 2.8.12: *athādityam upatisthate* (...).

<i>abhivādana</i> and <i>praņāma</i> for God present in the heart	
optional: <i>pranāma</i> for the cardinal directions, etc.	
<i>tarpaṇa</i> of <i>ādhāraśakti</i> , etc., the deities, the seers, and the ancestors	<i>tarpana</i> of various dei- ties, seers, etc. (9.1ff.)
wringing out the bathing cloth	
ācamana	
samāhāra of mantras	

Thus, it is not probable that the BaudhDhS is the only source of Venkatanātha's prescriptions. As the BaudhDhS is much more elaborate with regard to *sandhyā* worship than most of the other Vedic Sūtras,<sup>48</sup> we can conclude that Venkatanātha does not rely on another Vedic Sūtra but rather on post-Vedic sources.

In fact, Venkatanātha himself presents us with another one of his sources when he quotes passages which corroborate his argument that the Pāñcarātra Samhitās approve the prescriptions of the Vedic Sūtras. He quotes the *Pādmasamhitā*'s prescriptions for *sandhyā* worship, and when we compare these with Venkatanātha's presentations we see certain agreements in the procedures of the two.

PRR	PādS cp 13.23–28b	
snāna		
ūrdhvapuņḍra		
<i>tarpaņa</i> of the deities, seers, ancestors		
ācamana	ācamana	"Having sipped water,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Cf. the sources quoted in n. 32. Another comparatively elaborate description of *sandhyā* worship is *Jaiminigrhyasūtra* 1.13 (cf. Einoo 1993a: 227) but this is also not Veńkatanātha's source.

PRR	PādS cp 13.23–28b	
mantraprokṣaṇa	prokṣaṇa	he should sprinkle [his] body, which is endowed with mantras, with <i>darbha</i> water.
mantrācamana		
prokṣaṇa		
svātmaparișecana	svātmaparișecana	He should sprinkle water around himself over which the <i>gāyatrī</i> beginning with <i>om</i> has been recited
<i>arghyadāna</i> in order to destroy Rākşasas	salilāñjali	and throw a water <i>añjali</i> up. At both twilights, Rākşasas who wish to fight are destroyed, (23–24) as they are killed by the waters that have become a thun- derbolt when driven forwards.
<i>pradakşiņā</i> in order to remove this male- faction	pradakşiņā	He should walk around from left to right, [which] is a rite of rep- aration for the injury. (25)
<i>tarpaṇa</i> of the lords of the months	<i>tarpana</i> of <i>devas</i> and others	Then, having sat down, he should satiate the de- ities and other [beings], uttering their respective mantras.
prāņāyāma		
invitation and		
recitation of the <i>gāyatrī</i>	recitation of the <i>sāvitrī</i>	Standing in the water, fac- ing eastwards, he should recite the <i>sāvitrī</i> . (26)

recitation of the <i>asțākṣara-</i> <i>mantra</i>		
prāņāyāma		
saṃkalpa		
anujñāpana		
upasthāna	upasthāna	Joining and holding out his hollowed open hands, he should look at the one dis- pelling darkness <sup>49</sup> until sun- rise, worship him with man- tras taught by his own <i>sākhā</i> ,
namaskāra for Sandhyā, etc., pradakşiņā		
<i>abhivādana</i> and <i>praņā- ma</i> for God present in the heart	visualising God in the heart	[him] who is to be visu- alised as being present in [his] heart. (27)
optional: <i>praņāma</i> for the cardinal directions, etc.		
<i>tarpana</i> of <i>ādhāraśakti</i> , etc., the deities, the seers, and the ancestors		
wringing out the bathing cloth		
ācamana		
samāhāra of mantras		
	salutation to teachers, etc.	He should respectfully sa- lute the old teachers and Bhāgavatas in due order." <sup>50</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> *timirāpaha*, "the one dispelling darkness", can designate the sun but also God who dispels the darkness of ignorance. Here, both are meant, God being present in the sun.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> PādS *cp* 13.23–28b (as quoted in PRR 110,15–111,7, variants given by the edition of the PādS are mentioned in parentheses): *ācamya prokṣayed* 

PRR	BaudhDhS 2.7	BaudhDhS 2.8–9	PādS <i>cp</i> 13.23–28b
snāna	bath or washing feet and hands	washing hands, feet and body, en- tering the water	
ūrdhvapuņḍra			
<i>tarpana</i> of the dei- ties, seers, ances- tors			
		<i>añjali</i> of water for one's own benefit and for the en- emy's damage	
		washing one's hands	
		whirling the wa- ter around three times with his hand in a clock- wise motion in order to banish evils	

In order to summarise our results so far, let us look at the procedures of all three sources side by side.

darbhavāribhir (PādS deham vāribhir) mantravattanum (PādS mantravittamah, mantravit tanum) | ompūrvayā ca gāyatryā vāribhis cābhimantritaih || 23 ātmānam parisicyordhvam utksipet salilāñjalim | yoddhukāmāni raksāmsi sandhyayor ubhayor api || 24 sāmyanti tair vajrabhūtair (PādS vajrahatair, vajraghātaih, vajrabhūtaih) hatāni preritair (PādS hastābhipreritair) jalaih | prāyaścittam tu himsāyāh parikramya pradaksiņam (PādS paribhramaņam ātmanah) || 25 tarpayed upaviśyātha tattanmantram udīrayan | devādīn salile tisthan sāvitrīm prānmukho japet || 26 yāvat sūryodayam drstvā prāñjalis timirāpaham | upasthāya svasākhoktair mantrair dhyeyam (PādS dhyāyan) hrdi sthitam || 27 abhivādya gurūn vyddhāms (PādS vyddhān) tathā bhāgavatān kramāt |.

PRR	BaudhDhS 2.7	BaudhDhS 2.8–9	PādS <i>cp</i> 13.23–28b
		bathing and climb- ing back onto the bank	
ācamana	ācamana	ācamana	ācamana
mantraprokṣaṇa	sprinkling ( <i>proksana</i> ) oneself while reciting various Vedic mantras		prokṣaṇa
mantrācamana		repeated ācamana	
prokṣaṇa			
svātmaparișecana		<i>mārjana</i> while reciting various mantras	svātmapari- șecana
<i>arghyadāna</i> in order to destroy Rākşasas			<i>salilāñjali</i> in order to destroy Rākṣasas
<i>pradakṣiṇā</i> in or- der to remove this malefaction			<i>pradakşiņā</i> as a rite of reparation
<i>tarpaṇa</i> of the lords of the months			<i>tarpaṇa</i> of <i>devas</i> and others
prāņāyāma		3 prāņāyāmas while standing in water, reciting the <i>aghamarşaņa</i> hymn	
		climbingback onto the bank, wring- ing out the bath- ing cloth, putting on fresh clothes	
		ācamana	
invitation and			

PRR	BaudhDhS 2.7	BaudhDhS 2.8–9	PādS <i>cp</i> 13.23–28b
recitation of the <i>gāyatrī</i>	recitation of the <i>sāvitrī</i>	recitation of the <i>sāvitrī</i>	recitation of the <i>sāvitrī</i>
recitation of the <i>aṣṭākṣara-</i> mantra			
prāņāyāma	3 <i>prāņāyāmas</i> with the <i>brahmahrdaya</i>		
saṃkalpa			
anujñāpana			
upasthāna		upasthāna	upasthāna
namaskāra for Sandhyā, etc., pradaksiņā			
<i>abhivādana</i> and <i>praņāma</i> for God present in the heart			visualising God in the heart
optional: <i>pranāma</i> for the cardinal directions, etc.			
<i>tarpaņa</i> of <i>ādhāra- śakti</i> , etc., the dei- ties, the seers, and the ancestors		<i>tarpana</i> of vari- ous deities, seers, etc.	
wringing out of the bathing cloth			
ācamana			
samāhāra of mantras			
			salutation to teachers, etc.

All three sources have the following rites in common (printed in bold letters in the table): sipping water (*ācamana*), sprinkling oneself while reciting mantras (*mantraprokṣaṇa*), and sprinkling around oneself

(*svātmaparişecana*, *mārjana*) at the very beginning of the ritual procedure; and the two essential elements of *sandhyā* worship: the recitation of the *gāyatrī* and the worship of (God in) the sun (*upasthāna*). Throwing an *añjali* of water in order to banish evils also appears in all three sources but in this respect the PRR has much more in common with the PādS than with the BaudhDhS. Both the PRR and the PādS say that this *añjali* of water destroys Rākşasas because it becomes a thunderbolt. In both sources, the *añjali* of water is followed by walking around (*pradakşiņā*), which is considered a kind of reparation rite for the crime of killing other beings, and then, according to both sources, a libation for deities (even if not the same) is performed. Even if one can perceive some similarities to this in the BaudhDhS, too, such as aiming the *añjali* of water at enemies, these similarities are much less here.

The most striking similarities in the PRR and the BaudhDhS are the repeated sipping of water after the *mantraprokṣaṇa*, the sequence of three *prāṇāyāmas*, which appears twice in these sources but not at all in the PādS, and the libations (*tarpaṇa*) after the worship of (God in) the sun.

In conclusion, what do we know about the sources of Venkatanātha's description of *sandhyā* worship? We can be sure that Venkatanātha knew both sources, the BaudhDhS and the PādS, as he mentions them explicitly. However, we can also be sure that these two sources were not his only ones, as the sequence of *sandhyā* worship he describes also contains elements that cannot be found in the two sources.

In addition, one should be aware of two facts. The first is that out of the many prescriptions for *sandhyā* worship that one can find in texts (be it the Vedic Sūtras or the Pāñcarātra Samhitās, which were examined in the context of the research for this paper), hardly any one equals another in every little detail. The normal case is that these prescriptions have certain ritual elements in common but deviate from each other in sequences and/or with regard to other ritual elements.<sup>51</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> For Vedic Sūtras apart from those examined in this paper see, for example, *Kāţhakagrhyasūtra* 1.25–28, *Kausītakigrhyasūtra* 

This means that in practice, depending on the respective traditions, many versions of *sandhyā* worship were possible and valid. It is quite possible and even probable that Venkatanātha added another version of *sandhyā* worship to these many possibilities and did not depend on a single textual source for its description. What we know for sure is that Venkatanātha did not insist on using a specific source for the performance of the *sandhyā* worship, as he explicitly said that it is proper to perform such rituals as prescribed by the Sūtra of one's own Veda branch,<sup>52</sup> regardless which one.

The second fact is that a devotee does not learn the performance of a ritual such as *sandhyā* worship primarily on the basis of texts. The performance of rituals of such a kind is learned in practice. Little boys watch their male family members, imitate them, and finally, having grown up, perform their own ritual according to their observation.<sup>53</sup> They may pay lip service to a certain textual basis but their main source is the practical tradition they grew up in, which, perhaps even more easily than texts, can also be subject to evolution and change.<sup>54</sup>

<sup>53</sup> Cf. Hüsken 2009.

<sup>54</sup> Cf., for example, Kane II/1: 315: "Modern writers went on adding details, e.g. it is now the practice in Deccan to repeat the 24 names of Viṣṇu at the very beginning of *saindhyopāsana*, but this is hardly anywhere prescribed by any Smrti or early commentator." Cf. also Hüsken 2009: 205: "Although the ritual texts are always referred to as authoritative and ultimate 'source of tradition' by the performers themselves, the priest can deviate from the ritual rules given therein, at least to a certain extent."

<sup>2.6.3–4,</sup> *Mānavagrhyasūtra* 1.2.1–5, *Varāhagrhyasūtra* 5 (p. 6,12–14), *Šāňkhāyanagrhyasūtra* 2.9.1–3, *Āśvalāyanagrhyasūtra* 3.7.3–6, *Pāraskaragrhyasūtraparišiṣṭa Trikaņḍikāsūtra* (see also Einoo 1993a: 226–236). Examples of *sandhyā* prescriptions from the Pāñcarātra Saṃhitās apart from those examined in this paper are JS 9.42c–60b, SS 6.190–191 (> ĪS 6.81 and 83ab), PauşS 41.57, NārS 11.58c–70b, ŚrīprśS 17.22–43b, MārkS 15.6, AnS 10.24– 25, BBS 3.7.165–189, ParāśaraS 3.3–8b, 4.1–30, ŚeşaS pp. 50,6–51,13, 176,3–21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> PRR 110,11f., quoted on pp. 236f.

This means that it is possible that Venkatanātha's description did not rely only on textual sources, but also on practice or on practice as it should be in his opinion.

## The sandhyā worship according to the Pāñcarātra Samhitās

If Venkatanātha did not insist on a particular textual prescription for *sandhyā* worship, this does not mean that he considered any prescription as proper to be followed. As we have seen in the passage quoted on pp. 236f, he explicitly mentioned prescriptions of certain Samhitās, namely, the *Parama*- and the *Pārameśvarasamhitā*, which he implicitly considered not proper to be followed because, as he argued, they have "no tradition of proper instruction and performance". Let us now examine what is so different in these *sandhyā* prescriptions.

The ParS, which is the earlier of the two texts,<sup>55</sup> contains several passages describing *sandhyā* worship. In chapter 3, two variants of *sandhyā* worship are described. One is a general form meant for all Bhāgavatas and one is to be performed by initiated persons.<sup>56</sup> The one to be performed by all Bhāgavatas is described as follows:

	"At early morning he should purge his bowels and silently wash [himself].
ācamana	At twilight, being pure he should sip water

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> The PārS is based on several other Samhitās, among these, to a small extent, the ParS; cf. Rastelli 2006: 49 and 570f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Cf. ParS 3.57: "Now I will explain the rules of conduct ( $\bar{a}c\bar{a}ra$ ) that is always to be performed by Bhāgavatas. The daily rituals that are taught by the *śāstra* are called *ācara*." (*ācāram adhunā vakşye kāryaṃ bhāgavatais sadā* | *ācāro nityakarmaiva śāstradīţātam prakīrtyate* ||) and ParS 3.69cd: "I will teach you the rules of conduct (samācāra) for initiated persons, o grandfather." (*dīkṣitānāṃ samācāraṃ vakṣye tava pitāmaha* ||).

recitation of the <i>pañcopanişad</i> s	and recite the <i>pañcopanişad</i> [-mantras] <sup>57</sup> one hundred times, one thousand times or ten times in times of distress.
worship of the sun	He should do homage to the sun [while re- citing] the <i>kālamantra</i>
worship of the cardinal directions	and then to the cardinal directions [while reciting] their own mantra. <sup>58</sup>
recitation of the eight-syllable and the twelve-syllable mantra	Having become pure he should recite the eight-syllable mantra and the twelve- syllable [mantra]. <sup>59</sup>
recitation of hymns	According to one's possibilities, one should daily recite hymns of praise and think of the God of gods at last." <sup>60</sup>

For initiated persons, *sandhyā* worship is described twice in ParS 3, once very briefly and the second time in more detail<sup>61</sup>:

<sup>58</sup> The ParS passage describing these mantras is corrupt. Thus it is difficult to figure out their wording. Possibly the *kālamantra* is *om ham kālāya namas*. The *dinmantra* is possibly *om haḥ digbhyo namas* (ParS 6.8–9 and 18cd).

<sup>59</sup> The eight-syllable mantra (*aṣṭākṣaramantra*) is *oṃ namo nārāyaṇāya* (e.g. PādS *cp* 25). The twelve-syllable mantra (*dvādaśākṣaramantra*) is *oṃ namo bhagavate vāsudevāya* (eg. PādS *cp* 24).

<sup>60</sup> ParS 3.58–61b: uşahkāle malotsargam krtvā prakşālya vāgyatah | śucir ācamya sandhyāyām pañcopanişadam japet || 58 śatakrtvah sahasram vā daśakrtvo [']thavāpadi | bhāskaram kālamantrena svamantrena diśo (em., ed. diśām) kramāt || 59 namaskrtvā śucir bhūtvā mantram aṣṭākṣaram japet | dvādaśākṣaram evāpi yathāsambhavam anvaham || 60 stotrāni ca japitvānte devadevam anusmaret |

<sup>61</sup> It is quite possible that these passages originally derive from independent sources and were used for compiling ParS 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> According to the ParS cosmology, the *pañcopanişanmantras* constitute the subtle body (*sūkṣmaśarīra*) of God (ParS 2.29–34). Their wording is *om ṣām namaḥ parāya parameṣṭhyātmane namaḥ; om yām namaḥ parāya puruṣātmane namaḥ; om rām namaḥ parāya viśvātmane namaḥ; om vām namaḥ parāya nivṟttyātmane namaḥ and om lām namaḥ parāya sarvātmane namaḥ (NG 182,17–20).* 

r	i
	"He should wash off the dirt with clay and water according to the <i>śāstra</i> .
touching the body	He should touch [his body (?) while reciting] the <i>viśva</i> [ <i>mantra</i> ],
ācamana	sip water [while reciting] the <i>puruṣa-</i> [ <i>mantra</i> ],
prokṣaṇa	sprinkle his head or his entire body [while reciting] the <i>paramesthi-</i> [mantra] <sup>62</sup> ,
recitation	perform <i>sandhyā</i> worship according to the prescription, recite [the <i>pañ- copanişanmantras</i> (?)] in due se- quence,
formal declaration	formally declare [to perform <i>sandhyā</i> worship while reciting] the <i>mano-mantra</i> ,
touching the sense organs	touch each sense organ [while reciting] the <i>ahamkāramantra</i> ,
worship	salute respectfully the imperishable Supreme Self ( <i>paramātman</i> )
	and touch a brown cow [while reciting] the <i>buddhimantra</i> . Having thought of the supreme Mantra, he should fulfill his worldly duties. <sup>363</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> These mantras belong to the *pañcopaniṣanmantras*; cf. n. 57.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> ParS 3.72–75: malaprakşālanam krtvā mrdbhir adbhis ca sāstratah | sprstvā visvātmanā toyam ācāmet purusātmanā || 72 paramesthyātmanā proksya siras sarvāngam eva vā | sandhyām upāsya vidhinā japitvā ca yathākramam || 73 manomantreņa sankalpya paramātmānam avyayam | sprstvāhamkāramantreņa indriyāņi sakrt sakrt || 74 abhivandyāmrséd gām ca kapilām buddhividyayā | mantram param anusmrtya (ParS<sub>ms</sub> p. 44, ed. anusprsya) laukikam kāryam ācaret || 75. The line 74cd probably is a later interpolation because if we remove it we get the smooth formulation: paramātmānam avyayam abhivandya. Otherwise, paramātmānam avyayam lacks a verb, and abhivandya lacks an object. In the translation, however, I do not

bath	"For purification he should bathe first and [then] perform a mantra bath. (83cd) Taking clay [while re- citing] the sarva[mantra], he should purify the water by means of the nivŗtti[mantra]. He should invite the bathing place (tīrtha) and smear [his body while reciting] the puruṣa[mantra]. (84) He should bathe [while reciting] the parameṣthi[mantra] <sup>62</sup> .
ācamana	He should sip water again according to the rules.
prokșaņa	Having sprinkled [himself while recit- ing] the <i>pañcopanisad</i> [-mantras],
cleaning the body	he should clean his whole body. (85)
recitation of the <i>pañcopanişads</i> with breath control	Standing inside the water he should recite the five mantras in the proper se- quence. Having recited while perform- ing breath control ( <i>prāņāyāma</i> ) thrice, twice or once <sup>64</sup> and having bathed,
changing clothes	he should put on his clothes,
ācamana	sip water,

remove this line, but give the ritual sequence in the order that was probably intended by the interpolator

<sup>64</sup> The meaning of *vinayena* in the line  $pr\bar{a}n\bar{a}y\bar{a}maih$  tribhir dv $\bar{a}bhy\bar{a}m$ ekena vinayena  $v\bar{a}$  is not quite clear. The word order suggests that the words ekena vinayena are one unit. Then vinaya would be a kind of synonym of  $pr\bar{a}n\bar{a}y\bar{a}ma$ . However, I am not aware of the usage of the term vinaya in this meaning. One could also understand vinayena as "in a controlled way". Then, however, the position of the word  $v\bar{a}$  would be strange, even if one takes into consideration that word order in *ślokas* is usually not strictly regulated. The variant of ParS 2.87cd ( $\approx$  ParS 3.86cd):  $pr\bar{a}n\bar{a}y\bar{a}mais$  tribhir  $dv\bar{a}bhy\bar{a}m$  ekena niyatena  $v\bar{a}$  does not help in this case. niyatena could either be a synonym of vinayena in the sense of "in a controlled way" or it could mean "in a fixed [number]" (?).

recitation of various <i>mantra</i> s	turn eastwards and, holding <i>kuśa</i> grass in his hand [and] being concentrated, (86–87) recite the <i>paramahamsa</i> and the <i>pranava</i> <sup>65</sup> (i.e. <i>om</i> ) con- sisting of three syllabic instants one thousand or one hundred times, and [he should also recite] the twelve- syllable and the eight-syllable [mantras]. (88)
worship of God in the sun	He should worship the sun after having thrown a wa- ter <i>añjali</i> [while reciting] just these great mantras. And joining his hollowed palms, he should visu- alise the subtle, fiery supreme Lord as being present in the [solar] disk [while reciting] the <i>kāla</i> [mantra]
<i>tarpaṇa</i> of the deities, etc.	and, after that, he should satiate the deities with water in the proper sequence, (89–90) [namely,] Indra and the others, Viṣṇu and the others, Vāsudeva and the oth- ers, the twelve <i>mūrtis</i> and the <i>śaktis</i> <sup>66</sup> and the Supreme Self himself, (91) the elements earth and the others, the seers and the ancestors. The name in the accusative case at the beginning, then [the phrase] 'I satiate', (92) this is the mantra that is fitly declared for satiating.
	Having satiated [the deities], he should sip wa- ter again and go <sup>67</sup> to the place of worship." <sup>68</sup>

<sup>68</sup> ParS 3.83c–93: śuddhyartham prathamam snātvā mantrasnānam samācaret || 83 sarveņa mrdam ādāya nivrtyā vāri śodhayet | viśvena tīrtham āvāhya purusenānulepayet || 84 paramesthyātmanā snāyād ācāmed vidhinā

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> As Czerniak-Drożdżowicz (2003: 191, n. 626) points out, these two mantras may only be used by initiated persons (see ParS 29.73c–74b). The wording of the *paramahamsamantra* (mentioned also in ParS 4.54–55, 84, 8.32, 23.41, 29.16) is not clear. One could think of the *hamsamantra* (*so 'ham, Dhyānabindūpaniṣad* 61c–62b) but there is no evidence that this mantra is meant here. If one searches for the term *paramahamsa* in other Samhitās than the ParS, it appears most often meaning God's manifestation as supreme goose (JS 2.7, PādS cp 13.57, BhT 1.40).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> For all these deities see pp. 273f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> samā- $\sqrt{car}$  actually does not mean "to go" but rather "to perform". This, however, does not make sense with yāgasthāna as object. So I interpret it in the meaning of  $\sqrt{car}$  without prefixes.

In addition, ParS 27 gives another short account of *sandhyā* worship in a kind of summary of rituals<sup>69</sup>:

ācamana	"() Afterwards he should sip water according to the prescriptions,
drinking, wiping the mouth	drink [water], wipe his mouth once, (7cd)
ācamana	sip water again,
ātmaprokṣaṇa	sprinkle himself according to the prescriptions,
ātmaparișecana	then sprinkle water around himself
jalāñjali	and throw a water <i>añjali</i> . (8)
washing the hands	With regard to the <i>sandhyā</i> [worship] he should wash his hands with water again,
recitation of the <i>pañ</i> - <i>copanişad</i> s	recite the five mantras
pradakșiņā	and circumambulate God."70

punaḥ | pañcopaniṣadā prokṣya sarvagātram viśodhayet || 85 antarjalagato bhūtvā pañcamantrān kramāj japet | prāṇāyāmaiḥ tribhir dvābhyām ekena vinayena vā || 86 japitvā tu kṛtasnānaḥ paridhāyātha vāsasī | ācāntaḥ prānmukho bhutvā kuśapāṇiḥ samāhitaḥ (em. [for a parallel see ParS 22.34b], ed. kuśalam nissamāhitaḥ) || 87 japet paramahamsam tu trimātram praṇavam tathā | sahasram śatavāram vā dvādaśāṣṭākṣarāv api || 88 ādityam upatiṣṭheta pūrvam muktvā jalāñjalim | etair eva mahāmantraiḥ kālena ca kṛtāñjaliḥ || 89 sūkṣmam tejomayam dhyātvā maṇḍalastham param prabhum | tarpayed devatāḥ paścād udakena yathākramam || 90 indrādīn viṣṇupūrvāmś ca vāsudevādikān api | mūrtīr dvādaśa śaktīś ca paramātmānam eva ca || 91 pṛthivyādīni bhūtāni ṟṣīṃś ca pitṟbhis saha | ādau nāma dvitīyāntaṃ tarpayāmīti cottaram || 92 eṣa mantras tu nirdiṣṭaḥ tarpaṇe tu yathātatham | samtarpya punar ācamya yāgasthānam samācaret || 93

<sup>69</sup> Cf. ParS 27.2ab: "Look! I will give you a summary of the rituals." (*hanta te kathayişyāmi karmaņām samgraham tava* |).

<sup>70</sup> ParS 27.7c–9: ācamya vidhivat paścāt pītvonmrjya sakrn mukham || 7 bhūya eva tathācamya prokşyātmānam yathāvidhi | ātmānam parişicyātha visrjet salilāñjalim || 8 sandhyām uddiśya bhūyo 'pi pānī prakşālya vāriņā | pañcamantrajapam krtvā devasyāpi pradakşiņam || 9.

# The PārS offers prescriptions for the *sandhyā* rituals within its description of the Pāñcarātric daily routine called *pañcakālas*<sup>71</sup>:

touching the sense organs	"() He should cover his ears, eyes, mouth [and] nose in sequence with his fingers.
plunging into the water while reciting	Then he should plunge [into the water] while reciting the mantra and the <i>anga</i> [ <i>mantras</i> ] (85) once or many times according to his ability.
visualisation of God within the body	He should visualise Hari, the God, as consist- ing of light, as being present in the lotus of the heart and in the place between the eyes. (86)
prāņāyāma	In order to remove all malefactions he should perform 'sin-effacing' ( <i>aghamarşana</i> ) in this way (?) by means of three, two, one or a fixed number (?, cf. n. 64) of breath controls. <sup>72</sup> (87)
stepping out of the water, changing clothes, etc.	Afterwards he should rise up and perform [his rites (?)]. He should look at the solar disk—the one of great splendour (i.e. the sun) is a manifestation of the mantra <sup>73</sup> —step out of the water, (88) take off the bathing cloth, put on another cloth, then bind his tuft of hair while reciting the <i>śikhā</i> [mantra],

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> For the role of the *pañcakāla* rites in the PārS see Rastelli 2006: 62–91.

<sup>73</sup> It is not at all certain that the text is correct here. This sentence inserted into another one seems strange but as I cannot propose a better solution

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> For the manner of the performance of the *aghamarṣaṇa* rite see Kane II/1: 317: "*Aghamarṣaṇa* (driving out sin) consists in taking water in the right hand formed in the shape of a cow's ear, holding it near one's nose, breathing out from the nose on the water (with the idea of driving away sin from oneself) to the accompaniment of the three verses '*ytam ca*' (Rg. X. 190.1–3) and then casting the water away to one's left on the ground." If according to the PārS RV X.190 or another mantra is recited is not clear; see below (pp. 271f) on the mantras used in the *sandhyā* worship according to the PārS and n. 75. Cf. also Gupta/Hoens/Goudriaan 1979: 132: "The Tantric form of *aghamarṣaṇa* (removal of all sins) differs from the Vedic *aghamarṣaṇa* in that it does not use any Vedic mantra."

ācamana	and sip water according to the prescriptions. (89) $()^{74}$
prāņāyāma with water (aghamarşaņa?)	He should move his right palm filled with wa- ter to the tip of his nose, O Sage, (96cd) smell [it] while thinking of the <i>hrnmantra</i> , hold [his breath] while whispering the <i>kavaca</i> [ <i>mantra</i> ], and exhale, uttering the <i>astra</i> [ <i>mantra</i> ] while throwing water. <sup>75</sup> (97)
mantranyāsa	Then he should place [mantras] on his hands and body in sequence.
<i>jalāñjali</i> for sages	Then he should take filtered water into his left hand while reciting the <i>hynmantra</i> (98) and he should delight the deceased sages, throw- ing [water] while reciting the <i>śikhā</i> [ <i>mantra</i> ].
<i>jalāñjali</i> in order to destroy vil- lains and faults	In order to destroy villains and faults, thinking of the <i>astra</i> [ <i>mantra</i> ] he should throw [water] onto the earth (99) towards the intermediate points of the compass (? <i>antarāntarayogena</i> ), then down and finally up.
<i>jalāñjali</i> for God	Then he should take an <i>añjali</i> of water and, thinking of Hari while reciting his mantra, (100) satiate [Him] who is present in the solar disk by means of this water.
reciting while facing the sun	Then with his [right] hand holding <i>kuśa</i> grass raised upwards, his eyes closed, reciting, (101) he should look <sup>76</sup> at the sun, which is the mantra that has been worshipped before by means of <i>arghya</i> .

I take the text as it is. The entire PārS is a text compiled of passages from other texts (cf. Rastelli 2006: 49–62), which often results in inhomogeneities

 $^{74}\,$  PārS 2.90–96b (ParS 5.5–9) is a detailed prescription of how to perform *ācamana*.

<sup>75</sup> These  $pr\bar{a}n\bar{a}y\bar{a}mas$  seem to be a replication of the *aghamarsana* rite described in ParS 2.87.

 $^{76}\,$  Probably this means that the devotee should close his eyes and face the sun.

<i>tarpaṇa</i> of throne, deities, etc.	Then he should sit down and satiate the mantra together with his limbs and his retinue, preceded by [satiating] the throne [that serves as] support $(\bar{a}dh\bar{a}r\bar{a}sana)$ . Then, in sequence, [he should satiate] Indra and the others, Viṣnu and the others, Vāsudeva and the others, (102–103) the twelve $m\bar{u}rtis$ and the <i>śaktis</i> and the Supreme Self himself, the elements earth and the others, the seers and the ancestors. (104) Uttering the name in the accusative case at the beginning and [the phrase] 'I satiate', this is the mantra that is declared for satiating in due succession. (105)
<i>tarpaṇa</i> of the ancestors	Having satiated the fathers and grandfathers with water with sesame, he should satiate the great-grandfathers and their wives afterwards. (106) He should satiate while facing southwards for all the ancestors <sup>77</sup> , for the deities and all the others he should face eastwards [in the morning] or westwards [in the evening]. (107)
ācamana	Then he should put the <i>pavitraka</i> (i.e. the <i>kuśa</i> grass mentioned in 101) away. The one who knows the mantra ( <i>mantravid</i> <sup>78</sup> ) should sip water again and
salutation of the cardinal di- rections	salute to in the cardinal directions respectfully after having visualised Nārāyaṇa, the Lord, in the evening and in the morning." <sup>79</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> The southern direction is the direction of Yama, the deity that rules the spirits of the dead. Thus it fits to the deceased ancestors.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> In this context the term *mantravid* probably does not only mean that the devotee knows the mantra, but also that he recites it while sipping water.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> PārS 2.85–89 and 96c–108: śrotradrgvadanam nāsām svakarāngulibhih kramāt | sthagayitvā nimajyātha sāngam mantram athoccaran || 85 sakrd vā bahuśah śaktyā dhyāyej jyotirmayam harim | devam hrţpuşkarāntastham netrayor atha cāntare || 86 sarvapāpanirāsārtham krţtvaivam aghamarşanam | prānāyāmais tribhir dvābhyām ekena niyatena vā || 87 samutthāyācaret paścāt sannirīkşyārkamandalam | mantramūrtir mahātejāh samuttīrya jalāntarāt || 88 snānavastram parityajya paridhāyāmbarāntaram |

PRR	ParS 3.58–61b	ParS 3.72–75	ParS 3.85b–93	ParS 27.7c–9	PārS 2.85–108
		touching the body			touching the sense organs
					plunging into the water, recitation
					visualisation of God within the body
				ācamana	
				drinking, wiping one's mouth	

Let us again compare the ritual sequences described in these texts with the sequence described by Venkatanātha:

sikhayātha sikhābandham krtvācamya yathāvidhi || 89 (...) sajalam daksinam hastam krtvā ghrānāgragam mune || 96 smaran hrnmantram āghrāva sandhārva kavacam lapan | virecva samudīrvāstram tovaksepena vai saha || 97 tatas tu hastavor dehe nyāsam kuryād yathākramam (corr. of the editor, text: yathāgamam) | hrdā vāmakare toyam ādāya galitam ca tat || 98 vibudhān ūrdhvadehasthān hlādayec chikayā ksipan | smarann astram ksiped bhūmau dustadosapraśāntave || 99 antarāntarayogena hy ūrdhvāntam prāg adhas tatah | jalāñjalim athādāva svamantrena (corr. of the editor, text: samantrena) harim smaran || 100 sūryamandalamadhyastham tarpayet tena vārinā | sakuśordhvakaraś cātha vinimīlitadrg japan || 101 sūryam nirīksayen mantram yad arghvenārcitam purā | tatopaviśya santarpya ādhārāsanapūrvakam || 102 sāngam saparivāram ca mantram tadanu vai kramāt | indrādīn visnupūrvāms ca vāsudevādikān api || 103 mūrtīr dvādasa śaktīś ca paramātmānam eva ca | prthivvādīni bhūtāni rsīmś ca pitrbhih saha || 104 ādau nāma dvitīyāntam tarpayāmīti coccaran | eşa mantras tu nirdistas tarpanesu yathākramam || 105 tilodakais tarpayitvā svapitīrmś ca pitāmahān | prapitāmahasamjñāmś ca sadārān anutarpayet || 106 tarpayet sarvapitrnām daksinābhimukhena tu | devānām ca tadanyesām prānmukho vāpy udanmukhah || 107 pavitrakam tyajet paścāt punar ācamya mantravit | sāyam prātar diśo vandyād dhyātvā nārāyanam prabhum || 108. PārS 2.87cd; ≈ParS 3.86cd; PārS 2.90–96b; ≈ParS 5.5–9; PārS 2.103c–105; ≈ParS 3.91–93b.

PRR	ParS 3.58–61b	ParS 3.72–75	ParS 3.85b–93	ParS 27.7c–9	PārS 2.85–108
ācamana	ācamana	ācamana	ācamana	ācamana	
mantra- prokşaņa		prokşana	prokṣaṇa while reciting the pañc- opaniṣads	ātmaprokṣa- ṇa	
mantrācama- na					
prokṣaṇa					
svātmapari- șecana				ātmapari- șecana	
<i>arghyadāna</i> in order to des- troy Rākṣasas					
pradakșiņā					
<i>tarpana</i> of the lords of the months					
			purification of the body		
<i>prāņāyāma</i> , invitation and <b>recitation</b> of the <i>gāyatrī</i>	recitation of the <u>pañcopa-</u> <u>nisads</u> (100, 1000 or 10 times)	recitation	recitation of the <i>pañcopa-</i> <u>nisads</u> with <i>prāņāyāma</i>		<i>aghamarşaṇa</i> by means of <i>prāṇāyāma</i> s <sup>80</sup>
			changing clothes		stepping out of the wa- ter, changing clothes
			ācamana		ācamana
			recitation of the <i>parama-</i> <i>hamsa</i> and the <i>pranava</i> , 1000 or 100 times		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> Cf. BaudhDhS 2.8.11 for a parallel rite.

PRR	ParS	ParS	ParS	ParS	PārS
1 KK	3.58–61b	3.72–75	3.85b-93	27.7c–9	2.85–108
recitation of the <i>aṣṭ-</i> ākşara- mantra			recitation of the <i>aşţākşara-</i> and <i>dvādaśā-</i> <i>kşaramantra</i>		
prāņāyāma					prāņāyāma with water (agha- marşaṇa?) reci- ting hm-, kavaca-, astramantra
saṃkalpa		saṃkalpa			
anujñāpana					
		touching the sense organs			
					mantranyāsa
					<i>jalāñjali</i> for sages <sup>81</sup>
					<i>jalāñjali</i> in order to destroy villains and faults <sup>81</sup>
upasthāna	worship of the sun re- citing <u>kāla-</u> <u>mantra</u>	worship of the Supreme Self	<i>jalāňjali</i> , wor- ship of the sun reciting <u>mahā-</u> <u>mantras</u> and <u>kālamantra</u> ; visualisation of God in the so- lar disk	jalāħjali	<i>jalāñjali</i> for God present in the sun, recita- tion of <u>his mantra</u>
namaskāra for Sandhyā, e t c . , pradakşiņā					
<i>abhivādana</i> and <i>praņāma</i> for God pres- ent in the heart					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> The *jalāñjali*s for the sages and for the sake of the destruction of villains and faults seem to be a parallel of the *jalāñjali*s for one's own benefit and

PRR	ParS 3.58–61b	ParS 3.72–75	ParS 3.85b–93	ParS 27.7c–9	PārS 2.85–108
				w a s h i n g one's hands	
				recitation of the <i>pañc-</i> <i>opaniṣad</i> s	
				<i>pradakşiṇā</i> for God	
optional: <i>praṇāma</i> for the cardinal directions, etc.	worship of the cardinal directions reciting their mantra				
	recitation of the <i>astāksara</i> - and <i>dvā</i> - <i>daśāksara-</i> <i>mantra</i>				
	reciting stotras, thinking of God				
<i>tarpana</i> of <i>āchāruścki</i> , etc., the deities, the seers, and the ancestors			<i>tarpaņa</i> of deities, etc.		<i>tarpana</i> of <i>ādhāraśākti</i> , etc., the deities etc., the ancestors
wringing out the bathing cloth					
ācamana					ācamana
					salutation of the cardinal directions
<i>samāhāra</i> of mantras					

The comparison shows that in some cases the nature of rituals that constitute *sandhyā* worship and their sequence match in their descriptions those of the PRR, the ParS and the PārS, and in some cases they diverge.

for the enemy's damage in BaudhDhS 2.8.4.
We arrived at the same conclusion when we compared the PRR's descriptions with those of the BaudhDhS and the PādS: the kind of rituals and their sequence sometimes match and sometimes diverge. So if we look only at these two aspects, namely, which rituals are performed and in what sequence, we do not find more matches or affinities between the PRR and the BaudhDhS and the PādS than between the PRR and the PārS.

However we find another aspect that diverges in the prescriptions of the PRR and those of the ParS and the PārS, which is most crucial: the mantras that are recited while the devotee performs his rites.

In the Vedic orthodox form of the *sandhyā* ritual, the most important mantra is the  $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{i}$ . Its recitation is considered one of the principal constituents of this ritual,<sup>82</sup> and it also plays a prominent role in Venkațanātha's description.

In contrast, in the ParS's prescriptions the mantras that appear most often are the *pañcopanişanmantras*. As already mentioned (n. 57), in the ParS's cosmology these mantras, although they bear masculine names, represent five *śakti*s that constitute the subtle body of God. They belong to the most important mantras of the ParS and are mentioned very often in its ritual prescriptions.<sup>83</sup> In the ParS's prescriptions for *sandhyā* worship, they take the place of the *gāyatrī*: They should be recited one hundred, one thousand or ten times (ParS 3.58–59b; see also 27.9) just as the *gāyatrī* should be recited according to the Vedic prescriptions (cf. PRR 107,11f.), and they are recited also in other contexts of the morning ritual (ParS 3.72c–73b, 3.84–86).

Another important mantra in the ParS's prescriptions is the  $k\bar{a}lamantra$  (ParS 3.59, 89), the mantra of time, used for the worship of sun, which is another principal element of the *sandhyā* ritual. In the ParS, time is one of the *tattvas* that constitute the world. Like all other *tattvas* constituting the world, mostly borrowed from the Sāmkhya, it arises during the process of creation, more precisely, from the *taijasa ahamkāra* (cf. n. 91)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> Cf., e.g., Kane II/1: 314.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup> E.g., ParS 4.5, 41–43b, 48, 5.24, 8.33, 51, 19.28, 20.28, 40, 55.

(ParS 2.35–51),<sup>84</sup> and just like the other *tattvas* it is a form of manifestation of God.<sup>85</sup> As the passing of time is most clearly visible in the movement of the sun, it obviously suggests itself to consider the sun a manifestation of God in the form of time, and thus the *kālamantra* was considered the appropriate mantra for worshipping this form of God.

Another mantra specifically used in the ParS's *sandhyā* ritual is the *dimmantra*, the mantra of the cardinal directions, which are also one of the *tattvas* of the ParS's cosmology, arising from time (ParS 2.49) and representing space. This mantra is fittingly used for worshipping the cardinal directions, a rite that is also accepted by Veňkatanātha as an option if the devotee stands in a tradition performing it (PRR 109,13–15, see p. 244). The *manomantra*, the *ahamkāramantra*, and the *buddhimantra* mentioned in ParS 3.74–75 are constituents of the ParS's cosmology, too.<sup>86</sup>

The only mantra the recitation of which is described by both the ParS and Venkatanātha is the eight-syllable mantra (*aṣṭākṣara-mantra*) (ParS 3.60, 88, PRR 107,10f., see p. 279f).<sup>87</sup>

<sup>85</sup> See ParS 2.52–53b: "The five subtle elements such as smell and the others, the cardinal directions, time, mind, self-awareness, intellect, the primary matter and the yoga body (i.e. the subtle body made of the *pañcopanişads*; see ParS 2.29–34) are taught as the twelve manifestations of the Supreme Self." (*gandhamātrādikāḥ pañca diśaḥ kālo manas tathā* | *ahaņkāraś ca buddhiś ca prakrtir yogavigrahaḥ* || 52 *ity etā dvādaśa proktā mūrtayaḥ paramātmanaḥ* |) and ParS 2.77: "The supreme person himself, o Brahmā, appearing as time permanently turns the wheel for the sake of the course of the world." (*para eva pumān brahma kālo bhūtvā vyavasthitaḥ* | *lokasaṇvyavahārārthaṃ cakraṃ bhramayati dhruvam* || 77). According to the Pāñcarātra, every aspect of the world is a manifestation of God; cf. Rastelli 1999: 98f.

<sup>86</sup> ParS 2.41–48. The mind (*manas*) is associated with volition (*samkalpa*) (ParS 2.48cd, 6.18ab) which makes it appropriate for the ritual declaration (*samkalpa*) for performing a ritual.

<sup>87</sup> It is probably not by chance that Venkatanātha does not mention the *dvādaśākṣaramantra* here because it is associated with the Ekāyanas (Rastelli 2006: 204f.). On the Ekāyanas see pp. 279f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> For a detailed description of this process of creation according to the ParS see Czerniak-Drożdżowicz 1998 and Rastelli 2006: 354; for a summary see p. 273.

Another difference between the PRR and the ParS can probably be found in the deities satiated during the *sandhyā* ritual. Although Venkatanātha does not specify the deities that are to be satiated, but formulates his prescription in a rather general way,<sup>88</sup> we can be almost sure that he does not mean the deities that are mentioned in the ParS. The reason is that although the list of deities in the ParS 3.91-92b seems to be quite general at first view, they are quite specific for the ParS's cosmology, even if the ParS's cosmology is not coherent in all places of the text.

Supreme Self:	The Supreme Self ( <i>paramātman</i> ) possesses a body made of the <i>pañcopanişads</i> (ParS 2.29–30).
śaktis:	When the <i>pañcopaniṣads</i> join with the primary matter ( <i>prakrti</i> ), fifteen <i>śaktis</i> (Jyeṣṭhā, Vidyā, Kānti, Śānti, Śraddhā, Vāgīśvarī, Kriyā, Kīrti, Lakṣmī, Sr̥ṣṭi, Mohinī, Avidyā Tamovatī, Mr̥tyu, Māyā, Malinā) arise (ParS 2.35–38).
twelve <i>mūrtis</i> :	These fifteen <i>śaktis</i> in three groups of five constitute the three <i>guṇas</i> , from which the various <i>tattvas</i> arise (ParS 2.35cd and 39–51). Twelve of these <i>tattvas</i> , namely, the five subtle elements, the cardinal directions, time, mind, self-awareness, intellect, the primary matter and the yoga body, are called the twelve <i>mūrtis</i> of the Supreme Self (ParS 2.52–53b, cf. n. 85).
	From these twelve <i>mūrtis</i> twelve <i>śaktis</i> (Yogeśvarī, Sukhā, Prajñā, Tuşți, Smŗti, Dīptirāgā, Vāc, Nīti, Kānti, Amŗtā, Śakti, Sarvā) arise (ParS 2.79–81).
Viṣṇu and the oth- ers:	From the twelve <i>śaktis</i> the twelve lords of the months Viṣṇu, Madhusūdana, Trivikrama, Vāmana, Śrīdhara, Hr̥ṣīkeśa, Padmanābha, Dāmodara, Keśava, Nārāyaṇa, Mādhava, and Govinda arise (ParS 2.82–86).

Let us investigate the role of these deities in the ParS in detail:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> PRR 110,1f.: "Then he should realise that the *ādhāraśakti* and the other [constituents of God's throne] up to [His] retinue and the deities, the seers and the ancestors have the nature of the Venerable One and satiate them with their respective names preceded by the *praṇava*." For the Sanskrit text see n. 31.

Vāsudeva and the others are the four Vyūhas: Vāsudeva, Samkarsana, Pradyumna, and Aniruddha. They are also mentioned in the ParS chapter on cosmology (ParS 2.99c-101), but they do not have a specific role or place in the process of creation. It seems that they were added to this description later. The four Vyūhas, however, appear also in another passage, namely, in the description of the throne (*vāgapītha*?<sup>89</sup>) used for the worship of God. This kind of throne is generally constituted of elements that also constitute the universe.<sup>90</sup> Thus it also gives us information about cosmological concepts. In the ParS's throne, the four Vyūhas are its four legs and represent the four positive gunas of the intellect (buddhi), dharma, jñāna, vairāgva and aiśvarva. The other parts of the throne are the four negative gunas of the bud*dhi*, the three *ahamkāras*<sup>91</sup>, the three *gunas* of primary matter, the elements (*bhūta*), and a lotus. On the petals and the filaments of the lotus, the twelve *mūrtis* and the fifteen *śaktis* are situated. On the receptacle  $(karnik\bar{a})$  the three groups of five *saktis* being the sources of the three gunas of the prakrti are present. Above them we find fire (agni), moon (soma), and sun (sūrya), which are the uppermost elements of the throne (ParS 4.28c-36). We see that in contrast to the cosmology chapter, in the throne the four Vyūhas have been integrated into a system to which also the twelve *mūrtis*, the fifteen *śaktis*, etc. belong.

Indra and the others mean the guardians of the world (*lokapāla*). They are deities that are quite common but the formulation "[while reciting] the mantras beginning with the [twelve] *mūrtis* and the [twelve] *śaktis* and ending with the *lokapālas*" (*mūrtiśaktyādibhir mantrair lokapālāvasānikaih* ||) in ParS 20.54 shows that they can have a fixed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> The verses ParS 4.27–28 indeed use the term  $y\bar{a}gap\bar{i}tha$ . This term may be used intentionally or it may be a scribal error for the term  $yogap\bar{i}tha$  which is more common and appears also in other places of the ParS (ParS 4.64, 22.71, 25.22, 29.3 and 64).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Cf. Rastelli 1999: 73–80.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> I.e. the *vaikārika ahamkāra* made of *sattva*, the *taijasa ahamkāra* made of *rajas*, and the *bhūtādi ahamkāra* made of *tamas* (ParS 2.45–46).

place in a defined series of mantras that also include the twelve *mūrtis* and twelve *śaktis* that are specific for the ParS.

The mantras used in the PārS are that of the mantric system specific for this Samhitā. The main mantra of the PārS is the twelve-syllable mantra ( $dv\bar{a}daś\bar{a}ksaramantra$ ) om namo bhagavate vāsudevāya. It is followed by the six angamantras for heart (hrd), head (siras), tuft of hair ( $sikh\bar{a}$ ), cuirass (kavaca), weapon (astra) and eye (netra), and several other groups of mantras constituting the retinue of the main mantra, which are not of importance in our context as they are not mentioned in detail in the passage quoted.<sup>92</sup>

The main mantra is recited while offering a *jalāñjali* to God present in the sun, one of the most important moments in *sandhyā* worship (PārS 2.100c–101b). Together with the *angamantras* and its retinue it is the first mantra that is satiated (PārS 2.102c–103b). And it is recited while plunging into the water when God is visualised as being present within the body of the devotee (PārS 2.85c–86). The other mantras recited while performing breath control or while throwing *jalāñjalis* for various purposes (PārS 2.96c–99) belong to the *angamantras*.

The deities and beings satiated in the PārS's prescriptions are for a great part those from the ParS. The redactor of the PārS adopted the whole passage from ParS 3.91–93b in PārS 2.103c–105, although generally the PārS did not adopt the ParS's cosmology.

# **Theory or Practice?**

We found out that the main difference between the *sandhyā* rituals that were accepted by Venkatanātha and those that he implicitly rejected are the mantras recited and the deities evoked during the rituals. One of his main arguments for implicitly rejecting the ParS and PārS *sandhyā* rituals is that they were not properly performed in practice.

However, could this be true? And what exactly does it mean?

 $<sup>^{92}</sup>$  For a detailed description of the mantric system of the PārS see Rastelli 2006: 424–426.

First of all, as long as there is no other evidence, we should principally consider a document of religious history such as the PRR to be truthful. In this case, however, we have other documents, namely the ParS and the PārS. If we take Venkatanātha at his word, this would mean that these two Samhitās were purely normative texts which were never properly put into practice.<sup>93</sup> So it is one statement against another.

We could argue that the ParS had been composed a few centuries before Venkatanātha's lifetime and its ritual prescriptions had become obsolete by that time.<sup>94</sup> It is, however, more difficult to argue this with regard to the PārS. The PārS was composed not very long before Venkatanātha, probably in the 12<sup>th</sup> century at the earliest, and it was probably composed in Śrīranġam (Rastelli 2006: 49–54), a place where Venkatanātha spent a part of his life as *ācārya* (Singh 1958: 22–29). The fact that the PārS was commented by Narasimhayajvan in the 18<sup>th</sup> century shows that it could not have become out of use at the time of Venkatanātha.

Is it then probable that Venkatanātha never had the opportunity to observe the performance of rituals according to the PārS? The keyword here might be "properly" (*yathāvat*): Venkatanātha perhaps did

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> An argument against this would be that at least the PārS was an authoritative text for Venkatanātha himself, as he quoted from it several times in his PRR (e.g., PārS 10.329–333b in PRR 40,9–17 or PārS 2.42c–57b in PRR 99,12–101,3). It is however possible that he considered it authoritative only for aspects other than the *sandhyā* ritual.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> The *Paramasamhitā* is already quoted in Yāmuna's  $\bar{A}gamapr\bar{a}m\bar{a}nya$  (10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> century) but we do not know which form it had in Yāmuna's lifetime (cf. Czerniak-Drożdżowicz 2003: 27f.), a problem that inheres in the dating of all anonymous literature.

On the other hand, the usage of the *pañcopaniṣanmantras*, which seems to be the main reason for rejecting the prescriptions of the ParS, could not have been very unconventional for Veṅkaṭanātha. Their usage is prescribed even in the *Nityagrantha* (182,17–20) which Veṅkaṭanātha considered to have been authored by Rāmānuja, one of his most authoritative teachers (see, e.g., PRR 63,17f.).

not want to say that the *sandhyā* prescriptions of the ParS and the PārS were not followed at all but that they were not followed in a proper way. We will examine below (pp. 279f.) what this could mean from his point of view.

But what was Venkatanātha's reason for making this statement? In order to answer this question we have to consider Venkatanātha's overall purpose for writing the PRR: he wanted to show that the Pañcarātra scriptures are authoritative because they are in agreement with the Vedic texts (cf. PRR 2,1–3,8).

If we consider *sandhyā* prescriptions such as those of the ParS and the PārS, it is difficult to argue that they are in agreement with the Vedic Sūtras. The recitation of the  $g\bar{a}yatr\bar{i}$  is one of the principal constituents of the Vedic orthodox *sandhyā*. If it is absent, it is not a Vedic orthodox *sandhyā* anymore.

Venkatanātha could not argue that the prescriptions of the ParS and PārS are not valid because in chapter 1 of the PRR he went to great pains to show that the entire tradition of Pāñcarātra including all sub-traditions (*siddhānta*) is authoritative (PRR 3,9–13, 7,13–9,5, 43,8–19). So other arguments had to be found:

"Even if with regard to the [sandhyā ritual] three different kinds of sandhyā worship are described in the various [Pāñcarātra] Samhitās, namely, that related to the seers ( $\bar{a}rs\bar{i}$ ), that related to Viṣṇu (vaiṣnavī), [and] that related to Prajāpati ( $prājāpaty\bar{a}$ ), it is nevertheless proper to perform the sandhyā worship and other [rites] only as prescribed by one's Sūtra, (1) because it is difficult to know these various modes [of sandhyā worship] as the largest portion of these Samhitās is lost, (...)

In this passage, Venkatanātha said that there are prescriptions for  $sandhy\bar{a}$  worship in the Pāñcarātra Samhitās and specifies three kinds of them. However, he said, it is difficult to know the content of these prescriptions because they are lost in large part.

Lost prescriptions were an issue already in the  $\bar{A}pastamba-dharmas\bar{u}tra$  and in the Mīmāmsā. Here we have the principle that the main basis of the *dharma*, that is, what one should do and how one should live, is the Veda. There are, however, cases in which the so-called

"cultivated people" (*śiṣṭa*) who principally follow the Vedic prescriptions have customs and rules of conduct ( $\bar{a}c\bar{a}ra$ ) that are not prescribed by the Veda. In such cases the principle was to infer that these customs are based on lost parts of the Veda.<sup>95</sup> Considered as such, the customs of cultivated people were an authority with regard to the *dharma*, although hierarchically placed below the Vedic revelation (*śruti*) and the *smṛtis*.

However, this is not exactly what Venkatanātha argued here. There are not certain customs which must be argued to be based on certain prescriptions. Actually, according to Venkatanātha it is just the contrary: a few prescriptions are extant but they are not followed properly:

(...) (2) because a tradition of proper instruction and performance even of the various modes of *sandhyā* worship that are seen in their entirety in Samhitās such as the *Pārameśvara* or the *Parama* is not established,

What to do in such a case, where the large part of the prescriptions is supposedly lost and the part that is extant is not properly practiced? We have to find out the content of the lost prescriptions by finding out what the Pāñcarātra Samhitās' general view is of how rituals should be performed:

[and] (3) because it is established that even if performed according to the Sūtras [*sandhyā* worship] has the form of the worship of the Venerable One, since there is no insistence on giving up something that was adopted before, since the *saṃskāras* and the established rules of conduct ( $\bar{a}c\bar{a}ra$ ) that are taught by one's own Sūtra are approved in the Saṃhitās of the Venerable One's body of teachings (*bhagavacchāstra*) themselves."

Venkațanātha argued that the Pāñcarātra Samhitās do not require that a devotee gives up his Vedic tradition as they approve the rituals

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> See ĀpDhS 12.10: "All rites are described in the Brāhmaņas. The lost Brāhmaņa passages relating to some of them are inferred from usage." (*brāhmaņoktā vidhayas teṣām utsannāḥ pāṭhāḥ prayogād anumīyante*, translated by Olivelle 2000: 44) and, for the Mīmāmsā, Clooney 2001: 141f.

and customs prescribed by the Vedic Sūtras (here we clearly see who Venkatanātha's target audience was: Pāñcarātrins that also adhere to a Vedic  $\dot{s}akha$ ). According to Venkatanātha, this proves that the Vedic Sūtras have the same aim as the Pāñcarātra Samhitās, namely, the worship of God and not that of the sun itself. So according to Venkatanātha, we know what was intended by the lost *sandhyā* prescriptions of the Pāñcarātra Samhitās: a performance that agrees with one according to the prescriptions of the Vedic Sūtras because Pāñcarātra Samhitās and Vedic Sūtras both match with regard to their content.

By arguing in such a complicated way, Venkatanātha achieved the following aims: Arguments 1 and 3 maintain the supreme authority of the Pāñcarātra Samhitās while at the same time Venkatanātha achieved his aim that the *sandhyā* rituals should be performed according to the Vedic Sūtras. These arguments give the impression that the Pāñcarātra Samhitās originally prescribed the performance of the *sandhyā* rituals in the way that also the Vedic Sūtras prescribe. Thereby the Pāñcarātra Samhitās are presented, firstly, as authoritative sources that are, secondly, in agreement with the Veda.

Argument 2 does not invalidate Samhitās such as the ParS and the PārS, which from an objective point of view do not agree with the Vedic prescriptions. Venkatanātha did not say that these texts are not authoritative because they teach diverging prescriptions. Instead he said that there is no tradition of properly performing them, which implies that these prescriptions would be fine if they were properly performed, which could mean according to Venkatanātha if they were performed in a way that agrees with the Vedic orthodox way.<sup>96</sup> So the fault is not that of the scriptures but that of a tradition that does not properly follow them.

But which tradition did Venkatanātha have in mind? The PārS belongs to the tradition of the Ekāyanas or Āgamasiddhānta, a sub-tradition of the Pāñcarātra, which bases itself on the authority of the so-called Ekāyanaveda—a text that perhaps never existed, which

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> We can only speculate what this might mean concretely.

was perhaps just an ideal—in contrast to another sub-tradition called Mantrasiddhānta, which follows the Pāñcarātra and a Vedic tradition and to which, for example, the PādS belongs (cf. p. 239).<sup>97</sup>

However, does the ParS also belong to the Ekāyanas? The ParS was probably composed at a time when the division of the Pāñcarātra into Siddhāntas had not yet come into existence (cf. n. 94). Thus we do not find any clue of an adherence to a Siddhānta in this text. It is, however, possible that in later times the ParS was considered part of the Ekāyana tradition. Nrsimhayajvan, the author of the *Pārameśvarapadyavivrti*, commented on the passage containing the prescriptions for sipping water (*ācamana*), which the PārS adopted from the ParS (cf. n. 74): "This is the Ekāyanaśākhās' prescription for sipping water from the *tīrthas*.<sup>98799</sup> We do not know if Nrsimhayajvan was aware of the fact that this passage had been adopted from the ParS and if he would indeed have considered the ParS part of the Ekāyanaśākhā. But it is possible that if this mode of sipping water was considered characteristic of the Ekāyanas, in the long run a text prescribing this mode was also considered part of the Ekāyanaśākhā.

So Venkatanātha's motives seem to be clear. Although in the first chapter of the PRR Venkatanātha argued in detail that all Siddhāntas have the same value, he seems to have had a personal preference, and if we know his background it is no surprise that it is the sub-tradition that also adheres to the Vedic tradition. The Ekāyanas, who do not belong to a Vedic orthodox tradition, were a social fact for him. They were present at Śrīraṅgam, where Venkatanātha could observe and meet them. And, it seems, he did not agree with their ritual way of life.

The traditional records on Venkatanātha's life in Śrīrangam possibly corroborate this. They report that Venkatanātha had problems with the Tenkalais—whoever might be meant by this term, since it is not at all sure that there was a clear-cut division between Vatakalais and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> On these two sub-traditions see Rastelli 2003 and Rastelli 2006: 185–253.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> In this context, *tīrthas* are particular places on the hand from which water is sipped (see Kane II/1: 316, n. 750, and 652f.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> PārPV 17,2f.: ekāyanaśākhānām ayam eva tīrthācamanavidhiķ.

Teńkalais at Veńkatanātha's time<sup>100</sup>—because they were jealous of him. Singh (1958: 22–26) describes several incidents in which according to these records the Teńkalais behaved quite rudely towards Veńkatanātha whereas Veńkatanātha's behaviour is described as very positive and friendly.

Of course, these records cannot be taken as objective historical accounts. They have their own purposes and they are, of course, biased. But what may be the truth behind these reports is that there were tensions between Venkatanātha and the local Brahmins. We can only speculate if these so-called Tenkalais were identical with our Ekāyanas.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> Cf. Raman 2007: 4–15.

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### Other abbreviations:

cp caryāpāda.

GOS Gaekwad's Oriental Series.