

TARATAMYA OR GRADATION OF SOULS

Introduction:

One of the most important tenets propounded by Acharya Madhwa is Taratamya or Gradation of Souls. Taratamya talks about gradation of souls that is inherent in souls and not subject to change. This is to say, a Jeeva never interchanges its Kaksha (or Grade) whether it be in asrujyaavasta, srujyaavasta or mukti. For instance, a Jeeva who is in Kaksha 5 can never move into Kaksha 4 or Kaksha 6. A Kaksha is classification of a Jeeva (or group of Jeeva-s) based on their capabilities called 'GuNa-s'.

Taaratamya exists among all kinds of souls – Saatvik, Raajasik & Taamasik. Brahma is the top-most Jeeva in Satvik category, Puranjana in Rajasik and Kali in Tamasik category. So if we were to look at entire Jeeva-Samooaha, Brahma is top-most and Kali is bottom-most.

Quotations from Vyaasa Saahitya showing the importance of Taratamya:

1. BhavishyOttara Puraana

Hari: sarvOttamasyAkShAdramAdEvl tata: paraM |
Vidhi vAyu tadaMtEcha tadaMtE sharva pUrvakA: |
Evam taratamAj~jEyA: suradaitya narEShu cha ||

Lord Hari is all Supreme. Goddess Lakshmi is next in gradation. Then come Brahma and Vayu. Then come Shiva and others. Similarly gradation is to be understood among gods (Devata Taratamya), demons (Daitya Taratamya) and men (nara – Nityasamsari Taratamya).

2. Garuda Puraana

durlabham taratamaj~jAnam vaiShNavAnAM kalau khaga |
dviShaDguNO vApi chaturvEda yutOpi cha || 73 ||

It is hard to find the true knowledge of gradation in Kaliyuga among Vaishnava-s, even though, one may be equipped with twelve qualities and know all four vedas.

3. Tatvaviveka

tAratamya parij~jAnAt tEShu dhyAta: vimuktida: |
prItiM na chAnyathA yAyAt iti shAstrasya nirNaya: ||

The conclusion from Shaastra-s is that God, when meditated upon with TaaratamyA gynAna, will be pleased and not any other way.

4. MahaaBharata Tatparya Nirnaya
kiMcha Etadaj~jAnE anartha Eva shrUyatE |
tAratamyA pari~jAnAt anutthAnaM tamOvRujEt ||

tAratamyAM tatOj~jEyaM sarvOchchatvaM harE: tathA |
EtadvinA na kashyApi vimukti: syAt kathaMchana ||

Why indeed, only evil will befall on those without tAratamyA gynAna, whereas with TaaratamyA gynAna, the darkness of ignorance is lifted away. That is why TaaratamyA gynAna and the all supremacy of Lord Hari is to be known. Without this, no one and no way will ever obtain mukti.

5. Sattatva-Ratnamala
nAmAdi mArutAMtEShu dEvEShvEbhyashcha bhEdata: |
upAsitO harirmuktiM dadyAnnAstyanna samshaya: ||

From the lowest god to Vayu deva, tAratamyA among gods is to be known. Lord Hari worshipped with such gynAna, gives mukti and let there be no doubt in this.

6. Shri Raghavendra Swaamiji – Chandogya Upanishat Khandartha
tAratamyA j~jAnapUrvaM tadaMtargatatvEnOpAsitO |
harirmOkShAdi sarvapumarthaprada ityatO dEvAnAM tAratamyamAha ||

When gods are worshipped with taaratamyA gynAna, Lord Hari, who is indweller of Gods, will confer all the purushaarthaas including moksha. Thus, after this taaratamyA among gods is explained.

Quotations from Daasa-Saahitya showing importance of TaaratamyA:

1. Shri Purandara Daasaru
Satyajagatidu paMchabhedavu nitya shrI gOviMdana |
kRutyavaritu tAratamyadi kRuShNanadhikeMdu sArirai ||

Extol Shri Krishna's Supremacy through TaaratamyA by understanding the doership of Govinda who is the controller of this universe that is 'Real'.

2. Shri Guru Purandara Daasaru
eMdeMdu mukutiyu bEkeMdavarge |
aMdadi jIvara tAratamyava tiLidare |
guru puraMdara viThala mukutiya nlva ||

Those who are craving for mukti, understand the Taaratamya of Jeevas - Shri Guru Purandara ViThala will bestow them Mukti.

3. Shri Vijaya Daasaru
ArAdarEnu mattAvanAdarEnu |
tAratamyava tiLiyade mukti yilla ||

There is no mukti without knowing Taaratamya for who so ever it be.

tArataMyave tiLidu naDedA vishiShTharige |
pAru mADuva vatsA vijaya viThalarEyA ||

For those who know Taaratamya and follow accordingly, Shri Vijaya ViThala will get them out of this Samsaara.

4. Shri Mohana Daasaru
tAratamya paMchabheda tiLiyadavage |
mArutIpriya mOhana viThala oliyA ||

Maruti-priya Shri Mohana ViThala does not bestow His Grace on those who do not know Taaratamya & Panchabheda,

5. Shri Jagannatha Daasaru
dEva daityara tAratamyavu pAvamAni matAnugarigidu |
kEvalAvashyakavu tiLivudu sarvakAladali ||
dAvashikhi pApATavige, navanAve yenipudu bhavasamudrake |
pAvaTige vaikuMTha IOkakideMdu karesuvudu

For the followers of PavamAna mata (Madhwa Siddhanta), understanding the Deva-Daitya Taaratamya is utmost important always. It is like a

- a. Wild fire to burn a forest of sins (Paapa Samooha)
- b. Ship to cross the ocean of Samsaara
- c. Steps to reach VaikunTha

DEVATA TARATAMYA CHART

Kaksha	Name of the God/Demi-God
1	Vishnu – Sarvottama
2	Lakshmi – Nitya Mukta

3	a) Brahma
	b) Vaayu
	c) Ruju-gaNa (Listed in 'Names of Ruju-s' section)
4	a) Saraswati
	b) Bhaarati
	c) Rujupatini-gaNa
5	a) Garuda
	b) Shesha
	c) Rudra
6	Shanmahishi-s of Krishna
	a) Jaambavati
	b) Bhadra
	c) Neela
	d) Kalindi
	e) Mitravinda
	f) Lakshana
7	a) Sauparni (Dharmapatni of Garuda)
	b) Vaaruni (Dharmapatni of Shesha)
	c) Paarvati (Dharmapatni of Rudra)
8	a) Indra (Purandara)
	b) Kaama
9	Ahankaarika Praana
10	a) Svaayambhu Manu
	b) Daksha Prajapati
	c) Bruhaspatyacharya
	d) Shachi (Dharmapatni of Indra (Purandara))
	e) Rati (Dharmapatni of Kaama)
	f) Aniruddha (Son of Kaama)
11	Pravaha Vaayu
12	a) Vivasvaan Surya
	b) Chandra
	c) Yama
	d) Shataroopa (Dharmapatni of Svaayumbhu Manu)
13	Varuna
14	Devarshi Naarada
15	a) Bhrugu
	b) Agni
	c) Prasooti (Dharmapatni of Daksha Prajapati)
16	[a to g are Brahmaputra-s)
	a) Mareechi
	b) Athri
	c) Angirasa
	d) Pulastya

	e) Pulaha
	f) Kratu
	g) VashishTa
	h) Vaivasvata Manu
	i) Vishwamitra
17	a) Mitra
	b) Niraruti
	c) Praavahi (Dharmapatni of Pravaha Vaayu)
	d) Taara (Dharmapatni of Bruhaspatyacharya)
18	a) Vishvaksena
	b) Ganapati
	c) Ashwini Devata-s –Naasatya & Dasra
	d) Kubera
	e) Shesha Shatastha <u>SOMarasapaanaarha-s</u> (Listed in Somarasapaanaarha section)
19	Karmaja Devatas (Listed in Karmaja Devata Section)
20	a) Parjanya (Megabhimani)
	b) Ganga (Dharmapatni of Varuna)
	c) Sangnya (Dharmapatni of Vivasvaan Surya)
	d) Rohini (Dharmaptni of Chandra)
	e) Viradusha (Dharmapatni of aniruddha) - BrahmAndAbhimAnini
	f) Shyamala (Dharmaptni of Yama)
21	KurmAdhi anAkhyAta Devatha-s
22	Svaaha (Dharmapatni of Agni) - ManthrAbhimAnini
23	Budha (JalAbhimAni)
24	a) Devaki
	b) Yashoda
	c) Usha (Dharmapatni of Ashvini Devata-s) - NAmAbhimAnini
25	a) Shanaishchara
	b) Dhara
26	Pushkara (KarmAbhimAni)
27	<u>AjAnaja Devata-s</u> (Listed in AjAnaja Devata section)
28	Chira Pitru-s
29	Deva Gandharva-s
30	Manushya Gandharva-s
31	Kshitipa-s (Maanusha Chakravarti-s)
32	ManushyOttama-s
	a) Nara
	b) Bhuchara
	c) Khechara
	d) Krimi
	e) Truna

NAMES OF RUJU-s

(101 to 200 – Per Shri Harikathamrutasara Vyaakhyaana of Shri Jambukhandi Vadirajacharya)

S.No.	Name
1.	Kalki
2.	Suteja
3.	Daasa
4.	Dharma
5.	Adharma khanDana
6.	Varchasvi
7.	KhaShaNa
8.	Saadhu
9.	Sumaheepati
10.	Saddharmagnya
11.	Dharmaja
12.	SampoorNa
13.	Suchi
14.	Vaikruta
15.	Anjana
16.	SarShapa
17.	KharpaTa
18.	Shraddha
19.	Sandhyaata
20.	Vignyaana

21.	Mahaavignyaana
22.	Keertana
23.	SankeerNa
24.	Katthana
25.	Mahaabuddhi
26.	Jaya
27.	Mahattara
28.	Svaveerya
29.	Medhaavi
30.	Ajaya
31.	RatimAn (Rantimna)
32.	Manu
33.	Moda
34.	Pramoda
35.	Santasa
36.	Aananda
37.	SantuShTa
38.	Chaarvaanga
39.	Chaarusubaahu
40.	Chaarupada
41.	Sulochana
42.	Saarasvata
43.	Suveera
44.	Praagnya

45.	Kapi
46.	AlampaTa
47.	Sarvagnya
48.	Sarvajit
49.	Mitra
50.	Paapavinaashana
51.	Dharmavineta
52.	ShaaradOja
53.	Tapasvi
54.	Tejasvi
55.	Daanasheela
56.	Susheela
57.	Yagnya
58.	Sukarta
59.	Yajvee
60.	Yaagavartaka
61.	PraaNa
62.	TraaNa
63.	AmarShi (AmaruShi)
64.	DharmopadEShTa(upadE ShTa)
65.	Taaraka
66.	Kaala
67.	KreeDana
68.	Sukartaa

69.	Sukaalagnya
70.	Kaalasoochaka
71.	Kalisamhartaa
72.	Kali
73.	Kaali
74.	Shaamaretasa
75.	Sadaarata
76.	Subala
77.	Saha
78.	Kapi (Sadaakapi)
79.	Gamyaa
80.	Gnyaana
81.	Dashakala
82.	Shroptavya
83.	Sankeertitavya
84.	Mantavya
85.	Kavya
86.	DraShTavya
87.	Saravya
88.	Gantavya
89.	Kravya
90.	Smartavya
91.	Sevyaa
92.	Subhavya

93.	Svargavya
94.	Bhaavya
95.	gnyaatavya
96.	Vaktavya
97.	Gavya
98.	Laatavya
99.	Vaayu
100.	Brahma

SOMARASA-PAANAARHA-S

There are 100 SOmarasa Paanaarha-s as detailed below:

- I. Higher Kaksha than Kaksha 18 : 13
- II. Kaksha 18 : 84
- III. Lower Kaksha than Kaksha 18 : 3

I. Higher Kaksha than Kaksha 18 (Count of 13):

- 1. Urukrama (Kaksha 1 - One among Aditya-s - AvathAra of Hari)
- 2. Pradhana Vaayu (Kaksha 3 – One among Aditya-s - Bharati Pati – Mukhya PraNa)
- 3. Maha Rudra (Kaksha 5 - One among EkAdasha Rudra-s - Vaama)
- 4. Indra (Kaksha 8 - One among Adhitya-s - Purandara)
- 5. Ahankaarika PraaNa (Kaksha 9 - One among Maruth-s)
- 6. Bruhaspati (Kaksha 10)
- 7. Pravaha Vaayu (Kaksha 11 - One among Maruth-s)
- 8. Chandra (Kaksha 12)
- 9. Yama (Kaksha 12)
- 10. Vivasvaan (Kaksha 12 - One among Aditya-s)
- 11. VaruNa (Kaksha 13 - one among Aditya-s)
- 12. Agni (Kaksha 15 - One among Ashta Vasu-s)
- 13. Mitra (Kaksha 17 - one among Aditya-s)

II. Kaksha 18 (Count of 84):

- a. AshTa Vasu (Count of 8 -- 1 appear in other kaksha)
 - 1. DroNa

2. Dhruva
3. Dosha
4. Arka
5. PraNa
6. Dyu
7. Vibhavasus

One Vasu 'Agni' appears in Uttama Kaksha - 15

b. Ekaadasha Rudra (Count of 11 -- 1 appear in other Kaksha)

1. Bheema
2. Raivata
3. Oja
4. Ajaikapaat
5. Mahan
6. Bahuroopaka
7. Bhava
8. Ugra
9. Vrushaakapi
10. Ahirbudhni

One Rudra 'Vaama –Parvati pati' appears in Uttama Kaksha - 5

c. Dwaadasha Aditya (Count of 12 -- 6 appear in other Kaksha-s)

1. Bhaga
2. Poosha
3. Savitru
4. Dhaata
5. Aaryama
6. TvasTru

Six Aditya-s appear in different Kaksha-s:

Of these 5 Aditya-s appear in Uttama (higher) Kaksha:

Urukrama	-	Kaksha 1
Indra	-	Kaksha 8
Vivasvaan	-	Kaksha 12
VaruNa	-	Kaksha 13
Mitra	-	Kaksha 17

One appear in Adhama Kaksha:

Parjanya	-	Kaksha 20
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d. Maruth GaNa (Count of 49 -- 2 appear in other Kaksha-s)

1. PraaNa
2. Apaana
3. Vyaana

4. Udaana
5. Samaana
6. Naaga
7. Koorma
8. Krukala
9. Devadatta
10. Dhananjaya
11. Aavaha
12. Paraavaha
13. Samvaha
14. Shamyu
15. Udvaha
16. Vivaha
17. Shanku
18. Kaala
19. Shvaasa
20. Nala
21. Anila
22. Pratibha
23. Kumuda
24. Kaanta
25. Shuchi
26. Shveta
27. Ajita
28. Guru
29. Jhunjhu
30. Samvartaka
31. Keela
32. Jita
33. Soumya
34. Kapi
35. JaDa
36. Mandooka
37. Samhruta
38. Siddha
39. Rakta
40. KrushNa
41. Pika
42. Shuka
43. Yati
44. Bheema
45. Hanu
46. Pinga
47. Kampana

Two Maruth-s 'Ahankaarika PraaNa- Kaksha 9' and 'Pravaha Vaayu - Kaksha 11'
appeared in Uttama Kaksha

Note:

- i. PraaNa, Apaana, Vyaana, Udaana, Samaana are Daasa PraaNa-s
- ii. Bharati-pati Mukhya PraaNa has 5 rUpAs with the same 5 names and those should not be confused with Daasa PraaNa-s.

e. Vishvedevata (Count of 10 – All appear in this Kaksha)

1. Puroorava
2. Aardava
3. Kaala
4. Kaama
5. Dhuri
6. Lochana
7. Satya
8. Vasu
9. Daksha
10. Kratu

f. Ashwini Devata (Count of 2)

1. Naasatya
2. Dasra

g. Others in this Kaksha (Count of 2)

1. Dyaava
2. Rubhu

Total Count in Kaksha 18 =

AshTa Vasu (7) + Ekaadasha Rudra (10) + Dwaadasha Aditya (6) + Maruth
GaNa (47) + Vishvedevata (10) + Ashwini Devata (2) + Others (2)

= 84

III. Lower Kaksha than Kaksha 18 (Count of 3):

In Kaksha 19:

Kavyavaaha

In Kaksha 20:

Parjanya - One among Aditya-s

5 appeared in Kakshas between 1 & 17, 6 appeared in Kaksha 18

In Kaksha 25:

Pruthvi

KARMAJA DEVATA-S (KAKSHA 19)

- a. Dvaarapalaka-s
- b. Mareechi (Son of Vaayu)
- c. Paavaka (Son of Agni)
- d. Jayanta (Son of Indra)
- e. vishvakarma
- f. Shata Punya Shloka Raja-s
- g. RuShi-s
- h. Vishnu Parshada-s
- i. Gandharva-s
- j. 92 Apsara Streeya-s
- k. 7 Pitru-s
- l. Manu-s
- m. Indra-s
- n. Yagnya Sadhanaabhimaani Devatas
- o. Archara Marga Devatas
- p. Dhoomaadi Maarga Devatas
- q. Graha-s
- r. Sulekha Naamaka Chitragupta
- s. Dig-abhimaani Devata-s
- t. Ab-abhimaani Devata-s
- u. Vahana-s of Devata-s
- v. Maalagaara Sudhaama
- w. GaNa Naamaka ChanDaka
- x. Kaalaakhyabhimaani

Dwaarapalaka-s

There are 56 Dvaarapalaka-s.

7 AvaraNa-s * 8 dhvArapAlaka-s = 56 Dvaarapalaka-s

1. Jaya
2. Vijaya
3. Others

Shata Punya Shloka Raja-s

1. Prahlada
2. Priyavrata
3. Uttaanapaada
4. Gaya
5. Maandhaata
6. Pruthu

7. Shashibindu
8. Kaartaveerya
9. Kakutya
10. Daushyanti
11. Bharata
12. Pareekshitha
13. Janaka
14. Haihaya
15. Arshabha
16. Others

Rushi-s (Count of Shata KoTi Rushi-s – 8 appear in Uttama Kaksha & Shata-Una Shata Koti appear in Adhama Kaksha -- There are 92 RuShi-s in this Kaksha)

1. Chavana
2. Uchitthya
3. Kardama
4. Kashyapa
5. Sanaka
6. Sanandana
7. Sanatsujaata
8. Others

Gandharva-s

1. HaaHaa
2. HuHu
3. DhrutaraashTra
4. Tumbura
5. Chitraratha
6. Vishvaavasus
7. Paraavasus
8. Vidyaadhara

Manu-s (Count of 14 – 3 Belong to Uttama Kaksha)

1. Svaayambhu [Kaksha 10]
2. SvaarOchiSha
3. uttama
4. taapasa [Kaksha 1 – Shri Hari]
5. Raivata
6. ChakShusha
7. Vaivasvata [Kaksha 16]
8. SaavarNi
9. DakshsaavarNi
10. BrahmasaavarNi
11. DharmasaavarNi

12. RudrasaavarNi
13. DevasaavarNi
14. IndrasaavarNi

Indra-s (Count of 14 – 7 appear in Uttama Kaksha):

1. Yagnya [Kaksha 1 – Shri Hari]
2. ROchana [Kaksha 3 - MukhyapraaNa]
3. Satyajitu [Kaksha 12 - Yama]
4. Vibhu [Kaksha 18 - Dasra (Ashvini Devata)]
5. Trishikha [Kaksha 18 - Naasatya (Ashvini Devata)]
6. Mandaradyumna [Kaksha 8 – Sachipati Indra]
7. Purandara [Kaksha 8 – Sachipati Indra]
8. Bali
9. Adbhuta
10. Shambhu
11. Vidhruta
12. Krutadhaama
13. Divaspati
14. Dhrutashuchi

Graha-s (Count of 9 – 5 appear in Uttama & Adhama Kaksha):

1. Guru [Kaksha 10 - Bruhaspatyaachaarya]
2. Soorya [Kaksha 12]
3. Chandra [Kaksha 12]
4. Raahu
5. Ketu
6. Mangala
7. Shukra
8. Budha [Kaksha 23]
9. Shani [Kaksha 25]

Vahana-s

1. Nandi
2. Hamsa
3. Others

AAJAANAJA DEVATA-S (KAKSHA 27)

Aakhyaata Aajaanaja Devata-s:

1. 92 Gandharva-s
2. Kratu
3. Sindhu
4. 908 Apsara Streeya-s (92 appear in Kaksha 19)
5. 16,100 Children of Agni (Born as Shri Krishna Patni-s)

Anaakhyaata Aajaanaja Devata-s:

1. Vibudha-s (100 in total)
2. Deva Bhrutya Pitru-s (100 in total)
3. Deva Bhrutya Asura-s (100 in total)
4. Deva Gaayana Gandharva-s (100 in total)
5. Deva Nrutya Apsara Streeya-s (100 in total)
6. Siddha Sanketa-s (70 in total) [Deva Karya Nirvaahaka-s]
7. Vaahana carriers YakShara-s (70 in total)
8. Shibika carriers RakShasa-s (30 in total)
9. Deva Paricharaka Chaarana-s (30 in total)
10. Sevaakarta Bhuta-s (70 in total)
11. Kinnara-s (70 in total)
12. Pishacha-s (70 in total)
13. Kubera Bhrutya Guhyaka-s (7 in total)
14. Preta-s (70 in total)
15. Vidyadhara-s (70 in total)
16. VaruNa Bhrutya Naaga-s (5 in total)
17. Shata-Una ShatakoTi RuShi-s