

Soi Soi Thakura Moi Hari Parakasha

Composed by Sri Sri Sankardev

Masters are they who reveal Hari
Chant His name recall His glory
I remain a slave to them

Pandits merely recite sastras, devotees absorb the essence
Lotuses open up nectar, bees suck in the substance

He who has devotion attains salvation; devotees know this tenet
Like jewelers who admire the value of a jade or a garnet

Says Sankara, slave of Krishna, lie at Govinda's feet
The sants are they, the praised ones, who chant Hari's feat

Translated by Nirendra Nath Thakuria

Sri Sri Sankardev (1449-1568) was a 15-16th Century Indian Saint-Scholar, social and religious reformer, poet, playwright and musician of Assam. Borgeet or Songs Celestial is a tradition of *raga* and *tala* based Assamese song developed by Sri Sri Sankardev and Sri Sri Madhavdev, another Indian Saint-Scholar, poet of Assam.

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