

II Śānti Pataḥ – Opening Invocation II



Traditionally chanting practice or textual study was preceded or ended with an invocatory passage to help forge a link between the chanters, what is chanted and its purport, as well as setting a context for textual study.

This is the opening Invocation for the Taittirīya Upaniṣad Chapters 2 and 3, as well as for other Upaniṣad such as the Kaṭha and the Nārāyaṇa Upaniṣad.

This mantra is where the teacher and the pupil chant together asking for harmonious co-operation within a context of a keen and vigorous exploration of what is and especially what isn't the self and the non-self.

A topic fraught with potential resistances and self-illusion.

स॒ह ना॑ववतु ।
saha nāvavatu |
Together may we be protected

स॒ह नौ॑ भुनक्तु ।
saha nau bhunaktu |
Together may we enjoy our studies

स॒ह वी॒र्यं॑ करवावहै ।
saha vīryaṃ karavāvahai |
Together may we work vigorously

ते॒ज॒स्वा॒ना॒वधी॑तमस्तु॒ मा वद्वि॑षा॒वहै॑ ॥
tejasvi nāvadhītamastu mā vidviṣāvahai ॥
Let our study together be fiery (to illuminate) and
(because of this) may we not hate (each other).

ओं शान्तः॑ शान्तः॑ शान्तः॑ ॥
om śāntiḥ śāntiḥ śāntiḥ ॥

॥ taittirīya upaniṣat II.1 ॥