

Classic Poetry Series

Narmadashankar Dave
- poems -

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Narmadashankar Dave(24 August 1833 – 26 February 1886)

Narmadashankar Lalshankar Dave (Gujarati: નર્મદાશંકર લાલશંકર દવે) popularly known as Narmad, was a Gujarati author, poet, scholar and public speaker.

Biography

Narmad was born in Surat on August 24, 1833. He introduced many creative forms of writing in Gujarati. He wrote pioneering work in such forms as autobiography, poetry, lexicography, historical plays and research in folk literature. He was also an outspoken journalist and a pamphleteer. Narmad was a strong opponent of religious fanaticism and orthodoxy. He promoted nationalism and patriotism - with famous songs like Sahu Chalo Jitva Jang, wrote about self-government and talked about one national language, Hindi, for all of India, nearly five decades before Mohandas Gandhi or Nehru. He wrote a poem Jai Jai Garavi Gujarat in which he listed with a sense of pride all the cultural symbols that go into constituting the Gujarat identity. These symbols include even the things non-Hindu, implying that Gujarat belongs to all the castes, communities, races, religions and sects that inhabit Gujarat. It was this devout poet whose debt Gandhi acknowledged for his philosophy of non-violence. With the help of some friends, Narmad published a newsletter called Daandiyo, modeled after The Spectator, a weekly British magazine. He died of arthritis on February 26, 1886.

Jai Jai Garavi Gujarat

Praises of Proud Gujarat. Praises of Proud Gujarat. glorious sun rise. (Gujarat's) flag will be shine as symbol of love and valour. Oh! ! Flag of Gujarat teaches love and valour. you have great prestige and Reputation. Praises of Proud Gujarat.

In north direction Amba Mataji(situated) . East direction Mahakali mataji(situated) . In south direction Kunteshwer Mahadev shields Gujarat. At eastern direction lord Somnath and Sri Krishna always assist Gujarat. Praises of Proud Gujarat.

Gujarat has holy rivers of Narmada,Tapi and Mahi. Gujarat has great ocean with Enormous resources. Our gallant Ancestors give Benefaction of victory standing on hills. we unites Forever. Praises of Proud Gujarat.

we will bring the glory of Gujarat like Ancient Capital Anhilwad. we will bring the glory of Gujarat like King Siddharaj Jaysinh. The Dark night has gone and good omen will come. we are (the people of Gujarat) with you Poet and agree to bring bright future. Praises of Proud Gujarat.

translated by Deepak Nechlani.

Narmadashankar Dave