English Translation

(Hum as in the score.)

The holy moment has arrived,
"Congratulations to the couple."
Mixing nectar with punch,
it has brought the cup of greetings. (1)

(Repeat 1.)

Welcome dear guests,
greetings dear son. (2)

You have come from far to accompany
your life’s companion in this journey.

(Hum as in the score.)

You have come from far to accompany
your life’s companion in this journey.

May your life’s path be filled with
flowers of success,
be strewn with garlands of love filled drops.

May you have a beautiful garden, in
this beautiful universe,
filled with music of love and happiness. (3)

(Repeat 2 then hum as written.)
About the music

"Welcome Song" is intended for performance to welcome the bridegroom. It attempts to express a mix of feelings that the parents, siblings, and friends of the bride go through on the arrival of the bridegroom at the wedding site.

The song is in three parts. The first part is an instrumental prelude. The prelude gives way to the second part which contains the vocals. The song begins with the chorus humming a simple melody. The humming is followed by a brief instrumental intervention that establishes the mood and the rhythm of what follows. The female solo vocalist now begins to sing the song. The chorus and the soloist together complete the song. The song is based on the Kalyan Thaat and often uses phrases from the Raga -- Yaman Kalyan. The third and the final part of the song begins with a summary of the prelude followed by a cadenza ending in a climax.

Suggestions for performance

"Welcome song" is best performed by a female soloist and a chorus comprised of at least four men and four women. One performer each is needed for the Xylophone, flute, Sitar, French Horn, Tuba, Acoustic Bass, Tambourine, Woodblock, and the Timpani. In a minimal setting the instruments can be rendered on a synthesizer, the chorus by strings, and the vocal part by a female singer.

It is intended for performance immediately prior to the actual wedding ceremony. However, it may be performed with the same effect at any time during the wedding festivities. The entire performance lasts for approximately 8 minutes.