

# The Criterion

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## **Nataraja—The dance of Shiva**

**Tahera Moiz Mannan**

Shiva dances  
Within the circle of fire  
Expressing harmony  
In his perfect figure  
The snake on his arm  
Is seen uncoiling  
The flame in his hand  
An endless cycle of birth and death  
His cosmic dance  
The harbinger of bliss  
Destroys the old  
Creates the new  
Releasing men from illusion  
He performs his dance  
Of creation