shrI bAlAmbikAShTakam

श्रीबालाम्बिकाष्टकम्

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Introduction: Vaidheeshvarankoil is an important place of pilgrimage in Tamil Nadu State. The place is situated near the Chidambaram - famous for its Nataraja temple. The presiding deity is Lord Siva, known as Vaidheeshvaran. The Devi is known by the name of Balambika. Lord Siva is said to have been worshipped by Jatayu, the eagle famous for his part in Ramayana and the Sun, Mars and the vedas themselves. So the place has the names Jatayupuri, Suryapuri, Angarakapuri and Vedapuri. Lord Siva at this temple is said to relieve the worshippers of their sins and other problems. It is at this place only Lord Kartikeya is said to have obtained the spear with which He could fight the demon Soora . So His shrine in this temple is very popular and attracts large number of devotees. Lord Siva at this temple had been worshipped by sages and siddhas. Saivaite saints (known as Nayanmars) have visited the temple and sung songs in praise of the Lord. People believe that by worshipping the Lord here they can get rid of even serious diseases: hence His name Vaidheesvara. The following verses in praise of the Devi appear in the Skandha Purana.

वेलातिलङ्घ्यकरुणे विबुधेन्द्रवन्द्ये
लीलाविनिर्मितचराचरहृन्निवासे ।
मालाकिरीटमणिकुण्डल मण्डिताङ्गे
बालाम्बिके मयि निधेहि कृपाकटाक्षम् ॥ १॥

कंजासनादि-मणिमञ्जु-किरीटकोटि-
प्रत्युप्तरत्न-रुचिरञ्जित-पादपद्मे ।
मञ्जीरमञ्जुलविनिर्जितहंसनादे
बालाम्बिके मयि निधेहि कृपाकटाक्षम् ॥ २॥

प्रालेयभानुकलिकाकलितातिरम्ये
पादाग्रजावलिविनिर्जितमौक्तिकाभे ।
प्राणेश्वरि प्रमथलोकपतेः प्रगल्भे
बालाम्बिके मयि निधेहि कृपाकटाक्षम् ॥ ३॥

जङ्घादिभिर्विजितचित्तजतूणिभागे
रम्भादिमार्दवकरीन्द्रकरोरुयुग्मे ।
शंपाशताधिकसमुज्वलचेललीले
बालाम्बिके मयि निधेहि कृपाकटाक्षम् ॥ ४॥

माणिक्यमौक्तिकविनिर्मितमेखलाढ्ये
मायाविलग्नविलसन्मणि पट्टबन्धे ।
लोलंबराजिविलसन्नवरोमजाले
बालाम्बिके मयि निधेहि कृपाकटाक्षम् ॥ ५॥

न्यग्रोधपल्लवतलोदरनिम्ननाभे
निर्धूतहारविलसत्कुचचक्रवाके ।
निष्कादिमञ्जुमणिभूषणभूषिताङ्गे
बालाम्बिके मयि निधेहि कृपाकटाक्षम् ॥ ६॥

कन्दर्पचापमदभङ्गकृतातिरम्ये
भ्रूवल्लरीविविधचेष्टित रम्यमाने ।
कन्दर्पसोदरसमाकृतिभालदेशे
बालाम्बिके मयि निधेहि कृपाकटाक्षम् ॥ ७॥

मुक्तावलीविलसदूर्जितकम्बुकण्ठे
मन्दस्मिताननविनिर्जितचन्द्रबिम्बे ।
भक्तेष्टदाननिरतामृतपूर्णदृष्टे
बालाम्बिके मयि निधेहि कृपाकटाक्षम् ॥ ८॥

कर्णावलम्बिमणिकुण्डलगण्डभागे
कर्णान्तदीर्घनवनीरजपत्रनेत्रे ।
स्वर्णायकादिमणिमौक्तिकशोभिनासे
बालाम्बिके मयि निधेहि कृपाकटाक्षम् ॥ ९॥

लोलम्बराजिललितालकजालशोभे
मल्लीनवीनकलिकानवकुन्दजाले ।

बालेन्दुमञ्जुलकिरीटविराजमाने
बालाम्बिके मयि निधेहि कृपाकटाक्षम् ॥ १० ॥

बालाम्बिके महाराज्ञी वैद्यनाथप्रियेश्वरी ।
पाहि मामम्ब कृपया त्वत्पादं शरणं गतः ॥ ११ ॥

॥ इति स्कान्दे वैद्यनाथमाहात्म्ये श्रीबालाम्बिकाष्टकस्तोत्रं संपूर्णम् ॥

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