
Shri Mahakalabhairava or Mahakala Stotram

श्रीमहाकालभैरवस्तोत्रम् अथवा श्रीमहाकालस्तोत्रम्

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ॐ महाकाल महाकाय महाकाल जगत्पते ।
महाकाल महायोगिन् महाकाल नमोऽस्तु ते ॥ १ ॥

महाकाल महादेव महाकाल महाप्रभो ।
महाकाल महारुद्र महाकाल नमोऽस्तु ते ॥ २ ॥

महाकाल महाज्ञान महाकाल तमोऽपहन् ।
महाकाल महाकाल महाकाल नमोऽस्तु ते ॥ ३ ॥

भवाय च नमस्तुभ्यं शर्वाय च नमो नमः ।
रुद्राय च नमस्तुभ्यं पशूनां पतये नमः ॥ ४ ॥

उग्राय च नमस्तुभ्यं महादेवाय वै नमः ।
भीमाय च नमस्तुभ्यं ईशानाय नमो नमः ॥ ५ ॥

ईश्वराय नमस्तुभ्यं तत्पुरुषाय वै नमः ॥ ६ ॥

सद्योजात नमस्तुभ्यं शुक्लवर्ण नमो नमः ।
अधः कालाग्निरुद्राय रुद्ररूपाय वै नमः ॥ ७ ॥

स्थित्युत्पत्तिलयानां च हेतुरूपाय वै नमः ।
परमेश्वररूपस्त्वं नील एवं नमोऽस्तु ते ॥ ८ ॥

पवनाय नमस्तुभ्यं हुताशन नमोऽस्तु ते ।
सोमरूप नमस्तुभ्यं सूर्यरूप नमोऽस्तु ते ॥ ९ ॥

यजमान नमस्तुभ्यं आकाशाय नमो नमः ।
सर्वरूप नमस्तुभ्यं विश्वरूप नमोऽस्तु ते ॥ १० ॥

ब्रह्मरूप नमस्तुभ्यं विष्णुरूप नमोऽस्तु ते ।
रुद्ररूप नमस्तुभ्यं महाकाल नमोऽस्तु ते ॥ ११ ॥

स्थावराय नमस्तुभ्यं जङ्गमाय नमो नमः ।

नमः स्थावरजङ्गमाभ्यां शाश्वताय नमो नमः ॥ १२ ॥

ह्रं हुङ्कार नमस्तुभ्यं निष्कलाय नमो नमः ।

अनाद्यन्त महाकाल निर्गुणाय नमो नमः ॥ १३ ॥

प्रसीद मे नमो नित्यं मेघवर्णं नमोऽस्तु ते ।

प्रसीद मे महेशान दिग्वासाय नमो नमः ॥ १४ ॥

ॐ ह्रीं मायास्वरूपाय सच्चिदानन्दतेजसे ।

स्वाहा सम्पूर्णमन्त्राय सोऽहं हंसाय ते नमः ॥ १५ ॥

॥ फलश्रुति ॥

इत्येवं देव देवस्य महाकालस्य भैरवि ।

कीर्तितं पूजनं सम्यक् साधकानां सुखावहम् ॥ १६ ॥

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॥ श्रीमहाकालभैरवस्तोत्रं सम्पूर्णम् ॥

(verse 6 has one line in print. The text was without verse numbers in some.)

It is said that Bhagavan Mahakal narrated this to

Bhagavati Bhairavi. The chanting of this stotra achieves

benefits of performing pUjA of Mahakal and gives happiness.

Commentary about the equivalence if Mahakal and Mahakalabhairava:

Bhagwan Maheshwara assumes the form of a Linga which itself has as many as 25 variations in terms of different shastras and agamas. These include somAskanda, kalyanasundara, trimurti, bhairava and so on. Bhairava occupies the 21st position in the aforesaid 25 variations. There are five major forms of Bhairava viz., Bhairava, vaTuka, kshetrabalaka, AbatdudtAranar, and brahmashirascheta (who removes one of the heads of Bhagwan Brahma to remove the latter's arrogance). According to this sampradaya, Bhairava is Maheshwara Himself.

Per the scripture AbhidanachintAmani, Kali Devi assumes a form derived from a spark out of Mahadeva's third eye. This spark gets smeared with the (AlakAla) poison and becomes Kali Devi to kill TarakAsura. The fire emanating from the anger of Kali killed Tarakasura; it later became a child to be fed by Her. Mahadeva integrated both Kali and Her son into

Himself. Thereafter, Mahadeva released the 8 forms of Bhairava from Himself. At the time when this yuga is sought to be dissolved (sarva samhAram), as per instructions of Mahadeva, Bhairava would roam around with His vedagnALi (dog) and decimate the world with the fire emanating from His eyes.

Since Bhairava has been created by Mahadeva, he is one of the five shivakumArA-s : Ganapati, Bhairava, vIrabhadra, skandA and ayyanAr. kAla Bhairava is one of the forms of bhairava. He rules Kasi. He is called Kala Bhairava because he holds the kAlachakra that controls the nine planets. He holds the Brahma kapala in His hands; He wears the snake as the holy thread.

“ “
– From Sri Bhairavar in Tamil by Swarnapuri Sridharan.

We call Kala Bhairava as Maha Kala Bhairava with a superlative.

Sri Mahakala of Ujjain is one of the jyotirlinga-s of Mahadeva. He is Bhagwan Himself in a different form and not His son. Bhairava acts at the instance of Mahadeva.

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