
Shiva Panchakshara Mantra Stotra

शिवपञ्चाक्षरमन्त्रस्तोत्रम्

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ஸ்ரீவபஞ்சாக்ஷரமந்த்ரஸ்தோத்ரம்



A Shivastotra by ShankarAchArya

The term Shiva means “auspicious.” The God Shiva is all-auspiciousness. The mantra namaH ShivAya, used to offer salutations to Shiva, is an effective prayer to propitiate Shiva. This mantra appears in many places in Vedic and Puranic literature. For example, the famous shrI Rudram hymn from the Yajur Veda, commonly employed to perform the worship of the Shiva linga, says: நம: ஸ்ரீவாய ச ।

The dAridrya dahana stotra of VasiShTha says: தா³ரித்³ரயது: ³க²-த³ஹநாய நம: ஸ்ரீவாய । Salutations to Shiva who burns up the grief caused by poverty!

Here poverty does not necessarily mean material poverty; it also means spiritual poverty. This pa.nchAkShara (five syllabled) mantra namaH ShivAya is sometimes called the mUla mantra or basic mantra of Shiva. Each of the five syllables, na, ma, shi, vA, and ya, is held to be so sacred that it represents Shiva even by itself.

The following is the ShivapanchAkShara stotra composed by Adi SankarAchArya. One may worship the Shiva linga by reciting this stotra and offering bilva leaves.

ஸ்ரீவபஞ்சாக்ஷரஸ்தோத்ரம்

நாகே³ந்த³ரஹாராய த்ரீலோசநாய ப⁴ஸ்மாங்க³ராகா³ய மஹேஸ்வராய ।
நித்யாய ஸுத்³தா⁴ய தி³க³ம்ப³ராய தஸ்மை நகாராய நம: ஸ்ரீவாய ॥ 1 ॥

Salutations to Shiva, who wears the King of snakes as a garland, the Three-eyed God, whose body is smeared with ashes, the great Lord, the eternal and pure One, who wears the directions as His garment, and who is represented by the “na ” kAra (term).

மந்தா³கிநி-ஸலிசந்த³ந-சர்சிதாய நந்த³ஸ்வர-ப்ரமத²நாத²- மஹேஸ்வராய ।

மந்தா³ரபுஷ்ப-ப³ஹுபுஷ்ப-ஸூஜிதாய தஸ்மை மகாராய நம: ஸ்ரீவாய ॥ 2 ॥ variation
மகாரமஹிதாய

I bow to Shiva, who has been worshipped with water from the gangA (mandAkini) and annointed with sandalwood paste, the Lord of nandI, the Lord of the host of goblins and

मन्त्रा^३रपुष्य-प^३ह्नुपुष्य-सुपु^३जिताय तस्मै मकाराय नमः शिवाय ॥ २ ॥ variation
मकारमन्त्रिताय

शिवाय केल^३रिवत्^३नाप^३ज-वृ^३न्त^३- सु^३र्याय त^३क्ष्मात्^३वरनाशकाय ।
श्री^३लकण्ड^२य वृ^३क्षत्^३वजाय तस्मै शिकाराय नमः शिवाय ॥ ३ ॥

वसिष्ठ^२-कुम्भो^३त्^३प^३व-केल^३तमार्यमुन्नि^३न्त^३र-ते^३वार^३सितशेक^२राय ।
सन्त^३रार्क-वैश्वानरलोकनाय तस्मै वकाराय नमः शिवाय ॥ ४ ॥

यक्षस्वरुपाय जडात्^३राय पिनाकहस्ताय सनातनाय ।
ति^३व्याय ते^३वाय ति^३क^३म्प^३राय तस्मै यकाराय नमः शिवाय ॥ ५ ॥

पञ्चाक्षरमि^३त्^३म् पुण्यम् यः पदे^२स्सि^२वसन्ति^३तेन^३ ।
शिवलोकमवाप्नोति शिवेन सहा मोत्^३ते ॥

॥ इति श्रीमत्सङ्कराचार्यविरचितं श्रीवृषाक्षरस्तोत्रम् समाप्तम् ॥

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