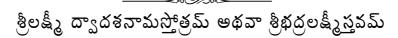
Shri LaxmI Dvadashanama or BhadralakshmI Stotram or Laxmihridaya



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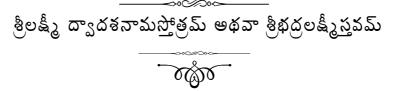
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Shri LaxmI Dvadashanama or BhadralakshmI Stotram or Laxmihridaya



శ్రీతులాకావేరీమాహాత్మ్యే ద్వావింశే உధ్యాయే శ్రీకృష్ణేన అర్జునాయోపదిష్టం లక్ష్మీహృదయస్తోత్రమ్ । శ్రీదేవీ ప్రథమం నామ ద్వితీయం అమృతోద్భవా । తృతీయం కమలా ప్రోక్తా చతుర్థం చన్నశోభనా ॥ ೧॥

This hymn gives 12 names of Shri Laxmi. This first verse gives the names Shridevi, Amrutodbhava or one who was born in the ocean of nectar, Kamala or One who resides in the lotus and Chandrashobhana - one who is beautiful as the moon.

పఞ్చమం విష్ణుపత్నీ చ షష్ఠం శ్రీవైష్ణవీ తథా। సప్తమన్తు వరారోహా అష్టమం హరివల్లభా॥ ౨॥

This verse gives the next four names as Vishnupatni - the consort of Vishnu, Shrivaishnavi - one who resembles Vishnu since She holds the conch, discuss and the mace in Her hands, Vararoha - one who has beautiful limbs and Harivallabha - one who is ever dear to Shri Hari.

నవమం శార్థిణీ ప్రోక్తా దశమం దేవదేవికా । ఏకాదశం మహలక్ష్మీ: ద్వాదశం లోకసున్దరీ ॥ ३॥

This verse give the last set of four names as Sharngini - one who holds the bow named Sharnga (just like Vishnu- since She is not different from Him), Devadevika - Goddess of devas, Mahalaxmi and lastly Lokasundari meaning one whose beauty will entrance the world.

శ్రీకి పద్మా కమలా ముకున్నమహిషీ లక్ష్మీ త్రిలోకేశ్వరీ మా శ్రీరాబ్ధిసుతా విరిఞ్చిజననీ విద్యా సరోజాసనా I సర్వాభీష్టఫలప్రదేతి సతతం నామాని యే ద్వాదశ ప్రాతః శుద్ధతరాః పఠ<u>న్య</u>భిమతాన్ సర్వాన్ లభ<u>నే</u> శుభాన్ ॥ ౪॥

The above verse gives twelve names of Laxmi Devi. It says that one who recites the twelve names with a pure mind will have his wishes fulfilled.

Some refer to this as bhadralakShmIstava or sankshiptalakShmIhRidayastotra,

భద్రలక్ష్మీస్తవం నిత్యం పుణ్యమేతచ్చుభావహమ్ I కాలే స్నాత్వా≥పి కావేర్యాం జప శ్రీవృక్షసన్నిదౌ II II ఇతి శ్రీలక్ష్మీ ద్వాదశనామస్తోత్రం అథవా శ్రీభద్రలక్ష్మీస్తవం సంపూర్ణమ్ II

As a proper reference, this occurs in tulAkAverImAhAtmya.

ఇత్యేతత్ గోష్పతి-ప్రోక్తం లక్ష్మీహృదయముత్తమమ్ । తౌలౌ స్నాత్వా తు కావేర్యాం జపేత్ శ్రీవృక్షసన్నిధౌ ॥ తౌలౌ సహ్యాద్భవా తీర్థే శ్రీరజ్లే స్నానమాచరన్ । జపేత్ తత్కమలాస్త్రోత్తం సర్వాన్ కామాన్ అవాఫ్నుయాత్ ॥

Meaning: This great hymn was given by Brihaspati. This should be recited after taking bath in Kaveri river and while facing a bilva tree. If one recites this in holy city of Srirangm in the month of Tula (7th month in the solar calendar) after having a bath in Kaveri he will have his wishes fulfilled.

COMMENTS:- Our religion talks of innumerable deities. This may be said to cater to the differing tastes of people. People get attracted to different forms like Rama, Krishna, Laxmi, Siva etc., and start worshipping them. But our scriptures stresss the fact that these diverse forms are only representations of one Supreme Being only. One may worship any form and get desired results granted from the one Supreme Being only. Bhagavat Gita (4-11) says thisclearly.

ಮೆ యథా మాం ప్రపద్య $\overline{3}$ తాం $\underline{3}$ భజామ్యహమ్ ।

ಮಮ ವರ್ರ್ಮಾನುವ $\underline{\sigma}$ ನ್ನೆ ಮನುವು \mathfrak{r} ೇ పార్థ సర్వశ \mathfrak{r} ॥

Laxmi is a very popular form and is worshipped as Goddess of prosperity. We all need prosperity to have a good and comfortable life. This includes money to take care of the needs of the family and to provide for unexpected emergencies. We also have to provide for the rainy day. More importantly we should remember that our scriptures enjoin us to perform 5 sacrifices known as పఞ్చయజ్ఞాః। To do these aquire money. So, there is nothing wrong in praying for wealth. But Laxmi is not merely the Goddess of prosperity and consort of Vishnu. The 108 names list (నామావలిః) says She is verily the Supreme Being and calls Her as బ్రహ్మవిస్లుశివాత్మికా or She is of the form of Brahma the creator, Vishnu and Shiva. So worshipping HER with devotion will confer on the worshipper not only prosperous life but much more. It will take him further on the spiritual ladder. He will gain spiritual wisdom that will result in emancipation or liberation. Krishna assures this in Gita (10-10 and 11).

తేషాం సతతయుక్తానాం భజతాం ప్రీతిపూర్వకమ్ I దదామి బుద్ధియోగం తం యేన మాముపయాన్తి తే II ೧೦II తేషామేవానుకమ్పార్థం అహమజ్ఞానజం తమః I నాశయామ్యాత్మభావస్థః జ్ఞానదీపేన భాస్వతా II ೧೧II

He says that He will grant them the right knowledge of the truth of the Lord by means of which they will reach Him. He adds that moved by compassion for those devotees and dwelling in their inner-sense, He destroys the darkness of delusion born of ignorance with the bright flame of knowledge. What more can the worshipper desire? So, worshipping Laxmi or for that matter any form of God with the understanding that form represents the Supreme Being will confer all that one may need for the life here and the hereafter also. Because of tis reason hymns about Laxmi are many and are popular. The vedas

have the famous Shrisuktam and also Laxmihridayam. Then there are many lists of names or namavalis (నామావరికి) that contain 1008 or 108 names. There are shorter ones like this hymn. These are recited daily by the devotees. The great vaishnava acharya Shri Vedanta Desika says in his famous hymn Shri stuti (8) that anyone who chants the names gifted to us by the vedas they will not be afflicted by the fierce storm of samsara which is the consequence of great sins.

The hymn given here is also known by the name Laxihridayam. The Agni Puranam says that the hymn was taught by Shri Krishna to Arjuna. By chanting this Arjuna was able to marry Subhadra without encountering problems.

Encoded, proofread, and translated with comments by N. Balasubramanian nbalubn at gmail.com

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