Shri Laxmi Dvadashanama or Bhadralakshmi Stotram or Laxmihridaya

श्रीलक्ष्मी द्वादशनामस्तोत्रम् अथवा श्रीभद्रलक्ष्मीस्तोत्रम्

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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.

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.

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.
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,

As a proper reference, this occurs in tulAkAverImAhAtmya.

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 this clearly.
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 पञ्चयथ्वः। 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 (नामाविलः) says She is verily the Supreme Being and calls Her as ब्रह्मविष्णुविवाहित्मिका 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).

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 compaasion 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 this reason hymns about Laxmi are many and are popular. The vedas have the famous Shrisuktam and also Laxmihrdayam. Then there are many lists of names or namavalis (नामावलि:) 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 Laxmihrdayam. 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.

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