



SACRED HYMN · SANSKRIT (DEVANAGARI) WITH MEANING

BILVASHTAKAM

Traditional

VERSE 1

त्रिदलं त्रिगुणाकारं त्रिनेत्रं च त्रियायुधम् ।
त्रिजन्मपापसंहारं एकबिल्वं शिवार्पणम् ॥

The three-leaved bilva mirrors the three gunas, Shiva's three eyes and his three weapons, and is said to remove the sins of three births. One bilva leaf is offered to Shiva.

VERSE 2

त्रिशाखैर्बिल्वपत्रैश्च ह्यच्छिद्रैः कोमलैः शुभैः ।
शिवपूजां करिष्यामि ह्येकबिल्वं शिवार्पणम् ॥

With three-pronged bilva leaves, unbroken, tender and auspicious, I shall worship Shiva. One bilva leaf is offered to Shiva.

VERSE 3

अखण्डबिल्वपत्रेण पूजिते नन्दिकेश्वरे ।
शुद्ध्यन्ति सर्वपापेभ्यो ह्येकबिल्वं शिवार्पणम् ॥

The verse says that when Nandikeshvara, the Lord of Nandi, is worshipped with an unbroken bilva leaf, devotees are cleansed of all sins. One bilva leaf is offered to Shiva.

VERSE 4

शालिग्रामशिलामेकां विप्राणां जातु चार्पयेत् ।
सोमयज्ञमहापुण्यं एकबिल्वं शिवार्पणम् ॥

The verse likens the offering to giving a single Shaligrama stone to learned brahmins, and to the great merit of a Soma sacrifice. One bilva leaf is offered to Shiva.

VERSE 5

दन्तिकोटिसहस्राणि वाजपेयशतानि च ।
कोटिकन्यामहादानं एकबिल्वं शिवार्पणम् ॥

The verse ranks the offering with the gift of countless thousands of elephants, a hundred Vajapeya sacrifices, and the great gift of ten million daughters given in marriage. One bilva leaf is offered to Shiva.

VERSE 6

लक्ष्म्यास्तनुत उत्पन्नं महादेवस्य च प्रियम् ।
बिल्ववृक्षं प्रयच्छामि ह्येकबिल्वं शिवार्पणम् ॥

I offer the bilva tree, born from the body of Lakshmi and dear to Mahadeva. One bilva leaf is offered to Shiva.

VERSE 7

दर्शनं बिल्ववृक्षस्य स्पर्शनं पापनाशनम् ।
अघोरपापसंहारं एकबिल्वं शिवार्पणम् ॥

Seeing the bilva tree and touching it are said to destroy sin, even the gravest sin. One bilva leaf is offered to Shiva.

VERSE 8

काशीक्षेत्रनिवासं च कालभैरवदर्शनम् ।
प्रयागमाधवं दृष्ट्वा ह्येकबिल्वं शिवार्पणम् ॥

Dwelling in the holy land of Kashi, the sight of Kala Bhairava, and beholding Madhava at Prayaga: the verse says the merit of these comes from offering a single bilva leaf to Shiva.

VERSE 9

मूलतो ब्रह्मरूपाय मध्यतो विष्णुरूपिणे ।
अग्रतः शिवरूपाय ह्येकबिल्वं शिवार्पणम् ॥

To the one who is Brahma at the root, Vishnu in the middle and Shiva at the tip, one bilva leaf is offered to Shiva.

PHALASHRUTI

बिल्वाष्टकमिदं पुण्यं यः पठेच्छिवसन्निधौ ।
सर्वपापविनिर्मुक्तः शिवलोकमवाप्नुयात् ॥

The closing verse says that whoever recites this sacred Bilvashtakam in Shiva's presence is freed from all sins and reaches Shiva's realm.

CLOSING

इति बिल्वाष्टकम् ॥

Thus ends the Bilvashtakam.

READ IT ON ITS PAGE

The Bilvashtakam with its meaning, how and when it is recited, and the same text in five more scripts:
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