ASTROBHAVA

SACRED HYMN · SANSKRIT (DEVANAGARI) WITH MEANING

Chandrasekhara Ashtakam

Attributed to the sage Markandeya

THE COMPLETE HYMN · SANSKRIT (DEVANAGARI)

Eight verses with the refrain printed once at the opening, followed by the phala shruti. The printed closing line is given at the end.

REFRAIN

चन्द्रशेखर चन्द्रशेखर चन्द्रशेखर पाहि माम् ।
चन्द्रशेखर चन्द्रशेखर चन्द्रशेखर रक्ष माम् ॥

O Chandrashekhara, the moon-crested one, protect me. O Chandrashekhara, guard me.

VERSE 1

रत्नसानुशरासनं रजताद्रिशृङ्गनिकेतनं शिञ्जिनीकृतपन्नगेश्वरमच्युतानलसायकम् ।
क्षिप्रदग्धपुरत्रयं त्रिदिवालयैरभिवन्दितं चन्द्रशेखरमाश्रये मम किं करिष्यति वै यमः ॥

His bow is Meru, the jewelled peak; his home is on the summit of the silver mountain; the lord of serpents is his bowstring and Vishnu and Fire are his arrow. He swiftly burned the three cities and the dwellers of heaven bow to him. I take refuge in Chandrashekhara: what can Yama do to me?

VERSE 2

पञ्चपादपपुष्पगन्धपदाम्बुजद्वयशोभितं भाललोचनजातपावकदग्धमन्मथविग्रहम् ।
भस्मदिग्धकलेवरं भवनाशनं भवमव्ययं चन्द्रशेखरमाश्रये मम किं करिष्यति वै यमः ॥

His two lotus feet shine, fragrant with the flowers of the five celestial trees; the fire born of his forehead eye burned the body of Manmatha. His body is smeared with ash; he ends worldly existence and is undying Bhava. I take refuge in Chandrashekhara: what can Yama do to me?

VERSE 3

मत्तवारणमुख्यचर्मकृतोत्तरीयमनोहरं पङ्कजासनपद्मलोचनपूजिताङ्घ्रिसरोरुहम् ।
देवसिन्धुतरङ्गशीकरसिक्तशुभ्रजटाधरं चन्द्रशेखरमाश्रये मम किं करिष्यति वै यमः ॥

He is handsome in an upper garment made from the hide of the chief of maddened elephants; Brahma and Vishnu worship his lotus feet. His matted locks, white, are sprinkled by the spray of the waves of the divine river. I take refuge in Chandrashekhara: what can Yama do to me?

VERSE 4

यक्षराजसखं भगाक्षहरं भुजङ्गविभूषणं शैलराजसुतापरिष्कृतचारुवामकलेवरम् ।
क्ष्वेडनीलगलं परश्वधधारिणं मृगधारिणं चन्द्रशेखरमाश्रये मम किं करिष्यति वै यमः ॥

He is the friend of Kubera, the one who took away Bhaga's eyes, and his ornaments are serpents; the daughter of the mountain king adorns the beautiful left side of his body. His throat is blue with poison, and he holds the axe and the deer. I take refuge in Chandrashekhara: what can Yama do to me?

VERSE 5

कुण्डलीकृतकुण्डलेश्वरकुण्डलं वृषवाहनं नारदादिमुनीश्वरस्तुतवैभवं भुवनेश्वरम् ।
अन्धकान्तकमाश्रितामरपादपं शमनान्तकं चन्द्रशेखरमाश्रये मम किं करिष्यति वै यमः ॥

He wears the coiled lord of serpents as an earring and rides the bull; Narada and the great sages praise his glory, and he is lord of the worlds. He ended Andhaka, he is the wish-granting tree for those who come to him, and he ended Death himself. I take refuge in Chandrashekhara: what can Yama do to me?

VERSE 6

भेषजं भवरोगिणामखिलापदामपहारिणं दक्षयज्ञविनाशनं त्रिगुणात्मकं त्रिविलोचनम् ।
भुक्तिमुक्तिफलप्रदं सकलाघसङ्घनिबर्हणं चन्द्रशेखरमाश्रये मम किं करिष्यति वै यमः ॥

He is the medicine for those sick with worldly existence and the remover of every calamity; he destroyed Daksha's sacrifice, he embodies the three gunas, and he has three eyes. He gives enjoyment and liberation and wipes out the whole mass of sins. I take refuge in Chandrashekhara: what can Yama do to me?

VERSE 7

भक्तवत्सलमर्चितं निधिमक्षयं हरिदम्बरं सर्वभूतपतिं परात्परमप्रमेयमनुत्तमम् ।
सोमवारिदभूहुताशनसोमपानिलखाकृतिं चन्द्रशेखरमाश्रये मम किं करिष्यति वै यमः ॥

He is tender to his devotees, worshipped, an unfailing treasure, clad in the directions; he is lord of all beings, beyond the highest, immeasurable and unsurpassed. His forms are the moon, the water-giver, earth, fire, the soma-drinking sacrificer, wind and sky. I take refuge in Chandrashekhara: what can Yama do to me?

VERSE 8

विश्वसृष्टिविधायिनं पुनरेव पालनतत्परं संहरन्तमपि प्रपञ्चमशेषलोकनिवासिनम् ।
क्रीडयन्तमहर्निशं गणनाथयूथसमन्वितं चन्द्रशेखरमाश्रये मम किं करिष्यति वै यमः ॥

He brings the universe into being, then is intent on preserving it, and also withdraws the whole of it; he dwells in all the worlds. Day and night he sports, surrounded by the troops of the Gana leaders. I take refuge in Chandrashekhara: what can Yama do to me?

PHALA SHRUTI 1

मृत्युभीतमृकण्डसूनुकृतस्तवं शिवसन्निधौ यत्र कुत्र च यः पठेन्न हि तस्य मृत्युभयं भवेत् ।
पूर्णमायुररोगितामखिलार्थसम्पदमादरं चन्द्रशेखर एव तस्य ददाति मुक्तिमयत्नतः ॥

This hymn was made in Shiva's presence by the son of Mrikanda when he feared death. The verse says that whoever recites it, wherever it may be, has no fear of death, and that Chandrashekhara himself gives that person a full life, health, every kind of wealth and, without effort, liberation.

CLOSING

॥ इति श्रीशिवरहस्यान्तर्गते शिवाख्ये मार्कण्डेयकृतं श्रीचन्द्रशेखराष्टकं सम्पूर्णम् ॥

Thus ends the Sri Chandrashekhara Ashtakam composed by Markandeya, found in the Shiva section of the Shiva Rahasya.

Read it on its page

The Chandrasekhara Ashtakam with its meaning, how and when it is recited, and the same text in five more scripts: astrobhava.com/mantra/chandrasekhara-ashtakam/



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