ASTROBHAVA

SACRED HYMN · SANSKRIT (DEVANAGARI) WITH MEANING

Dashavatara Stotram

Jayadeva, from the Gita Govinda

THE COMPLETE HYMN · SANSKRIT (DEVANAGARI)

The ten avatar verses and the poet's signature verse, followed by the canto's closing shloka to Krishna. The printed closing line is given at the end.

VERSE 1

प्रलयपयोधिजले धृतवानसि वेदम् ।
विहितवहित्रचरित्रमखेदम् ।
केशव धृतमीनशरीर जय जगदीश हरे ॥

When the waters of the great dissolution rose, you held up the Veda, taking with ease the part of a boat. O Keshava, who took the body of a fish, victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 2

क्षितिरतिविपुलतरे तव तिष्ठति पृष्ठे ।
धरणिधरणकिणचक्रगरिष्ठे ।
केशव धृतकच्छपरूप जय जगदीश हरे ॥

The vast earth rests upon your back, made mighty by the round scar left from bearing the world. O Keshava, who took the form of a tortoise, victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 3

वसति दशनशिखरे धरणी तव लग्ना ।
शशिनि कलङ्ककलेव निमग्ना ।
केशव धृतसूकररूप जय जगदीश हरे ॥

The earth sits fixed on the tip of your tusk, like the dark mark sunk into the moon. O Keshava, who took the form of a boar, victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 4

तव करकमलवरे नखमद्भुतशृङ्गम् ।
दलितहिरण्यकशिपुतनुभृङ्गम् ।
केशव धृतनरहरिरूप जय जगदीश हरे ॥

On your lotus-like hand is a wondrous pointed nail that tore apart the body of Hiranyakashipu as if it were a bee. O Keshava, who took the form of the man-lion, victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 5

छलयसि विक्रमणे बलिमद्भुतवामन ।
पदनखनीरजनितजनपावन ।
केशव धृतवामनरूप जय जगदीश हरे ॥

O wondrous dwarf, with your stride you outwit Bali, you who purify all people through the water born from the nails of your feet. O Keshava, who took the form of the dwarf, victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 6

क्षत्रियरुधिरमये जगदपगतपापम् ।
स्नपयसि पयसि शमितभवतापम् ।
केशव धृतभृगुपतिरूप जय जगदीश हरे ॥

In a flood of the blood of warriors you bathe the world, washing away its sin and calming the pain of worldly life. O Keshava, who took the form of the lord of the Bhrigus (Parashurama), victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 7

वितरसि दिक्षु रणे दिक्पतिकमनीयम् ।
दशमुखमौलिबलिं रमणीयम् ।
केशव धृतरामशरीर जय जगदीश हरे ॥

In battle you scatter to the directions a lovely offering, pleasing to their guardian gods: the crowned heads of ten-faced Ravana. O Keshava, who took the body of Rama, victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 8

वहसि वपुषि विशदे वसनं जलदाभम् ।
हलहतिभीतिमिलितयमुनाभम् ।
केशव धृतहलधररूप जय जगदीश हरे ॥

On your bright body you wear a garment the colour of a rain cloud, dark like the Yamuna, which joined you in fear of the blow of your plough. O Keshava, who took the form of the plough-bearer (Balarama), victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 9

निन्दसि यज्ञविधेरहह श्रुतिजातम् ।
सदयहृदयदर्शितपशुघातम् ।
केशव धृतबुद्धशरीर जय जगदीश हरे ॥

Alas, you find fault with the body of scripture that prescribes sacrifice, with a compassionate heart showing the slaughter of animals. O Keshava, who took the body of the Buddha, victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 10

म्लेच्छनिवहनिधने कलयसि करवालम् ।
धूमकेतुमिव किमपि करालम् ।
केशव धृतकल्किशरीर जय जगदीश हरे ॥

To destroy the hordes of barbarians you wield a sword, fearsome as a comet. O Keshava, who took the body of Kalki, victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 11

श्रीजयदेवकवेरिदमुदितमुदारम् ।
शृणु सुखदं शुभदं भवसारम् ।
केशव धृतदशविधरूप जय जगदीश हरे ॥

Hear this noble song spoken by the poet Shri Jayadeva; the verse says it gives happiness and good fortune and is the essence of existence. O Keshava, who took these ten forms, victory to you, Hari, Lord of the world.

VERSE 12

वेदानुद्धरते जगन्निवहते भूगोलमुद्बिभ्रते दैत्यं दारयते बलिं छलयते क्षत्रक्षयं कुर्वते ।
पौलस्त्यं जयते हलं कलयते कारुण्यमातन्वते म्लेच्छान्मूर्च्छयते दशाकृतिकृते कृष्णाय तुभ्यं नमः ॥

Salutations to you, Krishna, who took ten forms: who lifts up the Vedas, bears the world, holds up the globe of the earth, tears apart the demon, deceives Bali, destroys the warrior class, conquers Ravana, wields the plough, spreads compassion, and makes the barbarians faint.

CLOSING

इति जयदेवकविकृतः दशावतारस्तवः सम्पूर्णः ।

Thus ends the hymn on the ten avatars composed by the poet Jayadeva.

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