ASTROBHAVA

SACRED HYMN · SANSKRIT (DEVANAGARI) WITH MEANING

Kamakshi Stotram

Attributed to Adi Shankaracharya

THE COMPLETE HYMN · SANSKRIT (DEVANAGARI)

Ten verses, nine ending on the refrain vande maheshapriyam and the tenth a prayer for blessing. The printed closing line is given at the end.

VERSE 1

कल्पानोकहपुष्पजालविलसन्नीलालकां मातृकां कान्तां कञ्जदलेक्षणां कलिमलप्रध्वंसिनीं कालिकाम् ।
काञ्चीनूपुरहारदामसुभगां काञ्चीपुरीनायिकां कामाक्षीं करिकुम्भसन्निभकुचां वन्दे महेशप्रियाम् ॥

I bow to Kamakshi, beloved of Shiva: the Mother, whose dark locks gleam with clusters of flowers from the wish-granting tree, the lovely one with eyes like lotus petals, Kalika who destroys the stains of the Kali age. She is graceful with girdle, anklets, necklace and garland, the queen of the city of Kanchi, her bosom full like the brow of an elephant.

VERSE 2

काशाभां शुकभासुरां प्रविलसत्कोशातकीसन्निभां चन्द्रार्कानललोचनां सुरुचिरालङ्कारभूषोज्ज्वलाम् ।
ब्रह्मश्रीपतिवासवादिमुनिभिः संसेविताङ्घ्रिद्वयां कामाक्षीं गजराजमन्दगमनां वन्दे महेशप्रियाम् ॥

I bow to Kamakshi, beloved of Shiva: pale as kasha blossom and radiant with her parrot, shining like the koshataki flower, with the moon, sun and fire for eyes, bright with beautiful ornaments. Brahma, Vishnu, Indra and the sages serve her two feet, and she walks slowly like a royal elephant.

VERSE 3

ऐं क्लीं सौरिति यां वदन्ति मुनयस्तत्त्वार्थरूपां परां वाचामादिमकारणं हृदि सदा ध्यायन्ति यां योगिनः ।
बालां फालविलोचनां नवजपावर्णां सुषुम्नाश्रितां कामाक्षीं कलितावतंससुभगां वन्दे महेशप्रियाम् ॥

I bow to Kamakshi, beloved of Shiva: the Supreme whom sages name as Aim, Klim and Sauh, the very meaning of truth, the first cause of speech, on whom yogis always meditate in the heart. She is the young girl with an eye on her forehead, the colour of fresh hibiscus, resting in the sushumna, lovely with the ornament she wears.

VERSE 4

यत्पादाम्बुजरेणुलेशमनिशं लब्ध्वा विधत्ते विधिर्विश्वं तत्परिपाति विष्णुरखिलं यस्याः प्रसादाच्चिरम् ।
रुद्रः संहरति क्षणात्तदखिलं यन्मायया मोहितः कामाक्षीमतिचित्रचारुचरितां वन्दे महेशप्रियाम् ॥

I bow to Kamakshi, beloved of Shiva, whose story is wonderful and beautiful: receiving ever a speck of the dust of her lotus feet, Brahma makes the universe; by her grace Vishnu long protects it all; and Rudra, enchanted by her maya, dissolves it all in a moment.

VERSE 5

सूक्ष्मात्सूक्ष्मतरां सुलक्षिततनुं क्षान्ताक्षरैर्लक्षितां वीक्षाशिक्षितराक्षसां त्रिभुवनक्षेमङ्करीमक्षयाम् ।
साक्षाल्लक्षणलक्षिताक्षरमयीं दाक्षायणीं साक्षिणीं कामाक्षीं शुभलक्षणैः सुललितां वन्दे महेशप्रियाम् ॥

I bow to Kamakshi, beloved of Shiva, lovely with auspicious marks: subtler than the subtle, of clearly marked form, denoted by the letters that end in ksha. She disciplines demons with a glance, brings welfare to the three worlds, and is imperishable; she is the embodiment of the letters known by their signs, Dakshayani, the Witness.

VERSE 6

ओङ्काराङ्गणदीपिकामुपनिषत्प्रासादपारावतीं आम्नायाम्बुधिचन्द्रिकामघतमःप्रध्वंसहंसप्रभाम् ।
काञ्चीपट्टणपञ्जरान्तरशुकीं कारुण्यकल्लोलिनीं कामाक्षीं शिवकामराजमहिषीं वन्दे महेशप्रियाम् ॥

I bow to Kamakshi, beloved of Shiva, queen of Shiva Kamaraja: she is the lamp in the courtyard of Om, the dove on the mansion of the Upanishads, the moonlight on the ocean of the Vedas, the swan-bright radiance that destroys the darkness of sin, the parrot in the cage of the city of Kanchi, a river of compassion.

VERSE 7

ह्रीङ्कारात्मकवर्णमात्रपठनादैन्द्रीं श्रियं तन्वतीं चिन्मात्रां भुवनेश्वरीमनुदिनं भिक्षाप्रदानक्षमाम् ।
विश्वाघौघनिवारिणीं विमलिनीं विश्वम्भरां मातृकां कामाक्षीं परिपूर्णचन्द्रवदनां वन्दे महेशप्रियाम् ॥

I bow to Kamakshi, beloved of Shiva, whose face is the full moon. The verse says that by merely reciting the syllable Hrim she bestows the wealth of Indra. She is pure consciousness, ruler of the worlds, able each day to grant alms, remover of the world's flood of sins, spotless, bearer of the universe, mother of letters.

VERSE 8

वाग्देवीति च यां वदन्ति मुनयः क्षीराब्धिकन्येति च क्षोणीभृत्तनयेति च श्रुतिगिरो यां आमनन्ति स्फुटम् ।
एकानेकफलप्रदां बहुविधाऽऽकारास्तनूस्तन्वतीं कामाक्षीं सकलार्तिभञ्जनपरां वन्दे महेशप्रियाम् ॥

I bow to Kamakshi, beloved of Shiva, who is intent on breaking every sorrow: sages call her the goddess of speech and the daughter of the milk ocean, and the words of the Veda clearly declare her the daughter of the mountain. Giver of results both one and many, she takes bodies of many forms.

VERSE 9

मायामादिमकारणं त्रिजगतामाराधिताङ्घ्रिद्वयां आनन्दामृतवारिराशिनिलयां विद्यां विपश्चिद्धियाम् ।
मायामानुषरूपिणीं मणिलसन्मध्यां महामातृकां कामाक्षीं करिराजमन्दगमनां वन्दे महेशप्रियाम् ॥

I bow to Kamakshi, beloved of Shiva, who walks slowly like the king of elephants: she is Maya, the first cause of the three worlds, whose two feet are worshipped; she dwells in the ocean of the nectar of bliss, she is Knowledge, the insight of the wise. She takes a human form through Maya, her waist shines with gems, and she is the Great Mother.

VERSE 10

कान्ता कामदुघा करीन्द्रगमना कामारिवामाङ्गगा कल्याणी कलितावतारसुभगा कस्तूरिकाचर्चिता ।
कम्पातीररसालमूलनिलया कारुण्यकल्लोलिनी कल्याणानि करोतु मे भगवती काञ्चीपुरीदेवता ॥

May the Goddess, the deity of Kanchipuri, grant me all that is auspicious: the lovely one, the wish-granting cow, with the gait of a great elephant, seated at the left side of Shiva, the enemy of Kama. She is Kalyani, graceful in her chosen descent, anointed with musk, dwelling at the root of the mango tree on the bank of the Kampa, a river of compassion.

CLOSING

इति श्री कामाक्षी स्तोत्रम् ॥

Thus ends the Shri Kamakshi Stotram.

Read it on its page

The Kamakshi Stotram with its meaning, how and when it is recited, and the same text in five more scripts: astrobhava.com/mantra/kamakshi-stotram/



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