



SACRED HYMN · SANSKRIT (DEVANAGARI) WITH MEANING

SHIVA TANDAVA STOTRAM

Attributed to Ravana

VERSE 1

जटाटवीगलज्जलप्रवाहपावितस्थले गलेऽवलम्ब्य लम्बितां भुजङ्गुतुङ्गमालिकाम् ।

डमड्डमड्डमड्डमन्त्रिनादवड्डमर्वयं चकार चण्डताण्डवं तनोतु नः शिवः शिवम् ॥

With the Ganga flowing from the forest of his matted locks sanctifying his neck, and a long, lofty garland of serpents hanging there, Shiva danced the fierce Tandava to the 'damad damad' of his drum. May that Shiva bring us what is auspicious.

VERSE 2

जटाकटाहसम्भ्रमभ्रमन्निलिम्पनिर्झरीविलोलीचिवल्लरीविराजमानमूर्द्धनि ।

धगाद्गद्गद्गज्ज्वलललाटपट्टपावके किशोरचन्द्रशेखरे रतिः प्रतिक्षणं मम ॥

His head shines with the restless waves of the celestial river whirling in the cauldron of his matted hair; fire blazes 'dhagad dhagad' on his forehead; the young crescent moon is his crest. In him my delight lies, moment after moment.

VERSE 3

धराधरेन्द्रनन्दिनीविलासबन्धुबन्धुरस्फुरद्दिगन्तसन्ततिप्रमोदमानमानसे ।

कृपाकटाक्षधोरणीनिरुद्धदुर्धरापदि क्वचिद्दिगम्बरे मनो विनोदमेतु वस्तुनि ॥

His heart rejoices in the graceful play of the mountain king's daughter, which lights up every quarter, and the stream of his compassionate glances holds back even unbearable hardship. May my mind find its joy in that sky-clad Being.

VERSE 4

जटाभुजङ्गपिङ्गलस्फुरत्फणामणिप्रभाकदम्बकुङ्कुमद्रवप्रलिप्तदिग्वधूमुखे ।

मदान्धसिन्धुरस्फुरत्त्वगुत्तरीयमेदुरे मनो विनोदमद्भुतं बिभर्तु भूतभर्तारि ॥

The glow of the gems on the hoods of the tawny serpents in his hair tints the faces of the maidens of the directions like liquid saffron, and he wears the gleaming hide of a rut-maddened elephant as his upper cloth. May my mind take wondrous delight in that Lord of all beings.

VERSE 5

सहस्रलोचनप्रभृत्यशेषलेखशेखरप्रसूनधूलिधोरणीविधूसराङ्गिणीपीठभूः ।

भुजङ्गराजमालया निबद्धजाटजूटकः श्रियै चिराय जायतां चकोरबन्धुशेखरः ॥

His footstool is grey with the pollen falling from the flowers on the heads of Indra and all the gods; his matted hair is tied with a garland made of the king of serpents; the moon, friend of the cakora bird, is his crest. May he be for lasting prosperity.

VERSE 6

ललाटचत्वरज्वलद्भनञ्जयस्फुलिङ्गभानिपीतपञ्चसायकं नमन्निलिम्पनायकम् ।
सुधामयूखलेखया विराजमानशेखरं महाकपालि सम्पदे शिरो जटालमस्तु नः ॥

With sparks of the fire blazing on the broad courtyard of his forehead he consumed Kama, the god of the five arrows; the lord of the gods bows before him; the crescent of the nectar-rayed moon shines on his crown. May that matted-haired head of the great skull-bearer be for our welfare.

VERSE 7

करालभालपट्टिकाधगद्गद्गज्ज्वलद्भनञ्जयाहुतीकृतप्रचण्डपञ्चसायके ।
धराधरेन्द्रनन्दिनीकुचाग्रचित्रपत्रकप्रकल्पनैकशिल्पिनि त्रिलोचने रतिर्मम ॥

He offered the mighty five-arrowed Kama as an oblation into the fire blazing 'dhagad dhagad' on his fearsome forehead, and he alone is the artist who paints decorative designs on the bosom of the mountain king's daughter. My delight is in the Three-eyed One.

VERSE 8

नवीनमेघमण्डलीनिरुद्धदुर्धरस्फुरत्कुहूनिशीथिनीतमःप्रबन्धबद्धकन्धरः ।
निलिम्पनिर्झरीधरस्तनोतु कृत्तिसिन्धुरः कलानिधानबन्धुरः श्रियं जगद्गुरन्धरः ॥

His neck is dark as the dense gloom of a new-moon midnight shrouded by banks of fresh clouds. May he who bears the celestial river, wears the elephant's hide, is lovely with the moon and carries the burden of the world spread prosperity.

VERSE 9

प्रफुल्लनीलपङ्कजप्रपञ्चकालिमप्रभाऽवलम्बिकण्ठकन्दलीरुचिप्रबद्धकन्धरम् ।
स्मरच्छिदं पुरच्छिदं भवच्छिदं मखच्छिदं गजच्छिदान्धकच्छिदं तमन्तकच्छिदं भजे ॥

His throat is bound with the dark lustre of a spread of full-blown blue lotuses. I worship him who cut down Kama, destroyed the three cities, cuts the bonds of worldly existence, ended Daksha's sacrifice, slew the elephant demon and Andhaka, and cut down Yama, the god of death.

VERSE 10

अखर्वसर्वमङ्गलाकलाकदम्बमञ्जरीरसप्रवाहमाधुरीविजृम्भणामधुव्रतम् ।
स्मरान्तकं पुरान्तकं भवान्तकं मखान्तकं गजान्तकान्धकान्तकं तमन्तकान्तकं भजे ॥

Like a bee, he delights in the sweetness of the nectar flowing from the blossom-cluster of the arts of the all-auspicious Parvati. I worship him, the ender of Kama, of the three cities, of worldly bondage, of Daksha's sacrifice, of the elephant demon and Andhaka, and the ender of Yama himself.

VERSE 11

जयत्वदभ्रविभ्रमभ्रमद्भुजङ्गमश्वसद्विनिर्गमत्क्रमस्फुरत्करालभालहव्यवाट् ।
धिमिद्धिमिद्धिमिद्ध्वनन्मृदङ्गतुङ्गमङ्गलध्वनिक्रमप्रवर्तितप्रचण्डताण्डवः शिवः ॥

The fire on his fearsome forehead flares with the hissing breath of serpents whirling in wide circles, and his fierce Tandava moves to the loud, auspicious beat of the mridanga sounding 'dhimid dhimid dhimid'. Victory to that Shiva.

VERSE 12

दृषद्विचित्रतल्पयोर्भुजङ्गमौक्तिकस्रजोर्गरिष्ठरत्नलोष्ठयोः सुहृद्विपक्षपक्षयोः ।
तृणारविन्दचक्षुषोः प्रजामहीमहेन्द्रयोः समप्रवृत्तिकः कदा सदाशिवं भजाम्यहम् ॥

When shall I worship Sadashiva with the same regard for a stone and a splendid bed, a serpent and a string of pearls, a precious gem and a clod of earth, friend and foe, a blade of grass and a lotus-eyed beauty, common folk and a great king?

VERSE 13

कदा निलिम्पनिर्झरीनिकुञ्जकोटरे वसन् विमुक्तदुर्मतिः सदा शिरःस्थमञ्जलिं वहन् ।
विलोललोललोचनो ललामभाललग्नकः शिवेति मन्त्रमुच्चरन् कदा सुखी भवाम्यहम् ॥

When shall I be happy, dwelling in a hollow among the groves by the celestial river, free of evil thoughts, always holding my joined palms above my head, my restless eyes fixed on the Lord whose forehead bears the sacred mark, and chanting the mantra 'Shiva'?

VERSE 14

निलिम्पनाथनागरीकदम्बमौलमल्लिकानिगुम्फनिर्भरक्षरन्मधूष्णिकामनोहरः ।
तनोतु नो मनोमुदं विनोदिनीमहर्निशं परश्रियः परं पदं तदङ्गजत्विषां चयः ॥

The radiance of his limbs is made lovely by the fragrant honey dripping from the jasmine garlands woven on the heads of the celestial women, and it is the highest seat of supreme splendour. May it spread delight in our minds day and night.

VERSE 15

प्रचण्डवाडवानलप्रभाशुभप्रचारणी महाष्टसिद्धिकामिनीजनाऽवहूतजल्पना ।
विमुक्तवामलोचनाविवाहकालिकध्वनिः शिवेति मन्त्रभूषणा जगज्जयाय जायताम् ॥

Blazing like the fierce fire beneath the ocean, it drives away all that is inauspicious. It is the chant called out by the celestial women who embody the eight great siddhis, and the joyful sound raised by the doe-eyed women at the hour of Shiva's wedding. May this chant, adorned with the mantra 'Shiva', be for the victory of the world.

PHALASHRUTI

इमं हि नित्यमेवमुक्तमुत्तमोत्तमं स्तवं पठन्स्मरन्ब्रुवन्नरो विशुद्धिमेति सन्ततम् ।
हरे गुरौ सुभक्तिमाशु याति नाऽन्यथा गतिं विमोहनं हि देहिनां सुशङ्करस्य चिन्तनम् ॥

The hymn says that a person who daily reads, remembers and recites this finest of hymns, as given here, grows steadily purer and comes to deep devotion to Hara, the true teacher, for there is no other way; contemplation of Shankara clears the delusion of embodied beings.

PHALASHRUTI

पूजावसानसमये दशवक्त्रगीतं यः शम्भुपूजनपरं पठति प्रदोषे ।
तस्य स्थिरां रथगजेन्द्रतुरङ्गयुक्तां लक्ष्मीं सदैव सुमुखीं प्रददाति शम्भुः ॥

The hymn says that whoever recites this song of the ten-headed Ravana, devoted to the worship of Shambhu, at the close of worship in the Pradosha twilight, is given by Shambhu steady and gracious fortune, with chariots, elephants and horses.

CLOSING

इति श्रीरावणकृतं शिवताण्डवस्तोत्रं सम्पूर्णम् ॥

Thus ends the Shiva Tandava Stotram composed by Shri Ravana.

READ IT ON ITS PAGE

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



PERFORMED FOR YOU

THE RUDRA HOMAM, IN YOUR NAME

At our Yagna Ashram, telecast live · astrobhava.com/product/rudra-homa/

Book →

AstroBhava · www.astrobhava.com · support@astrobhava.com · +91 96295 55442

An initiative of Vedhon Management Consultants (OPC) Pvt Ltd, Pollachi