
Shivatandavastotra with meaning

॥ सार्थशिवताण्डवस्तोत्रम् ॥

॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥

जटाटवीगलज्जलप्रवाहपावितस्थले

matted hair-thick as forest-water-flow-consecrated-area

गलेऽवलम्ब्य लम्बितां भुजङ्गुतुङ्गमालिकाम् ।

in the throat-stuck-hanging-snake-lofty-garland

डमडुमडुमडुमन्निनादवडुमर्वयं

damat-damat-damat-damat-having sound-drum-this

चकार चण्डताण्डवं तनोतु नः शिवः शिवम् ॥ १ ॥

did-fierce-Tandava-may he shower-on us-Shiva-auspiciousness

With his neck, consecrated by the flow of water flowing from the thick forest-like locks of hair, and on the neck, where the lofty snake is hanging garland, and the Damaru drum making the sound of Damat Damat Damat Damat, Lord Shiva did the auspicious dance of Tandava and may He shower prosperity on us all.

जटाकटाहसंभ्रमभ्रमन्निलिम्पनिर्झरी-

matted hair-a well-agitation-moving-celestial river

-विलोलवीचिवल्लरीविराजमानमूर्धनि ।

agitating-waves-rows-glorified-head

धगद्धगद्धगज्ज्वलल्ललाटपट्टपावके

Dhagat dhagat dhagat-flaming-forehead-flat area-fire

किशोरचन्द्रशेखरे रतिः प्रतिक्षणं मम ॥ २ ॥

baby-moon-crest jewel-love-every moment-for me

I have a very deep interest in Lord Shiva, whose head is glorified by the rows of moving waves of the celestial river Ganga, agitating in the deep well of his hair-locks, and who has the brilliant fire flaming on the surface of his forehead, and who has the crescent moon as a jewel on his head.

धराधरेन्द्रनंदिनीविलासबन्धुबन्धुर

King of mountains-daughter-sportive-kith-beautiful-

स्फुरद्दिगन्तसन्ततिप्रमोदमानमानसे ।

glorious-horizon-all living beings-rejoicing-mind

कृपाकटाक्षधोरणीनिरुद्धदुर्धरापदि

compassion-look-continuous flow-obstructed-hardships

क्वचिद्दिगम्बरे(क्वचिच्चिदंबरे) मनो विनोदमेतु वस्तुनि ॥ ३ ॥

some time-in the omnipresent-mind-pleasure-may seek-in a thing

May my mind seek happiness in the Lord Shiva, in whose mind all the living beings of the glorious universe exist, who is the sportive companion of Parvati (daughter of the mountain king), who controls invincible hardships with the flow of his compassionate look, who is all-persuasive (the directions are his clothes).

लताभुजङ्गपिङ्गलस्फुरत्फणामणिप्रभा

creeping-snake-reddish brown-shining-hood-gem-luster-

कदम्बकुङ्कुमद्रवप्रलिप्तदिग्बधूमुखे ।

variegated-red dye-melting-applied-directions-beloved-face

मदान्धसिन्धुरस्फुरत्त्वगुत्तरीयमेदुरे

intoxicated-elephant-glittering-skin-upper garment-covered

मनो विनोदमद्भुतं विभर्तु भूतभर्तरि ॥ ४ ॥

mind-pleasure-wonderful-may it seek-in him who supports all life

May I seek wonderful pleasure in Lord Shiva, who is supporter of all life, who with his creeping snake with reddish brown hood and with the luster of his gem on it spreading out variegated colors on the beautiful faces of the maidens of directions, who is covered with a glittering upper garment made of the skin of a huge intoxicated elephant.

सहस्रलोचनप्रभृत्यशेषलेखशेखर

Indra/Vishnu-and others-all-lined up-heads-

प्रसूनधूलिधोरणी विधूसराङ्घ्रिपीठभूः ।

flower-dust-force-grayed-feet-seat

भुजङ्गराजमालया निबद्धजाटजूटक

snake-red-garland (with) tied-locked hair

श्रियै चिराय जायतां चकोरबन्धुशेखरः ॥ ५ ॥

for the prosperity-for a long time-may he be-Cakora bird-relative-on head

May Lord Shiva give us prosperity, who has the moon (relative of the Cakora bird) as his head-jewel, whose hair is tied by the red snake-garland, whose foot-stool is grayed by the flow of dust from the flowers from the rows of heads of all the Gods, Indra/Vishnu and others.

ललाटचत्वरज्वलद्धनञ्जयस्फुलिङ्गभा-

forehead-flat area-flaming-fire-sparks-luster

-निपीतपञ्चसायकं नमन्निलिम्पनायकम् ।

devoured-God of Love-bowing-Gods-leader

सुधामयूखलेखया विराजमानशेखरं

cool-rayed-crescent-beautiful-head

महाकपालिसम्पदेशिरोजटालमस्तु नः ॥ ६ ॥

for the Siddhi-prosperity-head-locked hair-may it be-to us

May we get the wealth of Siddhis from Shiva's locks of hair, which devoured the God of Love with the sparks of the fire flaming in His forehead, who is bowed by all the celestial leaders, who is beautiful with a crescent moon

करालभालपट्टिकाधगद्धगद्धगज्ज्वल-

dreadful-forehead-flat area-dhagat-dhagat-flaming

द्धनञ्जयाहुतीकृतप्रचण्डपञ्चसायके ।

fire-offered-powerful-God of Love

धराधरेन्द्रनन्दिनीकुचाग्रचित्रपत्रक-

king of mountains-daughter-breast-tip-colorful-decorative lines

-प्रकल्पनैकशिल्पिनि त्रिलोचने रतिर्मम ॥ ७ ॥

drawing-sole-artist - in the three-eyed -deep interest-mine

My interest is in Lord Shiva, who has three eyes, who has offered the powerful God of Love into the fire, flaming Dhagad Dhagad on the flat surface of his forehead who is the sole expert artist of drawing

decorative lines on the tips of breasts of Parvati, the daughter of the mountain king.

नवीनमेघमण्डली निरुद्धदुर्धरस्फुरत्-

new-cloud-circle - obstructed-harsh-striking-

कुहूनिशीथिनीतमः प्रबन्धबद्धकन्धरः ।

new moon-midnight-darkness-tightly-tied-neck

निलिम्पनिर्झरीधरस्तनोतु कृत्तिसिन्धुरः

celestial-river-wearing-may he bless-skin-red

कलानिधानबन्धुरः श्रियं जगद्गुरंधरः ॥ ८ ॥

moon-lovely-prosperity-universe-bearer of the burden

May Lord Shiva give us prosperity, who bears the burden of this universe, who is lovely with the moon, who is red wearing the skin, who has the celestial river Ganga, whose neck is dark as midnight of new moon night covered by many layers of clouds.

प्रफुल्लनीलपङ्कजप्रपञ्चकालिमप्रभा-

well-opened-blue-lotus-universe-darkness-luster

-वलम्बिकण्ठकन्दलीरुचिप्रबद्धकन्धरम् ।

hanging-inside-temple-luster-tied-neck

स्मरच्छिदं पुरच्छिदं भवच्छिदं मखच्छिदं

Manmatha-killer-city-destroyer-mundane life -destroyer-sacrifice destroyer

गजच्छिदांधकच्छिदं तमंतकच्छिदं भजे ॥ ९ ॥

elephant-killer-demon-killer-him-destroyer of Lord Yama-I worship

I pray to Lord Shiva, whose neck is tied with the luster of the temples hanging on the neck with the glory of the fully-bloomed blue lotuses which looked like the blackness (sins) of the universe, who is the killer of Manmatha, who destroyed Tripuras, who destroyed the bonds of worldly life, who destroyed the sacrifice, who destroyed the demon Andhaka, the destroyer of the elephants, and who controlled the God of death, Yama.

अखर्व(अगर्व)सर्वमङ्गलाकलाकदंबमञ्जरी

great-all-auspicious-art-variegated-bunch-

रसप्रवाहमाधुरी विजृम्भणामधुव्रतम् ।

enjoyment-flow-sweetness-flaring up-bees

स्मरान्तकं पुरान्तकं भवान्तकं मखान्तकं

Manmatha-destroyer-city-destroyer-worldly bond-destroyer -sacrifice-destroyer

गजान्तकान्धकान्तकं तमन्तकान्तकं भजे ॥ १० ॥

elephant-killer-Andhaka-demon-killer-him-Yama-controller-I worship

I pray to Lord Shiva, who has bees flying all over because of the sweet honey from the beautiful bunch of auspicious Kadamba flowers, who is the killer of Manmatha, who destroyed Tripuras, who destroyed the bonds of worldly life, who destroyed the sacrifice, who destroyed the demon Andhaka, the killer of the elephants, and who controlled the God of death, Yama.

जयत्वदभ्रविभ्रमभ्रमद्भुजङ्गमश्वस-

victorious-foot-sky-whirling-roaming-snake-breath-

-द्विनिर्गमत्क्रमस्फुरत्करालभालहव्यवाट् ।

coming out-shaking-evident-dreadful-forehead-fire

धिमिद्धिमिद्धिमिध्वनन्मृदङ्गतुङ्गमङ्गल

Dhimid-dhimid-dhimid-sounding-drum-high-auspicious-

ध्वनिक्रमप्रवर्तित प्रचण्डताण्डवः शिवः ॥ ११ ॥

sound-series-caused-fierce-Tandava dance-Shiva

Lord Shiva, whose dance of Tandava is in tune with the series of loud sounds of drum making Dhimid Dhimid sounds, who has the fire on the great forehead, the fire that is spreading out because of the breath of the snake wandering in whirling motion in the glorious sky.

स्पृषद्विचित्रतल्पयोर्भुजङ्गमौक्तिकस्रजोर्-

touching-varied-ways-snake-embodied-garland

-गरिष्ठरत्नलोष्ठयोः सुहृद्विपक्षपक्षयोः ।

most precious-gems-brilliance-friends-enemies-two wings

तृष्णारविन्दचक्षुषोः प्रजामहीमहेन्द्रयोः

grass-lotus-eyes people and the great emperor

समप्रवृत्तिकः (समं प्रवर्तयन्मनः) कदा सदाशिवं भजे ॥ १२ ॥

equal-behaviour-always-Lord Shiva-worship-I

When will I worship Lord Sadasiva (eternally auspicious) God, with equal vision towards the people and an emperor, and a blade of grass and lotus-like eye, towards both friends and enemies, towards the valuable gem and some lump of dirt, towards a snake and a garland and towards varied ways of the world

कदा निलिम्पनिर्झरीनिकुञ्जकोटरे वसन्

when-celestial river-bush-hollow place(in)-living

विमुक्तदुर्मतिः सदा शिरः स्थमञ्जलिं वहन् ।

released-bad mind-always-on the head-folded hands-

विमुक्तलोललोचनो ललामभाललग्नकः

agitation-shaking-eyes-the best-forehead-interested

शिवेति मंत्रमुच्चरन् कदा सुखी भवाम्यहम् ॥ १३ ॥

”Shiva” -mantra-uttering-when-happy-will-be-I

When will I be happy, living in the hollow place near the celestial river, Ganga, carrying the folded hands on my head all the time, with my bad thinking washed away, and uttering the mantra of Lord Shiva and devoted in the God with glorious forehead with vibrating eyes.

इदम् हि नित्यमेवमुक्तमुत्तमोत्तमं स्तवं

This-indeed-daily-thus-said-the best of the best-stotra

पठन्स्मरन्ब्रुवन्नरो विशुद्धिमेतिसंततम् ।

reading-remembering-saying-a person-sanctity-gets-always

हरे गुरौ सुभक्तिमाशु याति नान्यथा गतिं

in Shiva-in Guru-deep devotion-quickly-gets-no-other-way

विमोहनं हि देहिनां सुशङ्करस्य चिंतनम् ॥ १४ ॥

removal of delusion-indeed-for the people-blessed Shiva’s thought

Whoever reads, remembers and says this best stotra as it is said here, gets purified for ever, and obtains devotion in the great Guru Shiva. For this devotion, there is no other way. Just the mere thought of Lord Shiva indeed removes the delusion.

पूजावसानसमये दशवक्त्रगीतं

worship-end-time-Ravana-sung

यः शंभुपूजनपरं पठति प्रदोषे ।

who-Shiva-worship-dedicated-reads-early in the evening, after sunset

तस्य स्थिरां रथगजेन्द्रतुरङ्गयुक्तां

to him-stable-chariot-elephant-horse-having

लक्ष्मीं सदैव सुमुखिं प्रददाति शंभुः ॥ १५ ॥

Lakshmi-always-definitely-favourable-gives-Shiva

In the evening, after sunset, at the end of Puja, whoever utters this stotra dedicated to the worship of Shiva, Lord Shiva blessed him with very stable Lakshmi (prosperity) with all the richness of chariots, elephants and horses.

इति श्रीरावण-कृतम्

thus sri-Ravana-done

शिव-ताण्डव-स्तोत्रम्

Shiva-tandava-stotra

सम्पूर्णम्

ends.

Thus ends the Shiva-Tandava Stotra written by Ravana.

The word-meanings and translation have been kindly provided by Dr. Sarasvati Mohan (sanskrt@aol.com) and her students at Samskrit Academy, San Jose CA, USA. She teaches samskrit in the Bay area. The typing of these was done by SARada kALiSeTTy (skaliset@pcocd2.intel.com).

The stotra is in panchachaamara chhanda, in which there are 16

s

bles of

varna-s per line, each line begins with a laghu and the laghu and guru varna-
alternate. So there are eight LG (laghu-guru) pairs, making up 16 sylla-
bles of
each line. The last shloka is in Vasanta-tilakaa metre.

Please send corrections to sanskrit@cheerful.com

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