

श्री कालभैरवाष्टकम्

shri kAlabhairavAshTakaM

Shlokas in Devanagari and English
With Meanings in English

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॥ अथ श्री कालभैरवाष्टकम् ॥
atha shrI kAlabhairavAshTakaM

atha = And now

shrI = the auspicious

kAlabhairavAshTakaM = eight stanzas in praise of lord kAlabhairava

And now the auspicious eight stanzas in praise of lord kAlabhairava!

देवराजसेव्यमानपावनांग्रिपङ्कजं
व्यालयज्ञसूत्रमिन्दुशेखरं कृपाकरम् ।
नारदादियोगिवृन्दवन्दितं दिगंबरं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥१॥

devarAjasevyamAnapAvanAMghripankajaM
vyAlayajnasUtramindushekharaM kRpAkaram
nAradAdiyogivRndavanditaM digaMbaraM
kAshikApurAdhinAthakAlabhairavaM bhaje 1

bhaje = I worship

1)devarAja-sevyamAna-pAvana-AMghri-pankajaM = the one whose pure lotus like feet is being served by devendra

2)vyAla-yajnasUtram = the one who has an extend yajnopavIta(implying the snake that adorns him)

3)indu-shekharaM = the one who has the moon on his head

3)kRpAkaram = the one who is compassionate

4)nArada-Adi-yogi-vRnda-vanditaM = the one who is worshipped by the groups of yogis, like nArada and others

5)digaMbaraM = the one who has the directions as his clothes

6)kAshikA-pura-adhinAtha-kAlabhairavaM = the lord of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava

Summary:

I worship the main ruler of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava, who is covered in nothing but the directions themselves, who is worshipped by the groups of yogis like nArada, who is compassionate, who wears the snake as his sacred thread of yajna, and whose pure lotus like feet are worshipped by the ruler of the devas, indra himself!

भानुकोटिभास्वरं भवाब्धितारकं परं
नीलकण्ठमीप्सितार्थदायकं त्रिलोचनम् ।
कालकालमंबुजाक्षमक्षशूलमक्षरं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥२॥

bhAnukoTibhAsvaraM bhavAbdhitArakaM paraM
nllakaNThamIpsitArthadAyakaM trilochanam
kAlakAlamaMbujAkShamakShashUlamakSharaM
kAshikApurAdhinAthakAlabhairavaM bhaje 2

bhaje = I worship

- 1)bhAnu-koTi-bhAsvaraM = the one who shines with the radiance of a series of Suns
- 2)bhava-abdhi-tArakaM = the one who takes us across the sea of existence
- 3)paraM = the one who is of the beyond
- 4)nlla-kaNTham = the one who has a blue neck
- 5)Ipsita-Artha-dAyakaM = the one who grants the object of one's desire
- 6)trilochanam = the one who has three eyes
- 7)kAla-kAlam = the one who vanquished kAla(yama)
- 8)aMbuj-a-kSham = the one who has lotus like eyes
- 9)akSha-shUlam = the one who has a spear made of bone
- 10)akSharaM = the one has no decay
- 11)kAshikA-pura-adhinAtha-kAlabhairavaM = the lord of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava

Summary:

I worship the main ruler of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava, who shines with the radiance of a series of Suns, who takes us across the sea of existence, who is of the beyond, who has a blue neck, who grants the object of one's desire, who has three eyes, who vanquished kAla(yama), who has lotus like eyes, who wields a spear made of bone, and who is without decay!

शूलटकपाशदण्डपाणिमादिकारणं
श्यामकायमादिदेवमक्षरं निरामयम् ।
भीमविक्रमं प्रभुं विचित्रताण्डवप्रियं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥३॥

shUlaTaMkapAshadaNDapANimAdikAraNaM
shyAmakAyamAdidevamakSharaM nirAmayam
bhlmavikramaM prabhuM vichitratANDavapriyaM
kAshikA-purAdhinAthakAlabhairavaM bhaje 3

bhaje = I worship

- 1)shUla-TaMka-pAsha-daNDa-pANim = the one who has a spear, a Damaru, a noose, and a staff in his hands
- 2)Adi-kAraNaM = the one who causes the beginning of creation
- 3)shyAmakAyam = the one who has a dark body
- 4)Adidevam = the one who is the first deva
- 5)akSharaM = the one who is without decay
- 6)nirAmayam = the one who is not subject to afflictions
- 7)bhlmavikramaM = the one who is extremely valiant
- 8)prabhuM = the lord
- 9)vichitra-tANDava-priyaM = the one who is fond of the wonderful vibrant dance
- 10)kAshikA-pura-adhinAtha-kAlabhairavaM = the lord of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava

Summary:

I worship the main ruler of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava, who has a spear, a Damaru, a noose, and a staff in his hands, who causes the beginning of creation, who has a dark body, who is the first deva, who is without decay, who is not subject to afflictions, who is extremely valiant, who is the lord of all beings, and who is fond of the wonderful vibrant dance!

भुक्तिमुक्तिदायकं प्रशस्तचारुविग्रहं
भक्तवत्सलं स्थितं समस्तलोकविग्रहम् ।
विनिकणन्मनोज्ञहेमकिङ्किणीलसत्कटिं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥४॥

bhuktimuktidAyakaM prashastachAruvighrahaM
bhaktavatsalaM sthitaM samastalokavighraham
vinikvaNanmanojnahemakinkiNllasatkaTiM
kAshikApurAdhinAthakAlabhairavaM bhaje 4

bhaje = I worship

- 1)bhukti-mukti-dAyakaM = the one who bestows both pleasure and liberation
- 2)prashasta-cAru-vighrahaM = the one who has a beautiful and radiant form
- 3)bhakta-vatsalaM = the one who has a motherly affection towards bhaktas
- 4)sthitaM = the one who is firmly established
- 5)samasta-loka-vighraham = the one who is an embodiment of the entire world
- 6)vinikvaNan-manojna-hema-kinkiNI-lasat-kaTiM = the one with a jingling, beautiful, golden band of bells around his waist
- 7)kAshikA-pura-adhinAtha-kAlabhairavaM = the lord of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava

Summary:

I worship the main ruler of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava, who bestows both pleasure and liberation, who has a beautiful and radiant form, who has a motherly affection towards bhaktas, who is firmly established, who is an embodiment of the entire world, and who has a jingling, beautiful, golden band of bells around his waist!

धर्मसेतुपालकं त्वधर्ममार्गनाशकं
कर्मपाशमोचकं सुशर्मदायकं विभुम् ।
स्वर्णवर्णकेशपाशशोभितांगनिर्मलं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥५॥

dharmasetupAlakaM tvadharmamArganAshakaM
karmapAshamochakaM susharmadAyakaM vibhum
svarNavarNakeshapAshashobhitAMganirmalaM
kAshikA-purAdhinAthakAlabhairavaM bhaje 5

bhaje = I worship

- 1)dharma-setu-pAlakaM = the one who upholds the bridge of dharma
- 2)tu-adharma-mArga-nAshakaM = and the one who destroys adharma
- 3)karma-pAsha-mochakaM = the one who liberates from the bondage of karma
- 4)su-sharma-dAyakaM = the one who bestows protection
- 5)vibhum = the one who is of an extraordinary existence
- 6)svarNa-varNa-kesha-pAsha-shobhita-aMga-nirmalaM = the one whose body is pure and radiant with his golden flames of hair!
- 7)kAshikA-pura-adhinAtha-kAlabhairavaM = the lord of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava

Summary:

I worship the main ruler of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava, who upholds the bridge of dharma, who destroys adharma, who liberates from the bondage of karma, who bestows protection, who is of an extraordinary existence and whose body is pure and radiant with his golden flames of hair!

रत्नपादुकाप्रभाभिरामपादयुग्मकं
नित्यमद्वितीयमिष्टदैवतं निरंजनम् ।
मृत्युदर्पनाशनं करालदंष्ट्रभूषणं

काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥६॥

ratnapAdukAprabhAbhirAmapAdayugmakaM
nityamadvitlyamishTadaivataM niraMjanam
mRtyudarpanAshanaM karAladaMshTrabhUshaNaM
kAshikApurAdhinAthakAlabhairavaM bhaje 6

bhaje = I worship

- 1)ratna-pAdukA-prabhA-abhirAma-pAdayugmakaM = the one whose beautiful pair of feet shine with the radiance of his jewel-encrusted footwear
- 2)nityam = the one who is eternal
- 3)advitlyam = the one who is unparalleled
- 4)ishTa-daivataM = the one who is a loved deva
- 5)niraMjanam = the one who is blemish-less
- 6)mRtyu-darpa-nAshanaM = the one who destroyed the arrogance of mRtyu(death)
- 7)karAla-daMshTra-bhUshaNaM = the one adorned with fierce fangs
- 8)kAshikA-pura-adhinAtha-kAlabhairavaM = the lord of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava

Summary:

I worship the main ruler of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava, whose beautiful pair of feet shine with the radiance of his jewel-encrusted footwear, who is eternal, who is unparalleled, who is a beloved deva, who is blemish-less, who destroyed the arrogance of mRtyu, and who is adorned with fierce fangs!

अट्टहासभिन्नपद्मजाण्डकोशसंततिं

दृष्टिपातनष्टपापजालमुग्रशासनम् ।

अष्टसिद्धिदायकं कपालमालिकाधरं

काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥७॥

aTTahAsabhinnapadmajANDakoshasaMtatiM

dRshTipAtanashTapApajAlamugrashAsanam

ashTasiddhidAyakaM kapAlamAlikAdharaM

kAshikApurAdhinAthakAlabhairavaM bhaje 7

bhaje = I worship

1)aTTahAsa-bhinna-padma-aNDakosha-saMtatiM = the one whose cacophonous laughter destroys all those created by Brahma, born out of a lotus

2)dRshTi-pAta-nashTa-pApa-jAlam = the one who destroys the web of sins with his mere glance

3)ugra-shAsanam = the one who is a fierce ruler

4)ashTa-siddhi-dAyakaM = the bestower of aShTa mahAsiddhis(aNimA, mahimA, garimA, laghimA, prApti, prAkAmya, Ishitva, vashitva)

5)kapAla-mAlika-dharaM = the one who wears a garland of skulls

6)kAshika-pura-adhinAtha-kAlabhairavaM = the lord of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava

Summary:

I worship the main ruler of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava, whose cacophonous laughter destroys all those created by Brahma, born out of a lotus, who destroys the web of sins with his mere glance, who is a fierce ruler, who is the bestower of aShTa mahAsiddhis, and who is adorned in a garland of skulls!

भूतसंघनायकं विशालकीर्तिदायकं

काशिवसलोकपुण्यपापशोधकं विभुम् ।

नीतिमार्गकोविदं पुरातनं जगत्पतिं

काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥८॥

bhUtasaMghanAyakaM vishAlakIrtidAyakaM

kAshivAsalokapuNyapApashodhakaM vibhum

nItimArgakovidaM purAtanaM jagatpatiM

kAshikApurAdhinAthakAlabhairavaM bhaje 8

bhaje = I worship

1)bhUta-saMgha-nAyakaM = the one who is the ruler of the groups of bhUtas

2)vishAla-klrti-dAyakaM = the one who grants wide-spread fame

3)kAshi-vAsa-loka-puNya-pApa-shodhakaM = the one who purifies the sins of those who reside in kAshi

4)vibhum = the one who is of an extraordinary existence

5))purAtanaM = the one who is ancient

6)jagat-patiM = the one who is the lord of the world

7)kAshika-pura-adhinAtha-kAlabhairavaM = the lord of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava

Summary:

I worship the main ruler of the city of kAshi, kAlabhairava, who is the ruler of the groups of bhUtas, who grants wide-spread fame, who purifies the sins of those who reside in kAshi, who is of an extraordinary existence, who is ancient, and who is the lord of the entire world!

॥ फल श्रुति ॥

phala shruti

The benefits of doing the chant

कालभैरवाष्टकं पठन्ति ये मनोहरं
ज्ञानमुक्तिसाधनं विचित्रपुण्यवर्धनम् ।
शोकमोहदैन्यलोभकोपतापनाशनं
प्रयान्ति कालभैरवाङ्घ्रिसन्निधिं नरा ध्रुवम् ॥

kAlabhairavAshTakaM paThaMti ye manoharaM
jnAnamuktisAdhanaM vichitrapuNyavardhanam
shokamohadainyalobhakopatApanAshanaM
prayAnti kAlabhairavAMghrisannidhiM narA dhruvam

ye paThaMti = Those who chant

manoharaM = the beautiful

kAlabhairavAshTakaM = eight stanzas in praise of kAlabhairava

jnAna-mukti-sAdhanaM = which is a tool to attain to knowledge, and liberation

vichitra-puNya-varadhanam = which enhances various wonderful virtues

shoka-moha-dainya-lobha-kopa-tApa-nAshanaM = which destroys grief, delusion, pitifulness, greed, rage and despair;

narA = Those humans

dhruvam prayAnti = shall surely attain to

kAlabhairava-aMghri-sannidhiM = the abode of the feet of lord kAlabhairava

Summary:

Those who chant these beautiful eight stanzas in praise of kAlabhairava, which is a tool to attain to knowledge, and liberation, which enhances various wonderful virtues, and which destroys grief, delusion, pitifulness, greed, rage and despair; such people shall surely attain to the abode of the feet of lord kAlabhairava!

॥ इति श्रीमत्परमहंसपरिव्राजकाचार्यस्य

श्रीगोविन्दभगवत्पूज्यपादशिष्यस्य श्रीमच्छङ्करभगवतः कृतौ

श्री कालभैरवाष्टकं सम्पूर्णम् ॥

iti shrlmatparamahaMsaparivrAjakAchAryasya

shrlgovindabagavatpUjyapAdashishyasya shrlmachChankarabagavataH kRtau

shrl kAlabhairavAshTakaM sampUrNam

iti = Thus

shrl kAlabhairavAshTakaM = the auspicious kAlabhairavAshTakaM

kRtau = among the compositions of

shrlmat-shankarabagavataH = shrlmat shankarAchArya

shrlmat-paramahaMsa-parivrAjaka-AchAryasya = who is a wandering enlightened mystic

shrl-govindabagavatpUjyapAda-shishyasya = and the disciple of shrl govindabagavatpAda

sampUrNam = is complete

Summary:

Thus, the auspicious kAlabhairavAshTakaM among the compositions of shrlmat shankarAchArya who is a wandering enlightened mystic, and the disciple of shrl govindabhagavatpAda, is complete!