

KĀLABHAIRAVĀṢṬAKAM

(1)

देवराजसेव्यमानपावनाडिघ्नपङ्कजं

व्यालयज्ञसूत्रमिन्दुशेखरं कृपाकरम् ।

नारदादियोगिवृन्दवन्दितं दिगम्बरं

काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥

devarājasevyamāna-pāvanāṅghripañkajam
vyālayajñasūtram-induśekharam kṛpākaram
nāradādiyogibr̥nda-vanditam digambaram
kāsikāpurādhinātha-kālabhairavam bhaje

I worship Lord Kāla-bhairava, the presiding deity of the city of Kāśi whose holy lotus-feet are worshipped by Deva-rāja (Indra) the king of the gods, who, the mine of mercy, has the serpent for His sacred thread, and the Moon as His crest ornament, and who, the Dig-ambara Lord, is worshipped by groups of sages (yogins) headed by Sage Nārada.

(2)

भानुकोटिभास्वरं भवाब्धितारकं परं
नीलकण्ठमीप्सितार्थदायकं त्रिलोचनम् ।
कालकालमम्बुजाक्षमक्षशूलमक्षरं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥

*bhānukoṭibhāsvaram bhavābdhitārakam param
nilakanṭhamīpsitārthadāyakam trilocanam.
kālakālam am̐bujākṣam-akṣaśūlam-akṣaram
kāśikāpurādhinātha-kālabhairavam bhaje.*

I worship the Lord, Kālabhairava. Who is brilliant like a crore of rising Suns, the supreme Saviour from the ocean of transmigratory existence, who, the blue-necked and three-eyed god, is the giver of all desired objects and who is Kālakāla, the lotus-eyed Lord, Imperishable, holding the rosary (akṣa) and the trident (śūla).

(3)

शूलटङ्कपाशदण्डपाणिमादिकारणं
श्यामकायमादिदेवमक्षरं निरामयम् ।
भीमविक्रमं प्रभुं विचित्रताण्डवप्रियं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥

*śūlaṭaṅkapaśadaṇḍapaṇimādikāraṇam
śyāmakāyam ādidevam akṣaram nirāmayam
bhīmavikramam prabhum vicitrataṇḍava-priyam
kāśikāpurādhinātha-kālabhairavam-bhaje*

and who, is the Primal Cause of the Universe, who the Primeval god has a blue body, and who, is imperishable and pure, and the Lord of terrific prowess, fond of the wonderful dance (Tāṇḍava).

(4)

भुक्तिमुक्तिदायकं प्रशस्तचारुविग्रहं
भक्तवत्सलं स्थिरं समस्तलोकविग्रहम् ।
निकणन्मनोज्ञहेमकिङ्किणीलसत्कटिं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥

*bhukti-mukti-dāyakam praśasta-cāru-vigraham
bhaktavatsalam sthiram samasta-loka-vigraham
nikvaṇanmanojña-hemakiṅkiṇī-lasat-kaṭim
kāśikāpurādhinātha-kālabhairavam-bhaje*

I worship Lord Kālabhairava. Who is the bestower of enjoyment and Liberation, the Lord with a body excellent and charming, who is fond of His devotees the Immutable One who holds the whole world in His body, and whose waist shines with the charming golden bells which tinkle at the time of His dance (Tāṇḍava).

(5)

धर्मसेतुपालकं त्वधर्ममार्गनाशकं
कर्मपाशमोचकं सुशर्मदायकं विभुम् ।
स्वर्णवर्ण-केश-पाशशोभिताङ्गनिर्मलं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥

*dharmasetupālakam tvadharmamārganāśakam
karmapāśamocakam suśarmadāyakam vibhum
svarṇavarṇa-keśapāśa-śobhitāṅga-nirmalam
kāśikāpurādhinātha-kālabhairavam-bhaje.*

I worship the Lord Kālabhairava the Supreme Lord who is the Protector of the dam of Dharma and the Destroyer of the path of Adharmā, who removes the bonds of karma and bestows supreme bliss, and who, the Pure One, has His body adorned with the golden, profuse locks of hair.

(6)

रत्नपादुकाप्रभाभिरामपादयुग्मकम्
नित्यमद्वितीयमिष्टदैवतं निरञ्जनम् ।
मृत्युदर्पनाशनं करालदंष्ट्रभूषणं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥

*ratnapādūkā-prabhābhirāma-pādayugmakam
nityam-advitīyam iṣṭadaivatam nirañjanam
mṛtyudarpanāśanam karāladanṣṭra-bhūṣaṇam.
kāśikāpurādhinātha-kālabhairavam-bhaje.*

I worship Lord Kālabhairava whose pair of feet is charming with the lustre of the jewelled sandals, who is eternal, without a second (an equal), the favourite god of purity, who destroyed the pride of Mṛtyu and who shines with His dreadful teeth.

(7)

अट्टहासभिन्नपद्मजाण्डकोशसन्ततिं
दृष्टिपातनष्टपापजालमुग्रशासनम् ।
अष्टसिद्धिदायकं कपालमालिकाधरं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥

*aṭṭahāsabhinna-padmajāṇḍa-kośa-santatiṃ
dṛṣṭi-pāta-naṣṭapāpajālam-ugraśāsanam
aṣṭasiddhi-dāyakam kapālamālikādharam
kāśīkāpurādhinātha-kālabhairavam-bhaje.*

I worship Lord Kālabhairava who by His deafening peals of laughter has rent the vaults of many a Brahmāṇḍa (world) who, by His glance destroys hosts of sins, the wielder of severe ordinances, and who bestows the eight siddhis and wears the garland of skulls.

(8)

भूतसङ्घनायकं विशालकीर्तिदायकं
काशिवासिलोकपुण्यपापशोधकं विभुम् ।
नीतिमार्गकोविदं पुरातनं जगत्पतिं
काशिकापुराधिनाथकालभैरवं भजे ॥

*bhūtasarṅghanāyakam viśāla-kīrtidāyakam
kāśivāsiloka-puṇyapāpaśodhakam vibhum
nitimārga-kovidam purātanam jagatpatim
kāśikāpurādhinātha-kālabhairavam-bhaje.*

I worship Lord Kālabhairava who lords over the host of bhūtas (spirits) and bestows wide fame, the Lord who analyses the merits and sins of the dwellers of Kāśī and purifies them, and who is an expert guide in the path of right conduct, and the Primeval Lord of the Universe.

(9)

कालभैरवाष्टकं पठन्ति ये मनोहरं
ज्ञानमुक्तिसाधकं विचित्रपुण्यवर्धनम् ।
शोकमोहदैन्यलोभकोपतापनाशनं
ते प्रयान्ति कालभैरवाङ्घ्रिसन्निधिं ध्रुवम् ॥

*kālabhairavāṣṭakam-paṭhanti ye manoharam
jñānamukti-sādhakam vicitra-puṇyavardhanam
śoka-moha-lobha-dainya-kopa-tāpanāśanam
te prayānti kālabhairavāṅghrisannidhim dhruvam.*

The octad dedicated to Kālabhairava is charming. It is the means leading to spiritual wisdom and liberation. It promotes merits of various kinds. It destroys grief, delusion, avarice, misery, anger and all tormenting pain. Those who chant this hymn verily go near (and attain the grace of) Lord Kālabhairava.