

ଶ୍ରୀଶିବଷଡ଼କ୍ଷରସ୍ତୋତ୍ରମ୍

{॥ ଶ୍ରୀଶିବଷଡ଼କ୍ଷରସ୍ତୋତ୍ରମ୍ ॥}

ଓଂକାରଂ ବିଂଦୁସଂଯୁକ୍ତଂ ନିତ୍ୟଂ ଧ୍ୟାୟତି ଯୋଗିନଃ ।

କାମଦଂ ମୋକ୍ଷଦଂ ଚୈବ ଓଂକାରାୟ ନମୋ ନମଃ ॥ ୧ ॥

ନମଂତି ରକ୍ଷୟୋ ଦେବା ନମନ୍ତ୍ୟସ୍ତୁରସାଂ ଗଣାଃ ।

ନରା ନମଂତି ଦେବେଶଂ ନକାରାୟ ନମୋ ନମଃ ॥ ୨ ॥

ମହାଦେବଂ ମହାମାନଂ ମହାଧ୍ୟାନଂ ପରାୟଣମ୍ ।

ମହାପାପହରଂ ଦେବଂ ମକାରାୟ ନମୋ ନମଃ ॥ ୩ ॥

ଶିବଂ ଶାଂତଂ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥଂ ଲୋକାନୁଗ୍ରହକାରକମ୍ ।

ଶିବମେକପଦଂ ନିତ୍ୟଂ ଶିକାରାୟ ନମୋ ନମଃ ॥ ୪ ॥

ବାହନଂ ବୃଷଭୋ ଯସ୍ୟ ବାସୁକିଃ କଂଠଭୂଷଣମ୍ ।

ବାମେ ଶକ୍ତିଧରଂ ବେଦଂ ବକାରାୟ ନମୋ ନମଃ ॥ ୫ ॥ var. ଦେବଂ

ଯତ୍ର ଯତ୍ର ସ୍ଥିତୋ ଦେବଃ ସର୍ବବ୍ୟାପୀ ମହେଶ୍ଵରଃ ।

ଯୋ ଗୁରୁଃ ସର୍ବଦେବାନାଂ ଯକାରାୟ ନମୋ ନମଃ ॥ ୬ ॥

ଷଡ଼କ୍ଷରମିଦଂ ସ୍ତୋତ୍ରଂ ଯଃ ପଠେଚ୍ଛିବସଂନିଧୌ ।

ଶିବଲୋକମବାପ୍ନୋତି ଶିବେନ ସହ ମୋଦତେ ॥ ୭ ॥

॥ ଇତି ଶ୍ରୀ ରୁଦ୍ରାୟାମଲେ ଉମାମହେଶ୍ଵରସଂବାଦେ ଷଡ଼କ୍ଷରସ୍ତୋତ୍ରଂ ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣମ୍ ॥

Comments

Uniqueness:

This Shivastrotra is unique in many ways. I list some of the unique aspects of the strotra below:

1. If you take first Sanskrit syllable from each of the shloka above and arrange them horizontally you get || AUM namaH shivAya || (I bow down to Shiva)
2. The entire composition is composed to be sung in "raga Bhairava". Raga Bhairava is assumed to be the original creation of music by Shiva through his drum called "DamarU"
3. However, each of the shloka can be sung in seven basic "ragas" of Hindustani classical. Pundit Bhimsen Joshi has done it. He has sung each sloka in different raga.

Philosophic comments:

The "shivlinga" has many iconographic and symbologic interpretations. The most popular, which has caught the fancy of the Westerners, is that the "linga" is a phallus of Shiva. This phallus cult is relatively young cult and the reasons surrounding its developments are not clear.

The original Vedic Iconography indicates that Shiva was a pall of fire spreading many light years in all direction that emerged just after the "quantum chaos" at the beginning of the universe. Many Sanskrit scholars believe that the "quantum chaos" was indeed the "pashupata-asthra"(ପଶୁପତାସ୍ତ୍ର) that Shiva is supposed to be wielding. Iconographic interpretation of shivlinga as a "enormous

power locked inside a hard black stone cooled perpetually by water and guarded vigilantly by a security in form of Vasuki- the most venomous snake" is also popular (not to miss the shape which resembles the modern Nuclear reactor).

The above strotra, it may not be wrong to argue, has its ideological origins in the original school of "adhikrut sankhya"(ଅଧିକୃତ ସାଂଖ୍ୟ)

Comments by Surin Usgaonkar (written in memory of Bharatratna MM Late Dr P V Kane whose work will always be a source of great inspiration.)
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