

Devya-padha-kshama-pana-stotram - by Adi Shankaracharya

Link on Youtube to hear to the verses.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EkiKt2YnWXo>

Prayer to the Goddess For Forgiveness Jai Mata Di, Please play this uber awesome mantras to Mother Durga daily in the morning and ask the most divine Mother Durga for protection and the like, and see miracles happening in your life... DO NOT TAKE THIS LIGHTLY.

Verses from the Devya-padha-kshama-pana-stotram, by Adi Shankaracharya These are five out of the eight verses of "A Prayer To Beg Forgiveness From the Goddess," written by Adi Shankaracharya, one of the greatest yogis ever and a true realized being. The story behind the prayer is that Shankaracharya was travelling through the Himalayas on his way to a debate. In those days Shankaracharya was a believer in Non-Dualism, the doctrine of Absolute Monism. He did not believe in the reality of the Divine Mother (Shakti) and Her Creation which, according to his philosophy, was all Maya (illusion). Keep in mind that the word shakti also means 'power' or 'energy.' Shankaracharya was climbing up a steep hill when he suddenly became very ill with dysentery. He had to lie down and finally he passed out. He was awakened by the feeling of water on his face. Opening his eyes, Shankaracharya saw a very beautiful young girl smiling at him and sprinkling him with water. He passed out again. He was awakened by the girl and once more he passed out. The third time he awoke, the girl leaned over to him and asked in a sweet childlike voice, "Maharaj", Shankaracharya replied in voice weakened by pain, "I have no shakti." On hearing this the girl leaned close to him again and said, "Oh? But you don't believe in Shakti!" And laughing, she changed right before his eyes into the form of the Goddess called Bhavani, the Mother of the World, and disappeared! He was completely healed, and from the depths of his heart he composed this prayer. Afterwards he composed many of the most beautiful prayers to the Goddess.

Na mantram No yantram tadapicha najaane stutimaho
na chaahvaanam dhyaanam tadapicca najaane stutikathaah
najaane mudraaste tadapicha najaane vilapanam
param jaane maatastva danusaranam kleshaharanam ...1

I don't know how to recite Your mantra, or how to worship You with yantra, Nor do I
know how to welcome you or meditate upon you.

I don't know how to pray to you or how to do Your mudra.

Nor do I know how to open my heart to you and tell you of my suffering.

But this I know, Oh MA! That to take refuge in you will destroy all my sorrow.

vidherajnaanena dravina virahenaalatataya
vidheyaashakyatvaattava caranayoryaacyutirabhoot

tadetat kshantavyam janani sakaloddhaarini shive
kuputro jaayeta kvachidapi kumaataa na bhavati ...2

Because of my ignorance, poverty and sloth, I have not been able to worship Your feet.
But Oh Mother! Gracious Deliverer of all, All this should be forgiven, For a bad son may
sometimes be born, But a bad mother, never...

prthivyaam putraaste janani bahavah santi saralaah
param teshaam madhye viralataraloham tava sutah
madeeyo yantyaagah samuchitamidam no tava shive
kuputro jaayet kvachidapi kumaataa na bhavati ...3

Oh MA! You have so many worthy sons on earth but I am worthless,
Yet it isn't right that You should abandon me For a bad son may sometimes be born in
this world but a bad mother, never...

jaganmaatarmatastava charanasevaa na rachitaa
na vaa dattam devi dravinamapi bhooyastava mayaa
tathaapitvam sneham mayi nirupamam yatprakurushe
kuputro jaayeta kvachidapa kumaataa na bhavati ...4

Oh Ma! Mother of the World. I have not worshipped Your feet
Nor have I given wealth to You. Yet the love and affection You bestow on me is without
compare. For a bad son may sometimes be born in this world, But a bad mother, never...

parityaktaadevaa vividha sevaakulatayaa
mayaa panchaasheetradhikamapaneete tu vayasi
idaaneenchenmaatah tava yadi kripaa
naapi bhavitaa niraalambo lambodara janani kam yaami sharanam ...5

I have no desire for liberation. Nor do I desire wealth or knowledge.
Oh Moon-Faced One! I don't even wish to be happy. But I beg only this of You, That my
whole life may pass in the singing of these words:

Mridaani, Rudraani, Shivaa, Shivaa, Bhavaani.
shvapaako jalpaako bhavati madhupaakopamagiraa
niraatanko ranko viharati chiram kotikanakaih
tavaaparne karne vishati manuarne phalamidam
janah ko jaaneete janani japaneeyam japavidhau ...6

O Mother Aparna ! Even if one word of your holy incantation that falls in the ear of a
foolish rascal it is enough to make him utter sweet speech like a seasoned scholar; a
pauper then becomes rich owning millions of gold coins and enjoying life with all its
pleasures till ripe old age. When listening to one word can work such wonders, who can
surmise the reward reaped by those constantly chanting your name with full
ritual of worship ?

chitaabhasma lepo garalamashanam dikpatadharo
jaṭaadhaaree kanthe bhujagapatahaaree pashupatih
kapaalee bhootesho bhajati jagadeeshaikapadaveem
bhavaani tvatpaanigrahanaparipaateephalamidam ...7

O Bhavani ! He who keep their body ever smeared with the ashes of the dead-bodies; who eats poison for food, who ever remains without a covering (or naked); who has tangled hair on head and the serpent king Vasuki garlanding his neck; who has a cupal like receptacle (for begging) in his hands-if such a Bhootnath (Lord of Ghosts, Lord Shiva) Pashupati (Lord of Animals) is crowned with a title of Jagdeesh, then what is the reason behind it ? How he came to acquire such importance ? An obvious consequence of his marrying you, O Goddess !

na mokshasyaakaankshaa bhavavibhava vaanchaapicaname
na vijnaanaapekshaa shashimukhi sukhecchaapi na punah
atastvaam suyaache janani jananam yaatu mama vai
mridaanee rudraanee shivashiva bhavaaneeti japatah ...8

O Mother, with face bedight with moon grace, I neither long for Moksha (Salvation of Soul) nor for worldly riches nor hope to acquire any proficiency in sciences nor have a yearning for pleasure ! My only request to you is to allow me pass my life chanting "Mridani Rudrani Shiva-Shiva Bhavani ever.

naaraadhitaasi vidhinaa vividhopachaaraih
kim rookshachintana parairnakritam vachobhih
shyaame tvameva yadi kinchana mayyanaadhe
dhatse kripaamuchitamamba param tavaiva ...9

O Mother Shyama ! Never could I worship you with complete ritual and lots of offerings. Ever engrossed in harsh words, which crime did my speech not commit ? Still if you care, on you own, to me - a shelterless orphan-this act of yours is meet for you. Only a kind hearted mother like you can provide shelter to such a bad son as I am.

aapatsu magnah smaranam tvadeeyam
karomi durge karunaarnaveshi
naitacchadatvam mama bhaavayethaah
kshudhaatrshaartaa jananeem smaranti ...10

On Mother Durga ! O Kind-Hearted Great Goddess ! If I remember you after falling in trouble (and not before)-please do not treat me like a deceitful rogue-because all children clamour for mother when they are thirsty or hungry (distressed).

jagadamba vichitramatra kim
paripoorna karunaasti chinmayi
aparaadhaparamparaavritam nahi maataa
samupekshate sutam ...11

O Jagdambe (Mother of the World). That you still show your full favour to me should not cause any surprise. For even if a son be bent on committing sin after sin. Still his mother does not neglect him.

matsamah paatakee naasti
paapaghnee tvatsamaa nahi
evam jnaatvaa mahaadevi
yathaayogyam tathaa kuru ...12

O Great Goddess ! There is no one greater sinner than I am and no one greater sin-destroyer as you are deeming so, kindly do whatever you think proper !