

## Lord Hayagriva – The Lord of Wisdom, Education and Knowledge



Lord Brahma accepting the Vedas from Lord Hayagriva which was stolen by the demons. Vedic scriptures describe Lord Hayagriva as an avatar of Lord Krishna. Lord Hayagriva is worshipped as the Vedic Deity of knowledge and wisdom, with a human body and a horse's head. Symbolically, Lord Hayagriva represents the triumph of pure knowledge, guided by the hands of God, over the demonic forces of passion and darkness.

Lord Hayagriva's blessings are sought when beginning study of both sacred and secular subjects. Lord Hayagriva is also hailed as "Hayashirsha". Hayaśirṣa means haya=Horse, śirṣa=Head.

Vedanta Desika's dhyana-shloka (meditative verse) on Hayagriva typifies this deity's depiction in Vedic iconography: "He has four hands, with one in the mode of bestowing knowledge; another holds books of wisdom, and the other two hold the Conch and Discus. His beauty, like fresh cut crystal, is an auspicious brilliance that never decays. May this Lord of speech who showers such cooling rays of grace on me be forever manifest in my heart"

There are many references to Hayagriva throughout the Mahabharata. Lord Vishnu comes from battle as a conqueror in the magnificent mystic form of Lord Hayagriva; *"The great Hayagriva having been praised in this way by the different saints and ascetics, assumes a great white horses head. The mantras made up His shape, His body built of all the great devas; in the middle of His head was Shiva, in His heart was Lord Brahma; the rays of sun (Marichi) were His mane, the sun and moon His eyes; the Vasus and Sadhyas were His legs, in all His bones were the devas. Agni was His tongue, the goddess Satya His speech, while His knees were formed by the Maruts and Varuna. Having assumed this form, an awesome wonder to behold to the devas, He vanquished the asura, and cast them down, with eyes that were red with anger."*

Invariably, Hayagriva is depicted seated, most often with His right hand either blessing the supplicant or in the *vyakhya mudra* pose of teaching. The right hand also usually holds a *aksha-mala* (rosary), indicating his identification with meditative knowledge. His left holds a book, indicating his role as a teacher. His face is always serene and peaceful, if not smiling.

### How to please Lord Hayagriva and thus receive His divine blessings.

To get the best result you should chant Hayagriva Gayatri Mantra (provided below) early morning after taking bath. Bow down to the (laminated) picture (provided above) of Lord Hayagriva. Offer one or three incense sticks (which should be lit), seven times in a clockwise direction around the picture of Lord Hayagriva. Then in a clay lamp place a small piece of camphor (or a lamp with ghee and a wick), light this and offer seven times in a clockwise direction around the picture of Lord Hayagriva. Finally offer one whole flower offer seven times in a clockwise direction around the picture of Lord Hayagriva. Then chant the Hayagriva Gayatri Mantra 9, 11, 21 or 108 times.

**Hayagriva Gayatri mantra**  
Om Vaaneesh-waraaya Vidmahe  
Haya-greevaaya Dheemahi  
Tanno Haya-greevah Prachodayaat

**Meaning** – "Om, Let me meditate on the Lord of learning. Oh, Lord who has a horse face, please give me higher intellect and let Lord Hayagriva illuminate my mind."

Once this is done, pray to the Lord, requesting the Lord to help in your studies and pending tests or exams and to assist you.

**DO NOTE:-** If one's child is very young then I would advise an adult to be present so that there is no issues about fire hazards while lighting the incense and lamp.

I humbly advise to do this daily during your school or university semesters.

The chanting of the Hayagriva Gayatri Mantra regularly is the most powerful way to please Lord Hayagriva and receive His blessing for one's studies, exams and so forth. Daily chanting of this mantra is a highly beneficial technique for students to improve their studies. Recite the mantra during the day while doing your daily work. There is no special restrictions or any rules for this Sanskrit mantra.

**Dipika's Tip:-** Laminate a very small picture of Lord Hayagriva and keep in your wallet/purse. If you haven't yet memorize the Hayagriva Gayatri mantra then keep that written on a paper with in your wallet/purse.

Before writing any test or exam paper recite the Gayatri mantra a few times (an "X" amount of times isn't important) and pray fervently to Lord Hayagriva to help you in the upcoming test/exam.

**Additional information:-** Dipika is providing a link that you should download. Here is the link – click ([HERE](#)). It is a one minute five seconds video of the "Hayagriva Sampada Stotram". Hayagriva Sampadaa Stotram is a powerful mantra for those appearing for competitive exams or tests and teaching profession. Download it on your cell phone and hear to it often especially before writing any tests or exams.

ALL THE BEST IN YOUR TESTS OR EXAMS :)

**ARTICLE OF INTEREST PERTAINING TO THIS ARTICLE ON DIPIKA:-**

\* **Advice how to well in an exam or test.**

(<http://dipika.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Advice-for-Exams.pdf> )

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free information about our beautiful culture

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Compiled for the upliftment of Sanatan Dharma  
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