



Sri Dasavatara Stotra

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“Prayer Glorifying the Ten Incarnations of the Lord”

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दशावतारस्तोत्रम्
(जयदेवकृतं, अष्टपदी अन्तर्गतम्)

प्रलयपयोधजिले धृतवानसविदम्
वहितिहतिरचरतिरमखेदम् ।
केशव धृतमीनशरीर
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ १ ॥

क्षतिरितविपुलतरे तव तषिठतपिषुठे
धरणधिरणकणिचक्रगरषिठे ।
केशव धृतकच्छपरूप
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ २ ॥

वसतदिशानशखिरे धरणी तव लग्ना
शशानिकिलङ्ककलेव नमिग्ना ।
केशव धृतसूकररूप
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ ३ ॥

तव करकमलवरे नखमद्भुतशृङ्गम्
दलतिहरिण्यकशपितनुभृङ्गम् ।
केशव धृतनरहररूप
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ ४ ॥

छलयसविक्रमणे बलमिद्भुतवामन
पदनखनीरजनति जनपावन ।
केशव धृतवामनरूप
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ ५ ॥



कषत्रयिरुधरिमये जगदपगतपापम्
सन्पयसपियसशिमतिभवतापम् ।
केशव धृतभृगुपतरूप
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ ६ ॥

वतिरसदिकिषु रणे दकिप्तकिमनीयम्
दशमुखमौलबिलिरिमणीयम् ।
केशव धृतरघुपतविष
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ ७ ॥

वहसविपुषविशिदे वसनं जलदाभम्
हलहतभीतमिलितियमुनाभम् ।
केशव धृतहलधररूप
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ ८ ॥

ननिदसयिज्जवधिरेहह शरुतजातम्
सदयहृदय दर्शतिपशुघातम् ।
केशव धृतबुद्धशरीर
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ ९ ॥

म्लेच्छनविहनधिने कलयसकिरवालम्
धूमकेतुमवि कमिपकिरालम् ।
केशव धृतकल्कशरीर
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ १० ॥

श्रीजयदेवकवेरदिमुदतिमुदारम्
शृणु सुखदं शुभदं भवसारम् ।
केशव धृतदशवधिरूप
जय जगदीश हरे ॥ ११ ॥

वेदानुद्धरते जगन्नविहते भूगोलमुद्बभिरते
दैत्यं दारयते बलिं छलयते कषत्रकषयं कुरुवते ।
पौलस्त्यं जयते हलं कुलयते कारण्यमातन्वते
म्लेच्छान् मूर्च्छयते दशाकृतकिते कृष्णाय तुभ्यं नमः ॥ १२ ॥

Sri Dasavatara Stotra

(1)

*pralaya-payodhi-jale dhṛtavān asi vedanī
vihīta-vahitra-caritram akhedam
keśava dhṛta-mīna-sarīra jaya jagad-īśa hare*

(2)

*kṣitir iha vipulatare tiṣṭhati tava pṛṣṭhe
dharāṇi-dharāṇa-kīṇa-cakra-gariṣṭhe
keśava dhṛta-kūrma-sarīra jaya jagad-īśa hare*

(3)

*vasati daśana-sikhare dharāṇī tava lagnā
śaśini kalanika-kaleva nimagnā
keśava dhṛta-sūkara-rūpa jaya jagad-īśa hare*

(4)

*tava kara-kamala-vare nakham adbhuta-śṛṅgam
dalita-hiranyakaśipu-tanu-bhrṅgam
keśava dhṛta-narahari-rupa jaya jagad-īśa hare*

(5)

*chalayasi vikramaṇe balim adbhuta-vāmana
pada-nakha-nīra-janita-jana-pāvana
keśava dhṛta-vāmana-rūpa jaya jagad-īśa hare*

(6)

*kṣatriya-rudhira-maye jagad-apagata-pāpam
snapayasi payasi śamita-bhava-tāpam
keśava dhṛta-bhrṅgupati-rūpa jaya jagad-īśa hare*

(7)

*vitarsi dikṣu raṇe dik-pati-kamanīyam
daśa-mukha-mauli-balim ramanīyam
keśava dhṛta-rāma-sarīra jaya jagad-īśa hare*

(8)

*vahasi vapuṣi viśade vasanam jaladābham
hala-hati-bhūti-milita-yamunābham
keśava dhṛta-haladhara-rūpa jaya jagad-īśa hare*

Sri Dasavatara Stotra

(9)

*nindasi yajña-vidher ahaha śruti-jātaṃ
sadaya-hṛdaya darśita-paśu-ghātaṃ
keśava dhṛta-buddha-sarira jaya jagad-īśa hare*

(10)

*mleccha-nivaha-nidhane kalayasi karavālaṃ
dhūmaketum iva kim api karālam
keśava dhṛta-kalki-sarira jaya jagad-īśa hare*

(11)

*śrī-jayedeva-kaver idam uditam udāraṃ
śṛṇu sukha-dam śubha-dam bhava-sāram
keśava dhṛta-daśa-vidha-rūpa jaya jagad-īśa hare*

(12)

*vedān uddharate jaganti vahate bhū-golaṃ udbibhrate
daityaṃ dārayate balim chalayate kṣatra-kṣayaṃ kurvate
paulastyam jayate halam kalayate kārūṇyam ātanvate
mlecchān mūrchayate daśākṛiti-kṛte kṛṣṇaya tubhyaṃ namaḥ*



Translation

1) O Keśava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed the form of a fish! All glories to You! You easily acted as a boat in the form of a giant fish just to give protection to the Vedas, which had become immersed in the turbulent sea of devastation.

2) O Keśava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed the form of a tortoise! All glories to You! In this incarnation as a divine tortoise the great Mandara Mountain rests upon Your gigantic back as a pivot for churning the ocean of milk. From holding up the huge mountain a large scar like depression is put in Your back, which has become most glorious.

3) O Keśava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed the form of a boar! All glories to You! The earth, which had become immersed in the Garbhodaka Ocean at the bottom of the universe, sits fixed upon the tip of Your tusk like a spot upon the moon.



4) O Keśava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed the form of half-man, half-lion! All glories to You! Just as one can easily crush a wasp between one's fingernails, so in the same way the body of the wasp like demon Hiranyakaśipu has been ripped apart by the wonderful pointed nails on Your beautiful lotus hands.

5) O Keśava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed the form of a dwarf-*brāhmaṇa*! All glories to You! O wonderful dwarf, by Your massive steps You deceive King Bali, and by the Ganges water that has emanated from the nails of your lotus feet, You deliver all living beings within this world.

6) O Keśava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed the form of Bhṛgupati [Paraśurāma]! All glories to You! At Kurukṣetra You bathe the earth in the rivers of blood from the bodies of the demoniac *kṣatriyas* that You have slain. The sins of the world are washed away by You, and because of You people are relieved from the blazing fire of material existence.

7) O Keśava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed the form of Rāmacandra! All glories to You! In the battle of Laṅkā You destroy the ten-headed demon Rāvaṇa and distribute his heads as a delightful offering to the presiding deities of the ten directions, headed by Indira. This action was long desired by all of them, who were much harassed by this monster.

8) O Keśava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed the form of Balarāma, the yelder of the plow! All glories to You! On Your brilliant white body You wear garments the color of a fresh blue rain cloud. These garments are colored like the beautiful dark hue of the River Yamunā, who feels great fear due to the striking of Your plowshare.

9) O Keśava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed the form of Buddha! All glories to You! O Buddha of compassionate heart, you decry the slaughtering of poor animals performed according to the rules of Vedic sacrifice

10) O Keśava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed the form of Kalki! All glories to You! You appear like a comet and carry a terrifying sword for bringing about the annihilation of the wicked barbarian men at the end of the Kali-yuga.

11) O Kesava! O Lord of the universe! O Lord Hari, who have assumed these ten different forms of incarnation! All glories to You! O readers, please hear this hymn of the poet Jayadeva, which is most excellent, an awarder of happiness, a bestower of auspiciousness, and it is the best thing in this dark world.

12) O Lord Kṛṣṇa, I offer my obeisances unto You, who appear in the forms of these ten incarnations. In the form of Matsya You rescue the Vedas, and as Kūrma You bear the Mandara Mountain on Your back. As Varāha You lift the earth with Your tusk, and in the form of Narasiṃha You tear open the chest of the *daitya* Hirāṇyakaśipu. In the form of Vāmana You trick the *daitya* king Bali by asking him for only three steps of land, and then You take away the whole universe from him by expanding Your steps. As Paraśurāma You slay all of the wicked *kṣatriyas*, and as Rāmacandra You conquer the *raksasa* king Rāvaṇa. In the form of Balarāma You carry a plow with which You subdue the wicked and draw toward You the River Yamunā. As Lord Buddha You show compassion toward all the living beings suffering in this world and at the end of the Kali-yuga You appear as Kalki to bewilder the *mlecchas* [degraded low-class men].