

Opening prayers

ॐ गुणानां त्वा गुणपतिं हवामहे कृविं कवीनामुपमश्रवस्तमम् ।

ज्येष्ठराजं ब्रह्मणां ब्रह्मणस्पत आ नः शृण्वन्नूतिभिः सीद सादनम् ॥ ॐ महागणपतये नमः ॥

*om ganaanaam tvaa ganapatim havaamahe kavim kaviinaam upamashravas tamam |
jyeshtha raajam brahmanaam brahmanaspata aa nah shrunvan nuutibhih siida saadanam ||
om mahaa ganaadhipataye namah ||*

O Lord Ganapati, to You Who are the Lord of the Ganas, we offer our sacrificial oblations. You are the wisdom of the wise and the uppermost in glory. You are the eldest and of the nature of Brahman. You are the embodiment of the sacred Pranava. Please come to us by listening to our prayers and be present in the seat of this sacred sacrificial altar. Om, our prostrations to Mahaganadhipati.

सरस्वति नमस्तुभ्यं वरदे कामरूपिणि । विद्यारम्भं करिष्यामि सिद्धिर्भवतु मे सदा ॥ ॐ ऐं सरस्वत्यै नमः ॥

saraswati namastubhyam varade kaama rupini | vidyaarambham karishyaami siddhir bhavatu me sadaa ||

Salutations Mother Saraswati, giver of boons, fulfiller of desires. Bless me, so that I begin my studies successfully and gain knowledge.

ॐ सह नावतु । सह नौ भुनक्तु । सह वीर्यं करवावहै । तेजस्वि नावधीतमस्तु मा विद्विषावहै । ॐ शान्तिः शान्तिः शान्तिः ॥

om sa ha naavavatu sa ha nau bhunaktu | sa ha veeryam karavaavahai | tejasvinaavadhiitamastu maa vidvishaavahai ||om shaantih shaantih shaantih ||

May the Lord indeed protect both of us. May he indeed nourish both of us. May we together acquire the capacity (to study and understand the scriptures). May our study be brilliant. May we not disagree with each other. Om peace, peace, peace.

श्रुतिस्मृतिपुराणानाम् आलयं करुणालयम् । नमामि भगवत्पादशङ्करं लोकशङ्करम् ॥

shruti smriti purananaam aalayam karunaalayam | namaami bhagavat paada shankaram lokashankaram ||

I salute Adi Sankaracharya, the abode of the sruti, smriti and puranas, the repository of compassion, who gives happiness to the world and who is revered.

शंकरं शंकराचार्यं केशवं बादरायणम् । सूत्र भाष्यकृतौ वन्दे भगवन्तौ पुनः पुनः ॥

shankaram shankarachaaryam keshavam baadaraayanam | sutrabhashya kritou vande bhagavantau punah punah ||

I salute, again and again, the great teacher Adi Sankaracharya, who is Lord Siva, and Badarayana, who is Lord Vishnu, the venerable ones who wrote the bhashya and the BrahmaSutras respectively.

ईश्वरो गुरुरात्मेति मूर्तिभेदविभागिने । व्योमवद् व्याप्तदेहाय दक्षिणामूर्तये नमः ॥

Isvaro gururaatmeti murtibhedavibhaagine | vyomavadgyaaptadehaaya dakshinaamurtaye namah ||

Salutation to Lord Dakshinamurti who is all pervasive like space, but who appears (as though) divided as the Lord, the teacher and the Self.

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