



Adi Shankaracharya Shiva Bhavani Astakam

*This free e-book is prepared by Pandit Jag B. Mahadeo &
theheartofthesun.com for free distribution to all seekers of Knowledge*

Please visit our website at <http://www.theheartofthesun.com>

Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/thots66>

Visit our video contributions at <http://www.youtube.com/user/jrebel11>

Bhavani Ashtakam, is a great Sanskrit stotra written by the Great Sage Adi Shankaracharya and it is addressed to one of the Motherly aspects of God - Bhavani believed to be the “Giver of Life” as a mother gives life to her children.

Shiva Bhavani Astakam

न तातो न माता न बन्धुर्न दाता
न पुत्रो न पुत्री न भृत्यो न भर्ता ।
न जाया न विद्या न वृत्तिर्ममैव
गतिस्त्वं गतिस्त्वं त्वमेका भवानि ॥१॥

*Na taato na maataa na bandhur-na daataa
Na putro na putree na bhrtyo na bhartaa
Na jaayaa na vidyaa na vrittir-mama-iva
Gatis-tvam gatis-tvam tvam-ekaa Bhavaani*

Neither the *taato* Father, nor the *maataa* Mother; Neither the *bandhur* Relation and Friend, nor the *daataa* Donor!

Neither the *putro* Son, nor the *putree* Daughter; Neither the *bhrtyo* Servant, nor the *bhartaa* Husband!

Neither the *jaayaa* Wife, nor the *vidyaa* (worldly) Knowledge; Neither my *vrittir* Profession!

But today I bow to you O great Mother! You are my *Gati* – my Refuge! *Tvam* - You *Eka* – Alone or one are my Refuge, Oh Mother Bhavani – here referring to the mother aspect of God!

भवाब्धावपारे महादुःखभीरु
पपात प्रकामी प्रलोभी प्रमत्तः ।
कुसंसारपाशप्रबद्धः सदाहं
गतिस्त्वं गतिस्त्वं त्वमेका भवानि ॥२॥

*Bhavaab-dhaav-apaare mahaa-duhkha-bheeru
Papaata prakaamee pralobhee pramattah
Ku-samsaara-paasha-prabaddhah sada aham
Gatis-tvam gatis-tvam tvam-ekaa Bhavaani*

O Lord, **Bhavaabdhi** - In this Ocean of Worldly Existence which is **Apaara** - Endless, I am full of **Duhkha** - Sorrow and **Mahaa** – great or in this case very much **Bheeru** – Afraid!

I have **Papaata** - Fallen with **Prakaamee** - Excessive Desires (paata – fall). I have become caught up in **Pralobha** - Greed, **Pramattah** - Drunken and Intoxicated with these worldly things and desires!

Sada - always **aham - I** - Always Tied in the **Paasha** - Bondage **Prabaddhah** – bound to this miserable **Samsara** - worldly existence!

But today I bow to you O great Mother! You are my **Gati** – my Refuge! **Tvam** - You **Eka** – Alone or one are my Refuge, Oh Mother Bhavani – here referring to the mother aspect of God!

न जानामि दानं न च ध्यानयोगं
न जानामि तन्त्रं न च स्तोत्रमन्त्रम् ।
न जानामि पूजां न च न्यासयोगं
गतिस्त्वं गतिस्त्वं त्वमेका भवानि ॥३॥

*Na jaanaami daanam na cha dhyaana-yogam
Na jaanaami tantram na cha stotra-mantram
Na jaanaami puujaam na cha nyaasa-yogam
Gatis-tvam gatis-tvam tvam-ekaa Bhavaani*

Neither do I know **daanam** Charity, nor **dhyaana** Meditation and **yogam** Yoga. Neither do I know the practice of **tantram** Tantra, nor **stotra-mantram** Hymns and Prayers.

Neither do I know **puujaam** Worship, nor **nyaasa-yogam** dedication to Yoga. But today I bow to you O great Mother! You are my **Gati** – my Refuge! **Tvam** - You **Eka** – Alone or one are my Refuge, Oh Mother Bhavani – here referring to the mother aspect of God!

न जानामि पुण्यं न जानामि तीर्थं
न जानामि मुक्तिं लयं वा कदाचित् ।
न जानामि भक्तिं व्रतं वापि मातर्गतिस्त्वं
गतिस्त्वं त्वमेका भवानि ॥४॥

*Na jaanaami punnyam na jaanaami teertha
Na jaanaami muktim layam vaa kadaachit
Na jaanaami bhaktim vratam vaapi maatar
Gatis-tvam gatis-tvam tvam-ekaa Bhavaani*

Neither do I Know **punnyam** Virtuous Deeds, nor **teertha** Pilgrimage.

I do not know the way to **muktim** Liberation, and with little **Concentration and layam** Absorption.

I know neither **bhaktim** Devotion, nor **vratam** Religious Vows; Nevertheless Oh Mother.

But today I bow to you O great Mother! You are my **Gati** – my Refuge! **Tvam** - You **Eka** – Alone or one are my Refuge, Oh Mother Bhavani – here referring to the mother aspect of God!

कुकर्मी कुसङ्गी कुबुद्धिः कुदासः
कुलाचारहीनः कदाचारलीनः ।
कुदृष्टिः कुवाक्यप्रबन्धः सदाहं
गतिस्त्वं गतिस्त्वं त्वमेका भवानि ॥५॥

*Ku-karmee ku-sanggee ku-buddhih kudaasah
Kula-aachaara-heenah kadaachaara-leenah
Ku-drasstih ku-vaakya-prabandhah sada aham
Gatis-tvam gatis-tvam tvam-ekaa Bhavaani*

O Lord, I have performed **Ku-Karmee**, **Ku** - bad, **karma** - deeds - I have engaged in **Bad Deeds!** I have associated with **Ku-Sangga** - **Bad Company** and I have cherished **Ku-Buddhih** - **Bad Thoughts!** I have been a **Kudaasah** - **Bad Servant**, meaning that my service to you and others have been with bad intentions!

I did not perform my **Kula-Aachaara** - **Traditional Duties**, **Heenah** – meaning without and deeply engaged in **Kadaachaara** - **Bad Conducts**, **Leenah** – meaning engaged in! My eyes **Ku-Drasstih** - **Saw with Bad Intentions**, my tongue always **Ku-Vaakya** - **Spoke Bad Words** and have done so **Prabandhah** - continuously!

But today I bow to you O great Mother! You are my **Gati** – my Refuge! **Tvam** - You **Eka** – Alone or one are my Refuge, Oh Mother Bhavani – here referring to the mother aspect of God!

प्रजेशं रमेशं महेशं सुरेशं
दिनेशं निशीथेश्वरं वा कदाचित् ।
न जानामि चान्यत् सदाहं शरण्ये
गतिस्त्वं गतिस्त्वं त्वमेका भवानि ॥६॥

*Prajesham ramesham mahesham suresham
Dinesham nisheethe shavaram vaa kadaachit
Na jaanaami cha anyat sada aham sharannye
Gatis-tvam gatis-tvam tvam-ekaa Bhavaani*

Little do I know about **Prajesham** The Lord of Creation (Brahma), The Lord of Ramaa (Goddess Lakshmi) **ramesham** (Vishnu), **mahesham** The Great Lord (Shiva), **suresham** The Lord of the Devas (Indra).

Dinesham The Lord of the Day (Surya) or **nisheethe shavaram** The Lord of the Night (Chandra).

I do not know about **chaanyat** other gods, but **sada aham** I always seeking **sharannye** Your Refuge.

But today I bow to you O great Mother! You are my **Gati** – my Refuge! **Tvam** - You **Eka** – Alone or one are my Refuge, Oh Mother **Bhavana** – here referring to the mother aspect of God!

विवादे विषादे प्रमादे प्रवासे
जले चानले पर्वते शत्रुमध्ये ।
अरण्ये शरण्ये सदा मां प्रपाहि
गतिस्त्वं गतिस्त्वं त्वमेका भवानि ॥७॥

*Vivaade vissaade pramaade pravaase
Jale cha-anale parvate shatru-madhya
Arannye sharannye sadaa maam prapaahi
Gatis-tvam gatis-tvam tvam-ekaa Bhavaani*

During **Vivaade** Dispute and Quarrel, during **vissaade** Despair and Dejection, during **pramaade** Intoxication and dejection-Insanity, when dwelling in **pravaase** Foreign Land.

In **Jale** Water, and **anale** Fire, in **parvate** Mountains and Hills, and **madhya** among **shatru** Enemies.

In **Arannye** Forest, please **Protect** me O **prapaahi**, O protector for I take refuge **sharannye** in you.

But today I bow to you O great Mother! You are my **Gati** – my Refuge! **Tvam** - You **Eka** – Alone or one are my Refuge, Oh Mother Bhavani – here referring to the mother aspect of God!

अनाथो दरिद्रो जरारोगयुक्तो
महाक्षीणदीनः सदा जाड्यवक्त्रः ।
विपत्तौ प्रविष्टः प्रनष्टः सदाहं
गतिस्त्वं गतिस्त्वं त्वमेका भवानि ॥८॥

*Anaatho daridro jaraa-roga-yukto
Mahaa-ksseenna-deenah sadaa jaaddyavaktrah
Vipattau pravisstah pranasstah sada aham
Gatis-tvam gatis-tvam tvam-ekaa Bhavaani*

I am **Anaatho** – Helpless or orphan, **Daridro** – Poor or needy, **Yukto** – attached to or Afflicted by **Jaraa** - Old Age and **Roga** – Disease!
Very **Ksseenna** - Weak and **Deenah** - Miserable, and always with a **Jaaddyavaktrah** - Pale Countenance or sickly looking!
I have **Vipattau** - Fallen Asunder, **Sada** - always **aham** - I - Always **Pravisstah** – occupied with, surrounded by and **Pranasstah** - Lost in Troubles and Miseries,
But today I bow to you O great Mother! You are my **Gati** – my Refuge! **Tvam** - You **Eka** – Alone or one are my Refuge, Oh Mother Bhavani – here referring to the mother aspect of God!