

हर्यष्टकम् hari-aṣṭakam (haryaṣṭakam)

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हरिर्हरति पापानि दुष्टचित्तरपि स्मृतः ।

अनिच्छयापि संस्पृष्टो दहत्येव हि पावकः ॥ १

*hari-rharati pāpāni duṣṭacittair-api smṛtaḥ |
anicchayāpi saṁsprṣṭo dahatyeva hi pāvakaḥ || 1*

The name of Hari totally and completely burns away all sins even if reminisced with evil thoughts or unintentionally, as the fire burns when touched unintentionally. 1

हरिः *hariḥ* = Lord Hari, हरति *harati* = takes away, पापानि *pāpāni* (n pl) = sins, दुष्टचित्त *duṣṭacittai* = with evil thoughts in mind, अपि *api* = also, स्मृतः *smṛtaḥ* = remembered, reminisced, contemplated, अनिच्छया *anicchāyā* = without any intention, unintentionally, अपि *api* = also, संस्पृष्टो *saṁsprṣṭo* = clearly and totally, दहति *dahati* = burns, एव *eva* = also, हि *hi* = indeed, पावकः *pāvakaḥ* = fire (that which purifies). 1

स गङ्गा स गया सेतुः स काशी स च पुष्करम् ।

जिह्वाग्रे वर्तते यस्य हरि रित्यक्षरद्वयम् ॥ २

*sa gaṅgā sa gayā setuḥ sa kaśī sa ca puṣkaram |
jihvāgre vartate yasya hari rityakṣara-dvayam || 2*

On whose tip of the tongue (constant chanting) name of Śrī Hari having a pair of syllables “ ha & ri ” is like a holy pilgrimage to Gaṅgā, Gayā, sacred Bridge at Rāmeśvaram* and Puṣkaram**. 2

* *Monkey army of Sugrīva under the command of Rāma built the holy bridge at Rāmeśvaram.* ** *Puṣkaram (is a festival held every twelve years at the confluence of holy rivers) and Puṣkariṇi holy lake at Tirupati with sacred waters.*

स गङ्गा *sa gaṅgā* = that Gaṅgā, स गया *sa gayā* = Gayā (sacred pilgrimage), सेतुः *setuḥ* = the bridge built by army of monkeys for Rāma, स काशी *sa kāśī* = that Kāśī (holy pilgrimage), च *ca* = and, स पुष्करम् *sa puṣkaram* = that festival held at the confluence of great rivers every twelve years, इति *iti* = thus, अक्षर द्वयम् *akṣara dvayam* = pair of letters "ha and ri".

वाराणस्यां कुरुक्षेत्रे नैमिशारण्य एव च ।

यत्कृतं तेन येनोक्तं हरि रित्यक्षरद्वयम् ॥ ३

vārāṇasyām kurukṣetre naimiśāraṇya eva ca |

yatkṛtaṁ tena yenoktaṁ hari rityakṣara-dvayam || 3

By whom the sacred name of Śrī Hari is recited with two syllables, ha & ri thus, is as being in holy places, Vārāṇāsi, Kurukṣetra, and Naimiśāraṇya*. 3

* *Naimiśāraṇya is a sacred forest where ancient Ṛṣis did austerities and the Śrīmadbhāgavatam was composed.* ** *Bhagavān Śrī Kṛṣṇa gave the spiritual message of Bhagavat Gītā to Arjuna on action, duty and devotion at the very dawn of the war on the battlefield of Kurukṣetra between Kauravas and Pāṇḍavas. Kurukṣetra is a holy pilgrimage now.*

वाराणस्यां *vārāṇasyām* = in Vārāṇāsi, कुरुक्षेत्रे *kurukṣetre* = in Kurukṣetra*,

नैमिशारण्य *naimiśāraṇya* = Naimiśāraṇya, एव *eva* = verily, च *ca* = and, यत्कृतं *yatkṛtaṁ* = done or chanted by whom, तेन *tena* = by him, येन *yena* = by whom,

उक्तं *uktaṁ* = uttered, हरि *hari* = Hari, इति *iti* = thus, अक्षर द्वयम् *akṣara dvayam*= letters, syllables, pair of letters (pair of letters ha and ri). 3

पृथिव्यां यानि तीर्थानि पुण्या न्यायतनानि च ।

तानि सर्वाण्य शेषाणि हरि रित्यक्षरद्वयम् ॥ ४

pr̥thivyām yāni tīrthāni nyāyatanāni ca ।

tāni sarvāṅya śeṣāṇi hari rityakṣara-dvayam ॥ 4

The name of Śrī Hari having a pair of syllables (*ha & ri*) is as virtuous as being in all the sacred pilgrimage places and sacred rivers (waters) in the world with none remaining. 4

पृथिव्यां *pr̥thivyām* = in the world, यानि *yāni*= which, तीर्थानि *tīrthāni*= holy waters (of the rivers), पुण्या *punya* = Virtuous, न्यायतनानि *nyāyatanāni* = pilgrimages, च *ca* = and, तानि सर्वाणि *tāni sarvāṅi* = all those, अशेषाणि *aśeṣāṇi* = without any remaining, हरि *hari* = Hari, इति *iti* = thus, अक्षर द्वयम् *akṣara dvayam* = pair of syllables (ha and ri combined makes Hari). 4

गवां कोटिसहस्राणि हेमकन्यासहस्रकम् ।

दत्तं स्यात्तेन येनोक्तं हारि रित्यक्षर द्वयम् ॥ ५

gavām koṭisahasrāṇi hemakanyāsahasrakam ।

dattaṁ syāttena yenoktaṁ hari rityakṣar-dvayam ॥ 5

By whom the sacred name of Śrī Hari having a pair of syllables “*ha & ri* ” is uttered is the same as giving ten billion (thousand crores) cows in charity and giving of thousand maidens in wedding with plenty of gold. 5

गवां *gavām* = cows, कोटि सहस्राणि *koṭi sahasrāṇi* = thousand crores (ten billion),
हेम कन्या *hema kanyā* = gold and maidens, सहस्रकम् *sahasrakam* = thousand
in a group, दत्तं = giving, स्यात् *syāt* = if, तेन *tena* = by that (sacred name), येन
उक्तं *yena uktam* = uttered by whom, हरि *hari* = Hari, इति *iti* = thus, अक्षर द्वयम्
akṣara dvayam = pair of syllables (*ha* & *ri*). 5

ऋग्वेदोऽथ यजुर्वेदः सामवेदोऽप्यथर्वणः ।

अधीतस्तेन येनोक्तं हरि रित्यक्षर द्वयम् ॥ ६

ṛgvedo'tha yajurvedaḥ sāmavedo'pyatharvaṇaḥ |
adhītastena yenoktaṁ hari rityakṣara-dvayam || 6

By whom the name of Śrī Hari is is uttered containing two
syllables “*ha & ri*”, is the same as studying Rg Veda, Yajur Veda,
Sāma Veda and also Yajur Veda. 6

ऋग्वेदः *ṛgvedaḥ* = Rg Veda, अथ *atha* = hence, also, and, यजुर्वेदः *yajurvedaḥ* =
Yajur-Veda, सामवेदः *sāmavedaḥ* = Sāmaveda, अपि *api* = also, अथर्वणः
atharvaṇaḥ = Atharvaṇa Veda, अधीतस्तेन *adhītastena* = by studying and
(scholarly) recitation, येन *yena* = by whom. उक्तं *uktaṁ* = uttered, हरि *hari* = Hari,
इति *iti* = thus, अक्षर द्वयम् *akṣara dvayam* = pair of letters (*ha* and *ri* to make
Hari). 6

अश्वमेधै-र्महायज्ञैः नरमेधै स्तथैव च ।

इष्टं स्यात्तेन येनोक्तं हरि रित्यक्षर द्वयम् ॥ ७

aśvamedhai-rmahāyajñaiḥ namedhai stathaiiva ca |
iṣṭaṁ syāttena yenoktaṁ hari rityakṣara-dvayam || 7

Aśvamedha Yajña*, or any great Yajña or Human austerity, Yajña is equivalent to chanting the name of Śrī Hari having pair of syllables *ha & ri* with devotion. 7

* *Aśvamedha Yajña* is the fire where a horse is worshipped and let loose by a powerful king. The horse wanders to distant lands and that powerful king claims all that land where the horse reached.

अश्वमेधैः *aśvamedhaiḥ* = By performing Ashvamedha Yajña*, महायज्ञैः *mahāyajñaiḥ* = the great Yajña, नरमेधैः *naramedhaiḥ* = commitment of human austerity, तथा *tathā* = like that, एव *eva* = indeed, च *ca* = and, इष्टं *iṣṭam* = with desire, स्यात्तेन *syāt tena* = if by that, येन उक्तं *yena uktam* = uttered by whom, हरि *hari* = Shri Hari, इति *iti* = thus, अक्षर-द्वयम् *akṣara-dvayam* = pair of syllables (*ha & ri*). 7

प्राणप्रयाण पाथेयं संसार व्याधिनाशनम् ।

दुःखात्यन्त परित्राणं हरि रित्यक्षरद्वयम् ॥ ८

prāṇaprayāṇa pātheyam saṁsāra vyādhināśanam |
duḥkhātyanta paritrāṇam hari rityakṣara-dvayam || 8

The sacred name of Śrī Hari, having a pair of syllables (*ha & ri*), destroys the disease (ignorance) of mundane existence in the journey of life, totally destroys misery, and gives total protection. 8

प्राण प्रयाण *prāṇa prayāṇa* = journey of life, पाथेयं *pātheyam* = path, संसार *saṁsāra* = mundane world of existence, व्याधि *vyādhi* = disease, नाशनम् *nāśanam* = destruction, दुःखात्यन्त *duḥkhātyanta* = complete end to sorrow, परित्राणं *pari trāṇam* = total protection (from all directions), हरि *hari* = Shri Hari,

इति *iti* = thus, अक्षर-द्वयम् *akṣara-dvayam* = pair of syllables (*ha* & *ri*).

बद्धः परिकरस्तेन मोक्षाय गमनं प्रति

सकृदुच्चरितं येन हरि रित्यक्षरद्वयम् ॥ ९

baddhaḥ parikarastena mokṣāya gamanaṁ prati |
sakṛduccāritaṁ yena hari rityakṣaradvayam || 9

By uttering only once the sacred name of Śrī Hari, having two syllables (*ha* and *ri*), is the way (the instrument) towards liberation from the bondage of mundane existence and from the cycle of birth and death. 9

बद्धः *baddhaḥ* = bound, परिकरस्तेन *parikarastena* = instruction, मोक्षाय *mokṣāya* = for attaining liberation, गमनं प्रति *gamanaṁ prati* = journey towards, सकृत् *sakṛt* = one time, उच्चरितं *uccāritaṁ* = uttered, येन *yena* = by whom, हरि *hari* = Hari, इति *iti* = thus, अक्षरद्वयम् *akṣara-dvayam* = pair of syllables (*ha* & *ri*). 9

फलश्रुति *Phalaśruti*

हर्यष्टकमिदं पुण्यं प्रातरुत्थाय यः पठेत् ।

आयुष्यं बलमारोग्यं यशो वृद्धिःश्रिया वहम् ॥ १०

haryaṣṭaka midam puṇyaṁ prātarutthāya yaḥ paṭhet |
āyusyaṁ balamārogyaṁ yaśo vṛddhiḥ-śriyā vahaṁ || 10

Upon getting up early in the morning, one who should recite this Virtuous, holy, and beneficial Hari Aṣṭakam, he obtains good health, strength, long life, intelligence, and invites wealth and fame.

हर्यष्टकम् *haryaṣṭakam* = Hari Aṣṭakam (eight main shlokas for Shri Hari), इदं *idaṁ* = this, पुण्यं *punyaṁ* = auspicious, virtuous and beneficial, प्रातः *prātaḥ* = early (morning), उत्थाय *utthāya* = upon getting up early (in the morning), यः *yaḥ* = who, पठेत् *paṭhet* = should recite, आयुष्यं *āyuṣyaṁ* = longevity, बलम् *balam* = strength, आरोग्यं *ārogyaṁ* = health, यशः *yaśaḥ* = fame, वृद्धिः *vṛddhiḥ* = intelligence, श्रिय *śriya* = wealth, आवहम् *āvaham* = invites .

प्रह्लादेन कृतं स्तोत्रं दुःख सागरशोषणम् ।

यः पठेत् स नरो याति तद्विष्णोः परमं पदम् ॥ ११

prahlādena kṛtaṁ stotraṁ duḥkha sāgaraśoṣaṇam ।

yaḥ paṭhet sa nara yāti tadviṣṇoḥ paramaṁ padam ॥ 11

This holy and virtuous hymn glorifying Hari was composed by Prahlāda and who should recite this hymn, dries the ocean of misery (mundane world of existence) and reaches the Supreme abode of Viṣṇu. 11

प्रह्लादेन *prahlādena* = by Prahlāda, कृतं *kṛtaṁ* = composed, स्तोत्रं *stotraṁ* = Hymn enhancing virtues of the Divinity (any), दुःख-सागर *duḥkha-sāgara* = ocean of sorrow, शोषणम् *śoṣaṇam* = dries, यः *yaḥ* = who, पठेत् *paṭhet* = should, स *sa* = he, नरः *naraḥ* = man, याति *yāti* = reaches, तद्विष्णोः *tadviṣṇoḥ* = of That Viṣṇu.