

NAVKAR MANTRA NO MAHIMA

~ Samaro Mantra ~

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24: BHAVA BHAVANA DUKHA KAPE

DESTROYS THE MISERIES OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS

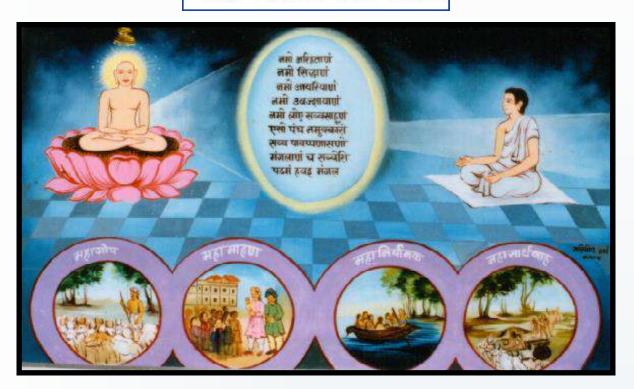
Worldly existence means wandering in the four gatis mentioned earlier. From times immemorial this soul has been acquiring either good or bad karmas and hence reaps one of the four forms (gatis) all of which are equally finite because in all of them soul is coupled with a body – it has to carry the load of karma matter with it. The remedy is to shed off karmas as early as possible. Bhagvan Mahavir has said 'O Gautama! Do not waste a moment! The surest way to shed karmas is to remember the Panch Parmesthin and meditate on the Gyana, Darsana Charitra and Tapa that they possess and we aspire to possess.

True knowledge combined with such meditation is the fastest method of shedding the load of karmas and thus becoming free from births and deaths.

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25: 'VEER' VACHANTHI HRDAYE STHAPE

ESTABLISHES 'GOD' IN THE HEART THROUGH WORDS

This mantra brings the Tirthankara down in the heart of the devotee. The Tirthankara is:-

- 1. Mahagopa Just as the cowherd tends cows and protects them, so the Tirthankara tends and protects the devotees on the path of religion.
- Mahama Hana Just as the King's attendant goes on announcing the King's orders to the citizen, so also the Tirthankara announces the true commandments of religion for the benefit of all souls.
- 3. Maha Niryamaka Just as the navigator sails his passenger safely to the other coast so also the Tirthankara helps souls to cross the ocean of Samsara and reach Moksha
- 4. Maha Sarthavaha Just as a guide escorts his travellers through the forest so also the Tirthankara guides the souls through the dense forest of births and deaths and reaches them safety to the blissful abode of emancipation.

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26: PARAMATAMA PADA APE

GIVES THE SUPREME STATE OF GODHOOD

'Siddhatva' is the final stage of Emancipation. The soul who reaches here is body less, stable for ever and enjoys the four infinitudes infinite knowledge, faith, bliss and power.

In the scriptures, there are mentioned fifteen kinds of Siddha souls. These distinctions in the Siddhas are with reference to their birth preceding the Siddha state. In fact the achievement of siddha-hood presupposes many previous births on the part of the devotee. Moksha-apada is only obtained when the devotees' Karmas are totally destroyed. It is maintained that once the soul reaches the twelfth step (Gunsthanak) on the spiritual ladder, he does not have much to exert for the total annihilation of Karmas.

Let us, therefore, devote ourselves faithfully to the Namaskara Mantra with our mind, body and speech.

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Remember the benevolent hymn of salutations.

It is a summary of fourteen purvas.

Its glory is boundless.

It has infinite meanings. Samaro.....(1)

Remember in pleasures, remember in pains.

Meditate in daytime, meditate at night.

Meditate while alive, meditate while dying.

Remember all together in a chorus. Samaro.....(2)

The monks should remember it, indulgent should remember it.
The king should remember it, the poor should remember it.
Angels should remember it, demons should also remember it.
Everyone should remember it, undoubtingly. Samaro.....(3)

Consider the sixty-eight letters of the mantra,
As sixty-eight pilgrim places.
The eight distinguished units of meaning,
Give eight superhuman powers. Samaro.....(4)

The nine steps of this mantra give nine special abilities or prowess,

Destroys the miseries of births and deaths,

Establishes "God" in the heart through words,

Gives the supreme state of Godhood. Samaro.....(5)



Michchaami Dukkadam

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