

Sanskrit Devotional Mantras

"The Sanskrit words that we sing in these Kirtans are mantras, or divine names. A mantra can be thought of as a sonic embodiment of the supreme being who, through grace, takes infinite recognizable forms. When touched by the blessings of an enlightened master or the longing of a pure heart, these mantras become fully alive and have the power to carry us back to the One, the universal heart. These ancient words hold within them the very presence of the deity; they are prayers, they are vessels for our prayers, and they are that One to whom we are praying. The chants don't tell stories and aren't actual sentences. Rather, they are like simple roadmaps to help the mind leap from mental remembrance into the deepest heart essence, where we actually meet and commune with that being who is the source of all. And, really, it's okay if we don't fully understand the translations or pronunciations. Through these simple Kirtans, we can communicate with our hearts, with our souls; we can cry, we can laugh, we can dance." Jai Uttal

Sri Ram Jai Ram from the Ramanyana

Sri Ram Jai Ram Jai Jai Ram
Sita Ram Sita Ram

Translation:

Sri: Resplendent, glorious, revered; Jai: Victory; Ram: Spirit/Lord as light, strength, and virtue (masculine); Sita: Spirit/Lord as light, strength, and virtue (feminine)

Meaning: May the Lord as Light and virtue that dwells in my heart be victorious over all (internal and external) obstacles and difficulty. May the positive and transforming vision of the Divine in my heart lead to the fulfillment of divine will.

Namah Sivaya

Om Namah Sivaya, Om Namah Sivaya
Sivaya namaha, Sivaya namah om
Shambhu Shankara namah Sivaya,
Girijaa Shankara namah Sivaaya
Aruna chala Siva namah Sivaaya

ॐ नमः शिवाय

Meaning:

"I bow to Shiva." Siva is the supreme reality, the inner Self. It is the name given to consciousness that dwells in all. Siva is the name of your true identity- your Self. In this mantra the chanter (one who repeats the mantra) bows to Siva- his true Self.

Sri Krishna

Sri Krishna Govinda Hare Murare
Hey Natha Narayana Vasudeva

Meaning:

all are names of Krishna
I devote myself completely to you, Krishna.



Lokah samasta sukhino bhavantu

लोकः समस्तसुखिनोभवन्तु

Meaning: May all beings everywhere be happy and free and may the thoughts, words and actions of my own life contribute in some way to that happiness and to that freedom for all.

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Om Asatoma from the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad 1.3.28

Asatoma Sat Gamaya
Tamasoma Jyotir Gamaya
Mrityorma Anritam Gamaya

Meaning:

Lead me from the unreal to the Real
Lead me from the darkness to the Light
Lead me from the temporary to the Eternal

असतोमा सद्रमय। तमसोमा
ज्योतिर् गमया।
मृत्योर्मा मृतं गमय॥

Gayatri Mantra from the Rig Veda

AUM BHOOR BHUWAH SWAHA,
TAT SAVITUR VARENYAM
BHARGO DEVASAYA DHEEMAHI
DHIYO YO NAHA PRACHODAYAT.

Translation:

Om: The primeval sound, Bhur: the physical world, Bhuvah: the mental world
Suvah: the celestial, spiritual world, Thath: That; God; transcendental aramatma
Savithur: the Sun, Creator, Preserver, Vareniam: most adorable, enchanting
Bhargo: luster, effulgence, Devasya: resplendent, supreme Lord
Dheemahi: we meditate upon, Dhiyo: the intellect, understanding
Yo: May this light, Nah: our, Prachodayath: enlighten, guide, inspire

Meaning:

We meditate on the glory of the Creator; Who has created the Universe;
Who is worthy of Worship; Who is the embodiment of Knowledge and Light;
Who is the remover of all Sin and Ignorance; May He enlighten our Intellect.

ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः
तत्सवितुर्वरेण्यं
भर्गो देवस्य धीमहि
धियो योनः प्रचोदयात्।

Om mani padme hum

Translation:

Mani: jewel
Padme: lotus

Meaning:

“Thus the six syllables, om mani padme hum, mean that in dependence on the practice of a path which is an indivisible union of method and wisdom, you can transform your impure body, speech, and mind into the pure exalted body, speech, and mind of a Buddha... We have within us the seed of purity.”

His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso The Fourteenth Dalai Lama of Tibet



World Chant Medley

Om mani padme hum – May the jewel in the lotus shine forth to unite us all
La Ilaha, Il Alahu – There is no god but God
Shalom, Shanti - Peace
Gloria in Excelsis Deo – Glory to God in the Highest