

## DURGA



**Aum Girijayeya Vidmahe  
Shiva Priyaye Dhi-Mahi  
Tanno Durga Prachodayat**

**Sarva-mangala-mangalye Shive Sarvaartha-sadhake  
Sharanye Trayambake Gauri Narayani Namostute**

*Goddess Parvati is the consort of Lord Siva and is worshipped as Sakti. The Puranic literature describes her as having many forms, including Durga, Candi, Kali and Uma. While Siva symbolizes the efficient cause of the creation, Sakti symbolizes the material cause.*

### **MAHISHASURA MARDINI STOTRAM**

**1. ayi giri nandini, nandita medini, visva vinodini, nandinute  
giri vara vindhya shirodhini vasini vishnuvilaasini jijnunute  
bhagavati he shitikaNthakutumbini bhoorikutumbini bhoorikrute  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Oh, Daughter of the Mountain, Who makes the whole World happy, Who makes all the Universe rejoice, Who is praised by Nandin, Who dwells on the peaks of the great Vindhya Mountains, with radiance reaching far and wide, Who is praised by those desirous of victory, Oh Goddess, Wife to blue-necked Shiva, Mother to many families, Doer of many deeds, Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon! Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**2. suravaravarshiNi durdharadharshiNi durmukhamarshiNi harsharate  
tribhuvanaposhiNi shankaratoshiNi kilbishamoshiNi ghosharate**

**danujaniroshiNi ditisutaroshiNi durmadashoshiNi sindhusute  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Who bestows boons upon the Gods, Who defeats the undisciplined, Who tolerates the ignorant, Who is ever rejoicing,  
Who nourishes the three worlds, Who pleases Shankara, Who removes sins,  
Who inhabits the sound of AUM,  
Whose wrath befalls the progeny of the demons Danu and Diti, Who destroys those drunk on the evil intoxicant of pride, Who is Daughter of the Ocean!  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**3. ayi jagadamba madamba kadambavanapriyavaasini haasarate  
shikharishiromaNi tungahimaalaya shringanijaalaya madhyagate  
madhumadhure madhukaitabhaganjini kaitabhabhanjini raasarate  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Oh, Mother of the World, my Mother, Who loves Her Kadamba tree forest, Who is always smiling,  
Whose dwelling is in the tallest peaks of the Himalayas, the greatest of all mountain chains,  
Who is so very sweet, Who keeps the treasures of Madhu and Kaitabha, Who slayed Kaitabha, Who is ever dancing,  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**4. ayi shatakhaNda vikhaNditaruNda vituNditashuNda gajaadhipate  
ripugajagaNda vidaaraNachaNda paraakramashuNda mrigaadhipate  
nijabhujadaNda nipaaitakhaNda vipatitamuNda bhataadhipate  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Who splinters demons' heads into hundreds of shards, Who severs the trunks of their great battle elephants,  
Whose great Lion mount exhibits terrifying valor, as he tears apart the temples of the enemy's elephants  
Who shatters the skulls of enemy chieftains with the strength of her own arms,  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**5. ayi raNadurmadashatruvadhodita durdharanirjara shaktibhrute  
chaturavicharadhuriiNamahasiva dutakrita pramathaadhipate  
duritaduriihaduraashayadurmati daanavaduta krutaantamate  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Oh, it is You Who possesses the invincible force that vanquishes hard-to-subdue enemies in battle*

*Who promoted Pramatha, the great attendant of Shiva, a master of subtle thinking, to be Her general in battle,  
Who destroyed the messengers of the demons, who were sinful, with evil intention in their thoughts and minds,  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**6. ayi sharaNaagata vairivadhoovara viiravaraabhayadaayakare  
tribhuvanamastaka shoolavirodhishihirodhikritaamala shoolakare  
dumidumitaamara dundubhinaada mahomukhariikrita tigmakare  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Oh, it is You Who gives protection to the wives of heroic enemy warriors when they seek refuge;  
Who aims a flawless spear at the head of the demon who causes great pain in all the three worlds,  
Who burns like a blazing hot sun, inflamed by the resounding din of the war-drums of the Gods,  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**7. ayi nijahunkriti maatraniraakrita dhoomravilochana dhoomrashate  
samravishoshita shoNitabeeja samudbhavashoNita biijalate  
shivashivashumbhani shumbhamahaahavatarpita bhutapishaacharate  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Oh, it is You Who, with a single roar, disperses the streams of smoke flowing from the eyes of advancing demons,  
Who thrives like a vine on the blood that falls on the battleground,  
Who delights alike in the company of the auspicious Shiva, inauspicious Shumbha and Nishumbha, and the ghoulish spirits who feed on the battle carnage,  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**8. dhanuranusangaraNakshaNasanga parishphuradanga naTatkaTake  
kanakapishanga prishatkanishanga rasadbhataringa hataabaTuke  
krutachaturanga balakshitiranga ghatadbahuranga raTadbaTuke  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Who decks Her tender limbs with fine dancing ornaments at the moment of battle, as She readies Her bow,  
Who slays huge enemy soldiers with Her shining sword and arrows from Her golden-brown quiver,  
Who plays with the vast enemy forces arrayed on the battlefield as if they were screaming toy soldiers,*

*Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**9. jaya jaya japyajaye jayashabda parastutitatatpara vishvanute  
jhaNa jhaNa jhinjhimijhinkritanoopura sinjitamohita bhootapate  
natita nataardhanatiinatanaayaka naatitanaatyasugaanarate  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Victory to You! Victory to You! Whose victory need be sung and praised by all the  
Universe,  
Who attracts Shiva's attention with the tinkling of Her bells and ornaments as She  
dances  
Who delights in Her own beautiful singing, and Her dance in the form of  
Ardhanari,  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**10. ayi sumanah sumanah sumanah sumanoharakaantiyute  
shrita rajanii rajanii rajanii rajanii rajaniikaravakravrate  
sunayanavibhra marabhra marabhra marabhra marabhra maraadhipate  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Oh, it is You Whose flowerlike complexion attracts all good-hearted souls,  
[The meaning of the middle two lines is unclear],  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**11. sahitamahaahava mallamatallika mallitarallaka mallarate  
virachitavallika pallikamallika shrillikabhillika vargavrute  
sita kruta phullisamullasitaakruNtallaja pallavasallalite  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*[The meaning of this verse is unclear.]  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**12. aviralagaNda galanmadamedura mattamatangajaraajapate  
tribhuvana bhooshaNa bhootakalaanidhi roopapayonidhiraajasute  
ayi sudatiijanalaalasamaanasa mohanamanmatharaajasute  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Who effortlessly steers huge royal elephants in their fury, musk streaming in  
rivers down their temples,  
Oh Great Princess, Daughter of the Ocean, Who has the beauty of the Moon,  
Who is Ornament of the triple world,  
Princess of Love, whose beautiful smile enchants the minds of those entrapped*

*by desire,*

*Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!*

*Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**13. kamaladalaamakomala kaantikalaakalitaamala bhaalatale  
sakalavilaasakalaanilayakrama kelichalatkala hamsakule  
alikulāsankula kuvalayamaNdala maulimiladbakulaalikule  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Whose flawless forehead displays Her beautiful complexion, pure and delicate  
like lotus petals,*

*Whose flocks of swans follow Her with the fluid grace that is the mark of all  
beautiful arts,*

*Whose swarms of bees sail down from the bakula trees to light with other bees  
atop the lotus flowers,*

*Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!*

*Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**14. karamuraliirava viijita koojita lajjita kokila manjumate  
militapulinda manoharagunjita ranjita shailanikunjagate  
nijaguNabhoota mahaashabariigaNa sadguNasambhruta kelitale  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Who so sweetly plays Her flute that its music puts the Kokila bird to shame, Who  
always has sweet thoughts,*

*Who dwells in colorful mountain groves that echo pleasantly with the bustle of  
mountain folk,*

*Whose playground is filled with breathtaking tribal women, who are  
manifestations of Her own great qualities,*

*Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!*

*Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**15. katitapiitadukoolavichitra mayookhatiraskrita chandraruche  
praNatasuraasura maulimaNisphuradamshulasannakha chandraruche  
jitakanakaachala maulipadorjita nirbharakunjara kumbhakuche  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Who outshines the brilliance of the moon with the colorful rays flashing from the  
yellow silks around Her waist,*

*Whose toenails shine like the moon as well, reflecting the crest jewels of the  
gods and demons who bow at Her feet,*

*Whose breasts outshine the temples of wild elephants and the high peaks of  
golden mountains,*

*Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!*

*Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**16. vijitasahasra karaikasahasra karaikasahasra karaikanute  
krutasurataaraka sangarataaraka sangarataaraka soonusute  
surathasamaadhi samaanasamaadhi samaadhi samaadhi sujaatarate jaya  
jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Who surpasses the thousand-rayed sun with the brilliance of Her own thousand  
hands, and Who is in turn praised by a thousand suns,  
Who does battle to save the Gods, and Whose sons fought the demon Taraka  
and are Saviors,  
[Meaning unclear],  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**17. padakamalam karuNaanilaye varivasyati yonudinam sashive  
ayi kamale kamalaanilaye kamalaanilayah sakatham na bhavet  
tava padameva param padamityanushiilayato mama kim na shive  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Oh Benevolent Goddess, accompanied by Shiva, when one daily cherishes Your  
lotuslike feet,  
Then, Oh lotus-dwelling Lakshmi, how will one not become wealthy?  
Oh Auspicious Goddess, what riches will not be mine, if I earnestly believe that  
Your feet are the highest goal to be achieved?  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**18. kanakalaskala sindhujalairanusinchinute guNarangabhavam  
bhajati sa kim na sachikuchakumbha tatiiparirambha sukhaanubhavam  
tava charaNam sharaNam karavaaNi nataamaravaaNi nivaasisivam jaya  
jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*If one bathes You, the playground of virtues, in the shining golden waters of the  
ocean,  
Will one not experience in Heaven the joy, equal to that of Indra, of embracing  
the full bosom of Sachi?  
Oh Goddess worshipped by the Gods Themselves, I take refuge at Your feet,  
which are also the abode of Shiva.  
Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!  
Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**19. tava vimalendukulam vadanendum alam sakalam nanu koolayate  
kimu puruhotha puriindumukhiisumukhiibhiraasau vimukhiikriyate**

**mama tu matam sivanaamadhane bhavatii kripayaa kimuta kriyate  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*When one sufficiently dedicates oneself to Your entire moonlike visage, brighter than a host of perfect moons,  
How will one be turned away in heaven by the moon-visaged beauties of the city of Indra?*

*[Meaning unclear],*

*Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!*

*Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*

**20. ayi mayi diinadayaalutayaa krupayaiva tvayaa bhavitavyamume ayi  
jagato jananii krupayaasi yathaasi tathanumitaasitare  
yaduchitamatra bhavatyurariikrutaadurutaapa mapaakrurute  
jaya jaya he mahishaasuramardhini ramyakapardini shailasute**

*Oh Uma, please look kindly upon me, because of your virtue of compassion toward the meek,*

*[Meaning unclear],*

*But you may do as You wish with me, Oh You who removes the pain of Her devotees.*

*Victory, victory to You, Oh Slayer of the Buffalo Demon!*

*Victory, Daughter of the Himalayas, with beautifully braided hair!*