

Vande-gurun-isha-bhaktan!!!



Simple Sri Shalagram Shila Puja

by
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Articles required:

Picture of Lord Ganesh
Sri Shalagram Shila (Gandaki Vajra-kita)
Tulasi leaves (patra) ready washed
Scented flowers (pushpa)
Water (toya) in a pot
Fruit (phala) cut-ready to offer
Throne (singhasan) & stand/table
Mat (asan)
Incense (dhup) & Holder
Fan (panka)
Sandal Wood Oil (chandan)
Ganges Water (ganga pani)

Lighter (fire)

Small Plate & Glass with fruit & water

White Turbinella bathing conch & stand

Small cup for bathing Shalagram

Pancha Patra cup & spoon

Small hand bell (ganti)

Procedure:

1. Prepare all articles on large thali. Place Thali in front between you and altar. Place articles on thali before you in this order: Center is bathing dish, lower left is hand bell, upper left is scented sandal wood oil, upper right is bathing conch on stand bottom-up, lower right is pancha-patra and spoon. Left side of thali is lota (pot) with clean water and bowl of flower petals; and on right side of the thali is a stand with a cloth towel, incense (3 sticks), a hand fan, and a lighter.
2. After bowing, take Asan, say "Idam asanam" and place the asan on the floor before the puja table saying ONBV mantra (*Om namo bhagavate vasudevaya*).
3. Be seated (face East – sunrise)
4. Fold hands, close eyes and recite: *Om apavitra-pavitro-va sarva-vastam gato api va yah smaret pundarikaksham sah bhayabhyantara suchih*
5. Pancha Patra water from previous day should be washed off and ready with new Ganga jala inside, by putting one drop of Ganga jala into the empty pancha patra cup and pouring to full with normal clean drinking water from

- the pot (lota). This makes all water in the cup as Ganga-jala.
6. Achmaniyam: Take a spoon of water with the left hand and forming the turned up right hand into mudra with thumb touching middle joint of middle finger, pour water into right palm... holding water say, "*Om Vishnuh*" 3 times, then sip the water from the base of the palm of the hand. Taking another spoon of water with the left hand rinse off the "juta" right hand (toss old water on the floor next to you). Repeat two more times.
 7. Fold hands and say, "*Om tad vishnoh paramam padam sada paishyanti surayah daviva-chaksur-atatam*"
 8. Take a flower (petal), offer to picture of Lord Ganesh, and say, "*Om Sri Ganeshaya Namah*" 3 times.
 9. Fold hands, pray to Lord Ganesha, "*Om vakra-tunda maha-kaya-suryakotir sama-prabha nir-vignan kuru may deva sarva karyeshu sarvada;*" continue with the following prayer to Goddess Lakshmi: *Namaste'astu maha-maye sripati sura-pujite shanka-chakra-gada haste Maha Lakshmi namo' astu'te!!!*
 10. Pray to Lord Shalagram (Who is still sitting from previous days puja) with folded hands say, "*Smrite shakala kalyana bhajanam yatra jayate purusham antam ajam nityam brajami sharanam harim!!!*"
 11. Take flower and use petals to make sitting place for Shalagram in bathing cup.
 12. Put flower petal and a Tulasi leaf in

- Conch shell and pour pancha-patra water into the conch (in it's stand).
13. Invoke the Lord. With folded hands call Lord Narayana by saying, "*Om apani-pado javano-grahita paishyati-achakshu sah srinoty akarna sah veti vedyam naa cha tasyasti veta tamahur-agram purusham mahantam.*"
 14. Using right hand, take the Shila Murti off the throne and place on top of flower petal in bathing cup.
 15. Then clear off old flower from throne. Rinse hand again. Replace new flower petals on throne for sitting. Rinse right hand with *Panca patra* as described before using left hand to control the spoon, wash off right hand after each offering.
 16. Bath: Using right hand, take a spoon of water and pour a little onto the conch. Replace spoon in *pancha patra* cup. Say IDAM SNANIYAM and take the conch shell with right hand and pour the water slowly on the Shila, while saying, "ONBV" 3 times, replace shell on stand. Rinse hand again.
 17. Take Sandal Wood oil, open bottle, pour tiny amount on right hand finger tips. Carefully pick up Shalagram and using the fingers of only your right hand carefully roll the shila around and massage the scented oil onto the Shila. (During oil massaging hold the shila over your dhoti in case He slips).
 18. Touch the Shila to your forehead and place Him back on throne on fresh flower petals while chanting Maha-mantra.

19. Wipe oil off your right hand onto your head, rinse and wipe your hand dry on your dhoti.
20. Take moist Tulasi leaf and offering top down stick the leaf onto the oily Shila Murti, saying, "IDAM TULASI PATRAM" and "ONBV" (one time)
21. Rinse off right hand again.
22. Take flower (petals) and offer to Lord Hari by saying, "IDAM PUSHPAM" and "ONBV" while waving the flowers in a clock-wise circle before the Shila Murti three times. Place flowers in front off Shila.
23. Rinse off right hand again.
24. Light incense. Say "ESHA DHUPAH" and "ONBV" while waving the lit incense in a clock-wise circle before the Shila Murti three times. Place incense in holder in front off Shila.
25. Rinse off right hand again.
26. Take fan, say, "IDAM PANKAM" and "ONBV" three times while fanning the Shila Murti. Place fan back in its place.
27. Rinse off right hand again.
28. Using right hand take a spoon of water and pour a little onto the table and say "IDAM ASANAM" "ONBV" to create a sitting place for Lord Hari to eat.
29. Place fruit plate and water glass on the table. Using right hand, take a spoon of water and pour a little onto the fruit and water glass, and say, "IDAM PANIYAM IDAM NIVEDYAM" "ONBV".
30. Sit quietly with eyes closed and chant Gayatri Mantras and or Maha Mantra while thinking the Lord is

- taking the fruit and water.
31. Using right hand, take a spoon of water and pour into the bathing cup saying, "IDAM ACHAMANIYAM" "ONBV". So the Lord can rinse His Mouth.
 32. Bow down and say prayers. In the case of a Gaudiya Vaishnava, such prayers as, "*Vande gurun isha bhaktan isham isha-avatarakan tat prakashams-cha tat shakti krishna chaitanya sangakam*", - chant **Pancha-tattva** and **Maha Mantra**.
 33. During prayers one should think and speak to Krishna, and tell Him how you feel unworthy to perform His puja, and still He has blessed you, and even you are sorry for having so many personal motives still you know that if one has NO motives (desires) or has ALL desires, or even if one has desire for liberation, in all cases one should worship Lord Hari for that attainment. So you are not wrong in asking the Lord for anything, because if you will ask or not, still, He is the One to ask. For this meditation you can chant: "*Om akama-sarva-kamo-va moksha-kama-udaradi tivrena bhakti-yogena yajesha purusham param.*"
 34. Next recite: "*Om brahma-murari-tripurantakari bhanu, shasi, boomi-suto buddhas-ca gurus-ca-shukra, shani-rahuketavah sarve graha shanti kara bhavantu!*"
 35. Prayers, Kirtana and OR read minimum ONE Sloka from Shastra.
 36. Place all used items on big puja thali and go rinse off the items in

kitchen. Pour charanamrita (bath water) in a special cup to keep outside the temple room.

37. Wipe throne area with water drops from Pancha Patra and towel, and return items.
38. Drink Charanamritam.
39. OM TAT SAT!!!

Remember1: Using left hand, **ring the hand bell (ganti)** with each offering.

Remember2: Lord Vishnu NEVER feels any discomfort. As God He is "atmarama" or 'always in bliss'. Even if atheists come to smash the Lord's Sri Murti, still, He is never in even the slightest distress. He is SAT CHIT ANANDA UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.

Salagram Sila: Shastra Quotes

Salagrama Sila Rupi Yatra Tisthati Kesavah |
Tatra Devasurayaksa Bhuvanani Catur Dasa ||

With Keshava in the form of Salagrama sila reside all the devatas, asuaras, yaksas and the fourteen worlds.--- Padma Purana:

Lord Shiva states, "My devotees who offer obeisances to the shalagrama even negligently become fearless. Those who adore me while making a distinction between myself and Lord Hari will become free from this offence by offering obeisances to shalagrama. Those who think themselves as my devotees, but who are proud and do not offer obeisances to my Lord Vasudeva, are actually sinful and not my devotees. O my son, I always reside in the shalagrama. Being pleased with my devotion the Lord has given me a residence in His personal abode. Giving a shalagrama, is the best form of charity, being equal to the result of donating the entire earth together with its forests, mountains, and all. "

Ato'dhithana Vargesu Suryadisviva Murtisu |
Salagrama Silaiva Syad Adhithanottamam Hareh ||

The Lord resides in many places in which he may be worshipped, but of all the places Salagrama is the best. ---
Garuda Purana

Drstva Pranamita Yena Snapita Pujita Tatha |
Yajna Koti Samam Punyam Gavam Koti Phalam Bhavet ||

Lord Siva speaking to Skanda, "Any person who has seen Salagram Sila, paid obeisances to Him, bathed and worshipped Him, has achieved the results of performing ten million sacrifices and giving ten million cows in charity. --- Skanda Purana - Haribhakti vilas

Pujito'ham Na Tair Martyair Namito'ham Na Tair Narah |
Nakrtam Martya Loke Yaih Salagram Silarcanam ||
Lord Siva speaking to Skanda states, "In this mortal world, if anyone does not worship Salagram Sila, I do not at all accept any of their worship and obeisances."

Lord Vishnu states that, "Any shila from the place of shalagramas can never be inauspicious though cracked, chipped, split in two though still in one piece, or even broken asunder."--- Brahma Purana

Lord Shiva also states, "Even if a shila is cracked, split, or broken it will have no harmful effect if it is worshiped with attention and love by a devotee. It further states there that the Supreme Lord Hari, along with His divine consort, Lakshmi, live in the shalagrama that has either only the mark of a cakra, a cakra along with the mark of a footprint, or only a mark resembling a flower garland."--- Skanda Purana

"Merely by touching a shalagrama one becomes freed from the sins of millions of births, so what to speak of worshiping Him! By shalagrama puja one gains the association of Lord Hari."---
Gautamiya Tantra

"Shalagramas do not require installation ceremony. When one begins the worship of shalagrama, however he should start with elaborate puja using all articles. The worship of

shalagrama is the best form of worship, better than the worship of the sun."--- Skanda Purana

Bhaktas should take the charanamrita mixed with Tulasi leaves from the shalagrama in their hand and sip it, sprinkling the balance on their heads. "---Gautamiya Tantra

"All those holy rivers awarding moksha, such as the Ganga, Godavari and others, reside in the caranamrita of shalagrama."--- Padma Purana

"Shalagrama should not be placed on the earth or ground and worshiped." ---Sammohana Tantra

"In puja of shalagrama it is unnecessary to call the Lord for worship or request Him to return His abode upon completion."-- Shrimad Bhagavatam

Sri Narada Muni states, "It is impossible to fully explain the importance of Tulasi leaves (Holy Basil) in the worship of shalagrama, as Tulasi is the most beloved consort of Hari in the form of shalagrama."--- Brihan-naradiya Purana

Lord Shiva tells Parvati, "He who takes the charanamrita of shalagrama destroys all sinful reactions at their roots, even the killing of a brahmana."--- Skanda Purana

"By taking the remnants of foodstuffs offered to shalagrama, one will get the result of performing many sacrifices."--- Skanda Purana

Shree Saligram Sila-stotram

Yudhistiro Uvacha

King Yudhistir asked

"Shree Dev Dev devesa Devarchanamutamam
Tat sarbham srotaumichhami Bruhime Purushotamam / 1/

My dear Supreme Lordship Purushotam, I request you know the significance of the saligram sila.

Shree Bhagavan Uvacha - The Lord Replied

"Gandakyam Chotare Tire Girirajshchya Dakshine !
Das Yojan Vistirnam Mahachhetra Vasundhara //2//

"Saligramo Vabet Devo Devi Dwara Bati Vabet
Uvayo Sangamo Yatra Mutistratrana Sansaya //3//

"Saligramo Sila Yatra Yatra dwara Bati Sila
Uvayo Sangamo Yatra Mutistratrana Sansaya //4//

The mountains known as the Himalaya are situated on the bank of river Gandaki. In the south of this Himalaya a big and beautiful tract of land is situated where you can find saligrams sila. This is the place where Devi Dwarabati begins. This place is called by those who know, Sri Mukti Kshetra.

"Ajanma Krita Papanam Prayaschitam Ya Ichati
Saligram Silawari Paphari Namastute //5//

" Akal Mritu Haranam Sarvabyadhi Binasanam
Vishu Padodakam Pitwa Shirasha Dharyamyaham //6//

"Sankha Madhya Sthitam Toyyam Vramitam Keshavopari
Angalagnam Manukshanam Bramha Hatya Dikam Dayat //7//

Saligram Silas found here are very precious and significant. These silas are considered to be directly Lord Vishnu Himself and the person who worships or even keeps in the house or bathes the Salagram and drinks water or pour those waters on their head, that man becomes free from all sin and it prevents from untimely death. That person becomes free from all sin and all material disease. The most feared sin of Bramahatya (killing of a Brahmin) is also washed away simply by worshiping the Saligram.

"Snano Dakam Piben Nityam Chakrankita Sirot Vabam
Partkshallya Sudham Tatoyam Bramha Hatya Byapohati //8//

"Agnistomasahasnani Vajapaya Satanicha
Samyak Phalama Bapnoti Visnornai Vedyakshina //9//

That person who does snan (bathing) of saligram with chakra everyday get gets rid of all sin like Bramahatya, and if he

drinks such water daily gets the equal boon of thousand of havan (fire sacrifices) of Lord Vishnu.

“Naivadyayuktam Tulsim cha Misritam Vishesta Pada Jalen
Vishnu
Yoshnati Nityam Purato Murari Prapnoti Yazya Uta Koti
Pundyam //10//

The person, who worships saligram with Tulsi leaf daily, gets the boon of million Yajna also.

Khandita Sphutita Viina Vandi Dakdhya Tathi Va Cha
Saligram Sialyatra Tatra Dosho Na Vidyate//11//

Even if a Salagram is damaged or broken, all sila are good to worship

Namantra Pujanam Naiva Natirtham Na cha Bhabanaa
Na stutir Na uppachars cha Saligram Silar cha ne //12//

Bramha Hatya Dikam Papam Manobak Karya Sambhamam
Shirgram Nachyati Tatsarvam Saligram Silrchana//13//

With out worship, with out offering any sweets or with out any pilgrims - only chanting this saligram mantra is enough to wash away all sins and is the fulfillment of all desire.

“Nanabarna Mayam Chiva Nana Bhogena Vestitam
Tathavarprasadena Laxmi Kantam Balamhayam //14//

“Narayanorbhabo Dev Chakramadya Cha Karmana
Tathavarprasadena Laxmi Kantam Balamhayam//15//

There are various kinds of size and shape of saligram in which Lord Vishnu is situated representing all the different incarnations.

“Krishane Sila Taneyatra Susmam Cakram Cha Drisyate
Saovagyam Santatim Dhatye Sarva Sakshaym
Dadhatcha//16//

Good Luck increases and one gets satisfaction from children, and in every way in every aspect, all good enters one's life by worshipping saligram black in colour with little chakras.

Vashu Devscha Chinhani Distwa Papai Pramuchyate
Sridhar Sukare Bame Harivarnatu Disyate//17//

"Varaha Rupenam Devam Kurmangai Rapi Chinhitam
Gopadam Tatra Dissheta Varaham Vamanam Tatha //18//

A person who gets the chance to see the Vasudev sila, that person he became free from sins. Shreedhar, Sukar, Vamanadev, Harivarna, Varaha, Kurma and lots of other type of saligram are available also. Some Saligram has marking of cow's foot marks and some that of Narshimha Avatara (half lion half man).

"Pitavarnam Tu Devanam Rakta Varnam Vayabhaham
Narashinno Vawet Devo Mokshadam Cha Prakrititam//19//

Sankha Chakra Gada Kurma Sankho Yatra Pradisya
Sankha Varnascha Devanaman Vame Devascha
Lakshanam//20//

"Damodarm Tatha Sthulam Madhya Chakram Pratisthitam
Purna Dwarena Sankrina Pita Rekha Cha Drischyate //21//

"Chhatrakare Vabet Rajam Vartule Cha Mahasreeya
Chipite Cha MahaDukham Sulagretu Ranam Dhruvam//22//

Yellowish Saligram is very auspicious as Lord Himself (Pitambara) but reddish saligram is considered to bring fearful situations and is dangerous to worship. The sacred symbols of Sankha (conch), Chakra (disc), Gada (club), Kurma (tortoise) are printed on the saligram stones. Saligram with Sankha (conch) sign is considered to be Vamanrup (Vamandev) of Lord Vishnu, where as chakra in the middle is consider as Damodar saligram. Saligrams of different shapes; round, umbrella shape which has white lines are also available; worshipping this kind of saligram gives wealth and reputation in society. Flat shaped saligram creates sorrow in a family and saligram with sharp front side creates war - fighting and tension in family.

"Lalate Shesha Vogastu Siropari Sukanchanam
Chakrakanchanavarnanam VamaDevascha Lakshnam//23//

Vamaparbe Cha Bai Cakre Krishna Varnas tu Pingalam
Laxinarshimhadevanam Prithak Varnastu Drisyate//24//

Saligrams which have chakra around the head or in the forehead and rest parts are clean and smooth is considered very auspicious and this type is to be considered as Vamandev sila. Yellowish or black in left side with a chakra is consider as Laxmi Narshimha sila.

Lamboste Cha Dalidram Syat Pingale Hani Revacha
Lagna Cakre Vabet Baydhir Bidare Maranamdrubam//25//

Worshipping a long shape sila create poverty, and saligram having lagna (rising) chakra create long term chronic diseases even death.

Padom Dakamcha Nirmalyam Mastake Dharayet Shada
Visnor Dristam Vakshitabyam Tulsi Jal Misritam//26//

Kalpa Koti Sahasrani Vaikunthe Basate Sada
Saligram Sila Vinur Hatya Koti Vinasanam//27//

Any person who offers a Tulasi leaf while worshipping the saligram gets salvation and can stay at Vaikuntha (the place where Vishnu live - means free from anxiety) for million years.

Tasmat Sampujayet Dhyatwa Pujitam Chapi Sarvada
Saligram Silas Trotram Yah Pathecha Dijotam//28//

Sa Gakshet Parmam Sthanam Yatra Lokeshworo Hari
Sarva Pap Binir Mukta Vishnu Lokam Sa Gashati//29//

Therefore always worship saligram, and chant saligram stotra which is very beneficial for mankind. We can get one a higher position on Vishnu Lok (Vaikuntha) simply by doing so. All sins will also be destroyed and it is guaranteed that one gets to Vishnulok simply from this process of worshiping the saligram.

Dusovataro Devanam Prithak Varnastu Disyate
Ipsitam Labate Rajyam Vishnu Pooja Manukramat//30//

Kotyohi Vramhahatyanamgamyagamyaya Kotaya
Ta Sarva Nasamayanti Vishu Nai Vidya Vakshanat//31//

Vishno Pador Dakam Pitwa Koti Janmaghanasanam
Tasma Dasta Gunam Papam Ghumou Vindupatnat//32//

There are various types of description available for Lord Vishnu's ten primary incarnation therefore the Lord's incarnation Shree Saligram's worship, the Prayer to the Saligram and drinking the Lord's bathing water wash away sins of million lives and one gets great prosperity, wealth and reputation through this, so everyone everywhere the Saligram should be worshiped.

Iti Shree Vishotara Purane Shree Saligram Sila-stotram
Sumpurnam!!