

|| HARIOM ||

# rites and rituals

(An English Translation of 'Vidhi-Vidhan')  
Originally Written by : Shree Mota in Gujarati



HARIOM ASHRAM PUBLICATION, SURAT

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(An English Translation of 'Vidhi-Vidhan')

Originally Written by  
Shree Mota in Gujarati

Translated by :  
**SHREE BABU SARKAR**

Edited by :  
**Prof. H. G. CHHIKNIWALA**

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Hari Om

## **PUBLISHER'S NOTE**



We are extremely thankful to the translator, Shri Babu Sarkar, and the editor, Prof. H. G. Chhikniwala, for preparing this timely publication in the service of Pujya Shree Mota very urgently. As always, Pujya Shree Mota's grace works with all his devotees.

'Vidhi-Vidhan' is a revolutionary work of Pujya Shree Mota, as explained in the notes by the author, the editors, etc. It will be appreciated by all readers.

We are also thankful to the Trusts of Hari: Om Ashram, Surat and Nadiad, for encouraging us to publish Pujya Shree Mota's valuable works in translation.

Our thanks are due to Shri Y. A. Patel for great help and Shri Indukaka for their great devotion and love in this noble mission. Thanks to Durga Printery also.

Hari: Om

**- Parija Hari Sharedalal**

Hari Om

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## **EDITOR'S NOTE ON PUJYA MOTA'S 'VIDHI-VIDHAN'**

**(Translated by Shri Babu Sarkar)**

To be able to render into English faithfully Pujya Mota's valuable, divinely inspired verses, is itself a matter of grace and divine love.

The depth of feeling coupled with profound wisdom derived from life's experiences as well as consciously conducted, controlled but unconditional experiments on the spiritual path are indeed unique and most laudable by any standards. Pujya Mota is in the line of saints like Saibaba, Maharshi Rang Avadhoot, etc. to name but a few. He was well versed in our scriptures, but had an independent, questioning mind. In this book he dons the role of an unorthodox priest who performed rites, and a man with a modern outlook who wanted society's economic and spiritual upliftment on pure scientific lines through education and social reform.

Hence, his works (compositions, letters, etc.) deserve highly to be exposed globally and put on the global scene. Experts, devoted linguists must put in their best efforts to translate, publish and re-publish his works. Right efforts have already begun in this direction.

Shri. Babu Sarkar, a name given by Pujya Shree Mota himself, a devotee of Pujya Mota, and also an accomplished poet of high calibre and who had the good fortune to be with Pujya Mota for a considerable time, and hence has a rare insight into the nature and

working of Pujya Mota's mind, has taken great pains to prepare this faithful translation of Pujya Mota's 'Vidhi-Vidhan' (Rules Regarding Rites, Rituals) out of his love for Pujya Mota. Shri Babu Sarkar, a born Gujarati who lives far away from Gujarat, deserves all credit and high praise for this admirable translation, from all lovers and devotees of Pujya Mota.

The editor's pen has hardly touched this admirable translation except in a couple of places where necessary. Some of the portions in the original Gujarati as composed by Pujya Mota are omitted or left untouched by the Translator. Hence order of verses seems to have been altered. The editor has made no alterations or omissions at all.

Pujya Mota's work ('Vidhi-Vidhan') is full of simplicity and sincerity. It avoids pompousness and use of expensive articles or items generally considered necessary in traditional rituals. He is a bold leader, social reformer, asking us to shun all orthodox practices, but to do the rituals rightly, with the good of all the people concerned at heart, and to invite and propitiate the gods, deities and Nature, with all humility and sincerity. Priests belonging to established orders, based on caste, may generally perform such duties and rites mechanically and even hastily. We who now understand these things well, as here explained, thanks to Pujya Mota's inspired guidance, can hope to do it better. True feeling or 'bhava' is more important than all the other costly accompaniments or even the decorated surroundings. Rites and rituals performed sincerely,

accurately, with a prayerful heart will surely help in creating the right atmosphere conducive to divine presence and for the divine to enter into our lives and to permeate our awakened consciousness. Prayers always help us and never fail. Rites performed sincerely with such prayers also help us achieve the desired end. All true prayers are always answered as Mahatma Gandhiji repeatedly asserted. They help us achieve communion with God.

The time is now ripe for the world to appreciate the work of Pujya Mota's thought and his original expression of spiritual experiences in purely rational terms.

Modern science is also alive towards such supra-rational experiences, experiments and endeavours conducted faithfully to advance towards the ultimate Reality, or Truth which is the name given to God!

June 2007

**– H. G. C.**



Hari Om

## **A SHORT-NOTE ON FIRE OR 'AGNI', 'VIDHI', 'VIDHAN', 'LAGNA' & 'MANGALA' etc.**

**(By Prof. H. G. Chhikniwala)**

Pujya Mota in almost all his books refers to the aspirant's burning desire, or the soul's unquenchable yearning for spiritual upliftment, using the metaphor of Volcanic fire. It is a powerful, primal image, conveying Nature's uncontrollable power, an irresistible force moved by mysterious motives divine. It may be also called Nemeis. Here, we worship the Fire God, called Agni Deva.

Fire in Nature is also present in lightnings as well as in lava rushing down or up from volcanos. The Sun is also fire, a source of limitless energy for man and Nature. Fire was discovered by man millions of years ago. Man learned to make his own domestic fire by rubbing wooden sticks or striking stones with flint, or iron etc.

Fire works for man in cooking his food, warming his house, burning waste matter, etc. Fire is both heat and light in one. It is produced when anything burns. It consumes oxygen gas existing in the air. Fire is also a highly destructive force, as in wars, natural calamities, accidents, etc. Fire requires three things: fuel, heat and oxygen.

Fire is one of the five elements constituting the Macrocosm (Universe) and the Microcosm (Human body). It keeps the body alive through circulation of blood, supplying energy (heat or temperature) to all its organs. Blood energizes all our sense organs. With its heat gone, the body begins to die. A dead body becomes cold and dry. Fire inside helps our digestive system also. In short,, we may say that light or fire is our main energy, as valuable as breath or air and water and space.

**(Courtesy Sir M. Monier Williams)**

The word 'agni' means fire; sacrificial fire of three kinds, namely Garhapatya, Ahavaniya, and Dakshina; the number three Suryas; the god of fire; the fire of the stomach, digestive faculty, gastric fluid; bile, gold, etc. Other Sanskrit words associated with 'agni' are agni-kana, agni-karman, agni-kalpa, agni-karika, agni-karya, agni-kunda (a pan with live coals, as referred to by Pujya Mota in 'Vidhi-Vidhan'). We have also words like 'agni-jwala', 'agni-tapa', 'agni-tejas', 'agni-dagdhd', 'agni-datta', 'agni-deva', 'agni-duhita', 'agni-dipti', 'agni-duta', 'agni-narayana', 'agni-pakva', 'agni-parikriya', 'agni-pariksha', 'agni-paridhana', 'agni-purana', 'agni-pratisthita', 'agni-prabha', 'agni-pravesa', 'agni-prayaschitta', 'agni-sanskara' (the funeral rites), 'agni-sambhava', 'agni-stambha', 'agni-hotri', 'agni-hotra', 'agnyastra' (arrow of fire), 'agni-alaya' (place where fire is kept alive), 'agni-utpatti' (the birth of fire), 'agni-upasthana', etc. etc. (The list is too long).

**Vidhi** means a rule, formula, injunction, ordinance, statute, precept, law, direction (esp. for the performance of a rite as given in the Brahmana portion of the Veda, which consists of two parts, (1) 'Vidhi' meaning precepts or commandments, e.g. 'yajeta', 'he ought to sacrifice', 'kuryat', 'he ought to perform' and (2) 'Artha-vada', or 'explanatory statements' as to the origin of rites and use of the Mantras, mixed up with legends and illustrations. Both co-exist. 'Vidhi' also means 'a grammatical rule or precept', 'any prescribed act or rite or ceremony', or use, application, method or manner of acting, mode of life, conduct, behavior. It also means any 'means' expedient for or way to reach a goal, any action or act of accomplishment, creation, performance, contrivance, work, business, etc. Its other meaning is FATE or DESTINY. It also means 'time' food for elephants, horses, etc. and a goddess.(Here its mutiple meanings are not applicable).

Other words used with 'Vidhi' are 'Vidhinishedha' (prohibited), 'Vidhikara' (one who executes commands, also a servant etc.), 'Vidhi-kruta' (performed according to rules or rites, 'Vidhi-purvakam', 'Vidhi-paryukta', (according to rules etc.), 'Vidhi- prasanga', 'Vidhi-yajna' (a sacrifice performed according to rules, as referred to by Pujya Shree Mota also) 'Vidhi-yoga' (the observance of a rule), 'Vidhivat', 'Vidhi-vichar', etc. are easily understood.

**Vidhana** means disposing or arranging, regulating, etc.

It also means acting, performing, possessing, having, etc. Other meanings applicable are order, measure, disposition, arrangement, regulation, rule, precept, method, manner, etc. as in the word 'Vidhi'.

The word 'Sankhya-Vidhanat' means according to mathematical method, or mathematically. Also, 'Desa-kala vidhanena' means 'in the right place and at the right time'; medical prescription or regulation, diet, face, desitny, etc. It also means taking measures, contriving managing, a means, expedient, creating, creation, execution or setting up e.g. a machine; making, doing, accomplishing, etc. enumeration, statement of particulars (details, etc.) Conflict of different feelings, occasion for joy and sorrow; affixing, prefixing, taking as an affix, etc. An elephant's toddler, wealth, wages, sending; act of hostility, etc. The meanings given here in the previous paragraph are to be noted, as applicable.

**Lagna**, according to Sir M. Monier-Williams, means adhered, adhering or clinging to, attached to, sticking to, remaining in, fixed on, intent on, clasping, touching, following closely. It also means one who has penetrated the heart; one who has entered on a course of action. It's a union, interesection, meeting, and cutting of two lines, etc. It means the point of contact to used with words like 'subha', 'anukula',

'mangala' etc. it suggests an auspicious moment or time fixed upon as lucky for beginning to perform anything; the decisive moment or time for action.

Other Sanskrit words used with 'lagna' are 'lagna-kala', 'lagna-graha', 'lagna-darpana', 'lagna-divasa(dina)', 'lagna-devi', 'lagna-nakshatra', 'lagna-patrika', 'lagna-mandala', 'lagna-muhurta', 'lagna-masa', 'lagna-vela', 'lagna-samaya', etc. The word 'lagna' has various important connotations also as used in Indian astrological science.

**Mangala** – Pujya Mota has composed various 'mangalashtaka' verses in Guajrati. They are all compositions of rare beauty mixed with deep feeling, divinely inspired to bless the couples whose wedding ceremony he himself performed. Blessed were they all—some are still alive and very happy. The translator has omitted their names. The editor supports the practice too.

The word 'mangala' is both noun and adjective in Sanskrit and in many Indian languages. It is also the name of the planet Mars. Of the many many meanings applicable to this word, we include only the following: Making happiness, felicity, welfare, bliss, etc. It implies anything auspicious or tending to a lucky issue, e.g. a good omen, a prayer, a benediction, auspicious ornament, gem or amulet, etc. It also means the smell of jasmine; of 'durva' grass'; of turmeric, a faithful wife. The general meanings applicable are AUSPICIOUS, LUCKY, and having the jasmine-scent, etc.

There is a long list of words used along with 'Mangala'. The term 'mangalashtaka' is used for a form of poetry, usually in eight lines or eight stanzas, sung by the priest performing a wedding ceremony conveying blessings to the newly wedded couple. 'Mangala charan' is also a form of verses written at the commencement of a book or a project to be undertaken. It is a form of prayer invoking God's blessing. 'Mangal fera' as used in Gujarati means the seven rounds the newly

wedded couple go around the holy fire. It means the completion of the ceremony. We have words like 'mangal murti' and 'mangal sutra', etc. also associated with the Hindu wedding ceremony, as a vital component. There is also a 'mangala kalasha' an ornament, a 'ghata', or earthen vessel, pot or metal utensil of that shape, etc. We also hear words like 'mangal dhvani' in association with temples, etc. where the pooja ceremony is strictly performed, observing the rituals. Similar words are 'Mangal devata', 'Mangal dwara' (door, entrance, etc.) The word 'Mangal prada' means bestowing joy or welfare, happiness, etc. Turmeric or 'Haldi' is said to be 'mangal prada' and is compulsorily used as a paste before bath for the bride as well as the bridegroom proceeding for the wedding ceremony. 'Mangal sabda' is the auspicious word. 'Mangal sutra' (repeat) is a lucky thread or the auspicious marriage thread tied by the bridegroom round the bride's neck, and worn as long as the husband lives. Its absence means the woman is a widow (old-time belief). 'Mangalakshata' are rice cast upon people attending a wedding, a pooja, 'aarti', etc. by Brahmins in bestowing blessings. 'Mangalarambha' means an auspicious beginning. 'Mangalvasa' means an auspicious dwelling, etc. 'Mangalya' means auspicious welfare, bringing happiness, etc. Even such good things must have an end.

To conclude, 'Mangalam bhavatu' (Be it all auspicious). 'Kuryat Sada mangalam' (Be it always auspicious). And the best is our prayer to Lord Vishnu, where the word 'mangala' is used four times:

मंगलम् भगवान् विष्णु, मंगलम् गरुडध्वज ।

मंगलम् पूंडरिकाक्ष, मंगलायतनो हरिः ॥

So the note that starts with 'mangala', like this verse, also ends with 'Hari' which occurs in Pujya Mota's mahamantra 'Hari: Om'.

Hari Om

## HERACLITUS ON FIRE

Before, reading Pujya Shri Mota's book 'Vidhi Vidhan' from original Gujarati as translated into English, let us first understand the significance of fire.

According to the Greek philosopher Heraclitus, all things and beings originate from fire and in the end return to fire, and change is the only truth or principle of being. And change also means death. According to Sri Aurobindo death is only a change from one stage of life to another which Pujya Mota endorses fully. Death is never a full stop. According to Shri Mota fire is a great power. According to modern scientists fire is the greatest source of energy - for example the solar energy. Hence the worship of the Sun assumes great importance in our religion.

All human activity is done in the presence of the Sun - after Sun rise and before Sun - set.

Now to the main question - why are all our rituals and ceremonies - done in the presence of fire? or why are they done keeping fire as a sacred, divine witness?

The Parsees in their worship of fire God understood its significance to an extent.

Now the Soul is nothing but a combination of two elements - fire and ether or space.

Fire when ignited comes from space and then returns to space. Fire can never be stored or held without a purpose. It then becomes an agent of destruction. Fire is called down from space for a purpose.

**The flame of a fire points upward only. It can never point downward.** This shows fire dwells only in space and nowhere else. All other elements can be held or contained but not fire. **Fire and soul are never subject to gravity.**

Now the soul is of the nature of fire. It combines heat and light. Every living being has a temperature, but a dead body has none. Often when the soul leaves the body of a highly evolved person it is seen for a moment as a small fire, as if a burning wick has come out of that body. And that fire is more Golden in colour.

The dwelling place of the Soul is space. It comes from space and returns to space in the end. It cannot be held or contained - cannot be tied or imprisoned by any human means. The soul pervades the space of the entire Cosmos.

***Pujya Shri Mota knew and believed that marriage is of two souls and not of two bodies.*** Therefore our ancients with full knowledge evolved marriage ceremonies to be conducted in the presence of and witnessed by fire God.

Fire is not just one of the elements - like the Sun it is considered a lower God. Hence the words - Surya Devata, Agni Devata - have significance. The lamp-lighting ceremony before the commencement of public meetings, inauguration ceremonies, dance programs, seminars, conferences, etc. is thus a vital part of our cultural activities. It is an invocation to the God of fire and of light, etc.

Now to the business of actual translation of all the rituals and ceremonies.

## **HINTS FOR ONE WHO OFFICIATES AS A PRIEST IN THE RITUALS**

Since these rituals are composed by Shri Mota and we are adopting them - the performer of the rituals must have the image of Shri Mota before him firmly believing him to be present in spirit and uttering “Hari Om” three times, calling down his consciousness. Let him thus commence the rituals This will invoke his blessings.

Whenever a fire is to be lit the performer should recite the prayer for igniting the fire.

The officiating priest should believe himself to be a humble servant and instrument of Shri Mota and invoke his grace and power. Thus the fire god is invoked!

Hari Om

### **A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR (As in the original Gujarati Edition)**

Shri Mota has given a go by to the old routine of propitiating nine planets (Graha Shanti) and has given a new meaning to it (Griha Shanti) propitiating the Home Gods, for peace at home, for maintenance of harmony and unity among the home members and has explained the significance of it in eleven stanzas. He would often repeat that during war there should be peace and harmony and unity on the home front at any cost. So also after marriage there should be peace, harmony and unity in the family at any cost, making every adjustment and sacrifice for it. This is particularly seen in Indian joint families.



Hari Om

## **PUBLISHER'S INTRODUCTION**

**(From the original Gujarati Edition)**

In believing that whatever the officiating priest does is right and according to scriptural injunctions, following them blindly, and in doing what is told mechanically, certain pronouncements of words being not correct and without our understanding their inner meaning and significance, and by repeating the words of the priest parrot like, the rituals lose the effect they should have on the follower - this is done in case of marriage, laying the foundation stone of a house, investiture of thread ceremony and house warming ceremonies, etc.

Pujya Shri Mota took a bold and new step and introduced innovative rituals with the idea that the priest, the doer of rituals and the general public attending the ceremony do understand the meaning and significance of it all. The main purpose of it all is to inculcate and infuse virtue and true feeling (Guna and Bhava) into the listeners and the good qualities may be imbibed by those attending. And Shri Mota's rituals are all as per scriptural injunctions and yet the expenditure involved is less than when done by the practising professional priests in Sanskrit.

There are three-fold benefits in this method. First the priest, the performer of the rituals and the general public partake in it and understand the meaning, secondly it is all done with understanding, consciously; and thirdly, it does away with the heavy cost of ritualism. All this is no mean achievement. And the society is greatly benefited. The anthology of these rituals was done by Rama Kant Joshi. And our gratitude to Hari Om Satsang Mandal and Hari Om Ashram Nadiad for their joint, collective efforts in bringing out this collection of rituals.

Hari Om

## **PUJYA MOTA'S METHOD OF KARMA PUJYA MOTA'S KARMA YOGA**

Shri Mota accepted all facets of life, all aspects of life, and every work that comes to him without his asking or making any effort for it as a means of spiritual advance. This was an admirable, noble trait of his personality.

After the great experience of being omni-present everywhere and his final liberation - Mukta stage - his new divine life for welfare of man began. He had become a perfect being, a free being and an adept, fit to guide humanity to God. He appeared to all as a down to earth common man. Many were drawn to his vast, crystal being, he could see through and understand their inner beings. And people all believed that 'Mota' belonged to them, was theirs wholly. And through this oneness of heart, he could sow into their hearts the seeds of divine aspirations.

Sri Mota worked upon and through human nature and that human nature could not remain static after his psychic touch but underwent a great change and transformation which was primary to bring a new awareness in life and getting great help from Mota in his (aspirant's) life and effort the latter could take great strides in his Godward journey. Why should such an adept create these rituals then?

His main purpose was spiritual development of the aspirant in all this ritualistic creation. Let us understand the external importance of these rituals.

These rituals are in simple Gujarati which even a common man can understand in the original.

1) The original Sanskrit being too terse for the common man the urge to follow the instructions was lost. These are written in simple poetry in anushtoop meter. So the common man can grasp the true meaning and be motivated to apply it in life also.

2) In every ritual the visitors, friends and relatives have to chant these verses together and this togetherness gives a feeling of company, oneness, a sense of support. One experiences satisfaction, having taken a rightful part in the auspicious event. Each man gets a fillip on the spiritual path, as each aspect is jointly sung on the same emotional plane. The emotions go in deeply into the being of the partakers and effect a subtle touch on the being. Consciously one is spiritually truly benefited. Uttering the mantra orally, loudly the atmosphere is surcharged with good vibrations. All the beings uttering the words in unison, their minds are totally focussed on the emotion of the ritual and so nothing is done haphazardly, the mind does not stray or wander. The result being the consciousness of the adept sends deep vibrations into the concentrating aspirant and establishes a form of spiritual edifice. Such are the spiritual aims behind group singing and chanting.

The underlying questions behind these rituals that we should imbibe and adopt are clearly explained. For this it is important that while the chanting is going on, our attention should simultaneously be focussed on the meaning of the ritual. By imbibing the meaning of these words the emotion or the feeling underlying the word becomes alive or vibrant in our being. Shri Mota has also made clear that during our day-to-day living certain qualities of life should be our attitude and how the inner virtue and goodness are to be cultivated.

3) The first prime governing principle in this ritual or every ceremony is the inculcation of virtue and goodness and their growth and development and fruition.

4) With the result that these ritualistic prayers are not routine, lifeless emotions gone through merely for the sake of doing, but it is a great inspiring power to help us traverse the spiritual path. With this awakened consciousness these cultural rituals, these appropriate daily prayers should be done. It must be kept well in mind.

In our lives many such periods and phases occur in which these cultural rituals give us a push and a fillip towards higher evolution. The way Shri Mota has innovated these rituals and given it a new shape with love and feeling is a great debt of gratitude on the society, a great blessing conferred on us. All our rituals have become a prestigious obligation meant for a show-off, a kind of enjoyment without meaning. Even the ritualistic priests have acknowledged the superiority of Mota's innovative system which is a good sign of progressive movement towards evolution.

5) In all rituals except the ritual of foundation-stone-laying a fire has to be lit and after appropriate mantra chantings, oblations are offered to the fire. Shri Mota has explained in marriage ceremony the implications of the fire or sacrificial pit and the significance behind the igniting of the sacrificial fire. We have to keep that feeling in mind. In any ritual the acts and the articles are all symbolic. The meaning behind each act and the feeling or emotion is alone important as also the urge and resolution to live according to the injunction of the ritual. That is the

significance and inner meaning of each ceremony. Only by understanding the core of anything can we know life. That is the refrain of all Mota's teaching. In life hurdles, obstacles, difficulties, calamities, sorrow, adversities are all bound to come. At that time to remain in touch with the Divine as per the guidance of a liberated soul through his mantras or words of prayer, is an experiment worth doing and the results worth experiencing. Experiment to know the truth.

6) Shri Mota has not written these rituals on his own, but with valid reasons as demanded by circumstances. Positive definite causes have given rise to these rituals. And these causes for a liberated soul are all subtle and difficult for the normal human mind to comprehend. Whenever and wherever he had to attend a function he composed the ritual impromptu. It is advisable for the student of these rituals to read his book 'Nimitta'(Instrument). 'Nimitta' is not merely a cause but also the need of the society and the individual wherein he becomes the agent - instrument because of some fast link between soul and soul.

In religious spiritual life these rituals play an important role and are therefore necessary. During the early days of 'Silence-rooms' known as 'Maun-Mandir' Pujya Shri Mota used to perform certain rituals for those entering the 'Mouna' or the 'Solitary' rooms. At a later stage his omnipotence used to work silently and subtly. He has stated somewhere that our remembering him is also the result of that ritual performed by him Silently. And those who came into contact with him personally have been drawn to him and by him in a very subtle way, by his 'agency'

or 'Nimitta' at work. It is only through his active silent working that we are able to contact his inner psychic being through these various rituals, prayers, which are effective and result-inspiring, and very convenient and handy in use which is all due to his selfless grace.

7) While performing any ritual, in our over-enthusiasm if we commit any mistake there is no need to have any fear or regret. The original priests frightened us with dire consequences if we made a small mistake only with a view that our whole attention be focussed on the ritual that we perform with belief. But in Pujya Mota's ritual the actual ritual is symbolic. The real feeling or emotion behind the ritual alone is of real importance. Therefore it is necessary to see that superficial utterance of the words does not take place. That our lives may be lived according to the feeling or emotion in the prayer, it should be our endeavour to keep alive in our heart that awareness. It is very necessary that the inner emotion or true feeling of these rituals is inculcated in us or imbibed by us in our mind heart and soul wholly.

Ahmedabad  
06-07-1982

**– Ramakant Joshi**

Hari Om

## **LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE**

### **List of Articles required**

- 1) Five types of Gems :  
Diamond, Emerald, Ruby, Sapphire, Pearl
- 2) Seven types of metals :  
Gold, Silver, Copper, Brass, Iron, Tin and Aluminium
- 3) Seven types of grains :  
Wheat, Rice, Millet (bajra), Gram (Pulse), Green Gram, White Gram, Barley (Jav)
- 4) A pit of 24 x 24 x 24 or if it is a cistern 30 x 30 x 30
- 5) Books with God's names handwritten, prayer books to Mother Earth
- 6) Betel Leaves 10, betel nuts 10, white and yellow thread(nadachhedi), Rice, Vermillion wet, Sandal Wood, Panchamrit - mixture of milk, curd, sugar, honey, ghee; jaggery and coriandel seeds, some flowers and one lamp with wick and ghee
- 7) Copper Coins without holes, a spade, three small benches, 'patla' a low flat wooden seat, three small cotton mats/ carpets
- 8) Burnt Bricks
- 9) A small pot with a lid and a small cloth to tie round the opening
- 10) Water to pour into the pit to be dug in the earth, 2 buckets, 2 napkins and some dug-out earth
- 11) A large canopy so that many can sit underneath and if the attendance is large also arrange for a loud speaker, etc.

### **ACTUAL CEREMONY OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE**

- 1) Om Kesavaye Namah, Om Narayanaye Namch, Om Madhavaye Namah - with this mantra, take a little water in your right hand and drink it gently and after Om Govindaye Namah, wash your hands.
- 2) Om Bhumiye Namah - pour a little panchamrit into the pit.  
Om Bhumiye Namah - sprinkle a few drops of sandal water.  
Om Bhumiye Namah - apply wet vermilion as a dot to the pit (kumkum tilak).  
Om Bhumiye Namah - scatter a few rice grains into the pit.  
Om Bhumiye Namah - scatter a few flowers into the pit.
- 3) Put a few books with God's names and a prayer book into the pot. Thereafter ask the relatives present to put the various grains into the pot.
- 4) Thereafter ask the main person, the house holder to place the metals and gems in the pot.
- 5) After that draw a swastik on the betel leaves, place the betel nuts on them, after placing vermilion, rice grains and flowers on them offer worship to Lord Ganesh, then place all that in the pot. Then a lady should carry the pot and place it in the pit.
- 6) Then light the lamp, put it in the pot, close the lid of the pot. Thereafter place five bricks over the pot in the formation 2+1+2. Then tie the yellow and red thread over the pot and bricks. All those present should fill the pit with mud. Thereafter the vastu ritual is to be performed.



## PRAYER TO THE MOTHER EARTH

Mother Earth, we all who are born through Thee,  
Mother Earth, We live our lives desiring our wellbeing,  
Mother Earth, how full and rich have you made our lives,  
Mother Earth, take us into Thy fold and keep us safe  
in Thy Earthen bed.

Mother Earth, we adore Thee and bow to thee  
again and again

Mother Earth, we pray unto Thee from the heart  
“Keep us on the path, with love”.

I have wronged/hurt Thee by the innumerable  
touches of my feet

I have even stamped my feet on Thee, yet you never  
were angry

Giving you just a grain, you return it to us manifold.

So, generous Thou Mother, ever nurture and rear  
us with love,

We live by Thee, yet we never remember Thee,

We are so ungrateful, yet Mother do forgive us,

For the welfare of all beings now upon you

We lay the foundation stone, praying to you from  
the heart,

Thou so full of juices and nectar of various types,

Create in us, Mother, that nectar of love in our heart

May those who dwell in this house enjoy peace and plenty,

Beloved Mother inspire them to work for the welfare of all.

## **PRAYERS FOR AN AUSPICIOUS FOUNDATION STONE-LAYING CEREMONY**

For auspicious wellbeing, to Lord of all victory and success,  
We pray into this pit for His advent, at His feet,  
Worshipping also Varah, Kurma, side by side from  
our heart,

May the advent of these Gods too grace this function.

While engaging in life's activities that falls to our  
lot, if any obstacles, hurdles arise,

Incident to these then may we gain deliverance from  
all these,

In these activities may our path be smooth and straight,

Let our heart be ever pure and holy wholly, pray

Grant us smooth sailing in our life's actions,

So they may be completed to fruition in

the best possible way.

'Importance to action alone, with its due appropriateness

May be our aim', we pray at your feet.

Let not selfish thoughts/thoughts of self only

take hold of our minds,

May all be happy, good come to all, inspire us

with this noble thought.

May our actions be performed with due appropriateness,

May the power and help of these Gods be vouchsafed to

us, is our prayer.

**AUSPICIOUS INVOCATION  
AT THE LAYING OF A FOUNDATION STONE**

The day dawns when the dream we had has taken shape,  
For ten long years it lay buried deep in a heap of obstacles,  
No, no it was just not merely a dream but a great resolve,  
Of our God himself, how then can it remain unfulfilled?  
They were not external obstacles of  
  outward circumstances,  
Neither divine nor human calamities blocked it, truly,  
Neither fate nor time contrived to stop it,  
Only the house hold members stood out in our way,  
What rituals do we perform to Him,  
  who is the Lord and Creator?  
What can time and place do to the Lord - God, the Creator?  
What ever was to happen you did permit with Joy, Ananda,  
Then endured with delight all the shocks of these dear ones.  
To attain which every soul yearns at heart,  
To remain in that condition for ever, to merge  
Into whom and walk along with the path of life,  
But Nature throws many hurdles in his way.  
What a divine game, sport hast Thou created !  
Who can know Thee O Lord ?

Yet Thou out of Thy grace hast Thou cleared all  
obstacles,

And made smooth our journey to Thy self,

You had nought else to do in this matter

After the lapse of eleven years our life has become  
blessed indeed.

Yet out of compassion for these souls, Thou

Hast offered Thy whole life for Thy dear ones

in this sacrificial fire.

Yet these men have thrown in challenges to thwart Thee.

Yet out of Thy generosity Thou hast endured all in  
fulfilment of our resolve,

Working hard all the time what grace is it to meet  
with this success?

We bow to you a million times to forgive us wholly

Whatever we have done knowingly or unknowingly, Lord

Forget and forgive and turn our weak human nature  
to Divine

There is no material gain offered in Thy bargain

But whosoever comes to thy divine trading house  
shall attain all, all-in-all.

That which cannot be got with or without paying the price,

Can be attained through Thee; I bow to Thee

again and again , O Lord.

**VASTU OR GRIHA PRAVESH**  
**Pooja to be performed while entering**  
**a newly built house**  
**House Warming / A new house Entry**

**List of Articles required**

- 1) Iron fire pit - 16" x 16" x 16" inlaid with white washed bricks.
- 2) Small fire sticks of wood about five kgs or so.
- 3) 12 pieces of Camphor.
- 4) Hot Ghee 125 grams, in liquid form.
- 5) 1 Match box, one local hand fan.
- 6) Sesame seeds, 100 grams, Barley 100 grams (Jav) (In case the house is haunted use black sesame).
- 7) One coconut with fibres but with water inside.
- 8) Long cotton wicks dipped in ghee.
- 9) Sofa, Chair with handle for Shri Mota.
- 10) Rice grains, Vermillion, Red and Yellow thread (Nada Chadi), betel leaves, betel nuts.
- 11) A little sandalwood paste, four low benches (Patla), One garland of beads, 109 beads.
- 12) Flowers, coriandel seeds, jaggery, cotton carpets 4 for placing on low stools (patla),
- 13) To recollect seven generations of fore fathers - write names on a piece of paper - Prayer for igniting fire, oblation mantra to be chanted after remembering

each ancestor, Griha Pravesh - House Warming prayers, Aarti - (Books to be procured from Hari Om Ashram).

- 14) An open cup (bowl, vatko) and spoon for ghee.
- 15) Wet kum-kum or vermilion.
- 16) A large tray,
- 17) One big lota or jug of water - 2 napkins,
- 18) One stick (wooden) about a foot high for sticking into the ground tied with Red, Yellow, White thread,
- 19) The officiating priest's bench facing south, the house owners' facing east,
- 20) Ten types of wood main among them from mango and peepul trees,
- 21) Cow dung cakes (dried) about 2 kgs. In south east direction plant the stick and Mindhad fruit. There should be minmum smoke, use small dry sticks for fire.

### SOME INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Acharya's seat should be the south facing,
- 2) The householder's seat should be east facing. Others should sit around them facing the Acharya,
- 3) Apply vermillion to Acharya's forehead,
- 4) The others who sit with the house-holder should apply vermillion on each others' forehead and tie the sacred red and yellow thread on their right hand,
- 5) Place betel leaves and nuts on the fire pit, invoke the presence of Lord Ganesh or Ganapathi. Then worship him with vermillion, rice and flowers,
- 6) Offer worship to the fire pit,
- 7) Place cow dung dry cakes and remembering 7 ancestors place seven wicks in the pit,
- 8) Prayer to fire,
- 9) Prayer to ancestors - forefathers,
- 10) The purpose of vastu's sacrificial fire,
- 11) 108 + 1 for the centre head - total 109 oblations to be offered. Some one can keep count with the garland of heads,
- 12) Thereafter offer coconut in oblation. Place dried cow dung cakes on it. Thereafter offer 21 - 21 oblations,
- 13) Prayer for vastu or throwing open the premises, then opening ceremony or entering the house ceremony,
- 14) After all this distribute Jaggery and Coriandel seeds.

**PRAYER TO IGNITE A FIRE**

Agni/Fire is power true, Fire is light giving,  
Agni cleanses and purifies all beings,  
Fire's flames of love always rise upward,  
We learn from It to aspire and yearn to live high,  
The terrible/great power of agni is  
to awaken our beings within,  
The penance of fire has to be, must be performed/gone  
through to awaken us,  
To ignite Fire one must get Fire or have Fire,  
That is true penance of life, Agni is the root penance.  
To ignite Fire within, real penance is truly necessary,  
We must ignite this Fire of yearning again and again,  
And through the fierce power of Agni enter within  
Therefore to be established in self through Fire,  
I ignite this Fire in the presence of all here.



**OFFERING OBLATIONS**

In the end offering oblations for peace and  
well being of all,

With deep feeling I offer these oblations, pray accept It.

(uttering this mantra 21 times offer a coconut to the Fire  
God and utter the prayer given below)

To be free of all evil we pray to Thee O Lord

Deep from the heart, offering oblations.

Hari Om

**THE FAMILY'S DAILY PRAYER**

(This prayer is also offered at the time of vastu or house warming ceremony)

Lord ! The knower of All, Lord the giver of All,

Lord ! The doer of world deeds, again Thou,  
the protector of this world

Lord ! Thou the giver of all strength

Pray do come and dwell in this our home 1

Having dreamed and worked so hard,

Having thought and planned how to give it shape,

We so assiduously have done all this,

Now condescend by Thy Grace to enter this our home 2

Lord ! May Thy will prevail everywhere,

May only Thy desire ever work here,

May Thy vibrations spread all around,

Thus make us truly blessed for ever 3

In our home may Thy Lamp of Love,

Ever shine on us brightly, O Sire,

May every nook and corner be fully illumined,

By its presence dispel all old darkness of ignorance 4

Let our home be full of harmony, unity and grace,

And happiness, plenty and ease, O sire,

Let our home give out to all,

A spark of delight and Joy 5

Let even the most base, fallen sinner,

Entering our home, become pure and holy,

May all his evil and dross fall away

Let our home be such an ideal one. 6

May our home be a centre of awareness and prayer, Again may it be a temple of love and devotion, Pity and compassion dwell here for ever, May it be the best home for piety and godliness	7
Let not sorrow, disease or suffering or worry, Dwell ever in this our home, Ever may feelings of delight, free of care, Flow out from our home, O Lord	8
To Relations, friends and other near ones, May our home be a house of love, Those who dwell or take shelter in our home, May they be happy, joyous with God's Grace	9
Here let there be no discords or misunderstandings, Let there be no sorrow or affliction, By Thy Grace may there be always, Compatability and tolerance in all, for all	10
May Thy Light emit only bright rays, May Thy emissaries divine enter our home, May Thy divine flowers blossom here May only good, peaceful days pass here.	11
In this our new home give us, Thy Love and an honourable purpose to live by, Sweeping clean this Thy Home, keeping, It clean and tidy stay here for ever and ever	12
In our new home, by Lord's Grace, May what is true and good ever occur, May our thoughts be high and noble, Ever going upward, Godward by Thy Grace	13
Giving us farsight, O Lord, on us Ever bestowing peace and patience, Keeping us steadfast in our new home, May you help us ever to appease and please you	14

Hari Om

## **CEREMONY FOR INVESTITURE OF SACRED THREAD FOR YOUNG BOYS**

All articles needed for a marriage are used here except the fruit mindhan; a dandha or stick and a piece of cloth for the little boy. A small packet tied to the top of the stick containing a book and a laddu or a ball of wheat flour.

### **PRAYER TO IGNITE A FIRE**

Fire is a power indeed, giver of all light,	
Fire cleanses and purifies all so thoroughly.	1
The flame of the fire of love points ever upward,	
Let our hearts be ever fixed to aim higher and higher.	2
To awaken the great power of fire in us,	
Fiery penance in life is inelectable, is necessary	3
Igniting the fire of burning aspiration again and again,	
May we enter the Heart of Self though	
the leaping flame	4
Lighting this fire to be firmly established in life,	
I do so with deep feeling in the presence of all here.	5

### **OFFERING OBLATIONS WITH MANTRA**

We pray from our heart may our life,	
mind and body be purified,	
We offer oblations with this motive -	
may our heart be gladdened.	

**PARENTS' CALL TO THE CHILD  
TO AWAKEN TO NEW LIFE**

We reared you so may you tread a new path in life	
We now release you so you may learn	
a new art of living.	1
To learn, acquire knowledge and training,	
You are now entering a new path shown by Guru.	2
‘One who is not alive, awake, gets nothing worthwhile’.	
To thus prepare thee in life is this beautiful	
function arranged.	3
Ever dedicated and assiduous to be in thy undertaking	
Be awake always at heart, keeping thy aim before thee.	4
Work is neither big nor small, but to keep alive	
The urge to do it perfectly is of utmost importance.	5
Obstacles, difficulties, suffering you will confront ever,	
But with redoubled courage walk through them all	6
Be beaten by nothing/refusing to be defeated,	
win over all hostile forces and move on,	
Adjusting thyself with all be undivided at heart,	
one pointed.	7
Let not thy mind wander or stray from thy purpose,	
Ever focussed on thy goal, keeping it in front, in view,	
remaining, determined, move on.	8
Care for whatever you undertake deeply,	
Ever concentrated in your self learn all you have to.	9



**HINTS TO THE CHILD INVESTED WITH THE SACRED THREAD/  
TO THE NEWLY INITIATED**

- The end of childhood marks a new phase in life,  
For learning it is the best period in life. 19
- With childhood passed, a new phase in life begins,  
It is the best period for learning and study. 19
- How profoundly important in life is this great  
investiture ceremony!  
It is not a unit of threads alone,  
but a symbol of the Truth. 20
- In these three threads is contained the whole Universe,  
To inspire thee with this knowledge and set you free  
is its purpose. 21
- Birth, life and death is the cycle in eternity  
To awaken you from the cyclic bond is the aim  
of this ceremony. 22
- To be born to some parents, to become parents in your turn  
To be free of this blindness of life enter into  
this knowledge 23
- The sun shines only to illumine this world  
So may the Lord make thy intelligence, pure,  
refined, subtle and bright 24
- Thou doth encompasseth the whole universe and  
earth and make him aware of the best in life to choose!  
Teach, guide him who is ripe to turn to Thee 25
- What illumines is Knowledge, To gain it all,  
We take large strides with zeal along the path 26
- This ceremony is truly a principle of knowledge,  
Always to keep you alert it acts as a great  
sacrificial fire on thy way 27

**Rites and Rituals****39**

Dedication, enthusiasm, eagerness, courage,  
strength and bravery,  
For cultivation of these virtues is a regular activity of  
this study 28

This ceremony is to equip your life with means true,  
The aim of this investiture is to master  
this sea of knowledge 29

Peace, solitude, concentration, atmosphere harmonious  
with Being,  
Inspiring our hearts deeply, all prod us on to  
a herculean effort 30

This sacrificial fire is to make us more bright, intelligent,  
Without intelligence enlightened knowledge  
can never be obtained. 31

That which liberates us is true knowledge,  
To get at that knowledge take strides with longing 32

Without respectful humility manifesting,  
Knowledge never sprouts within,  
we learn it from this sacrifice 33

The long stick we hold is necessary in this world,  
This stick is just a symbol of knowledge  
to be acquired. 34



Hari Om

## **WHILE ADMITTING A CHILD TO SCHOOL**

This ceremony can be done at the time of the thread ceremony or even separately on the child's admission to school.

### **PRAYER TO IGNITE FIRE**

Fire is truly a power, Fire gives us Light  
 Fire's flames of Love rise always higher and higher  
 Let us learn from Fire to think and aim high  
 Penance of Fire is necessary in life  
 To awaken the terrible power in our heart  
 To light Fire we must have fire  
 That is the real penance, the penance of Fire  
 To light Fire Penance in life is inevitable.  
 Awakening the Fire of aspiration over and over  
 We can enter into the self of Being  
 To be established in self of being through Fire  
 I light this sacred Fire in presence of all here.

### **MANTRA OF OFFERING OBLATION**

We pray from our heart for purification of  
 Life, Mind, Body and Intelligence  
 With this aim we offer oblations, May our heart be gladdened.

(After this place some colourful grains of rice and sandal-wood paste on the tonsured head of the child at the spot of the small pigtail.)

Hari Om

## RITUALS OF INCULCATING VALUE-EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Virtue and Goodness derive their prime force from culture	1
How men's beings are moulded by culture.	1
Culture/virtue depends not merely on individuals Its main support is in the centre of society's thought/ working?	2
The child's moral fibre comes from his heritage, birth From its nurture, breed and upbringing.	3
Infusing virtue and morality is a great sacrificial duty But no one is conscious about its sacred importance..	4
The child learns by contact and study/learning Contact with various/different beings teaches him different/many things.	5
Thus is his learning acquired To teach/impart what is best for his training and his moulding.	6
A living awareness in his tutors alone can alone achieve this faithfully Beautiful and great culture aspire to implant in him.	7
Behave with child with all love for him How the child follows you in every way ! His behaviour is moulded by whatever he observes.	8
The child's character is formed even while in the womb Yet it becomes active only on world's contact	

- and impact on him. 9
- So if you desire at heart to impart/implant a particular  
quality to/in the child
- Then create for the child the pure atmosphere  
conducive to that quality. 10
- Never command nor order the child to do anything  
Nor pinprick him nor find fault with him for anything. 11
- How great is the child's grasping power  
He imbibes without our knowing all our qualities  
good and bad. 12
- He learns from us many undesirable qualities  
We have no knowledge of anykind in this regard. 13
- 'Our child should be the best in every way in this world'  
We desire so much, yet our behaviour  
undoes our desire. 14
- The child absorbs all our being's thoughts thoroughly  
Knowing this well we should regulate  
our behaviour accordingly. 15
- Who acquires skill in the art of child's education  
to mould his being
- He truly reaps great benefit in life. 16
- A child is a great gift of God's love  
None has a right to spoil or ruin its life. 17
- But some parents pamper their children's false pride  
And petting them abnormally they unduly  
enjoy themselves. 18
- The future of this entire country is in our hands  
The country will become what the child will be  
in future. 19
- The child is the foundation of our whole life

We cannot over emphasise the care we should take of our children.	20
The value and importance that we give to various aspects of this great work will determine	
The quantum of the child's progress.	21
If you desire whatever qualities he should imbibe Teach/Train the child to live and act those qualities.	22
The child is cast in our mould or nature in life What we are in life the child is its living image.	23
What you desire the child to do in life By living that yourself set a living example to him.	24
Like a blotter sucking out ink, the child sucks all Yet no one is aware of how he does all that.	25
The behaviour a child observes in life Sends its own signals/impressions of culture automatically into his being.	26
Fulfil child's requests with love in every way This may look improper to you, but it is not so.	27
Love it with all your heart, giving your whole love to it Giving your heart and love he is gently moulded.	28
The Creator, the Lord of life, who is the giver of life The real knowledge of that Lord should be inculcated in the child.	29
With Love and Devotion to that Lord in your heart Create such an atmosphere for the child's learning.	30
'How best to train and mould the child' who creates a learning awareness in his being He alone can truly rear and mould the child.	31
The child is God himself' keeping that feeling alive in the heart	
Play with the child intending to implant divinity in him.	32

Hari Om

## **‘VIVAH’ THE WEDDING CEREMONY OR ENGAGEMENT/RING CEREMONY**

To day you enter a new phase of life, The first ritual for this is being performed now.	1
To day is the glorious day of founding A new life in this world together.	2
In the presence of all elders, with their good wishes The auspicious ‘vivah’ ritual with due affection is performed.	3
To be one in heart and soul from now on In life’s every event with graceful ease is its main aim.	4
In each other’s companionship, one in heart Together to live and work this new stage of life is here.	5
Knowing each other’s nature, understanding each other Both must have sympathetic love for each other.	6
This is the occasion glorious to understand Each other’s traits and attitude to life.	7
Before actual marriage this is the Occasion to know and understand each other.	8
Why have we met in life or come together This is the occasion to know.	9
This is the occasion to have mutual Feelings of love for each others’ families.	10
This is the first step in commencing To maintain and develop our culture and heritage.	11
To be always happy be your firm determination, Sorrow and happiness are your choices.	12

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The Pre-wedding ceremony occurs long before the real wedding in general.

**Rites and Rituals** **45**

To have harmony in life renounce, sink all differences,  
To be mutually happy learn to renounce,  
  give up for the other. 13

In each other's Sorrow and Joy be you a partner in life,  
This is the key to eternal happiness,  
  you will forever be happy. 14

To become one at heart though you are two,  
This is the glorious occasion of developing  
  loving unity in diversity. 15

May the heart-felt blessings of all elders be upon  
  you both  
Is my prayer of love at the feet of my Lord. 16

**A ceremony performed under a canopy of cotton  
for relatives to meet, after digging in  
a small pillar, inviting them to bless the house.**

**The commencement ceremony before wedding proper for  
this canopy for relatives assembled below**

As the small pillar is fixed in the ground  
So should our lives' deep feelings  
  be fixed in each heart. 1

Our harmony, fraternity, cooperation in every way  
Among all relatives, dear ones,  
  for ever may remain in our hearts. 2

May our dealing with our near and dear ones  
Run smoothly with mutual love and respect. 3

If any occasion arise we have to give up/forbear  
  or forgo anything  
Let us so endure for others unhesitatingly. 4

Even if some injustice is done to us by someone	
Let us act justly and equitably with all.	5
May we ever be helpful and useful to all,	
Let our behaviour be such in our dealings so	
we are helpful to all.	6
May we never have any hatred for any one	
Nor may we harbour any disliking for any one.	7
This canopy or structure ceremony is an example	
Of how to have smooth dealings with all.	8

### **MANTRA FOR OBLATION**

Joy, happiness, peace and delight to awaken  
In our hearts, we pray offering oblations here.

### **MANTRA FOR FINAL YAGNA OFFERING**

This final offering with heart's whole love we make  
We pray with our whole being, let us ever remain  
truthful to all.

### **PRAYER FOR PEACE AT HOME (A propitiation ceremony)**

To day's auspicious event is for all to participate and enjoy,	
May our joy and love sprout like a fountain.	1
For such feelings to sprout in our heart	
There must be peace, joy, delight in all of us.	2
Let there be no rift or break in our peace	
May our hearts be ever vigilant in this regard.	3
Let none be hurt by us even a whit inadvertently,	
May all be ever happy and pleased with	
our loving efforts!	4

<b>Rites and Rituals</b>	<b>47</b>
May peace and happiness of all be well maintained, May all be well taken care of by us towards that end.	5
May all be pleased and happy with our loving efforts, May we welcome with love all our near and dear ones.	6
May the atmospheres of today's gathering On this occasion be surcharged with joy.	7
Let us tie all the dear and loving ones Through a thread of unity so we may all be one.	8
Peaceful and happy may be all our guests at home On this occasion so may all have only joy, delight and ananda.	9
May our hearts take delight in according high respect to all, It is only to awaken in us this awareness this ceremony is performed.	10
This propitiation and prayer is wholly necessary for this alone, And we pray to all our guests and relations to reciprocate thus.	11

### **Articles required for the Ceremony**

- 1) An Iron fire pit 16" x 16" x 13" deep, use white washed bricks for placing inside.
- 2) Fire oven made of iron, local make, coking coals about 2 to 2.5 kgs.
- 3) Camphor about 12 tablets.
- 4) Mindam with yellow and red thread tied.
- 5) Hot ghee made from cow's milk, one match box, hand fan 1 number.
- 6) Sesame white 100 grams, Barley 100 grams.



- 7) One coconut with fibres but full of water.
- 8) Rice, Vermillion, soaked in water, white-yellow tied thread (nada chadi), two mindan fruits, betel nuts 10, betel leaves 10, a little sandal paste, mala /rosary of beads 109 in number including the top bead.
- 9) Sofa chairs with handles and stool for the officiating priest.
- 10) Coriandel seeds, jaggery, four cotton mats for sitting on to be placed on low wooden stools, 4 stools.
- 11) Spoon, a large steel cup, a large plate or tray.
- 12) Two napkins, one Jug or Lota of water.
- 13) MarriageSaptapadi prayer, Mangal Bhavana (prayer), Fire Lighting prayer, Advice of Parents, Vows of the Couple prayer.
- 14) Two garlands of flowers for the bride and the bridegroom.
- 15) The bride and the briderroom to sit facing the east, Acharya to sit facing the south, Bride's parents to sit west-facing, Bridegroom's parents to sit north-facing  
The commencement of the ceremony with priest's Pooja, Archana, lighting the small ghee lamp and bowing down with folded hands.

### **WEDDING CEREMONY PROPER**

Pujya Shri Mota has explained the symbolism behind the ceremony, behind the ritual like fire, vermilion, the yellow and red thread, before marriage and during the ceremony the deeper meaning and feeling of the sacredness of marriage, seven steps to the union, the circumambulation of the fire by the couple. He has made the hidden meanings of some of the verses very clear.

First there is the fire pit, 'Vedi' (here of iron), with four corners. The corners signify the four directions. On every corner is placed a betel leaf and on that leaf is placed a betel nut, which is the symbol Ganesh or Ganapathi. Then there is the Fire. How much important is the Fire? Fire is present everywhere. Fire is in air (Oxygen and Nitrogen), Fire is in water too (Hydrogen and Oxygen). There is Fire in the earth, (earth has life, gives birth to life). In light too is Fire, Light is Fire. There is Fire in the Sky, Lightnings bring fire, it is one with the Sky i.e. Space in a subtle form. There is Fire even in our bodies. Our ancestors discovered that Fire is a very useful element. Fire is life. Without Fire there can be no life on earth. That is why Fire is considered as God, a lower God, manifestation of power. Fire is power itself, an embodiment of that power.

So that must be kept burning to give us power and to keep it burning fuel must be constantly offered to it there, as vital oblations. What are the Oblations to be offered to the fire? Love, hate i.e. liking and disliking, anger, greed, lust, attachment, ego, desire and sloth, jealousy and envy offering these oblations, the fire within burns bright. Therefore keep offering these lower natures as thy oblations to keep the fire burning in all purity and brightness. Therefore have our scriptures underlined the importance of fire in our lives. Fire purifies man of all dross in his nature.

Now next in turn is the vermilion applied to our foreheads which is red in colour. Of what you eat a certain percentage is rejected by our intestines, our body and thrown out as waste. Only a small portion transforms into blood. Vermillion here symbolises blood it is a symbol of rejection of all dross in our bodies. Now rice is the symbol of effort or struggle. This is self evident. So life's success depends on

rejections of dross renunciation of undesirable and action i.e. courage and struggle. Success comes of this combination. Our ancients used these symbols to drive home this truth.

Then comes this red and yellow thread 'nada-chhadi' this made of a weak thread that breaks on a little pulling. You are tied with this thin fragile thread. In life many difficulties, many hurdles, many struggles, problems, sorrow, tangles, calamities, adversities come and you are bound by this thin fragile thread. It is not as if you alone have to face all these, everyone faces these hostile forces. But keep patient, have tolerance, maintain stoic silence in the face of all these, courage to battle them out. Keep peace in the face of all these provocations, else you will only have a life of quarrels and bickerings and such a life is no better than death. To live in the midst of this animosity and clash of minds, to have no faith in each other is a life without any charm or joy of life.

To bring down the fire, to light a fire we have to prepare a ground for it. (some stanzas in praise of fire are uttered here).

What is true life or living? How is it all described? Real life invites and inspires a revolution within (a total transformation). And a life of such revolution or transformation alone is real life and living.

How is marriage defined? Marriage is true elevation, sublimation and revolution in life, not merely to beget children but to rise and live on the higher plane of life, for evolution in life, to seek and find God. Marriage is meant for all that or to live for an ideal and die for that ideal. Marriage can be for that also. It is not for satisfaction of carnal desires. Our scriptures also say that, confirm all that. Marriage is to learn self control, to go beyond and above physical desires, to

rise above desire-self according to Sri Aurobindo.

### **REAL EMOTION IN MARRIAGE**

There are 14 stanzas to denote the emotions of marriage, even these are symbolic. There are 14 stages in life; some say there are seven; but I believe there are fourteen. I have therefore written 14 stanzas in anusthoop meter.

### **ROSE**

The rose is such a sweet, fragrant flower. Yet it has thorns below. We have to accept the flower with the thorns and endure the thorns too.

### **SAPTAPADI**

This ritual plays a big role in the marriage ceremony. Marriage is not solemnised unless Saptapadi is recited. The significance or the hidden meaning takes us from bottom upwards. The inner meaning of the Saptapadi slokas must be understood well.

### **CIRCUMAMBULATION**

The four circumambulations of Fire are symbols of Religion (duty towards God-in-man), making a livelihood, rearing a family and liberation leading eventually to Godhood, in Indian terminology called Dharma (धर्म), Artha (अर्थ), Kaama (काम) and Moksha (मोक्ष) final liberation from the rounds of birth and death leading to God. Our ancient seers kept Artha and Kaama between Dharma and Moksha, emphasizing the importance of first and fourth in preserving religion as your first duty to God and man or God-in-man. These are the four circumambulations around fire, in the presence of fire and witnessed by fire. This is the key or cardinal principle of marriage, a necessary part without which marriage is incomplete. But to the youth of today making money and

carnal pleasure have become very important, none cares for religion/Dharma or Moksha, they only gossip about it, indulge in idle talk.

In the first three rounds of the fire the girl leads the boy while in the last the boy leads the girl. Life is made up of Purusha, the soul and Prakrati, human nature. Purusha, the soul, is man and Prakriti, the woman. In marriage Prakriti leads or remains in front, in Dharma or religion, Artha or making a living, Kaama or the rearing of the family. In the final round Purusha or the man leads his wife, remains in front. This is symbolic but very important to understand. Marriage is founded on these principles.

In marriage these are the most sacred emotions. These emotions are a help in harmonising relations between Purusha and Prakriti, soul and nature, and then understanding, realising the supreme Being, bringing Him down into your being.

All the common men of this world  
Enter this path.

What effort they make, what aspiration,  
Have they in life?

Vain is that life lived if it lacks  
Creativity or Originality.

Where there are sacrifice, penance,  
sacredness, that is a life fully lived.

May God help us keep alive these ideals of marriage in

our hearts and lead us to a happy fruition of life.  
This is my humble prayer to the Lord.

### **PRAYER TO IGNITE THE FIRE**

Fire is a power true, Fire is Light giving,  
Fire so purifies all and makes them holy. 1

Fire's Love Flames ever rise higher and higher  
We must keep our fire of yearning ever rising to heavens. 2

To light the fierce Fire in our hearts  
The fierce penance of Fire must be performed. 3

To light fire another fire is necessary  
This is the true penance of sacred Fire,  
To light the inner Fire penance is necessary. 4

Lighting the Fire of Inquisition or self enquiry  
again and again

You can enter into the core of your being. 5

Therefore to be established in ourself  
I light this Fire with deep affection  
in the presence of all here. 6

### **PARENTS' ADVICE TO THE GIRL**

We who have brought her up as integral part of our selves  
Now offer our little daughter before this  
sacred sacrificial fire of marriage. 1

So endowed with lustre of the jewel of knowledge  
We offer her before this sacred sacrificial fire  
of marriage. 2

Together as one in life and with love  
Begin your life as a sacrifice for the well being of all. 3

A life that bears revolution, is a life lived in reality  
Know that real life is for evolution-in-revolution. 4

Marriage is not for satisfaction of carnal desires,

To offer all thoughts of self as thy oblation is  
the purpose of marriage. 5

Now you both having been united, will live with  
a feeling of oneness

And acting in unison, may your life shine bright. 6

(Here the boy and the girl, garland each other and offer oblations)

### THE TRUE SIGNIFICANCE OF MARRIAGE

In the august presence of our elders we vow in  
This great life of sacrifice we shall live and work together  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly. 1

Knowing the true significance of life in ourselves,  
Guided by the higher ideals of life we shall walk together  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly. 2

Offering all our mental tendencies on this life's journey  
With self-discipline we shall tenderly nurture this life's flower  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly. 3

This vow of life is not easy to fulfil,  
Knowing this well we join our lives desiring so deeply  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly. 4

Love is lost in mere enjoyment  
With self offering and sacrifice love blossoms wonderfully  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,

- To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly. 5
- Cultivating awareness in our hearts with  
the true understanding of love,  
Loving each other we shall fly far in life,  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly'. 6
- Taking seven steps together comradeship grows,  
In life's varied stages we shall act together thus,  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly'. 7
- What meaning and value has life that is spent  
in mere physical enjoyment?  
Life is a real penance and offering, in real life  
we shall endeavour to be one at heart.  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly'. 8
- We cannot only fill our lives with the beauty of the rose  
Knowing it has also thorns, we unite in life  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love.  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly'. 9
- Sorrow and joy, grief and delight's mental tendencies,  
To be endued with equal hearts, we meet in life today,  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly'. 10
- Sinking ourself, giving preference to our life-partner,  
To help evolve ourself we gain in life with mutual love,  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations



whole-heartedly'. 11

Love never knows to enjoy, offering its own self it loves,  
To blossom our love we unite in life  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly'. 12

To enjoy life's delight, we are immersed in life's love,  
To touch others' lives, we now become one,  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly'. 13

With a yearning heart on this our new path  
To begin a new life together we unite truly,  
'Keeping this sacred fire as our witness to act with love,  
To be one in life, we offer oblations  
whole-heartedly'. 14

**Give-and-take of 'hand-in-hand' (boy and girl)  
(First there is hastamelap of the boy and the girl holding  
each others' palms) At the end of that ritual**

The boy and the girl, i.e. The Bride and Bridegroom  
Take sacred vows of life.

We shall live together as per our joint vows,  
We shall live together with mutual love for each other. 1

We shall take care, be ever aware  
So as not to impose our ideas, thoughts on each other. 2

May we never dominate each other  
With a sense of ownership 3

May we be together as one with love  
In our companionship keep alive this sacred  
fire of sacrifice. 4

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If any complicated problems arise  
May they be tackled with mutual help and support. 5

We shall walk together with delight  
To experience and share our lives,  
Let our hearts know this for sure 6

Together as one in heart, loving each other  
Delighting in each other, we shall endeavour so to live. 7

We shall fight our way through  
all adversities obstacles, difficulties,  
We shall stand shoulder to shoulder against all odds. 8

Marriage is not a union of bodies but of two hearts,  
We are united in the presence of all here  
to receive their blessings. 9

May we be blessed with good intentions at heart,  
With this prayer we come together in life. 10

After sharing with others whatever remains  
May we enjoy in our lives; may this be our guiding star. 11

**SAPTAPADI**

**The husband says :**

To day what sustenance we have got for our growth  
Let us walk home together and act and live together.

**Says the wife :**

At our new home we shall struggle  
And endeavour with love to nurture that growth.

**The husband says :**

God has today endowed us both with strength,  
So we may walk one path together in harmony in this world.

**Says the wife :**

Life is sustained by food, food begets intelligence, strength  
We shall plan our nutrition in such a manner.

**The husband says :**

God has endowed us both with wealth today,  
With our feeling we shall walk this life together as one.

**Says the wife :**

We shall act together to guard and protect our health,  
We shall so plan and order our lives together.

**The husband says :**

God has endowed us together with happiness,  
We shall live in this world with due attention to its increase

**Says the wife :**

Renouncing this selfish idea of wealth and happiness  
being for our own enjoyment only  
We shall endeavour to make our whole family  
happy and content.

**The husband says :**

God has bestowed on us the means  
to achieve prosperity and happiness  
We shall live and act together mutually and in harmony.

**Says the wife :**

To safeguard our culture and religion in our life's journey  
We shall do all we can together mutually with love  
as one soul.

**The husband says :**

God has brought us together in this world to heighten Beauty  
Offering all to Him we shall live/Dedicating ourselves together  
in the world.

**Says the wife :**

Beauty is born of purity in this path of life,  
Therefore becoming thus pure we shall enjoy all seasons.

**The husband says :**

Walking seven steps together friendship  
is established between us,  
From today you are my friend in every manner of being.  
To keep you happy is my duty in life as my dear friend  
Renouncing all in life, we shall live by renunciation.

**Says the wife :**

You are now my companion in all walks of life,  
Manifesting mutual love we shall live for each other,  
Keeping each other good company in mutuality  
We shall see no division between ourselves.  
Living thus, love, peace, happiness we shall acquire,  
We are both equal in mutual friendship wholly  
Living thus mutually we shall act and work in every way.

**(The couple to go round the fire together, hand-in-hand  
four times praying as above)**

**MANGAL BHAVANA**

As blossoms your hearts' feelings,  
so will blossom thy consciousness,  
And touching all organs and senses  
will rectify all deficiencies  
How man is transformed into God ! Joy so assured,  
May such God-consciousness work in thy life  
only good and Auspicious things. 1

This great cosmic play conceals within it Lord himself,  
He plays Himself with Himself, none knows this mystery;  
Whom the great devotees with efforts herculean attain,  
The lives of such saints, sages and men of wisdom  
are ever Auspicious 2

Who enduring his followers' sorrow, protects and  
 guards their lives  
 Who inspires them in life remaining himself invisible.  
 Whose love flows without a break, such love being  
 divine,  
 Receiving that love in life, I pray,  
     may our lives be Auspicious 3

This fire of sacrifice has gone on from time immemorial  
 and offering Himself into it,  
 Offering His own tribute in running this universe,  
 Mingling and merging with all and in life,  
     offering Godhood to all  
 And being delighted with it all with love bring God  
 into our lives. 4

Everywhere variety, strange changeful  
 phenomenon spreadout all-around  
 How painful and inharmonious and frightful it all appears  
 Yet at the root of it all is harmony pure and whole,  
 Keep that harmony before thy eye,  
     engender Auspiciousness 5

He is both Soul and Nature, two, yet one in action,  
 Nature plays / sports ever in our lives,  
     in her own inimitable way,  
 Yet she is not different from God's  
     consciousness in anyway  
 Yet loving thus each other in life may Auspiciousness  
 come into Your lives as one. 6

He plays/sports Himself with Himself in this universe,  
     Lord Himself,  
 Assuming many forms He still remains one Lord,  
 there is no division or difference with anyone,  
     thus is His play/sport.

And thus he prompts man, so may  
He grasp Lord's ways and be ever happy and

Auspicious.

7

If to test thy mettle you are visited by adversity  
'Sorrow comes to you to help you evolve'

know for sure

And at that critical hour may the two become one firmly

I pray may only auspicious results befall the couple

in their union.

8

### **CLOSING PRAYER\***

Take me Lord! under Thy wing  
As mother-bird her fledgling,  
Stretch Thy gracious saving hand  
To redeem this fallen soul.

1

The noble thoughts I think,  
The brave words I speak,  
Let them be revealed in action,  
Make me a compact whole.

2

For all whom fate has cast me with,  
Let my heart be filled with love,  
Though insults are hurled,  
Provoking things are done.

3

Let me struggle hard to raise  
The lower urges that drag me down;  
Thy grace alone can help me there  
And make me Thy mirror clean.

4

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\* This famous 'Closing Prayer' was translated by the late Shri Hemantbhai Nilakantha, a close companion, ashram-mate and faithful follower of Pujya Mota.

Let the wild thoughts of the mind,  
 Wicked surges of the vital self,  
 Distracting doubts the most that unnerve me.  
 Be dissolved into Willing submission to Thee. 5

Let me shed the mask I wear  
 And seem to others as just I am;  
 Be simple, candid like a child,  
 Free from all my wiles. 6

Let nothing discordant with  
 The lofty things I cherish  
 Be done by me in word and deed,  
 Lord! give me that strength of will. 7

Let my heart have reverence deep  
 For all where virtue, love reside,  
 Let me go so mad in love  
 For all the saintly souls. 8

And this to crown it all.  
 Merge my mind and heart  
 My body and my soul  
 In the great ocean of love  
 That Thou really art (Despite deceptive sights)  
 And raise whiteheaving waves in me  
 Of devotion for Thee. 9

### **MANGAL BHAWANA - 2**

The Affection hidden deep in the heart,  
                   uplifting man to God,  
 Attracting souls to itself from the ancient Times,  
 Lives out life's true purpose : O Krishna,

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We bow to Thee and worship Thee, Joy and  
delight of our heart Auspicious! 1

Even as you did shine in life as a student  
And imbibed family's tradition and culture, Lata,  
Let thy new life of marriage shine with love  
And attract all your near and dear ones  
through goodness of thy charactor-Auspicious! 2

The most extolled life is the life of a householder,  
What a life of meeting and parting, of enjoyment  
and changes in life,  
The invaluable opportunity now accorded to you,  
Make the most of it, for the wellbeing of all  
and joy and delight Auspicious! 3

Today giving up your old home and entering a new one,  
You and your near and dear ones are all so full of joy,  
May such joy be your lot even in your new life,  
May God's choicest blessings be upon  
you most Auspicious! 4

The creeper (Lata) may be delicate of build yet it  
endures summer's burning heat,  
It endures heavy downpour of rain as well as  
the biting cold of winter,  
Yet ever laughing it grows higher  
and spreads out its fragrance,  
May you ever be happy emitting  
this fragrance of life Auspicious! 5

Faith and patience in sorrow, in happiness humility,  
A heart full of love, large and forgiving  
If these be in Joy and Sorrow then there is peace,



harmony and happiness,  
 May you be equal visioned in these dualities for  
 happiness Auspicious! 6

Ill health, worry and pain can come to you in life,  
 None is exempt from these in life, some appear  
 happy, some are sad,  
 Not vicissitudes of life, but the mind is  
 the true cause of it all  
 May you preserve equanimity in all these for  
 happiness Auspicious! 7

Traversing long distances Ganga and Kalindhi  
 meet and unite,  
 What a holy place is the confluence of these rivers!  
 May the two rivers of your married life meet to unite,  
 may your life be a holy pilgrimage,  
 Where dwell the couple Lata-Neel may there be  
 only delight Auspicious. 8

### **MANGAL BHAWANA-MANGLASHTAK : 1**

Remaining hidden from human sight, He sports  
 and plays both in the Gross and the Subtle,  
 And the soul attracts a kindred soul with love  
 to be one in soul and life  
 Such heart's love that binds all in one,  
 Giving freely of that love mutually by  
 spread far and wide the Joy of life Auspicious! 1

Even as the Soul and Nature mingle and play in this universe,  
 Nature appears to act from the front,  
 the Soul remaining silent just behind,

Yet both act together with each other's support,  
Live upto that ideal of harmony in life  
to experience delight of life Auspicious! 2

Men of wisdom too well knew love is pure and ethereal,  
To give concrete shape to that love  
is marriage performed,  
For the individual to rise higher to the universal  
is the purpose of marriage,  
Keeping that aim and ideal before you  
act and live in Joy to giveout Joy Auspicious! 3

What ever vicissitudes befall you are all for  
the soul's evolution towards God,  
Using your life's energy for this purpose to attain your goal  
Never measure life with material accumulation or  
possession  
Know these are God's gifts for your evolution and  
live out your life thus. 4

Life has been given you not without any meaning  
or purpose  
Give to others greater importance than to your little self  
What Joy is there in life lived for your self alone?  
Renouncing self the flower of life Blossoms Automatically  
to shed its perfume all around. 5

Renouncing self the flower of life Blossoms and  
sheds its perfume all around  
Whatever comes to thee in life enjoy never alone  
but with love share with others.

Higher culture is never got from birth but acquired  
 only by right living  
 Living thus a nobler life experience Joy of life  
 all Auspicious! 6

Great transformations flow from the sacred  
 element of love,  
 Great ideals are reached through love in married life,  
 Marriage is meant for creation of a great power, 'ojas',  
 Marriage is a penance, vast, limitless and wonderful. 7

What a divine beauty is love, enchanting,  
 full of sweetness  
 None understands its deeper essence/secret  
 Yet all are touched by it  
 Love is present in every atom, sporting  
 and playing with great delight  
 Through such mutual love may your life  
 together be filled with joy Auspicious! 8

#### **MANGAL BHAWANA : 4**

Marriage is meant to attain a real-life-long union of two souls...  
 which Remaining hidden from human sight,  
 God plays with us.  
 You have taken the seven steps towards  
 that oneness in the presence of the Divine,  
 Offering cooperation to each other in each other's  
 duties and responsibility  
 Attaining that oneness of life auspicious  
 May you live happily together as one. 1  
 Joining hands together today to attain nondual  
 oneness in life

Sipping the nectar of immortality of souls  
May you flower attaining that oneness,  
Two hearts desiring to unite today  
do so through this marriage,  
The great nectar of love that flows in this world  
May you taste in life. 2

Abolish duality to attain the great unity through love,  
May the pure stream of love flow from your heart  
full of compassion,  
Through oneness feel and experience the soothing  
shade in life,  
O Lord! shower on the couple  
Thy Blessings Auspicious. 3

Whenever there is deep seeking of the Lord  
from within may you receive His Sacrament  
In this world sharing your Joys and Sorrows, attain Him,  
May your hearts beat as one  
in the pilgrimage of life Auspicious  
Bless this Couple O Lord,  
with all Thy Heart and Love. 4

Faith and patience in sorrow, and in Joy humility,  
And your heart large with love, full of forgiveness,  
Then evolving through Joy and Sorrow peace you attain,  
May you ever have this before your mind's eye  
together Joy to attain the Auspicious.. 5

Maintain the relationship established in your heart  
throughout your life,  
Loving each other at heart and also learn to forgo  
for the other half,  
Give greater importance to the other with all love,  
Endure for each other without a feeling of regret. 6  
Maintain a harmony and rhythm in life

to attain goodness of life,  
 Though separate be one at heart to attain perfection,  
 This world is created only to climb/attain to oneness,  
     life on earth is meant for that,  
 Maintaining a living awareness of this life's  
     purpose, taste life's delight all Auspicious.   7  
 Kindle a spark of oneness and light the flame of  
     love in the heart,  
 Keep the fire of sacrifice alive, offering oblations to it,  
 Transform the lower, base tendencies into nobler virtues,  
 May the heart of the couple unite as one so that  
 Joy may flow in their lives together, Auspicious.       8

### **MANGAL BHAWANA : 5**

In a man's married life what a deep significance resides,  
 Through the dual to attain oneness and then  
     together living in Joy,  
 Living out life's true purpose it is possible,  
 To witness, enjoy, experience Joy of life,  
 beholding the Play of the Divine all Auspicious.       1

To bring about that awareness true in life is this  
     union of life,  
 The two minds merging as one everywhere in this world,  
 For this alone is Lord's creation everywhere in  
     this universe  
 May this Knowledge/purpose of creation be ever  
     awake in your heart Auspicious.               2

But that is not easy to achieve,  
     new hurdles spring up in life,  
 To find that mutual love, humility and self-sacrifice

are inevitable,  
That is the great penance, fire of sacrifice,  
for attaining unalloyed peace/happiness  
May Lord's blessings be upon you in this life  
together of penance, all Auspicious. 3

Pain, Sorrow and affliction is one's lot in life,  
a little less or more,  
None can be free of this wholly, some appear glad,  
some others sad,  
Not circumstances of life, but the mind is  
the cause of it all,  
May your mind ever understand this  
to experience the joy all Auspicious. 4

Just as Nature and Soul coming together sport in this world,  
Nature appears to act from the front,  
the silent sanctioning Soul inactive,  
Yet both act together with each other's consent  
Know this truth of life  
to experience the joy of life all Auspicious. 5

The best declared life is of the householder,  
What a meeting ground of coming together and  
parting and changes be in life,  
Of the opportunity accorded you today,  
Make the best use of it to work the well being of  
all Auspicious. 6

Keep that ideal always in your heart,  
if you can live together in harmony,

Experiencing and sharing mutually that love  
 you will know what true love is  
 To attain that goal, if sorrow comes to you,  
 and if your heart is firmly set  
 And determined then Lord's blessings will only  
 create delight all Auspicious. 7

True life in togetherness which to realise  
 You have taken these seven steps hand-in-hand  
 in the presence of the Divine  
 Offering mutual help and cooperation in each  
 other's duties and responsibilities  
 I pray to the Lord for joy Auspicious in  
 the couple's life together. 8

### **MANGAL BHAWANA : 6**

In this universe smaller than in an atom, as tiny as in a  
 grain is the Consciousness of the Lord of the Universe,  
 But it is hidden from the mortal sight and assumes  
 many forms with different stages of evolution  
 Invisible to the world,  
 the world views these quite differently,  
 May that Universal Consciousness work for  
 the good Auspicious of you both! 1

He who created in this world the vegetation-green,  
 animal and man, creating a variety for his sport,  
 Yet the Jasmine flowers are tied together in a garland,  
 Thus He ties all together with love,  
 May that consciousness of work delight  
 the Auspicious in you both. 2

To be joined as one gives so much joy for ever,  
To manifest after union as one is the purpose of  
life's consciousness,

So God has inspired the birds, animals and man  
to move towards oneness

May God's purpose be fulfilled in your life  
for the delight of all life Auspicious! 3

Whatever sorrow befalls us, if understanding  
The deeper purpose of union in life one endures all  
then one reaps peace of heart,

He manifests in a greater measure  
that higher consciousness.

So live thy life and manifest  
that consciousness Auspicious! 4

He/She whose hand you have held and offered  
in return to hold in the presence of all  
assembled here and the sacred fire

To be one with him or her and live in joy  
And to dedicate your life to God for your partner in life  
Living such a life there is nothing but  
only Auspiciousness! 5

May the hand of God reach out everywhere  
where circumstances are adverse. He extends  
that helping hand by his Grace,

If your love is deep and true then God's Grace  
works in your life,

That is your life's true asset. May such Grace grow  
in your life to make it Auspicious! 6



Your devotion to Sri Rama always flamed freely  
from the heart,

Who did not accept the royalty, grandeur of  
Kingship though living in a palace  
Such a Lord of Bharata and other devotees,  
Such a Lord's Blessings be upon you to create  
Auspiciousness in your life!

7

One who shines bright through a red glow  
flooding the world with wonderous light  
Through whom the world awakes to consciousness  
Offering that consciousness whole to Bharata be  
you blessed

And may you be worthy of your name Aruna,  
may you be truly blessed!

8

### **MANGAL BHAWANA : 7**

Before all time when was neither 'Not being' was there,  
nor was there 'Being'

yet both were brought into existence by 'Brahman',  
which was the truth discovered by ancient Rishis,

Thereafter was naturally born 'Maya',  
the power of Lord's creation,

So I first bow to the great first created duo-  
Brahman and Maya.

1

With this world's creation were brought into Being  
the dual energy of all manifestation what a great wonder !

The great duo are above and beyond all  
Time and Distance,  
They are beyond all limited understanding of  
finite intelligence  
They are a divine pair and I bow to them  
from my heart. 2

This world was created in pairs, God and the world,  
Shiva and his consort Shakti,  
Laxmi and her spouse Vishnu  
Oblation and Fire, Being and Non-being, Lord and  
his Light, Birth and Death, Body and Mind,  
the Gross and Subtle,  
May the pairs eternal bless this couple marrying  
with joy Auspicious! 3

What a grand sport dost Thou play O Lord of Life  
and Death, incomprehensible!  
Wherever two are seen hidden behind them  
is unity of oneness of life in diversity,  
The sacred essence hidden from view  
pervading everywhere  
Only a microscopic minority discover this Truth,  
Yet consciously or unconsciously all try in their  
own limited way to Know that Truth. 4

After going through varied experiences  
when two souls unite in life,  
Then enjoying their experiences they move  
towards unity of life,  
Their life together is only a penance  
But through selfless love it is a higher and more  
intense penance all Auspicious! 5



Though One and Undivided, Thou art yet many,  
    appearing in different forms,  
Then offering Thyself into this sacred Fire in  
    the form of the Flame,  
The Flame appearing as many is in reality only One,  
Thou Lord of this Sacrificial Fire as this Fire,  
    May you bless all with Thy Auspiciousness! 2

Just as your heart's feeling blossoms  
    so does your inner consciousness,  
And touching all parts of your being,  
    Removes all your deficiencies,  
How that transforms man into God, bringing,  
    delight in its wake !  
Thou Lord of this sacrificial Fire, as this sacrificial Fire,  
May you bless all with Thy Auspiciousness! 3

Everywhere one beholds strange variety,  
    novelty spread far and wide,  
How frightening is this diversity so jarring  
    and incongruous, full of disharmony,  
Yet at the root of it all is this rich harmony,  
Thou Lord of this Sacrificial Fire, as this  
Sacrificial Fire, may you bless us all with  
    Thy Auspiciousness! 4

This sport of the Lord, outwardly though wholly  
unmanifest, yet hidden deep within,  
Himself playing by Himself with Himself,  
    none knows this mystery,  
Whom the great Sages with deep devotion and  
Herculean Penance and effort attain,  
Thou Lord of this Sacrifice as this Sacrifice Bless  
    all with Thy Auspiciousness! 5

Who Himself offering Himself as oblation  
to this Sacrificial Fire,  
Assuming many different Forms, yet Thou art One Lord,  
Thou art truly real and tangible, yet none cares  
to know you, O Lord what a strange delusion, Maya !  
Thou Lord of this Sacrificial Fire, as this  
Sacrificial Fire blesses us bless us all with  
Thy Auspiciousness! 6

May the love with which you offer oblations  
to this Fire through heart's deep worship!  
Bring down from above the Light of the Lord in your life,  
The Lord plays in this world as a tolerating and  
enduring Lord of this Sacrifice,  
Thou the Lord of this sacrifice, as this sacrifice  
bless us all with Thy Auspiciousness! 7

Whatever Gods and Planets we have installed and  
propitiated before this Sacrificial Fire  
May they all be pleased with our worship and  
bless us with happiness Auspicious!  
Whatever the faults and mistakes we may have  
committed, pray forgive us  
And as Lord of this sacrifice, as this sacrifice bless  
us all with Thy Auspiciousness! 8

Hari Om

## **OPENING CEREMONY OR INAUGURATION CEREMONY**

### **PRAYER FOR IGNITING FIRE**

Fire is a Power true, emitting Light,  
Fire purifies all so much. 1

Flames of Fire of love ever rise upward  
We must have this vision in our heart. 2

To awaken this power of Fire in us wholly,  
Terrible penance of Fire is necessary in life. 3

To light a Fire, Fire is necessary that is the real penance,  
Fire lighting is a penance, to light  
the Fire within, penance is indeed necessary! 4

Igniting again and again the Fire of Aspiration  
Enter the Divine Kingdom within through its Flames. 5

Through this Fire to be established in Self  
I light this Fire with respect in the presence of all here! 6

### **MANTRA OF OFFERING OBLATIONS**

That courage, dedication and prosperity in  
business may grow,  
Give us an opportunity to do such good work so we pray!  
That aim which we have before us of service to society  
May it be achieved through this trading house,  
thus offering oblation, we pray!

### FINAL OBLATION

With deep respect offering final oblation to  
the sacrificial Fire

We pray that we may be faithful and loyal  
to our business principles!

### PRAYER OF A BUSINESSMAN

Lord, by Thy grace let prosperity flow into our business  
May the great river of Thy Grace ever flow on us. 1

Make us worthy of the blessings of our Lord,  
Fill our heart with zeal  
to perform our duty. 2

Fill our life with energy to fulfill our life's allotted duty,  
Inadvertantly Even let not lethargy invade our heart. 3

Let our lives pass in hard work and efforts  
May those who are related to us in business be happy! 4

May you fill our allotted work with transparency of heart  
And may we always remember you, Lord deep in  
our heart. 5

### INAUGURATION OF A NEW BUSINESS

Without prosperity there can be no progress  
For this country to rise, prosperity is necessary. 1

Prosperity cannot come about by itself,  
Business and hard work are the necessary means  
for attaining prosperity. 2

Many types of business and techniques,  
methods of working  
Alone bring prosperity, therefore work for it  
all heartily! 3

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Where obstacles and hurdles crop up  
Show courage and move forward cautiously. 4

May thy heart feel God's Power at work!  
May the flow of Thy Grace be ever on us! 5

May this business grow, blossom and spread everywhere  
Sweet fruits of this business reach out all in the world! 6

May those involved in the woking of this business  
Show dedication, zeal and hard work in its working! 7

This business activity is for this country's prosperity  
May a living feeling of this awake in us and inspire us! 8

In and through this business may prosperity of every sort  
come to all,  
From universal point of view this prosperity  
belongs to all. 9

There shall be no narrow throught that it belongs  
only to a few,  
May such a prayerful feeling of universal  
sharing prevail in us! 10

**INAUGURATION OF A MACHINERY PLANT OR A FACTORY**

By the power of God's Grace these various  
Types of business, industry trade function,  
in this world. 1

Our life's and all other allied activities that are in this world  
Go on automatically, So maintain and look after  
this venture of mine! 2

May the Divine Force work in my new venture, I pray,  
May I even be aware of Thy Hand at work  
in my venture! 3



- There is no Salvation without work,  
work is the only means;  
Awaken in me the necessity of work in all the fields! 4
- Work is like Cornucopia, the horn of plenty,  
the wish-fulfilling tree,  
Work is power, the inner force of our being. 5
- In this country's every field of work of every type  
Productivity is the best type ever. 6
- To produce more a conducive atmosphere  
Must be created, having this before your mind's eye. 7
- Whatever your motive, whatever your aim in your work,  
Whatever awareness you have,  
work with dedication, zeal in your work! 8
- If other such good qualities be in your work or abound in it  
There is no factor like work in your life's success. 9
- Whose heart and soul are in work,  
whose whole attention is in work,  
Whose whole aim is in work, unto him work is  
indeed a power. 10
- One who is faithful to his work  
Unto him work is a divine Power in essence. 11
- If one's heart is deeply engrossed in one's work  
What a return does work give in due proportion! 12
- Today the world has forgotten,  
lost knowledge of Yoga of works  
That is the cause of this country's  
present miserable plight. 13
- Today through my work I pray to my God  
Awaken our countrymen to the need of right work  
in life. 14

**THE FEELING TO BE KEPT AT HEART AT  
THE BEGINNING OF A NEW VENTURE**

- May that power by means of which we earn  
our living in this world  
Combine our material weal with spiritual advancement! 1
- Whatever happens in this world is due entirely  
to the Lord's Power  
'Intelligence-cum-Skill is that power that works  
for us, which again comes from the Lord. 2
- Whatever skill or aptitude we use in our daily life  
practically  
Comes from our Lord, and whatever we desire is  
not fulfilled wholly. 3
- In everything there is one Lord, Perfect and Potent  
in every way,  
Keeping Him always in your heart do thy allotted work. 4
- In our daily bread winning activity that goes on  
all over the world,  
Pray to the Lord for His help, calling down  
His Power into it. 5
- In every thing you do keep Him ever in your heart,  
And give importance to your Lord in each and  
every thing in your life. 6
- The Lord does all through you, keeping this firmly  
fixed in your heart,  
Keep dissolving thy separate ego,  
it will benefit you greatly. 7
- Our cleverness never helps us every moment,  
Knowing this in your heart awaken your awareness  
of the Lord within. 8

All works through His Power, therefore performing  
penance for that power  
With devotion, do sincere work in this world always. 9

Give us the vision of integrity and purpose in life,  
In our daily life, purity, give us the intelligence  
to guide us aright. 10

Let no injustice be done to any even inadvertently by us,  
'May good be to all' our intelligence should inspire  
us to act thus. 11

Let us pray for His Power in our daily bread winning  
activity,  
May Your Grace and Blessings be ever upon us  
in our hearts! 12

### **PRAYER FOR IGNITING A FIRE**

Fire is a power true, Fire is light giving,  
Fire purifies every being thoroughly,  
Fire's flames of Love ever rise upward,  
Keep this vision of Fire ever burning in your heart. 1

To awaken the fierce power of Fire in your heart  
We have to do Penance of Fire in life  
That is real Penance, Penance of Fire is a reality  
To light Fire in our being, penance is indeed necessary. 2

Awakening the Fire of Aspiration again and again,  
Enter through that fierce Fire the chambers within,  
Through this Fire therefore to be established in the self  
I light this Fire with deep feeling in the presence of all. 3

### **PRAYER TO THE FIRE**

We light this Fire of self within with all reverence  
We pray unto Thee, O Lord, help us light this Fire!  
We pray from our heart may our mind, brain,  
vital and heart be wholly purified—  
With that aim we offer oblations to Thee,  
accept it and gladden our hearts, O Lord!

### **PRAYER WHILE OFFERING OBLATIONS**

#### **TO BE FREE OF ALL UNDESIRABLE ELEMENTS**

To become free of hostile elements deep from our heart  
We pray and offer this oblation remembering  
the Lord.

#### **TO INCREASE PEACE OF MIND IN LIFE**

For establishing peace in life and removing all  
undesirable elements  
We offer oblations to turn our hearts to your Holy Feet

#### **TO BE FREE OF ALL OBSTACLES**

To be free of all obstacles, hurdles and obtain  
peace and well-being  
We offer oblations so we may turn to Thee in heart  
For all difficulties and obstacles that come to us,  
with Thy Grace  
We pray from our heart and offer tributes to Thee  
for Thy help.

#### **TO REMOVE ALL OBSTACLES**

For the well-being of all, we all come together,  
To earn peace and happiness, into this fire of sacrifice  
we offer oblations.

**FOR COMPLETION OF DUTIES UNDERTAKEN**

For the benefit of all, for the completion of all work,  
undertaken, praying from our heart,  
we offer these oblations.

**FOR THE ACQUISITION OF GOOD**

For acquiring what is for our good, to be free of all doubts,  
We offer these oblations with reverence O Lord,  
Accept it for welfare's sake

**FOR ACQUISITION OF MERITS**

For doing our duties in this world and to live out our  
life as a sacrifice  
We offer oblations with heart-felt prayer s  
to acquire spiritual merit.

**FOR WELL BEING OF ALL OF US**

May we all fare well in life through Thy Grace  
May good befall all we desire, offering prayers and  
tributes to Thee

**FOR PEACE AND HARMONY**

May peace, harmony and joy all dwell in this home,  
Praying with our whole being we offer tributes to Thee.

**FINAL OBLATIONS**

At the end of this sacrificial fire ceremony,  
from our heart we pray to Thee, let us be true  
and faithful to all and to Thee.

At the end of this ceremony desiring peace and  
well being of all

We offer with deep love this oblation and pray  
accept it for the good of all.

**PRAYING FOR THE CHILD IN ITS MOTHER'S WOMB**

We pray to the Lord do protect well this child enveloped  
in the mother's womb

That only what is good for him truly may visit him,  
I offer this oblation with my heartfelt prayer

**ON THE YOUNG CHILD'S BIRTHDAY**

On this child's auspicious birthday  
I pray bowing at Lord's Feet  
Bless this child with Thy Love true,  
And inspire him to tread the path of selfless Love.

**PRAYER FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY**

This birthday consider to be your new birth to acquire  
Lord's Divine Love and make it work in your life!  
This gross body was not given without any meaning,  
May this awareness ever be in your heart and pray  
to your Lord!

**A PRAYER WHILE ENTERING YOUR NEW HOME**

May you inspire only good and auspicious in your home,  
May peace and joy dwell in your home,  
May new consciousness come about in your home  
May only Soul's well being be in your home.  
Lighting Lord's Lamp of Love so wonderful  
May you radiate divine Joy all around.  
May the darkness of your ego and pride  
Be dispelled by the Lord's Light of Love!

**GOODWISHES FOR THE NEWLY MARRIED**

May you both for each other's sake offer  
yourself with love,  
May you remaining together tread the path of  
life apace!

Both of you loving each other as one Soul  
 Whatever merit you earn offer it at the Feet of  
 the Lord. 2

In marriage dissolve all duality with the feeling of  
 oneness of heart,  
 May the pure love of heart flow from you  
 with compassion for all. 3

May there be a cool healing shade in your life unique  
 Lord, may your choicest blessing be upon  
 this couple with your love! 4

**GOODWISHES TO BROTHER AND SISTER ON  
 BHAI BEEJ\* (Hindu New Year's Crescent Moon),  
 SECOND DAY AFTER DIWALI**

Joining the hearts of brother and sister auspiciously  
 Today the joyous day dawns of auspicious well being  
 in their hearts  
 Selfless support of brother and sister for each other  
 Becomes a strong powerful tie of love.  
 May their lives be kept eternally safe and happy! 1

Bhai Beej signifying pure and sweet love of sister  
 Awakens the heart, heightening and increasing love,  
 May you keep alive their pure and holy tie of love  
 I pray to the Lord, at His Feet may you bestow only good  
 on them and work their weal. 2

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\*Bhai Beej is observed by Hindus as an auspicious day. It is the new moon, and the crescent sign is also auspicious, coming next to the New Year Day in the Hindu Calendar. The brother is invited to dine at a married sister's house. Best wishes and gifts are also exchanged by their families.

**LAXMI POOJA ON THE DIWALI DAY**

Wealth wisely used for the good of all  
 Becomes a Great Power for good  
 To awaken you to this truth.  
 Is this ceremony of wealth worship (Lakshmi Pooja)  
 Wealth used religiously awakens Intelligence  
 And invoking culture brings happiness.  
 That wealth that confers lasting happiness,  
 Prosperity and affluence in a good measure  
 May it be your major aim in life!  
 To Brighten your life with such wealth,  
 To reconcile and harmonise the use of wealth,  
 For self as well as for the Divine  
 Has this wealth been conferred on you,  
                   use it wisely therefore!

**PRAYER FOR MAINTAINING RIGHT ATTITUDE FOR  
SERVICE FOR THE GOOD OF ALL**

Let us spare no effort in the service for the good  
                   of our society  
 Let there be no motive of self in this service  
                   which is the right way to do.  
 Where service is the true motive that action alone  
                   is 'karma' of love true,  
 Karma dyed with love, may we do only such service!  
 To lift life higher must be our vision in life  
 Let our service be done with the aim of doing it for  
                   Love of Lord  
 May you look upto the blue heavens while doing  
                   service for life's upliftment!



## **PRAYER TO THE SNAKE ON ITS APPEARING BEFORE US**

If there is any shortcoming in our action forgive us,  
 May you not bother to appear again we pray  
 again and again

(Light a ghee lamp, bow five times to it, recite the above mantra five times and then place the lamp near the waterpot).

## **PRAYER FOR THE DEPARTED SOUL**

(After the death of a soul for 16 days for his well being, morning and evening, either alone or with the other members of the family recite the following prayer)

May the departed soul receive from YOU  
 Lord Peace of Heart and Mind,  
 In every way may only good come to the soul from YOU.  
 Whatever ties of bondage he may have had with men  
 on this earth  
 May you free him for ever from all such ties of  
 attachment in everyway.

## **SRADDHA PRAYER (Offering to the departed Soul)**

Remembering your father and fore-fathers, praying  
 for their well being in their life after death.  
 May you work for their peace and happiness, making  
 it your life's aim!

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This ceremony must be very solemnly performed by all.

**PRAYER UTTERED DURING ANSWERING  
CALLS OF NATURE**

All mind's tangled knots, and the desires of the vital,  
Body's insensitivities remove O Lord.

Desire, anger, greed and sloth,  
may all these go for ever from me

May all wrong desires leave my heart for ever! 1

**PRAYER WHILE SWEEPING  
THE FLOORS, CLEANING THE KITCHEN UTENSILS**

May my mind and heart be as clean and  
bright as these. 2

**PRAYER WHILE DOING SOME EXERCISE**

May my being be purified to be Thy proper instrument,  
Give me Love, Devotion and Faith like  
the Great Hanuman! 3

**PRAYER WHILE TAKING MILK, TEA OR WATER**

May Conscious Force enter my body  
through these! 4

**WHILE BATHING IN A RIVER OR LAKE OR WATERFALL**

May life's Consciousness and Power enter into my heart  
May such pure love and goodness flow into my heart. 5

**PRAYER BEFORE SITTING FOR MEDITATION**

May Thy Grace flowing into me purify me! 6

**PRAYER AT THE END OF ANY POOJA OR MEDITATION**

Whatever happens in life through Thy Power  
May it all be offered at Thy Holy Feet! 7

**PRAYER WHILE SITTING DOWN FOR MEALS**

Accepting these small offerings,  
 purify all my senses, organs,  
 Awaken Thy Power in my heart filled with Thy  
 Conscious Force. 8

**PRAYER WHILE TAKING MEDICINES**

May my health increase through these Medicines! 9

**PRAYER TO BE UTTERED WHILE WALKING  
OR STROLLING**

May Thy Consciousness touch me eternally!  
 May my heart be linked to Thee through Love,  
 Devotion, Faith! 10

**PRAYER WHILE GOING TO SLEEP**

May life's insensitivities be not in my sleep,  
 even in my sleep may Thy consciousness be in me!  
 May Thy Remembrance be even in my sleep!  
 May I be conscious of Thee even in my sleep!  
 Whatever sinister thoughts disturb my sleep Remove  
 and transform it into Divine in my heart! 11

**WHENEVER DOUBTS, SUSPICIONS ASSAIL  
PRAYER TO BE UTTERED THEN**

Doubts, Suspicions, and Prejudices of the mind  
 Remove these and inspire my fine brain,  
 May Thy awareness ever be in my heart,  
 Making me struggle in life fill my heart with  
 Love and Devotion! 12

### **PRAYER TO HELP ANOTHER TO KEEP AND FULFIL HIS VOWS**

To fulfil someone's vow I extend my helping hand to him  
with a praying heart,  
May the merit of the vow being fulfilled,  
Go to the other being, I pray offering tribute to  
the Fire. 13

### **DAILY PRAYERS**

(To establish relationship firmly with the Lord seated in your heart and to make it alive)

Sympathy and oneness of being in life  
Become strong through prayer certainly,  
When the atmosphere is disturbed and  
you are restless

Prayer and singing of hymns should be resorted to.

#### **TO FULFIL LIFE'S MAJOR PURPOSE**

Whatever comes to me as my lot to do to fulfil all that  
May you keep me awake to it, may you ever  
remind me in my heart!

#### **TO AWAKEN VIRTUE AND GOODNESS IN LIFE**

To bring about inner awakening to rise higher in life  
May such awareness be in our heart always!

#### **TO SILENCE THE WANDERING MIND**

The mind wandering everywhere running after,  
following its senses  
It is my prayer to Thee to keep it tied to Thy Holy Feet!

### **TO KEEP THE INNER BEING HAPPY**

If the inner being is disturbed, ruffled  
 Let me be alert atonce  
 May I struggle to keep my being happy!

### **IN CASE OF ANY QUARREL OR CONFLICT OR MISUNDERSTANDING**

If the heart becomes disquiet on account of any  
 conflict or misunderstanding  
 Let me feel it keenly, I pray to Thee.

### **IN CASE OF SOME INJUSTICE DONE TO ANYONE**

Let no injustice be done to anyone in life  
 Let us not supinely take this injustice or tolerate  
 it out of weakness.

### **TO REMOVE HATRED FROM OUR HEART**

Let there be goodwill for all, jealousy, hatred, enmity,  
 May never come to me, it is my heart's prayer to Thee!

### **FOR REMOVAL OF HARD GRAINED INSISTENCE OF ONE'S OPINIONS**

My insistences, opinions, habits, understandings all  
 To nullify help me to work to be free of them all.

### **FOR SHOWING COURAGE IN LIFE**

Courage, determination and soul-strength may all these  
 qualities abound in my life is my prayer to Thee!

### **FOR CULTIVATION OF PATIENCE ETC.**

Patience, courage, persistence may be always in my life,  
 "Stay with me for ever" is my prayer to Thee, O Lord.

### **FOR CULTIVATION OF CONCENTRATION OR ONE-POINTED ATTENTION**

May deep concentration stay firm in my heart,  
May I make all efforts towards that end with zeal!

### **FOR CALMNESS OR CULTIVATION OF EQUALITY**

Calmness, peace of heart, composure, concentration  
one pointed, may reign in my life!

### **FOR INCREASING DEVOTION**

May mind and heart be ever dyed with Love, Devotion,  
May my being, vital force, and mind ever dwell at Thy Feet!

### **FOR DOING DUTIES**

May I ever be soaked, immersed in thoughts of duties  
Let me never show sloth or lethargy even a whit,  
Let me be ever conscious of the work I have to do,  
“May my heart ever beat with it” is my prayer to Thee,  
To keeping my aim ever in my work,  
Let me make all efforts to complete it  
with dedication fully.

Let me work with love of God, dedicating it to God,  
Offering it all at His Feet with adoration willingly,  
half-heartedly let us do no work

Let us never indulge in manipulations or dubious dealings.

### **PRAYER DURING TOPSYTUREY CONDITIONS OR UNDESIRABLE CIRCUMSTANCES**

In sorrow and adversities and tempests in life, pray lead  
us out of it safely unscathed, unharmed by Thy Grace!

### **TO INFUSE COURAGE**

During difficulties, obstacles, hurdles all that come in life  
To face all these squarely and keep our heads high,  
give us courage.

### **TO INFUSE STRENGTH OF SOUL**

Against all odds, difficulties, and adversities to stand  
up and face all these, endow us with manliness  
and infuse your strength in us.

### **MOTIVELESS PRAYER**

To bring our work to a successful close is in Lord's hands,  
This is my humble prayer, this work is the invaluable means,  
But if the results are contrary to our expectations,  
Accept them joyfully as Lord's gift of love to thee.

### **TRUE SELFLESS SERVICE**

Whatever pains and efforts you take for welfare of others  
In which you have no personal interest or axe  
to grind is true service to God and man  
Whatever is done for service of others that is  
the right attitude good for you  
That action or work selflessly done moulds thy inner being,  
It lifts thee to a higher stage in life,  
giving you right vision of life.  
Whatever service is done with Love and Devotion  
to Lord with full Faith  
It takes thee high towards the heavens high up  
in the blue sky  
Whatever living we make out of Loving Service  
rendered to Thee  
May it infuse life and soul into our inner being  
by Thy Grace!

**ETERNAL REMEMBRANCE OF THE LORD**

In our mind's all thoughts and tendencies  
 In mind's base desires, sins,  
     in all being's stored impressions  
 In mind's plays and sports, in mind's delights  
     and tendencies  
 May Thy Loving Remembrance be ever fixed in my heart  
 In all our physical activities, in all our desires of  
     the senses  
 In every atom of our body, in heart's very blood  
 In every pore, from head to foot, in all the nine gates  
     of the body,  
 May the Loving Remembrance of Thy name be  
     our heart's companion!

**PRAYER FOR LORD'S REMEMBRANCE**

Lord may you take good care of me,  
     dwell for ever in my heart,  
 In life may you, O Lord, ever protect me from  
     all harm. 1

In life take care of me always in every way.  
 May you give me the heart to Remember you always. 2

To Remember Thee in my heart give me zeal of heart  
 In case of forgetfulness may you prick my mind as if  
     with a needle to awaken me. 3

Knowing that Remembrance is Thy Holy Feet's Nectar  
 Inspire me to bathe in the waters of the Remembrance  
     of Thy Name. 4

Give me the intelligence to please Thee at heart,  
 In case of any shortcoming on my part please forgive,  
     please forgive. 5



In case of any wrong doing on my part Even after due punishment, kindly pardon me.	6
Awaken my heart to the need of Remembering Thee always To keep Thy Remembrance ever alive in my heart Tap me again and again.	7
In case I ever forget Thy Remembrance may I feel in my being the sting of a thousand scorpions, and be brought back on the path.	8

**Hari Om**

॥ HARIH AUM ॥  
**CLOSING PRAYER**  
**ĀRTI**

Aum, give me Refuge O Lord, at the Haven of Thy Holy Feet,  
 Save this fallen soul, lead him by Thy hand, clasp him to Thy heart.....(1)

Let my mind, heart and speech be revealed by my action,  
 May Thou unify by Thy Grace, my mind, speech and heart.....(2)

May our heart's love pervade in our dealings with all,  
 Even where insult is done, let there only love prevail.....(3)

May we attempt by Thy Grace, to change our lower instincts  
 Into nobler ones, so we may be worthy of Thy Holy Feet.....(4)

May my mind's thoughts and tendencies of the vital  
 And intellect's all doubts dissolve at Thy Holy Feet.....(5)

To appear to others as we truly are at heart,  
 Let our being be open, so others can know us truly and well.....(6)

Give me the will not to do otherwise,  
 Contrary to what is truly in my heart O Lord.....(7)

Wherever there are Virtue and Nobility, let my heart there abide  
 May Virtue and Nobility flower and blossom in my heart.....(8)

May the instincts of the vital and the mind merge and melt in my love for Thee  
*And may my adoration for Thee ever surge, dance in delight and joy.....(9)*

*Aum, give me Refuge O Lord, at the Heaven of Thy Holy Feet*

- Mota

### हरिःॐ आश्रम में उपलब्ध हिंदी पुस्तिका का लिस्ट

क्रम पुस्तक	प्र.आ.	८.	श्रीमोटा के साथ वार्तालाप	२०१२
१. पूज्य श्रीमोटा एक संत	१९९७	९.	विवाह हो मंगलम्	२०१२
२. कैंसर का प्रतिकार	२००८	१०.	बालकों के मोटा	२०१२
३. सुख का मार्ग	२००८	११.	विद्यार्थी मोटा का पुरुषार्थ	२०१२
४. दुर्लभ मानवदेह	२००९	१२.	मौनमंदिर का मर्म	२०१३
५. प्रसादी	२००९	१३.	मौनमंदिर का हरिद्वार	२०१३
६. नामस्मरण	२०१०	१४.	मौनएकान्त की पगडंडी पर	२०१३
७. हरिःॐ आश्रम - श्रीभगवान के अनुभव का स्थान	२०१०	१५.	मौनमंदिर में प्रभु	२०१४

### हरिःॐ आश्रममां उपलब्ध अंग्रेजी पुस्तकोनी याटी. ज्ञान्युआरी - २०२०

English book available at Hariom Ashram Surat.

January - 2020

No.	Book	F. E.		
1.	At thy Lotus feet (Tuj Charane)	1948	14. Against cancer (Cancer ni Same)	2008
2.	To the mind (Man ne)	1950	15. Faith (Shraddha)	2010
3.	Life's Struggle (Jeevan Sangram)	1955	16. Shri Sadguru	2010
4.	The Fragrance of a saint (Paraslila)	1982	17. Human to Divine (Bhagat ma Bhagwan)	2010
5.	Vision of life - Eternal	1990	18. Prasadi	2011
6.	Bhava	1991	19. Grace (Krupa)	2012
7.	Nimitta	2005	20. I bow at thy feet (Tuj charane)	2013
8.	Self-interest (Swarth)	2005	21. Attachment and Aversion	
9.	Inquisitiveness (Jignasa)	2006	(Raag dhwesh)	2015
10.	Shri Mota	2007	22. The Undending Odyssey - My Experience of Sadguru Sri Mota's Grace	2019
11.	Rites and Rituals (Vidhi-Vidhan)	2007		
12.	Naamsmaran	2008		
13.	Mota for children (Balako na Mota)	2008		

॥ हरिःॐ ॥

## || HARIOM ||

### ■ **Prayer to silence the wandering Mind**

The mind wandering everywhere running after,  
Following its senses  
It is my prayer to Thee to keep it tied to Thy Holy Feet !

### ■ **Prayer for showing courage in Life**

Courage, determination and Soul-strength may all  
these Qualities abound in my life is my prayer to Thee !

### ■ **Prayer for cultivation of patience**

Patience, courage, persistence may be always in my  
life, "Stay with me forever" is my prayer to Thee,  
O Lord.

### ■ **Prayer for the departed Soul**

(The family members together or person in alone shall chant  
this prayer for 16 days for his well being of the departed  
Soul)

O Lord! Grace the Peace of Heart and Mind, to the  
departed Soul,  
In every way may only good come to the Soul O Lord !  
Whatever ties of bondage the Soul may have had with  
humans on this earth May YOU free him forever from  
all such ties of attachment in every way.

**- Shree Mota**