

## Meaning of Śiva Pancākṣari Stōtram

Na - Ma - Śi - Vā - Ya

are the five syllables in the powerful Śiva mantra.

1. I prostrate to the one who wears the king of snakes as a garland, who is three-eyed, ash-smeared, is the Supreme Lord, is eternal, pure, and whose garment is all the directions, and who is represented by the syllable Na.
2. I prostrate to the one who is worshipped with the waters of the river Mandakini, with sandal paste, who is the lord of Nandi and other celestial beings, who is worshipped with various flowers such as Mandara, and who is represented by the syllable Ma.
3. I prostrate to Śiva, who is like the Sun that makes the face of Gowri, His consort, bloom like a lotus, who destroyed the fire ritual of Dakṣa, who has Vṛṣa on His flag, who is represented by the syllable Śi.
4. I prostrate to the one whom with bowed heads Sages like Vaśiṣṭha, Agastya, and Goutama worship, whose eyes are the Moon, the Sun,

and Fire, and who is represented by the syllable Va.

5. I prostrate to the one who has the form of a Yakṣa, who wears matted hair, who wields a trident, who is without a beginning, who is divine, who is all-pervading, and who is represented by the syllable Ya.
6. This prayer containing the five syllables representing Lord Śiva, when chanted with deep contemplation upon the Lord, fills Him with bliss and transports the devotee to the domain of Śiva.