

Shani Chalisa

श्री शनि चालीसा

The Shani Chalisa is a traditional Hindi hymn to Shani Dev, the son of the Sun and lord of the planet Saturn. Its 43 verses (two opening dohas, 40 chaupais and a closing doha) praise his form, recall how even Ram, Harishchandra and the Pandavas passed through hard times, and ask for his kindness. Devotees recite it on Saturdays, often by a sesame oil lamp.

Doha 1

Jai Ganesh Girija Suvan, Mangal Karan Kripal
Deenan Ke Dukh Door Kari, Keejai Nath Nihal ॥1॥

Glory to Ganesh, son of Girija, the kind one who brings all that is good. Lord, take away the sorrows of the humble and fill them with joy.

Doha 2

Jai Jai Shri Shanidev Prabhu, Sunahu Vinay Maharaj
Karahu Kripa He Ravi Tanay, Rakhahu Jan Ki Laj ॥2॥

Glory, glory to Lord Shani Dev. Great king, hear my humble prayer. Be kind to me, O son of the Sun, and protect the honour of your devotee.

Chaupai 1

Jayati Jayati Shanidev Dayala
Karat Sada Bhaktan Pratipala ॥1॥

Victory, victory to kind Shani Dev, who always looks after his devotees.

Chaupai 2

Chari Bhuja, Tanu Shyam Virajai
Mathe Ratan Mukut Chhabi Chhajai ॥2॥

You have four arms and a dark body, and a jewelled crown shines beautifully on your head.

Chaupai 3

Param Vishal Manohar Bhala
Tedhi Drishti Bhrikuti Vikrala ||3||

Your forehead is broad and handsome. Your gaze is slanting and your brows are fierce.

Chaupai 4

Kundal Shravan Chamacham Chamke
Hiye Mal Muktan Mani Damkai ||4||

Earrings sparkle in your ears, and a necklace of pearls and gems gleams on your chest.

Chaupai 5

Kar Mein Gada Trishul Kuthara
Pal Bich Karain Arihin Samhara ||5||

In your hands are a mace, a trident and an axe, and in a moment you destroy the enemy.

Chaupai 6

Pingal, Krishno, Chhaya Nandan
Yam, Konasth, Raudra, Dukhbhanjan ||6||

Pingala, Krishna, son of Chhaya, Yama, Konastha, Raudra, breaker of sorrow,

Chaupai 7

Sauri, Mand, Shani, Dash Nama
Bhanu Putra Poojahin Sab Kama ||7||

*Sauri, Manda and Shani: these are your ten names. Those who worship the son of the Sun see
their work fulfilled.*

Chaupai 8

Ja Par Prabhu Prasanna Hvain Jahin
Rankahun Rav Karain Kshan Mahin ||8||

When the Lord is pleased with someone, he can turn even a pauper into a king in a moment.

Chaupai 9

Parvatahu Trin Hoi Niharat
Trinahu Ko Parvat Kari Darat ||9||

*Under his gaze a mountain becomes a blade of grass, and a blade of grass becomes
a mountain.*

Chaupai 10

Raj Milat Ban Ramahin Deenhyo
Kaikeihun Ki Mati Hari Leenhyo ||10||

*Just as Ram was about to receive the kingdom, he was sent to the forest instead, and even
Kaikeyi's good sense was taken away.*

Chaupai 11

Banahun Mein Mrig Kapat Dikhai
Matu Janaki Gai Churai ||11||

In the forest a false golden deer appeared, and Mother Janaki (Sita) was carried away.

Chaupai 12

Lakhanahin Shakti Vikal Kari Dara
Machiga Dal Mein Hahakara ||12||

The Shakti weapon struck Lakshman down, and a cry of grief went up through the army.

Chaupai 13

Ravan Ki Gati Mati Baurai
Ramchandra Son Bair Badhai ||13||

Ravana's judgement went astray, and he grew ever more hostile to Shri Ramchandra.

Chaupai 14

Diyo Keet Kari Kanchan Lanka
Baji Bajrang Beer Ki Danka ||14||

Golden Lanka was turned to dross, and the war drum of brave Bajrang (Hanuman) rang out.

Chaupai 15

Nrip Vikram Par Tuhi Pagu Dhara
Chitra Mayur Nigali Gai Hara ||15||

When you set foot upon King Vikram, a peacock in a painting swallowed a necklace.

Chaupai 16

Har Naulakha Lagyo Chori
Hath Pair Darvayo Tori ||16||

He was blamed for stealing the precious nine-lakh necklace, and his hands and feet were broken.

Chaupai 17

Bhari Dasha Nikrisht Dikhayo
Telihin Ghar Kolhu Chalvayo ||17||

You showed him a heavy, lowly time, and made him turn the oil press in an oil-maker's house.

Chaupai 18

Vinay Rag Deepak Mahan Keenhyon
Tab Prasanna Prabhu Hvai Sukh Deenhyon ||18||

When he sang his humble prayer in Raga Deepak, the Lord was pleased and gave him back his happiness.

Chaupai 19

Harishchandra Nrip Nari Bikani
Apahun Bhare Dom Ghar Pani ||19||

King Harishchandra's wife was sold, and he himself carried water in the house of a Dom, a keeper of the cremation ground.

Chaupai 20

Taise Nal Par Dasha Sirani
Bhunji Meen Kood Gai Pani ||20||

In the same way hard times fell upon King Nala, and even a roasted fish leapt back into the water.

Chaupai 21

**Shri Shankarahin Gahyo Jab Jai
Paravati Ko Sati Karai ॥21॥**

When it reached and seized even Shri Shankar, it led Parvati, in her birth as Sati, to give up her body in the fire.

Chaupai 22

**Tanik Vilokat Hi Kari Reesa
Nabh Udi Gayo Gaurisut Seesa ॥22॥**

With a single glance, cast in displeasure, the head of Gauri's son flew off into the sky.

Chaupai 23

**Pandav Par Bhai Dasha Tumhari
Bachi Draupadi Hoti Ughari ॥23॥**

When your influence fell upon the Pandavas, Draupadi was nearly stripped in the court, and was saved.

Chaupai 24

**Kaurav Ke Bhi Gati Mati Maryo
Yuddh Mahabharat Kari Daryo ॥24॥**

You clouded the minds of the Kauravas too, and brought about the great war of the Mahabharata.

Chaupai 25

**Ravi Kahan Mukh Mahan Dhari Tatkala
Lekar Koodi Paryo Patala ॥25॥**

At once the Sun was seized in a mouth and carried, with a leap, down into Patala.

Chaupai 26

**Shesh Dev Lakhi Vinati Lai
Ravi Ko Mukh Te Diyo Chhudai ॥26॥**

Seeing this, Shesha, the divine serpent, made a plea, and the Sun was freed from that mouth.

Chaupai 27

Vahan Prabhu Ke Sat Sujana
Jag Diggaj Gardabh Mrig Swana ॥27॥

Know, wise ones, that the Lord has seven mounts: the elephant, the donkey, the deer, the dog,

Chaupai 28

Jambuk Singh Adi Nakh Dhari
So Phal Jyotish Kahat Pukari ॥28॥

the jackal, the lion and the other clawed beasts. Jyotish declares the fruit of each.

Chaupai 29

Gaj Vahan Lakshmi Grih Avain
Hay Te Sukh Sampatti Upajavain ॥29॥

When he comes on the elephant, Lakshmi comes into the home. On the horse, he brings comfort and wealth.

Chaupai 30

Gardabh Hani Karai Bahu Kaja
Singh Siddhkar Raj Samaja ॥30॥

On the donkey he spoils many tasks. On the lion he brings success in royal and public life.

Chaupai 31

Jambuk Buddhi Nasht Kar Darai
Mrig De Kasht Pran Samharai ॥31॥

On the jackal he clouds the mind. On the deer he brings suffering and danger to life.

Chaupai 32

Jab Avahin Prabhu Swan Savari
Chori Adi Hoy Dar Bhari ॥32॥

When the Lord comes riding the dog, there is great fear of theft and the like.

Chaupai 33

Taisahi Chari Charan Yah Nama
Swarn Lauh Chandi Aru Tama ॥33॥

Likewise there are four "feet", named gold, iron, silver and copper.

Chaupai 34

Lauh Charan Par Jab Prabhu Avain
Dhan Jan Sampatti Nasht Karavain ॥34॥

When the Lord comes on the iron foot, wealth, people and property suffer loss.

Chaupai 35

Samata Tamra Rajat Shubhkari
Swarn Sarv Sukh Mangal Bhari ॥35॥

Copper brings balance, silver brings good fortune, and gold brings every comfort and great blessing.

Chaupai 36

Jo Yah Shani Charitra Nit Gavai
Kabahun Na Dasha Nikrisht Satavai ॥36॥

Whoever sings this story of Shani every day is never troubled by a low time.

Chaupai 37

Adbhut Nath Dikhavain Leela
Karain Shatru Ke Nashi Bali Dheela ॥37॥

The Lord shows his wonderful play, and the enemy's strength wears away and grows slack.

Chaupai 38

Jo Pandit Suyogya Bulvai
Vidhivat Shani Grah Shanti Karai ॥38॥

One who invites a learned pandit and has the Shani graha shanti done with the proper rites,

Chaupai 39

Peepal Jal Shani Divas Chadhavat
Deep Daan Dai Bahu Sukh Pavat ॥39॥

*and on Saturdays offers water at the peepal tree and lights a lamp there, finds
much happiness.*

Chaupai 40

Kahat Ram Sundar Prabhu Dasa
Shani Sumirat Sukh Hot Prakasha ॥40॥

Ramsundar, servant of the Lord, says: when you remember Shani, happiness shines out.

Closing Doha

Path Shanishchar Dev Ko, Keenhon Vimal Taiyar
Karat Path Chalis Din, Ho Bhavsagar Par ॥3॥

*Vimal prepared this recitation of Lord Shanishchar. Reciting it for forty days, one crosses the
ocean of worldly life.*

Source: Traditional Hindi text, cross-checked line by line against sanskritdocuments.org
(doc_z_otherlang_hindi/shani40, navagraha section), Bharat Discovery / Bharatkosh (शनि चालीसा), BhaktiBharat.com
(chalisa/shani-chalisa) and Amar Ujala (shani-chalisa-lyrics-in-hindi)

The meanings are our own first draft. A scholar has not reviewed them yet. If you spot a mistake, please tell us.

getnitya.com/en/shani/shani-chalisa/