Shree Hari Kavach

Printed & Published by: Shree Swãminãrãyan Temple Bhuj

With the blessings of:

H.H. Ãchãrya 1008 Shree Koshalendra-Prasãdji Mahãrãj and Mahant Purãni Swãmi Shree Dharmanandan Dãsji



Shree Swaminarayan Mandir Shree Swaminarayan Road Bhuj-Kutch Tel: +91 2832 250231 info@bhujmandir.org www.bhujmandir.org

PURPORT

Those who desire for nothing but Bhagvān are termed as nishkām (selfless) bhaktas and are very dear to Shreeji Mahārāj. However, sakām bhakti (devotion which is selfish) is a step leading to selfless devotion. Depending on the karma of a person, they attain troubles and calamities in life. At such a point in time if a bhakta remains loyal and dedicated on their path then such a bhakta will keep their firm faith in Bhagvān strong. However, if they weaken at such a time, they waver in their path of spiritual advancement. Also, they abandon the worship of their ishta-dev (choicest deity) and attach themselves with other deities or evil beings. Their pure devotion (pati-vratā ni bhakti) is then destroyed, and they are no longer faithful and becomes like an unfaithful wife. The murti of Shree Swāminārāyan Bhagvān that we have attained is described by Sadguru Nishkulānand Swāmi to be the cause of all murtis. We should cherish that and realise the greatness of what we have attained.

Shree Swāminārāyan Bhagvān has strongly propagated pure, unflinching, and chaste devotion and worship between a bhakta and Bhagvān (like the type a faithful wife has for her husband). This was the reason of why Sadguru Nityānand Swāmi composed the Shree Hari Kavach stotra. This Kavach addresses Swāminārāyan Bhagvān, who is the cause of all incarnations and all that exists. He is Purushottam Nārāyan and grants the reader immense happiness, protection, fearlessness, courage, and alleviation from all known or unknown miseries. By taking the assistance of this Shree Hari Kavach, the pure worship of bhaktas is not diluted in any way whatsoever. This Shree Hari Kavach is very powerful indeed. Its literal translation is 'The Armour of Shree Hari'. By reciting it according to the way prescribed, bhaktas are protected at all times by all means. Just as armour protects a person from his enemies, the Shree Hari Kavach protects the soul from the fears of this material world.

Therefore, in any trouble whatsoever, it would be beneficial for a divine soul to recite this Shree Hari Kavach. For this reason, it has been translated into English for those who are unable to read Gujarati or Sanskrit. This also allows bhaktas to understand the meanings behind every shlok. Also, it has been transliterated from Sanskrit to English for those bhaktas who wish to recite original the Sanskrit words.

With blessings and Jay Swaminarayan.

Sadguru Mahant Dharmnandandasji Swami.

Shree Swaminarayan Mandir Bhuj Kutch.

|| Shree Hari Kavach||

I bow to Hari, the son of Dharma-Dev and Bhakti-Mãtã born in Kaliyug; who has bought fame to the Dharmvanshi clan, and whose other name is Krishna; who is the best amongst the Sãvarni Brãhmans; and He who is the saviour of bhãgvat dharma. ||1||

I bow to Shree Hari, who empowers celibacy; whose divine attributes, such as penance, surprises the best of yogis; and whose many divine qualities, such as forgiveness, endurance, discipline, destroy the pride of Kãm-Dev. ||2||

I bow down to the Sahajānand Swāmi who is the master of all; who easily imparts bliss to His bhaktas; who takes away the material pain, from the root cause, of those who devote themselves and worship Him through mind, body and speech; and who gives bhaktas the darshan of His divine svarup and further increases their happiness and devotion. I bow down to that Nārāyan Muni. ||3||

I, Nityãnand Muni, bow down and devote this auspicious Kavach to Shree Hari; who is the son of Dharma-Dev; and who is the king of all the many groups of tyãgis who sit with joined hands around Him. ||4||

The rushi of this mantra is Vyãs Muni, which is known as 'anushtup shlok' (eight syllables per quarter). The ishta-dev is Hari who is the son of Bhakti-Mãtã and Dharma-Dev; who is the one who allows the soul to connect to Himself through this mantra. He who is the protector of righteousness is the seed of this mantra (as the tree lies in a seed). He who is the observer of great vows, is the strength of this mantra (the cause of sprout of the seed). I chant this mantra for the fulfilment of all my desires.

|| Atha Kar Nyãs ||

Recite each mantra with a finger and the thumb. Saluting Bhagvãn with His different names protects and purify the hands.

Thumb: Aum Shree Hari-Krushnãy Namonghustãbhyãm Namaha Forefinger with the thumb: Aum Shree Bhakti-Dharmãtmajãy Namastar-Janibhyãm Namaha Middle finger with the thumb: Aum Shree Haraye Namo Madhyamãbhyãm Namaha Ring finger with the thumb: Aum Shree Krushnãy Namo Anãmikãbhyãm Namaha Small finger with thumb: Aum Shree Nilkanthãy Namah Kanishtikãbhyãm Namaha Both Hands together: Aum Shree Swãminãrãyanãy Namaha Kartalakar-Pushtãbhyãm Namaha

Once it ends recite: Iti Kara-Nyãsaha

|| Atha Shadang Nyãs ||

Recite each mantra with the fingers of the right hand touching the respective limbs. Saluting Bhagvãn with His different names will protect the limbs and the mind from wavering from our thoughts of Bhagvãn.

The heart region: Aum Shree Hari-Krushnãy Namo Rudayãy Namaha The head: Aum Shree Bhakti-Dharmãtmajãy Namaha Shiraseh Svãhã The crown of head: Aum Shree Haraye Namaha Shikhãye Vashat The shoulders down to waist: Aum Shree Krushnãy Namaha Kavachãy Hoom The eyes: Aum Shree Nilkanthãy Namo Netrãbhyãm Vaushat The whole body down: Aum Shree Swãminãrãyanãy Namo Strãy-Phat

Once it ends recite: Iti Shadang-Nyãsaha

|| Atha Dhyãnam Nyãs ||

I bow down to Shree Krishna Purushottam, who is the son of Dharma-Dev and the master of all divine beings; who is imperishable and best amongst the unattached; who occupies the highest seat; and whose image attracts the minds of His many followers who sit around Him and worship Him, thereby attaining immense bliss.

I meditate upon He, who takes away the pains of His followers and is the ocean of divine mercy; whose divine feet are served by even the greatest of munis out of love; who loves righteousness; who accepts the love of His bhaktas; whose gentle face is forever smiling; and who is beautifully clothed in white. ||5||

May Shree Hari, whose divine glories, when sung and heard, bring auspicious rewards, protect me from evil and fear coming from the eastern direction. May Shree Hari, who protects His bhaktas from the servants of Yam-Rãj, protect me from evil and fear from the southern direction. ||6||

May Shree Hari, who resides within the soul of the bhaktas, and who destroys the evil desires from the root cause that bind the soul to the body, protect me from evil and fear of the western direction. May Shree Hari, who is the elder brother of Ichhārām, protect me from the evil and fear of the northern direction. ||7||

May Sahajānand Swāmi, whose happiness is unconditioned, protect me from the evil and fear of the north-eastern direction. May Shree Hari, to whom Hanumānji is beloved and to whom Hanumānji holds beloved, protect me from evil and fear of the south-eastern and south-western direction. ||8||

May Shree Hari, who shields the pains of all who bow to Him through selfless love, protect me from the evil and fear of the north-western direction. May Shree Hari, who looks out for the good of all, protect me from any evil and fear from above. ||9||

May Shree Hari, the establisher of righteousness, who forever thinks of the well being of the sãdhus who are singularly attached to Him; who possess the attributes of dharma, bhakti, gnãn, and vairãgya; who sides with His bhaktas who follow the path of dharma, protect me from any evil and fear from below (Pãtãl). May Shree Hari, who takes away the sin and pain of all His followers, protect me in the early morning (prãtah kãl), and may this very Shree Hari protect me in the late morning (sangav kãl). ||10||

May Shree Hari, who destroys atheistic philosophy and establishes the philosophy of Bhagvãn and nourishes dharma, protect me in the first part of the day. May Keshav, who endures the wrongdoings of the brãhmans, protect me at noon. ||11||

May the very Mãdhav, who is discontented upon listening to criticisms of the brãhmans and Veds which describe Akshar, protect me at the end of day. May Shree Hari, who considers the brãhmans as His soul, who is captivated by His bhaktas, and who destroys the wicked, protect me in the night. ||12||

May Shree Hari, who is all pervading and who empowers dharma, bhakti, gnãn, and vairãgya, protect me at midnight. May He, who loves dharma and has given great happiness to Bhakti-Mãtã and Dharm-Dev, protect me in the remainder of the night. ||13||

May Shree Swaminarayan, who resided in Gadhpur for good upon hearing the prayer of Abhayraja, protect me at dusk. May Shree Hari, who was content in the selfless service of Mukundanand Brahmchari forever protect me in the water. ||14||

Those who have worshipped Shree Hari in righteousness and devotion and He who was worshipped by Bhakti-Mãtã and Dharma-Dev, protect me at all places. May Sahajãnand Swãmi, who is the greatest amongst the Sãvarni clan and also the foremost in practicing celibacy, protect me from the fear and evils of the sky. ||15||

May Shree Hari, who is self-existent and on who on His own accordance takes many different forms of incarnations, such as Matsya, protect me on a fort, in deep forest, on mountains, in the woods, in war, in deep dilemma, in the oceans, and from all types of fires. ||16||

He who takes way (*har*) all the troubles of His bhaktas is given the name 'Hari'; and as He enchants (*akrshan*) their minds, He is given the name 'Krishna'; together they become 'Hari-Krishna'. May Shree Hari-Krishna, protect the top of my head and may He who has given the happiness of His childhood to Bhakti-Mãtã protect my forehead. May He, who loves dharma, protect my mouth. May Shree Hari, who loves His bhaktas, protect my ears. ||17||

May Shree Hari, the best celibate amongst all celibates, protect my chin. May Shree Hari the son of Dharma-Dev protect both of my eyebrows. May Shree Hari, who was born to Dharma-Dev and Bhakti-Mãtã, protect my eyes. May Shree Hari, to whom penance is like wealth, protect my nose. ||18||

May Shree Hari, who removes the pride in false arrogant yogi's with His divine power, protect my lips. May Nãrãyan Muni, who is the greatest rushi of all rushis, protect my tongue. May Nilkanth Muni, who is adored by His bhaktas, protect my teeth and cheeks. May the Shree Hari, whose darshan is beautiful, protect my cheeks. ||19||

May Shree Hari, who is the ocean of happiness for Dharma-Dev, forever protect my throat. May my master, Shree Hari, protect my shoulders; and may He, the conqueror of the senses, protect my arms. ||20||

May Shree Hari, who's Ved is Sãm, who was born in the caste of brãhmans, and whose speech gives the utmost stability, protect my elbows and fingers. May Shree Hari, the younger brother of Rãm-Pratãp, forever protect my heart. ||21||

May Shree Hari, the intelligent one, whose penance and meditation can never be performed by other tyãgis, protect my armpits. May He, who is the cherished and worshipped ishta-dev of all the yogis, and the one who fed from the breast of the wives of Dharma-Dev, (such as Bhakti and Shraddhã), protect my chest. ||22||

May Shree Hari, the son of Dharma-Dev, who is the destroyer of Kãm-Dev's pride, protect my stomach. May Shree Bhagvãn Swãminãrãyan, who is like a desire tree which fulfils all desires, protect my navel. ||23||

May Shree Hari, who nourishes the Uddhav Samradãy, which was weakened by demonic people, always protect both sides of my waist. May Nãrãyan Muni, who is most dearest to satsangis, protect my back. ||24||

May Varni-Rãj, who holds all the qualities of a sãdhu, protect my waist. May Shree Hari, to whom sãdhus are beloved and who is beloved to sãdhus, protect my genitals. May Shree Hari, who is obeyed by His bhaktas, protect my upper thighs. ||25||

May Shree Swāminārāyan Bhagvān, who respected brāhmans as devs, protect my lower thighs. May Shree Hari, the upholder of dharma, protect my knees. May Shree Hari, who detests the scent of a women's body (as He is a brahm-chāri), protect the back of my thighs. May Shree Hari, who gave immense happiness to all and fulfilled the wishes of Dharma-Dev, also protect my ankles. ||26||

May Shree Hari, who gave happiness to Bhakti-Mãtã, protect my feet and toes. May Shree Hari, who protects His bhaktas from fear, protect the whole of my body. May Shree Hari, who is all-pervading, protect every hair on my body. ||27||

May Shree Hari, whose association gave His bhaktas the darshan of His divine svarup, protect all my senses. May Shree Hari, who is known as 'Rushi-Kesh' (looks after the senses), protect my vital breaths. May Shree Hari, who is known as 'Madhav' (the husband of Lakshmi and the one who has no master), protect my consciousness (chitt). ||28||

May Shree Hari, who incarnated as Nar-Nãrãyan, the two sons of Dharma and Murti, in Badrikãshram to perform penance for His bhaktas, protect my intellect. From whose mere decision inspires the likes of Brahmãji to create, sustain, and maintain creation, may that Shree Hari known as Keshav, who has beautiful brown hair, protect my mind. May Shree Hari, who is elegant like the illuminating moon of Vrundavan and who loves dharma, protect my soul. ||29||

May Shree Hari who has conquered sleep, destroy my laziness, the very laziness which is the root of sin. May He also protect me from sleep, which is the root cause of all sins and the destroyer of good deeds, as it also leads to poverty. ||30||

May Shree Hari, who is named 'Narayan' and whose knowledge is derived from the sat-shãstras, protect me from my arrogance. May Shree Hari, who is named 'Yogeshvar', protect me from any disturbances and obstacles in my spiritual disciplines. May Shree Hari, who is the ishta-dev of the greatest of munis, protect me from binding to my actions (karma). ||31||

May Shree Hari, who is free from lust, protect me from the inner enemy of lust, which destroys all auspiciousness and leads one to destruction. May Shree Hari, who is the ocean of compassion and who Has forever conquered anger, protect me from the dangerous inner enemy of anger, which is like a huge forest fire. ||32||

May Shree Hari, who greatly explains the faults of greed using historical examples, protect me from greed and from those people engrossed in greed. May Shree Hari, who has conquered the sense of taste, protect me from the powerful sense of taste. ||33||

May Shree Hari, who is humble, protect me from arrogance, which is the enemy of good qualities. May Shree Hari, who is free from all desires, protect me from worldly desires which are like an ocean of misery. ||34||

May Shree Hari, who is free from all affection other than affection for His bhaktas, protect me from affection towards the body and all the bodily relatives. May Shree Hari, who is free hatred, also protect me from hatred, as it is like a snake and it destroys the virtuous path. ||35||

May Shree Hari, to whom sãdhus are beloved and who is beloved to sãdhus, protect me from hypocrisy and deceit. May the son of Dharma, who is free from envy, also protect me from envy. ||36||

May Shree Hari, who gave the bliss of His divine svarup to Bhakti-Mãtã and Dharma-Dev, and who removes the pain of His bhaktas, protect me when I am standing, walking, sitting, drinking, eating and in all other actions. ||37||

May Shree Hari, who pervades in all, and whose divine charitras are extraordinary, protect me when I am excited, bored, falling, being hit, sneezing, yawning, sleepy or tired. ||38||

May Shree Hari, protect me from all states, conditions, positions and situations, and may He protect me from the pain of all enemies. ||39||

May Shree Hari, who uprooted the five sins (drinking alcohol, eating meat, eating fish, marking body with occult symbols, and illicit sex) from the Kaulãgam followers, and showed them the path of dharma, protect me from those whose company may bring me harm, and also from the company of kudã-panthi (cause one to falter in vartmãns), shakti-panthi (persuade one to consume meat and alcohol), shushka-vedanti (cause one to fall from devotion and worship), and the nastik ((believe in only karmas, and deny the existence of Bhagvãn). ||40||

May Shree Hari, who imparts the perfect knowledge of the ãtmã and Bhagvãn, protect me from ignorance and people with ignorance. May Shree Hari, who has no love for any material object, who remains in the company of sãdhus, and who has perfect knowledge of yog, protect me from errors in performing bhakti. ||41||

May Shree Hari, who is the greatest amongst the virtuous, protect me from the offence of not being able to enter and bow to a dev within a temple while on my travels. May Shree Hari, who accepted the service of Dharma-Dev and Bhakti-Mãtã while performing penance, protect me from destruction that has occurred on my path of pious actions. ||42||

May Shree Hari, who is best amongst the twice-born in the family of Dharma-Dev, protect me from the unfavourable and evil occurrences of Kali-Yug. May He, whose divine feet were worshipped by Dharma and Bhakti, protect me from rumours spread by society. ||43||

May Shree Hari, who was born to Dharma and Bhakti after their rigorous penance to attain Him, protect me from the arrogance of my body. May Shree Hari, who destroyed the evil beings with His divine and majestic power, protect me from affection and from false speculation. ||44||

May Shree Hari, who is beyond happiness and sorrow, also protect me from attachment to happiness and sorrow. May Shree Hari, who is content and free from any sort of acquirement of possession or wealth, protect me from the ocean of desires and the thirst and longing for material pleasures. ||45||

May Shree Hari, whose wrath is feared by the planets and the sun, and the reason they carry out their tasks accordingly, protect me from the planets. May Shree Hari, who is bowed to by even the greatest of yogis, and who is most powerful and supreme, protect me from cruel invisible planets, such as Ketu. ||46||

May Shree Hari, to whom selfless (nishkãm) bhaktas are beloved and who is beloved to selfless bhaktas, protect me from mental and physical pains. ||47||

May Shree Hari, who is eternal, powerful, and almighty, protect me from the poisonous and sharp teeth of snakes and also the sharp and fearful teeth of other living beings and ghosts. May Shree Hari, who is the remover of sin, always protect me from all sin. ||48||

May Shree Hari, whose intentions are always non-violent, forever protect me from carnivorous animals, such as tigers, as well as from witches, ghosts, spirits, and demons. ||49||

May Shree Hari, the son of Dharma, who gives bliss to those who perform good deeds, protect me from the three forms of pains – adhyãtma (bodily), adhibhut (from external sources, humans, or animals), and adhidev (from devs or nature). May Shree Hari, protect me from fatal diseases, such as cholera and plague, and also from dreadful dreams. ||50||

May Shree Hari, who destroys irreligious sects, protect me from those with malicious thoughts. May He also protect me from irreligious scriptures and from the wicked kings. ||51||

May Shree Hari, who is most beloved to the sãdhus, protect me from fraudulent and sinful bhaktas who strive after women, wealth, and material sense pleasure with the false display of devotion and knowledge. ||52||

May Shree Hari, from whom His enemies tremble with fear, protect me from evil charms and spells used to kill people, from being overthrown off my path, and from being completely destroyed. May Shree Hari, protect me from evil spells that cause hatred amongst those I associate with or that which attract me towards others. May He also protect me from betrayers, from those who are offensive and deceptive to their gurus, from arsonists, from those who poison others, those who burgle with weapons, and from those who steal wealth, women, land. ||53-54||

May chanting of the name Shree Hari destroy conmen, oppressors who spread fear, barbaric people, crooks who steal money, violent enemies, those who harass sãdhus, and those who use weapons to terrorise and inflict pain upon others. ||55-56-57||

May chanting the name of Shree Hari, destroy those who are adamant to cause pain to others through lowly acts using wicked chants and spells, the cruel hearted ministers and politicians, those who obstruct the progress of righteous people, those who are experts in cheating others, those who are cruelly using wicked chants to kill others, those who are barbarians and cause inconvenience and anguish amongst others, the sinful and immoral people, those who are devoted to look for any small or large fault of others, and those who are ready and devoted to bring me harm. ||58-59-60||

May chanting the name 'Sahajānand Swāmi' relieve illnesses caused by an imbalance in the three elements in the body – vāt (balance of air), pit (balance of water and fire), and kaf (balance of water and earth). May the name also relieve strong fevers caused by the planets, such as Shani, and fevers caused every two days, every three days, every four days, every week, every fortnight, every month, every six months, and every twelve months. May the name also relieve incurable painful fevers and diseases and also strong fevers such as the 'Shaiv' or 'Vaishnav' which make the senses and body tremble. ||61-62-63||

May chanting the name 'Nārāyan', destroy frightful and alarming dreams; destroy mischievous beings, such as Bālgrah and Vruddhgrah, which attack at young age and old age; destroy epilepsy and other ailments; destroy Kushmand and other such attendants of Shivji; destroy witches, such as Putna; destroy beings that wonder in the daytime, wonder in the night, and wonder in the evenings; and destroy other dreadful beings. ||64-65||

May simply thinking of the name of Shree Swāminārāyan Bhagvān, who is the master of all masters, destroy from afar those which wish to harm me in the morning, evening, or night, such as plants which sprout from underground or through seeds, creatures born from eggs (such as birds, snakes, and lizards), organisms born from sweat (such as lice, bugs, and bacteria), and beings born from the womb (such as animals and humans). ||66-67||

May Shree Hari, who is the lord of the devs and the son of Bhakti and Dharma, protect me from all other fears inside and outside my body. ||68||

May Shree Hari protect my body, which is now covered by the Hari Kavach (armour of Hari) and make it stronger than the Vajra (thunderbolt). Protect my body from the hundreds of different types of pains and make me fearless. ||69||

Day and night, I fearlessly travel with the indestructible armour of Shree Hari, who is the lord of all lords. ||70||

I have recited the most extraordinary Hari Kavach, which should be sheltered from those not worthy, which destroys all mental and physical pains, which cleanses all sins, which destroys internal and external enemies, which brings peace and triumph, and which delivers moksh. For this reason, it is worthy of always being recited. ||71-72||

This Hari Kavach should not be given to those who are mean, hypocrites, the disobeyer of dharma, to those who are evil and wicked, and atheists. ||73||

This Hari Kavach should not be given to those who have worldly desires, to those who are not bhaktas, to those who betray bhaktas, those who follow the barren philosophy, and to those who insult shãstras and bhaktas. ||74||

This Hari Kavach should be given to those who have loving faith (shraddhã), to those who are bhaktas, to those who believe in Bhagvãn, to those who are without jealousy and without envy, to those who see only good virtues in others, to those who are dear to Shree Hari, to those who find Shree Hari dear, to those who are dear to other bhaktas, and to those who other bhaktas are dear. ||75||

Those who write up this Hari Kavach and wear it around their neck or right arm are victorious with every step. ||76||

Those who listen to this Hari Kavach or sing it to other bhaktas with love and devotion, will attain the happiness of Shree Hari-Krishna and will find nothing difficult to attain. ||77|| With the power this Hari Kavach, develop love for the qualities required to attain moksh, such as tranquillity, self-restraint, forgiveness, patience, and contentment. One can also easily overcome inner enemies, such as lust and anger, can also overcome all obstacles on the path of moksh. ||78||

The strength and power of this Hari Kavach shall allow one to attain worldly pleasures, such as wealth, and also the Bhagvãn and His dhãm at the end of one's life. ||79||

There is no doubt that anyone who recite this Hari Kavach ten thousand times shall destroy the attacks of ghosts (bhoot), ancestral spirits (pret), evil spirits (pisãch), witches (dãkini), evil brãhman ghosts (brahm-rãkshas), and female sorcerers (yogini), evil beings which attack the young and old (bãlgrah and vruddhgrah). They shall also be protected from evil spells and, incurable diseases, and many other calamities. ||80-81||

By reciting this Hari Kavach five times a day, one attains whatever they wish for. Therefore, both grahasthas, and tyãgis should recite this Hari Kavach with great effort and enthusiasm. ||82||

This Hari Kavach which is most pious, is greater than any other armour, removes the pains inflicted by weapons. It also removes the fear of the cycle of births and deaths. Therefore, this Hari Kavach is worthy of being sung by all those with spiritual desires and is worthy of being retained in the heart. ||83||

|| Thus ends the Shree Hari Kavach composed by Sadguru Nityãnand Muni, the disciple of Shree Sahajãnand Swami. ||