

## **Sudarshana Homa**

M.G. Prasad, 1 Osborne Terrace, Maplewood, NJ 07040

A homa is a sacred Vedic ritual carried out to worship a Deity through the medium of consecrated fire. The consecrated fire also spiritually represents the Sraddha (sincerity, faith, conviction etc.) The consecrated fire is the carrier of the offering to the specific deity. Fire is also the mid-element among the five elements of nature namely earth, water, fire, air and space. Also, fire dynamically can take any form. In a homa, oblations such as ghee, samith, etc are offered to specific Deity through the consecrated fire along with corresponding Veda mantras recited properly.

Lord Sudarshana represents the discus (chakra) as a mighty weapon held by Lord Vishnu in His upper right hand. Sudarshana means sublime and divine (Su) Vision (Darshana). In order to have the divine vision and vibrations to exist in devotee's mind and home any interfering demonic vibrations need to be destroyed by the grace of the Lord. This action of destruction of demonic vibrations is carried out by the Sudarshana chakra through the grace of the Lord Vishnu. Hence Lord Sudarshana is worshipped through homa particularly while occupying a new home.

Sudarshana chakra also represents the Cosmic mind and time principles. Hence the devotee seeks serene and divine mind at all times through the blessings of Lord Sudarshana. As a diagrammatic representation the Sudarshana chakra has six vertices formed by two triangles one upward and one downward representing spiritual and material prosperities respectively.

It is noted in scriptures that in many instances Sudarshana chakra was used by Lord Vishnu to bring His infinite energy to kill demons such as Sishupala. In some cases Sudarshana took the form of wheel of fire while destroying the demonic forces. In the homa, through the consecrated fire the Sudarshana as a wheel of fire with infinite divine radiance is worshipped for spiritual light. The chakra is also represented with Lord Sudarshana on one side and Lord Narasimha on the other side. It is well known that Lord Narasimha manifested with fire like radiance while killing the demon Hiranyakashipu. Lord Narasimha manifested to the truth which devotee Prahlada expressed without a shadow of doubt. Acharya Vedanta Deshika has composed beautiful prayers Sudarshana ashtaka and Shodasha ayudha stotras.

The meaning of specific Sudarshana mala mantra recited in the homa expresses sincere seeking of health, prosperity, sublime ambience, spiritual knowledge and removal of any obstacles to these. In the words of yogi-seer Sriranga Sadguru, "Everyone is entitled for spiritual knowledge. The faithful effort is in the intense development of ever-eagerness to receive and experience the spiritual Light"

Sudarshana Mahaajwaala Koti Sooraya Samaprabha  
Ajnaanaandhasya Me Vishnormargam Pravartaya

Oh! Lord Sudarshana, the great flame with radiance equivalent to that of millions of Suns, As I am ignorant and blind, please engage me in the Path to reach Lord Vishnu.

---

The author gratefully acknowledges the help of lectures of H.H.Swami Sri Ranga Priya and an article of Muralidhar Rangaswamy.