

## Sri Margabandhu Stotram by Shri Appayya Deekshithar

*This Stotra Rathna was written by Appayya Deekshithar (1520-1593). This is written in praise of the Lord Margabandhu of Virinchipuram, near Vellore of South Arcot district of Tamil Nadu. People who undertake any journey should recite it before traveling, on the days when they are traveling and after the completion of travel. Lord Shiva as Margabandhu would always be with them and protect them.*

*shambho mahadevadeva, shivashambho mahadevadevesa shambho, shambho mahadevadeva*

Prostrations to Lord Shiva who blesses us with prosperity and peace. Prostrations to him who is the God of Gods as Margabandhu always be there to protect us through our entire life journey!

*phalavanamrath-kireetam phaala-nethrarchisha dangdha pancheshu-keetam, soolahathaaraathi-kootam shudhamardhendu choodam bhaje margabandhum 1*

I pray to that friend of the path, who wears a crown on his head, who kills his enemies by his trident, who wears a crescent which showers nectar, and who burnt by the fire of his eyes, which are on his forehead, Him who has the five arrows like an insect.

*ange virjat bhujangam abhraganga-tharangabhiramothamangam, omkaravati-kurangam sidha-samsevithamgrim bhaje margabandum 2*

I pray to that friend of the path, whose limbs are adorned by a snake, who is a deer in the park of holy pranava Om, whose feet is worshipped by great sages, and who looks charming with his head, adorned by the Ganga of the sky. (Akaasa Ganga resides on the head of Lord Shiva)

*nithyam chidanadaroopam nihnuthasesha-lokesa-vairiprathapam, karthaswaragendra-chapam krithivaasam bhaje divya-sanmarga-bandhum 3*

I pray to that friend of the good divine path, who is perennial and of the form of truth, intelligence and bliss, who destroyed without reminder, the glory of the fame of the enemy of Indra, who used the golden Mount Meru, as his bow in the war against three asuras, and who dresses himself in hides of trees.

*kandarpa darpagnamesam kaalakantam mahesam mahavyomakesam, kundabhadandam suresam koti surya-prakasam bhaje margabandhum. 4*

I pray to that friend of the path, who put an end to the pride of God of love, who is the great Lord who has a deep blue throat, who has the great sky as his matted lock, whose teeth resemble the white jasmine flowers, and who has the shine of billions of Suns.

*mandara-bhutherudaram mandaragendra-saaram mahagourya-dooram, sindhooradoora-pracharam sindhu-rajathi-dheeram bhaje margabandhum 5*

I pray to that friend of the path, who is more generous than the wish giving tree, who is the strength behind the great Mandara Mountain, who is very close to the great Goddess Gauri, who has a red color far intense than red lead, and who is more resolute than the God of the ocean.

*appayya yajjwendra-geetham stotrarajam patedhyasthu bhakthya prayane, thasyartha sidhim vidhyathe marga-madhye-abhayam chaashuthosho mahesah*

This king of stotras written by Appayya who is the performer of sacrifices, if read with devotion during journey, would ensure fulfillment of wishes, protection during journey, and Lord Shiva would be easily pleased.