

Sri Durga

The Goddess Durga is also known as Shakti or Parvathy. She is the protective mother of the universe. She is the protector of all that is good and harmonious in the world. Sitting on a lion the multi-handed Durga battles the evil forces of the universe.



In Sanskrit “Durga” means a “fort” or a “place that is difficult to overrun”. This shows the nature of Goddess Durga. She eliminates the sufferings on all those who pray to her. She has multiple hands with weapons, always ready to fight a battle with the evil appearing in any direction. She holds a symbolic object in each of the hands. Durga carries a variety of weapons like the conch, the bow and arrows, the thunderbolt, the sudarshana chakra (disc), the sword, the trishul. Like Shiva, Durga is also referred as “Triyambake” – The three eyed goddess. Her eyes represent desire (moon), action (sun) and knowledge (fire).

Durga is usually depicted as riding on a lion which represents power, will and determination. She symbolizes her mastery over the three qualities of a lion. Her bold posture is called “abhaya mudra” which means “freedom from fear”.

Durga Sloka

Sarva-Mangala-Maanggalye Shive Sarvaartha-Saadhike |

Sharannye Tryambake Gauri Naaraayanni NamostuTe ||

Salutations to You O Narayani! Who is the Auspiciousness in All the Auspicious(Complete with All the Auspicious Attributes) and Who fulfills All the Objectives of the Devotees, Who is the Giver of Refuge, With Three Eyes and a Shining Face