

Lesson-11**Introduction to god Shani:**

- 1) Shani Dev is an adorable god like other gods and goddesses in Hinduism. He is the son of Surya and Chaya.
- 2) He is one of the nine planets.
- 3) God Shani removes all the hardship and obstacles in the way of life.
- 4) Shani Dev has four hands. His colour is blue and wears black clothes.
- 5) He holds a sword, an arrow and a kharga in hands and rides on a vulture.

Main Objective of Shani Worship: The objective of Shani worship is to satisfy Shani dev, keep away from diseases and have peace of mind. The Hindus worship Shani Dev to keep themselves free from dangers and obstacles.

Worship time of god Shani: According to the name of God, Saturday is the day to observe Shani worship.

Worship-Procedure of god Shani:

- 1) Usually worship is arranged after sunset in temples or in the house. The regular worship-rules of purity and cleanliness are to be maintained.
- 2) In households, the lawn is chosen for the worship and it starts with the recitation of Shani dev's Panchali. The worship is also held reciting Mantras. Conventionally Shani worship is not held inside the house. Neighbours are invited to attend.
- 3) Five types of seasonal fruits and five types of flowers offered in the worship as Naivedya. In some areas, kedgerie, milk, sugar, candy, banana, gur, sweets and food-item made of flour are arranged. Mug dal is used for preparing kedgerie.
- 4) Betel-nut, a bowl of honey, maskalai, black til, violet or black flowers are needed as necessary items (Upacharas).
- 5) Prosad is distributed after worship.

Lesson- 12**Pranam Mantra of god Shani with Meaning:**

“omneelanjanacayaprakhyam ravisuta-mahagraham/
Chayayagarvhasambhutam twam namami shanishcaram//”

Meaning: Your body is blue, you are the son of Suraya, you have born in the womb of Chaya, you accept my bow in reverence.

The teaching of worship of god Shani:

- i) God Shani corrects us giving sufferings and brings us back to the right path from the evil path, as mother sometimes punishes the child for correcting wrongs despite her love.
- ii) Worshipping Shani on every Saturday is a regular religious work of the Hindus.

The impact of worship of god Shani:

- i) Shani Dev becomes angry at our irresponsibility, loss of purity and our sins. Then we suffer. Our realization comes through sufferings. We again become mindful to responsibilities and purity by worshipping Him.
- ii) Dangers are kept away if we worship Shani Dev.
- iii) If we worship Shani Dev, He keeps us free from diseases and obstacles.

Short Questions from Lesson-11 and 12:

- 1) Who is an adorable god like other deities in Hinduism?
- 2) Who are the father and mother of Shani Dev?
- 3) Which god is one of the nine planets?
- 4) Who removes all the hardship and obstacles in the way of life?
- 5) Why do the Hindus worship Shani Dev?
- 6) How is Shani Dev's skin-colour?
- 7) What type of clothes does Shani Dev wear?
- 8) What does Shani Dev hold?
- 9) Where does Shani Dev ride?
- 10) What is the objective of Shani worship?
- 11) What is the time of Shani worship?
- 12) Make a list of the Upachar used for worshipping Shani.
- 13) When is Shani Puja's prosad distributed?

Broad Questions from Lesson-11 and 12:

- 1) Explain the introduction to god Shani.
- 2) Explain the worship procedure of god Shani.
- 3) Write the Pranam mantra of god Shani with English meaning.
- 4) Write down the teachings of worshipping god Shani.
- 5) Write down five impacts /benefits of worshipping Shani.