

01 Namaskār Mahāmangal Sutra

Jain Prayer to Great Souls

Namaskār Mahāmangal Sutra, popularly known as Namaskār Mantra, Navakār Mantra or Namokkār Mantra, is the most revered prayer in Jainism. It offers obeisance to the five supreme beings known as Pancha Parmeshtis, namely: Arihanta, Siddha, Āchārya, Upādhyāy and Sādhus which include all monks and nuns of any religion of the world who practice 5 great vows of conduct.



In the first and second sentences obeisance is offered to the omniscient beings, which are Arihanta and Siddha. In the third, fourth and the fifth sentences obeisance is offered to ascetics who are Āchārya, Upādhyāy and all Sādhus and Sādhis of the world. The sutra offers obeisance to the qualities of Pancha Parmeshtis not to the individuals. The remaining four sentences explain the importance and benefit of these obeisances. There are a total of 108 qualities or attributes of these five supreme beings. The Jain rosary (Mālā) has 108 beads signifying these attributes.

Arihanta – 12, Siddha – 8, Āchārya – 36, Upādhyāy – 25, and Sādhu – 27 = Total - 108

नमस्कार महामंगल सूत्रः

नमो अरिहंताणं ।

नमो सिद्धाणं ।

नमो आयरियाणं ।

नमो उवज्जायाणं ।

नमो लोए सव्वसाहूणं ।

एसो पंच नमुक्कारो, सव्वपावप्पणासणो ।

मंगलाणं च सव्वेसिं, पढमं हवइ मंगलं ॥

Namaskāra Mahāmangal Sutra

namo arihantānam.

namo siddhānam.

namo āyariyānam.

namo uvajjhāyānam.

namo loe savva-sāhunam.

eso panca-namukkāro, savva-pāva-ppanāsano;

mangalānam ca savvesim, padhamam havai mangalam.

Namo Arihantānam

I bow to the Arihantas (Tirthankars) who have reached enlightenment by conquering or eliminating all their Kashāya or vices such as anger, ego, deceit, and greed and inner weaknesses, who have attained infinite knowledge, vision, bliss, and power and have shown the path to the lay people that brings the cycle of birth, life, and death to an end.

Namo Siddhānam

I bow to the Siddhas or liberated souls that have attained the state of perfection and immortality after the attainment of Keval-Jnāna and after completing their current duration of life and thereby achieving total freedom from all karma. This way they have completely ended the cycle of birth, life, and death.

By destroying all 8 types of karmas Siddhas acquire 8 unique attributes of their soul. They are as follows:

Anant Jnān	Infinite knowledge
Anant Darshan	Infinite perception

Avyābādha Sukha	Eternal happiness
Anant Chāritra	Perfect conduct
Akshaya Sthiti	Immortality
Arupitva	Formlessness
Aguru Laghutva	No Social Status
Anant Virya	Infinite Power and Energy

Namo Āyariyānam

I bow to the Āchāryas, who head the Jain order, and who preach the principles of religion by showing us the path of liberation, i.e., the path of Right Conviction or Faith, Right Knowledge, and Right Conduct.

Namo Uvajjhāyanam

I bow to the Upādhyāys, who are the religious scholars and guides of the scriptures. They explain us the true nature of the soul, karma, their relationships, and the importance of spiritual life over material life.

Namo Loe Savva Sāhunam

I bow to all ascetics who strictly follow the five great vows of conduct and inspire us to live a simple life. The five vows are:

Ahimsa (Nonviolence and Compassion), Satya (Truthfulness), Asteya (Non-stealing), Brahmacharya (Chastity), and Aparigraha (Non-possessiveness and Non-attachment)

Eso Pancha Namukkāro

To these five types of great souls, I offer my obeisance.

Savva Pāvap-panāsano

May such obeisance help diminish my violations of vows and sins.

Mangalā-nam cha Savvesim

Giving this praise is most auspicious.

Padhamam Havai Mangalam

It is so auspicious as to bring inner peace and happiness.