

# Om Namaḥ Śivaya

Kirtan of 108 repetitions of “Om Namaḥ Śivaya” by multiple singers. Vocalists may sing at the notated pitch, or one or two octaves below to suit their ranges. (This is not a call-and-response kirtan; the congregation sings throughout.)

Accompaniment is for 6-string electric violin (tuned from top EADGCF) but it is suitable to use any other instrument, such as keyboard, that has an appropriate range and sound. The harmonic structure is too complex to allow the addition of a drone. The vocal line should be doubled by an instrument.

Pronunciation of the Sanskrit; the dot under the h at the end of Namaḥ means to pronounce it Namaha, which is indicated in the first two repetitions of the mantra as Namaḥ(a). The slash over the S in Śivaya means to pronounce it as a sh sound. The “i” in Śivaya is short, like the “i” in fish. The a sounds are like the u in but. Namaḥ Śivaya means “homage to Śiva”.

Composed in June 2002.

## Bill Robinson

**Note:** Since there is no provision for taking a breath in this melody—no, that wasn’t a mistake!—this mantra must be sung by multiple singers who stagger their breathing to maintain a continual sound.

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Fast ( $\text{♩} = 100$ )

Bill Robinson

Voices

6-String Violin

*ff*

*ff* Om Nama h(a) śi va ya Om Nama h(a) śi va ya

Om Nama h śi vaya Om Nama h śi vaya Om Nama h śi vaya Om Nama h śi vaya

*sim.*

[repeat mantra]

*sim.*

[2]

Musical notation system 1. Treble clef staff with a circled measure number 31. Bass clef staff with fingering numbers 4 3 1 4, 2/2, and 1 2.

Musical notation system 2. Treble clef staff. Bass clef staff with fingering numbers 2, 1 2, and 2/2.

Musical notation system 3. Treble clef staff with a circled measure number 41. Bass clef staff with fingering numbers 4/3, 2 1, and a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

Musical notation system 4. Treble clef staff. Bass clef staff with a *sim.* (sustained) marking and a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

Musical notation system 5. Treble clef staff with a circled measure number 51. Bass clef staff with fingering numbers 0 1 4 3, 4, 4, and 1 3.

Musical notation system 6. Treble clef staff. Bass clef staff with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and fingering numbers 1, 1, 1.

61

1 3  
4 1 2 4 1

4 1

71

2 1 2 1 4 3

1 2 3 1

81

*pp, legato*

4 2 3 1  
*pp, legato*  
4 2 2

3 1=i 2 0 4 2=2 4 2 1

4 2=2

Musical notation for the first system, measures 1-5. The top staff contains a melodic line with slurs and a dynamic marking of *rit.* above measure 5. The bottom staff contains a bass line with slurs and dynamic markings of *p* below measures 1, 2, 3, and 4. Fingerings are indicated as 4/2 in measure 2 and 3/1 in measure 3. A *V* marking is present above measure 5.

Musical notation for the second system, measures 6-10. The top staff continues the melodic line. The bottom staff features slurs and dynamic markings of *p* below measures 6, 7, 8, and 9. Fingerings 1, 2 2, and 3 3 are shown below measures 7, 8, and 9 respectively. A *V* marking is present above measure 10.

Musical notation for the third system, measures 11-15. The top staff continues the melodic line. The bottom staff features slurs and dynamic markings of *p* below measures 11, 12, 13, and 14. Fingerings 4 and 2 are shown below measures 11 and 12 respectively. A *V* marking is present above measure 15.

Musical notation for the fourth system, measures 16-20. The top staff continues the melodic line. The bottom staff features slurs and dynamic markings of *p* below measures 16, 17, 18, and 19. Fingerings 2 and 2 are shown below measures 17 and 18 respectively. A *V* marking is present above measure 20.

Musical notation for the fifth system, measures 21-25. The top staff continues the melodic line. The bottom staff features slurs and dynamic markings of *p* below measures 21, 22, 23, and 24. Fingerings 2 and 2 are shown below measures 22 and 23 respectively. A *V* marking is present above measure 25.

Musical notation for the sixth system, measures 26-30. The top staff begins with the marking *OM* and contains slurs and dynamic markings of *rit.* above measures 26, 27, and 28. The bottom staff features slurs and dynamic markings of *p* below measures 26, 27, 28, and 29. Fingerings 3=3, 2, and 1 3 4 3 4 are shown below measures 27, 28, and 29 respectively. A *V* marking is present above measure 30.