

ASTRA-MANTRAS IN THE RIG VEDA



Commence with 'Om' and end with 'hum phat swaha!' or 'hum phat thah thah!', by clapping hands on 'phat' and using various mudras. Namaskaram can be used and devotion directed (mentally through ajna chakra) to deity is also imperative.

For more potent mantras, use various Asanas. These and mudras were once part of Dhanurveda which included Hathayogavidya and also mudras.

For Vidyut-astras, for example, exercise the Vajrasana and the Vajra-mudra. Others can be used or invoked such as Agni, through the Agni-hotra, through which the shakti of manstrastra comes through and manifests.

There were at least 3306 astras in Vedic times, as per the main Vedic gods.

Hiranyastra: Astra of Indra's Vajra, relating to Baglamukhi

so asya vajro harito ya aayaso harirnikaamo hariraagabhastyoh
dyumnee sushipro harimanyusaayaka indre ni roopaaharitaa mimikshire

His is the metallic thunderbolt, golden and gold-coloured, very dear and in his yellow arms. Effulgent with strong teeth, destroying with it's golden rage. In Indra are all golden forms.- RV.X.96.3

Marutastra: Weapon of the Maruts (Bhairavas or male Mahavidyas)

Sanskrit:

vaasheemanta rshthimanto maneeshinah sudhanvaana ishumanto nishangihah
svashvaa stha surathaah prshnimaatarah svaayudhaa maruto yaathanaa shubham

Translation:

Armed with your daggers of wisdom, armed with spears, armed with your quivers, armed with arrows and auspicious bows. You have good horses, O ones whose Mother is Prishni (Kali), with auspicious weapons, O Maruts, go to victory! RV.V.57.2

Vidyastra: Weapon of intellect

Sanskrit:

Indra kratum na aa bhara pitaa putrebhyo yathaa

Translation:

O Indra, give us wisdom as a father gives wisdom to his sons. -RV.VII.32.26

Agni astra: The weapon of Fire

jaatavedase sunavaama somam araateeyato ni dahaati vedaa sah nah parshat ati durgaani vishvaa
saaveva sindhum durhitaatyagnih

We offer the celestial beverage to the knower of all births - may he consume the wisdom of our enemies. May he takes us through all troubles and difficulties, like a ship accross the ocean. - RV.I.99.1

This mantra appears in Durgasukta as the first verse. It is thus the seed-mantra for Durga, she who is born from the Divine transcendental Fire to destroy the evil forces - as also is Rudra. As having power to destroy enemies and take us through all difficult situations - material, spiritual, physical and astral - it thus summons the power of Bhairava and Mahashakti.

Brahma-astra: Vamadeva Brahmastra, the Weapon of Self-wisdom.

Sanskrit:

aham manur abhavam sooryash chaaham kaksheevaam rshir asmi viprah

Translation:

I am Manu and I became the Sun. I am the Poet-Seer, Rishi Kakshivan!- RV.IV.26.1.

Manu was the first mortal of the human race. He is son of Surya, the inner-Sun or the Self. Kakshivan is not only a great Seer, but also the great Divine Medic, Dhanvantri. This brahmastra, which basically means and is cognate to 'Aham brahmasmi' (as per Brihadaranyaka), connects us to the Divine powers of the Self.

Vira Jayastra: Weapon of Heros for Victory over enemies, demonic, human and animate.

Sanskrit:

Vishvajite dhanajite svarjite satraajite nrjita urvaraajite
ashvajite gojite abjite bharendraaya somam yajataaya haryatam

Translation:

The conquerer of the Universe (ie.Maya); Conquerer of the Self (Swarjit), winner of wealth, winner forever, conquerer of men and fields, Conquerer of the Horses (ie. Pranas), of Lights, of Waters - to Indra, the holy, offer the Soma! - RV.II.22.1

Kali Jayastra: Mantra for success in gambling

Sanskrit:

uta prahaamatideevyaa jayaati krtam yacchvaghnee vichinotikaale
yo devakaamo na dhanaa runaddhi samit tam raayaasrjati svadhaavaan

Translation:

Indeed, by celestial intelligence, he creates victory, when he, a gambler collects his winnings in time. Divinely-desired, he overwealms the offerer who does not withhold his riches, with wealth.- RV.X.42.9

Indrastra: Weapon of Indra

Sanskrit:

Satyamit tan na tvaavaananyo asteendra devo na martyo jyaayaan

Vaastosh pate dhruvaa sthonaamsatram somyaanaam
drapso bhettaa puraam shashvateenaamindro muneenaam sakhaa

Translation:

It is true that no-one else is like you, O Indra - no deity or mortal is greater than you.
- RV.VI.30.4

You are a mighty Pillar (sthuna), lord of the home, armour of those who offer the Soma: The drop of Soma smashes down all the Cities, and Indra is the friend of the Munis (silent sages). - RV.VIII.17.14

Asurastra: Weapon to destroy demons.

Sanskrit:

Indraasomaa tapatam raksh ubjatam nyarpayatam vrshanaa tamovrdhah
paraa srneetamachito nyoshatam hatam nudethaam ni shisheetamatinah (swaha)!

Translation:

Indra and Soma, destroy the demonic enemies, O bulls,send down those who add darkness to darkness.

Destroy and kill the fools - burn them up: chase them away and pierce the evil ones! RV.VII.104.1

Pramohana-astra: Weapon which induces sleep.

Sanskrit:

sahasrashr^n^go vrshabho yah samudraadudaacharat
tenaa sahasyenaa vayam ni janaan svaapayaamasi

Translation:

The thousand-horned bull who arises from the ocean,
We make all people sleep by him the strong and powerful one. RV.VII.55.7

Ghoradevi-astra: Wrathful weapon of the Goddess

Sanskrit:

uta syaa nah sarasvatee ghoraa hiranyavartanih
vritraghnee vashthi sushthutim - RV.VI.68.7

Translation:

Indeed, this celestial Ghora (Frightening) Saraswati with her path of Gold, the destroyer of the Obstruction (Vritraghni), claims our praise!

Pashupata-astra: Weapon of Pashupati or Rudra

Sanskrit:

tryambakam yajaamahe sugandhim pushtivardhanam
urvaarukamivabandhanaan mrityormuksheeya maamritaam RV.VII.59.12

Translation:

We worship the Father of the Three Worlds (Tryambaka), the granter of prosperity. As a cucumber from its stem, so may I be liberated from Death, not deprived of Immortal Life.

Shakti-astra: Weapon of Power or Indra's Shakti

Sanskrit:

Tvam shataanyava shambarasya puro jaganthaaprateeni dasyoh
ashiksho yatra shachyaa shaceevo divodaasaaya sunvate sutakre bharadvajaaya gnate vasooni

Translation:

You destroyed the hundred impregnable cities of the Dasyu Shambara when, Powerful One, with Shakti (Shachi), you helped Divodasa, who made offerings, and gave wealth to Bharadvaja who praise you. - RV.VI.31.4

Chakrastra: The Chakra-weapon

Sanskrit:

avartayat sooryo na chakram bhinad valamindro angirasvaan

Translation:

Indra sent forth his chakra like the Sun, and killed Vala when aided by the Angirasa seers. - RV.II.11.20

Ashwini-shakti-astra: Weapon that has the Mystical powers (or siddhis) of the Ashwins

Sanskrit:

praacheemu devaashvinaa dhiyam me.amrdhraam saataye krtam vasooyum
vishvaa avishtam vaaja aa purandheestaa nah shaktam shacheepatee shacheebhih

Translation:

Bring into creation, my tireless meditations that ask for wealth, Shining Ashwins.
Grant us high spirits in battle, and with your Shaktis, Lords of Shakti, assist us.- RV.VII.67.5

Kavacha mantra: Mantra of armoury (kavacha).

Sanskrit:

brhaspatimah pari paatu pashchaadutottarasmaadadharaadaghaayoh

Translation:

Brihaspati protect us from the rear, and from above and below from harm!- RV.I.42.11

INVOCATION FOR WEALTH:

I: Invoking Bhagavan Ganesh:

Sanskrit:

Om Ganaanaam tva ganapatim havaamahe kavim kaveenaamupamashravastamam jyeshtharaajam
brahmanaam brahmanas pata aa nah shrinvannootibhih seeda saadanam swaha! -RV.II.24.1

Translation:

We call you, Ganapati, the Sage of all Sages, the most famous of all, the Greatest King of all prayers, O Brahmanaspati, hear us with help, be seated in the place of sacrifice (x 3)

Sanskrit:

(Om bhur bhuvah svah) tat saviturvarenyam bhargo devasya dheemahi dhiyo yo nah prachodayaat swaha!-
RV.III.62.10 (x 3)

Translation:

We meditate on the celestial Sun, so that he may stimulate our intelligence.

Sanskrit:

Om noo indra raaye varivas krdhee na aa te mano vavrtyaama maghaaya
gomadashvaavad rathavad vyanto swaha!

Translation:

The fast, Indra, grant us the way to wealth, and let us bring your mind to bestow us wealth, that we may get vehicles, horses and cattle.RV.VII.27.5

Sanskrit:

Om ashvaavantam rathinam veeravantam sahasrinam shatinamvaajamindra
bhadravraatam vipraveeram svarshaamasmabhyamchitram vrshanam rayim daah swaha!

Translation:

Rich in horses, vehicles and heros, strong thousand and hundredfold, Indra with heroic Seers and auspicious troops, light-winning, grant us mighty resplendant wealth! RV.X.47.5

Sanskrit:

Om uta prahaamatideevyaa jayaati krtam yacchvaghnee vichinotikaale
yo devakaamo na dhanaa runaddhi samit tam raayaasrjati svadhaavaan swaha!

Translation:

Indeed, by celestial intelligence, he creates victory, when he, a gambler collects his winnings in time. Divinely-desired, he overwealms the offerer who does not withhold his riches, with wealth.- RV.X.42.9 (x 3)

Sanskrit:

Om Vasyaanindraasi me pituruta bhraaturabhuñjatah maataa chame chadayathah samaa vaso
vasutvanaaya raadhaswaha!

Translation:

O Indra, you are more to me than a Father or a nasty brother is. You are my Mother, O Gracious lord, appear to grant me wealth.- Rig Veda.VIII.1.6

Sanskrit:

Om praacheemu devaashvinaa dhiyam me.amrdhraam saataye krtam vasooyum
vishvaa avishtham vaaja aa purandheestaa nah shaktam shacheepatee shacheebhih swaha! (x 3)

Translation:

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Translation:

We meditate on the celestial Sun, so that he may stimulate our intelligence.

Sanskrit:

aditirdyaauraditirantarikshamaditirmaataa sa pitaa sa putrah
vishve devaa aditih pañca janaa aditirjaatamaditirjanitvam - RV.I.89.10

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