



## Ardhanarishvara Stotra: A Hymn on Unified Form of Shiva and Shakti by Shankara Bhagavadpada (Paperback)

By Koushik K

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. ardhanarishvara means the half feminine form of ishvara (Shiva) this form is a combined form of Shiva and Shakti. It is the union of Shiva and shakti and expresses their oneness. This is one of the most important forms of Shiva described in the shaivagamas, puranas, and mantra shastras acharya Adishankara bhagavadpada composes this hymn to praise this particular form of Shiva. Worshiping this form is equivalent to worshipping Shiva and Shakti together. The kind acharya attaches two mantras in the ending verse of each shloka. The two mantras are the Shiva panchakshari (namah shivaya) and shakti panchakshari (namah shivayai) The hymn is an octet comprised of eight shlokas and one other shloka describing the benefits of reciting this hymn. In ardhanarishvara form of Shiva, one half is feminine and other half is masculine, hence acharya Adishankara bhagavadpada uses words denoting feminine gender for the feminine half and the words denoting masculine gender while referring the masculine half of the form. He uses both genders to refer this form. This is one of the most beautiful poetic hymns by acharya Adishankara...



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