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Sudarshana Chakram

namascakRAYa vidhmahe
sahasra-jwalaya dhimahi
tanno sudarsana pracodayat.

The Sudarshana Chakram is the mighty weapon of Lord Narayana and has many auspicious attributes associated with it. Most importantly, it has the attribute of "Pida Pradanam" which gives immediate relief from pain and suffering to the seeker/performer.

The Sudarshana Chakram also has the attribute of "Papa Nashanam", i.e., the destruction of sins. This is the first step to be adopted in the realization of God (Lord Narayana).

Swami Desikan most eloquently summarizes the characteristics of the mighty Chakram in both the Sudarshana Ashtakam as well as the Shodasayudha Stotram.

The Chakram pervades both space and time as gleaned from Swami Desikan's Shodasayudha Stotram (Kala Chakram Jagat Chakram Cha). Also the the Sudarshana Chakram is the abode of the Vyuha Murthis Sankarshana and Para Vasudeva (forms of Narayana in Vyuha) as seen from Swami Desikan's Sudarshana Ashtakam (Nija Paru Vyuha Vaibhava). The Sudarshana is the mighty jwala at the center of the Kalanala and has the radiance of a 1000 suryas as can be seen from the Stotram of Ambarisha (Sahasraditya Sankasham Sahasra Vadanam Param Sahasrados Sahasraram Prapadyeham Sudarshananam). Thus, this is dispeller of all forms of darkness (ignorance, evil). Also, the mighty Jwala is the aspect of Jwala Nrisimhar who destroyed Hiranyakashipu and therefore, is resident in the Sudarshana Yantram. Thus, offering prayers to Sudarshana Chakram is equivalent to offering prayers to the entire Dashavataram. Great scholars seek the support of the Chakram before engaging in debates as can be seen from Swami Desikan's Sudarshana Astakam (Pratita Vidvat Sapakshita). In the Aahirbudhnya Samhita, Ahirbudhyana (Shiva) desires to see the glorious form of Sudarshana Chakram which is again referenced in Swami Desikan's Sudarshana Ashtakam (Bhajata Aahirbudhnya Lakshita).

The Sudarshana Chakram grants Moksham to anyone who surrenders to it as well as anyone who is killed by it (examples: Shishupala, the crocodile who held Gajendra in his clutches, Narakasura who were all liberated on account of being killed by the Chakram). Ambarisha is an example of one who surrendered to the Chakram and was thus constantly protected by the Chakram. At his request, the Chakram desisted its pursuit of Dvursava Maharishi. Great scholars have not been able to understand the full extent or power of the Sudarshana Chakram (as seen
from Swami Desikan's Sudarshana Ashtakam Parijanatrama Pandita).

The Sudarshana Chakram has healing characteristics. Therefore performance of the Sudarshana Homam gives relief from afflictions of fever and even possession by the mighty Brahma Rakshasa. A legend has it that Swami Desikan composed the Sudarshana Astakam to help the people of a village stricken by the plague epidemic. As soon as Swami Desikan finished his composition, the epidemic was over.

In conclusion, the performance of the Sudarshana Homam grants the performer health, wealth and prosperity. If the performer seeks spiritual benefits, while performing the Homam, he gets it. If the person seeks material benefit, he is blessed with all riches upon conclusion of the Homam. You may find the related articles by Sri Sadagopan (on the Sudarshana Narasimha iconography as well as his translation of the Sudarshana Ashtakam) very useful. I have gained a lot of information in this post from his articles.

\[\text{om klim kr\ṣṇāya govindāya gopijana-vallabhāya} \]
\[\text{parāya parama-puruṣāya paramātmāne} \]
\[\text{para karma mantra yantra tantra ausada astra śastrāni samhara samhara} \]
\[\text{mṛtyor mocāya mocāya} // \]
\[\text{om namo bhagavate maha-sudarsanāya dīptre} \]
\[\text{jwāla parivrāṭya sarva –dikṣobhana karāya} \]
\[\text{hm phat brahmane parama-jyotise sahasrāra hm phat svāhā} \]