

“Tapta Mudradharana”

1. Who must have Tapta mudradharana?

Ans : It applies to all caste, all ashrama, and ladies. All Vishnu bhaktaas irrespective of Caste whether it is Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shoodra, all must have Tapta Mudradharana from Vaishnava only. Even the cattle in our house must have Tapta Mudradharana. It is just like renewal of Vaishnava Deekshe.,

2. What is Tapta Mudradharana?

Ans : It is a custom in which Tapta Mudras (heated seal) are applied on one’s body. The Mudras are Shanka, Chakra, which are the weapons of Srihari.

3. What is “Taapa Samskara”?

Ans – taptaabhyaam shaMchachakraabhyaamaMkanaM baahumUlayO: |
Yadaa cha guruNaa praaptastaapa: saMskaara iShyatE |

Getting from our respective Guru symbol of Shankachakra dharana after being tapta (kept having touch of fire)

4. When one must have Tapta Mudradharana?

Ans : During Jaatakarma, Choula, Upanayana samskara, marriage, and on each Prathama Ekadashi day. Other important days on which Tapta Mudradharana to be taken are : Shravana Dwadashi Upavasa day; Bhadrpada Shukla Ekadashi, Karthika Shukla Ekadashi; Upakarma day.

5. Whether gods also must have Tapta Mudradharana?

Ans : Yes. They too must have Tapta Mudradharana on Shravana Dwadashi, Prathama Ekadashi day – as per Yukti Mallika

6. Whether Gruhastaas can give Tapta Mudradharana?

Ans – No. Gruhastaas are not eligible to give Tapta Mudradharana. Those Gruhastaas who take Tapta Mudradharana themselves will not get any punya. It is just like Poundrika Vasudeva who got Mudra just to resemble Krishna, in vain. - Ramamruta Maharnava

7. When was the system of Tapta Mudradharana started?

Ans - Once All gods including Indra were defeated by Vrutasura. They went to Srihari and prostrated for help. Srihari told “Let all of you have Chakra Shanka symbol and fight with him. Just with the mudradharana all Vrutradi daithyaas would be killed and you will win”. All gods followed Srihari’s

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directions and they won. Since then onwards, all Vaishnavas started having Mudradharana as it helps in win over enemies, it helps in winning Kama-krodhadhi arishadvarga. - Source Padmapurana.

8. Why one must have Taptamudradharane?

Ans : Tapta Mudradharane is the "Vaishnavathva" symbol. Tapta mudradharane has a prominent place in Madhwa philosophy. In harivamsha – During Krishnavatara, Srikrishna had ordered that only those who have Mudradharane can enter Dwarake. Because of wearing Mudradharane - Power of Tamoguna - ajnaana, mithyaagnaana, will be removed, and through Shanka - Sathvaguna will be replacing tamoguna.

9. Chakra- Shanka - abhimani devate :

For Chakra – Durgadevi; Shanka- Sridevi; Padma – Boodevi; Gada – Vayu.

10. From whom one has to take Tapta Mudradharana?

लोभ्याध्युपादिना वापि यस्मात् कस्माँ पूरुषात् ।

स्वयं वापि दहेद्गात्रं चक्रांखादिकैरपि ।

सोपि व्रजेत निरयं साकं स्वगुरुणा चिरं ।

ಲೋಭ್ಯಾಧ್ಯುಪಾದಿನಾ ವಾಪಿ ಯಸ್ಮಾತ್ ಕಸ್ಮಾಚ್ಚ ಪೂರುಷಾತ್ ।

ಸ್ವಯಂ ವಾಪಿ ದಹೇದ್ಗಾತ್ರಂ ಚಕ್ರಶಂಖಾದಿಕೈರಪಿ ।

ಸೋಪಿ ವ್ರಜೇತ ನಿರಯಂ ಸಾಕಂ ಸ್ವಗುರುಣಾ ಚಿರಂ ।

lObhyaadhyupaadinaa vaapi yasmaat kasmaachcha pUruShaata |

svayaM vaapi dahEdgaatraM chakrashaMKaadikairapi |

sOpi vrajEta nirayaM saakaM svaguruNaa chiraM |

One has to get Tapta Mudradharana from their respective Mutt Yathi only. As per Vishnu Rahasya shloka vyaakyana. It is observed from various Pandits of various mutts, that even though they have studied under various Mutt yathees, but they have taken Mudradharana from their respective mutt yathi only. Some of the example are :

- a) Pandurangi Anandabhattacharakaru even after defeating many pundits and handing over the “jayapatra” (win certificate) to Vadirajaru, he got mudradharana from Uttaradimutt yathi only.

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- b) Srikrishnavadootharu, even though he was one of the prominent bhakthaa of Raghavendra Tirtharu, his family members are getting mudradharana from Uttaradimutt yathi only.
- c) Even though, Sri Bidarahalli Srinivasaachar got the title “Tirtha” from Rayaru, he was getting Mudradharana from Uttaradimutt yathi only.
- d) LinGeri Acharyaru was the shishya of Yadavarya parampare, he used to get Mudradharana from Raghavendra Mutt yathi only.

There is another opinion – we can take mudradharana from any yathigalu, when we are in a far off place where no yathi will come for mudradharana or you are not in a position to go to his place.

There is another opinion - We can take mudra from our gurugalu also, when there is no chance of getting mudradharana from your Mutt peetadhipathi.

In view of the above. even though one must take mudradharana from the respective mutt yathi only. But taking mudra from other mutt pontiffs is also accepted as better to have mudra instead of not having it at all.

- 11. Sri Vadiraja Tirtha quotes in his Yuktimalika : - Mudradharana will be given by Acharya Madhwa only. In Agni he will be agninamaka and gives Sudarshana and shanka Tapta Mudradharana. There will be sannidhana of Acharya Madhwa in the Madhwa Yathi on this day.
- 12. Sudarshana Homa on Ashada Shukla Ekadashi -
On Ekadashi day, there is no provision for annadana, jaladaana, and no havissu for gods. But on Ashada Shukla Ekadashi day, Sudarshana Homa to be done with chanting of Mantra only. Only Vishnu to be invited for the homa.

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13. **Acharya Madhwa’s quotes on Urdhwapundra –**
(Krishnamruta MaharNava shlokaas 221-225) –
- a) Whoever has Urdhwapundra in his forehead is to be respected. Even Chandala if he has Urdhwapundra, he can get Vaishnava deekshe.
 - b) One who has Urdhwa Pundra, will come out of his ashoucha, and his mind will enable him to have peaceful mind and would never allow him to make sin.
 - c) Seeing one without Urdhwapundra is amangala – for purifying against this amangala, one has to do soorya darshana. (Here it applies to seeing Vaishnavas only without Urdhwapundra. Now a days, in the present day life, one can’t expect all to have Urdhwapundra. If you come across such people, have Soorya Darshana and get your amangalatva removed instantly).
 - d) Yajna, daana, tapa, Svadhyaya, pitrutarpana done without Urdhwapundra dharana is in vain, it will not result in any punya.
 - e) Gopichandana importance – One who has Gopichandana on him, will have paavitrya (purity) for whatever he comes across. i.e., Whatever he sees after having Gopichandana would be pure.

14. **How & when to get Tapta Mudradharana, if our Mutt Guru is not available on Tapta Mudradharana in our place -**

All the Peetadhipathis can’t be expected to be available in all places on Prathama Ekadashi day. In such a situation, you should make sure that you reach your respective Mutt guru as early as possible on the nearest days after Prathama Ekadashi and get Tapta Mudradharana.

15. **Whether we can Tapta Mudradharana from our respective Peetadhipathi on any other occasion?**

Ans – Yes. If you happen to meet him on any other occasion, you can have the mudradharana. There is no restriction that it shall be only on Prathama Ekadashi day. It is renewal of Vaishnavatwa, each time you have Tapta Mudradharana.

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16. Suppose we are in a far place and would never meet our Peetadhipathi. What to do?

Ans - As far as possible you must have it from your respective Peetadhipathi only. In a rare case you may have it from vidya guru or some elder person (as per Vishnu Rahasya). But it is preferably to have it from your peetadhipathi only.

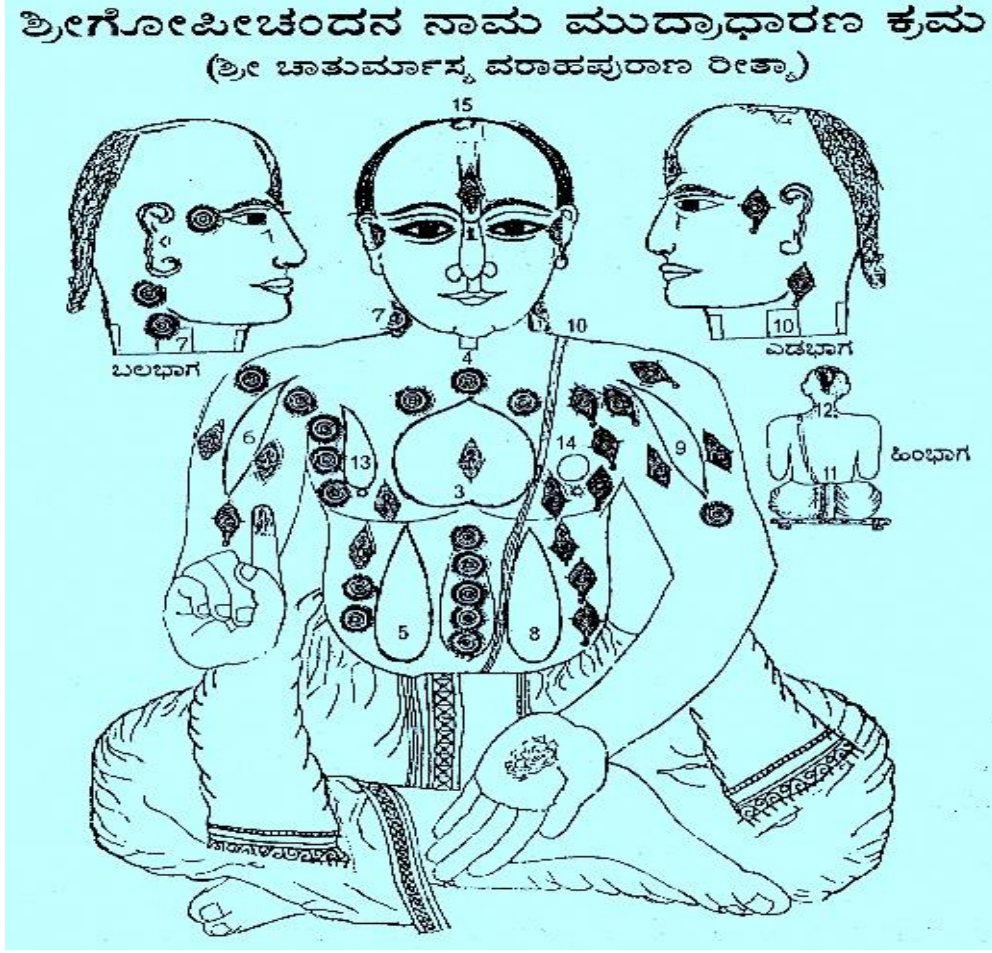
17. **Importance of Mudradharana – some quotes :**

- a. Those who scold/disrespect the one with Mudradharana, would be getting the sin of disrespecting/scolding Srihari.
- b. One who does not have Taptamudradharana will not have Vedadyana adhikara.
- c. Even during antya samskara time also Tapta mudradharana to be done (by Mudradharana) which will remove the fear of Yama and his servants.
- d. We should invite for Bhojana only those who has Mudra, lest it should be bhojana for pitru with mala mootra.
- e. **As per Vamana Purana** - the one who wears Sudarshana Chakra Mudra even for playing would get Vishnu loka
- f. **As per Shivapurana** - All those who are singing, praying the mahima of Srihari would be having Mudra.
- g. **As per Skanda purana** – One who has Chakradi ayudhaas, even if he has done so many sins, Yama will not come near him. The shareera which has Shanka-Chakra will be the home for gods.
- h. **As per Padmapurana** - Uttarakhanda quote – Shiva told Parvathi “Those who have agnitapta Vishnuchakra would be a Mahatmya.
- i. **As per Markandeya Purana** – Tapta Mudharana indicates the relationship between Srihari and us. It is similar to ladies wearing bangles, kumkuma, etc as the symbol of “muthaide”. Similarly those who have mudra would be recognized as “Vaishnava”.
- j. **As per Matsyapurana** – Vishnubhakta should have Chakra to his right shoulder and Shanka to his left shoulder, which would fetch him Vishnuloka.

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- k. **As per Skanda Purana** – Even shoodras who possess Shanka Chakra symbol would get Svarga.
- l. Kanyadaana to be done only for one who has Mudradharana.
- m. **As per Smruti muktavali** – One who does sandhyavandana, japa, homa, etc with Ordhwapundra dharana, - he will not get any punya. Entire punya would be taken away by raakshasas.
18. Tapta mudradharana Mahatva can be found in various Granthaas:-
1. “Skanda Purana”
 2. “Vishnu Rahasya”
 3. “Padma Purana”
 4. “Sanaka Smruti”
 5. “Chakrastuthi” of Sri Vadirajaru,
 6. “Yukthimallika-Phalisaurabha” of Srivadirajaru
 7. “Taptachakra meemamsa” by Sri Vijayeendraru,
 8. “Ramamruta Maharnava” by Satyabhinava Tirtharu
 9. “Smrutyartha sagara” by Chalari Narasimhacharya;
 10. “Smruti Muktavali” by Krishnacharya
 11. “Nirnaya RAtna” by Chalari Sheshacharya
 12. “Taptamudradharana samarthanam” - Kundalagiri Acharyaru,
 13. “Vaishnava Deekshe” by Sagri Raghavendra Upadhyaya

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Mantras to be chanted while applying -

Chakra Mudra -

sudarshana mahaajwaala koTisooryasamaprabha |
ajnaanaaMdhasya mE nityaM viShNORMaargaM pradarshaya |
ಸುದರ್ಶನ ಮಹಾಜ್ವಾಲ ಕೊಟಿಸೂರ್ಯಸಮಪ್ರಭ |

ಅಜ್ಞಾನಾಂಧಸ್ಯ ಮೇ ನಿತ್ಯಂ ವಿಷ್ಣೋರ್ಮಾರ್ಗಂ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶಯ |

सुदर्शन महाज्वाल कोटिसूर्यसमप्रभ ।

अज्ञानांधस्य मे नित्यं विष्णोर्मार्गं प्रदर्शय ।

Hey Sudarshana | You possess mahajwaale which is equivalent to crores of Suryaa's power. I am a blind with ajnaana. Please guide me with Vishnu maarga.

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Shanka Mudra :-

ಪಾಂಚಜನ್ಯ ನಿಜಧ್ವಾನಧ್ವಸ್ತಪಾತಕಸಂಚಯ ।

ತ್ರೈಹಿ ಮಾಂ ಪಾಪಿನಂ ಘೋರಸಂಸಾರಾರ್ಣವಪಾತಿನಂ ।

पांचजन्य निजध्वानध्वस्तपातकसंचय ।

त्राहि मां पापिनं घोरसंसारार्णवपातिनं ।

pī cajanya nijadhviṅnadhvastapitakasā caya |

trihī mī pipinā ghūrasā s̄j̄r̄³avapitinā |

hey | Paanchajanya shanka | With your voice, you would remove the entire group of sins. Lift me from the fear of samsara saagara.

Gadaa Mudra :-

ब्रह्मांडभुवनारंभमूलस्तंभो गदाधरः ।

कौमोदकी करे यस्य तं नमामि गदाधरं ।

ಬ್ರಹ್ಮಾಂಡಭುವನಾರಂಭಮೂಲಸ್ತಂಭೋ ಗದಾಧರಃ ।

ಕೌಮೋದಕೀ ಕರೇ ಯಸ್ಯ ತಂ ನಮಾಮಿ ಗದಾಧರಂ ।

brahmī ḡabhuvanirā bhamālastā bhū gadidhara: |

kaumudakī karē yasya tā namimi gadidharā |

Srimaha Vishnu is the source or foundation for the Brahmaanda named entire world. You hold Kaumodaki gadha in your hand. With the smarana of Gadadara, we do the smarana of Gadaa mudra.

Padma Mudra –

संसारभयभीतानां योगिनामभयप्रदः ।

ಪದ್ಮಹಸ್ತೇನ ಯೋ ದೇವೋ ಯೋಗೀಶಂ ತಂ ನಮಾಮ್ಯಹಂ ।

संसारभयभीतानां योगिनामभयप्रदः ।

पद्महस्तेन यो देवो योगीशं तं नमाम्यहं ।

sā s̄j̄rabhayabh̄ṡ̄tiṅī yuginimabhayaprada: |

padmahastēna yū dēvū yūgṡ̄³ā tā namimyaḥā |

Srihari is abhayaprada for all yogees and samsarabhayabheetaas. Srihari holds Padma and he is yogeesh

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Narayana Mudra नारायण मुद्र-

नारायण नमस्तेस्तु नाममुद्रांकितं नरं ।

दृष्ट्वैव लभते मुक्तिं चांडालो ब्रह्मघातकः ।

ನಾರಾಯಣ ನಮಸ್ತೇಸ್ತು ನಾಮಮುದ್ರಾಂಕಿತಂ ನರಂ ।

ದೃಷ್ಟ್ವೈವ ಲಭತೇ ಮುಕ್ತಿಂ ಚಾಂಡಾಲೋ ಬ್ರಹ್ಮಘಾತಕಃ ।

nārīya³a namastēstu nāmamudrī⁻ kita⁻ nara⁻ |

d»½ꣳvaiva labhatē mukti⁻ cī⁻ ꣳīṃ brahmaghātaka: |

Hey Narayana | with the naarayana named mudra even brahmahatya doshi Chaandala also would be free from his sins.

Sri Purandaradasaru says about Taptachankritata -

ಅಂಕಿತವಿಲ್ಲದ ದೇಹ ನಿಷೇಧ ಅಂಕಿತವಿಲ್ಲದ ಕಾವ್ಯ ಶೋಭಿಸದು

ಅಂಕಿತವಿಲ್ಲದೆ ಇರಬಾರದೆಂದು ಚಕ್ರಾಂಕಿತವನು ಮಾಡಿ ಎನ್ನಂಗೆಕೆ

ಪಂಕಜನಾಭ ಶ್ರೀ ಪುರಂದರವಿಠಲನ ಅಂಕಿತವೆನಗಿತ್ತು ಗುರುವ್ಯಾಸ ಮುನಿರಾಯ ।

अंकितविल्लद देह निषेध अंकितविल्लद काव्य शोभिसदु

अंकितविल्लदे इरबारदेंदु चक्रांकितवनु माडि ऐन्नंगके

पंकजनाभ श्री पुरंदरविठलन अंकितवेनगित्त गुरुव्यास मुनिराय ।

Source -

- “Ramamrutra Maharnava” by Sri Satyabhinava Tirtharu
- “Tapta Mudradharana” by Sri Vyasanakere Prabhanjanacharya
- “Vaishnavadeekshe” by Sagri Raghavendra Upadhyaya,

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