Significance of the auspicious number 1008

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Abstract
The two numbers 108 and 1008 are considered spiritually very auspicious in many religions including Hinduism, Jainism and Christianity etc. According to the ancient Hindu scriptures we are advised to do chanting (japa) of God’s name or a particular mantra for 108 or 1008 times for a greater impact. In some religions, like in Jainism, many enlightened sages have prefixes as 108 or 1008 before their names. These numbers (108 and 1008) have also relevance in astronomy, astrology and architecture etc. Whereas many workers, including this author, have interpreted the significance of the spiritual and scientific significance of the number 108 [1], not enough work has been reported on the second auspicious number, that is, 1008. This paper describes the significance of this number, 1008 in Hinduism, Jainism, and Christianity, astronomy, astrology and architecture.

Keywords: Number 1008, Spirituality, Religion, Significance.

1. Introduction
We are often advised by our elders or masters (Gurus) or by our ancient scriptures to chant the name of God or a particular Mantra for 108 or 1008 times for a greater effect. Even a rosary (maala) has got 108 beads. In some religions, like in Jainism, many enlightened sages have prefixes as 108 or 1008 before their names. These numbers (108 and 1008) have also relevance in astronomy, astrology and architecture etc. Whereas many workers, including this author, have interpreted the significance of the spiritual and scientific significance of the number 108 [1], not enough work has been reported on the second auspicious number, that is, 1008. This paper describes the significance of this number, 1008 in Hinduism, Jainism, and Christianity, astronomy, astrology and architecture.

2. Number 1008 in Hinduism
2.1 1008 names of Maa Kali
Following are the 1008 names of Maa Kali, along with the meaning/attribute of each name [2]
for the purpose of making the chanter/devotee to pray on these aspects of Maa Kali:
1] Smasanakalika: She who is the Remover of Darkness from the Cremation Grounds or from Death.
2] Kali: She who is the remover of Darkness.
3] Bhadrakali: She who is the Hidden or Secretive Remover of Darkness.
6] Kalika: She who is the cause of removing darkness.
7] Kalaratrisca: She who is all the limbs of the letter “ka”, the cause.
8] Kalabhairavabharya ca: She who is the Wife of the Fearfulness of Infinite Time.
9] Kulavartmaprakasini: She who illuminated the whole world family.
10] Kamada: She who is the giver of All Desire.
11] Kamaniyasvabhavini: She who is the Intrinsic Nature of that which is desired.
12] Kasturirasaliptangi: She whose Limbs are Anointed with the Juice of Musk.
13] Kunjaresvaragamini: She who Move likes, the Lord of Elephants.
14] Kamarupacaravartyangi: She who is All the Limbs of the Letter “ka”, the cause.
15] Kamini: She who is the giver of This Desire.
16] Kamaniyasvabhavini: She who is the Intrinsic Nature of that which is desired.
17] Kasturirasalapantangi: She whose Limbs are Anointed with the Juice of Musk.
18] Kunjaresvaragamini: She who Moves like, the Lord of Elephants.
19] Kamarupacaravartyangi: She who is All the Limbs of the Letter “ka”, the cause.
20] Kamini: She who is This Desire.
21] Kamasundari: She who is Beautiful Desire.
22] Kamarta: She who is the Object of Desire.
23] Karanupa ca: She who is the Form of Desire.
24] Kalam: She who is the cow which fulfills all desires.
25] Kavatsa: She who is the

1008 names of Lord Shiva

Following are the 1008 names of Lord Shiva, along with the meaning/attribute of each name [3] for the purpose of making the chanter/devotee to pray on these aspects of Lord Shiva

1. Shiva-Pure,
2. Hará-Destroyer
3. Mrdá-Gracious
4. Rudra-Terrible
5. Puskara-Nourisher
6. Puspalocana-Of Flowery Eyes
7. Arthigayama-Accessible To The Suppliants
8. Sadacara-Of Noble Conduct
9. Sarvá-All-in-all
10. Mahesvá-Great Lord
11. Candrapida-With Moon For The Diadem
12. Candramauli-With Moon For Its Crest-jewel
13. Visva-Universe
14. Visvambharesvara-Lord Of The Earth
15. Vedantasarasandohã-The Essence Of Vedanta Philosophy
16. Kapalin-With A Skull In The Hand
17. Nilalohita-Blue-blooded
18. Dhyanadharã-Object Of Meditation
19. Aparicchedya-Inexplicable
20. Gauribhãrtt-Husband Of Gauri
21. Ganesvãra-Lord Of Ganas
22. Astamurti-Having Eight Cosmic Bodies
23. Visvamurti-Universe-bodied
24. Trivarga – Bestower Of Virtue, Wealth And Love
25. Sargasadhanã-Achiever Of Creation
26. Jnanagamã-Accessible To Perfect Knowledge
27. Drdhaprajna-Of Steady Intellect
29. Trilocana-Three-eyed
30. Vamadeva-Loving God
31. Mahadeva-Great God
32. Patu-Efficient
33. Parivrdha-Chief
34. Drdha-Firm
35. Visvarupa-Multiformed
36. Virupaksa-Odd-eyed
37. Vagisa-Lord Of Speech
38. Surusattama-The Most Excellent God
39. Sarvapramanasanvadin-In Whom All Authorities And Proof Agree
40. Vrsanka-Bull-bannered
41. Vrsavahana-Bull-vehicle
42. Isa-Lord
43. Pinakín-Holding Bow
44. Khatvangin-Holding Missile Khatvanga
45. Citravesa-Of Variegated Dress
46. Citravesa-Of Variegated Dress
47. Cangentana-Eternal Being
48. Tamohara-Remover Of Ignorance
49. Mahayogin-Great Yigin
50. Goprí-Protector
51. Brahmandahrt-Heart Of Cosmos
52. Jatin-With Matted Hair
53. Kalakala-Slayer Of Death
54. Krtivasas-Wearing Hide
55. Subhíga-Comely
56. Chastiser Of The Tripuras
57. Unnadra-Uplifted
58. Purasa-Divine Being
59. Jusya-Worthy To Be Served
60. Durvasas-Sage Durvasas
61. Paurasana-Chastiser Of The Tripuras
62. Dívayudha-Having Divine Weapons
63. Skandaguru-Preceptor Of Skanda
64. Paramesthin-Staying At The Acme
65. Paratpura-Greater Than The Greatest
66. Anadimahyanidhãna-Without No Beginning, Middle Or End
67. Girisa-Lord Of Mountains
68. Girijadhava-Husband Of Parvati
69. Kuberabandhu-Kinsman Of Kubera
70. Srikantá-Of Glorious Neck
71. Lokavarnottama-Excellent Of All Castes In The World
72. Samadhivedya-Who Can Be Realised Through Trance
73. Kodandin-Holding Bow
74. Nilakantha-Blue-necked
75. Paravasadhin-Holding Axe
76. Visalaksa-Wide Eyed
77. Mrgavyadhya-Hunter Of Animal
78. Suresa-Lord Of Gods
79. Suryatapana-Scorcher Of The Sun
205. Prabhajanana-Hailstorm

206. Sarvayoni-Source Of Everything

Fig: 1008 Lingam Temple located at Salem, Tamilnadu, India.

Fig: 1008 Shiva Temple, National Highway 47, Ariyanoor, Tamil Nadu

2.3 1008 names of Lord Vishnu, Krishna, Surya and Goddess Saraswati

Similarly there are 1008 names each of Lord Vishnu, Lord Krishna, Lord Surya, and of Goddess Saraswati.

3. Number 1008 in Jainism

- Tirthankars in Jainism have 1008 as a prefix in their name because there are 1008 shubh (auspicious) marks on the divine body of a Tirthankar. These marks are those of sun, moon, srivatsa, lotus etc. [4]
- Tirthankar is said to have 1008 names (Veetaraag, Devaadhidev, Jineshwar, Kewali etc). (Like in Hinduism Shiva, Lakshmi, Ganesh and Vishnu are said to have 1008 names each)
- Tirthankars have 1008 good attributes such as infinite power, infinite knowledge etc.
- Saudharma Indra worships Tirthankar Bhagwans by 1008 names for attaining kevalagyan.
- There are 1008 petals in the lotus erected by Devendra in the Samavasaran of a Tirthankar.
- The most elaborate Abhisheka in Jainism is the 1008-pot abhisheka of the image of Bahubali at the Sravana Belgola [5].

4. Significance of Angel Number 1008 in Roman Catholicism

Saint Olga of Kiev (in Ukraine), who was venerated in Roman Catholicism especially in the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, was the first in that region to convert to Christianity. According to her, when you see a number such as 1008 over and over again, it is an angel trying to communicate with you through this number [6]. Olga calls it Angel Number. Here is Olga's interpretation of Angel Number 1008. This includes what its meaning, and its purpose. Olga says that Angel Number 1008 is associated with the letters V, P, T, H, L, W, and G. She suggests that to find out what the Angel Number 1008 is about, try to make words of those letters. See if you can rearrange some or all of the letters to make words related to your world. It could be a name of a person, a place, or even a thing or an event. Saint Olga says that the purpose of Angel Number 1008 is what the angels want you to do with its meaning and then try to Identify, Contract, and Locate.

5. 1008 Mahayugas

According to the ancient Hindu scriptures, there are 1008 mahayugas [7], as described here below:
- One month of human life = one day for heavenly souls (dead persons);
- One year of human life = one day of devas (Indra, Vayu, Agni etc);
- 43,20,000 years of human life = one maha yuga (which includes Satyuga, Treta yuga, Dwapara yuga and Kali Yuga);
- 72 maha yugas = one manvantara;
- 14 manvantaras = one Kalpa, which is half day of Lord Brahma;
- So, 14 manvantaras X 72 maha yugas = 1008 maha yugas.

6. Conclusion

In this paper we have explained, in details, the significance of the auspicious number 1008. Its spiritual and religious aspects have been described in Hinduism, Jainism, and Christianity. The astronomical, astrological and architectural significance of this number 1008 have also been covered in this paper. The idea of writing this paper is to lift the mystery of this number from the minds of a large number of those readers who were not aware of it.

7. References