Kālabhairavāśṭṭakam

I worship Lord Kāla-bhairava, the guardian deity of the city of Kāśi whose holy lotus-feet are worshipped by Deva-rāja (Indra) the king of the Gods, who, the mine of mercy, has the serpent for His sacred thread, and the Moon as His crest ornament, and who, the Dig-ambara Lord, is worshipped by groups of sages (yogins) headed by Sage Nārada.

I worship the Lord, Kālabhairava. Who is brilliant like a crore of rising Suns, the supreme Saviour from the ocean of transmigratory existence,
who, the blue-necked and three-eyed god, is the giver of all desired objects and who is Kālakāla, the lotus-eyed Lord, Imperishable, holding the rosary (akṣa) and the trident (śūla).

(3)

शूलथपश्च्यातुरण्डपाणिमादिकारणं
स्यामकायमादिदेवमक्षरे निरामयम् ।
भीमविन्मं प्रभुं विचित्रताण्डप्रियं
काशिकापुराधिनायकालमैरवं भजे ॥

I worship Lord Kālabhairava. Who holds (in His hands) the trident, the axe, the noose and the rod and who, is the Primal Cause of the Universe, who the Primeval God has a blue body, and who, is imperishable and pure, and the Lord of terrific prowess, fond of the wonderful dance (Tāṇḍava).

(4)

भुक्तिमुक्तिदायकं प्रशस्तचारुविग्रहं
भक्तवत्सलं स्थिरं समस्तलोकविग्रहम् ।
निकण्यन्ननोहेमकिङ्किणीलस्तकर्ति
काशिकापुराधिनायकालमैरवं भजे ॥

I worship Lord Kālabhairava. Who is the bestower of enjoyment and liberation, the Lord with a body excellent and charming, who is fond of His devotees the Immutable One who holds the whole
world in His body, and whose waist shines with the charming golden bells which tinkle at the time of His dance (Tāṇḍava).

(5)

धर्मसेतुपलं त्वधर्ममार्गनाशकं
कर्मपाशमोचकं सुशर्मदायपं विपुलं ।
स्वर्णवर्ण-केश-पाशामभितानामिनं
काशिकापुराधिनायकालभैरवं भजे ॥

I worship the Lord Kālabhairava the Supreme Lord who is the Protector of the dam of Dharma and the Destroyer of the path of Adharmā, who removes the bonds of karma and bestows supreme bliss, and who, the Pure One, has His body adorned with the golden, profuse locks of hair.

(6)

रत्नपादस्यक्राममभिमूर्ताद्यमकम्
नित्यमहात्मिष्टिदिवांति निर्धनम् ।
मृत्युदर्शनं करारदुर्भूषणं
काशिकापुराधिनायकालभैरवं भजे ॥

I worship Lord Kālabhairava whose pair of feet is charming with the lustre of the jewelled sandals, who is eternal, without a second (an equal), the favourite God of purity, who destroyed the pride of Mṛtyu and who shines with His dreadful teeth.
I worship Lord Kālabhairava who by His
deafening peals of laughter has rent the vaults of
many a Brahmāṇḍa (world) who, by His glance
destroys hosts of sins, the wielder of severe
ordinances, and who bestows the eight siddhis and
wears the garland of skulls.

I worship Lord Kālabhairava who lords over the
host of bhūtas (spirits) and bestows wide fame, the
Lord who analyses the merits and sins of the
dwellers of Kāśi and purifies them, and who is an
expert guide in the path of right conduct, and the
Primeval Lord of the Universe.
The octad dedicated to Kālabhairava is charming. It is the means leading to spiritual wisdom and liberation. It promotes merits of various kinds. It destroys grief, delusion, avarice, misery, anger and all tormenting pain. Those who chant this hymn verily go near (and attain the grace of) Lord Kālabhairava.