

## *Asamyuta Hastas*

(Gestures of single or non-combined hand)

### *Slokaṃ*

- Patakastrīpatakascha tatha  
Vai kartarimukhaha
- Ardhaachandro hyaralascha  
Sukatundastathaiva cha
- Mushtischa sikharaascha  
Kapithahakatakamukhaha
- Suchiasyah padmakoshascha  
Tatha vai sarpasirshakaha
- Mrigasirshah paro gneyo  
Hastabhinayayoktribhihi
- Langulo helapadmascha  
Chaturō bhramarastatha
- Hamsasyo hamsapakshascha  
Samdamso mukulastatha
- Urnanabha tamrachudaha  
Chaturvimsadime karaha"

### Hastaabhinaya (Gestures of the Hands)

- Angustha** : Thumb Finger  
**Tarjani** : Fore Finger  
**Madhyama** : Middle Finger  
**Anamika** : Ring Finger  
**Kanishtha** : Little Finger

There are 24 types of Asamyuta Hastas. They are:

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Pataka        | 13. Sarpasirsha |
| 2. Tripataka     | 14. Mrigasirsha |
| 3. Kartarimukha  | 15. Langula     |
| 4. Ardhaachandra | 16. Alapadma    |
| 5. Arala         | 17. Chatura     |
| 6. Sukatunda     | 18. Bhramara    |
| 7. Musti         | 19. Hamsasya    |
| 8. Sikhara       | 20. Hamsapaksha |
| 9. Kapitha       | 21. Sandamsa    |
| 10. Katakamukha  | 22. Mukala      |
| 11. Suchi        | 23. Urnanabha   |
| 12. Padmakosha   | 24. Tamrachuda  |

## 1. Pataḱa (Flag):

sloka:

Prasaritagraah Sahita  
Yasyangulyo Bhavantihi  
Kunchitascha Tathangustha Sa  
Pataka Iti Smrutaha

Meaning:

Where all the fingers are extended, keeping them close to one another with the thumb bend, the gesture is called Pataka.

Usages:

To describe cloud, Forest, River, Open doors, to beat, Natyaarambha (to start dance) etc



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## 2. *TriPataka* (Flag with three fingers):

*sloka:*

Tripatake yada haste  
bhavetprushthavalokini  
tarjani madhyamayascha  
tadasau kartarimukhaha



*Meaning:*

In the Pataka hand the ring finger is kept bend this should be known Tripataka.

*Usages:*

Crown, Tree, Vajrayudha, raising flames, lamb, arrow etc.



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### 3. *Kartarimukha* (Scissors Blades):

*sloka:*

PRASARITAGRAAH SAHITA  
YASYANGULYO BHAVANTIHI  
KUNCHITASCHA TATHANGUSTHA SA  
PATAKA ITI SMRUTAH

*Meaning:*

In the Tripataka hand if the index finger faces the back of the middle finger it is Kartarimukha.

*Usages:*

Separation, corner of an eye, lightning.



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#### 4. *Ardhachandra* (Crescent Moon):

*sloka:*

Yesyangulyastu Vinataha  
Sahangusthena Caparam  
Sordhachandro Hi  
Vignehakarah Karmasya Vaksyate

*Meaning:*

The thumb is bent to outside, the rest of the fingers are brought together and the shape must be seen like a bow, it is called Ardhachandra.

*Usages:*

Half Moon, Waist, Greeting by the common people etc.



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## 5. Arala (Bent):

*sloka:*

Adya Dhanurlata Karya  
Kunchitangushthakah Tathah  
Sesha Bhinnordhvavalita  
Hyaralangulyah Smrutaha



*Meaning:*

The index finger is bent like a bow. The thumb is bent without touching the forefinger. The rest of the fingers are kept closely, then it is called Arala.

*Usages:*

Drinking nectar, poison, Pride, courage, beauty, Contentment, act of blessing etc.



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## 6. *Sukatunda* (Parrot's beak):

*sloka:*

Aralasya Yada Vakra Anamika  
Tvangulir Bhavet  
Sukatundastu Sa Karaha Karma  
Chasya Nibodhata

*Meaning:*

When the ring finger of Arala hasta is bent, it is called Sukatunda. Usages: Shooting an arrow, Parrot's beak etc.

*Usages:*

Shooting an arrow, Parrot's beak etc.



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## 7. *Musti (Fist)*:

*sloka:*

Angulyo Yasya Hastasya  
Talamadhy Grasamstitaha  
Tasamupari Changushtaha Sa  
Mustiriti Sangnitaha

*Meaning:*

TAIl the other fingers are bent into the palm. The thumb is placed on top of the other four fingers. Then the hand gesture is called Musti.

*Usages:*

Holding hair, Fighting, Showing strength etc.



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## 8. Sikhara (Peak):

*sloka:*

Asyaiva Tu Yada Mushteh  
Urdhvangushtah Prayujyate  
Hastah Sa Sikharo Nama Tada  
Gneyah Prayoktribhihi

*Meaning:*

If the thumb of the musti gesture lifted up it should be known as Sikhara..

*Usages:*

Bow, Pillar, showing lips, painting feet, raising up hairs etc..



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## 9. *Kapittha* (Wood Apple):

*sloka:*

Asyaiva Sikharakhyasya  
Mukhengushthenipidita  
Yada Pradesini Vakra Sa  
Kapitthastada Smrutaha

*Meaning:*

From Sikhara hasta, the forefinger is kept curved and pressed by the thumb. It is called Kapittha.

*Usages:*

Weapons such as sword, bow, throwing a javelin, sakti, Milking cow, arrow etc.



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## 10. Katakamukha:

sloka:

Utkshiptavakra Tu Yada  
Anamika Sakaniyasi  
Asyaiva Tu Kapitthasya  
Tadasou Katakamukhaha

Meaning:

From the Kapittha gesture if the ring finger and the little finger raised up and bent then it is called Katakamukha.

Usages:

Hotra (sacrifice), Havya (offering into the fire), Umbrella, Flower garland, Churning etc.



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## 11. Suchi (Suchimukha):

sloka:

Katakakhye Yada Haste  
Tarjani Samprasrita  
Hastah Suchimukho Nama Tada  
Gneyah Prayoktrivhihi

Meaning:

The forefinger of the Katakamukha hand to be stretched it is called Suchi.

Usages:

To describe number one, world etc



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## 12. Padma Kosha (Lotus Bud):

sloka:

Syangulystu Viralaha  
Sahangushthena Kunchitaha  
Urdhva Hyamsagatagrascha Sa  
Bhavet Padmakoshakaha



Meaning:

All the fingers including the thumb are kept separately and the ends bent. They do not meet one another. It is called Padmakosha.

Usages:

Lotus, to represent Bilva and Kapittha fruits and the breasts of women etc



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### 13. Sarpasira (Snake Head):

*sloka:*

Angulyah Sahitah Sarva  
Sahangushthena Yasya Tu  
Tatha Nimnatalaschaiva Sa Tu  
Sarpasirah Karaha

*Meaning:*

When all the fingers including the thumb to be closed to one another and the palm to be hallowed. It is called Sarpasira..

*Usages:*

Snake hood, the offering water to god and sages, pouring water (on anything), Challenging (for a duel), motion of the frontal globe (kumbha) etc.



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## 14. Mrigasirsha (Deer Head):

sloka:

Adhomukhinam Sarvasam  
Angulynam Samagamaha  
Kanishthangushtakaurdhvu  
Sa Bhavet Mrigasirshakaha



Meaning:

The Sarpasira hand with all its fingers pointing downwards but the thumb and little finger raised up. It is called Mrigasirsha.

Usages:

To express women, calling, deer's head, cheeks etc.



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## 15. Langula:

### sloka:

Tretagni Samsthita Madhya  
Tarjanyangushtakastatha  
Angulenamika Vakra Tatha  
Chordhva Kaneeyasee

### Meaning:

The Sarpasira hand with all its fingers pointing downwards but the thumb and little finger raised up. It is called Mrigasirsha.

### Usages:

To express women, calling, deer's head, cheeks etc.



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## 16. Alapadma:

sloka:

Avarti Nyah Karatale  
Yasyangulyo Bhavanti Hi  
Parsvagatavikeernascha Sa  
Bhavet Alapadmakaha

Meaning:

The fingers are separated from one another and are kept turned towards the palm in a circular way. This is called Alapadma.

Usages:

To show lotus, breasts, beauty etc.



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## 17.Chatura:

sloka:

Tysrah Prasarita Yatra Tatha  
Chordhva Kanayasee  
Tasam Madhyasthangushtaha  
Sa Karaschaturasmrutaha



Meaning:

Tree fingers are spread. The little finger is lifted up and the thumb is kept within them. That is called Chatura.

Usages:

To show little, skill ness, eyes etc.



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## 18. Bhramara:

sloka:

Madhyamangusthasamdhamsho  
Vakra Chaiva Pradeshini  
Urdhvamanya Prakeerna Cha  
Angulyo Bhramare Kare

Meaning:

The middle finger and the thumb touch each other and the forefinger is bent. The other two fingers are separated and raised. This is Bhramara.

Usages:

To show bee, wing etc..



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## 19. Hamsasya:

sloka:

Tarjanimadhyamangushtaha  
Tretagnistha Nirantaraha  
Bhaveyurhamswavaktrasya  
Sesha Dve Samprasarite

Meaning:

Keeping the forefinger, middle finger and the thumb without any gap. The remaining fingers are to be kept stretched.

Usages:

To show tying, softness, hold garland etc..



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## 20. Hamsapaksha (Swan Wings):

sloka:

Samahprasaritastisrah Tatha  
Chordhva Kaneeyasee  
Angushtah Kunchitaschaiva  
Hamsapaksha Iti Smrutaha



Meaning:

The three fingers are kept stretched resembling the wings of a swan. The small finger is kept raised and the thumb is kept bent. That is Hamsapaksha.

Usages:

Touching of the chin and the mood of sorrow, showing respect etc.



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## 21. Sandamsa (Pincers):

*sloka:*

Tarjanyangushthasandamsho  
Hyralsya Yatha Bhavet  
Abhugnata lamadhyascha Sa  
Sandamsa Iti Smrutaha

*Meaning:*

The thumb and the forefinger of the Arala crossed like pincers and the palms is slightly hollowed. This is called Sandamsa.

*Usages:*

Plucking of flowers, wreathing of garlands, taking up blades of grasses, leaves, hairs or thread, holding or pulling out an arrow, removing of thorn, painting the eyes, writing letters etc.



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## 22. Mukala (Bud):

sloka:

Samanatagrah Sahita  
Yasyangulyo Bhavanti Hi  
Urdhva Hamsamukhasaiva  
Bhaven Mukulakah Karaha



Meaning:

The fingers bent and close to one another and their tips meeting together in the Hamsasya hand. This is called Mukala.

Usages:

Lotus bud, throwing a Kiss, taking food, donating something etc.



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## 23. Urnanabha (Spider):

*sloka:*

Padmakoshasya Hastasya  
Angulyah Kunchita Yada  
Urnanabhah Sa Vigneyaha  
Keshachovryagruhadishu



*Meaning:*

In the Padmakosha hand fingers are further bent. This is called Urnanabha because it resembles a spider.

*Usages:*

Scratching the head, receiving stolen property, Disease of leprosy, Lions, Tigers, holding a stone etc.



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## 24. *Tamrachuda* (Cock):

*sloka:*

Madhyamangushthasandamsho  
Vakra Chaiva Pradeshini  
Seshetalasthe Kartavya  
Tamrachude Karanguli

*Meaning:*

The middle crosses with the thumb, the index finger is kept bent, the remaining two fingers resting on the palm. This is called Tamrachuda.

*Usages:*

To indicate rebuke, this hand is allowed to fall down with a thud. Beating time, instilling self-confidence, rapidity and gesticulation too are indicated hereby.



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