

# Ardhanārīśvara

Śiva as Ardhanārīśvara, with the right side representing Śiva and the left Umā, stands by the side of a bull, with three arms - two arms on the right side representing Śiva and one arm on the left, representing Umā. The rear right arm is holding a trīśūla on a long shaft and the front right arm is rested on the head of the bull. The left arm holds a lily flower. The Lord is shown in tribhaṅga, with the right leg slightly bent and the left firmly planted on the pedestal. On the left, the lower garment extends up to the knee. The bracelet (keyūra) on the right is like a snake, while on the left it is broad, with pearl rings on the upper side and other floral designs in the middle. In addition, the left has a prominent kaṭaka and a number of bangles on the forearm. The right half of the face is slightly longer and the left smaller and graceful, emphasizing the male and female forms. There is a simha kuṇḍala on the right ear and a patra kuṇḍala on the left. Similarly, the headdress is also appropriately divided to show the Ardhanārī form, with the right the jaṭābandha and the left, kēśabandha.

