

unknown to his father he indulged in gambling.

9. Ever and anon he took plenty of sums from his mother and gave them over to other gamblers with whom he contracted great intimacy.

10. He eschewed all brahminical ways and conduct of life. He was averse to the performance of Sandhyā prayers and ceremonial ablutions. He began to speak ill of the Vedas, sacred texts, devas and brahmins.

11. He did not follow the conventions and injunctions of the Smṛti code, He indulged in singing and playing. Actors, heretics etc. were his beloved friends.

12-15. Although his mother wanted him to meet his father now and then, he never went near his father. Engaged in extra-domestic activities Yajñadatta used to ask his wife "Dear good woman, what is our son Guṇanidhi doing? He is not at home." Then the woman used to say, "He has gone out just now. So long he had been taking his bath and worshipping the deities. He has finished his Vedic studies and has just gone out in the company of two or three friends for the purpose of learning somewhere". The poor woman in view of the fact that she had only one son deceived her husband thus.

16. The simple husband did not know anything about the nefarious activities of his son or his bad conduct. All sacred rites ending with Keśa Karma²²² were performed in the sixteenth year of the son.

17. Thereafter Yajñadatta performed the marriage rite of the son in accordance with the rules prescribed in the Gṛhya Sūtras.

18. O Nārada, every day the woman with her heart melting with motherly affection used to make her son sit up and gently upbraid him.

19. "Dear son, your father is surely a great man, but

(दण्डनीति), (4) practical arts such as agriculture, commerce, medicine etc. (वार्ता), (5) ancient historical and mythological tradition (6) science of rituals (7) Logic and (8) Dharma or Law.

222. The religious ceremony Keśānta in which the hair were cut off was performed upon Brāhmins at 16 years of age, Kṣatriyas at 22 and Vaiśyas at 24. Cf. Manu. ii. 65, Yāj. 1.36.