

22-23. Thus, in brief, I have told you the ancient anecdote.

*The sages said :—*

O Sūta, you have narrated Śravaṇa etc.—the three means of salvation. If a person is unable to practise these three, what shall he do to achieve liberation ? What is that rite whereby salvation will be possible without stress or strain?

## CHAPTER FIVE

*(The greatness of the phallic emblem of Śiva.)*

*Sūta said :—*

1. A person incompetent to perform the three rites of Śravaṇa etc. shall fix the phallic emblem or the image of Śiva and worship them every day. He can thus cross the ocean of worldly existence.

2. As far as he can afford, the devotee shall make gifts of wealth too without deceiving others. He shall offer them to the phallic emblem or the image of Śiva. He must worship them constantly.

3-7. The worship must be performed elaborately. Construction of platforms, ornamental portals, monasteries, temples, holy centres, etc., offerings of cloth, scents, garlands, incense, lamps, with due piety; oblations of various cooked rice, pancakes, pies etc. with side dishes ; umbrellas, fans, chowries with all paraphernalia—everything shall be maintained in the worship of Śiva. In fact, all royal homage shall be paid. Circumambulation and obeisance with Japas according to capacity shall be performed. All the different usual rites in worships like invocation shall be maintained with due devotion. A person who worships the phallic emblem or the image in this manner will attain salvation even without Śravaṇa etc. Many noble men of yore have been liberated solely by this simple worship,