

63. As Śiva willed, Q sage, the capacity of the ruler of the Asuras became stunted and thwarted as also of his brothers and Maya.

## CHAPTER SIX

(Prayer to Śiva)

*Vyāsa said:—*

1. When the ruler of the Asuras, his brothers and the citizens were thus deluded, O lord Sanatkumāra, what happened ? Please mention everything.

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

2-3. When the Asuras had become so, when they had abandoned the worship of Śiva, when the virtuous rites of chaste women came to an end and evil conduct came to stay, Viṣṇu was apparently contented. Accompanied by the gods, Viṣṇu went to Kailāsa in order to intimate their activities to Śiva.

4-5. Viṣṇu, the gods, Brahmā and others stood near him and with great concentration they meditated on him. Viṣṇu and Brahmā eulogised the omniscient Śiva with pleasing words.

*Viṣṇu said:—*

6. “Obeisance to you, great lord, the great soul, Nārāyaṇa, Rudra and Brahmā, obeisance to you in the form of Brahman.”

7. After eulogising lord Śiva thus and prostrating at length, he repeated the mantra of Dakṣināmūrti Rudra.

8-9. He repeated the mantra fifteen million times standing in water and concentrating his mind on him. Lord Viṣṇu meditated on the great lord Śiva. In the meantime, the gods too eulogised him with devotion.

*The gods said:—*

10. Obeisance to you, the soul of all, obeisance to Śiva