

marrying the beloved lady Menā, the lord of mountains returned to his abode and rejoiced.

Brahmā said :—

32. O excellent sage, the pleasing details of the splendid marriage of Himavat with Menā have been recounted to you thus. What more do you wish to hear?

CHAPTER TWO

(Menā and others incur the imprecation of Sanaka etc.)

Nārada said :—

1. O Brahmā, the intelligent one, please now tell me reverently about the origin of Menā as well as the imprecation. Please clear my doubts.

Brahmā said :—

2. O Nārada and the sages, listen to the narrative of the origin of Menā. O excellent son, O great scholar, I shall mention it now.

3. O sage, I have already told you about my son Dakṣa. He had sixty daughters all of whom were the instruments of creation.

4. He celebrated their marriages with Kaśyapa and other bridegrooms. You know all that already. O Nārada, now, listen to the present story.

5. Among those, the daughter Svadhā was given to the forefathers. She had three daughters all of whom were of handsome features and virtuous forms.

6. O excellent sage, listen to their holy names which remove obstacles and confer blessings.

7. Menā was the eldest. Dhanyā was the middle. Kalāvati was the youngest. All these were mentally conceived daughters of the forefathers.

8. They were not born of the womb of Svadhā. They were conventionally considered her children. On reciting their names, men can achieve their desires.