

Brahmā said:—

30. On hearing these words in a worldly vein uttered by Śiva, they laughingly replied to Sadāśiva, lord of the gods.

The sages said:—

31-33. Please invite and summon Viṣṇu with his retinue, Brahmā with his sons, lord Indra,⁷⁰ all the sages, Yakṣas, Gandharvas, Kinnaras, Siddhas, Vidyādhara, heavenly nymphs and others. All of them will jointly accomplish everything for you. There is no doubt about it.

Brahmā said:—

34. Saying this and taking His permission the seven sages joyfully returned to their abodes praising the way of Śiva.

CHAPTER THIRTYSEVEN

(The letter of betrothal is despatched, the requisites for the celebration are gathered and the mountain-invitees arrive)

Nārada said :—

1. Dear wise father, when the seven sages returned what did Himācala do ? Please tell me, O lord.

Brahmā said:—

2. O great sage, I shall tell you what Himācala did, when the seven sages and Arundhatī left.

3. Bidding farewell to his brothers, Meru and others Himācala, the lord of mountains, rejoiced in the company of his sons, daughter and wife.

4. Urged by them lovingly, Himācala caused the letter of betrothal to be written by Garga, his priest.

70. Indra is called Śatakratu—‘a God of hundred rites’, for he achieves Indrahood—lordship of the gods—by performing one hundred horse-sacrifices.