

30. From that time onwards the divine phallus and the embodied image, both, were assigned to Śiva alone.

31. The embodied form alone was assigned to deities other than Śiva. The different types of the embodied forms of the different Devas yield only enjoyments. In regard to Śiva the phallic emblem and the embodied form together bestow auspicious enjoyment and salvation.

CHAPTER SIX

(The journey to Kailāśa of the Devas terrified by the use of the Pāśupata weapon in the fight between Brahmā and Viṣṇu who vied with each other maintaining that each of them is the Lord himself)

Nandikeśvara said :—

1. Once, long ago, O foremost among Yogins, Viṣṇu was having his nap on his serpent-couch. He was surrounded by the goddess of fortune and his attendants.

2. Brahmā, the foremost among the Vedic scholars chanced to come there. He asked the lotus-eyed handsome Viṣṇu who was lying there.

3. Who are you lying here like a haughty person even after seeing me ? Get up, O dear, and see me who am your lord. I have come here.

4. Expiatory rites are ordained for that spiteful wretch who behaves like a haughty fool at the visit of an honourable elderly person.

5. On hearing these words Viṣṇu was angry. But assuming a calm exterior he said—"O dear, Hail thee. Welcome. Please sit on this couch. How is it that thy face is agitated and thy eyes look curious ?

Brahmā said :—

6. Dear Viṣṇu, know me to have come with the speed of the Time. I am to be honoured greatly. O dear one, I am the protector of the world, Grandfather, your protector as well.