

22. When much time elapsed, my son Prajāpati heard that the extinction of his sons was due to Nārada and became distressed.

23. He frequently mused like this—"A multitude of sons brings only disaster". Dakṣa who was deluded by Śiva's illusion bewailed thus in many ways.

24. I went over to him and consoled my son Dakṣa out of love and reminded him that fate is all powerful. I pointed out the way to calmness.

25. On being consoled by me, Dakṣa begot a thousand sons named Sabalāśvas in the daughter of Pañcājana.

26. At the bidding of their father, they too reached the place where their elder brothers, the Siddhas, had gone with the same steady resolve in the creation of subjects.

27. At the very touch of waters of the Nārāyaṇa lake they too had their sins quelled and became purified. They performed penance, strenuously repeating many mantras and performing sacred rites.

28. O Nārada, you came to know that they too were attempting the creation of subjects and you told them as before, mindful of the way of Śiva.

29. O sage, of beneficent sight, you showed, them the path followed by their brothers. You went upto heaven and the sons of Dakṣa went the way of their brothers.

30. At the very same time, my son Dakṣa Prajāpati saw many an ill omen. He was disagreeably surprised and felt distressed.

31. As before, Dakṣa heard that the disappearance of his sons was brought about by you. He bewailed a lot. He was stunned, grief-stricken at the loss of his sons.

32. Dakṣa was furious. He called you a wicked fellow. Fate caused you to go there at the psychological moment in the guise of one who wanted to bless him.

33. The grief-stricken Dakṣa approached you with his lips throbbing with fury, taunted you and reproached you saying "Fie, Fie" and spoke to you.

*Dakṣa said :—*

34. O foremost among the base, disguised in the garb