

started immediately from the fixed point in order to go round the earth.

20. Gaṇeśa of excellent intellect stood there itself after pondering in his mind frequently with his keen intellect.

21. "What shall be done? Where am I to go? I cannot cross the earth. At best it may be possible to go a Krośa. I cannot go beyond it.

22. What avails that happiness which is achieved after going round the earth?" Please listen to what Gaṇeśa did after thinking thus.

23. He performed the ceremonial ablution and returned home. He then spoke to his father and mother.

*Gaṇeśa said:—*

24. For your worship two seats have I placed here. Please be seated, dear parents. Let my desire be fulfilled.

*Brahmā said:—*

25. On hearing his words, Pārvatī and Śiva sat on the seats for receiving worship.

26. They were worshipped by him and circumambulated seven times and bowed too seven times.

27. Joining his palms in reverence and eulogising his parents agitated by love and affection, many times, Gaṇeśa the ocean of intelligence, spoke thus.

*Gaṇeśa said:—*

28. "O mother, O father, you please listen to my weighty words. My auspicious marriage shall be celebrated quickly."

*Brahmā said:—*

29. On hearing the words of the noble-minded Gaṇeśa, the parents spoke to him, the storehouse of great intellect.

*Śiva and Pārvatī said:—*

30. You shall circumambulate the earth with all its forests. Kumāra has already gone. You too start and return first.