

25. O lord, Thou art attributeless. How can Thy attributes be known to me, a mere woman? Even the Gods including Indra and Asuras do not know it.

26. Obeisance to Thee, O Lord Śiva, obeisance to Thee, O personification of penance; O Śiva, lord of the Gods, be pleased, obeisance be to Thee again and again.

*Brahmā said:—*

27. Being thus eulogised and having heard her words Śiva favourably disposed to the devotees became highly pleased.

28-29. Her body originally clad in barks of trees and deer-hide had by this time been completely covered by clusters of matted hair hanging down from the head and her face appeared like a lotus threatened by frost. On seeing her Śiva melted with pity and said to her.

*Śiva said:—*

30. O gentle lady, I am delighted by your great penance and this eulogy. O auspiciously intelligent woman, you can choose your boon.

31. Whatever boon seems to be useful to you and is desired by you I shall grant it to you. I am delighted by your rites.”

*Brahmā said:—*

32. On hearing these words of Śiva who was delighted, Sandhyā was highly pleased and she said after repeated obeisance.

*Sandhyā said:—*

33-34. O Lord Śiva, if I am to be favoured with the boon, if I am considered worthy of receiving a boon, if I am purified of that sin, if the lord is delighted with my penance, let the first boon chosen by me be granted.

35. Let no living being, O lord of the Gods, born in this atmosphere be full of lust at the time of its nativity.

36. This is another boon chosen by me that no other woman shall become so famous in the three worlds as I have become or shall become.