

holy centre and sacred rite. She should cast off everything and adore him alone.

52. She who forsakes her husband and secretly violates her fidelity is born as a she-owl of cruel nature wasting its days in the hollow of a tree.

53. If she desires to beat her husband in retaliation, she becomes a tiger or a wild cat. She who ogles at another man becomes squint-eyed.

54. She who partakes of sweet dish denying the same to her husband becomes a pig in the village or a wild goat eating its own dung.

55. She who addresses her husband in singular becomes dumb. She who is jealous of a co-wife becomes ill-fated in matrimony again and again.

56. She who casts glance on another person hiding it from her husband becomes one-eyed, twisted-faced or ugly.

57. Just as a body bereft of the soul becomes unclean in a moment, similarly a woman without a husband is always unclean even though she may take a neat bath.

58. The mother, the father and the husband are blessed if there is a chaste lady in the house.

59. The three families—that of the father, that of the mother and that of the husband—enjoy the pleasures of heaven due to the merit of the chaste woman.

60. Disloyal women cause the downfall of the three families, that of the father, mother and husband and become distressed here and hereafter.

61. Wherever the chaste lady sets her foot, the sin is dispelled therefrom and the place is sanctified.

62. Even the sun, moon and wind touch the chaste woman to sanctify themselves and not otherwise.

63. Waters desire the touch of the chaste lady thinking—"Now our sluggishness is gone. Now we are able to purify others".

64. Wife is the root of the household, and of its happiness; she is the source of the fruit of virtue and for the flourishing of the family.

65. In every house there are women proud of their exquisite beauty and comely appearance. But it is only due to the devotion of Śiva that a chaste lady is obtained.