

with these features was born, there blew a very fragrant wind. All the trees put forth blossoms.

43. Hundreds of sweet-throated cuckoos cooed the note of Pañcama²⁴⁴ sweetly. The clean and clear lakes abounded in full-blown lotuses.

44. On seeing such an excellent Being born thus, I, Brahmā (Hiraṇyagarbha)²⁴⁵ spoke these sweet words to Kāma.

45. O God, thus a constant companion for you has come to exist. He too resembles you. He will render favourable service unto you.

46. Just as the wind, the friend of fire, helps it everywhere, so also this spring will always help you.

47. Since he is the final cause for a permanent abode (after marriage) let him be known as Vasanta. His duty is to follow you and to delight all people.

48. Let the Malaya breeze, the elegance of your person, be your constant companion as he remains under your control.

49. The feminine coquettish gestures like the affected indifference in amorous dalliance and the sixty-four fine arts²⁴⁶ shall be the friends of your wife Rati in the same manner as there are your friends.

50. O Kāma, in the company of Rati and these companions, Vasanta and others, you shall exert yourself in charming Lord Śiva.

244. The fifth (or in later times the seventh) note of the Indian gamut is supposed to be produced by the cuckoo. It is so called because it is evolved from the five parts of the body. Cf.

वायुः समुद्गतो नाभेहरो हृत्कण्ठमूर्धसु ।

विचरन् पञ्चमस्थानप्राप्त्या पञ्चम उच्यते ॥

245. Hiraṇyagarbha "Golden Egg or Golden Womb". It is the designation of Brahmā, since he is the first male formed by the undiscernible eternal First cause in the Golden Egg. Having continued a year in the Egg, Brahmā divided it into two parts by his mere thought and with these two shells he formed the heavens and the earth, and in the middle he placed the sky, the eight regions and the eternal abode of the waters. Dowson H.M. P. 121.

According to Manu (1.9) the seeds deposited in the waters at the first creation of the self-existent became a golden egg in which the self-existent Brahma was born as Brahmā, the creator who is regarded as the manifestation of the self-existent.

246. Sixty-four arts : Gīta, Vādyā, Nṛtya, Nāṭya etc. See Vātsyāyana : Kāmasūtra 1.3.17.