

34. Securing this opportunity, the Trident-bearing deity came there and cut off his head with his trident.

35. O Nārada, when the head of Gaṇeśa was cut off, the armies of the gods and the Gaṇas stood still.

36. You, Nārada, then came and acquainted Pārvati with the matter—"O proud woman, listen. You shall not cast off your pride and prestige."

37. O Nārada, saying this, you, fond of quarrels, vanished from there. You are the unchanging sage and a follower of the inclinations of Śiva.

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

(The Resuscitation of Gaṇeśa)

Nārada said:—

1. O Brahmā, of great intellect, please narrate. When the entire news was heard what did the great goddess Pārvatī do? I wish to hear all in fact.

Brahmā said:—

2. O foremost among sages, listen. I shall mention the story of the mother of the universe in the manner that it happened afterwards.

3. When Gaṇeśa was killed, the Gaṇas were very jubilant. They played on Mṛdaṅgas and Paṭahas.

4. After cutting off the head of Gaṇeśa even as Śiva became sorry, goddess Pārvatī became furious, O great sage.

5. "O what shall I do? Where shall I go? Alas, great misery has befallen me. How can this misery, this great misery be dispelled now?"

6. "My son has been killed by all the gods and the Gaṇas. I shall destroy them all or create a deluge."

7. Lamenting thus, the great goddess of all the worlds angrily created in a moment hundreds and thousands of Śaktis.

8. Śaktis who were thus created, bowed to Pārvatī,