

27. A person of pious nature shall make three circular strings in the manner of the sacred thread, each having three hundred and sixty beads.

28. O Maheśvarī, three Rudrākṣas must be worn on the tuft and six in each of the ears right and left.

29-30. Hundred and one Rudrākṣas shall be worn round the neck; eleven Rudrākṣas shall be worn round each of the arms, elbows and wrists. Devotees of Śiva shall have three Rudrākṣas in the sacred thread and round the hips five Rudrākṣas shall be tied.

31. O Parameśvarī, the person by whom so many Rudrākṣas are worn is worthy of being bowed to and adored by all like Maheśa.

32. Such a person while in contemplation shall be duly seated and addressed "O Śiva". Seeing him, every one is freed from sins.

33. This is the rule regarding eleven hundred Rudrākṣas. If so many are not available, another auspicious procedure I mention to you.

34-36. One Rudrākṣa shall be worn on the tuft, thirty on the head, fifty round the neck; sixteen in each of the arms; twelve round each of the wrists; five hundred on the shoulders, and three strings each having hundred and eight in the manner of the sacred thread. He who wears in all a thousand Rudrākṣas and is of firm resolve in performing rites is bowed to by all Devas like Rudra himself.

37-39. One Rudrākṣa shall be worn on the tuft, forty on the forehead, thirty-two round the neck; hundred and eight over the chest; six in each of the ears; sixteen round each of the arms; O lord of sages, according to the measurement of the forearms, twelve or twice that number shall be worn there. A person who wears so many, out of love, is a great devotee of Śiva. He shall be worshipped like Śiva. He is worthy of being always honoured by all.

40. It shall be worn on the head repeating Īśāna<sup>168</sup> mantra; on the ears with Tripuruṣa<sup>169</sup> mantra; round the

168. VS. 39.8.

169. Ibid. 17.11.