

*Himavat said :—*

4. O sage Nārada, of good knowledge, O lord, foremost among the sons of Brahmā, you are omniscient. You are sympathetic. You are engaged in rendering help to others.

5. Please read the horoscope of my daughter and tell me about her good and bad fortune. Whose beloved wife will my fortunate daughter be ?

*Brahmā said :—*

6-7. O excellent sage, being thus requested by Himavat the lord of mountains, you looked at Kālī's palm and the limbs as well. O dear, you are wise. You know many facts. You are eloquent in speech. You then spoke.

*Nārada said :*

8. "O Menā, O king of mountains, this daughter of yours has all auspicious signs. Like the first digit of the moon she will increase day by day.

9. She will delight her husband, and heighten the glory of her parents. She will be a great chaste lady. She will grant bliss to everyone always.

10. I see all good signs in the palm of your daughter, O lord of mountains. There is an abnormal line also. Listen to the indication thereof.

11. Her husband will be a naked Yogin, without any qualities. He will be free from lust. He will have neither mother nor father. He will be indifferent to honours. His dress and manners will be inauspicious.

*Brahmā said :—*

12. On hearing your words the couple thought them true. Both Menā and Himavat were much distressed.

13. O sage, on hearing your words, and inferring that indications referred to Śiva, Pārvatī's joy knew no bounds.

14. Convinced that Nārada's words could not be false, Śivā turned her mind and love to Śiva's feet.

15. The lord of mountains who was very much grieved in mind spoke to you, "O Nārada, O sage, what is the way out ? What shall I do ? A great misery has befallen us".