

7. Holding his dear daughter to his bosom and saying "Where are you going ?" with frequent vague vacant glances, he cried due to his fascination.

8. Then the chief priest in the company of other brahmins enlightened everyone. The wise priest by his spiritual discourse was able to convince them easily.

9. With great devotion Pārvatī bowed to her parents and the preceptor. Following the worldly convention she cried aloud frequently.

10. When Pārvatī cried the ladies cried too, particularly the mother Menā, sisters and brothers.

11. Her mother, sister, brothers, father and the other ladies who were affectionately attached to her cried frequently.

12. Then the brahmins respectfully intimated to them the auspicious hour for the starting of the journey and consoled them.

13. Then Himavat and Menā composed themselves and caused the palanquin to be brought for Pārvatī to get in.

14. The brahmin ladies helped her to get into the palanquin. They gave their blessings. Her parents and the brahmins too offered their blessings.

15. Menā and the lord of mountains gave her a royal send-off with various auspicious rare presents not accessible to common people.

16. O sage, Pārvatī started after bowing to the preceptors, elders, father, mother, the brahmins, the chief priest, sisters and the other women.

17. Himavat, the sensible affectionate father with his sons accompanied her as far as the place where the lord was waiting joyously along with the gods.

18. Everyone was jubilant and jolly with love. They bowed to the lord with devotion. Praising Him they returned to Kailāsa.

19. Then Śiva told Pārvatī—"I am reminding you although you know the previous birth. If you remember, speak out. In my divine sport you are always my beloved."

*Brahmā said:—*

20. On hearing the words of Śiva, Satī Pārvatī the beloved of Śiva replied smiling.