

entangled in the bondage of ignorance is a brute. He can never be liberated from the worldly bondage.

19. Hence O Brahmin lady, you turn away from worldly pleasures. Listen to the sanctifying story of Śiva with devotion.

20. Your mind, as you listen to the excellent story of Śiva, the Supreme Soul, will become pure and thereafter you will realise liberation.

21. Liberation is assured in this very birth to a person who meditates on the lotus-like feet of Śiva, with a pure mind. Truth, I am saying the truth.

*Sūta said:*

22. After saying this, that excellent brahmin with his mind melting with pity ceased talking and turned his attention to the meditation on Śiva with the purity of the Soul.

23. The wife of Binduga, called Cañculā, when thus addressed by the brahmin, became delighted and her eyes brimmed with tears.

24. With great delight in her heart she fell at the brahmin's feet. Cañculā with her palms joined together said "I am blessed".

25. Afterwards she rose up with great mental agitation. With her hands joined together, her words faltering in excitement, the woman of good intellect in her detached mood said to the brahmin, the great devotee of Śiva.

*Cañculā said :—*

26. O my lord, great brahmin devotee of Śiva, you are blessed. You are endowed with the vision of Truth. You are devoted to rendering help to others. You are to be described among great saintly men.

27—28. O saintly one, I am about to fall into the ocean of Hell. Save me. I am now faithfully eager to listen to the Purāṇa. On hearing its excellent story I became detached from worldly pleasures.

*Sūta said :—*

29. So saying with reverence she got the blessings of