

operation of the goddess of speech, the part of Prakṛti, you shall carry on joyfully the activity of creation, according to my direction. I shall have the co-operation of Kālī, the part of my beloved, the greatest of the great and shall carry out the excellent activity of dissolution in the form of Rudra. You shall be happy after the creation of the world consisting of the four Varnas and their ancillaries—the four Āśramas (stages of life) and various sorts of other incidental activities. You shall contribute to the welfare of the world making use of your knowledge and perfect wisdom.

54-55. O Viṣṇu, be the bestower of salvation too at my bidding. The benefit accruing from your vision will be the same as that from mine. This boon is given to you now. It is the truth, certainly the truth. Viṣṇu is in my heart and I am in Viṣṇu's heart.

56. Those who make any distinction between the two do not know my mind. Viṣṇu is born of my left limb. Brahmā is born of my right limb.

57. Rudra who causes great dissolution and who is the soul of the universe is born of the heart. I manifest in the three forms, O Viṣṇu, known Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Bhava.

58. I am the author of creation, protection and dissolution by the attributes Rajas etc. But I am different from these Guṇas and directly beyond Prakṛti and Puruṣa.

59. I am the supreme Brahman, the eternal, the endless, the perfect and the unsullied. Viṣṇu has Tamas within but Sattva outside. He is the protector of the three worlds.

60. Hara who causes dissolution of three worlds has Sattva within but Tamas outside.

61. Brahmā who creates the three worlds has Rajas both within and without. This is the position of the Guṇas in the three deities. Śiva is spoken of as different from the Guṇas.

62. O Viṣṇu, guard lovingly this Pitāmaha who is the cause of creation. At my bidding, you will be worthy of respect in the three worlds.

63. Rudra shall be worshipped by you and Brahmā. The author of dissolution of the three worlds is the complete incarnation of Śiva.