

13. O bull-emblem God, Dakṣa has told me so. Go to his house in an auspicious hour and bring her here.

14. O sage, on hearing these words of mine, Rudra, who is favourably disposed to His devotees, spoke with a smile, strictly adhering to the conventions of the world.

Śiva said :—

15. I shall go to his house accompanied by you and Nārada. Hence, O creator of the universe, you remember Nārada.

16. Remember your mental as well as physical sons—Marīci and others. O Brahmā, with all my attendants and with them I shall go to Dakṣa's house.

Brahmā said :—

17. Thus commanded by Śiva following the conventions of the world, I remembered you, Nārada and the other sons—Marīci etc.

18. Immediately after I remembered them, all of my mental sons and you arrived in a happy mood.

19. Remembered by Śiva, Viṣṇu, the foremost of Śiva's devotees, came there along with the Goddess Lakṣmī seated on Garuḍa²⁶⁹ and accompanied by his army.

20. In the bright half of the month of Caitra (March-April) on the thirteenth day when the star was Uttarā Phāl-guṇī on a Sunday, lord Śiva started.

21. Going ahead, with all the devas, led by Brahmā and Viṣṇu and accompanied by the sages, Śiva shone brilliantly.

22. Great festivities were arranged by Devas and the attendants of Śiva who were in the happiest mood, on their way.

23. The hides of elephant and tiger, the serpents, the crescent moon and the matted hair, all became fitting ornaments and embellishments at Śiva's will.

269. Garuḍa, the chief of birds, is descended from Kaśyapa and Vinatā.—one of the daughters of Dakṣa. He is the Vehicle of lord Viṣṇu. He is represented as having the head, wings, talons and beak of an eagle and the body and limbs of a man. His face is white, his wings red and his body golden. For details, see Legends in the Mahābhārata PP. 1-153.