

Śiva. They all, Nandin, Bhṛṅgin and others are in a way our own.

12. Pramathas are numerous. But none of them can be called our own. They all stand at the portals, subservient to Śiva's behests.

13. They also may be called our own but our mind is not in unison with them. Hence, O sinless lady, one, our own must be created.

Brahmā said :—

14. Goddess Pārvatī to whom this charming suggestion was made by the two friends considered it wholesome and resolved to carry it out.

15. Once when Pārvatī was taking her bath, Sadāśiva rebuked Nandin and came into the inner apartment.

16. The mother of the universe, seeing the untimely arrival of Śiva in the midst of her bath and toilet stood up. The beautiful lady was very shy then.

17. The goddess decided that her friend's suggestion would be conducive to her good and was so enthusiastic.

18. At the time when the incident occurred, Pārvatī, the great Māyā, the great goddess, thought as follows.

19. "There must be a servant of my own who will be expert in his duties. He must not stray from my behest even a speck."

20. Thinking thus the goddess created a person with all the characteristics, out of the dirt¹⁶⁵ from her body.

21. He was spotless and handsome in every part of his body. He was huge in size and had all brilliance, strength and valour.

22-23. She gave him various clothes and ornaments. She blessed him with benediction and said—"You are my son. You are my own. I have none else to call my own". Thus addressed the person bowed to her and said:—

Gaṇeśa said :—

24. "What is your order ? I shall accomplish what you command." Thus addressed, Pārvatī replied to her son.

¹⁶⁵. According to this account, Gaṇeśa was born of the scurf of Pārvatī's body, without the intervention of Śiva.