

27. All the sages, Marīci, Atri, Dakṣa and others, O foremost among brahmins, attained the state of sensuous excitement.

28. Seeing me as well as Dakṣa, Marīci and others in such a situation and seeing Sandhyā engaged in her affairs, Madana continued to concentrate his attention on his activity.

29. "The work entrusted to me by Brahmā can easily be performed by me" so thought Kāma justifiably.

30. On seeing the sinful proclivities of his brothers and father, Dharma remembered Lord Śiva, the lord protector of virtue.

31. Mentally meditating on Śiva, the protector of virtue, Dharma, the son of Brahmā eulogised Śiva with different prayers in his state of sorrow.

*Dharma said:—*

32. O Mahādeva, lord of Devas, protector of virtues, obeisance be to Thee. O Śiva, Thou alone art the author of creation, sustenance and dissolution.

33. By virtue of three Guṇas, Rajas, Sattva and Tamas, Thou assumest the form of Brahmā at the time of creation, that of Viṣṇu at the time of sustenance and that of Rudra at the time of dissolution. Yet, O lord, Thou art devoid of attributes.

34. Thou art Śiva free from the influence of the three Guṇas, the fourth Being. Thou art beyond Prakṛti. Thou art expert in various divine sports, yet without attributes and free from deformities and decays.

35. Great Lord ! save me from this impassable ocean of sin. My father and my brothers are now sinfully inclined towards me.

*Brahmā said :—*

36. Thus eulogised by Dharma, the great lord, self-born Śiva came there immediately in order to protect Dharma.

37. Stationed in the ether, Śiva saw me, Brahman, Dakṣa and others in such a mental state and so laughed mockingly.

38. O best of sages, in the midst of his intermittent