

47. O Brahmā thanks to His own favour I shall so endeavour as to make Him subservient to me always.

48. O Brahmā, being born of Dakṣa's wife in the from of Satī, I shall duly honour Śiva with my sports.

49. Just as ordinary mortals on the earth are subservient to their women-folk so also Śiva shall be subservient to a woman due to my ardent devotion.

*Brahmā said:—*

50. After addressing me thus, Śivā, the mother of the universe, vanished from the scene even as I was watching her.

51. When she had vanished, I, the grandfather of the worlds, went to my sons and narrated to them everything.

## CHAPTER TWELVE

*(Dakṣa granted the boon)*

*Nārada said:—*

1. O Brahmā, the sinless and the intelligent one, you have splendidly narrated the story of Śivā and Śiva. My life has been sanctified. This is conducive to my benefit.

2. Now please tell me, what the boon was that Dakṣa, with steady sacred rites and austere penance, secured from the Goddess, and how she became Dakṣa's daughter.

*Brahmā said:—*

3. O Nārada, listen. You are blessed. You are revered by all sages with devotion. Hear how with good sacred rites, Dakṣa performed penance and secured boons.

4. At my bidding, the intelligent Dakṣa the great chief controlled his mind and went to worship the Goddess, the mother of the universe, with that cherished desire.

5. He went to the northern shore of the ocean of milk<sup>252</sup> and began to perform the penance, keeping the