

13. He shall avoid the six base feelings of lust, anger etc., he shall not despise brahmins and bear ill will towards chaste ladies and good men.

14. He shall not look at women in their menstrual period. He shall not converse with fallen people, nor talk to haters of brahmins or unbelievers in the Vedas.

15. The house-holder shall practise and strictly adhere to truthfulness, purity, mercy, restraint in speech, straightforwardness, humility, liberalmindedness and other virtues.

16. The householder may listen to the story with any specific desire cherished in his mind or absolutely free from any desire. If he has any desire it will be fulfilled; if he is free from desire he shall attain salvation.

17. An indigent person, a consumptive, a sinner, an unfortunate person and a person having no child shall hear this excellent story.

18. The seven types of wicked women like Kākavandhyā (a woman having a single child) and those suffering from miscarriages shall hear this story.

19. Whether women or men, all must hear the story of Śivapurāṇa, O sage, in the manner prescribed.

20. The days of discourse on Śivapurāṇa must be considered very excellent, even on a par with millions of sacrifices.

21. Gifts duly bestowed on these excellent days, even though they may not be much in quantity, yield everlasting benefit.

22. Observing the rites thus, and listening to the great story the flourishing house-holder shall delightedly perform the Udyāpana rite (at the end of completion).

23. This Udyāpana rite is on a par with the Caturdaśī rite (observed on the fourteenth day of the lunar month). Rich men who wish to secure the fruits thereof must perform it likewise.

24. Indigent devotees usually do not and need not perform the Udyāpana rite. They are sanctified by the listening alone. Pious devotees of Śiva are free from desires.

25. After the festive celebration of the sacrifice of the discourse on Śivapurāṇa is thus concluded, the listeners shall perform the worship.

26. O sage, due worship must be performed in front