

*Brahmā said:—*

31. On hearing the words of his parents, Gaṇeśa spoke immediately and furiously but with some restraint.

*Gaṇeśa said:—*

32. O mother, O father, you two are intelligent and embodied virtue. Hence O excellent ones, you may be pleased to hear my virtuous words.

33. The earth has been circumambulated by me frequently, for seven times. Why then, my parents should say thus?

*Brahmā said:—*

34. On hearing his words, the sportively inclined parents, following the worldly conventions spoke to him thus—

*The parents said:—*

35. “O son, when was the great earth circumambulated by you, the earth consisting of seven continents<sup>168</sup> extending to the oceans and consisting of vast jungles?

*Brahmā said:—*

36. O sage, on hearing the words of Pārvatī and Śiva, Gaṇeśa, the storehouse of great intellect spoke thus.

*Gaṇeśa said :—*

37. By worshipping you, Pārvatī and Śiva, I have intelligently circumambulated the earth extending to the oceans.

38. Is it not the verdict of the Vedas or the Śāstras or any other sacred code? Is it true or otherwise?

39. “He who worships his parents and circumambulates them, will certainly derive the fruit and merit of circumambulating the earth.

40. He who leaves his parents at home and goes on a pilgrimage incurs the sin of their murder.

<sup>168</sup>. On the seven continents, see S. M. Ali, Geography of the Purāṇas, Ch. II.