

52. This has become good. I approve of this always. O Indra, devas and sages, I am telling you the truth.

53. They are slow-witted and senseless. They are rogues indulging in false deliberations and discussions. They are out of the Vedic circle. These men of evil conduct shall be eschewed from sacrificial rites.

54. You all, brahmins, sages and devas with Viṣṇu at the head shall make my sacrifice fruitful.

*Brahmā said:—*

55-56. On hearing these words, the celestial sages deluded by Śiva's Māyā performed the worship of the deities in that sacrifice. O great sage, I have thus explained how the sacrifice had been cursed. Now I shall explain how the sacrifice was destroyed.

## CHAPTER TWENTYEIGHT

### (Sati's Journey)

*Brahmā said:—*

1-2. In the meantime when the celestial sages were on their way to Dakṣa's sacrifice, with great eclat Satī the daughter of Dakṣa was engrossed in diverse sports, surrounded by her friends under the canopy of the fountain house on the mountain Gandhamādana<sup>309</sup>.

3-4. While she was thus gaily sportive<sup>310</sup>, Satī saw the moon in the company of Rohiṇī going to the sacrifice of Dakṣa. Satī asked Vijayā her maiden-in-chief, her beloved friend, wishing her all welfare.

*Satī said :—*

5. O beloved friend Vijayā, where does this moon go

309. The location of the Gandhamādana is highly controversial. According to the Paurāṇic account Gandhamādana is a mountain that forms the division between Ilāvṛta and Bhadrāśva to the east of Meru and is renowned for its fragrant forests.

310. Rohiṇī, according to Paurāṇic Mythology, was the daughter of Dakṣa and the favourite wife of the moon.