

85-86. Our aim shall be to propitiate Śiva if we are sensible. O gods, if Śiva is worshipped, all the gods are worshipped. Hence a person who wants to do good to all living beings shall worship Śiva, the benefactor of the world, for the attainment of all desires.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

(*The mode of worshipping Śiva*).

Brahmā said :—

1. O sages, O devas, listen. Now I shall explain a mode of worship than which there is no better one and which is conducive to the achievement of all happiness and cherished desires.

2. Getting up in the Brāhma Muhūrta within an hour before dawn one shall remember Śiva accompanied by his consort. With palms joined in great devotion and head bent down he shall offer prayers.

3. O lord of devas, get up, get up. O lord stationed in the heart, get up. O lord of Umā, get up. Confer your auspicious blessings on the entire universe.

4. I know what is virtuous, but I am not inclined to work it up. I know what is unrighteous but I am unable to desist from it. O Mahādeva, I do everything as prompted by you, stationed in my heart.

5. After repeating these words of prayer and remembering the sandals of the preceptor he shall go out to the southern direction for answering the calls of nature.

6. Cleaning the body thereafter with earth and water and washing his hands and feet he shall clean the teeth.

7. Cleaning of the teeth shall be completed before sunrise. He shall gargle sixteen times with so many mouthfuls of water.

8. O celestial sages, the Tithis of Śaṣṭhī, navamī as well as new moon days and sundays are forbidden for cleaning the teeth with tooth brush twigs.

9. Bath shall be taken at a convenient time in rivers