

5. O auspicious lady, you shall secure, as your husband, the person who has not taken, does not take, and will not be taking another wife. He will be unlike others.

6. O Nārada, after saying this to Satī we stayed in Dakṣa's abode for a long time. We were bidden farewell by him and we went to our respective places.

7. On hearing that, Dakṣa became delighted and free from all worries. Thinking that she was a great Goddess, he took her with him.

8. Thus with various charming girlish sports the Goddess who is favourably disposed to her devotees and who had assumed human form out of her own will passed the state of girlhood.

9. After passing her girlhood and reaching the state of early youth she attained beauty in every limb which blazed forth brilliantly.

10. Dakṣa, the lord of worlds, on seeing her blooming in the proper age thought within—"How shall I give my daughter to Śiva?"

11. She too desired to attain Śiva. Her desire grew every day. After knowing her father's idea, she approached her mother.

12. Satī, the great Goddess of wide intellect, sought the permission of her mother to perform the penance with Śiva as the goal, for the happiness of her mother Vīriṇī.

13. Firmly resolved in her desire to secure Śiva as her husband, she propitiated him in her own house with the permission of her mother.

14. In the month of Āśvina, (September-October), on Nandā Tithis (i.e. first, sixth and eleventh days of lunar fortnight) she worshipped Śiva with great devotion, offering cooked rice with jaggery and salt. She spent a month like that.

15. On the Caturdaśī (14th day) of the month of Kārttika (October-November), she worshipped and meditated on Lord Śiva, offering sweet pies and puddings.

16. On the eighth day in the dark half of Mārgaśīrṣa (November-December), Satī worshipped Śiva with cooked barley and gingelly seeds and spent the other days (in devotion).