

34. Musicians sang auspicious songs. Dancing girls danced to the tune.

35. Accompanied by these, attended upon by all important gods and with flowers showered on Him delightedly, the sole kinsman of the universe walked ahead shedding lordly splendour.

36. Lord Śiva, eulogised with many hymns of praise, entered the sacrificial altar. He was duly worshipped.

37. The excellent mountains jubilantly made Śiva dismount the bull and lovingly took Him within.

38. After duly bowing to Śiva who arrived there with the gods and Gaṇas, Himavat performed the Nirājana with great devotion.

39. Praising his own good luck and bowing to all the gods, sages and others jubilantly he honoured them suitably.

40. The mountain, after offering Pādya and Arghya to them, took Śiva along with Viṣṇu and the important gods, within.

41. In the quadrangle inside he made us, Viṣṇu, Śiva and other important persons sit on gemset thrones.

42. The Nirājana rites was then performed by Menā, her maids and the brahmin women as well as other ladies of the city with joy.

43. The necessary rites such as offering of Madhuparka etc. to Śiva, the supreme soul, were joyously performed by the priest who knew his duties.

44-45. O sage, urged by me, the priest carried out the auspicious rites relevant to the context after entering the enclosure where the altar had been built along with Himavat. Pārvatī bedecked in all her ornaments was seated as the bride.

46. She was seated over the raised platform and Śiva was led along with Viṣṇu and me.

47. Waiting for the auspicious Lagna befitting marriage, Bṛhaspati and others became jubilant.

48. Garga was seated in the place where the chronometer¹⁰⁷ had been kept. The Omkāra Mantra was repeated

107. Gl:atikā or a waterclock was not only useful for carrying the nuptial programme at proper times but was also symbolical of time that ruled over the entire universe.