102 Sivapurāņa

66. A person who desires enjoyment of worldly pleasures shall worship the deities early in the morning throughout the month of Mārgaśīrṣa or at least for three days. No one shall be without sacred rites in the month of Dhanus.

- 67-70. Rites in Dhanurmāsa (month of Dhanus) prescribed for the morning can be performed upto the Sangava time (3 muhūrtas from sunrise). A brahmin shall observe fast in the month of Dhanus and restrain all his senses. Till midday he shall repeat the Gāyatrī mantra. Till the time of going to bed, he shall repeat the mantras such as the five-syllabled one etc. After acquiring perfect knowledge he shall attain salvation after death. Other men and women shall repeat the five-syllabled mantra alone throughout and take three baths every day. They will attain perfect knowledge. They shall secure the annihilation of the great sins by repeating their favourite mantras.
- 71-75. The great offering of eatables shall be made to Siva especially in the month of Dhanus. The constituent parts of the great offering are as follows:—

Rice of the Śālī variety a Bhāra by weight; pepper measuring a prastha; countable articles twelve in number; honey and ghee a kuḍava each; a droṇa measure of green gram; twelve varieties of side dishes; cake fried in ghee, sweets made of Śālika rice; curd and milk twelve prasthas each; twelve coconuts; twelve betel nuts, thirtysix clove leaves; camphor powder; five saugandika⁸⁴ flowers; betal leaves.

- 76. This great offering of eatables made to the deities shall be distributed among devotees in the order of their castes.
- 77. A devotee who makes the offering of cooked rice becomes the Lord of a kingdom in the world. But by making gift of great offering of eatables, a man attains heaven.
- 78. O excellent brahmins, by offering this a thousand times the devotee attains Satyaloka and lives the full span of life therein.

^{84.} A collection of five kinds of aromatic vegetable substances, viz. cloves, nutmeg, camphor, aloe wood and kakkola.