

40. I am delighted by these hymns. O gods, I shall confer on those who read, recite and hear these hymns whatever they crave for”.

41. Saying this, the delighted Śiva the remover of the distress of gods, gave them every thing that was highly delightful to all the gods.

## CHAPTER TWELVE

*(The Gods go back to their abodes)*

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

1. In the meantime the Asura Maya who was not burnt due to the strength of grace, came there on seeing Śiva delighted.

2. With great delight he bowed to Śiva and other gods. With palms joined in reverence and with stooping shoulders he bowed to Śiva again.

3. Then he got up. Maya the foremost among the Asuras, with his mind full of devotion and voice choked with emotions of love he eulogised facing Śiva.

*Maya said:—*

4. O great lord, lord of the Gods and favourably disposed to your devotees, O Śiva, you are in the form of the wish-yielding Kalpa tree and devoid of special leaning to any side.

5. Obeisance to you O splendour-formed, obeisance to you omniformed; obeisance to you, O sanctified soul; obeisance to you, O holy one.

6. Obeisance to you of variegated forms; to you, the eternal one; obeisance to you who extend beyond all forms. Obeisance to you of divine forms, shapes, and features.

7. Obeisance to the destroyer of the distress of those who bow to you; obeisance to the welfare-hearted; to the creator, sustainer and annihilator of the three worlds.

8. O Śiva, O consort of Pārvatī, obeisance to you who are accessible through devotion of the devotees; obeisance