

50. The womanlike plant born out of the seed by the Śakti of Lakṣmī became jealous of him.

51. Hence the plant came to be called Varvarī²⁴⁰ (a kind of wild basil) and was despised by all. The Dhātri and the Tulasi are always pleasing to him due to their love and affection.

52. Then Viṣṇu forgot his sorrow. Accompanied by them he went to Vaikuṇṭha fully satisfied. He was bowed to by all the gods.

53. O great brahmin, myrobolan and the holy basil shall be understood as the favourites of gods in the month of Kārttika, especially of Viṣṇu.

54. There too, O great sage, the holy basil is the most blessed and the most excellent. Except Gaṇeśa it delights every deity and bestows all desires.

55. On seeing Viṣṇu settled again in Vaikuṇṭha, Brahmā, Indra and other gods bowed to and eulogised him and then left for their respective abodes.

56. O excellent sage, Viṣṇu too, settled in his own world, freed from delusion and enlightened, became happy remembering Śiva as before.

57. This is the narrative that destroys sins, bestows desires to all men. It increases perfect knowledge and quells all aberrations of base lust.

58. He who reads or teaches this every day, he who hears or narrates this with devotion attains the greatest goal.

59. The intelligent man who reads this most excellent narrative and goes to war will certainly be victorious. There is no doubt about it.

60. This yields the knowledge of Vedas to the brahmins, victory to the Kṣatriyas, wealth to the Vaiśyas and happiness to the Śūdras.

61. O Vyāsa, it confers devotion to Śiva, it destroys the sins of all persons, it bestows the good goal here and hereafter.

240. Mālatī (Jasmine), born of the seed provided by Lakṣmī, is called Barbarī or Varvarī and forbidden in the worship of Viṣṇu.