

pained as when their vulnerable points are hit by the taunting words of kinsmen.

30. O beloved, the wicked people do not observe that their own status is being hit when they attack good men endowed with the six qualities of learning."

*Brahmā said :—*

31. Thus advised by the noble-souled Śiva, Satī was angry and spoke thus to Śiva, the foremost of fluent speakers.

*Satī said :—*

32. O Śiva, lord of all, you by whom sacrifice becomes fruitful have not been invited by my father, thus he has committed a foul deed.

33. Hence, O Śiva, I wish to know the trend of thought of that evil-minded person as well as that of the celestial sages and all other wicked persons assembled there.

34. Hence O lord, I wish to go to the sacrifice of my father. O lord Śiva, please grant me permission to go there.

*Brahmā said:—*

35. Lord Śiva, possessed of the perfect vision, realising everything and seeing all, and the cause of protection, being requested by the Goddess, spoke to her.

*Śiva said:—*

36. "O goddess, if this is what you wish, if you think it needful to go, O righteous one, you can immediately start for your father's sacrifice with my willing permission.

37. You can go in royal splendour mounting this bull richly caparisoned."

38. Sati thus commanded to mount the decorated bull, bedecked herself and started for her father's abode.

39. The royal paraphernalia like the umbrella, chowries, silken clothes and ornaments were given to her by (Śiva) the great lord.

40. Sixty thousand of the attendants of Śiva lovingly and enthusiastically went with her with great festivities.