

lord Śiva, the moon-crested consort of Umā who was shining with a brilliance that excelled thousands of rising suns. Dazzled by the brilliance, he closed his eyes and addressed the lord of lords who is beyond the reach of mental conception. "O lord, please give my eyes the power to see your feet."

14. This itself is a great boon, O lord, that I see you present. O lord, O moon-crested God, obeisance be to you. Of what avail are other boons ?

15. On hearing his words, the lord of devas, Umā's consort touched him with his palm and gave him the requisite of Vision.

16. Then on securing the power, Yajñadatta's son opened his eyes and saw Umā alone at first.

17. "Who is this lady beautiful in person, near Śiva the Lord ? What penance did she perform more difficult than mine ?

18. "What a form ! What a love ! What a good luck ! What a fine glory !" He repeated these words several times.

19. While he was doing this and glancing cruelly at Umā, his left eye as a result of seeing the lady, burst.

20-21. Then the Goddess told Śiva—why does this wicked ascetic look at me often and say "You make my penance shine !" and seeing me with his right eye jealously why does he marvel at my beauty, love and good luck.

22-23. On hearing the words of the Goddess, lord Śiva laughed and said "O Umā, he is your son. He does not look at you angrily or jealously. He is describing your glory of penance." After saying this to the Goddess Īśa told him again.

24. "Dear son, I am delighted at your penance. I shall give you the boon you desire. You will be the lord of treasures and the lord of Guhyakas²²⁸.

²²⁸. Guhyakas, literally 'Hidden beings'. They are demi-Gods who, like the Yakṣas, are the attendants of Kubera and guardians of his hidden treasure.