and Āśramas (castes and walks of life) and those of malicious temperament become sanctified thanks to the Jñānayajña even in the Kali age.

- 9. Those who habitually practise deception and those who are ruthless and of cruel disposition are sanctified by this Jñānayajña even in the Kali age.
- 10. Those who misappropriate the wealth of brahmins and thereby nourish themselves and those who indulge in heinous crimes of adultery become sanctified by this Jñāna-yajña even in the Kali age.
- 11. Those who always indulge in sinful actions and those who are roguish persons of wicked mind become sanctified by this Jñānayajña even in the Kali age.
- 12. Men of unclean habits and wicked minds, men who know no peace and men who swallow temple and trust properties become sanctified by this Jñānayajña even in the Kali age.
- 13. The merit accruing from this Purāṇa destroys great sins, yields worldly enjoyments and salvation and delights Lord Śiva.
- 14. In this context an ancient anecdote is cited as an example, the mere hearing of which, removes all sins utterly.
- 15. In the city of Kirātas there lived a brahmin extremely poor and deficient in (brahmanical) knowledge. He used to sell various kinds of beverage and was averse to the worship of gods or to virtuous activities.
- 16. He never practised the daily Sandhyā prayers or ablutions. His practice resembled a Vaiśya's mode of living. He never hesitated to deceive credulous persons. His name was Devarāja.
- 17. Either by killing or by using various deceitful means he used to rob Brahmins, Kṣatriyas, Vaiśyas, Śūdras and others.
- 18. Thus by foul means much wealth was later accumulated by him. But the sinner that he was, not even the slightest part of his wealth was utilised in virtuous acts.
- 19. Once that brahmin went to a lake to take his bath. There he saw a harlot called Sobhāvatī and was much agitated at her sight.
 - 20. The beautiful woman was extremely delighted on