

5. I know the real form of Śiva very particularly. I shall therefore explain Śiva's reality in the proper perspective after careful consideration.

6. He is in fact devoid of attributes. But for some reasons He takes up attributes. How can He have a birth, he who is really attributeless but takes up attributes ?

7. Sadāśiva is the support and receptacle of all lores. Of what avail is learning to Him who is perfect and the supreme soul ?

8. At the beginning of the Kalpa, all the Vedas were given by Śiva to Viṣṇu in the form of breath. Who can be a good lord equal to Him ?

9. How can He be measured in age, He who is primordial to everything and everyone. Even primordial nature (Prakṛti) is born of Him. Of what avail is then Energy to Him ?

10. With the threefold Energies,⁴¹ Śiva blesses those who worship Him always as the lord of Energies.

11. Every individual soul becomes fearless and conquers death by worshipping Him. Hence His designation 'the conqueror of death' is famous in all the three worlds.

12. Viṣṇu attains and retains his Viṣṇuhood by His favour. Similarly Brahmā his Brahmāhood and the gods their godhood.

13-14 Whenever the lord of the gods wants to see Śiva he has to propitiate His gate-keepers, the ghosts etc., otherwise his crown becomes shattered by batons. Really Śiva is a great lord. He has no need for many attendants.

15. What is it that cannot befall one who serves the auspicious-featured Śiva. What is deficient in that lord ? Does Sadāśiva like me ?

16. Even if a person is perpetually poor for seven lives, after serving Śiva, his prosperity becomes unhampered.

17. How can he find benefit inaccessible-he in whose presence the eight Siddhis⁴² (achievements) dance always for the sake of propitiation with speechless mouths or with lowered faces.

41. The three elements of Energy consist of (1) pre-eminent position, (2) good counsel and (3) adventurous undertaking.

42. On the eightfold superhuman faculties, see Note 203. P. 235.