

38. Thus, O mountain, I have narrated to you the auspicious story of Anaraṇya, how he saved his race and his wealth by offering his daughter to the sage.

39. O king of mountains, you too, give your daughter to Śiva, save the entire family and keep even the gods under your control.

## CHAPTER THIRTYFIVE

*(The story of Padmā and Pippalāda)*

*Nārada said:—*

1. O dear, what did the excellent mountain do after hearing the anecdote of Anaraṇya and the marriage of his daughter ? Please tell me.

*Brahmā said :—*

2. After hearing the story of Anaraṇya including the anecdote of the offer of his daughter, the lord of mountains again asked Vasiṣṭha with palms joined in reverence.

*The lord of mountains said :—*

3. O leading sage Vasiṣṭha, O son of Brahmā, O merciful one, you have narrated the wonderful story of Anaraṇya.

4. What did Padmā, the daughter of Anaraṇya, do after marrying sage Pippalāda. Please mention her story fully.

*Vasiṣṭha said:—*

5-6 The very old and venerable sage Pippalāda returned to his hermitage along with his wife Padmā and passed time in pleasure. He was not too much sensuous. He continued to perform his penance and holy rites in the forest and on the mountain.

7. The daughter of Anaraṇya served the sage devoutly physically, mentally and verbally like Lakṣmī serving Viṣṇu.

8. Once Dharma (Virtue) assumed the guise of a king by his magical power and happened to see on the way that lady of gentle smiles going to the celestial river for her holy dip.<sup>59</sup>