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Dakṣā (1)—a Mind-born son of Brahmā, born of his thumb, and father of Mūrti. A progenitor and guardian of the world, born for the creation of worldly beings.¹ Married Prasūti, daughter of Svāyambhuva Manu. Had sixteen daughters of whom he gave thirteen to Dharma, one to Agni, one to Pitṛs, and one to Śiva.³ To the Satra of Viśvasṛk Dakṣa came and was welcomed by all standing, except Brahmā and Śiva. On this Dakṣa burst into anger against Śiva and insulted him saying he had eyes like a monkey, was a breaker of law and convention, lord of the Bhūtas and Gaṇas; he then cursed that Śiva should have no more share in sacrifices and went away. Nandi got enraged at this and imprecated a curse on Dakṣa that he would lose all knowledge of Ātman, and assuming the face of a sheep, would become dull-witted. Bhṛgu then pronounced a counter-curse that those propitiating Śiva shall become Pākhaṇḍas.³ Appointed by Brahmā as the overlord of all Prajāpatis, Dakṣa began the sacrifice of Brhaspatisava to which all gods went in groups. Satī also expressed her desire to go and requested permission of Śiva, who reminded her of the insult offered to him.⁴ As she was persistent, she was allowed to attend. Going, she found that she was not properly welcomed by her father. The enraged Satī sat facing the northern direction in yoga and cast off her body by means of the fire of Samādhi to the distress of gods and others. On this the Gaṇa followers of Satī attacked Dakṣa, when Bhṛgu created a class of gods, Ṛbhus who vanquished these Gaṇas.⁵ Having heard of all this from Nārada, Śiva grew angry; out of his anger sprang Virabhadra who was ordered to ruin Dakṣa's sacrifice. The beard of Bhṛgu was cut off, and Dakṣa's head was severed from his body and thrown into the Dakṣiṇāgni.⁶ The Gods waited upon Brahmā who proceeded to Kailāsa. He conciliated Śiva and pleaded for the revival of Dakṣa and continuation of his *Yajña* promising a share to him.⁷ Śiva agreed but