

52. I am called Kāmākṣī on account of my bestowing everything desired. Let my devotees here obtain the desired boon after bowing down to me under the name Kāmākṣī as they please.

53. Indeed I shall go to the mountain Aruṇācala and carry out the behest of Śambhu, the Lord of Devas, the Lord of unobstructed prowess.

54. I shall go there, perform a severe penance and please Śambhu. Afterwards you all shall gather together and see me when I will have obtained the boons."

55. After instantly bidding farewell thus to all the good devotees serving her feet, the gentle 'girl' went to Aruṇācala for the sake of penance at the bidding of Śaṅkara.

56-58. She was perpetually served by female friends and attendants devotedly. She approached the Lord of Aruṇācala for whom the divine *Dundubhi* drum was sounded. Though the Lord of Aruṇācala is of a fiery nature, he is internally quiescent. He is worshipped by the celestial damsels through dances, songs and showers of flowers. With great enthusiasm she bowed down to the immobile *Liṅga* and saw the group of Siddhas, Yogins and sages.

59-60. Atri, Bhṛgu, Bharadvāja, Kaśyapa, Aṅgiras, Kutsa and Gautama as well as Siddhas, Vidyādhara and the immortal ones always perform penance here for the sake of getting the expected boons. Gaṅgā and other rivers serve and attend to him all round.

61. "This is a divine *Liṅga* remembered as Aruṇādri (or Aruṇācala). Salute." On being told thus by the Suras, she bowed down again and again.

62. On being requested to receive their hospitality by all the great sages, she said, "As per order of Śiva, Gautama should be seen by me."

63. She went to him as he was pointed out by the sages saying, "He is here". That sage was the first and foremost among the devotees of Śiva. He was a storehouse of austerities.

64-65. He had gone to the forest in the morning for fetching sacrificial twigs, *Kuśa* grass and fruits after bidding the disciples of steadfast holy rites, "Worship the guests who come to the hermitage." The righteous-souled sage went to the forest. Then she came to the hermitage to see Gautama.

66-71a. When the disciples were asked, "Where has the sage gone?", they said, "He will come back in a short while." After saying this, she was received by the disciples standing up in honour of her arrival, and offered fruits, roots, sweet scents, a seat, water to wash the feet, *Arghya* and courteous words of welcome. She was duly honoured with fruits and roots that constitute the assets of the disciples. They said to her, "Please wait for a moment." Others went near her.

The moment the goddess entered it, the great hermitage of the noble sage became one full of jewel-set mansions with plenty of requisite furnishings.

After returning from the forest carrying sacrificial twigs, *Kuśa* grass and fruits, the eminent sage saw from far his hermitage sparkling splendidly with hundreds of vehicles. He thought with wonder, 'What is this?' By means of his vision born of knowledge, he saw that Gaurī had come there.

71b-73. In order to see Mother of the worlds, he hastened (back to the hermitage). The disciples, with great haste, intimated to him the news.

The great sage thought that her arrival was the fruit of his own penance. It was coupled with the kindness of Śiva. With great eagerness he came into the hermitage. He who was fond of those who resorted to him, came to the hermitage, thinking about all these things.