

seven names, and for the total eight names eight Mūrtis (forms) wives and children were allotted. Bhava, Śarva, Iśāna, Paśupati, Bhīma, Ugra and Mahādeva were the additional seven names, and Sun, Water, Earth, Wind, Fire, Sky, the Brahmin who has taken dīkṣā and Moon were the eight Mūrtis and the presiding deities allotted to them. To these deities the following wives were also allotted, i.e. Suvarcalā, Uṣā, Vikeśī, Śivā, Svāhā, Diśā, Dīkṣā and Rohiṇī. The world is full with their progenies. Śanaikāra, Śukra, Lohitaṅga, Manojava, Skanda, Sarga, Santāna and Budha are the sons of the above eight wives. This Rudra married Satī, daughter of Dakṣaprajāpati. (Viṣṇu Purāṇa, Part 1, Chapter 8).

(ii) Brahmā whose predominant quality or attribute is rajas was born from the navel of Mahāviṣṇu. From the Centre of the brow of Brahmā was born Rudra of Tāmasic quality. Brahmā, by the power of his tapas, acquired the power of creation and created a red-coloured world by his attribute of rajas. The very same world is annihilated by Rudra at the close of the Kalpa period. (Devī Bhāgavata, 7th Skandha).

(iii) From the wrath of Brahmā was born Rudra, from his lap Nārada, from his finger Dakṣa, from his mind Sanaka and others, and from his left finger a daughter called Virāṇī. (Devī Bhāgavata, 7th Skandha).

(iv) Four 'mental sons' of Brahmā Sanaka, Sanandana, Sanātana and Sanatkumāra showed disinclination to beget progenies. Brahmā got angry at this attitude of the four sons and from the centre of his brow was born a body blue and white in colour, and he, in tears, requested Brahmā for names and stations. Blessing him by saying 'mā ruda' (do not cry) Brahmā allotted him names and stations. He became famous by the name Rudra. He was also given eleven more names by Brahmā as follows: Manyu, Manu, Mahinasa, Mahān, Śiva, Rtuḍhvaja, Ugraretas, Bhava, Kāma, Vāmadeva and Dhrtavrata. These names are otherwise famous as follows: Aja, Ekapada, Ahirbudhnya, Tvaṣṭā, Rudra, Hara, Śambhu, Tryambaka, Aparājita, Iśāna and Tribhuvana. The eleven Rudras were also allotted the following eleven positions by Brahmā i.e. heart, the five organs of the body, vital force (Prāṇa) wind, fire, water, earth, sun and moon. Rudra has eleven wives, called Dhī, Vṛtti, Uṣanā, Umā, Niyutā, Sarpis, Ilā, Ambikā, Irāvati, Sudhā and Dīkṣā. Rudra, under the name Śiva, is considered to be the third of the trinity. The doctrine is that as long as time is real, deluge, or annihilation does not take place. Therefore, Rudrasamhāra (annihilation by Rudra) may be taken to mean only as the beginning of new creation.

(v) At the commencement of Yuga (era) Brahmā was born from the navel of Viṣṇu. Two asuras called Madhu and Kaiṭabha rushed up to kill Brahmā, and from the brow of Viṣṇu, who got angry towards the asuras was born Śiva holding in his hands Śūla (the three-pronged trident). (Vana Parva, Chapter 12).

2) *Family life.* Śiva has two wives, Gaṅgā and Pārvatī (See under Gaṅgā and Pārvatī). He lodges Gaṅgā on his head. Umā, Kātyāyanī, Gaurī, Kālī, Haimavatī, Iśvarī, Śivā, Bhavānī, Rudrāṇī, Śarvānī, Sarvamaṅgalā, Aparṇā, Pārvatī, Durgā, Mṛdānī, Caṇḍikā, Ambikā, Āryā, Dākṣāyanī, Girijā, Menakātmajā, Cāmuṇḍā, Karṇamoṭī, Carcikā and Bhairavī—these are synonyms of Pārvatī. Śiva lives on the top of the Mahāmeru, where there are nine cities. At the centre is Brahmā's

Manovatī; exactly to the east of it is Indra's Amarāvatī; at the south-eastern corner is Agni's Tejovatī; on the south is Yama's Saṁyamanī; at the south-western corner is Kṛṣṇānjanā of Nirṛti, on the west is Varuṇa's Śraddhāvatī, at the north-western corner is Gandhāvatī of Vāyu, on the north is Kubera's Mahodayā, at the north-eastern corner is Śiva's Yaśovatī—this is the set of the nine cities.

Two sons called Subrahmaṇya and Gaṇapati were born to Śiva of Pārvatī, and they are his actual sons. Some other sons also were born to him in his assumed forms and by other women. Such have been Indrajit, Hanūmān and others. For details see the respective words. (Devī Bhāgavata, 8th Skandha, 9th Skandha; Kathāsarit-sāgara, Kathāmukhalambaka).

3) *Incarnations.* Śiva has taken several partial incarnations, the chief of which are given below.

(i) *Durvāsas.* (See under Durvāsas).

(ii) *Vānara (Monkey).* Śiva, Pārvatī and their attenders like Nandikeśvara once transformed themselves into monkeys and played about on the Himālayas. Rāvaṇa, who came there on the occasion ridiculed Nandikeśvara, who, in great rage, cursed Rāvaṇa that monkeys would destroy him. Being thus cursed Rāvaṇa raised Kailāsa from its foundations and played with it. (Uttara Rāmāyaṇa).

(iii) *Śakti.* Śiva incarnated himself as Śakti, son of Vasiṣṭha and was devoured by Kalmāṣapāda, who took the form of a Rākṣasa. (Vāmana Purāṇa, Chapter 6).

(iv) *Varuṇa.* Śiva once assumed the form of Varuṇa and conducted a yajña which was attended by the Vedas in assumed forms. (M.B. Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 85).

4) *Boons granted by Śiva.* The Purāṇas refer to various persons, who had earned boons from him and others who attained heaven on account of their devotion for him. The following are important among such persons.

(i) *Simhavaktra*—(Skandā Purāṇa, Asura Kāṇḍa).

(ii) *Rukmī*—(Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

(iii) *Bāṇa*—(Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

(iv) *Sudakṣiṇa*—(Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

(v) *Sālva*—(Bhāgavata 10th Skandha).

(vi) *Vṛkāsura*—(Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

(vii) *Ratidevī*—(Kathāsaritsāgara, Lāvāṇakalambaka, Taraṅga 1).

(viii) *Indrajit*—(Uttara Rāmāyaṇa).

(ix) *Bhṛgu*—(Padma Purāṇa, Ādi Khaṇḍa, Chapter 2).

(x) *Gāndhārī*—(M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 109, Verse 107).

(xi) *A ṛṣi girl*—(M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 168, Verse 6).

(xii) *Prabhañjana*—(M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 214, Verse 20).

(xiii) *Śvetakī*—(M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 222, Verse 41).

(xiv) *Jarāsandha*—(M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 14, Verse 64).

(xv) *Bāṇāsura*—(M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 33, Southern text).

(xvi) *Mañkaṇa*—(Vana Parva, Chapter 83, Verse 132).

(xvii) *Sagara*—(Vana Parva, Chapter 106, Verse 15).