

## *5. Haravilasam*

Haravilasam is a ballet of 14 scenes depicting the life of lord Shiva. The first half of the dance-drama describes the mythological theme of Shiva's consort Dakshayini and her sacrifice. The second half relates his marriage to Parvathi. Daksha - Yagna and Parvathi Kalyanam are presented in the following episodes.



### *Scene-1:*

The first scene reveals Narada determined to curb the pride and arrogance of Daksha who is the father of Shiva's consort, Dakshayini.

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### *Scene-2:*

The court of Daksha. The king is surrounded by sages and courtiers. He decides to conduct a yaga without inviting Lord Shiva.

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### *Scene-3:*

Kailas with Lord Shiva and his consort. Narada comes with the news of Daksha's sacrificial ritual. Dakshayini decides to attend the yagna without an invitation despite the Lord's reluctance.

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### *Scene-4:*

This scene depicts the argument between father and daughter over the former's insulting behavior to Lord Shiva. Unable to bear her humiliation, Dakshayini immolates herself and perishes.

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### *Scene-5:*

Shiva becomes furious and vows to avenge his consort's death. He destroys the yagna first and destroys Daksha himself in the end through his Shiva Thandavam.

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### *Scene-6:*

The devas plead with Lord Shiva to restore peace on earth. They advise him to do penance by taking to TAPAS (meditation). The first half of the ballet ends with Shiva retreating to the Himalayas.

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### *Scene-7:*

The young princess Parvathi is seen enjoying the beauties of nature in spring with her companions. Manmatha, the God of Love approaches her with Narada's blessings.

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### *Scene-8:*

We are transported to the Himalayas where Shiva is in deep meditation. Manmatha enters and strikes his arrow at the end disturb his tapas. Shiva opens his third eye and reduces Manmatha into ashes.

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### *Scene-9:*

Parvathi has succumbed to the God of Love and is propitiating Shiva to come to her. He arrives disguised as a young saint to test her love for him. When he reveals his identity, Parvathi falls at his feet, and surrenders herself to the Lord.

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### *Scene-10:*

This scene describes the preparations made for the Devin marriage of Shiva and Parvathi.

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### *Scene-11:*

Parvathi's beauty and goodness are delineated in this scene. She describes the true significance of the ARDHANAREESWARA concept.

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### *Scene-12:*

The marriage nuptial of Shiva and Parvathi are portrayed in the last scene in a unique dance sequence.

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