

21. Hence, cast off all fear for death. Come and fight in war joyously. In every respect there is certainly a great bliss here and hereafter.

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

22. Saying this, he tried to encourage his heroes in several ways. But the frightened demons did not regain courage. They fled from the battle in a trice.

23. On seeing his army on the rout, the heroic son of the ocean Jalandhara became very furious.

24. Then the infuriated Jalandhara challenged for a battle in a stentorian voice like the sound of fierce thunderbolt.

*Jalandhara said:—*

25. O ascetic, fight with me now. What is the use of slaying these ? Show me what little strength you have.

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

26. After saying this, Jalandhara the great Daitya hit the bull-bannered Śiva of indefatigable endeavour, with an incessant volley of arrows.

27. Laughingly, lord Śiva split all the arrows of Jalandhara by discharging his own sharp arrows even before his arrows reached him.

28. Then with seven arrows he split the horses, banner, umbrella and the bow of Daitya Jalandhara. O sage, it is not surprising in the case of Śiva.

29. The infuriated Asura the son of the ocean, devoid of a chariot and with bow split up rushed at Śiva lifting his mace vigorously.

30. O Vyāsa, lord Śiva of great sports immediately split asunder the mace hurled by him, by means of his arrows.

31. Yet the highly infuriated great Asura rushed at Śiva with the mailed fist lifted up, with a desire to kill him.

32. By a volley of arrows Jalandhara was hurled back a Krośa by Śiva of indefatigable enterprise.

33. Then, considering Śiva more powerful, Jalandhara