

fought one another with maces, arrows, javelins, spears etc. They hit one another with axes and spears.

42. The strong ones hit and struck with different weapons. The heroic gods supported and invigorated by Hṛṣīkeśa roared like lions and discharged sharp arrows.

43. Some fought with arrows of very sharp points; some with pestles and iron clubs and some with axes and spears.

44. Thus the fight between the gods and the Asuras was terrific. It was very fierce frightening the sages and the Siddhas.

## CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

*(The fight between Viṣṇu and Jalandhara)*

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

1. Then the heroic Asurās hit and struck the gods distressed and terrified, with the spears, axes and clubs.

2. With their bodies cut and pierced by the weapons of the Asuras, the gods including Indra became distressed in mind by fear and they fled from the battle.

3. On seeing the gods fleeing, Viṣṇu hastened to the battle ground seated on his vehicle Garuḍa.

4. By means of his discus Sudarśana he diffused his splendour all round. He shone with the brilliant lotus in his hand and offered fearlessness to his devotees.

5. Holding the conch, sword, mace and the bow, the heroic deity was very furious. He was efficient in the battle using fierce weapons.

6. He produced the twanging sound from his bow and roared aloud. O sage, all the three worlds were filled with its loud sound.

7. The lord Viṣṇu who was highly infuriated cut off the heads of countless Asuras by means of the arrows discharged from his bow.

8. Then the Asuras afflicted by the gusts of wind set in motion by the wings of Garuḍa in his speedy flight