

59. Having thus remembered Śiva, Viṣṇu told Kṣuva the son of Brahmā immediately—

“O noble king, brahmins need not be afraid of anything even a bit.”

60. O king, especially the devotees of Śiva have no fear at all. He would curse me along with the devas and trouble me.

61. O noble king, my destruction will also take place from the leader of Gaṇas at Dakṣa's sacrifice due to his curse. Of course I will be rising up again.

62. O leader of kings, the completion of the sacrifice will not take place. Of course O king, I shall strive for your victory over Dadhīca.

63. On hearing the words of Viṣṇu, the king Kṣuva said—“So be it”. He remained there alone, eager to achieve his desire.

## CHAPTER THIRTY-NINE

*(Description of the fight between Viṣṇu and Dadhīca)*

*Brahmā said :—*

1. In order to do something beneficent to Kṣuva, the lord Viṣṇu who is favourably disposed to his devotees assumed the form of a brahmin and went to the hermitage of Dadhīca.

2. The Preceptor of the Universe Viṣṇu resorting to deception for the realisation of Kṣuva's purpose, bowed to the brahminical sage Dadhīca, the leader of devotees of Śiva, and spoke these words.

*Viṣṇu said :—*

3. O Dadhīca, O brahminical sage, engrossed in the worship of Śiva, O unchanging one, I am soliciting a boon from you, which you will please grant.

*Brahmā said :—*

4. Dadhīca, the most excellent of the devotees of