

CHAPTER TEN

(Jubilation of the gods at the death of Tāraka)

Brahmā said..—

1. After preventing Vīrabhadra, Kumāra, the slayer of enemies, desired the destruction of Tāraka after remembering the lotuslike feet of Śiva.

2. Then the powerful Kārttikeya of great splendour roared. Angrily he got ready for the fight. He was surrounded by a vast army.

3. Shouts of victory were raised by the gods and the Gaṇas. He was eulogised by the celestial sages with pleasing words.

4. The fight between Tāraka and Kumāra was terrific and unbearable. All the living beings were afraid.

5. O sage, even as all the persons stood gazing wonderingly, both of them fought each other with spears in their hands.

6. Each was wounded in the heart by the other with the spear. Each tried to escape from the other's thrust. Both were equally strong like two lions. Both were fully equipped for the fight.

7. They fought and hit each other's spear taking recourse to the mantras Vaitālika, Khecaraka, Prāptika etc.

8. With these mantras they were possessed of magical properties. They wonderfully fought each other using their full strength and exploits.

9. They were equally good adepts in fighting. Each wanted to kill the other. They utilised all their power. With the edges of spears they hit each other.

10. They hit or cut each other's head, neck, thighs, knees, hips, heart, chest and the back.

11. They continued the fight swaggering and vaunting with heroic words. They were experts in different tactics of warfare. They were equally strong. They desired to kill each other.

158. Vaitālika, Khecaraka and Prāpti signify the various attainments of magical or supernatural type which can be exploited for various purposes.