

47. Kṣuva, the king who was haughty by the favour of Viṣṇu, became angry and hit Dadhīca on his chest with his thunderbolt.

48. The thunderbolt was incompetent to destroy Dadhīca the noble-souled, thanks to the power of lord Śiva. The son of the creator (Kṣuva) was greatly surprised.

49. On thus seeing the indestructibility, absence of distress and adamant bones of Dadhīca the great sage, Kṣuva, the son of the creator, became surprised at heart.

50. Defeated thus by Dadhīca who was the server of Mṛtyuñjaya and who resorted to Śiva, Kṣuva went to the forest immediately and propitiated Viṣṇu, the younger brother of Indra.

51. The lord Viṣṇu satisfied with his worship revealed himself to him in the divine form of the Garuḍa-bannered deity.

52. On seeing the lord with his divine vision, he bowed and eulogised him with pleasing words.

53. After worshipping and eulogising the invincible lord, lauded by Indra and others, he devoutly bowed down his head and submitted thus to him.

*The king said :—*

54. O Holy lord, formerly I had a humble friend, a certain brahmin renowned as Dadhīca who knew all virtuous acts.

55. He cannot be killed by anyone at any time due to the power of Śiva. He got this boon after propitiating Śiva, the conqueror of death who is free from sickness.

56. In the open assembly, that Dadhīca of great penance, contemptuously kicked me with his left leg on my head.

57. O Viṣṇu, he told me haughtily—"I am not afraid of anybody". Having obtained favours from Mṛtyuñjaya he is incomparably haughty.

*Brahmā said :—*

58. On coming to know of the indestructibility of Dadhīca of noble soul, Viṣṇu thought upon the unrivalled power of lord Śiva.