

46. You are the eight-formed,³¹⁰ the infinite-formed, the bestower of the desires of all gods and Asuras. You are the wicked and the undesirable. How can I adequately eulogise you of such a nature ?

Sanatkumāra said :—

47. After eulogising Śiva thus and bowing to him again, Śukra took leave of Śiva and entered the army of the Dānavas as the moon does the cluster of clouds.

48. Thus I have narrated to you how Bhārgava was swallowed by Śiva. Now listen to the mantra which was repeated by Bhārgava from within the belly of Śiva.

CHAPTER FORTYNINE

(The acquisition of the position of a Gaṇa by Andhaka)

Sanatkumāra said :—

Om obeisance to you, the lord of the gods, the one bowed to by the gods and Asuras, the great lord of the beings past and future, the one of green and tawny-coloured eyes, the strength, the intellect-formed, the one having the tiger hide as his covering cloth, the one springing from the flint sticks of sacred fire, the lord of the three worlds, Īśvara, Hara, the bay-eyed, the cause of the dissolution of the Yugas, the fire, the lord of Gaṇas, the protector of the worlds, the one of great arms, of great hands, the trident-bearing, of great fangs, the Kāla, Maheśvara, the imperishable, the Time-formed, the blue-necked, the one of huge belly, the presiding deity of Gaṇas, the soul of all, the purifier of all, the all-pervading, the destroyer of the death, the one observing sacred rites on the Pāriyātra³¹¹ mountain, the Brahmacārin, the one knowable through Vedānta, the one reaching the limits of austerities, Paśupati, the bodiless, the one armed with trident, the bull-bannered, Hari, the one with matted

³¹⁰. For the eight forms of Śiva, see Note No. 83 P. 1321

³¹¹. For Pāriyātra or Pāripātra, see Note 77 P. 629.