

35. Virabhadra of no weak soul, nay, identical with lord Śiva, held his terrific discus luminous like black sun suspended and motionless.

36. O sage, thanks to the power of Śiva, the great lord controlling Māyā, the Cakra held in the hand of Viṣṇu became stunned and motionless.

37. Viṣṇu who was kept stunned by Virabhadra of eloquent words who was the lord of the Gaṇas, remained motionless like a mountain.

38. O Nārada, when he became benumbed and stunned, Viṣṇu repeated formulas for redemption from torpidity.<sup>328</sup>

39. O sage, becoming freed from the stunned state, Viṣṇu became infuriated and took up his bow and arrows.

40. O dear sage, Viṣṇu's bow was attacked with three arrows by Virabhadra whereupon it split into three in a trice.

41. Then Viṣṇu was enlightened by the great voice that the great Gaṇas were invincible. He therefore thought of vanishing from the scene.

42. On coming to know that all this was bound to happen brought about by Satī, so unbearable to all others, all of us went to our respective worlds after duly remembering Śiva, the independent lord of all.

43. When I returned to Satyaloka the grief of my son afflicted me much. In my miserable plight I pondered over what shall be done by me.

44. When Viṣṇu and I had gone, accompanied by Devas and sages, all those who were left there, those who maintained themselves through sacrifices, were utterly defeated by the Gaṇas.

45. On seeing the disorder and utter destruction of the great sacrifice, the sacrifice itself being afraid assumed the form of a deer and fled.

46. Virabhadra seized it as it, was fleeing up the sky in the form of a deer and beheaded it.

47-48. Then the heroic Mahāgaṇa Virabhadra caught hold of Prajāpati, Dharma, Kaśyapa Ariṣṭanemin the sage with many sons, the sages Aṅgiras and Kṛśāśva and the great sage Datta and kicked all of them on their heads.