

57. Burn the devas too who have committed offence, in the blazing fire, after meditating on me, your protector.

58. After burning Dakṣa and all others along with their wives and kinsmen, without any effort, in a playful manner you shall drink waters.

Brahmā said:—

59. After saying thus to Virabhadra the great hero, Śiva the lord of all, the slayer of Kāla, the protector of Vedic conventions, stopped, with his eyes still resembling copper (due to anger).

CHAPTER THIRTYTHREE

(The March of Virabhadra)

Brahmā said :—

1. On hearing these words of lord Śiva with great respect, Virabhadra was highly delighted. He bowed to Him.

2. Receiving his command, with his head bowed down in reverence, Virabhadra set off immediately to the place of sacrifice.

3. To add lustre to the campaign, Śiva sent crores of Gaṇas, very valorous and equal to the fire of dissolution.

4. Those powerful Gaṇas enthusiastic and gay both preceded and followed Virabhadra.

5. All the personal attendants of Kālakāla assuming the form of Rudra accompanied Virabhadra in their hundreds and thousands.

6. Accompanied by these Gaṇas, the noble-souled Virabhadra who had the same dress, features and embellishments as Śiva went ahead in a chariot. He had a thousand arms each like hoods of the serpent king. He was powerful and terrifying.

7. The chariots numbered as many as two thousand Nalvas³²² of land could contain. Ten thousand lions pulled the chariots strenuously.

322. Nalva is a measure of distance equal to four hundred (or according to some authorities one hundred four) cubits.