

31. The valorous Śaṅkhacūḍa fell down after being tossed up very high. He got up and bowed down to Bhadrakālī.

32. Highly delighted thereafter, he got into a beautiful aerial chariot of exquisite workmanship set with gems and did not lose the balance of his mind in the battlefield.

33. Hungrily Kālī drank the blood of the Dānavas. In the meantime an unembodied celestial voice said:

34. O goddess, a hundred thousand haughty leading Dānavas have been left out in the battle still roaring. Devour them quickly.

35. Do not think of slaying the king of Dānavas. O goddess, Śaṅkhacūḍa cannot be killed by you. It is certain.

36-37. On hearing these words from the firmament, Bhadrakālī drank the blood and devoured the flesh of many Dānavas and went near Śiva. She then narrated to him the events of the war in the proper order.

## CHAPTER THIRTYNINE

*(The annihilation of the army of Śaṅkhacūḍa)*

*Vyāsa said:—*

1. O intelligent one, on hearing the narrative of Kālī what did Śiva say? What did he do? Please narrate to me. I am eager to know it.

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

2. On hearing the words of Kālī, lord Śiva, the actor of great divine sports, laughed. Śiva consoled her.

3. On hearing the celestial voice, Śiva, an expert in the knowledge of principles, went himself to the battle along with his Gaṇas.

4. He was seated on his great bull and surrounded by Virabhadra and others, the Bhairavas and the Kṣetrapālas all equal in valour to him.

5. Assuming a heroic form, lord Śiva entered the