

and secured a great lore. Now the opportunity has arrived to put it to a practical use.

23. O Bhārgava, let all the Pramathas see the fruit of your lore as you will kindly resuscitate the Asuras by that lore.

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

24. On hearing the words of Andhaka, the perplexed Bhārgava began to reflect sadly.

25. “What shall I do ? What will benefit me ? Any living being has various activities to be performed. It may seem improper to me.

26. This Vidyā has been derived from Śiva and I am going to use it on the heroes suppressed by the heroic Pramathas, the followers of Śiva.

27. It is my duty to protect those who seek refuge in me.” After thinking like this, the proposal of Andhaka was accepted by Śukra.

28. Smiling slightly and thinking upon the lotus like feet of Śiva with a peaceful mind, Bhārgava spoke to the ruler of Dānavas.

*Śukra said:—*

29. O dear, what has been mentioned by you is entirely true. I have acquired this lore just for the welfare of the Dānavas.

30. Drinking the unbearable smoke of husks or eating bits of grains for a thousand years, this lore has been acquired from Śiva. It is pleasing and beneficent to you my kinsmen.

31. With this lore, I shall revive the Daityas destroyed in the battle by the Pramathas just like the cloud that revives scorched plants.

32. Within a Muhūrta you will see these Daityas as if waking from sleep, healed from wounds, devoid of pain and very healthy.

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

33. After saying this to Andhaka, Śukra repeated the