

by the volleys of arrows, Śiva split the net of their arrows and encompassed the sky with his own.

10. He afflicted the Daityas with the gusts of wind raised by the arrows. He felled them to the ground with fierce volleys of arrows.

11. He severed the head of Khaḍgaromā from his body with his axe. He shattered the head of Balāhaka with his club into two pieces.

12. He tied the Daitya Ghasmara with his noose and dashed him on the ground. With his trident, he chopped off the great hero Pracaṇḍa.

13. Some of the Asuras were killed by the bull. Some were struck by the arrows. Like elephants harassed by lions, the Asuras were unable to stay there.

14. Then the great Asura Jalandhara became infuriated and rebuked the Daityas in the battle. The courageous Daitya mocked at Śumbha and others and spoke thus.

*Jalandhara said:—*

15. Of what avail is your boasting about the pedigree of your mother if you flee back on being attacked ? To die cowardly while you profess to be heroes is not commendable, nor does it yield heaven.

16. O trivial fellows, if you have faith in war or the essential strength in the heart or if you have no lurking pleasures for sexual indulgence then you come forward and stand before me.

17. Death in battle is preferable. It yields all cherished desires. It is especially conducive to fame. It has been proclaimed as the bestower of salvation too.

18. The wandering recluse of supreme knowledge and wisdom as well as he who dies fighting face to face, attain the greatest region after breaking through the solar sphere.

19. No sensible man should ever be afraid of death. Death is inevitable notwithstanding all the remedies employed to ward it off.

20. O heroes, death is congenital to any being born. Either today or at the end of a hundred years all living beings are sure to die.