

CHAPTER FIVE

(*The Tripuras are fascinated*)

Vyāsa said:—

1. When the ruler of the Asuras was initiated after being deluded by the deceptive sage expert in the magic art what did the sage say? What did the ruler of the Asuras do?

Sanatkumāra said:—

2. After offering him initiation, the ascetic Arihan served by his disciples, Nārada and others, spoke to the ruler of the Asuras.

Arihan said:—

3. O ruler of the Asuras, listen to my statement, pregnant with wisdom. It is the essence of the Vedānta and bears high esoteric importance.

4. The entire universe is eternal. It has no creator nor it is an object of creation. It evolves itself and gets annihilated by itself.

5. There are many bodies from Brahmā down to a blade of grass. They themselves are the gods for them. There is no other God.

6. What we mean by Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Rudra are only the names of embodied beings just like my name Arihan etc.

7. Just as our bodies perish when their time arrives, so also the bodies of all beings from Brahmā to a mosquito perish when their time arrives.

8. When we consider, none of these bodies is superior to any other since in respect of taking food, copulation, sleep and fear these are invariably the same everywhere.

9. Taking in water and foodstuffs to the required quantity, all living beings derive a kindred satisfaction, neither more nor less.

10. After drinking water we are gladly relieved of thirst. Others too are equally relieved. There is no deviation this way or that.