

army with him, came to the battle ground and began to kill the gods with various weapons.

57. On seeing the gods being killed Bṛhaspati went to the mountain Droṇa. Then he, the object of praise and worship by the gods, did not see the mountain there.

58. On realising that the mountain Droṇa had been removed by the Asuras, Bṛhaspati was terrified. He returned and said dejectedly.

*Bṛhaspati said:—*

59. “O gods, run away, all of you. There is no trace of the great mountain Droṇa. Certainly it has been destroyed by the Asura, the son of the ocean.

60. Jalandhara is a great Asura. He cannot be conquered since he is born of a part of Śiva. He will pound all the gods.

61. His power has been understood by me as he is self-born. O gods, all of you remember the act of offence to Śiva perpetrated by Indra.

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

62. On hearing these words uttered by the preceptor of the gods, they abandoned all hopes of victory. They became excessively terrified.

63. All the gods including Indra, struck by the king of the Asuras all round, lost courage and fled in all directions.

64. On seeing the gods routed, the Asura, Jalandhara, the son of the ocean, entered Amarāvati<sup>215</sup> with sounds of victory from the conches and drums.

65. When the Asura entered the city, Indra and other gods entered the cavern of the golden mountain Meru and remained there. They had been extremely harrassed by the Asuras.

66. O sage, at the same time the Asura appointed Śumbha and other Asuras severally in the places of authority of Indra and others. He then went into the cavern of the golden mountain.

<sup>215</sup>. It is the mythical capital of Indra's heaven, situated on the golden mount Meru.