

O heroes, let this be enquired into. Peace shall be established by me, of course.

54. Even as the lord of the gods was conducting the enquiry, the leaders of the Gaṇas approached the lord.

55. On seeing them dejected, the lord enquired after their health. The Gaṇas then intimated to him everything in detail.

56. On hearing it, lord Śiva, the expert in divine sports assured them of freedom from fear increasing their enthusiasm.

## CHAPTER TWENTYTWO

*(Description of Jalandhara's Battle)*

*Sanatkumāra said :—*

1. Then the great lord Śiva assuming a terrible form went laughingly to the battle-field and sat on his bull, accompanied by his heroic Gaṇas.

2. On seeing Śiva coming, the Gaṇas who were formerly defeated returned to fight roaring like lions.

3. Other Gaṇas too shouted heroically and jubilantly. Well-equipped with their weapons they killed the Daityas with showers of arrows.

4. On seeing Śiva the terrible, all the Daityas fled for fear from the battle field as the sins on seeing a devotee of Śiva.

5. On seeing the Daityas returning from the battle field, Jalandhara rushed at Śiva discharging thousands of arrows.

6. Thousands of leading Daityas, Niśumbha, Śumbha and others rushed at Śiva, biting their lips.

7. Similarly Kālanemi the hero, Khaḍgaromā, Balāhaka, Ghasmara, Pracaṇḍa and others rushed at Śiva.

8. O sage, the heroes Śumbha and others, covered the Gaṇas of Rudra with arrows and cut their limbs.

9. On seeing his army of Gaṇas enveloped in darkness