

13. The Vedas say clearly that the king consists of all devas. Hence, O sage, I am that great deity.

14. Hence a king is nobler than a brahmin. Take the example of Cyavana. Hence I am not to be disrespected by you. I am to be honoured always.

*Brahmā said :—*

15. On hearing that opinion of Kṣuva, O excellent sage, which went contrary to Vedas and Smṛtis, Śukra became angry.

16. Dadhīca of great splendour became angry because it affected his prestige, O sage. With his left fist he hit Kṣuva on his head.

17. Kṣuva on being hit struck Dadhīca with the thunderbolt. The king of evil mind became angry and roared loudly.

18. Dadhīca on being struck by the thunderbolt remembered Śukra who was one of his ancestors.

19. Śukra of Yogic powers approached the body of Dadhīca who was hit by Kṣuva and rejoined the broken limbs.

20. After rejoining the organs as before of Dadhīca, Śukra a leading devotee of Śiva, the initiator of Mṛtyuñjaya-vidyā said.

*Śukra said :—*

21. Dear Dadhīca, after worshipping Śiva the lord of everyone, I am going to tell you the highly potential Vedic mantra Mahāmṛtyuñjaya.

22. We worship the three-eyed lord Śiva, the lord of the three worlds, the father of the three spheres, the lord of the three guṇas.

23-25. Lord Śiva is the essence, the fragrance of the three Tattvas, three fires, of every thing that is trichotomised, of the three worlds, of the three arms and of the trinity. He is the nourisher. In all living beings, everywhere, in the three Guṇas, in the creation, in the sense-organs, in the devas and Gaṇas, he is the essence as the fragrance in a flower. He is the lord of devas.