

17. In order to prevent it from being hurled, an unembodied celestial voice said—"O goddess, do not hurl this missile angrily at Śaṅkhacūḍa."

18. "O Caṇḍikā, death of this Dānava will not take place even through the never failing Pāśupata missile. Think of some other means for slaying this warrior Śaṅkhacūḍa."

19. On hearing this, Bhadrakālī did not hurl the missile. Sportively she devoured ten million Dānavas as if in hunger.

20. The terrible goddess rushed at Śaṅkhacūḍa to devour him. The Dānava prevented her by means of the divine missile of Rudra.

21. Then the infuriated leader of the Dānavas hurled a sword, as fierce as the summer sun, with sharp and terrific edge.

22. On seeing the blazing sword approaching, Kālī furiously opened her mouth and swallowed it even as Śaṅkhacūḍa stood watching.

23. The lord of Dānavas hurled many divine missiles but before they reached her she broke them into hundreds of pieces.

24. Again the great goddess rushed at him in order to devour him. But that glorious Dānava, leader of all Siddhas vanished from sight.

25. Thus unable to see him, Kālī who rushed with great velocity crushed his chariot and killed the charioteer with her fist.

26. Then Śaṅkhacūḍa, an expert in using deception returned quickly and forcefully hurled the wheel blazing like the flame of fire of dissolution, at Bhadrakālī.

27. The goddess sportively caught hold of the wheel with her left hand and immediately swallowed it.

28. The goddess then hit him with her fist forcefully and angrily. The king of Dānavas whirled round and fainted for a short while.

29. Immediately the Dānava regained consciousness and got up valorously. He did not fight her with his arms by the thought that she was a woman like his mother.

30. The goddess seized the Dānava, whirled him again and again and tossed him up with great anger and velocity.