

of goblins, and three crores of canine species born of the hair of Śiva. He went ahead quickly.

37. Trumpets and drums sounded loudly. Conchs blew in diverse ways. Horns of all kinds were blown.

38 In that joyous festivity various musical instruments were played in a pleasing manner.

39 While the march of Virabhadra was in progress, O great sage, many pleasing fortuitous omens occurred.

CHAPTER THIRTYFOUR

(The devas witness bad omens at the place of sacrifice)

Brahmā said :—

1. When Virabhadra set off thus, bad omens were seen by Dakṣa and the devas.

2. O celestial sage, when Virabhadra accompanied by the Gaṇas proceeded thus, many portentous phenomena occurred at the sacrifice of Dakṣa including the three evil omens, boding the imminent destruction of Dakṣa's sacrifice.

3. The left eye, arm and thigh of Dakṣa throbbed. In every respect, it indicated everything inauspicious. It was harassing to him.

4. There was an earthquake at the site of sacrifice. Dakṣa observed the mysterious phenomena of stars at noon.

5. The quarters became dirty and gloomy. The sun appeared spotted and terrifying with thousands of circlets all round.

6. Stars, brilliant like lightning and blazing fire were seen falling. Some of them went zigzag and some fell with face downwards.

7. Thousands of vultures hovered above touching Dakṣa's head. Shadows of these darkened the sacrificial platform.

8. Jackals howled in the surroundings of the sacrificial ground. The evil star Netraka and meteors seemed to fall like white scorpions.