

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

(Gaṇeśa's battle)

Brahmā said:—

1. When Śiva told them thus, they came to a decisive resolution. They got ready and went to Śiva's palace.

2. On seeing the excellent Gaṇas, fully equipped for war, coming, Gaṇeśa spoke thus to them.

Gaṇeśa said:—

3. Welcome to the leaders of Gaṇas, carrying out the behests of Śiva. I am only one and that too a mere boy carrying out the directions of Pārvatī.

4. Yet let the goddess see the strength of her son. Let Śiva see the strength of his Gaṇas too.

5. The fight between the parties of Pārvatī and Śiva is the one between a strong army and a boy. You are all experts in warfare and have fought in many a battle.

6. I have never fought in a battle before. I am a mere boy. I am going to fight now. Still if you are put to shame, it will be shameful to Śiva and Pārvatī.

7. But that will not happen to me. If I am put to shame, the contrary will happen to me. Pārvatī and Śiva will be put to shame but not I.

8. O leader of the Gaṇas, the war shall be fought after realising this. You shall look up to your lord and I to my mother.

9. What sort of a fight shall be fought? Let what is destined to occur, occur. No one in the three worlds can ward it off.

Brahmā said:—

10. When thus taunted and rebuked they rushed towards him with big batons, decorating their arms and taking up different kinds of weapons.

11. Gnashing their teeth, grunting and bellowing and calling out "See, See", the Gaṇas rushed at him.

12. Nandin came first and caught hold of his leg. He