

of vultures, kites, crows and carnivorous birds devoured the flesh of those falling down.

31. In the meantime Tāraka, the demon of great strength, came there with a huge army to fight with the gods.

32. On seeing the haughty warrior rushing on them, Indra and others, turned against him. Then a tumultuous sound arose from both the armies.

33. Duels were fought by the gods and the Asuras crushing each other, on seeing which heroes were delighted and cowards were terrified.

34. The Asura Tāraka of great strength fought with Indra, Samhrāda with Agni and Yama with Jambha.

35. Lord Varuṇa fought with Nairṛta and Bala. Suvīra, the king of Guhyas, fought with Vāyu.

36. Śambhu fought with Iśāna. Śumbha an expert in battle fought with Śeṣa. Kumbha the Asura fought with the Moon.

37. Kuñjara of great strength and exploit, an expert in different kinds of battles, fought with Mihira, using great weapons.

38. Thus the gods and the Asuras, fought duels using their full strength with resolution.

39. O sage, desiring to gain the upper hand and vying with each other, the powerful gods and the Asuras were equally invincible in the battle.

40. The fight between the gods and the Asuras desirous of victory over each other was very tumultuous. It was pleasing to the brave and terrible to the others.

41. The battle ground became impassable and awful with the corpses of the gods and Asuras lying there in thousands but it was very pleasing to the brave.