

sion and overlordship. A Muni is he who is constantly established in *Japa-yajna*. Sage Kapila is one endowed with all these virtues. He is the author of the Samkhya system of philosophy. Further he is held to be an incarnation of Vishnu. It is but natural that the Lord should claim him as His own.

उच्चैःश्रवसमश्वानां विद्धि माममृतोद्भवम् ।

ऐरावतं गजेन्द्राणां नराणां च नराधिपम् ॥ २७

उच्चैः-श्रवसम् अश्वानाम् विद्-धि माम् अ-मृत-उद्-भवम् ।

ऐरावतम् गज-इन्द्राणाम् नराणाम् च नर-अधिपम् ॥

*uccaiḥśravasam asvānām viddhi mām amṛtodbhavam* ।

*airāvatam gajendrāṇām narāṇām ca narādhipam* ॥

उच्चैःश्रवसम् *uccaiḥśravasam* Uchchairsravas अश्वानाम् *asvānām* among horses विद्धि *viddhi* know माम् *mām* मे अमृतोद्भवम् *amṛtodbhavam* born of nectar ऐरावतम् *airavatam* Airavata गजेन्द्राणाम् *gajendrāṇām* among lordly elephants नराणाम् *narāṇām* among men च *ca* and नराधिपम् *narādhipam* the king

Of horses, know Me to be the nectar-born Uchchairsravas; of lordly elephants, Airavata and of men, the monarch. 27.

Mythology speaks elaborately of the churning of the ocean of milk by Devas and Asuras to get nectar from it. The horse Uchchairsravas and the elephant Airavata along with several other high beings and great things came out of that unique undertaking. But this event is an allegorical statement of the eternal process of the good and bad people jointly churning the ocean of life to obtain happiness through wealth, learning and prosperity.