

OM

Om Shree Krishnaya Param Brahmane Namah!

Om Namō Bhagavathe Vaasudevayah!

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॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥

Om Namō Bhagavathe Vaasudevayah!

प्रथमस्कन्धः

PRATHAMASKANDHAH (CANTO ONE)

॥ द्वादशोऽध्यायः ॥

DHWAADHESOADHYAH (CHAPTER TWELVE)

Birth of Pareekshith

[Though Aswaththaamaa cast Brahmaasthra and tried to destroy the pregnancy of Uththara, Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan entered in the shape of a thumb into the womb of Uththara and protected the embryo throughout the pregnancy until the full-grown baby was delivered by her. Yuddhishtira, the emperor by then, was extremely pleased as a male child who would be the successor to his dynasty was born. Renowned Brahmins and scholarly and expert astrologers were invited to name the child and to write the horoscope of the newborn baby. The Brahmins named the child very appropriately as Vishnuraatha meaning the one who was protected by Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. Also, he was named as Pareekshith meaning like and examiner. And that name is also very relevant and meaningful in his

case as he observed the form of Vishnu during pregnancy and then after birth, he tested all divine forms to match with the one he had seen in the embryo stage. And with such observation, testing and matching he would appropriately be named as Pareekshith. Yuddhishtira donated generously with gifts and charities in abundance to those Brahmins and Astrologers. Yuddhishtira conducted many Yaagaas and ruled the kingdom for a long while as good as or even better than how Dhevendhra, the king of heaven, ruled heaven with all prosperities and happiness and peacefulness to all the subjects.]

शौनक उवाच

Saunaka Uvvacha (Saunaka Said):

अश्वत्थाम्नोपसृष्टेन ब्रह्मशीर्ष्णोरुतेजसा ।
उत्तराया हतो गर्भ ईशेनाजीवितः पुनः ॥ १ ॥

1

Aswaththamnopasrishtena brahmaseershnoruthejasaa
Uththaraayaa hatho gerbha Eesenaaajeevithah punaha

तस्य जन्म महाबुद्धेः कर्माणि च महात्मनः ।
निधनं च यथैवासीत्स प्रेत्य गतवान् यथा ॥ २ ॥

2

Thasya jenma mahaabudhddheh karmmaani cha mahaathmanah
Niddhanam cha yetthaivaaseeth sa prethya gethavaan yetthaa.

तदिदं श्रोतुमिच्छामो गदितुं यदि मन्यसे ।
ब्रूहि नः श्रद्धधानानां यस्य ज्ञानमदाच्छुकः ॥ ३ ॥

3

Thadhidham srothumichcchaami gedhithum yedhi manyase
Broohi nah sredhdhaddhaanaanaam yesya
jnjaanamadhaaChcchukah

Oh, the great scholarly Sootha! You did tell us that the pregnancy of Uththara was completely protected by Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan by shielding and covering her womb by his Sudhersan Chakra from the dreadful and deadly casting of Brahmaasthra by Aswaththaamaa targeting to destroy the embryo in the womb of Uththara. You also mentioned earlier that in fact the embryo was killed and destroyed by the Brahmaasthra of Aswaththaamaa but was revived back to life by the supreme universal doctor, Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan. Now would you kindly explain to us in detail about his birth and childhood and also of all the deeds and actions of his life? We have heard that he was very smart and supremely intelligent and highly scholarly and above all the staunchest of the devotees of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan. Also, we wish to hear from you how he put an end to his life by enabling the soul to depart from his body? Oh, the great sire we assure you that we would listen to your discourses with utmost concentration and devotion and with full meditation. It would definitely be a blessing to get an opportunity to listen to the divine story of this great emperor because it was to him that mendicant and divine sage and philosophical scholar, Suka Brahmaarshi, had explained the glorious and sacred and divine stories of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan in seven days towards the end of the life of Pareekshith Mahaaraaja. We earnestly and respectfully request you to explain to us in detail all about how and what that great sage had explained to Pareekshith Maharaaja at that time. And we are sure that only due to Suka Brahmaarshi's divine discourse Pareekshith Maharaaja was able to wash away all the sins of his life and was liberated from the entanglements of the miseries of this material world and to attain ultimate salvation of eternity. And we are also very confident that we would also be able to be liberated from the entanglements of this material world if we get an opportunity to listen to the same stories and especially from a great orator like you, Sootha.

सूत उवाच

Sootha Uvaacha (Sootha Said):

अपीपलद्धर्मराजः पितृवद्रञ्जयन् प्रजाः ।

निःस्पृहः सर्वकामेभ्यः कृष्णपादाब्जसेवया ॥ ४॥

4

Apeepaladhdharmmaraajah pithrivadhrenjjayan prejaah
Nisprihassarvvakaamebhyah Krishnapaadhaanusevayaa.

Ddharmmaputhra ruled the kingdom most efficiently and most successfully with the staunch faith and belief he got on the lotus feet of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan and always worshiping and prostrating at his lotus feet within his inner conscientiousness and in his inner soul. And due to his staunch faith, he was actually liberated from all the miseries of this material world. And with the divine feeling of liberation, he took care of his subjects as a father would, with utmost responsibility, take care of his children.

सम्पदः क्रतवो लोका महिषी भ्रातरो मही ।
जम्बूद्वीपाधिपत्यं च यशश्च त्रिदिवं गतम् ॥ ५॥

5

Sampadhah krethavo lokaa mahishi bhraatharo mahee
Jemboodhweepaaddhipathyam cha yesascha thridhivam getham

किं ते कामाः सुरस्पर्हा मुकुन्दमनसो द्विजाः ।
अधिजहृर्मुदं राज्ञः क्षुधितस्य यथेतरे ॥ ६॥

6

Kim the kaamaassurasparhaa Mukundhamanaso dhwijaah
Addhijehrurmmudham raajnjh kshuddhithasya yetthe thare.

For Ddharmmaputhra there were nothing, like the wealth or the treasures or the Yejnjaas or all the fourteen worlds or all the Yogaas or emperorship of Jembudhweepam (Jembudhweepam is the most attractive and prosperous place on all the three worlds. And even the lord of heaven wishes to have the premiership of Jembudhweepam) or his own beloved wife or his own most affectionate brothers or his kingdom or even heaven or even sky-rocketed fame and name where

the glories would be proclaimed in heaven or any of the treasures and fame even the gods of heaven wish to possess, anywhere near to lotus feet of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan who is also well-known with the name Mukundha. For emperor Ddharmmaputhra none of the above items brought any happiness or rejoice to his inner mind and heart, as a distressfully thirsty person could find relief only in drinking water, Ddharmmaputhra could find relief and happiness only at the lotus feet of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan.

मातुर्गर्भगतो वीरस्स तदा भृगुनन्दन ।
ददर्श पुरुषं कञ्चिद्दृष्टमानोऽस्त्रतेजसा ॥ ७॥

7

Maathurgerbhagetho veerassa thadhaa Bhrigunandhana!
Dhedhersa purusham kinchith dhehyamaanoasthrathejasaa.

अङ्गुष्ठमात्रममलं स्फुरत्पुरटमौलिनम् ।
अपीच्यदर्शनं श्यामं तडिद्वाससमच्युतम् ॥ ८॥

8

Amgushtamaathramamalam spurathpuratamaulinam
Apeechyadhersanam syaamam thadidhwaasasamAchyutham

श्रीमद्दीर्घचतुर्बाहुं तप्तकाञ्चनकुण्डलम् ।
क्षतजाक्षं गदापाणिमात्मनः सर्वतो दिशम् ।
परिभ्रमन्तमुल्काभां भ्रामयन्तं गदां मुहुः ॥ ९॥

9

Sreemadhdheerghachathurbbaahum thapthakaanjchanakundalam
Kshethajaaksham gedhaapaanimaathmanassarvathodhisam
Paribhremanthamuthkkaabhaam bhraamayantham gedhaam muhuh

Oh, the one who was born in the dynasty of the great sage Bhrigu [Saunaka is a descendant of Bhrigu] and the elderly Brahmins! When the emperor Pareekshith (Pareekshith was also known as Vishnuraatha meaning the one who was saved and always protected

by Lord Sri Maha Vishnu) Maharaaja at his pre-birth in embryo stage was being burned down by the powerful energy and horrifying and fiery effulgence of that Brahmaasthra in the womb of his mother Uththara was saved and protected by Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan by entering into the womb in the size of a thumb. And in that size of a thumb, he was holding the Club and whirling it constantly encircling around the womb protecting it from any threat or attack from any of the sources. [As we know that the club of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu as powerful as that of Sudhersan Chakra itself is capable to deactivate even the deadliest Brahmaasthra and as there is no other deadlier weapon than the Brahmaasthra there was nothing else to be worried once Lord Sri Maha Vishnu's Sudhersan Chakra is available.] Oh, the great Brahmin devotees! Therefore Pareekshith Maharaaja in that embryo stage had the clear vision of the most pure and sacred and divine form of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu, very attractively and decoratively wearing the glittering golden crowns on his head and with the most attractive and eye catching sky blue color and wearing very attractively and beautifully the silky yellow dress and with four long and attractive hands and with matching golden ear studs and with blood-like red eyes and with no emotions reflecting on the face, did provide the coolest and smoothest feeling to eyes of Pareekshith Maharaaja in the embryo stage.

अस्त्रतेजः स्वगदया नीहारमिव गोपतिः ।
विधमन्तं सन्निकर्षे पर्यैक्षत क इत्यसौ ॥ १०॥

10

Asthrathejah swagedhayaa neehaaramiva gopathih
Viddhamantham sannikarshe paryaikshatha ka ithyasau.

Pareekshith in the embryo stage within the womb of Uththara looked for a long time to identify the transcendental personality behind the magnanimous power and with the whirling club which destroyed and deactivated the fiery effulgence of the Brahmaasthra cast by Aswatthaamaa with the intention of burning out and destroying the embryo just like how the sun would melt out the fog and snow with the powerful rays of heat waves emitting from it. [Just like the sun

destroys the fog or snow Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan with his club destroyed the power of Brahmaasthra and melted it out.]

विधूय तदमेयात्मा भगवान् धर्मगुब्बिभुः ।
मिषतो दशमास्यस्य तत्रैवान्तर्दधे हरिः ॥ ११ ॥

11

Viddhooya thadhameyaathmaa Bhagawaan ddharmmagubwibhuh
Mishatho dhesamaasyasya thathraivaanthardheddhe Harih

Lord Sri Maha Vishnu, who is the Super Soul or the soulless or the one who is beyond the soul and who is the embodiment of righteousness like that after deactivating the power of Brahmaasthra, stayed there itself for another ten more months and provided all protection to the pregnancy and then in front and within the clear view of that unborn baby disappeared within the womb itself. What a wonderful and magnanimous and divine sight that was! It was beyond any explanation by words.

ततः सर्वगुणोदके सानुकूलग्रहोदये ।
जज्ञे वंशधरः पाण्डोर्भूयः पाण्डुरिवौजसा ॥ १२ ॥

12

Thathassarvagunodharkke saanukoolagrahodhaye
Jejnje vamsaddharah Paandorbhooyah Paandurivaujasaa.

Thereafter, when all the stars and the planets and the zodiacs were standing in the most favorable and prosperous and auspicious position, in the most sacred and renowned dynasty of Paandu the most noble and generous and divine Pareekshith was born in order to maintain and uphold and to further increase the name and fame of that dynasty.

तस्य प्रीतमना राजा विप्रैर्धौम्यकृपादिभिः ।
जातकं कारयामास वाचयित्वा च मङ्गलम् ॥ १३ ॥

13

Thasya preethamanaa raajaa viprairDdhaumyaKripaadhibih
Jaathakam kaarayaamaasa vaachayithwaa cha mangalam.

Ddharmmaputhra was very pleased with the birth of the new baby boy and he invited the family preceptors like Ddhaumya and Kripaachaarya and other Brahmins and performed all traditional post delivery purification offerings by chanting manthraas and hymns. And the horoscope writing ceremony was also completed with the help of expert astrologers.

हिरण्यं गां महीं ग्रामान् हस्त्यश्वान् नृपतिर्वरान् ।
प्रादात्स्वन्नं च विप्रेभ्यः प्रजातीर्थे स तीर्थवित् ॥ १४॥

14

Hiranyam gaam maheem graamaan hasthyaswaannripathirvaraan
Praadhaath swannam cha viprebhyah prejaatheerththe sa
theerththavith.

Ddharmmaputhra who was an embodiment of righteousness and morality celebrated the joyous and auspicious and sacred birth of the newborn baby boy by offering charities and generous donations of treasures, wealth, landed properties, dwelling places, gold, elephants, horses and or groups of cows to eligible Brahmins according to their need and requirement. Also, he ensured that all these Brahmins and other invitees were fed sumptuously with feast in large quantities with a variety of dishes.

तमूचुर्ब्राह्मणास्तुष्टा राजानं प्रश्रयान्वितम् ।
एष ह्यस्मिन् प्रजातन्तौ पुरूणां पौरवर्षभ ॥ १५॥

15

ThamoochurBraahmanaasthushtaa raajaanaam presrayaanwitham
“Esha hyasmin prejaathanthau Puroonaam pauravarshabh”

दैवेनाप्रतिघातेन शुक्ले संस्थामुपेयुषि ।
रातो वोऽनुग्रहार्थाय विष्णुना प्रभविष्णुना ॥ १६॥

“Dheiveno prethighaathena sukle samstthaamupeyushi
Raatho voanugrahaarthththaaya Vishnunaa prebhaVishnunaa.”

तस्मान्नाम्ना विष्णुरात इति लोके बृहच्छ्रवाः ।
भविष्यति न सन्देहो महाभागवतो महान् ॥ १७॥

“Thasmaannamnaa Vishnuraatha ithi loke brihachcchravaah
Bhavishyathi na sandheho mahaaBhaagawatho mahaan.”

All the Brahmins were extremely pleased with the generous charities and donations given by the humble and noble Ddharmmaputhra Mahaaraaja who was the ruler of this earth. They spoke to Ddharmmaputhra as follows: “Oh the chief of the Puru or Pururavas dynasty! [Puru or Pururavas was one of the most famous emperors of the Lunar Dynasty. He was the son of Ila or Aila and Buddha (Buddha is the planet Mercury). His lineage was through the celestial damsel Urvasi as Puru’s queen wife was not able to produce any child for him. We will read his story at many places but specifically of the lineage of his dynasty towards the end of Navama Skandha. Nahusha, Yeyathi are other extremely popular emperors of Chandhra Vamsa or Lunar Dynasty.] This child is naturally the most sacred one among the Puru lineage which is within the most popular and famous Lunar Dynasty. Why? Because as was destined this child was destroyed even at the very embryo stage by the unbearable heat of the fiery and deadly Brahmaasthra shot by Aswaththhaamaa but was protected by the transcendental effulgence of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. Therefore, he should most appropriately and meaningfully be named as Vishnuraatha meaning the one who was saved and protected by Vishnu. And he will be the smartest and the bravest and the most intelligent and the most devotional one in your dynasty. He will rule the kingdom exactly according to the codes prescribed within Vedhaas and will be the most popular and famous emperor of your dynasty. His name and fame would be proclaimed not only on this earth but also would be spread over even in heaven. He would

become even a role model for the king of heaven, Dhevendhra. And he would certainly be one of the staunchest and noblest of the devotees of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu or Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan who is the transcendental incarnation of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu.”

युधिष्ठिर उवाच

Yuddhishtira Uvaacha (Yuddhishtira Said):

अप्येष वंश्यान् राजर्षीन् पुण्यश्लोकान् महात्मनः ।
अनुवर्तिता स्वद्यशसा साधुवादेन सत्तमाः ॥ १८॥

18

Apelshya vamsyaan raajarsheen punyaslokaanmahaathmanah
Anuvarththithaa swidhyesasaa saaddhuvaadhena saththamaah

Yuddhishtira now asked other divine sages assembled there: Oh, the great sages! Do you think that when this boy grew up and became the emperor whether he would be able to rule this earth with increased popularity and fame and would be able to raise popularity to a level far higher than that of his renowned predecessors as predicted by these learned astrologers and Brahmins?

ब्राह्मणा ऊचुः

Brahmanaa Oochuh (Brahmins Said):

पार्थ प्रजाविता साक्षादिश्वकुरिव मानवः ।
ब्रह्मण्यः सत्यसन्धश्च रामो दाशरथिर्यथा ॥ १९॥

19

“Paarthttha, prejaavithaa saakshaadhIkshwaakuriva maanavah
Brehmanyassathyasanddhascha Raamo Dhaasaretthiryetthaa.

Brahmin Sages spoke to him: “Oh Paarthttha (meaning son of Prittha another name of Kunthi so here Paarthttha means Ddharmmaputhra and also all Paandavaas can be called as Paarthttha)! He is going to

rule this earth as popularly as that of Ikshwaaku, the son of Manu. [Manu is the direct son of the Sun God and the founder of the Solar Dynasty. Ikshwaaku was the son of Manu and was one of the most popular emperors of the Solar dynasty.] He would uphold honesty and truthfulness as good as that of Lord Sri Rama Chandhra Swaamy who was the son of emperor Desarettha. [Sri Raama is the seventh incarnation of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu of the ten incarnations. And integrity, Truthfulness and Honesty are unparalleled, and we have not come across any characters anywhere even close to Sri Raama in honesty and truthfulness.]”

एष दाता शरण्यश्च यथा ह्यौशीनरः शिबिः ।
यशो वितनिता स्वानां दौष्यन्तिरिव यज्वनाम् ॥ २० ॥

20

“Esha dhaathaa saranyascha yetthaa hyAuseenarah Sibih
Yeso vithanithaa swaanaam Dhaushyanthiriva yejwanaam.”

“He would be as popular as emperor Sibi, the son of Usinara, in respect of charity and generous donations and also in providing safety and security and protection to his subjects including any species like birds or animals without any selfish motivation. [The story of Sibi, the son of Usinara, is that he had forsaken his own life to save the life of a dove (Agni Dheva) and shown his selflessness. This is the story that Dhevendhra as a hawk or eagle and Agni as a dove came to test the greatness of Sibi for his selfless generosity for charity. We will read the detailed story later on.] He will spread the popularity of the Lunar dynasty as good as that of emperor Bharatha by conducting so many popular Yejnjaas and becoming a selfless renunciate. He would also become a self realized soul like that of Bharatha. [We would read a few episodes in the Fifth Skandha about the great story of Bharatha, the son of Rishabha. We will be reading about all the three different births of Bharatha: 1) the most popular emperor Bharatha, the son of Rishabha, later of becoming a true renunciate mendicant but as destiny was forced to take interest in the newborn deer calf. 2) And in the next birth he was born as a deer. 3) And in the third birth he was born as a Brahmin known as

JetaBharatha and provides most philosophical discourse to emperor Raahugena.]”

धन्विनामग्रणीरेष तुल्यश्चारुनयोर्द्वयोः ।
हुताश इव दुर्धर्षः समुद्र इव दुस्तरः ॥ २१ ॥

21

“Ddhanwinaamagraneerasha thulyaschaarjjunayordhwayoh
Huthaasa iva dhurdhddhershassamudhra iva dhustharah”

मृगेन्द्र इव विक्रान्तो निषेव्यो हिमवानिव ।
तितिक्षुर्वसुधेवासौ सहिष्णुः पितराविव ॥ २२ ॥

22

“Mrigendhra iva vikraantho nishevvyo Himavaaniva
Thithikshurvasuddhevaasau sahishnuh pitharaaviva.”

पितामहसमः साम्ये प्रसादे गिरिशोपमः ।
आश्रयः सर्वभूतानां यथा देवो रमाश्रयः ॥ २३ ॥

23

“Pithaamahasamah saamyeha presaadhe Girisopamah
Aasrayassarvvabhoothaanaam yetthaa dhevo Remaa sreyah”

“He would be a smart archer or bowman like Arjjunaas. [Actually, there is only one Arjjuna who is the smartest archer of all the three worlds. Because of that uniqueness anyone who would be as smart as an archer like Arjjuna will be called as Arjjuna and that is why the plural is used here. And the real Arjjuna is the paternal grandfather of Pareekshith.] He would be as irresistible as horrible and fierce fire. [There is nothing that can resist the heat of fire and fire is capable of destroying anything. Similarly, there would be nothing which can stand against Pareekshith.] Just like an ocean it would not be possible for anyone to cross or surpass Pareekshith in mightiness and power and energy. [Ocean is difficult to cross or swim across by anyone.] This child is going to be as strong and powerful and brave

and courageous like a lion, the king of the animals. He would provide shelter and support to anyone like the mount Himavaan. [Mount Himavaan is so huge and mighty and magnanimous and can provide shelter to anyone who approaches it. This child also is going to be like Himavaan.] He would be as forbearing and tolerant or patient as earth. [Earth is the most tolerant as it is able to tolerate all the tortures and abuses and destructions inflicted on it by the entire species living on the earth without any tendency to react to any of those actions.] Like a father he would pardon and tolerate all the mistakes of his subjects. [Though a father may try to discipline his child at the end of the day he would tolerate all the mistakes of his child.] He would be like the king of heaven, Dhevendhra, in observing everything with equanimity and of a balanced or even mind. He would easily and quickly be pleased and be munificent like that of Lord Sri Maha Dheva who lives in the sacred Mount Kailaasa. [Lord Sri Maha Dheva is notorious for quick appeasement and providing boons. We would be reading a few illustrative stories later on.] And he would be like Lord Sri Maha Vishnu in providing protection and support to true devotees and similarly would provide all necessary support and protection for all his subjects.”

सर्वसद्गुणमाहात्म्ये एष कृष्णमनुव्रतः ।
रन्तिदेव इवोदारो ययातिरिव धार्मिकः ॥ २४॥

24

“Sarvasadhgunamaahaathmya esha Krishnamanuvrethah
Renthidheva ivodhaaro Yeyaathiriva ddhaarmmikah”

धृत्या बलिसमः कृष्णे प्रह्लाद इव सद्गृहः ।
आहर्तैषोऽश्वमेधानां वृद्धानां पर्युपासकः ॥ २५॥

25

“Ddhrithyaa Belisamah Krishne Prehlaadha iva sadhgreham
Aaharththaishoaswameddhaanaam vridhddhaanaam
paryupaasakah”

राजर्षीणां जनयिता शास्ता चोत्पथगामिनाम् ।

“Raajarsheenaam jenayithaa Saasthaa choth patthagaaminaam
Nigreheethaa kaleschaisha bhuvo ddharmmasya kaaranaath.”

“This child would be as good as or almost equal to Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan with respect to various good qualities as he would strictly be following his footsteps and would certainly be the staunchest of the devotees of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan. He would definitely stand equal to emperor Renthidheva in respect of generous and magnanimous charities. [Renthidheva was the staunchest devotee of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu and was very generous in helping the needy ones. Dhevaas were not happy to hear from Vishnu that Renthidheva was his staunchest devotee and they tested him. It was proved that even at the cost of his own life he would help others. We will be reading this story later on.] In upholding and maintaining righteousness religiously throughout his life he would be as great as king Yeyaathi. [Yeyaathi’s story also would be read in detail in Navama Skanddha. The dynasty of Yaadhavaas is based on and after his eldest son, Yedhu.] In strength and power, he would be as good as Mahaa Beli. [Mahaa Beli was the most renowned Asura Emperor who conquered all the three worlds and ultimately Lord Sri Maha Vishnu had to incarnate as Vaamana to subdue him and recover and restore heaven back to Dhevendhra. We would read the story in Vaamana Avathaara also in detail.] And in devotion to Lord Sri Maha Vishnu, he would be equal to Prehlaadha who was the staunchest of the staunchest and the noblest and the humblest of devotees of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. [We would be reading the story of Prehlaadha and the incarnation of Narasimha in the Seventh Skanddha.] He would conduct innumerable Aswameddha Yaagaas. He would possess the best of conduct and characters and would always provide a supporting hand to the elderly and needy people. From him a number of noble and great and honorable kings and emperors [Raajarshees word meaning saintly kings] will be generated. He would be the most efficient administrator and ensure maintenance of rules and regulations strictly according to the norms and would very strictly and appropriately punish the criminals and wrongdoers and or anyone who deviates from righteousness. He

would ensure maintenance of law and order on this earth. This child would be the most renowned emperor possessed with all above positive qualities in abundance.”

तक्षकादात्मनो मृत्युं द्विजपुत्रोपसर्जितात् ।
प्रपत्स्यत उपश्रुत्य मुक्तसङ्गः पदं हरेः ॥ २७॥

27

“Thakshakaadhaathmano mrithyum dhwijaputhropasarjithaath
Prepathsyatha upasruthya mukthasangghah padham Hareh”

“As soon as Pareekshith came to know about his impending death with the bite of Thakshaka, the snake with the deadliest poison, due to the curse by Sringi, the son of an ascetic Brahmin Rishi called Sameeka, he renounced all his material interest and went to the lotus feet of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan for refuge and protection. Ultimately his soul and mind and heart would fully be dissolved into and merged with the ultimate Supreme God, Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan who is the transcendental plenary incarnation of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. [As mentioned earlier this Sreemadh Bhaagawatham is the discourse provided by Sri Suka Brahmarshi to Sri Pareekshith Mahaaraaja in seven days. The story about Pareekshith Mahaaraajaa’s visit to the hermitage of Sameeka while the latter was in deep meditation and the curse of Sringi etc. we would be reading in detail later on.]”

जिज्ञासितात्मयाथात्म्यो मुनेर्व्यासिसुतादसौ ।
हित्वेदं नृप गङ्गायां यास्यत्यद्भ्राकुतोभयम् ॥ २८॥

28

“Jijnjaasithaathmayaaathathmyo munerVyaasasuthaadhasau
Hithwedham nripa! Ganggaayaam
yaasyathyadhddhaakuthobhayam.”

“Directly from Sri Suka Brahmarshi he would acquire the transcendental knowledge of spiritual reality and would attain self realization which would be the steppingstone to reach the lotus feet of

Lord Sri Maha Vishnu whose abode is in Vaikunta. Thus, he would become a staunch devotee and closest associate of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. He would become the brightest and cleverest with the ultimate self realization of eternal and imperishable Soul which is same as the supreme God, Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan or Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. Oh, the king! Oh, the son of Yema Ddharmma Raaja! With such self realization of the ultimate transcendental spiritual knowledge, he would easily abandon his beautiful and attractive material body in the sacred river Genggaa, and his soul would attain the fearless, as he does not have to undergo any future multiple births and deaths, eternity in Vaikunda, the abode of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu.”

इति राज्ञ उपादिश्य विप्रा जातककोविदाः ।
लब्धापचितयः सर्वे प्रतिजग्मुः स्वकान् गृहान् ॥ २९॥

29

Ithi raajnja upaadhisya vipraa jaathakakovidhaah
Lebdddhopachithayassarve prethijegmusswakaan grihaan.

Thus, all those expert astrologers who have mastered astronomy presented the horoscope of the child with precise predictions of the future of the child, Pareekshith or Vishnuraatha, incorporating the abandonment of his material body to Mahaaraaja Ddharmmaputhra. And Ddharmmaputhra gifted all of them very generously. Each and every one of them gathered all those treasures of wealth received as gifts from Mahaaraaja Ddharmmaputhra and bundled them properly and carried them to each one's home.

स एष लोके विख्यातः परीक्षिदिति यत्प्रभुः ।
गर्भे दृष्टमनुध्यायन् परीक्षेत नरेष्विह ॥ ३०॥

30

Sa esha lokavikhyaathah Pareekshidhithi yedh prebhuh
Gerbhadhrishtamanudhddhyaayan Paareekshetha nareshwiha.

When the child was born, he was remembering the shape of the form he had seen while he was in the embryo – unborn - stage inside the womb of his mother and he was testing out each and every form he observed after birth to see which one could match exactly with the one which he conceived inside the womb. And because of this observation and testing and matching process he was also very appropriately well-known as Pareekshith meaning the one who observes and tests.

स राजपुत्रो ववृधे आशु शुक्ल इवोडुपः ।
आपूर्यमाणः पितृभिः काष्ठाभिरिव सोऽन्वहम् ॥ ३१ ॥

31

Sa raajaputhro vavriddhe aasu sukla ivodupah
Aapooriyamaanah pithribhih kaashttaabhiriva soanwaham.

With proper care and love and affection and timely treatment of his mother and grandparents he grew up on a day-by-day basis in the palace with all luxuries and special cares just like how the moon would develop during the waxing fortnight. As the child grew up, he was very strong and brave and intelligent and handsome and attractive and very energetic also.

यक्ष्यमाणोऽश्वमेधेन ज्ञातिद्रोहजिहासया ।
राजालब्धधनो दध्यावन्यत्र करदण्डयोः ॥ ३२ ॥

32

Yekshyamaanoaswameddhena jnjaathidhrohajihaasayaa
Raajalebddhaddhano dheddhyaavanyathra karadhendayoh.

At that time emperor Ddharmmaputhra wished to conduct Aswameddha Yaaga or Horse Sacrifice in order to get rid of the sins they incurred due to killing of his relatives and friends in the Kurukshethra battle. But he was facing a financial crisis mainly due to the overburden during the most destructive war and as there were no new resources for generation of revenue other than the regular taxes

and penalties imposed on the public. And thereby Ddharmmaputhra was distressed and unhappy.

तदभिप्रेतमालक्ष्य भ्रातरोऽच्युतचोदिताः
धनं प्रहीणमाजहुरुदीच्यां दिशि भूरिशः ॥ ३३ ॥

33

Thadhabhiprethamaalekshya bhraatharoAchyuthachodhithaah
Ddhanam preheenamaajahrurudheeच्याamdhisi bhoorisah

Understanding the most noble and desirable wishes of Ddharmmaputhra all his brothers with the inducing advice and encouragements from Achyutha or Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan went to the northern places of mount Himalaya and collected and brought sufficient treasures and wealth abandoned by king Maruthwaan. [Maruthwaan was one of the most renowned emperors who was also the richest in all the three worlds. In Raamaayanam there is a reference of the encounter between this Maruthwaan and Raavana during the performance of a great sacrifice by Maruthwaan. All the gods of heaven were present at that Yaaga. Maruthwaan did not kill Raavana only because his preceptor told him that by killing a Brahmin (Raavana was the Brahmin) during the Yaaga by the performer of the Yaaga would bring adverse result and it was sinful to do so. Therefore, Maruthwaan did not kill Raavana at that time. And after that sacrifice he abandoned all his immeasurable material wealth. Paandavaas collated a portion from those wealths.] They brought sufficient wealth and placed in front of Ddharmmaputhra.

तेन सम्भृतसम्भारो धर्मपुत्रो युधिष्ठिरः ।
वाजिमेधैस्त्रिभिर्भितो यज्ञैः समयजद्धरिम् ॥ ३४ ॥

34

Thena sambhrithasambhaaro Ddharmmaputhro Yuddhishirah
Vaajimeddhairsthrirbhirbheetho yejnjaissamayejadhddharim

With the wealth thus brought by his brothers he arranged everything needed without any shortage of anything to conduct the

Aswameddha Yaagaas without any difficulty and without any deficiency. Then Yuddhishtira the son of Yema Ddharmma Raaja invited all great sages and Brahmins and preceptors and performed three Aswameddha Yaagaas in order to eliminate the sins incurred by killing his dear and near ones and thus he offered obeisance to appease Hari or Lord Sri Maha Vishnu.

आहूतो भगवान् राज्ञा याजयित्वा द्विजैर्नृपम् ।
उवास कतिचिन्मासान् सुहृदां प्रियकाम्यया ॥ ३५॥

35

Aahootho Bhagawaan raajnjaa yaajayithwaa dhwijainripam
Uvaasa kathichinmaasaan suhridhaam priyakaamyayaa.

Ddharmmaputhra invited Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan as the chief organizer to conduct the Yaagaas. And as soon as he got the invitation Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan came immediately along with a large number of wellqualified Priests and Brahmins to perform the Yaagaas systematically according to the prescribed norm in Vedhaas. Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan himself ensure completion of the Yaagaas most successfully and efficiently and effectively. And thereafter Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan stayed there for a few more months with Paandavaas out of his boundless love and affections and for the comfort and pleasure of the relatives and friends.

ततो राज्ञाभ्यनुज्ञातः कृष्णया सहबन्धुभिः ।
ययौ द्वारवतीं ब्रह्मन् सार्जुनो यदुभिर्वृतः ॥ ३६॥

36

Thatho raajnjaabhyanujnaathah Krishnayaa saha benddhubhih
Yeyau Dhwaaraavatheem brehman saArjjuno Yedhubhirvrithah

Oh Saunaka! Thereafter Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawaan bid farewell and got permission very hesitant from Yuddhishtira, Paanjchaali or Krishna [this is used here in feminine form] and other relatives and friends over there in Hasthinapuram and proceeded along with Kireeti

or Arjjuna and other Yaadhavaas accompanied him on the onward trip and reached back to his palace in Dhwaaraka.

इति श्रीमद्भागवते महापुराणे पारमहंस्यां संहितायां
प्रथमस्कन्धे परीक्षिज्जन्माद्युत्कर्षो नाम द्वादशोऽध्यायः ॥ १२॥

Ithi Sreemat Bhaagawathe Mahaa Puraane
Paaramahamsyaam Samhithaayaam
Pratthamaskanddhe Pareekshijenmaadhyuthkarsho Naama
Dhwaadhesoaddhyaayah

Thus, we conclude the Twelfth Chapter named as the Divine and Noble Birth of Pareekshith Mahaaraaja of the First Canto of the Most Divine and the Supreme Most and the Greatest Mythology known as Sreemad Bhagawatham.

Om Shree Krishnaya Param Brahmane Namah!
Om Nammo Bhagavathe Vaasudevayah!
Om Nammo Bhagavathe Vaasudevayah!
Om Nammo Bhagavathe Vaasudevayah!

