Om Shree Krishnaya Param Brahmane Namah! Om Namo Bhagavathe Vaasudhevaayah! Om Namo Bhagavathe Vaasudhevaayah!

॥ ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥

Om Namo Bhagavathe Vaasudhevaayah!

॥ तृतीयस्कन्धः ॥

THRITHEEYASKANDHAH (CANTO THREE)

॥ सप्तदशोऽध्यायः - १७ ॥

SAPTHADHESOADDHYAAYAH (CHAPTER SEVENTEEN)

Hinyaakshadhigvijaye Naama (Universal Victory of Hiranyaaksha [Birth of Hiranyakasipu and Hiranyaaksha])

[After holding the pregnancy within her womb for one hundred years Dhithi delivered twin boys. The first born was called Hiranyakasipu and the second Hiranyaaksha. Both of them were the mightiest beings the universe has produced so far and would produce ever in the future. The calamities and disastrous situations faced by all the three worlds of the universe were described in detail. Hiranyakasipu, the elder of the twin, conquered all the three worlds and became the unchallengeable emperor of the universe. Hiranyaksha, the younger twin brother, was always supporting his elder brother by walking around all the three worlds with a huge club and challenging Dhevaas, Asuraas and Manushyaas to fight with

him. Ultimately Hiranyaaksha rolled the planet of earth like a toy ball and went into Resaathalam which is situated in the depth of ocean water. There he challenged Varuna, the god of Water, to give him a fight. Varuna surrendered to him without a fight and told that he is very old and cannot challenge a great warrior like Hiranyaaksha in a fight. Not only that Varuna also suggested to him that certainly there is no one other than Lord Sri Maha Vishnu Bhagawaan of Vaikuntta who can challenge him and asked him to go to Vaikuntta directly.]

मैत्रेय उवाच

Maithreya Uvaacha (Maithreya Said):

निशम्यात्मभुवा गीतं कारणं शङ्कयोज्झिताः । ततः सर्वे न्यवर्तन्त त्रिदिवाय दिवौकसः ॥ १॥

1

Nisamyaathmabhuvaa geetham kaaranam sankayojthsithaah Thathassarvve nyevarththantha thridhivaaya dhivaukasah.

Having heard the story of conception of pregnancy by Dhithi from Kasyapa and the amazing effulgent brilliance of it narrated like this by Brahma Dheva all the doubts and confusions of Dhevaas were cleared. After that all the Dhevaas and their groups left Sathyaloka and returned to their own planet of Swarggaloka.

> दितिस्तु भर्तुरादेशादपत्यपरिशङ्किनी । पूर्णे वर्षशते साध्वी पुत्रौ प्रसुषुवे यमौ ॥ २॥

> > 2

Dhithisthu bharththuraadhesaadhapathyaparisankinee Poornne varshasathe saadhvee puthrau presushuve Yemau.

Dhithi, the most virtuous and chaste wife of Kasyapa, was very distressed and worried that she was going to have two most Aasuric or demonic sons according to the warning provided by her consort. She held the pregnancy in her womb for one hundred years. After completion of one hundred years, she delivered two sons simultaneously.

उत्पाता बहवस्तत्र निपेतुर्जायमानयोः । दिवि भुव्यन्तरिक्षे च लोकस्योरुभयावहाः ॥ ३॥

3

Uthpaathaa behavasthathra nipethurjjaayamaanayoh Dhivi bhuvyanthareekshe cha lokasyorubhayaavahaah.

When those two demonic sons were born many different types of fearful and scary bad omens like meteors, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc. appeared on and over the atmosphere of Earth and Sky.

> सहाचला भुवश्चेलुर्दिशः सर्वाः प्रजज्वलुः । सोल्काश्चाशनयः पेतुः केतवश्चार्तिहेतवः ॥ ४॥

> > 4

Sahaachalaa bhuvaschelurdhisassarvvaah prejjvaluh Solkaaschaasanayah pethuh kethavaschaarththihethavah.

The earth along with mountains was shaky due to the earthquakes. There were landslides, horrible and continuous rain flooded all over, water overflows were at all the places, continuous lightning fires and thunders felt everywhere, meteors fell over and huge gorges formed at many places, fireballs appeared throughout the sky and many other signs of disastrous, horrible and hellish conditions befell on earth.

ववौ वायुः सुदुःस्पर्शः फूत्कारानीरयन् मुहुः । उन्मूलयन्नगपतीन् वात्यानीको रजोध्वजः ॥ ५॥

5

Vavau vaayussudhusparsah phoothkaaraaneerayan muhuh Unmoolayan nagapatheen vaathyaaneeko rejoddhvajah. Heavy wind was blowing continuously and typhoons and tornadoes with hissing sound were all over. Most of the trees were uprooted and those huge trees were flying in the air and creating thunder sounds. Army of wind blew, and thick layers of dust carried by the wind covered the whole earth. Nothing on the planet was visible as they were fully covered by dust.

> उद्धसत्तडिदम्भोदघटया नष्टभागणे । व्योम्नि प्रविष्टतमसा न स्म व्यादृश्यते पदम् ॥ ६॥

> > 6

Udhddhasaththadidhembhodhaghatayaa nashtabhaagane Vyomni previshtathamasaa na sma vyaadhrisyathe padham.

The entire sky was covered with thick clouds, and it touched the earth. There was lightning everywhere in the cloud. All the stars disappeared from the sky. Earth was completely covered with utter darkness and nothing on the earth could be seen or identified.

> चुक्रोश विमना वार्धिरुदूर्मिः क्षुभितोदरः । सोदपानाश्च सरितश्चुक्षुभुः शुष्कपङ्कजाः ॥ ७॥

> > 7

Chukrosa vimanaa vaardhddhirudhoormmih kshubhithodharah Sodhapaanaascha sarithaschukshubhuh sushkapankajaah.

All the oceans with mountainous waves and tides created havoc to the creatures of water. The sound of the waves and tides combined with fearful cries of the aquatic creatures filled the whole atmosphere. All the rivers and lakes flew circularly due to the cyclones. Lotuses and water-lilies withered out due to whirlpools.

मुहुः परिधयोऽभूवन् सराह्वोः शशिसूर्ययोः । निर्घाता रथनिर्ह्वादा विवरेभ्यः प्रजज्ञिरे ॥ ८॥

8

Muhuh pariddhayoabhoovan saraahvossasisooryayoh

Nirghaathaa retthanirhraadhaa vivarebhyah prejajnjire.

Both Sun and Moon were eclipsed again and again as they were swallowed by Raahu. [According to mythological concepts the eclipses are happening when the serpent Raahu swallows Sun or Moon.] Therefore, their brilliance was shut off and the earth's atmosphere was under utter darkness. Thunder struck throughout and the frightening sounds echoed continuously from caves also.

> अन्तर्ग्रामेषु मुखतो वमन्त्यो वह्निमुल्बणम् । सृगालोलूकटङ्कारैः प्रणेदुरशिवं शिवाः ॥ ९॥

> > 9

Anthargraameshu mukhatho vamanthyo vahnimulbenam Srigaalolookatankaaraih prenedhurasivam Sivaah.

Jackals vomiting large fire flames from their mouths were roaming all over the village and were yelling out. Owls were spitting fire from their eyes and making frightening sounds along with jackals. All these were bad omens of impending inauspiciousness to the world.

> सङ्गीतवद्रोदनवदुन्नमय्य शिरोधराम् । व्यमुञ्चन् विविधा वाचो ग्रामसिंहास्ततस्ततः ॥ १०॥

> > 10

Samgeethavadhrodhanavadhunnayya siroddharaam Vyemunjchan vividdhaa vaacho graamasimhaasthathasthathah.

Dogs around the villages were holding their heads up crying and wailing and barking loudly as if they were singing and making various inauspicious sounds.

> खराश्च कर्कशैः क्षत्तः खुरैर्घ्नन्तो धरातलम् । खार्काररभसा मत्ताः पर्यधावन् वरूथशः ॥ ११॥

Kharaascha karkkasaih ksheththah khurairghnantho ddharaathalam Khaarkkaararebhasaa maththaah paryaddhaavan varootthasah.

The donkeys in groups ran here and there as they were panicky and started beating its hard hooves on the ground and were braying wildly.

रुदन्तो रासभत्रस्ता नीडादुदपतन् खगाः । घोषेऽरण्ये च पशवः शकृन्मूत्रमकुर्वत ॥ १२॥

12

Rudhantho raasabhathresthaa needaadhudhapathan khagaah Ghoshearanye cha pasavassakrinmoothramakurvvatha.

Hearing the horrible and frightening sound of the braying of the donkeys the birds abandoned their nests and flew away up into the sky with shrieking sounds and the cattle in the stables and in the woods passed dung and urine with frightened cries.

> गावोऽत्रसन्नसृग्दोहास्तोयदाः पूयवर्षिणः । व्यरुदन् देवलिङ्गानि द्रुमाः पेतुर्विनानिलम् ॥ १३॥

> > 13

Gaavoathrasannasrigdhohaasthoyadhaah pooyaavarshinah Vyerudhendhevalinggaani dhrumaah pethurvinaanilam.

The terrified and frightened cows were yielding blood continuously instead of milk in their udders. The clouds showered pus instead of rainwater on earth. The idols of gods in the temples shed tears. The trees were uprooted and fell down on earth without any blast of wind or storm. Trees were all over the ground.

> ग्रहान् पुण्यतमानन्ये भगणांश्चापि दीपिताः । अतिचेर्रुवक्रगत्या युयुधुश्च परस्परम् ॥ १४॥

Grehaan punyathamaananye bhaganaamschaapi dheepithaah Athicherurvakragethyaa yuyuddhuscha parasparam.

Ominous planets like Saturn, Mars etc. outshone and changed its courses of orbit and moved haphazardly and disturbed and hit and shun out the brilliance of auspicious planets like Jupiter, Mercury, Venus, etc. Terrific fight ensued among ominous planets and auspicious planets.

> दृष्ट्वान्यांश्च महोत्पातानतत्तत्त्वविदः प्रजाः । ब्रह्मपुत्रान् ऋते भीता मेनिरे विश्वसम्प्लवम् ॥ १५॥

> > 15

Dhrishtvaanyaamscha mahothpaathaanthaththaththvavidhah prejaah Brahmaputhraanrithe bheethaa menire visvasamplevam.

All the living entities in the three worlds except the four Sanathkumaaraas were panicky and distressed and nervous by seeing bad omens and evil happenings throughout the planets. They all thought that dissolution would occur soon otherwise there was no chance for prevalence of inauspicious and ominous happenings everywhere without any warning. [Sanathkumaaraas were aware that this was the indication of birth of Hiranyakasipu and Hiranyaksha in the Asura Yoni due to their curse to Jaya and Vijaya, the attendants of Lord Sri Vaasudheva Sri Maha Vishnu Bhagawaan.]

> तावादिदैत्यौ सहसा व्यज्यमानात्मपौरुषौ । ववृधातेऽश्मसारेण कायेनाद्रिपती इव ॥ १६॥

> > 16

Thaavaadhidheithyau sahasaa vyejyamaanaathmapaurushau Vavriddhaatheasmasaarena kaayenaadhripathee iva.

Hiranyakasipu and Hiranyaaksha were born together, and they are the first of the Asuraas. [They are the rebirth of Jaya and Vijaya respectively.] The power, might, effulgence, bravery was incomparable and absolutely there was no one else as strong and mighty as they were. The physical structures of both of them were as hard as granite rock. They both suddenly grew to enormous size up to the sky like two huge mountains.

दिविस्पृशौ हेमकिरीटकोटिभिः निरुद्धकाष्ठौ स्फुरदङ्गदा भुजौ । गां कम्पयन्तौ चरणैः पदे पदे कट्या सुकाञ्च्यार्कमतीत्य तस्थतुः ॥ १७॥

17

Dhivisprisau hemakireetakotibhir-NNirudhddhakaashttau sphuradhanggadhaabhujau Gaam kampayanthau charanaih padhe padhe Katyaa sukaanjchyaarkkamatheethya thastthathu.

They were so tall that the crest of the golden crowns they wore seemed as if they were going to kiss the sky. While they walked the earth was quaking and living entities feared of continuous tremor or earthquake. Due to their immense size they were blocking the brilliance of the Sun and the directions were not visible and nobody could make out which direction they were going or what they were doing.

> प्रजापतिर्नाम तयोरकार्षीद्-यः प्राक् स्वदेहाद्यमयोरजायत । तं वै हिरण्यकशिपुं विदुः प्रजा यं तं हिरण्याक्षमसूत साग्रतः ॥ १८॥

> > 18

Prejaapatheernnaama thayorakaarshee-Dhyah praak svadhehaadhyamayorajaayatha Tham vai Hiranyakasipum vidhuh prejaa Yem tham Hiranyaakshamasootha saagrathah.

From the first ever and most effulgent and powerful semen produced by Kasyapa Prejaapathi and deposited into the womb of Dhithi produced two sons. The first and the eldest one delivered by Dhithi from that semen was called Hiranyakasipu and the other and the second one was called Hiranyaaksha. [This repetition is warranted here to restate the power of Kasyapa.]

चक्रे हिरण्यकशिपुर्दोभ्यां ब्रह्मवरेण च । वशे सपालान् लोकांस्त्रीनकुतोमृत्युरुद्धतः ॥ १९॥

19

Chakre Hiranyakasipurdhdhorbhyaam Brahmavarena cha Vase sapaalaamlokaamsthreenakuthomrithyurudhddhathah.

Hiranyakasipu, the eldest of them, with his own might and with the boon provided by Brahma Dheva became undefeatable by anyone in all the three worlds. He defeated all the leaders and emperors and conquered all the three worlds and became the unchallengeable sole lord and ruler of all the three worlds.

> हिरण्याक्षोऽनुजस्तस्य प्रियः प्रीतिकृदन्वहम् । गदापाणिर्दिवं यातो युयुत्सुर्मृगयन् रणम् ॥ २०॥

> > 20

Hiranyaakshoanujasthasya priya preethikridhanvaham Gedhaapaanirdhivam yaatho yuyuthsurmrigayan renam.

Hiranyaaksha, the younger brother of Kasipu, was very affined and was always ready to satisfy any wishes of his elder brother. He carried his huge club on his shoulder and walked around all the three worlds with fighting spirit and to conquer all the leaders. With a towering ego of might and strength once he went to heaven to find out someone or anyone to fight with him.

> तं वीक्ष्य दुःसहजवं रणत्काञ्चननूपुरम् । वैजयन्त्या स्रजा जुष्टमंसन्यस्तमहागदम् ॥ २१॥

> > 21

Tham veekshya dhussahajevam renath kaanjchananoopuram Vaijeyanthyaa srejaa jushtamamsanyasthamahaagedham.

मनोवीर्यवरोत्सिक्तमसृण्यमकुतोभयम् । भीता निलिल्यिरे देवास्तार्क्ष्यत्रस्ता इवाहयः ॥ २२॥

22

Manoveeryavarothsikthamasrinyamakuthobhayam BHeethaa nililyire dhevaah thaarkshyathresthaa ivaahayah.

Hiranyaaksha rushed inside Amaraavathi, the palace of Heaven or Swargaloka, in amazing speed. He was highly short-tempered, and nobody could control his temper. He was very angry. He was wearing golden anklets and shields with pearls and diamonds hanging on them and while he walked, they made trumpet sounds. He was carrying a huge club on one of his shoulders. He was very egoistic and overly proud of physical strength and mental power because of the boon he had. He has no inhibitions or concerns of anything or anyone at any time. He had no fearconscience at all. He did not know the sense of fear. When he rushed into heaven without being blocked by anyone, all the Dhevaas including Dhevendhra, the king of heaven, ran away and hid from him. It was like how the serpents or snakes would run and hide away at the sight of Thaarkshya or Garuda Bhagawaan.

स वै तिरोहितान् दृष्ट्वा महसा स्वेन दैत्यराट् । सेन्द्रान् देवगणान् क्षीबानपश्यन् व्यनदद्भृशम् ॥ २३॥

23

Sa vai thirohithaan dhrishtvaa mahasaa svena dheithyaraat Sendhraan dhevagenaan ksheepaanapasyan vyenadhadhbhrisam.

Hiranyaaksha knew that Dhevendhra and all other Dhevaas are fully aware of the strength and power and can never match to challenge him, he was very proud of himself and at the same time he also understood they were very insignificant to fight with him. He loudly roared and laughed at their helplessness.

> ततो निवृत्तः क्रीडिष्यन् गम्भीरं भीमनिःस्वनम् । विजगाहे महासत्त्वो वार्धिं मत्त इव द्विपः ॥ २४॥

Thatho nivriththa kreedishyan gembheeram bheemanisvanam Vijagaahe mahaasaththvo vaardhddhim maththa iva dhvipah.

As there was no challenge in heaven, Hiranyaaksha returned. But while returning just as a pastime entertainment he rolled the whole planet of earth into Resaathalam which was submerged under water. It was just like how the rutting elephant jumps into water and plays with lotus plants in it. The earth submerged inside the water was just like a toy ball for Hiranyaaksha.

> तस्मिन् प्रविष्टे वरुणस्य सैनिका यादोगणाः सन्नधियः ससाध्वसाः । अहन्यमाना अपि तस्य वर्चसा प्रधर्षिता दूरतरं प्रदुद्रुवुः ॥ २५॥

> > 25

Thasmin previshte Varunasya sainikaa Yaadhogenaassannaddhiyah sasaaddhvasaah Ahanyamaanaa api thasya varchchasaa Preddharshithaa dhooratharam predhudhruvuh.

As soon as Hiranyaaksha entered into water rolling down the earth also along with him all the aquatic beings considered to be soldiers of Varuna or Water-god ran away and hid into safety even though Hiranyaaksha did not give any challenge to them. Thus, Hiranyaaksha showed his splendid power and might without any challenge at all.

> स वर्षपूगानुदधौ महाबल-श्चरन्महोर्मीञ्छ्वसनेरितान् मुहुः । मौर्व्याभिजघ्ने गदया विभावरी-मासेदिवांस्तात पुरीं प्रचेतसः ॥ २६॥

Sa varshapoogaanudheddhau mahaabela-SCharanmahormmeenjcchvasanerithaan muhuh Maurvvyaabhijeghne gedhayaa vibhaavaree-Maasedhivaamsthaathapureem prechethasah.

For many years the mighty Hiranyaaksha played joyously in the ocean water. Due to the terrific power and force of his breath-out or exhale huge waves formed and rose up to the sky and then he was playing by beating those waves with his heavy iron mace. And then he moved along with the waves and ultimately, he reached "Vibhaavari" or the capital of Varuna Bhagawaan or Water-god.

तत्रोपलभ्यासुरलोकपालकं यादोगणानामृषभं प्रचेतसम् । स्मयन् प्रलब्धुं प्रणिपत्य नीचव-ज्जगादमे देह्यधिराज संयुगम् ॥ २७॥

27

Thathropalebhyaasuralokapaalakam Yaadhogenaanaamrishabham prechethasam Smayan prelebddhum prenipathya neechava-JJegaadha, "me dhehyaddhiraaja samyugam"

Varuna is the lord of aquatic creatures and the king of the underworld. Hiranyaaksha noticed Varuna was sitting royally on the golden throne in his most beautiful and attractive palace of Vibhaavari. In order to make fun Hiranyaaksha scoff-fully prostrated at the feet of Varuna as if he is the lord and requested him: "Give me battle, oh my supreme Lord." [Hiranyaaksha was addressing Varuna as "Lord", scoff-fully, but actually Varuna being the king of the underworld he is considered to be king of Asura Loka also.]

> त्वं लोकपालोऽधिपतिर्बृहच्छ्रवा वीर्यापहो दुर्मदवीरमानिनाम् । विजित्य लोकेऽखिलदैत्यदानवान् यद्राजसूयेन पुरायजत्प्रभो ॥ २८॥

"Thvam lokapaaloaddhipathirbrihachcchrevaa Veeryaapaho dhurmmadhaveeramaaninaam Vijithya lokeakhiladheithyadhaanavaan Yedhraajasooyena puraayejath prebho!"

"You are the lord of the underworld or Resaathalam. You are very famous and well-known in all the three worlds. You are the bravest and the mightiest. You have the strength and expertise of fighting. Moreover, you are the master of all weaponry arts. In the past you have fought and defeated all the Asuraas and Dhaanavaas or Demons and Devils. After defeating all the tribes of Dheithyaas and Dhaanavaas you have successfully performed the Raajasooya Yaaga as your victory symbol. [What Hiranyaaksha is asking Varuna is to challenge him in fight?]"

> स एवमुत्सिक्तमदेन विद्विषा दृढं प्रलब्धो भगवानपाम्पतिः । रोषं समुत्थं शमयन् स्वया धिया व्यवोचदङ्गोपशमं गता वयम् ॥ २९॥

> > 29

Sa evamuthsikthamadhena vidhvishaa Dhriddam prelebddho Bhagawaanapaampathih Rosham samuthttham samayan svayaa ddhiyaa Vyevocha, "dhanggopasamam gethaa vayam."

When Hiranyaaksha satirically mocked Varuna like this out of his unbounded ego and pride that nobody could ever challenge him, Varuna was extremely angry. But knowing the situation fully well Varuna contained his anger within himself. Then calmly and soothingly Varuna spoke to Hiranyaaksha like: "Oh the strongest of the Dheithyaas! My dear lord Hiranyaaksha! You are very respectable and worship able. You are the best of the warriors ever born. Whatever you said about me is absolutely correct. But now I am very old. I do not wish, and I cannot fight with anyone at this old age."

> पश्यामि नान्यं पुरुषात्पुरातनात् यः संयुगे त्वां रणमार्गकोविदम् ।

आराधयिष्यत्यसुरर्षभेहि तं मनस्विनो यं ग्रणते भवादृशाः ॥ ३०॥

30

"Pasyaami naanyam purushaath purathanaa-Dhyassamyugethvaam renamaarggakovidham Aaraaddhayishyathyasurarshabhehi tham Manasvino yem grinathe bhavaadhrisaah."

"Hey Hiranyaaksha, I do not see anyone around here that (who) is as smart, as strong and as brave as you are to give a challenging battle to you other than the most Primordial and Primary First Personality, Lord Sri Maha Vishnu Bhagawaan of Vaikuntta. Therefore, you please go to Vaikuntta and call Him for a battle to challenge you. Also, we heard many stories that many strong and mighty warriors like you have fought with Lord Sri Maha Vishnu and meekly and shamelessly returned bowing down their heads after being defeated by Him."

> तं वीरमारादभिपद्य विस्मयः शयिष्यसे वीरशये श्वभिर्वृतः । यस्त्वद्विधानामसतां प्रशान्तये रूपाणि धत्ते सदनुग्रहेच्छया ॥ ३१॥

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Tham veeramaaraadhabhipadhya vismaya-Ssayishyase veerasaye svabhirvrithah Yesthvadhviddhaanaamasathaam presaanthaye Roopaani ddhaththe sadhanugrehechcchayaa.

If you go and challenge Lord Sri Maha Vishnu Bhagawaan then you would also be easily defeated by him and your pride and ego would be destroyed forever. You would be able to attain valorous death and your dead body would be lying on the battlefield surrounded by dogs and foxes. The very purpose of existence of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu who is the most Primordial Supreme Almighty is to destroy the wicked and cruel and evil Asuraas and Dheithyaas and Dhaanavaas like you and to protect and save virtuous creations of the universe.

इति श्रीमद्भागवते महापुराणे पारमहंस्यां संहितायां तृतीयस्कन्धे हिरण्याक्षदिग्विजये सप्तदशोऽध्यायः ॥ १७॥

Ithi Sreemat Bhaagawathe Mahaa Puraane Paaramahamsyaam Samhithaayaam Thritheeyaskanddhe Hiranyaaksha Dhigvijaye [Naama] Sapthadhesoaddhyaayah

Thus, we conclude the Seventeenth Chapter [named as] Universal Victory of Hiranyaaksha of Third Canto of the Most Divine and the Supreme Most and Greatest Mythology known as Sreemad Bhagawatham.

Om Shree Krishnaya Param Brahmane Namah! Om Namo Bhagavathe Vaasudhevaayah! Om Namo Bhagavathe Vaasudhevaayah! Om Namo Bhagavathe Vaasudhevaayah!