

SREE MAHAABHAARATHAM

AADHI PARVVAM

8. PramadhvaraaSarppaDhemsam (8. Pramadhvara Bitten by Snake)

The genealogical history or lineages of Chyavana Maharshi and the story of Ruru who is in his dynasty. Ruru was arranged and set to marry the virgin girl called Pramadhvara who was the daughter of a Genddharvva called Visvaavasus and who was also the foster daughter of the Maharshi called Stthoolakesa or Stthoolakesan. Incidentally or quite unexpectedly, Pramadhvara died by a snake-bite before the set date of marriage.

Soothan Said:

Such most austere and divinely powerful Chyavana Maharshi begot a very lustrous highly illuminous and most powerful son called Pramathi on his wife called Sukanya. 1

This Pramathi begot a son called Ruru on Ghrithaachi, a celestial woman. And Ruru and his wife Pramadhvara had a son named Sunakan. 2

Sunaka or Sunakan was highly and virtuously principled of the entire dynasty of Bhrigu. He was severely austere with long and steadfast penance and became blissfully well-known in all the worlds. 3

Oh, the Great Braahmana (Saunaka)! I shall narrate the story of the most luminous and divinely powerful Maharshi Ruru in detail. Please listen to it completely with full concentration. 4

In ancient days there was a powerful and illuminous Maharshi or Muni called Stthoolakesan with severe austerity and penance who was very scholarly with thorough knowledge. He spent his life for the welfare and happiness of all entities. 5

Hey Viparshe or Braahmana Sreshtta! At that time, meaning during the time of Stthoolakesan, the most famous Genddharvva called Visvaavasus impregnated Menaka, the celestial beauty. 6

Oh, Bhṛigudhvaha or One who belongs to the dynasty of highly religious Bhṛigu Muni! The celestial beauty Menaka abandoned her pregnancy or the new-born child nearby the Aasramam or monastery of sagely scholar Stthoolakesan. 7

Mercilessly and without having any shame that cruel Apsara Sthree Menaka left her pregnancy on the banks of the river and went away. 8

The great Mahaa Muni Stthoolakesa saw that most divinely luminous and lustrous new-born girl being abandoned on the shore of the river. 9

What a pity how cruel and merciless even an Apsara Sthree can be! The infant child being abandoned at an isolated and lonely place was located immediately by the most virtuous and compassionate Stthoolakesa Mahaamuni. 10

Stthoolakesa, the first of the great Munees, took the blazing and beautiful offspring. The great Muni realized that the child as divine and immortal reared the child with all care and protection. That beautiful child grew up in that holy Aasrama surroundings. 11

All religious rituals like naming ceremony, writing the horoscope, other nuptial rituals meant for a female infant, etc. were properly performed by Stthoolakesan, noblest and divinest of all Munees, at appropriate times. 12

The infant being dominant of Sathvagunam or quality of virtue, she was meaningfully named as Pramadhvara or Premadhvara by that great Stthoolakesa Maamuni. 13

Seeing that most divine, blazing, beautiful, lustrous, and lovely Pramadhvara in the surroundings of the holy Aasramam of Stthoolakesa Maamuni; the heart of Ruru, the most pious and holy Muni, was pierced by Kaamadheva or god of love and he became a slave of love and affection towards her. 14

Ruru immediately informed his father Pramathi or Premathi of his passionate but divine love towards Premadhvara through his friend. And Pramathi requested Stthoolakesan to have Premdhvara wedded to his son Ruru as his wife. 15

The pure and chaste virgin girl Premadhvara was offered to Ruru as his wedded wife by her father - Stthoolakesan -. And the marriage between Premadhvara and Ruru was fixed for Uthram Star which was the nearest auspicious time. 16

On one day which was very close to the marriage was fixed for Premadhvara was playing and roaming around with her maid friends, that innocent and sinless girl---- 17

Due to the power of Time or Fate, or, in other words as destined, she did not see the coiled serpent lying across and stepped on it to invite her death ---- 18

That serpent, propelled by time or fate, pierced the body of Premadhvara by its strong teeth and injected its deadly poison into her body. 19

No sooner than she was bitten by the serpent, Premadhvara fell on the ground having her face darkened and losing her senses and becoming graceless. 20

Her hair got disheveled, and her companions got fiercely scared looking at her unconscious and lifeless body. Even though her companions and relatives became powerless to look at her but were forced to look at and see her. 21

Even though she was fanged with deadly poison by the serpent and fell on the ground, she looked as if she was simply sleeping. She then became extremely beautiful and charming. 22

The most beautiful and charming Premadhvara with her body parts like that of a lotus flower was seen by her father and other great Munees or sages when she fell on the ground and rolled around and lay like that. 23

All great Braahmanaas like Svasthyaathreya or Svasthyaathreyan, Mahaajaanu, Kusika or Kusikan, Samkhamekhala or Samkhamekhalan, etc. with extreme compassion and mercy reached there immediately. 24

Other great Braahmanaas arrived there were Udhdhaalaka or Udhdhaalakan, Katta or Kattan, Svetha or Svethan, highly renowned and

famous Bharadhvaaja or Bharadhvaajan, Kaunakuthsya or Kaunakuthsyan, Aarshtishena or Aarshtishenan, along with Gauthama or Gauthaman. 25

Pramathi came along with his son - Ruru - and other leading and renowned Munees also arrived there within no time. Seeing that maiden girl, Pramadhvara, lying dead as bitten by a snake with deadly poison.... 26

Seeing that the maiden girl is dead with poison, they all wept with mercy and compassion and stood there around that dead-body. But Ruru, alone mortified beyond measure, retired from that scene. 27

So ends this section.