

SREE MAHAABHAARATHAM

AADHI PARVVAM

11. Dundubha Saapa Moksham (11. Curse Release of Rat-Snake)

That Dundubham took the form or became a Braahmana and told Ruru that when he was a young boy, he made a snake with grass - dry grass - and scared a Braahmana called Khagaman or Khagama. Because of that Khagaman cursed me to become a Dundubham or poison-less snake. As soon as I met you, Ruru, I got released from the curse and took or got my old form as a Braahmana.

Dundubham Said:

In the past I had a friend called Khagaman who was also a Braahmanan. He was with severe austerity. His words are always true and there will not be even any minute changes to his words. Whatever he says will always be true. 1

One day when he was engaged in Agni-Hothram or Fire-Sacrifice, I made a mock snake with the blade of grass and frightened him. By seeing that he took it for a real snake and got frightened and became unconscious. 2

With extreme anger he, who was with severe austerity and penance, spoke to me when regained his consciousness. Looking at him I thought that he was going to burn me to ashes with the fire of anger in him. His eyes were so frightening. 3

He, Khagaman, cursed me: "As you have made a false or mock poison-less snake to frighten me, with my curse you will become a Dundubham or rat-snake which is poison-less." 4

That Braahmana with folded hands bowed down head out of humiliation and perplexity spoke to Ruru: Oh, most austere Ruro! Thus, I came to know the power and strength of his austerity and penance. 5

Very politely as his servant went near to him and said: "Thinking that you are my close friend just to make fun I happened to do it like that as a frivolity or joke. 6

Oh, Mahaa Mune! Please pardon me and provide me release from the curse." Seeing that I am so perplexed, and service minded the Muni Saththaman or best of all Munees - 7

Taking heavy hot breasts Khagama Muni spoke to me in anxiety and confusion: "Hey, friend! My words will never become meaningless or false. 8

Please listen to me Oh, Thapoddhana or Ascetic! You are absolutely faultless and therefore, after listening to my words please understand it completely. 9

The most virtuous and pure Ascetic Pramathi will have a son called Ruru. As soon as you see him you would definitely be released from the curse. 10

Oh, Great Mune! Are you not Ruru, the son of Pramathi? I will assume my own form as Braahmana and advise you on the most desirable thing for you." 11

Thereafter, that noblest Vipran, who was very highly well-known, abandoned the form of that Dundubham or rat-snake and assumed his own original form of the Braahmanan again. 12

He then spoke to the most brilliant, splendorous, vigorous, and powerful Ruru like this: "Oh, the Life-Provider! The best of Ddharmmam or morality or religiosity is non-violence and sparing the life of other creatures. 13

Oh, the Noblest and Best of all Vipraas, Ruro! Please do not harm, hurt, or kill any creature. You are the master of all Vedhaas and Vedaangaas, meaning Upanishads and Saasthraas, and provider of refuge and protection to other creatures and entities. 14

Is it not very popularly well-known that Braahmanaas are very calm, peace-loving, and non-violent? The Braahmanaas are endowed and enriched with

Non-Violence, Honesty - One who always speak truthful words -, Tolerance or Patient, and other such qualities. 15

Protections and Maintenance of Vedhic injunctions and rituals is also the religious duty of a Braahmanan. Kshethriyaas or Royals can be violent against enemies, that too for the wellbeing of his subjects, but for you, a Braahmana, that quality will not suit or fit for you. 16

Hey, Ruro! Please listen: Carrying weapons or rods or stick; showing might, violence, and power; Prejaapaalanam or Protecting the subjects; etc., are the duty befitting for a Kshethriya or Warrior. 17

Please remember killing of innumerable serpents in the Sarppa Sathram or Sacrifice of Serpents and all the serpents got fearful of their life---- 18

and the Braahmana Sreshttan or Noblest Braahmanan called Aastheekan, who was so powerful with long and severe austerity and penance, protecting the serpents from that fire-sacrifice.' 19

So ends this section.