

SREE MAHAABHAARATHAM

AADHI PARVVAM

22. Sauparnnam - Samudhra Varnnam (22. About Suparnnam or Garuda - Description of Ocean)

Some of the serpents went and stuck on the tail of Uchchaisrevas, the heavenly steed, as ordered by their mother. Visit and sight of the sea by the sisters, Kadru and Vinatha.

The Sarppas jointly discussed and concluded: "If we do not comply with the orders of mother, she will curse us to be burnt to ashes. Whereas, if we can make her happy, she will release us from the curse. Therefore, we must certainly make the tail of the steed, Uchchaisrevas, into black color."

1-2

By saying so some of them went and stuck with the tail of the horse as its tail-hairs. And the sisters and co-wives, who entered into the bet or wager, together very happily reached the shore of the ocean in order to find out the result of their bet. 3-4

Kadru and Vinatha, the daughters of Dheksha, took an aerial trip by air-chariot or airplane to the other side of the ocean and viewed the calm and serene sea from the sky. 5

They viewed the ocean as the receptacles of water, mightily agitated by a sudden storm, making a tremendously roaring sound, and so fierce to look at it. 6

They saw the ocean as the source and treasure land of invaluable gems and pearls, as the palatial residence of Varuna Bhagawaan or Sea-god, as the wonderful habitation of Naagas, and as the refuge for innumerable rivers and lakes. 7

They viewed the Ocean with Paathaala Vahni or subterranean fire, with innumerable residences of Asuras, huge and fierce looking aquatic animals capable of swallowing even huge whales and sharks, many other dreadful creatures, and as reservoir and source of water. 8

They saw the Ocean as most auspicious and graceful holding Amritham or Nectar for Dhevaas or gods of heaven, as immeasurably limitless with no boundary, and holding holy water throughout. 9

They saw the rivers and lakes go and merge with their Lord, the Ocean, here and there and thus with full of deep waters and with huge waves pushed with mighty winds coming and hitting the shores. 10

Thus, those sisters, Kadhru and Vinatha, saw very close to the Ocean full of rolling waves, vast as the expanse of sky, with huge blazing flames of Paathaala Vahni shining at the depth of the body of waters, and tremendously roaring with thunderous sounds. 11

So ends this section.