

## **SREE MAHAABHAARATHAM**

### **AADHI PARVVAM**

#### **27. Sauparnnam - GerudaPresnam (27. About Suparnnan or Garudan - Questions of Gerudan)**

Reaching the island of Raamaneeyakam, Gerudan and Naagaas saw a beautiful and attractive forest there. They narrated the charm and beauty of the forest and then the Naagaas requested Gerudan to take them to other such beautiful and charming places. At that time Gerudan asked how his mother, Vinatha, became the slave and the reason for that. Thus, Gerudan understood why his mother became a servant. Also, Gerudan was told if he can bring Amritham from Dhevalokam or heaven and give them then she will be released from the curse and be free.

#### **Soothan Said:**

The Naagaas were very pleased and glad as they got drenched in the heavy downpour and got relieved the heat from terrible splendor of Sun and as Geruda, the bird of fair feathers, carried them to the beautiful island of Raamaneeyakam. 1

The beautiful island of Raamaneeyakam was constructed by Visvakarmma, the Creator of the Universe, as Makaraalayam or the abode of Makara Mathsyams or Sea-monsters in the Levanaambu or salt-water or sea of salt. When they visited in the past, they saw a demon called LevanaAsura there. 2

The great Naagaas accompanied with Gerudan seen the forest with birds chirping and making sweet musical sounds and surrounded by the Ocean of salt-water. 3

The island was full of clusters of trees with beautiful flowers and special fruits. It was full of fair mansions with beautiful lotus ponds. 4

It was filled with very tall sky-reaching sandal-wood-trees and the flowers falling from those trees were spread all over there by the smooth breeze.

6

There were also numerous other tall trees whose immortal and eternal flowers were spread by the breeze all over the island and showered over the serpents there. 7

That thick forest was very charming and very pleasing and dear to Genddharvvaas. And it was filled with the humming sound of bees maddened with honey they sucked. 8

In all respects with tall trees, various beautiful birds, and divine like heaven; the island was very delightful for the sons of Kadhru, and it gave a lot of pleasure to them. 9

Having seen the charming forest like that and spent time by playing and enjoying divinely the serpents asked the brave Gerudan, the lord and king of the birds: 10

### **The Serpents or Snakes Said:**

Oh, Khagoththama or The Best and Noblest of Birds! Please take and show us other such charming and beautiful islands as you have seen and are familiar with many other places like this. 11

### **Soothan Said:**

After thinking for a while the bird Gerudan asked his own mother Vinatha: "What is the reason or why I have to comply with the serpent?" 12

### **Vinatha Said:**

Oh, Khagoththama! My dear son! Because of my ill-fate I became the slave of my co-wife. The serpents were deceived in the wager or bet and that's how I lost the bet. 13

### **Soothan Said:**

When his mother told the reason for their slavery, Gerudan, the ranger of sky, was dejected with grief and sorrow. Then Gerudan spoke with dejection to the serpents: 14

**Gerudan Said:**

Oh, Aheendhrare or The Best and Noblest of Serpents! Please tell me by bringing what thing, and or gaining what knowledge, and or performing what act of prowess and valor we will be free from this bondage. 15

**Soothan Said:**

Then the serpents, hearing so, said: "If you bring Amritham by force, you will be freed from the bondage." 16

**So ends this section.**