

SREE MAHAABHAARATHAM

AADHI PARVVAM ANUKREMANIKAA PARVVAM

35. SarppaNaamaKatthanam (35. Recital Of The Names Of Serpents)

As Saunaka requested that they are all very much interested and wish to hear the names leading and important Sarppaas or Snakes, Soothan says the names many Serpents.

Saunakan Said:

Hey, Sootha! Please tell us the reason why mother Vinatha and her son Garudaan cursed the great Pannagaas or Serpents. 1

You have already narrated the story Kasyapa had given boons to his wives Kadhru and Vinatha and the names of the sons, the Lords of birds - Arunan and Garudaan -, of Vinatha, but you did not tell us the names of Pannagaas, the children of Kadhru. Please tell us the names of important or primary Pannagaas or Naagaas or Serpents. We are very much interested and eager to know those names also. 2-3

Soothan Said:

Because there are innumerable names for the serpents it is impossible to tell all the names of all serpents. I will tell the important or the primary ones.

4

Sesha or Seshan [also named as Anantha or Ananthan] is the first-born Serpent. Then Vaasuki, Airaavathan, Thakshakan, Kaarkkotakan, and Ddhannjjayan, etc. 5

Then it was Kaaliyan or Kaalakeyan, Maninaagan or Mani, and after him it was Pooranagam or Pooranan, Pinjjarakan, Ilapathran or Ilaputhran, and Vaamanan. 6

And continues with Neelan and Anilan, Kalmaashan and Sabalan or Savalan, Aaryakan and Ugran or Ugrakan, and Kalasapothakan. 7

Sumanas or Suramukhan and Dheddhimukhan, and like that Vimalan and Pindakan [Vimalapindakan can be one name also], Aapthan, Kaarkkotakan, then Samkhan, and Vaalisikhan or Baalisikhan are the next in order. 8

Nishttaanakan, Hemaguhan, Nahushan, Pimgalan or Pingalan, Baahyakarnnan, Hasthipadhan, and Mudhgerapindakan are the names of other serpents. 9

Kambalan and Asvatharan, Kaaleeyakan, Vriththan and Samvriththan, two Pathmans i.e. two serpents with the same name of Pathman. 10

Samkhamukhan, Koosmaandakan, Kshemakan, and another Naaga Leader called Pindaarakan are other names of serpents. 11

Karaveeran, Pushpadhemshtan, Vilvakan, Bilvapaandooran or Vilvapaandooran, Mooshakaadhan, Samkhasiran, Poornnabhadhran, and Hridhrakan, Aparajithan, Jyothikan, the Pannaga named Sreevahan, Kauravyan, Ddhritharaashtran, the brave Samkhapindan, Subaahu, Virajas, and like that valurous Saalipindan, Hasthipindan, Peettarakan, Sumukhan, and Kaunapaasanan are the names of other important Serpents. 12-14

Kuttaran, Kunjaran, and then the Naaga named Prabhaakaran, Kumudhan, Kumudhaakshan, Thiththiri, Halikan, Kardhdhaman, the great serpent named Behumoolakan or Vahumoolakan, Karkkaran and Akarkkaran, Kundodharan and Mahodharan are other serpent names. 15-16

Oh, Dhvijoththama or Best and Noblest Braahmana! I said the names of principal serpents. Because it is innumerable it is very tedious and therefore, I am not telling the names of the rest of serpents. 17

Oh, Bhoosura or Saunaka! As their children, then their children and their children's children are uncountable and therefore, I shall not name them.

Oh, Thapoddhana or Great Ascetic! They are in very large numbers like thousands, millions, tens of millions and it is difficult even to calculate the number, leave alone providing the names, of serpents or even to estimate a number. 19

So ends this section.