

SREE MAHAABHAARATHAM

**AADHI PARVVAM
ANUKREMANIKAA PARVVAM**

**49. PareekshidhUpaakhyaanam (49. The Story of
Pareekshith)**

In this chapter the story of Pareekshith Mahaaraaja going for hunting, and as he did not get answer to his questions, he became angry, and put the dead body of a snake on the neck of Sameeka Maharshi are explained again here. It is only a repetition the story already described earlier in chapter forty (40) and forty-one (41.)

Saunakan Said:

Please tell us in detail all that asked by King Jenamejayan to his ministers about the story of attainment of heaven by his father. 1

Soothan Said:

Oh, Mune Or Saunaka Mune! Please hear the questions asked by Jenamejayan to his ministers and the answer they gave about Pareekshith Mahaaraajan's death and attainment of heaven. 2

Jenamejayan Said:

You all certainly know the stories of my father who was very popular and highly famous and how he met with death and attained heavenly abode.

3

I am not thinking of doing anything now other than listening to the stories you explain about my father and after that performing all auspicious and virtuous rites for him. 4

Soothan Said:

Having heard the questions of Jenamejayan the great scholarly and religiously virtuous ministers explained the story to the ruler of the world,
Jenamejayan: 5

Ministers Said:

Oh, Mahaaraajan or Monarch! Oh, Vibho or Lord! Please listen to the life history and how met with death or left this world by your father, the most renowned and illustrious lord of the world. 6

We will explain the details how your father; who was very virtuous, highly religious, very revered, and very concentrated on properly ruling his country with all welfare to his subjects; managed and lived. 7

He properly ruled the country by maintaining virtue and justice as a true personification of virtue and justice just like how highly religious and virtuous person maintained the moral duty of ChaathurVarnyam or Four Orders of the society, each engaged in discharge of their specified duties. 8

He was brave and valorous. He was with incomparable prowess and blessed with fortune. He was world famous. There was none equal to him in valor. He has no enemies, and he was no enemy to anyone. He ruled the country and protected his subjects well. 9

He saw every creature of the universe equal. He was like Prajaapathi or Brahmadhevan. Under the rule and protection of that Mahaaraaja Pareekshith all Vipraas or Braahmanaas, Nripaas or Royal Rulers or Kings, Vaisyaas or Professionals, and Sooddraas or Service Providers or Laborers duly performed their own duties without any obstruction. 10-11

He provided due care, refuge, and protection for widows, orphans, maimed, and poor. He made sure that nobody has any sufferings and pain under his rule. All subjects of his country were able to see the emperor and feel the comfort at any time how the soft rays of sun are available and can be seen by everyone comfortably and equally. 11-12

He ensured cherishing his subjects and keeping them contented and happy always. He was blessed with good fortune. He was honest and truth-telling. He was of immense prowess and strength. In Ddhanurvedha or

science of arms or archery he was the direct disciple of Kripaachaarya.
12-13

Hey, Monarch Jenamejaya! Your father, Pareekshith Mahaaraajan, was very dear to Krishna Bhagawaan and Krishna Bhagawaan was most affectionate with him. He was of great fame and intimately loved by all. And thus, he lived as a loving emperor of the world. 13-14

He was born in the womb of Uththara when Kuru Vamsam or Kuru Race was almost extinct. He was born to Subhadhra and Abhimanyu and came to be called as Pareekshith, meaning one who is born into an extinct line and also because his birth was in test as Asvaththaamaa tried to destroy the embryo in pregnancy and protected by Sree Krishna Bhagawaan, and he became highly famous. 14-15

He was well-versed in interpretation of the treatises on the duties of kings. He was gifted with all virtues. He was splendid with royal qualities. He has full control of passion by conquering the senses. He was highly intelligent. He possessed retentive memory. He practiced all virtues.
15-16

He was a conqueror of all six passions. He was gifted with intelligence of virtue. He was a scholarly Master of morality, political science, law, justice, and ethics. Your father was such a great personality, and he has ruled the country and protected his subjects for full six decades. 16-17

And then he died providing grief and pain to his subjects. And all his subjects mourned. Oh, Purusharshabha or Best of Men! After his death you acquired hereditary of Kuroos or Kuru Vamsam. You are an embodiment of righteousness of morality. Rule this kingdom morally, virtuously, dutifully, in the righteous way for thousand years. You were installed as the king while you were a child and please rule the world protecting all creatures. 17-18

Jenamejayan Said:

There had been none in our race who has not sought the good and welfare of his subjects and not any who has not been loved by his subjects. Kings of Kuru dynasty have always been very dear to them without any compromise. Especially, we think of the history of my grandfather ever engaged in great achievements with virtuous rule. 19

Ho, Alas! How did my father die who lived like that with all achievements and virtuously? Please explain that to me in its order as I am very anxious and interested in listening to those facts. 20

Soothan Said:

When the king, Jenamejayan, asked or directed like that his councilors or ministers who were solicitous of the good of the king explained what happened or how his father died exactly as it happened. 21

Ministers or Councilors Said:

Oh, Prabho or King! Your father, the protector of earth who was the foremost of all persons and master of all Vedhaas and Saasthraas. He was very much interested in sports, especially, in hunting like his mighty great-grandfather, Paandu Mahaaraajan. 22

Just like his great-grandfather Paandu Mahaaraajan who was foremost of all bearers of bow in the battlefield, once after entrusting the responsibility and the burden of ruling the kingdom on us, he went to the forest for hunting. And there he shot the arrow on a deer. 23-24

He could not find out that deer which he has shot the arrow even after running and following it in the thick forest for a long time. Holding the stringed bow, quiver, and sword he followed it on foot. 24-25

Your father could not locate the deer shot by him and ran away in the deep forest. Your father who was over sixty and grayed got fatigued. 25-26

The king who was hungry also saw a Maharshi and he asked the Maharshi who was observing strict vow of silence at that time. Even after asking to the Mauna Vrathi or One who is under vow of silence did not speak even a word. 26-27

Because of unbearable hunger and thirst the Mahaaraaja Pareekshith became angry at the Maharshi who was sitting like a rock with strict observance of vow of silence. 28

Without knowing that the Maharshi was observing vow of strict silence,
your father became angry at him. Your father insulted that Maharshi
swayed by growing anger. 29

Oh, Bhaaratha Saththama or the Best of Bhaaratha Emperors! He hooked
up and took a dead snake with the edge of his bow and put it on the neck
of that virtuous soul. 30

But that Muni never even spoke a word either good or bad and without
anger or displeasure. The soul-realized Maharshi remained in the same
posture bearing the dead body of the snake. 31

So ends this section.