

# SREE MAHAABHAARATHAM

## AADHI PARVVAM

### PAULOMA PARVVAM or The Story of PULOMA [and PULOMAN] 4 KatthaaPrevesam or Story Opening or Entrance into the Story

**Story's beginning: In this chapter also the subject matter of the story is that of Soothaa's visit to Naimisaaranyam, where Braahmanaas perform Sathram or Yaagam under the leadership of Saunaka and their request to explain the story.**

Sootha, the son of Lomaharshana named as Ugrasrevas, who was an expert and renowned scholar of Puraanams, or mythological stories arrived at the Yaagasaala or sacrificial hall or auditorium where a lot of Braahmanaas had assembled for attending the sacrifice extending up to twelve years was being performed by Braahmanaas under the Kulapathi or Team or Group Leader Saunakarshi or Saunaka Maharshi. 1

Sootha, having studied Puraanams very meticulously and devotionally and being a scholarly orator of Puraanaas, Ithihaasaas, etc., with folded hands asked or humbly inquired Saunaka and the Brahmins there: "What is it you want to hear? What should I explain?" 2

The Brahmarshees or the Braahmana Rishees spoke to him: "Oh, Lomaharshana Puthra or Sootha! Great! So nice of you! We will tell you. We are so eager with thirst for knowledge and wish to hear stories and therefore you continue your Story-Telling or tell the stories one-by-one." 3

"Our Kulapathi or revered Master Saunaka is at present in Agni-Saala or the hall of holy-fire." 4

"That great Muni Saunaka is well acquainted with the divine stories related to Dhevaas and Asuraas. He is also the elderly personality of this Kulam or clan and has well versed knowledge about the histories of men, serpents, Genddharvvaas, etc." 5

“He is the most knowledgeable and scholarly Brahmarshi of this Sathram and chief of the family. He is very smart, most intelligent, most austere, and an Aachaarya or Guru with expert Vedhic knowledge.” 6

“He is very truthful, honest, calm, serene, highly disciplined, with long and steadfast austerity. He is highly respected and revered by all of us. We have to wait a while for him to come.” 7

"After that Guru reaches, he will slowly - without any hurry - occupy his most exalted seat and after that whatever questions he asks may be answered by you, Sootha Mahaasaya." 8

**Soothan Said:**

"Alright. Be it so. I will narrate various holy divine stories as that great Aachaaryan asks questions after occupying his seat." 9

After a while that noblest Braahmana, having completed all his duties and having propitiated all deities with prayers and the ancestors with appropriate oblations of water, came back to the sacrificial auditorium or assembly hall. He occupied the presiding seat in front of all the Braahmana Rishees and was comfortably settled. 10

That assembly was full of Sidhddha Brahmarshees of severe austerity and vow of penance and were comfortably and very pleasingly seated facing the scholarly son of Sootha. 11

After ensuring that all the Rithviks or professionals performing the Yaaga and all other divinely great Rishees were seated properly, Saunaka occupied the presiding seat and spoke as follows: 12

**So ends this section.**