

SREE MAHAABHAARATHAM

AADHI PARVVAM

21. Sauparnnam - SamudhraDhersanam (21. About Suparnnan or Garuda - Sight and Description of the Ocean)

The next day both Kadru and Vinata together went to see Uchchaisrevas, the steed, to see who is going to be victorious in the bet or the wager. And the narrative description of the Ocean.

Soothan Said:

Oh, Muni or Saunaka Maharshe! As soon as the night was over and the Sun rose in the next morning, the ladies Kadru and Vinata, the sisters, assembled together and went to view the steed, Uchchaisrevas, with haste and impatience. They both were very obstinate and wager to make sure victory. 1-2

They saw the vast ocean of deep waters. The waves were rolling and hitting the shore with roaring tremendously like a huge procession of some wild celebration. 3

The Ocean was full of huge fishes that can swallow even huge whales and sharks, crocodiles, Makara Mathsyams, and other aquatics of different shapes and sizes. 4

They saw so many other huge aquatic creatures along with other small fish, huge turtles, crocodiles, tortoises, etc. moving together on the vast and deep waters of the Ocean. 5

They were able to see mines and mines of gems and pearls, the divine palace or home of Varuna, the sea-god, so many beautiful and excellent homes of Naagaas and serpents, the lord of all rivers, holding the Paathaala Vahni or the subterranean fire, the friend or asylum of Dheithyaas or Asuraas, the terror of all creatures, grand reservoir of water, and ever immutable. 6-7

They saw the Ocean as most auspicious and sacred, holding Amritham or Nectar for Dhevaas and also holding unlimited and immeasurable sacred and Holi water. 8

The Ocean was reverberated with terrible and trembling sounds of huge aquatic animals. It was dark with deep whirl-pools. It was an object of terror for all creatures. 9

Terrribly moved by the winds blowing from the shores heaving high, agitated and disturbed, it seemed dancing everywhere with uplifted hands represented by its surges. 10

The Sea was with full swelling bellows of high tides and low tides caused by the waxing and waning of the moon, and was the parent of Paanjchajenyam, the conch shell of Vaasudheva Sree Krishna Bhagawaan, and the mine of Pajcha Rathnams or five great gems and all other gems. 11

This ocean contains the divinest Holi sacred water as it was being sanctified by the Varaaha Moorththy, Who is the Paramaathma or The Supreme Soul Who is with unlimited power and energy and Who is Govindha Bhagawaan Who made Cows as sacred and Worshipable, by doing Jala Kreedha or Water-Sport. 12

Its bottom which is even lower than the base of Paathaalam or nether-world, which even the noblest Brahmarshi, Athri Maamuni, who is the embodiment of severe austerity and penance could not fathom after toiling for a hundred years. So deep it was. 13

This Ocean serves as the bed for Sree Padmanaabhan or The One with Lotus-Naval or The Supreme Lord Sree Mahaa Vishnu Bhagawaan for His Adhddhyaathma Yoga Nidhra which the long Spiritual Sleep at the end of Yuga. 14

This ocean is the refuge of Mainaakam as it was running away scared of Vajra, the thunderbolt of Indhra [remember the story of Indhra cutting the wings of all mountains and Varuna gave refuge to Mainaaka Parvvatham] and also refuge for crores of Dheithyaas running away from the encounters with Suraas or Dhevaas. 15

It offers water, as sacrificial butter, for the blazing sacrificial fire. It is fathomlessly deep and so vast with unlimited and immeasurable area.

16

It is the lord of all rivers coming from all sides and it accommodates all rivers and lakes very amiably as its equal consorts with no difference.

17

Their, of Kadhru and Vinatha, hearts and minds were so thrilled and excited by seeing the Ocean with jumping and dancing high waves. Roaring ocean with so many huge whales, sharks, Makara Mathsyams, turtles, tortoise, and other huge aquatic animals were resembling like a huge procession. The deep sea reaches below the Paathaalam and the huge waves touch high up in the sky. 18

So ends this section.