

SREE MAHAABHAARATHAM

AADHI PARVVAM ANUKREMANIKAA PARVVAM

47. Jeralkkaaru Nirggemam (47. Jeralkkaaru Leaves and Goes)

Having agreed with and fulfilled all the terms and conditions Jeralkkaaru married that Pannaga Kanyaka or maiden snake. The Jeralkkaaru, the sister of Vaasuki, offered very chaste services and treatment to her husband Jeralkkaaru. By chance or as destined the husband Jeralkkaaru abandoned and left his wife Jeralkkaaru and proceeded to perform Thapas or Penance.

Soothan Said:

The Great Lord of Uragaas or Serpents Vaasuki said Jeralkkaaru: "Oh, Mune! She is my maiden sister with your name, Jeralkkaaru. She is endowed with austere penance. She will take up full responsibility and maintain the family life without bothering you. I bestow her to you as alms. Oh, Thapoddhana Dhvija! Please accept her as your wife. I will take care of her as best as I can. She has been reared and taken care of by me for you." 1-3

Rishi Said:

As Vaasuki agreed with all terms and conditions Jeralkkaaru Muni wedded Jeralkkaaru, the sister of Vaasuki but reinstated that he will not maintain her and also put up another condition that she should never do anything which I do not like and if she does anything which I do not like then at that moment I will leave her. 3-4

Soothan Said:

When Uraga Sreshttan Vaasuki promised to maintain his sister and her family life, Yetheendhra Jeralkkaaru moved to the home of Pannagendhra Vaasuki. 4-5

The Yetheendhra with most austere penance and rigid vow married according to Vedhic stipulations by chanting Manthraas or hymns. 5-6

After the marriage Jeralkkaaru started living along with his wife Jeralkkaaru entered in the most auspicious and well decorated and delightful chamber specially set apart for him by Pannagendhra Vaasuki. 6-7

That room was well furnished with fresh and new soft bed covered with valuable coverlets. Jeralkkaaru boarded the bed along with his wife and enjoyed happily a very romantic life. 7-8

Then, very firmly he spoke to his wife as determined order: "Do not do anything which I do not like and never utter any word I dislike. I would certainly abandon you as well as the family life and the stay in any house. Oh, the most humble and gratified wife! Please remember my words always." 8-10

Then the sister of Pannagendhra Vaasuki, Jeralkkaaru, with great anxiety and utter grief agreed to him by saying 'be it so.' 10-11

Even though the husband Jeralkkaaru was giving a lot of hardships and sorrows, the wife Jeralkkaaru tolerated all those and offered excellent services and treatments with the knowledge of signs possessed by the crow. She treated him in such a way that his mind and heart getting melted in her. After having Rithu Snaanam or ablutionary bath after her period and getting purified herself according to the custom, that most well-known and the most beloved sister of Vaasuki approached her Lord, the great Muni Sreshtta Jeralkkaaru and pleased him so well. 11-13

On that day she conceived. And the embryo was so brilliantly lustrous like flame of fire. It possessed with unlimited energy and was amazingly superior to the flame of fire. And it, the embryo, grew like the Moon in the Sukla-Paksham or bright-fortnight. 13-14

As they were enjoying the wedded life like that, one day the most famous Jeralkkaaru Muni slept by placing his head on the lap of his beloved wife as if he was very fatigued and under grief. Thus, while that Muni Sreshttan was sleeping, the Sun went behind the AsthaAdhri or Western Mountain and he was about to set. 15-16

During that time the excellent sister of Sarppa Sreshtta Vaasuki was very thoughtful about the loss of her husband's virtue [if he does not perform his routine customary prayers and worships in a timely manner:] "What should I do now? Whether I should wake him up or not? Whether my action would be a virtuous or sinful?" 17

"He is strictly religious and sorrowful or grievous. Which action of mine would be acceptable to him so that he will not blame or accuse me. Which action would not offend him? He is very punctual and prompt in his religious duties. But if I awake him, would he be angry with me? But if the Sanddhya or twilight passes without his prayers being said then he shall certainly sustain loss of virtue." 18

The most illustrious Jeralkkaaru of great ascetic merit and the great sister of Pannaga Raaja Vaasuki finally resolved that: "Loss of virtues is certainly more important." But if she wakes that Muni up, it is certain that he is suddenly going to be angry. 19

But if that most ascetic Muni is going to miss his prayers at twilight, he is bound to have loss of virtue. Having taken a final decision at last, the sweet-speaking and soft-speaking Jeralkkaaru who is the sister of Vaasuki immediately spoke to the great ascetic Rishi Sreshtta Jeralkkaaru Muni: 20-21

Pannagi or Serpent Lady Jeralkkaaru Said:

Oh, Aarya Sreshtta or Highly Esteemed Maharshe! Please get up. Oh, Prebho or Lord! The Sun is setting down at western ghats. You are highly illustrious with rigid vows. Please purify yourself with water and worship the Supreme God by kindling fire and performing AgniHothra sacrificial ceremony. This is the most auspicious time for that. 22-23

Soothan Said:

When his wife requested like that her husband, that the most illustrious Jeralkkaaru Muni of great ascetic merit, spoke to his wife with his upper lip shivering with grief and anger. 24

Jeralkkaaru Muni Said:

Ha, Hantha or Alas Oh, Pannagi or Serpent Lady! You have offended and insulted me. Because of that I will not sit with you any longer. I am abandoning you and walking away as I came. 25

Oh, Vaamoru or One with most beautiful Thighs! Do you think that the Sun has the power to set while I sleep even if the Time has come? I strongly believe in my heart that the Sun has no power to set in the usual time if I am asleep. 26

An insulted person should never live at the same place he has met with insult, especially a person of excellent virtue like me. How can a highly ritualistic and strictly religious person like me can stay at the place or with the person who has reproached me? 27

Soothan Said:

When the great ascetic Jeralkkaaru Muni spoke like that as his wife's mind and heart shivered. After hearing what Jeralkkaaru spoke, the sister of Uragendhra Vaasuki spoke: 28

"I did not wake you up to insult or despise you. Oh, Great Sage! I woke you up so that your virtue should not sustain any loss or to maintain your virtue without any loss." 29

Having heard the words of his beloved wife the most illustrious Jeralkkaaru Muni of great ascetic merit possessed with anger and with the intention of forsaking her spoke to his wife: 30

Jeralkkaaru Muni Said:

Oh, Pannagi or Serpent Lady! I never have spoken falsehood. Therefore, I shall abandon you and go. This is what we have agreed between us in the past. [At the time of their wedding.] 31

Oh, the most amiable and fair One! I have passed the time very happily with you. Oh, Bhadhre or most auspicious Lady! Tell your brother, Vaasuki, when I am gone that I have left you. Oh, the most fair and auspicious Lady! Do not grieve or feel sorry after my going away from you. 32-33

Soothan Said:

Having heard such despicable and abusive harsh words of her husband, the ascetic Jeralkkaaru Muni, the non-contemptuous and non-blamable Pannagi Jeralkkaaru with grief and worry spoke to her husband with stumbling throat and with pale face. The most beautiful sister of Vaasuki spoke to her husband with folded hands and dripping tears from her eyes by holding some courage but at the same inside her mind shivering with fear: 33-36

Pannagi or Serpent Lady Jeralkkaaru Said:

Please do not abandon me. You are Ddharmmajnja or One who has masterly knowledge of Ddharmmam, and you strictly adhere Ddharmmam. Have I not always maintained and am I not always maintaining Ddharmmam and performed virtues only? 36

Ho, Alas! I am not sure what would be the reaction of my brother, Naagendhra Vaasuki, who gave me to you with specific purpose as I have not fulfilled and satisfied his purpose. I do not know what he is going to tell me. 37

Oh, Sanmathe or One who possesses Virtuous Intelligence! My relatives, the Sarppaas or Serpents, who are afflicted of the curse of mother are anxiously awaiting to see the child of you on me. Ha, Alas and so sorry! It is so unfortunate that they do not see that also. 38

Oh, Bhagawaan or My Lord, Jeralkkaaru Mune! Please be graceful to me as I desire for the welfare and benefit of my relatives. My pregnancy is not yet clear. Oh, Saththama or Most Virtuous Austere Mune! Please do not abandon me with the pregnancy which is not yet clear. I am innocent and never did anything offensive. Please do not leave me and go. 40-41

Soothan Said:

After speaking like that to her husband Jeralkkaaru Muni, the Pannagi Jeralkkaaru stood there silently. Then, the great ascetic Jeralkkaaru Muni answered suitable to the occasion very logically and calmly. "Oh, Subhage or Most Fortunate One! Your pregnancy is equally splendorous as fire flame. He will be strictly religious. Highly scholarly in all Vedhaas and Vedhaamgaas." Thus spoke the most truthful Jeralkkaaru, the best of all

ascetic Munees. After confirming and providing confidence to his wife,
Jeralkkaaru Muni went away to perform severe austere penance. 41-43

So ends this section.