

and they could not hear; they could not speak. They were simply making noise by grinding their teeth. They could not hear Kālanemi's words. Seeing which Kālanemi thought what he would do and magnified his body by his Māyā. He extended himself in all the directions and through his spell created thousands of suns. All the directions pervaded with heat and the universe began to suffer from it. That heat drove away the effect of the Moon and the freezing wind also ceased.

तद्वलं दानवेन्द्राणां मायया कालनेमिनः।

तं दृष्ट्वा दानवानीकं लब्धसज्जं दिवाकरः।

उवाचारुणमुद्भ्रान्तः कोपाल्लोकैकलोचनः॥ १५ १॥

The sun, the eyes of the world, on realizing the increase of the power of the demons by illusion of Kālanemi, angrily commanded his charioteer Aruṇa.

दिवाकर उवाच

नयारुण स्थं शीघ्रं कालनेमिस्थो यतः।

विमर्हस्तत्र विषमो भविता शूरसंक्षयः॥ १५ २॥

एषोजितः शशाङ्कोऽत्र तद्वलं बलमाश्रितम्।

The Sun said— O Aruṇa, take this chariot to that spot where is the chariot of Kālanemi. “Now there will be a tough fight and many heroes will be killed. Behold! The Moon has been conquered here, the refuge of all army.”

इत्युक्तञ्चोदयामास स्थं गरुडपूर्वजः॥ १५ ३॥

प्रयत्नविधृतैरश्रैः सितचामरमालिभिः।

जगद्दीपोऽथ भगवाञ्जग्राह विततं धनुः॥ १५ ४॥

शरौ च द्वौ महाभागो दिव्यावाशीविषद्युती।

सञ्चारस्त्रेण सन्धाय बाणमेकं ससर्ज्जं सः॥ १५ ५॥

द्वितीयमिन्द्रजालेन योजितं प्रमुमोच ह।

सञ्चारस्त्रेण रूपाणां क्षणाच्चक्रे विपर्ययम्॥ १५ ६॥

देवानां दानवं रूपं दानवानां च दैविकम्।

Hearing those words the charioteer Aruṇa instantly drove swiftly the chariot yoked with horses wearing white cāmaras. The Sun took up

his huge bow and shot two divine arrows having the lustre and properties of serpents. The first was the sañcāra-astra thrown amongst the enemy's forces and second Indrajāla-astra having the properties of magic. By the influence of the sañcāra-astra the faces of the demons and the Devas were changed into those of the Devas and Dānavas. In other words, the faces of the demons looked like those of the Devas and the faces of the Devas looked like those of the demons.

मत्वा सुरान्स्वकानेव जघ्ने घोरास्त्रलाघवात्॥ १५ ७॥

कालनेमी रुषाविष्टः कृतान्त इव संक्षये।

कांश्चित्खड्गेन तीक्ष्णेन कांश्चिन्नाराचवृष्टिभिः॥ १५ ८॥

कांश्चिद्गदाभिर्घोरैराभिः कांश्चिद्भोरैः परश्वधैः॥ १५ ९॥

शिरांसि केषाञ्चिदपातयच्च

भुजान् स्थान् सारथींश्चोग्रवेगः।

कांश्चित्पिपेषाथ स्थस्य वेगात्

कांश्चित्कुधा चोद्धतमुष्टिपातैः॥ १६ ०॥

रणे विनिहतान्दृष्ट्वा नेमिः स्वान् दानवाधिपः।

रूपं स्वं तु प्रपद्यन्त ह्यसुराः सुरार्थर्षिताः॥ १६ १॥

कालनेमी रुषाविष्टस्तेषां रूपं न बुद्धवान्।

नेमिदैत्यस्तु तान्दृष्ट्वा कालनेमिमुवाच ह॥ १६ २॥

अहं नेमिः सुरो नैव कालनेमे विदस्व माम्।

भवता मोहितेनाजौ निहतान्युरुविक्रम॥ १६ ३॥

दैत्यानां दशलक्षाणि दुर्ज्जयानां सुरैरिह।

सर्वास्त्रवारणं मुञ्च ब्राह्ममस्त्रं त्वरान्वितः॥ १६ ४॥

Under such circumstances, the demons taking their comrades to be the Devas began to slaughter one another. Kālanemi began to annihilate them like the angry Dharmarāja at the time of pralaya. He killed them with swords, arrows, clubs, battle-axes; severing the heads of some, the arms of others and crushed the chariots and the charioteers by the force of his chariot. He killed several with his fist. Thus Kālanemi killed his own armies. The demons on thus being fatally attacked by Kālanemi, and

being horrified of the Devas began to yell and assume their proper forms. The angry Kālanemi could not recognise them when the demon Nemi said to him—“I am Nemi; recognise me. You have killed ten lacs of valiant demons through ignorance, whom the Devas even could not have killed. You should, therefore, discharge your Brahmāstra, without delay that defeats all the other weapons.”

स तेन बोधितो दैत्यः सम्भ्रमाकुलचेतनः।
 योजयामास बाणं हि ब्रह्मास्त्रविहितेन तु॥ १६५॥
 मुमोच चापि दैत्येन्द्रः स स्वयं सुरकण्टकः।
 ततोऽस्त्रतेजसा व्याप्तं त्रैलोक्यं सचराचरम्॥ १६६॥
 देवानां चाभवत्सैन्यं सर्वमेव भयान्वितम्।
 संचारास्त्रं च संशान्तं स्वयमायोधने बभौ॥ १६७॥
 तस्मिन्प्रतिहते ह्यस्त्रे भ्रष्टतेजा दिवाकरः।
 महेन्द्रजालमाश्रित्य चक्रे स्वां कोटिशस्तनुम्॥ १६८॥
 विस्फूर्जत्करसम्पातसमाक्रान्तजगत्त्रयम्।
 तताप दानवानीकं गतमज्जौघशोणितम्॥ १६९॥
 ततश्चावर्षदनलं समन्तादतिसंहतम्।
 चक्षुषि दानवेन्द्राणां चकाराब्धानि च प्रभुः॥ १७०॥

Hearing his words Kālanemi let out the Brahmāstra arrow which pervaded every nook and corner of the universe. The whole of the army of the Devas was petrified with horror and the effect of the sañcāra-astra of the Sun also ceased and at the same time, the Sun became dull. At that hour, the Sun through his power of magic astra assumed billions of forms. His strong rays penetrated the three regions. The army of the demons was scorched. All the blood and marrow of the soldiers were dried up. Thus, they were much tormented. Afterwards there was a shower of fire which blinded the demons.

गजानामगलन्मेदः पेतुश्चाप्यरवा भुवि।
 तुरगा निःश्वसन्तश्च धर्मात्ता रथिनोऽपि च॥ १७१॥
 इतश्चेतश्च सलिलं प्रार्थयन्तस्तृषातुराः।
 प्रच्छायविटपांश्चैव गिरीणां गह्वराणि च॥ १७२॥

दावाग्निः प्रज्वलंश्चैव घोराचिर्दग्धपादपः।
 तोयार्थिनः पुरो दृष्ट्वा तोयं कल्लोलमालिनम्॥ १७३॥
 पुरः स्थितमपि प्राप्तं न शेकुरवमर्हिताः।
 अप्राप्य सलिलं भूमौ व्यान्तास्या गतचेतसः॥ १७४॥
 तत्र तत्र व्यदृश्यन्त मृता दैत्येश्वरा भुवि।
 रथा गजाश्च पतितास्तुरगाश्च समापिताः॥ १७५॥

The huge elephants were ablaze and fell down charred. The horses horribly oppressed by the heat, began to faint and the warriors sitting in chariots also began to perspire and breathe hard. They all began to run about with thirst and felt inclined to sit under the shade of a tree or in a cavern of the mountain. The trees began to burn with conflagration of fire and the demons persecuted with the long tongues of fire could not reach the water that was in front of them close by. On thus failing to get water they died gaping. Everywhere the dead carcasses of the demons were visible and innumerable elephants and horses yoked to chariots also began to fall.

स्थिता वमन्तो धावन्तो गलद्रक्तवसासृजः।
 दानवानां सहस्राणि व्यदृश्यन्तो मृतानि तु॥ १७६॥
 संक्षये दानवेन्द्राणां तस्मिन्महति वर्त्तिते।
 प्रकोपाद्भूतताम्राक्षः कालनेमि रूपातुरः॥ १७७॥
 अभवत्कल्पमेघाभः स्फुरद्भूरिशतहृदः।
 गम्भीरास्फोटनिर्हादजगद्धृदयघट्टकः॥ १७८॥
 प्रच्छाद्य गगनाभोगं रविमायां व्यनाशयत्।
 शीतं ववर्ष सलिलं दानवेन्द्रबलं प्रति॥ १७९॥
 दैत्यास्तां वृष्टिमासाद्य समाश्रस्तास्ततः क्रमात्।
 बीजांकुरा इवाप्तानाः प्राप्य वृष्टिं धरातले॥ १८०॥

A stream of blood ran out of their mouths and thousands of demons were found lying dead. When those demons began to be destroyed like that, Kālanemi, with his eyes turned red with rage, created masses of clouds like those at the time of the dissolution of the world and raised a most thrilling yell. There flowed hundreds of rivers. The sky was thus

overcast and dispelled the glory of the Sun; a downpour of cold showers fell on the armies of the demons. This gave comfort to the demons, just as sprouts come out of the ground on getting rainwater.

ततः स मेघरूपी तु कालनेमिर्महासुरः।
शस्त्रवृष्टिं ववर्षोग्रं देवानीकेषु दुर्जयः॥ १८१॥
तथा वृष्ट्या बाध्यमाना दैत्येन्द्राणां महौजसाम्।
गतिं कां च न पश्यन्तो गावः शीतार्हिता इव॥ १८२॥
परस्परं व्यलीयन्त पृष्ठेषु व्यस्त्रपाणयः।
स्वेषु बाधे व्यलीयन्त गजेषु तुरगेषु च॥ १८३॥
स्थेषु त्वमरास्त्रस्तास्तत्र तत्र निलिलियरे।
अपरे कुञ्चितैर्गात्रैः स्वहस्तपिहिताननाः॥ १८४॥

Kālanemi, at the same time, poured out a shower of missiles on the Devas just as clouds shower rain. The Devas, oppressed with the shower of fearful missiles, could not cope with the demons and looked like the cows oppressed with cold. They left their arms and embraced one another and threw themselves behind their horses, chariots, etc. They all hide themselves and most of them contracted their bodies and covered their faces with their hands. Others took to their heels.

इतश्चेत्तश्च सम्भ्रान्ता बभ्रमुर्वे दिशो दश।
एवंविधे तु संग्रामे तुमुले देवसंक्षये॥ १८५॥
दृश्यन्ते पतिता भूमौ शस्त्रभिन्नाङ्गसन्धयः।
विभुजा भिन्नमूर्द्धानस्तथा छिन्नोरुजानवः॥ १८६॥
विपर्यस्तरथासङ्गा निष्पिष्टध्वजपङ्क्तयः।
निर्भिन्नाङ्गैस्तुरङ्गैस्तु गजैश्चाचलसन्निभैः॥ १८७॥
सुतरक्तहृद्भूमिर्विकृता विकृता बभौ।
एवमाजौ बलीदैत्यः कालनेमिर्महासुरः॥ १८८॥
जघ्ने मुहूर्त्तमात्रेण गन्धर्वाणां दशायुतम्।
यक्षाणां पञ्च लक्षाणि रक्षसामयुतानि षट्॥ १८९॥
त्रीणि लक्षाणि जघ्ने स किन्नराणां तरस्विनाम्।
जघ्ने पिशाचमुख्यानां सप्तलक्षाणि निर्भयः॥ १९०॥

Afterwards, the Devas wandered hither and thither in utter dismay. In course of such a fearful conflict, a large number of the Devas were lost. Most of them were seen scattered on the ground with their limbs, arms, thighs severed and their heads smashed and legs broken. The train of banners was broken, the chariots were smashed and turned upside down and the horses and elephants with their severed bodies fell to the ground. The blood of the fallen victims of war spread all over the ground which presented an awful appearance. In that way, the valiant Kālanemi showed his strength in the field of battle. In the twinkling of an eye 1,00,000 Gandharvas, 5 lacs of yakṣas, 60,000 Rākṣasas, 3 lacs most powerful and swift Kinnaras and 7 lacs of Piśācas were killed by the brave Kālanemi.

इतरेषामसंख्याताः सुरजातिनिकायिनाम्।
जघ्ने स कोटीः संक्रुद्धश्चित्रास्त्रैरस्त्रकोविदः॥ १९१॥
एवं परिभवे भीमे तदा त्वमरसंक्षये।
संक्रुद्धावश्विनौ देवौ चित्रास्त्रकवचोज्ज्वलौ॥ १९२॥
जघ्नतः समरे दैत्यं कृतान्तानलसन्निभम्।
तमासाद्य रणे घोरमेकैकः षष्टिभिः शरैः॥ १९३॥
जघ्ने मर्मसु तीक्ष्णाग्रैरसुरं भीमदर्शनम्।
ताभ्यां बाणप्रहरैः स किञ्चिदायस्तचेतनः॥ १९४॥
जग्राह चक्रमष्टारं तैलधौतं रणान्तकम्।
तेन चक्रेण सोऽश्विभ्यां चिच्छेद रथकूबरम्॥ १९५॥
जग्राहथ धनुर्देत्यः शरांश्चाशीविषोपमान्।
ववर्ष भिषजोर्मूर्ध्नि संछाद्याकाशगोचरम्॥ १९६॥
तावप्यस्त्रैश्चिच्छिदतुः शितैस्तैर्देत्यसायकान्।
तच्च कर्म तयोर्दृष्ट्वा विस्मितः कोपमाविशत्॥ १९७॥
महता स तु कोपेन सर्वाद्योमयसादनम्।
जग्राह मुद्गरं भीमं कालदण्डविभीषणम्॥ १९८॥
स ततो भ्राम्य वेगेन चिक्षेपाश्विरथं प्रति।
तं तु मुद्गरमायान्तमालोक्याम्बरगोचरम्॥ १९९॥
त्यक्त्वा रथौ तु तौ वेगादाप्लुतौ तरसाश्विनौ।
तौ रथौ स तु निष्पिष्य मुद्गरोऽचलसन्निभः॥ २००॥

दारयामास धरणीं हेमजालपरिष्कृतः।

तस्य कर्माश्विनौ दृष्ट्वा भिषजौ चित्रयोधिनौ॥ २०१॥

वज्रास्त्रं तु प्रकुर्वति दानवेन्द्रनिवारणम्।

ततो वज्रमयं वर्षं प्रावर्त्तदतिदारुणम्॥ २०२॥

Besides these, that valiant demon also killed innumerable koṭis of Deva warriors. In that way, when the Devas were greatly defeated and almost annihilated, the two Aśvinīkumāras, wearing a wonderful white armour, came out boiling with indignation; and each of them began to send forth a volley of 60 arrows at a time on that demon shining like fire. When the Aśvinīkumāras began to hit the demon with their arrows and pierced his chest, he was in great pain and took up the eight-edged keen quoit and with it pierced the yoke of the Aśvinīkumāras' chariot and picking up his bow, he shot poisoned arrows on the forehead of the physicians and let out innumerable arrows in the air. The sky became overcast. Then Aśvinīkumāras also cut down the arrows of the demon by their own which amazed the latter. He got fearfully vexed and took his formidable club of iron and brandishing it with great force hurled it at the chariot of Aśvinīkumāras, seeing which they vacated the chariot and the ponderous club powdered the chariots and crushed the earth. Seeing such heroic feat of the demons' weapon, the Aśvinīkumāras let out their terrible vajrākhyā-astra on the demon and over it bolts were showered.

घोरवज्रप्रहारैस्तु दैत्येन्द्रः स परिष्कृतः।

स्थो ध्वजो धनुश्चक्रं कवचं चापि काञ्चनम्॥ २०३॥

क्षणेन तिलशो जातं सर्वसैन्यस्य पश्यतः।

तदृष्ट्वा दुष्करं कर्म सोऽश्विभ्यां भीमविक्रमः॥ २०४॥

नारायणास्त्रं बलवान् मुमोच रणमूर्द्धनि।

वज्रास्त्रं शमयामास दानवेन्द्रोऽस्त्रतेजसा॥ २०५॥

तस्मिन् प्रशान्ते वज्रास्त्रे कालनेमिरन्तरम्।

जीवग्राहं ग्राहयितुमश्विनौ तु प्रचक्रमे॥ २०६॥

तावश्विनौ रणाद्भीतौ सहस्राक्षरथं प्रति।

प्रयातौ वेपमानौ तु पदा शस्त्रविवर्जितौ॥ २०७॥

The shower of those bolts unnerved the demon. His chariot, banner, bow, quoits, golden armour were blown to atoms. In that way, he was subdued in presence of the army and at that instant, the demon discharged his Nārāyaṇāstra which lulled the Vajrāstra. Then the demon wanted to kill the Aśvinīkumāras at which the latter fled to take shelter with Indra.

तयोरनुगतो दैत्यः कालनेमिर्महाबलः।

प्राप्येन्द्रस्य रथं क्रूरो दैत्यानीकपदानुगः॥ २०८॥

तं दृष्ट्वा सर्वभूतानि वित्रेसुर्विह्वलानि तु।

दृष्ट्वा दैत्यस्य तत् क्रौर्यं सर्वभूतानि नेनिरे॥ २०९॥

पराजयं महेन्द्रस्य सर्वलोकक्षयावहम्।

चेलुः शिखरिणो मुख्याः पेतुरुल्का नभस्तलात्॥ २१०॥

जगर्जुर्जलदा दिक्षु ह्युद्भूताश्च महार्णवाः।

तां भूतविकृतिं दृष्ट्वा भगवान् गरुडध्वजः॥ २११॥

व्यबुद्ध्यताहिपर्यङ्के योगनिद्रां विहाय तु।

लक्ष्मीकरयुगाजस्रलालितांघ्रिसिरोरुहः॥ २१२॥

शरदम्बरनीलाब्जकान्तदेहच्छविर्विभुः।

कौस्तुभोद्भासितोरस्को कान्तकेयूरभास्करः॥ २१३॥

विमृश्य सुरसंक्षोभं वैनतेयं समाह्वयत्।

आहूतेऽवस्थिते तस्मिन् नागावस्थितवर्ष्मणि॥ २१४॥

दिव्यनानास्त्रतीक्ष्णार्चिरारुह्यागात् सुरान् स्वयम्।

तत्रापश्यत देवेन्द्रमभिद्रुतमभिद्रुतैः॥ २१५॥

The fearful demon then pursued and came close to the chariot of Indra followed by his army; seeing which, everyone was horrified and thought that Indra was about to be defeated. Mountains and meteors began to fall from the sky. Clouds began to thunder in all the quarters; the oceans also swelled. Then Lord Viṣṇu, seeing the universe in such an agony, left off his yogic slumber and awoke and sat on his couch of Śeṣa Nāga. The Goddess Lakṣmī began to shampoo his legs by her hands. He looked like blue autumnal sky and like blue lotus. He had a

beautiful armlet and on his forehead, he wore Kaustubha gem and his arms adorned with armlets shining like the sun. The Lord awoke and seeing the atrocities of the demon summoned Garuḍa and shining with the lustre of weapons took his seat. Instantly, Garuḍa appeared before him. Viṣṇu then rode on Garuḍa and came to the Devas. He saw that the violent and powerful Demons, looking like fresh rain clouds, had attacked Indra; and the Deva forces looked like persons surrounded by their unfortunate descendants.

दानवेन्द्रनवाम्भोद सच्छायैः पौरुषोत्कटैः।
 यथा हि पुरुषं घोरैरभाग्यैर्वशशालिभिः॥ २१६॥
 परित्राणायाशु कृतं सुक्षेत्रे कर्म निर्मलम्।
 अथापश्यन्त दैतेया विचति ज्योतिमण्डलम्॥ २१७॥
 स्फुरन्तमुदयात्रिस्थं सूर्यमुष्णात्विषा इव।
 प्रभावं ज्ञातुमिच्छन्तो दानवास्तस्य तेजसः॥ २१८॥
 गरुत्तन्तमपश्यन्तः कल्पान्तनलसन्निभम्।
 तमास्थितं च मेघौघद्युतिमक्षयमच्युतम्॥ २१९॥
 तमालोक्यासुरेन्द्रास्तु हर्षसम्पूर्णमानसाः।
 अयं वै देवसर्वस्वं जितेऽस्मिन् निर्जिताः सुराः॥ २२०॥
 अयं स दैत्यचक्राणां कृतान्तः केशवोऽरिहा।
 एनमाश्रित्य लोकेषु यज्ञभाग भुजोऽमराः॥ २२१॥

Afterwards, the demons saw the lustrous halo of the Lord in the sky as if the glory of the rising Sun was making itself visible on the Udayācala Mountain. All the demons were anxious to know what was that light. They all beheld the cloud-hued Lord seated on the Garuḍa shining like the destructive fire prevailing at the time of the dissolution of the universe. Seeing Him, all the demons felt highly gratified and they said “He is the Lord Viṣṇu and the all in all of the Devas. By defeating him we will conquer the Devas. He is the annihilator of the demons. All the Devas, under His protection, partake of their share of sacrificial offerings.”

इत्युक्त्वा दानवाः सर्वे परिवार्य समन्ततः।
 निजुघ्नुर्विविधैरस्त्रैस्ते तमायान्तमाहवे॥ २२२॥

Saying so all the demons took their stand round Him and began to shower various kinds of weapons on Him.

कालनेमिप्रभृतयो दश दैत्या महारथाः।
 षष्ट्या विव्याध बाणानां कालनेमिर्जनाईनम्॥ २२३॥
 निमिः शतेन बाणानां मथनोऽशीतिभिः शरैः।
 जम्भकश्चैव सप्तत्या शुम्भो दशभिरेव च॥ २२४॥
 शेषा दैत्येश्वराः सर्वे विष्णुमेकैकशः शरैः।
 दशभिश्चैव यत्रास्ते जघ्नुः सगरुडं रणे॥ २२५॥
 तेषाममृष्य तत्कर्म विष्णुर्दानवसूदनः।
 एकैकं दानवं जघ्ने षड्भिः षड्भिरजिह्वगैः॥ २२६॥

Ten valiant demons like Kālanemi, etc., known as Mahārathas, began to fight. Kālanemi shot 60 arrows; Nimi shot 100 arrows; Mathana, 80 arrows; Jambhaka, 70 arrows; Śambhu ten arrows and the rest of the demons a single arrow each, on Viṣṇu and with ten arrows they pierced Garuḍa. Viṣṇu, the destroyer of the Dānavas, thinking of the impetuosity of the demons, pierced every one of them with six arrows. He drew again His bow and pierced Kālanemi with three arrows.

आकर्णकृष्टैर्भूयश्च कालनेमिस्त्रिभिः शरैः।
 विष्णुं विव्याध हृदये क्रोधाद्रक्तविलोचनः॥ २२७॥
 तस्याशोभन्त ते बाणा हृदये तप्तकाञ्चनाः।
 मयूखानीव दीप्तानि कौस्तुभस्य स्फुटत्विषः॥ २२८॥
 तैर्बाणैः किञ्चिदायस्तो हरिर्जग्राह मुद्गरम्।
 सततं भ्राम्य वेगेन दानवाय व्यसर्ज्जयत्॥ २२९॥

Then Kālanemi, with eyes red with anger, put arrows on his bow and drawing the string up to his ears let them off on His chest. Those golden arrows on the chest of the Lord looked beautiful like the rays of Kaustubha gem. Viṣṇu, somewhat mortified with them, snatched His terrific club and after brandishing it, whirled and hurled it at the demon.