

## CHAPTER 27

Performing of a *tapas* by Śambhāsura  
for getting a son and birth of  
Śamkhacūḍa

सनत्कुमार उवाच

अथान्यच्चम्भुचरितं प्रेमतः शृणु वै मुने!।

यस्य श्रवणमात्रेण शिवभक्तिर्दृढा भवेत्॥ १॥

Sanatkumāra said, “O Sage, now you listen to the further story of Śiva, lovingly listening to which, the devotion of Śiva is firmly established.

शङ्खचूडाभिधो वीरो दानवो देवकण्ठकः।

यथा शिवेन निहतो रणमूर्ध्नि त्रिशूलतः॥ २॥

The story relates to the killing of valorous demon Śamkhacūḍa with the striking of a trident by Śiva, who harassed the gods.

तच्छम्भुचरितं दिव्यं पवित्रं पापनाशनम्।

शृणु व्यास! सुसम्प्रीत्या वच्मि सुस्नेहतस्तव॥ ३॥

O Vyāsa, you listen to the story of Śiva, which I am going to narrate to you lovingly.

मरीचेस्तनयो धातुः पुत्रो यः कश्यपो मुनिः।

स धर्मिष्ठः सुष्टिकर्ता विद्याज्ञप्तः प्रजापतिः॥ ४॥

Kaśyapa, the son of Mārīci who was the son of Brahmā, was quite obedient to Brahmā.

दक्षः प्रीत्या ददौ तस्मै निजकन्यास्त्रयोदश।

तासां प्रसूतिः प्रसभं न कथ्या बहुविस्तृता॥५॥

Dakṣa Prajāpati had given his thirteen daughters to him as wives. Several children were born of them, details of which I am not going to spell out for fear of expansion.

यत्र देवादिनिखिलं चराचरमभूजगतं।

विस्तरात्तत्रवक्तुं च कः क्षमोऽस्ति त्रिलोकेके॥६॥

Who can describe in detail in the three worlds out of whom the entire mobile and immobile universe, besides the gods were born?

प्रस्तुतं शृणु वृत्तान्तं शम्भुलीलान्वितं च यत्।

तदेव कथयाम्यद्य शृणु भक्तिप्रवर्द्धनम्॥७॥

You listen to the relevant story which is filled with the illusion of Śiva, which I am going to narrate. I am going to speak out the same.

तासु कश्यपपत्नीषु दनुस्त्वेका वराङ्गना।

महारूपवती साध्वी पतिसौभाग्यवर्द्धिता॥८॥

Out of the wives of Kaśyapa, there was the one named Danu, who was quite simple, humble and virtuous at the same time.

आसंस्तस्या दनोः पुत्रा बहवो बलवत्तराः।

तेषां नामानि नोच्यन्ते विस्तारभयतो मुने॥९॥

Danu gave birth to several valorous sons. O Sage, I am not giving the names of them, for fear of escalation.

तेष्वेको विप्रचित्तिस्तु महाबलपराक्रमः।

तत्पुत्रो धार्मिको दम्भो विष्णुभक्तो जितेन्द्रियः॥१०॥

Vipracitti happened to be one of them who was quite strong, valorous, devoted to Viṣṇu and had controlled all the senses.

नासीत्तत्तनयो वीरस्ततश्चिन्तापरोऽभवत्।

शुक्राचार्यं गुरुं कृत्वा कृष्णामन्त्रमवाप्य च॥११॥

He was issueless. Feeling anxious he went to Śukrācārya. Taking him as his preceptor, he

received the *Kṛṣṇa-mantra* from him.

तपश्चकार परमं पुष्करे लक्षवर्षकम्।

कृष्णामन्त्रं जजापैव दृढं बद्ध्वासनं चिरम्॥१२॥

Receiving the *mantra* he went to the *Puṣkara-tīrtha*, and performed *tapas* for a lakh of years. Spreading an *āsana* he kept on reciting the *Kṛṣṇa-mantra*.

तपः प्रकुर्वतस्तस्य मूर्ध्नो निःसृत्य प्रज्वलत्।

विससार च सर्वत्र तत्तेजो हि सुदुःसहम्॥१३॥

While he was so performing *tapas* an unbearable lustre emerged out of his head and was spread in all the four directions.

तेन तप्ताः सुराः सर्वे मुनयो मनवस्तथा।

सुनासीरं पुरस्कृत्य ब्रह्माणं शरणं ययुः॥१४॥

The gods, Manu and the sages suffering from that lustre, went to Brahmā making Indra as the leader, and took refuge with him.

प्रणम्य च विधातारं दातारं सर्वसम्पदाम्।

तुष्टुवुर्विकलाः प्रोचुः स्ववृत्तान्तं विशेषतः॥१५॥

Brahmā, who bestowed all the riches, was adored by them all, who also offered salutation to him. Offering prayer to him, they getting upset, specifically apprised him to the news.

तदाकर्ण्य विधातापि वैकुण्ठं तैर्ययौ सह।

तदेव विज्ञापयितुं निखिलेन हि विष्णवे॥१६॥

Listening to the news, Brahmā with all the gods went to Viṣṇu in order to communicate the news to him.

तत्र गत्वा त्रिलोकेशं विष्णुं रक्षाकरं परम्।

प्रणम्य तुष्टुवुः सर्वे करौ बद्ध्वा विनम्रकाः॥१७॥

Reaching there, they started offering prayer to Viṣṇu the lord of the three worlds and great protector.

देवा ऊचुः

देवदेव! न जानीमो जातं किं कारणं त्विह।

सन्तप्ताः सकला जातास्तेजसा केन तद्वद॥१८॥

The gods said, “O Mahādeva- the god of gods, we are totally unaware about the lustre from which we are suffering and what was the reason for the same.

तसात्मनां त्वमविता दीनबन्धोऽनुजीविनाम्।

रक्ष रक्ष रमानाथ! शरण्यः शरणागतान्॥ १९॥

O Kin of the destitutes, you are the protector of your suffering slaves. We have come to take refuge with you. You kindly protect us.”

सनत्कुमार उवाच

इति श्रुत्वा वचो विष्णुर्ब्रह्मादीनां दिवौकसाम्।

उवाच विहसन्नेम्णा शरणागतवत्सलः॥ २०॥

Sanatkumāra said, “Listening to the words of Brahmā and other gods, Viṣṇu who is well-disposed towards those who take refuge in him, said.

विष्णुरुवाच

सुस्वस्था भवताव्यग्रा न भयं कुरुतामराः।

नोपप्लवा भविष्यन्ति लयकालो न विद्यते॥ २१॥

दानवो दम्भनामा हि मद्भक्तः कुरुते तपः।

पुत्रार्थी शमयिष्यामि तमहं वरदानतः॥ २२॥

Viṣṇu said, “O Gods, all of you should keep patience and be healthy. Don't be afraid. This is not the time of dissolution. Dambha, my devotee is performing *tapas* for getting a son. I shall pacify him with the pronouncing of a boon.

सनत्कुमार उवाच

इत्युक्तास्ते सुराः सर्वे धैर्यमालम्ब्य वै मुनेः।

ययुर्ब्रह्मादयः सुस्थाः स्वस्वधामानि सर्वशः॥ २३॥

Sanatkumāra said, “O Sage, at these words of lord Viṣṇu, the gods were pacified with pleasant hearts, they went back to their respective places.

अच्युतोऽपि वरं दातुं पुष्करं सञ्जगाम ह।

तपश्चरति यत्रासौ दम्भनामा हि दानवः॥ २४॥

Viṣṇu then went to the Puṣkara-kṣetra in order to bestow the boon at the place where the Dānava named Damba had been performing *tapas*.

तत्र गत्वा वरं ब्रूहीत्युवाच परिसान्त्वयन्।

गिरा सूनुतया भक्तं जपन्तं स्वमनुं हरिः॥ २५॥

Reaching there, he assured him variously and then with the sweet voice spoke to his devotee who was performing *tapas* for him, “Ask for a boon.”

तच्छ्रुत्वा वचनं विष्णोर्दृष्ट्वां तं च पुरःस्थितम्।

प्रणनाम महाभक्त्या तुष्टाव च पुनः पुनः॥ २६॥

Listening to these words of Viṣṇu, who was standing before him, he offered him his salutation again and again and then he eulogised him.

दम्भ उवाच

देवदेव! नमस्तेऽस्तु पुण्डरीकविलोचन!।

रमानाथ! त्रिलोकेश! कृपां कुरु ममोपरि॥ २७॥

You kindly bestow your devotee a son, who should be strong and valorous, conqueror of the three worlds, and should be invincible from the gods.

स्वभक्तं तनयं देहि महाबलपराक्रमम्।

त्रिलोकजयिनं वीरमजेयं च दिवौकसाम्॥ २८॥

You kindly bestow your devotee a son, who should be strong and valorous, conqueror of the three worlds, and should be invincible from the gods.

सनत्कुमार उवाच

इत्युक्तो दानवेन्द्रेण तं वरं प्रददौ हरिः।

निवर्त्य चोग्रतपसस्ततः सोऽन्तरधान्मुनेः॥ २९॥

Sanatkumāra said, “O Sage, at these words of the lord of Dānavas, Viṣṇu, stopped him from his performing the hard *tapas* and bestowing the boon to him disappeared from the scene.

गते हरौ दानवेन्द्रः कृत्वा तस्यै दिशे नमः।  
जगाम स्वगृहं सिद्धतपाः पूर्णमनोरथः॥ ३० ॥

After the departure of Viṣṇu, the Dānava, who had been successful in his *tapas* and his desire having been fulfilled, he offered his salutation to the direction towards, which Viṣṇu had gone and then he went back to his home.

कालेनाल्पेन तत्पत्नी सगर्भा भाग्यवत्यभूत्।  
रराज तेजसात्यन्तं रोचयन्ती गृहान्तरम्॥ ३१ ॥

After sometime his wife conceived. She possessed lustre inside her abode.

सुदामा नाम गोपो यः कृष्णस्य पार्षदाग्रणीः।  
तस्या गर्भे विवेशासौ राधाशप्तश्च यन्मुने॥ ३२ ॥

O Sage the *Jīva* of Sudāmā, the friend of Kṛṣṇa, who was a cowherd and was cursed by Rādhā, entered her womb.

असूत समये साध्वी सुप्रभं तनयं ततः।  
जातकं सुचकारासौ पिताऽऽहूय मुनीन्बहून्॥ ३३ ॥

His wife in due course of time, gave birth to an illustrious son. His father summoned several sages and performed his birth ceremony.

उत्सवः सुमहानासीत्स्मिञ्जाते द्विजोत्तमः।  
नाम चक्रे पिता तस्य शङ्खचूडेति सहिने॥ ३४ ॥

O Nārada, after his birth a huge festival was organised. On an auspicious day, the father gave him the name of Śaṁkha-cūḍa.

पितुर्गेहे स ववृधे शुक्लपक्षे यथा शशी।  
शैशवेऽभ्यस्तविद्यस्तु स बभूव सुदीप्तिमान्॥ ३५ ॥

Thereafter the child kept on growing like the moon of the bright fortnight. Receiving education during his childhood, he became quite illustrious.

स बालक्रीडया नित्यं पित्रोर्हर्षं ततान ह।  
प्रियो बभूव सर्वेषां कुलजानां विशेषतः॥ ३६ ॥

He delighted the minds of his parents, with his child like sports. In due course of time, he became the beloved of his kins and relatives.

इति श्रीशिवमहापुराणे द्वितीयायां रुद्रसंहितायां पञ्चमे  
युद्धखण्डे शंखचूडोत्पत्तिवर्णनं नाम सप्तविंशोऽध्यायः॥२७॥

\*\*\*