

CHAPTER 15

**Finding the severed head of Rāhu,
Jalandhara attacks Indra and defeats
him**

सनत्कुमार उवाच

एकदा वारिधिसुतो वृन्दापतिरुदारधीः।

सभार्यः संस्थितो वीरोऽसुरैः सर्वैः समन्वितः॥ १॥

Sanatkumāra said, “Once Jalandhara- the son of the ocean with the spouse of Br̥ndā, was seated in his court with his wife.

तत्राजगाम सुप्रीतः सुवर्चास्त्वथ भार्गवः।

तेजः पुञ्जो मूर्त इव भासयन्सकला दिशः॥ २॥

In the meantime, the powerful Śukrācārya, illumining all the directions with his lustre, arrived there.

तं दृष्ट्वा गुरुमायान्तमसुरास्तेऽखिला द्रुतम्।

प्रणेमुः प्रीतमनसः सिन्धुपुत्रोऽपि सादरम्॥ ३॥

On his arrival there, all the demons as also Jalandhara, the son of ocean offered their salutation to him.

दत्त्वाशीर्वचनं तेभ्यो भार्गवस्तेजसां निधिः।
निषसादासने रम्ये सन्तस्थुस्तेऽपि पूर्ववत्॥ ४॥

The illustrious Bhārgava, took his charming seat blessing them. The other demons also took their seats.”

अथ सिन्ध्वात्मजो वीरो दृष्ट्वा प्रीत्या निजां सभाम्।
जलन्धरः प्रसन्नोऽभूदनष्टवरशासनः॥ ५॥

Jalandhara- the son of the ocean, who was a firm and the best ruler, felt delighted, lovingly looking at his court.

तत्स्थितं छिन्नशिरसं दृष्ट्वा राहुं स दैत्यराट्।
पप्रच्छ भार्गवं शीघ्रमिदं सागरनन्दनः॥ ६॥

Then Jalandhara enquired about the headless Rāhu from Bhārgava (Śukrācārya).

जलन्धर उवाच

केनेदं विहितं राहोः शिवश्छेदनकं प्रभो!।
तद् ब्रूहि निखिलं वृत्तं यथावत्तन्वतो गुरो!॥ ७॥

Jalandhara said, “O Lord, O Preceptor, who severed the head of Rāhu? What was the reason for the same? You please tell me correctly.”

सनत्कुमार उवाच

इत्याकर्ण्य वचस्तस्य सिन्धुपुत्रस्य भार्गवः।
स्मृत्वा शिवपदाभोजं प्रत्युवाच यथार्थवत्॥ ८॥

Sanatkumāra said, Thus listening to the words of Jalandhara, the son of the ocean, devoting his mind at the lotus like feet of Śiva, narrated the correct episode.”

शुक्र उवाच

जलन्धर! महावीर! सर्वासुरसहायक!
शृणु वृत्तान्तमखिलं यथावत्कथयामि ते॥ ९॥

Śukra said, “O Valorous Jalandhara, benevolent to all the demons, you listen, I

shall narrate, the entire story to you.

पुराऽभवद्बलिर्वीरो विरोचनसुतो बली।
हिरण्यकशिपोश्चैव प्रपौत्रो धर्मवित्तम!॥ १०॥

In ancient times, the great grand son of Hiranyakaśipu and son of Virocana was the king Bali, who was quite powerful and religious minded.

पराजिताः सुरास्तेन रमेशं शरणं ययुः।
सवासवाः स्ववृत्तान्तमाचख्युः स्वार्थसाधकाः॥ ११॥
तदाज्ञयाऽसुरैः सार्द्धं चक्रुः सन्धिमथो सुराः।
स्वकार्यसिद्धये तात! छलकर्मविचक्षणाः॥ १२॥

After he defeated all the gods, then he accompanied with selfish Indra, went to take refuge with lord Viṣṇu and spoke to him. At his command, the gods who were past master in deceitful ways, entered into a compromise with the demons, making an alliance.

अथामृतार्थं सिन्धोश्च मन्थनं चक्रुरादरात्।
विष्णोः सहायिनस्ते हि सुराः सर्वेऽसुरैः सह॥ १३॥

For the achieving of the nectar, the gods dominated by Viṣṇu, were engaged for the churning of the ocean.

ततो रत्नोपहरणमकार्षुर्दैत्यशत्रवः।
जगृहुर्यत्नतो देवाः पपुरप्यमृतं छलात्॥ १४॥

Then the gods, who are inimical to demons, stole away the pearls extracted from the ocean besides consuming the entire nectar themselves, deceitfully.

ततः पराभवं चक्रुरसुराणां सहायतः।
विष्णोः सुराः सशक्रास्तेऽमृतपानाद्बलान्विताः॥ १५॥

Then Indra and other gods became powerful and they with the help of lord Viṣṇu defeated the gods.

शिरश्छेदं चकारासौ पिबतश्चामृतं हरिः।
राहोर्देवसभायां वै पक्षपाती हरेः सदा॥ १६॥

Then Viṣṇu, who favoured Indra, cut off the head of Rāhu, while he was consuming the

nectar.”

सनत्कुमार उवाच

एवं कविस्तस्य शिरश्छेदं राहोः शशंस च।
अमृतार्थं समुद्रस्य मन्थनं देवकारितम्॥ १७॥

Sanatkumāra said, “In this way Śukra narrated the story of the severing of the head of Rāhu as well as that of the churning of the ocean.

रत्नोपहरणं चैव दैत्यानां च पराभवम्।
देवैरमृतपानं च कृतं सर्वं च विस्तरात्॥ १८॥
तदाकर्ण्य महावीरोऽम्बुधिबालः प्रतापवान्।
चुक्रोध क्रोधरक्ताक्षः स्वपितुर्मन्थनं तदा॥ १९॥

Listening to the story in detail of the theft of the gems, the defeat of the Daityas, and consuming of the nectar by the gods, the valorous Jalandhara- the son of the ocean, in addition to the churning of the ocean- his father, Jalandhara was immensely enraged.

अथ दूतं समाहूय घस्मराभिधमुत्तमम्।
सर्वं शशंस चरितं यदाह गुरुरात्मवान्॥ २०॥

Then he summoned his messenger named Ghasmara, repeated to him the story that was narrated to him by Śukra.

अथ तं प्रेषयामास स्वदूतं शक्रसन्निधौ।
सम्मान्य बहुशः प्रीत्याऽभयं दत्त्वा विशारदम्॥ २१॥

Then he lovingly honoured the messenger, assured him of all protection, and sent him to Indra as his messenger.

दूतस्त्रिविष्टपं तस्य जगामारमलं सुधीः।
घस्मरोऽम्बुधिबालस्य सर्वदेवसमन्वितम्॥ २२॥

Ghasmara- the intelligent messenger of Jalandhara, then rushed to the heaven, where all the gods were lodged.

तत्र गत्वा स दूतस्तु सुधर्मा प्राप्य सत्वरम्।
गर्वादखर्वमौलिर्हि देवेन्द्रं वाक्यमब्रवीत्॥ २३॥

Reaching there he entered the assembly of

the gods. Keeping his head straight as a token of haughtiness, he spoke to lord Indra.

घस्मर उवाच

जलन्धरोऽब्धितनयः सर्वदैत्यजनेश्वरः।
सुप्रतापी महावीरः स्वयं कविसहायवान्॥ २४॥

Ghasmara said, “Jalandhara, the son of the ocean, is the lord as well as the emperor of the demons. He is exceedingly strong and valorous. He is supported and helped by Bhārgava (Śukra).

दूतोऽहं तस्य वीरस्य घस्मराख्यो न घस्मरः।
प्रेषितस्तेन वीरेण त्वत्सकाशमिहागतः॥ २५॥

I happen to be his messenger named Ghasmara, but I am not a devourer. I have arrived before you having been sent by him.

अव्याहताज्ञः सर्वत्र जलन्धर उदग्रधीः।
निर्जिताखिलदैत्यारिः स यदाह शृणुष्व तत्॥ २६॥

No one can disobey the command of the immensely learned Jalandhara. He has conquered all the enemies of the Daityas. Listen to his command.

जलन्धर उवाच

कस्मात्त्वया मम पिता मथितः सागरोऽद्रिणा।
नीतानि सर्वरत्नानि पितुर्मे देवताधमः॥ २७॥

Jalandhara has said, “O Degraded gods, you had churned my father with a mountain and stole away the gems of my father.

उचितं न कृतं तेऽद्य तानि शीघ्रं प्रयच्छ मे।
ममायाहि विचार्येत्यं शरणं देवतैः सह॥ २८॥

You have not done well by this. You better return the gems to me. Take my refuge with all the gods.

अन्यथा ते भयं भूरि भविष्यति सुराधमः।
राज्यविध्वंसनं चैव सत्यमेतद्ब्रवीम्यहम्॥ २९॥

Otherwise O Wicked god, you will have to suffer a lot. I shall destroy your kingdom, I am

speaking to you truthfully.”

सनत्कुमार उवाच

इति दूतवचः श्रुत्वा विस्मितस्त्रिदशाधिपः।

उवाच तं स्मरन्निन्द्रो भयरोषसमन्वितः॥ ३०॥

Thus listening to the words of the messenger, Indra felt surprised. Remembering him with awe and anger, Indra said.

अद्रयो मद्भयात्प्रस्ताः स्वकुक्षिस्थायतः कृताः।

अन्येऽपि मद्द्विषस्तेन रक्षिता दितिजाः पुरा॥ ३१॥

“The ocean had concealed the mountains frightened from me in its waters and he saved my enemies.

तस्मात्तद्रत्नजातं तु मया सर्वं हृतं किला।

न तिष्ठति मम द्रोही सुखं सत्यं ब्रवीम्यहम्॥ ३२॥

Therefore I usurped all his gems. The one who is inimical to me, can never remain peaceful. I am speaking to you truthfully.

शङ्खोऽप्येवं पुरा दैत्यो मां द्विषन्सागरात्मजः।

अभवन्मूढचित्तस्तु साधुसङ्गात्समुज्झितः॥ ३३॥

Śaṁkha, the son of the ocean, became inimical to me earlier. Because of his foolishness, he was deprived of the company of the noble people.

ममानुजेन हरिणा निहतः स हि पापधीः।

हिंसकः साधुसङ्घस्य पापिष्ठः सागरोदरे॥ ३४॥

Viṣṇu my younger brother killed that sinful person, because he was the killer of the sages and lived in the oceanic waters.

तद्गच्छ दूत शीघ्रं त्वं कथयस्वास्य तत्त्वतः।

अब्धिपुत्रस्य सर्वं हि सिन्धोर्मन्थनकारणम्॥ ३५॥

O Messenger, you return at once, and reveal to the son of the ocean the real cause of the churning of the ocean.

सनत्कुमार उवाच

इत्थं विसर्जितो दूतो घस्मराख्यः सुबुद्धिमान्।

तदेन्द्रेणागमन्तूर्णं यत्र वीरो जलन्धरः॥ ३६॥

Sanatkumāra said, “Thus the intelligent messenger Ghasmara was so returned by Indra, he went back to Jalandhara.

तदिदं वचनं दैत्यराजो हि तेन धीमता।

कथितो निखिलं शक्रप्रोक्तं दूतेन वै तदा॥ ३७॥

The intelligent messenger, repeated before Jalandhara, all whatever had been spoken to him by Indra.

तन्निशम्य ततो दैत्यो रोषात्प्रस्फुरिताधरः।

उद्योगमकरोत्तूर्णं सर्वदेवजिगीषया॥ ३८॥

On hearing this the lips of the demon king started fluttering and he started making efforts for defeating the gods.

तदोद्योगेऽसुरेन्द्रस्य दिग्भ्यः पातालतस्तथा।

दितिजाः प्रत्यपद्यन्ते कोटिशः कोटिशस्तथा॥ ३९॥

With the efforts of the demon king, crores of Daityas arrived from all the directions as well as the nether world.

अथ शुम्भनिशुम्भाद्यैर्बलाधिपतिकोटिभिः।

निर्जगाम महावीरः सिन्धुपुत्रः प्रतापवान्॥ ४०॥

Then the valorous and glorious Jalandhara, the son of the ocean, accompanied by crores of demon commanders, including Śumbha and Niśumbha, marched on for the waging of war.

प्राप त्रिविष्टपं सद्यः सर्वसैन्यसमावृतः।

दध्मौ शङ्खं जलधिजो नेदुर्वीराश्च सर्वतः॥ ४१॥

He soon arrived at Indraloka with his army, where he blew the conch, and all the warriors started thundering thereafter.

गत्वा त्रिविष्टपं दैत्यो नन्दनाधिष्ठितोऽभवत्।

सर्वसैन्यं समावृत्य कुर्वाणः सिंहवद्रवम्॥ ४२॥

The demon king thundering with all the warriors, camped in the Nandanavana.

पुरमावृत्य तिष्ठत्तद्दृष्ट्वा सैन्यबलं महत्।

निर्ययुस्त्वमरावत्या देवा युद्धाय दंशिताः॥ ४३॥

The gods finding that the city had been

surrounded by the demon army, marched on for waging the war, wearing the *kavacas*.

ततः समभवद्युद्धं देवदानवसेनयोः।

मुसलैः परिघैर्बाणैर्गदापरशुशक्तिभिः॥४४॥

Thereafter the armies of the gods and the demons, started fighting with *mūsalas*, *parighas*, arrows, clubs, battle axes, *śaktis* and other weapons.

तेऽन्योन्यं समधावेतां जघ्नतुश्च परस्परम्।

क्षणेनाभवतां सेने रुधिरौघपरिप्लुते॥४५॥

They started running for killing one another. In a short time both the armies started moving through the streams of blood.

पतितैः पात्यमानैश्च गजाश्वरथपत्तिभिः।

व्यराजत रणे भूमिः सन्ध्याभ्रपटलैरिव॥४६॥

The elephants, horses, chariots, foot soldiers, which were killed or destroyed, decorated the battle-field as the red clouds appear in the evening.

तत्र युद्धे मृतान्दैत्याम्भार्गवस्तानजीवयत्।

विद्ययाऽमृतजीविन्या मन्त्रितैस्तोयबिन्दुभिः॥४७॥

The demons killed in the battle were brought back to life by Bhārgava with the sprinkling of the water sanctified with the *Saṅjivini* lore.

देवानपि तथा युद्धे तत्राजीवयदङ्गिराः।

दिव्यौषधैः समानीय द्रोणाद्रेः स पुनः पुनः॥४८॥

The sage Aṅgira also, getting the divine medicine from the Droṇa mountain, brought back the gods to life.

दृष्टवान्स तथा युद्धे पुनरेव समुत्थितान्।

जलन्धरः क्रोधवशो भार्गवं वाक्यमब्रवीत्॥४९॥

Finding that the gods had also been brought back to life, Jalandhara, getting agitated said to Śukra.

जलन्धर उवाच

मया देवा हता युद्धे उत्तिष्ठन्ति कथं पुनः।

ततः सञ्जीवनी विद्या नैवान्यत्रेति वै श्रुता॥५०॥

Jalandhara said, "How could the gods, who have been killed by me, brought back to life? I have heard that no one else except you is aware of the secret of the *Saṅjivini* lore."

सनत्कुमार उवाच

इत्याकर्ण्य वचस्तस्य सिन्धुपुत्रस्य भार्गवः।

प्रत्युवाच प्रसन्नात्मा गुरुः शुक्रो जलन्धरम्॥५१॥

Sanatkumāra said, "Listening to the words of the son of Śukra- the preceptor of the Daityas, delightfully spoke to Jalandhara.

शुक्र उवाच

दिव्यौषधीः समानीय द्रोणाद्रेरङ्गिराः सुरान्।

जीवयत्येष वै तात! सत्यं जानीहि मे वचः॥५२॥

Śukra said, "O Dear one, the sage Aṅgira, is bringing back the demons to life by fetching the divine medicine from the Droṇa mountain. This is true.

जयमिच्छसि चेत्तात! शृणु मे वचनं शुभम्।

ततः सोऽरं भुजाभ्यां त्वं द्रोणमब्धावुपाहर॥५३॥

O Dear one, in case you are desirous of being victorious, then lift up the Droṇa mountain and drown it in the ocean."

सनत्कुमार उवाच

इत्युक्तः स तु दैत्येन्द्रो गुरुणा भार्गवेण ह।

दुतं जगाम यत्रासावास्ते चैवाद्रिराद् च सः॥५४॥

Sanatkumāra said, "Listening to the words of the preceptor Śukra, the Daitya king went to the Droṇa mountain.

भुजाभ्यां तरसा दैत्यो नीत्वा द्रोणं च तं तदा।

प्राक्षिपत्सागरे तूर्णं चित्रं न हरतेजसि॥५५॥

He lifted up the Droṇa mountain with both his arms and consigned it in the oceanic waters. It was no surprise for the lustre of Śiva.

पुनरायान्महावीरः सिन्धुपुत्रो महाहवम्।

जघानास्त्रैश्च विविधैः सुरान्कृत्वा बलं महत्॥५६॥