

## Chapter-19

### Description of the dynasty of Ṛṣis

सूत उवाच

एतानुत्पाद्य पुत्रांस्तु प्रजासन्तानकारणात्।

कश्यपः पुत्रकामस्तु चचार सुमहत्तपः॥ १॥

Sūta said, “With the desire of begetting more sons, for the increase in worldly population, Kaśyapa performed great *tapas* for the continuity of progeny.

तस्यैवन्तपतोऽत्यर्थं प्रादुर्भूतौ सुताविमौ।

वत्सराश्चासितश्चैव तावुभौ ब्रह्मवादिनौ॥ २॥

As a result of his performing so severe penances, he produced two sons named Vatsara and Asita. Both of them were well-versed in Brahman.

वत्सरात्रैश्रुवो जज्ञे रैभ्यश्च सुमहायशाः।

रैभ्यस्य जज्ञिरे शूद्राः पुत्राः श्रुतिमतां वराः॥ ३॥

Vatsara had a son named Naidhruva and Raibhya who were immensely glorious. Raibhya produced the sons known as. Śūdras

who were the most excellent among the learned ones.

च्यवनस्य सुता भार्या नैध्रुवस्य महात्मनः।

सुमेधा जनयामास पुत्रान्वै कुण्डपायिनः॥४॥

Mahātmā Naidhruva's wife was Sumedhā, the daughter of the sage Cyavana, who gave birth to the sons known as Kuṇḍapāyins.

असितस्यैकपर्णायां ब्रह्मिष्ठः समपद्यत।

नाम्ना वै देवलः पुत्रो योगाचार्यो महातपाः॥५॥

Asita produced a son who was well-versed in the Vedas, from his wife Ekaparnā. He was known as Devala, who was a great preceptor of Yoga as well as performed great penance.

शाण्डिल्यः परमः श्रीमान् सर्वतत्त्वार्थविच्छुचिः।

प्रसादात्पार्वतीशस्य योगमुत्तममाप्तवान्॥६॥

The second son was known as Śaṇḍilya, who possessed enormous fortunes and was knower of the true principles. He, by the grace of Pārvatī, achieved the best of the yogic *Siddhis*.

शाण्डिल्यो नैध्रुवो रैभ्यः त्रयः पुत्रस्तु काश्यपाः।

नवप्रकृतयो विप्राः पुलस्त्यस्य वदामि वः॥७॥

Śaṇḍilya, Naidhruva and Raibhya, having human temperament, belonged to the race of Kaśyapa. O Brāhmaṇas, now I shall speak about the children of Pulastya.

तृणबिन्दोः सुता विप्रा नाम्ना ऐलविलाः स्मृताः।

पुलस्त्याय तु राजर्षिस्तां कन्यां प्रत्यपादयत्॥८॥

O Brāhmaṇas, Ailavilā was the daughter of the sage Tṛṇabindu, who was given over by the royal sage in marriage to the sage Pulastya.

ऋषिस्त्वैलविलस्तस्यां विश्रवाः समपद्यत।

तस्य पत्न्यश्चतस्रस्तु पौलस्त्यकुलवर्द्धिकाः॥९॥

पुष्पोत्कटा च वाका च कैकसी देववर्णिनी।

रूपलावण्यसम्पन्नास्तासांश्च शृणुत प्रजाः॥१०॥

From Ailavilā, the sage known as Viśravas was born. He had four wives, who flourished the race of Pulastya. They were known by the names of Puṣpotkaṭa, Vākā, Kaikasī and Devavarṇinī, all of them possessed excellent beauty. You listen to their progeny.

ज्येष्ठं वैश्रवणं तस्य सुषुवे देववर्णिनी।

कैकस्यजनयत्पुत्रं रावणं राक्षसाधिपम्॥११॥

कुम्भकर्णं शूर्पणखान्तथैव च विभीषणम्।

पुष्पोत्कटाप्यजनयत्पुत्रान्विश्रवसः शुभान्॥१२॥

महोदरं प्रहस्तञ्च महापार्श्वं खरन्तथा।

कुम्भीनसीन्तथा कन्यां वाकायां शृणुत प्रजाः॥१३॥

Devavarṇinī gave birth to the eldest of the sons known as Vaiśravaṇa. Kaikasī gave birth to Rāvaṇa, the lord of Rākṣasas. Thereafter, the son Kumbhakarna, Śūrpanakhā,<sup>1</sup> the daughter and Vibhīṣaṇa, another son were born to her. Puṣpotkaṭā on the other hand, gave birth to Mahodara, Prahasṭa, Mahāpārśva and Khara, the sons, besides a daughter named Kumbhīnasī. Now you listen about the children of Vākā.

त्रिशिरा दूषणश्चैव विद्युज्जिह्वो महाबलः।

इत्येते क्रूरकर्माणः पौलस्त्या राक्षसा दश।

सर्वे तपोबलोत्कृष्टा रुद्रभक्ताः सुभीषणाः॥१४॥

She gave birth to Triśiras, Dūṣaṇa and Vidyujjihva of great strength. All of them were performers of the cruel deeds and came to be known as the ten Paulastya demons. All of them were endowed with the power of penance and physical strength. They were quite awful, and were immensely devoted to Rudra.

पुलहस्य मृगाः पुत्राः सर्वे व्यालश्च दंष्ट्रिणः।

भूताः पिशाचा ऋक्षाश्च शूकरा हस्तिनस्तथा॥१५॥

Pulaha's sons were deer, all kind of serpents, fanged beasts, goblins, Piśācas, bears, boars and the elephants.

अनपत्यः क्रतुस्तस्मिन् स्मृतो वैवस्वतेऽन्तरे।

मरीचेः कश्यपः पुत्रः स्वयमेव प्रजापतिः॥१६॥

In the Vaivasvata Manvantara, Kratu was without progeny. Kaśyapa who himself was Prajāpati, was the son of Marīci.

भृगोरथाभवच्छक्रो दैत्याचार्यो महातपाः।

स्वाध्याययोगनिरतो हरभक्तो महाद्युतिः॥१७॥

From Bhṛgu, was born Śukra, who became the preceptor of the demons. He engaged himself always in *stutis* and the yogic practices.

1. She was the sister of Rāvaṇa, the king of Lankā and of Khara, the king of Janasthāna. These Rākṣasas were probably barbarian kings reigning in the Southern India whom Rāma killed and extended his conquests.

He was quite illustrious and was devoted to Śiva.

अत्रेः पुत्रोऽभवद्ब्रह्मिः सोदर्यस्तस्य नैष्ठुवः।

कृशाश्वस्य तु विप्रर्षेः घृताच्यामिति नः श्रुतम्॥ १८॥

Vahni was the son of Atri and Naidhruva was his uterine-brother. It is heard that some sons were born of Ghṛtācī from the Brāhmaṇa sage Kṛśāśva.

स तस्याञ्जनयामास स्वस्त्यात्रेयान्महौजसः।

वेदवेदाङ्गनिरतान्तपसा हतकिल्बिषान्॥ १९॥

The sons known as Svastyātreyas were included in them. All of them were fully devoted to the study of the Vedas and the post Vedic literature and destroyed their sins by performing *tapas*.

नारदस्तु वसिष्ठाय ददौ देवीमरुन्धतीम्।

ऊर्ध्वरितास्तु तत्रैव शापादक्षस्य नारदः॥ २०॥

Nārada had given over Arundhatī to Vasiṣṭha but at the same time, because of the curse of Dakṣa, he himself become a *Brahmacārī*.

हर्हश्चेषु तु नष्टेषु मायया नारदस्य तु।

शशाप नारदं दक्षः क्रोधसंरक्तलोचनः॥ २१॥

यस्मान्मम सुताः सर्वे भवता मायया द्विज।

क्षयन्नीतास्त्वशेषेण निरपत्यो भविष्यसि॥ २२॥

This was due to the fact that when Haryaśvas (the sons of Dakṣa) were lost due to the *Māyā* of Nārada, Dakṣa Prajāpati, with eyes red shot with anger, pronounced a curse on Nārada- "Since you have destroyed all my sons with your illusion, therefore you will never have any sons."

अरुन्धत्यां वसिष्ठस्तु शक्तिमुत्पादयत्सुतम्।

शक्तेः पराशरः श्रीमान् सर्वज्ञस्तपतो वरः॥ २३॥

Vasiṣṭha on the other hand, produced a son named Śakti, from his wife Arundhatī. Parāśara, the best of the ascetics, who was omniscient was born as a son to Śakti.

आराध्य देवदेवेशमीशानं त्रिपुरान्तकम्।

लेभे त्वप्रतिमं पुत्रं कृष्णद्वैपायनं प्रभुम्॥ २४॥

Parāśara, the great sage, adored the slayer of Tripuras, the Lord of the chief of Devas, Śiva and produced a great sage son named Lord

Kṛṣṇadvaipāyana.

द्वैपायनाच्छुको जज्ञे भगवानेव शंकरः।

अंशांशेनावतीर्योर्व्यां स्वं प्राप परमं पदम्॥ २५॥

Śuka was born of Dvaipāyana, who resembled lord Śiva himself. He was born out of the aṁśa of lord Śiva and then he attained his own great region.

शुकस्यास्याभवन् पुत्राः पञ्चात्यन्ततपस्विनः।

भूरिप्रवाः प्रभुः शम्भुः कृष्णो गौरश्च पञ्चमः॥ २६॥

कन्या कीर्तिमती चैव योगमाता धृतव्रता।

एतेऽत्रिवंशाः कथिता ब्रह्मणा ब्रह्मवादिनाम्॥ २७॥

अत ऊर्ध्वं निबोधध्वं कश्यपाद्राजसन्ततिम्॥ २८॥

Śukadeva, on the other hand, was immensely illustrious and produced five ascetic sons who came to be known by the names of Bhūriśravas, Prabhu, Śambhu, Kṛṣṇa and Gaura, besides three daughters known by the names of Kīrtimatī, Yogamātā and Dhṛtavratā. These persons of the family of Atri, the expounders of Brahman, have been narrated by Brahmā. Now you listen about the royal progeny from Kaśyapa.

इति श्रीकूर्मपुराणे पूर्वभागे ऋषिवंशवर्णनं नाम

एकोनविंशोऽध्यायः॥ १९॥