SRIMAD BHAGAVATAM

CHAPTER 13, VOLUME 4

THE BEGINNING OF THE UNVEILING OF THE DEEDS OF PRTHU - ANGA LEAVING HIS HOME

<u>PREFACE</u>

The previous chapter No.12 concludes with the description about the attainment of the position of Shri Maha Vishnu by Dhruva, apart from dealing with the details of Dhruva's achievements and his history through the previous chapters.

In the concluding portion of this chapter No.12, there was a reference by Saint Narada to the Pracetas singing the glory of Dhruva in an assembly. In order to know who these Pracetas were, Vidura continues with his queries to Maitreya Maharshi and the discussion goes forward with the description of the subsequent dynastical order of Dhruva. Before dealing with the subject about Pracetas, it was important to know about King Prthu as one of the descendants in Dhruva dynasty and about his greatness and glories.

Thus this chapter essentially deals with the descendants of Dhruva before the coming up of Prthu in that dynasty. Before touching upon the descriptions about Prthu, naturally the history of his ancestors like Vena and Anga are being explained. How Vena was born, his misdeeds, and the mental torture of his father Anga are the matters of explanation in this chapter. The circumstances by which Anga had to leave the kingdom unnoticed by anyone on a midnight are vividly explained in detail.

sūta uvāca

niśamya kauṣāraviṇopavarṇitaṁ dhruvasya vaikuṇṭha-padādhirohaṇam prarūḍha-bhāvo bhagavaty adhokṣaje praṣṭuṁ punas taṁ viduraḥ pracakrame

(sūta uvāca) Sutha said to Sanaka saints :

(viduraḥ) Vidura, (prarūḍha-bhāvaḥ) who is unassailably
devoted (adhokṣaje) to Shri Krishna, (bhagavati) the Supreme Bhagavan, (niśamya) upon listening (kauṣāraviņā) from Maitreya Maharshi (upavarņitam) the detailed descriptions (vaikuṇṭha-padādhirohaṇam) about the attainment of the position of Shri Maha Vishnu (dhruvasya) by Dhruva,
(pracakrame) started (punaḥ praṣṭum̀) putting questions again (tam̀) to Maitreya Maharshi.

Stanza 2

vidura uvāca ke te pracetaso nāma kasyāpatyāni suvrata kasyānvavāye prakhyātāḥ kutra vā satram āsata

(vidura uvāca) Vidura said to Maitreya Maharshi:

(suvrata) Hey the most pious personality ! (ke) Who were the persons (nāma te) with the name known as (pracetasaħ) the Pracetas? (kasya) Whose (apatyāni) sons were they?

(kasya) In whose (anvavāye) dynasty (prakhyātāḥ) they earned so much fame ? (kutra vā) In which place (satram āsata) they assembled to conduct the great sacrificial function?

<u>Note</u> : In the previous chapter, there was a reference to Saint Narada presenting the great achievements of Dhruva in an assembly (Stanzas 41, 42, and 43 of Chapter 12). This reference is to the assembly conducted by Pracetas. Vidura, remembering those portions of the discourse of Maitreya Maharshi, became very much curious to listen to various other glories of Shri Hari which Saint Narada might have explained there. He now goes on to explain the greatness of Saint Narada.

Stanza 3

manye mahā-bhāgavatam nāradam deva-darśanam yena proktaḥ kriyā-yogaḥ paricaryā-vidhir hareḥ

(manye) I consider (nāradam) that Narada Saint, (yena) who (proktaḥ) had created (paricaryā-vidhiḥ) the prescribed methods of worship (hareḥ) of Shri Hari (kriyā-yogaḥ) in the form of his supreme work (known as Narada Pancharatra) (mahā-bhāgavatam) as the greatest devotee (deva-darśanam) has aptly acquired the intuitive perception fully about that Supreme Controller, Shri hari.

<u>Note</u>: Narada Pancaratra is a revered collection of work written by Shri Veda Vyasa. It contains the essentials on devotional service and worship to Shri Hari. The overall nature of the scripture is presented as conversation between Lord Siva and Narada Saint. The scripture is divided into five Ratras, or branches of transcendental knowledge. The five branches are knowledge of the Absolute Truth, knowledge of liberation, knowledge of devotional service, knowledge of mystic yoga, and knowledge in the mode of ignorance. Each ratra is filled with songs, prayers, and kavacas, or prayers.

Stanza 4

sva-dharma-śīlaiḥ puruṣair bhagavān yajña-pūruṣaḥ ijyamāno bhaktimatā nāradeneritaḥ kila

(nāradena) Saint Narada, (bhaktimatā) who himself is the personification of devotion to Shri Hari, (īritaḥ kila) had described (bhagavān) about Vishnu Bhagavan, (yajña-pūruṣaḥ) the Yajna Murti, (ijyamānaḥ) being worshipped (puruṣaiḥ) by those persons (the Pracetas) (sva-dharma-śīlaiḥ) who were known for the conduct of their prescribed righteous duties in the most appropriate manner.

Stanza 5

yās tā devarsiņā tatra varņitā bhagavat-kathāḥ mahyaṁ śuśrūṣave brahman kārtsnyenācasṭum arhasi

(brahman) Hey the knowledgeable one ! (śuśrūṣave) I am very eager to know from you (yāḥ) whatever (bhagavat-kathāḥ) stories (bhagavat-kathāḥ) relating to Shri Bhagavan (varņitāḥ) that were discussed (devarṣiņā) by Saint Narada (tatra) at that place (arhasi) and hence I request you to kindly (ācaṣṭum) tell (mahyaṁ) me (tāḥ) all of them (kārtsnyena) in detail. <u>Note</u> : In order to establish the fact that the Pracetas were born in the dynasty of Dhruva, the details of the descendants of Dhruva are being described.

Stanza 6

maitreya uvāca dhruvasya cotkalaḥ putraḥ pitari prasthite vanam sārvabhauma-śriyaṁ naicchad adhirājāsanaṁ pituḥ

(maitreya uvāca) Maitreya Maharshi said to Vidura :

(utkalaḥ) Utkala, (putraḥ) the son (dhruvasya) of Dhruva,
(prasthite ca) after the departure of (pitari) his father (vanam) to the forests, (na aicchad) not only did not desire to enjoy
(sārvabhauma-śriyam) the wealthy kingdom (pituḥ) of his father
(adhirājāsanam) but also did not desire to inherit the position of the king.

<u>Note</u> : Through the following four stanzas the reasons for his not having any desire to enjoy the kingdom as well as the knighthood are being explained.

Stanza 7

sa janmanopaśāntātmā niḥsaṅgaḥ sama-darśanaḥ dadarśa loke vitatam ātmānaṁ lokam ātmani

(upaśāntātmā) Utkala was a well composed personality

(niḥsaṅgaḥ) and did not have any desire for the material prosperities (janmanā) right from the stage of his birth.
(saḥ) As he was (sama-darśanaḥ) equanimous in his thinking (dadarśa) he always had the vision (ātmānaṁ) of that Supreme Conscious Being as a single entity in complete unison.

(vitatam) Who/Which is spread out everywhere (loke) in the outside world (vitatam) and also, in the same equal manner, (lokam) the entire outside universe foisted (ātmani) on that Supreme Conscious Being because of the multitudinal powers of illusion.

Stanza 8

ātmānaṁ brahma-nirvāṇaṁ pratyastamita-vigraham avabodha-rasaikātmyam ānandam anusantatam

Stanza 9

avyavacchinna-yogāgnidagdha-karma-malāśayaḥ svarūpam avarundhāno nātmano 'nyaṁ tadaikṣata

Utkala,

(avarundhānaḥ) who experienced his own inner conscience
(ātmānam) and his own self (svarūpam) as the very form of that Supreme Brahman
(brahma) as the self effulgent force appearing everywhere in very many forms,
(anusantatam) Which/Who has manifested/positioned in a manner that is without any cessation,
(ānandam) is the very Supreme bliss,

(avabodha-rasaikātmyam) is the form of the ultimate pure consciousness knowledge,
(pratyastamita-vigraham) does not have any distinction or differentialities of any kind,
(nirvāṇaṁ) and is the very source of deliverance from all material attachments,
(avyavacchinna-yogāgni-dagdha-karma-malāśayaḥ) turned himself as the person who had extinguished all his desires of dirts of deeds and actions
burning all of them into the fire of constant yogic experience of the supreme realization about the ultimate truth,
(tadā) and when such a development took place within him, (na aikṣata) he did not see (anyaṁ) anything other than
(ātmanaḥ) himself in each and everything and everywhere.

Stanza 10

jadāndha-badhironmattamūkākṛtir atan-matiḥ lakṣitaḥ pathi bālānāṁ praśāntārcir ivānalaḥ

(jadāndha-badhironmatta-mūkākṛtiḥ) Utkala was just appearing himself like that a foolish person, or blind person, or a deaf person or a mad person, or a dumb person, (atan-matiḥ) while at the same time keeping his intellect much above that of these described persons. (lakṣitaḥ) He could be seen (in these forms) (pathi) in the streets (bālānām) among the children (analaḥ iva) just like the fire (praśāntārciḥ) which has extinguished its flames.

Stanza 11

matvā taṁ jaḍam unmattaṁ kula-vṛddhāḥ samantriṇaḥ vatsaram bhūpatim cakrur yavīyāmsam bhrameh sutam

(kula-vṛddhāḥ) The senior members of the families in the kingdom, (samantriṇaḥ) in concurrence with the ministers,
(bhūpatim cakruḥ) throned (bhrameḥ) Brami's (Dhruva's wife)
(yavīyāmsam) younger (sutam) son, (vatsaram) Vatsara, as the king, assuming (tam) that Utkala (jaḍam) was foolish (unmattam) and a mad person.

Stanza 12

svarvīthir vatsarasyestā bhāryāsūta sad-ātmajān puspārņaṁ tigmaketuṁ ca isam ūrjaṁ vasuṁ jayam

(svarvīthiḥ) The woman known as Svarvithi, (iṣṭā bhāryā) the dearest wife (vatsarasya) of Vatsara, (asūta) gave birth (ṣaḍ-ātmajān) to six sons namely (puṣpārṇam) Pushparna, (tigmaketum) Tig Maketu, (iṣam) Isha, (ūrjam) Urja, (vasum) Vasu, (jayam ca) and Jaya.

Stanza 13

puṣpārṇasya prabhā bhāryā doṣā ca dve babhūvatuḥ prātar madhyandinaṁ sāyam iti hy āsan prabhā-sutāḥ

(puṣpārṇasya) Pushparna (babhūvatuḥ) had (dve) two (bhāryā)
wives (prabhā) with the names Prabha (doṣā ca) and Dosha.
(āsan) Prabha had (prabhā-sutāḥ) three sons (iti hi) in the
form of the three parts of the day (prātaḥ) with the names

Prātaḥ (the dawn), (madhyandinam) Madhyandina (the midday) (sāyam) and Sāyam (the dusk).

Stanza 14

pradoșo niśitho vyușța iti doșā-sutās trayaḥ vyușțaḥ sutaṁ pușkariṇyāṁ sarvatejasam ādadhe

(doṣā-sutāḥ) Dosha's sons (trayaḥ) were three, (iti) namely (pradoṣaḥ) Pradosha, (niśithaḥ) Nishita, (vyuṣṭaḥ) and Vyushta. (vyuṣṭaḥ) Vyushta (ādadhe) begot (puṣkariṇyām) through Pushkarni (sutam) a son (sarvatejasam) with the name Sarva Tejas.

Stanza 15

sa cakṣuḥ sutam ākūtyāṁ patnyāṁ manum avāpa ha manor asūta mahiṣī virajān naḍvalā sutān

Stanza 16

purum kutsam tritam dyumnam satyavantam rtam vratam agnistomam atīrātram pradyumnam śibim ulmukam

(saḥ) Sarvatejas (avāpa ha) begot (patnyām) through his wife
(ākūtyām) Akuthi (sutam) a son (cakṣuḥ) known as Chakshuh.
(manum) This Chakshuh became a Manu later. (manoḥ) His
(mahiṣī) queen (naḍvalā) Nadvala gave birth to (sutān) twelve
sons (virajān) who were very noble. Their names are: Puru,

Kutsa, Dyumna, Satyavan, Rthan, Vratan, Agnishtoma, Ateeratra, Pradhyumna, Sibi, Ulmukh.

Stanza 17

ulmuko 'janayat putrān puṣkariṇyāṁ ṣaḍ uttamān aṅgaṁ sumanasaṁ khyātiṁ kratum aṅgirasaṁ gayam

 (ulmukaḥ) Ulmukh (ajanayat) begot (puṣkariṇyām) through his wife Pushkarini (ṣaḍ putrān) six sons (uttamān) who became very great in their own ways. Their names are: Anga, Sumanas, Khyati, Kratu, Angiras, and Gaya.

Stanza 18

sunīthāṅgasya yā patnī suṣuve venam ulbaṇam yad-dauḥśīlyāt sa rājarṣir nirviṇṇo niragāt purāt

(sunīthā yā) Suneeta, (patnī) the wife (aṅgasya) of Anga,
(suṣuve) gave birth to (ulbaṇam) the cruelest person (venam)
known as Vena. (yad-dauḥśīlyāt) Unable to bear the atrocities of
Vena, (saḥ rājarṣiḥ) the king Anga, who was equivalent to the
most pious saints, (purāt) had to leave his palace (niragāt) and
go away (nirviṇṇaḥ) totally disenchanted.

Stanza 19

yam aṅga śepuḥ kupitā vāg-vajrā munayaḥ kila gatāsos tasya bhūyas te mamanthur daksiṇaṁ karam

(anga) Hey Vidura! (munayaḥ) The saints (kupitāḥ) who became immensely angry (yam) with this Vena, (śepuḥ kila) because of his atrocities, cursed him (vāg-vajrāḥ) with the sharpest thunderbolt weapon of their words. (tasya) As Vena (gatāsoḥ) lost his life thus, (te) the saints (mamanthuḥ) churned (dakṣiṇam̀) his right (karam) hand (bhūyaḥ) once again. (The reasons for this are explained through the following stanzas).

Stanza 20

arājake tadā loke dasyubhiḥ pīḍitāḥ prajāḥ jāto nārāyaṇāṁśena pṛthur ādyaḥ kṣitīśvaraḥ

(loke) When the world (arājake) became devoid of a ruler in the form of a King, (prajāḥ) the people (pīḍitāḥ) were suffering torture because of the cruel deeds (dasyubhiḥ) of the dacoits. (tadā) At that particular time, (ādyaḥ) the very first (kṣitīśvaraḥ) emperor (pṛthuḥ) known as Prthu (jātaḥ) was born

(nārāyaņāmśena) as the potency of Shri Mahavishnu.

<u>Note</u>: The reference to the very first emperor is to the fact that this Prithu was the one who was the first to reestablish order in the society and ensure happiness and prosperity in the world.

vidura uvāca tasya śīla-nidheḥ sādhor brahmaṇyasya mahātmanaḥ rājñaḥ katham abhūd duṣṭā prajā yad vimanā yayau

(vidura uvāca) Vidura said to Maitreya Maharshi: (katham) How come that (śīla-nidheḥ) the most pious (tasya) king Anga, (sādhoḥ) who was always indulging himself in good deeds,

(brahmaņyasya) was devoted to the Brahmins (mahātmanaḥ) and was very broad minded, (abhūt) bigot (duṣṭā prajā) the most contemptuous son like Vena, (yat) because of which the king Anga (yayau) had to leave the palace (vimanāḥ) totally distressed?

Stanza 22

kim vāmho vena uddišya brahma-daņḍam ayūyujan daṇḍa-vrata-dhare rājñi munayo dharma-kovidāḥ

(kim vā) Why and (uddiśya) aiming at what basis (amhah) of crime (munayah) those saints, (dharma-kovidāh) who knew very well the principles of righteousness, (ayūyujan) foisted upon (rājñi) the king (vene) Vena (brahma-danḍām) such a severe punishment through their curse, (danḍa-vrata-dhare) though the king was bound to rule the kingdom by controlling ruthlessly the deeds of the cruel persons?

<u>Note</u>: Vidura is presenting to Maitreya Maharshi his doubts whether the curse of the saints can be interpreted as a non righteous act?

nāvadhyeyaḥ prajā-pālaḥ prajābhir aghavān api yad asau loka-pālānāṁ bibharty ojaḥ sva-tejasā

Vidura continues: (api) Even if (prajā-pālaḥ) the king (aghavān) does some mistake, (na avadhyeyaḥ) he should not be condemned (prajābhiḥ) by the people of the kingdom. (yat) That is because (asau) this king (bibharti) is holding upon himself (sva-tejasā) by his own self embellishment (ojaḥ) the powers of (loka-pālānām) the divine beings of the directions.

Stanza 24

etad ākhyāhi me brahman sunīthātmaja-ceṣṭitam śraddadhānāya bhaktāya tvaṁ parāvara-vittamaḥ

(brahman) Hey the most knowledgeable saint! (ākhyāhi) Please explain in full and in detail (me) to me (ceṣṭitam) the history (etat) of this (sunīthātmaja) Suneetha's son Vena (bhaktāya) as I am a devotee of yours (śraddadhānāya) who is interested to listen to them attentively, (tvam) particularly when a person like you (parāvara-vittamaḥ) know about all these from within and beyond.

Stanza 25

maitreya uvāca aṅgo 'śvamedhaṁ rājarṣir ājahāra mahā-kratum

nājagmur devatās tasminn āhūtā brahma-vādibhiḥ

(maitreya uvāca) Maitreya Maharshi said to Vidura: (aṅgaḥ) Anga, (rājarṣiḥ) the saintly king, (ājahāra) conducted (mahā-kratum) a great Yajna (aśvamedhaṁ) known as Aswamedha. (tasmin) In that Yajna, (āhūtāḥ) though invited to participate (brahma-vādibhiḥ) by the Brahmin Vedic scholars, (devatāḥ) the divine beings (na ājagmuḥ) did not attend it.

Stanza 26

tam ūcur vismitās tatra yajamānam athartvijaḥ havīṁṣi hūyamānāni na te gṛḥṇanti devatāḥ

(atha) Thereafter, (rtvijaḥ) the conductors of the Yajna (vismitāḥ) were surprised (tatra) about the non participation of the divine beings in that Yajna. (ūcuḥ) They said to the king (tam) who is the (yajamānam) chief performer of the Yajna: (devatāḥ) "The divine beings (na gṛḥṇanti) are not accepting (havīmṣi) their part of the offerings (hūyamānāni) which are being offered to them (te) by you.

Stanza 27

rājan havīmsy adustāni śraddhayāsāditāni te chandāmsy ayāta-yāmāni yojitāni dhṛta-vrataiḥ

(rājan) Hey King! (te havīmsi) Your offerings for the Yajna

(asāditāni) have been prepared by you (śraddhayā) with complete attention (aduṣṭāni) and without any faults.
(chandāmsi) As the hymns of the Vedas (ayāta-yāmāni) are being recited without any flaws as to their pronunciations, the powers inherent in them are also intact. (yojitāni) Moreover, the hymns are being chanted (dhṛta-vrataiḥ) by those who have observed very strictly the prescribed austerities.

Stanza 28

na vidāmeha devānāṁ helanaṁ vayam aņv api yan na gṛḥṇanti bhāgān svān ye devāḥ karma-sākṣiṇaḥ

(karma-sākṣiṇaḥ) who are supposed to witness the actions of such offerings in this Yajna, (na gṛḥṇanti) refuse to accept (svān) their respective parts of the offerings."

Stanza 29

maitreya uvāca aṅgo dvija-vacaḥ śrutvā yajamānaḥ sudurmanāḥ tat praṣṭuṁ vyasrjad vācaṁ sadasyāṁs tad-anujñayā

(maitreya uvāca) Maitreya Maharshi said to Vidura:

(angaḥ) The King Anga, (yajamānaḥ) being the supreme head of the Yajna, (śrutvā) having listened to (dvija-vacaḥ) these statements of those Brahmins who conduct the Yajna, (sudurmanāḥ) became extremely sad. (tad-anujñayā) The king, after taking due permission (praṣṭum̀) for seeking clarifications (tat) about the same (sadasyān) from those assembled in the Yajna, (vācam̓ vyasrjat) broke his silence and put forward these guestions.

Stanza 30

nāgacchanty āhutā devā na gṛḥṇanti grahān iha sadasas-patayo brūta kim avadyaṁ mayā kṛṭam

(āhutāḥ) "Even after performing the invitation process through the prescribed hymns (devāḥ) the divine beings (na āgacchanti) are not coming to participate and take the offerings made in the Yajna. (na gṛhṇanti) They also do not accept (grahān) the vessels (iha) here containing these offerings. (sadasas-patayaḥ) Hey the Sadasaspatis ! (brūta) Please let me know (kim avadyam̀) as to the faults (kṛtam) committed (mayā) by me for this situation?"

Stanza 31

sadasas-pataya ūcuḥ nara-deveha bhavato nāghaṁ tāvan manāk sthitam asty ekaṁ prāktanam aghaṁ yad ihedṛk tvam aprajaḥ

(sadasas-pataya ūcuḥ) The Sadasaspatis said:

Stanza 32

tathā sādhaya bhadraṁ te ātmānaṁ suprajaṁ kuru isṭas te putra-kāmasya putraṁ dāsyati yajña-bhuk

(te bhadram) Let good things happen to you. (sādhaya) Do conduct the Yajna (tathā) in the manner in which the divine beings accept their parts of the offerings meant for them.
(ātmānam) You shall (suprajam kuru) beget a son for yourself.
(iṣṭaḥ) If you worship (yajña-bhuk) that Shri Maha Vishnu, who consumes the offerings made through the Yajna, (dāsyati) He shall bestow (te putram) a son for you (putra-kāmasya) because you seek for the same.

Stanza 33

tathā sva-bhāgadheyāni grahīṣyanti divaukasaḥ yad yajña-puruṣaḥ sākṣād apatyāya harir vṛtaḥ

(tathā) If it is done in this manner (if the Yajna is conducted keeping Shri Maha Vishnu as the main worshipped Being)
 (divaukasaḥ) the other divine beings (grahīṣyanti) shall accept

(sva-bhāgadheyāni) their respective share of offerings made through the Yajna by you. (yat) That is because (hariḥ) the Supreme Being Shri Hari, (sākṣāt) who is known Himself (yajña-puruṣaḥ) as the Yajna Murti, (vṛtaḥ) shall be invoked and worshipped by you (apatyāya) keeping in mind your desire of begetting a son.

<u>Note</u>: When Shri Hari Himself accepts the worship through the Yajna in this manner, all other demigods shall also accept their respective share of offerings. This is what is being conveyed through the above stanza.

Stanza 34

tāṁs tān kāmān harir dadyād yān yān kāmayate janaḥ ārādhito yathaivaiṣa tathā puṁsāṁ phalodayaḥ

(janaḥ) When a human being worships (hariḥ) that Bhagavan
(kāmayate) keeping in mind (yān yān) whatever be (kāmān) his desires, (dadyāt) He grants (tān tān) all of them to him.
(phalodayaḥ) The fructification of the desires (pumsām) for the human being shall be (tathā) in proportion (yathā eva) to the manner in which (ārādhitaḥ) he worships (eṣaḥ) that Supreme Being.

Stanza 35

iti vyavasitā viprās tasya rājñaḥ prajātaye puroḍāśaṁ niravapan śipi-viṣṭāya viṣṇave (vyavasitāḥ) After declaring very firmly (iti) in this manner, (viprāḥ) those Brahmins (niravapan) prepared (purodāśaṁ) the food offerings (viṣṇave) for Maha Vishnu, (śipi-viṣṭāya) Who is stationed in the form of the Yajna Murti in the cows, (prajātaye) with a view to get His blessings for a son (tasya rājňaḥ) for that King.

Stanza 36

tasmāt puruṣa uttasthau hema-māly amalāmbaraḥ hiraṇmayena pātreṇa siddham ādāya pāyasam

(tasmāt) From the fire of that Yajna (uttasthau) rose up (puruṣa)
 a person (amalāmbaraḥ) wearing the purest clothes (hema-mālī)
 and the garlands of gold ornaments (ādāya) holding in his
 hands (hiraņmayena) a golden (pātreṇa) vessel (siddham)
 containing the well cooked (pāyasam) rice mixed with milk.

Stanza 37

sa viprānumato rājā gŗhītvāñjalinaudanam avaghrāya mudā yuktaḥ prādāt patnyā udāra-dhīḥ

(viprānumataḥ) After being granted permission by the Brahmins,
(saḥ) that (udāra-dhīḥ) kind hearted (rājā) king Anga
(añjalinā) with his hands folded in reverence (gṛhītvā) accepted
the vessel containing (odanam) the cooked rice mixed with milk,
(avaghrāya) inhaled its smell (mudā yuktaḥ) very happily (prādāt)
and handed it over (patnyai) to his wife.

sā tat pum-savanam rājñī prāśya vai patyur ādadhe garbham kāla upāvṛtte kumāram suṣuve 'prajā

(sā rājñī) That queen, (aprajā) who had never given birth to children earlier, (prāśya) ate (tat) that rice mixed with milk (pum-savanam) which had the inherent power to give birth to a male child (vai) and immediately she (garbham ādadhe) got her pregnancy (patyuh) from her husband. (kāle) As the time for delivery (upāvrtte) approached, (susuve) she gave birth (kumāram) to a son.

Stanza 39

sa bāla eva puruṣo mātāmaham anuvrataḥ adharmāṁśodbhavaṁ mṛtyuṁ tenābhavad adhārmikaḥ

(bālaķ eva) Even when he was only a little child, (saķ) that son
 (anuvrataķ) became the follower (mṛtyum) of Mrtyu, (mātāmaham)
 the father of his mother Suneetha (adharmāmśodbhavam) and
 whose source of origin itself was because of the non righteous
 actions.

(tena) Due to this reason, this son of King Anga, (abhavat)
 grew up (puruṣaḥ) as a person (adhārmikaḥ) indulging in non righteous deeds.

Stanza 40

sa śarāsanam udyamya mṛgayur vana-gocaraḥ hanty asādhur mṛgān dīnān veno 'sāv ity arauj janaḥ

(udyamya) Holding (śarāsanam) his bow in his hand, (saḥ) Vena (vana-gocaraḥ) used to appear in the forests (mṛgayuḥ) as a hunter (hanti) and kill (dīnān) the innocent (mṛgān) animals (asādhuḥ) without any mercy. (janaḥ) When people used to see Vena (araut) they just screamed loudly (iti) by saying (arau venaḥ) "Oh! Here comes this Vena!"

Stanza 41

ākrīde krīdato bālān vayasyān atidāruņaḥ prasahya niranukrośaḥ paśu-māram amārayat

(*atidāruņaḥ*) That torturous Vena (*amārayat*) used to suffocate (*niranukrośaḥ*) mercilessly (*bālān*) the children (*vayasyān*) of his own age (*krīḍataḥ*) playing around (*ākrīḍe*) in the playground area (*prasahya*) by using his sheer physical power forcefully (*paśu-māram*) just like the cows being killed in the Yajna.

Stanza 42

tam vicakşya khalam putram śāsanair vividhair nṛpaḥ yadā na śāsitum kalpo bhṛśam āsīt sudurmanāḥ

(vicakṣya) Looking at (taṁ putraṁ) his son (khalaṁ) indulging in such merciless misdeeds, (nṛpaḥ) the king Anga (śāsituṁ) tried to control him by enforcing upon him (vividhaiḥ) various kinds (*śāsanai*ḥ) disciplinary steps. (*yadā*) When (*na kalpa*ḥ) he became helpless in controlling his son, (*āsīt*) the king became (*sudurmanā*ḥ) mentally distressed (*bhṛśam*) very greatly.

<u>Note</u>: Through the following three stanzas, Anga conveys his distress about his atrocious son.

Stanza 43

prāyeņābhyarcito devo ye 'prajā gṛha-medhinaḥ kad-apatya-bhṛtaṁ duḥkhaṁ ye na vindanti durbharam

(gṛha-medhinaḥ) The householders (aprajāḥ) who do not have sons (prāyeṇa) normally (abhyarcitaḥ) worship (devaḥ) Bhagavan for begetting sons. (ye) At that time, such householders

 (na vindanti) do not comprehend (duḥkham) the immense mental agony (durbharam) that can become unbearable for them
 (kad-apatya-bhṛtam) because of their sons indulging in misdeeds.

<u>Note</u>: The king says that when the householders seek the blessings from that Bhagavan for begetting children, they do not realize the fallout of the son's actions which can unfold only in later years.

Stanza 44

yataḥ pāpīyasī kīrtir adharmaś ca mahān nṛṇām yato virodhaḥ sarveṣāṁ yata ādhir anantakaḥ

kas taṁ prajāpadeśaṁ vai moha-bandhanam ātmanaḥ paṇḍito bahu manyeta yad-arthāḥ kleśadā gṛhāḥ

(nṛṇām) When the people (kīrtiḥ) get disrepute (yataḥ) because of (pāpīyasī) the sinful actions of such sons (mahān) leading to the greatest (adharmaḥ ca) non righteous deeds, (sarveṣām̀) and when others (virodhaḥ) start nurturing enmity towards such a person (yataḥ) because of the misdeeds of his son,

(anantakaḥ) and when the person gets inflicted with endless (ādhiḥ) mental pains (yataḥ) because of such a son, (kaḥ vai) can any (paṇḍitaḥ) knowledgeable person (bahu manyeta) consider as something big (moha-bandhanam) the bonding (taṁ) with such a (ātmanaḥ) living being (prajāpadeśaṁ) with the name called as "son"? (gṛhāḥ) Even the home (yad-arthāḥ) becomes the breeding place (kleśadā) of unhappiness because of this son.

<u>Note</u>: Through the following stanza the king is explaining that getting a bad son also becomes a reason for the father to develop the tendency of detachment.

Stanza 46

kad-apatyam varam manye sad-apatyāc chucām padāt nirvidyeta gṛhān martyo yat-kleśa-nivahā gṛhāḥ (varam manye) Sometimes I feel it is better to have (kad-apatyam) bad sons (sad-apatyāt) instead of the good ones. (martyaḥ) The person (the father) (nirvidyeta) develops a sense of detachment (gṛhāt) in such homes (padāt) which are the very source (chucām) of disturbance. (yat) That is because, (gṛhāḥ) such homes (kleśa-nivahāḥ) turn into the centre of concentration for the mental tortures due to the deeds of the bad sons.

Stanza 47

evam sa nirviņņa-manā nrpo grhān niśītha utthāya mahodayodayāt alabdha-nidro 'nupalakṣito nr̥bhir hitvā gato vena-suvam prasuptām

(evam) In this manner, (saḥ nṛpaḥ) that King Anga, (nirviṇṇa-manā) who became endowed with disenchanted mind, (alabdha-nidraḥ) could not get sleep in the nights. (utthāya) He rose up from his bed (niśīthe) on one midnight (hitvā) and leaving behind (vena-suvam) the mother of Vena (prasuptām) while she was asleep, (gataḥ) went out (anupalakṣitaḥ) unnoticed (nṛbhiḥ) by anyone (gṛḥāt) from that huge palace (mahodayodayāt) of prosperous bounties.

Stanza 48

vijñāya nirvidya gatam patim prajāķ purohitāmātya-suhrd-gaņādayaķ vicikyur urvyām atiśoka-kātarā yathā nigūdham puruşam kuyoginaķ

(vijñāya) Having realized that (patim) their king (gatam) had left the palace (nirvidya) due to intense pains, (prajāḥ) the subjects of the kingdom, (purohitāmātya-suhṛd-gaṇādayaḥ) the priests, the ministers, the king's relatives and friends etc., (atiśoka-kātarāḥ) became overwhelmed with immense sorrow. (vicikyuḥ) They searched for the king (urvyām) all over the world (yathā) just like (kuyoginaḥ) the immature Yogis look vainly (nigūḍhaṁ puruṣaṁ) for the Supreme Being outside everywhere.

<u>Note</u>: Though king Anga was very much in this world, it is being declared by the above stanza that they could not locate him. It is just like though the Supreme Being is present everywhere; He could not be conceptualized by the seekers who are immature.

Stanza 49

alakṣayantaḥ padavīṁ prajāpater hatodyamāḥ pratyupasṛtya te purīm ṛṣīn sametān abhivandya sāśravo nyavedayan paurava bhartṛ-viplavam

(paurava) Hey Vidura! (te) When all of them (alakṣayantaḥ) could not find (padavīm̀) the way to locate (prajāpateḥ) their king,

(sametān) they returned (purīm) to the capital (hatodyamāḥ) without positive results. (abhivandya) They offered worship (rṣīn) to the saints who reached there (sāśravaḥ) and with tears flowing from their eyes, (nyavedayan) explained to them (bhartṛ-viplavam) about the story of the loss of their dear king.

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This concludes the thirteenth chapter of volume 4 of Srimad Bhagavatam.

Hari Om