

SREE MAHAABHAARATHAM

AADHI PARVVAM

7. Release or Liberation of Curse of Agni

Having been cursed by Bhrigu, Agni hid himself. As Dhevarshees were unable to perform the activities of rituals like Homaas, Yaagaas, etc., they approached Brahmadheva and complained of their difficulties, sorrows, and hardships. Agni appeared back in the past as being graciously appeased by Brahmadhevan.

Soothan Said:

Being inflicted by the curse of Bhrigu, Huthaasanan or Agni became so enraged and spoke to him: "Why did you do such a heinous action of cursing me in such a hasty manner?" 1

Those who always maintain religious austerity are equal in all respects to those who always maintain honesty by speaking truthful words. Why did you get angry in a rush and commit a disorderly injustice to me who spoke the truth? 2

One who has witnessed and knows the truth utters a lie to someone who asks about the truth would not only fall into hell and suffer for the sinful actions, seven generations of his ancestors and seven generations of his successors would also be in trouble. Thus, he will be spoiling fourteen generations of his dynasty. 3

One who knows all the ins and outs and of all the facts about a matter and does not reveal the facts even after being interrogated about it, he will definitely be stained of guilt and be classified as a sinful person. There is no doubt about it. 4

I am certainly capable of cursing you and I have the power and divinity for that. But I consider all Braahmanaas as respectable and Worshipable. You know all these facts still I am revealing it to you. 5

With my Yoga Power or ascetic power, I appear in various forms. I appear in places of daily Homams, in places of sacrifices extending for many

years, in places where holy rites are performed, in places where lamps are lit once or twice or multiple times a day. 6

Both Dhevaas and Pithroos would be appeased and fully satisfied when ghee poured in my flames and offerings are placed in the sacrificial fire as prescribed in Vedhic injunctions. 7

Both Dhevaas and Pithroos sacrificial offerings of water, milk, Somarasam, Dherbha grass, etc. on Dherasaas (New-moon days) and Paurnamaasams (Full-moon days.) [I am not sure about Dherasaas for Pithroos and Paurnamaasams for Dhevaas.]. 8

The Dhevaas therefore are Pithroos and Pithroos are Dhevaas. We see them together and separately. They are equal at times and separate at other times depending upon the Moon, i.e., the Dherasaas and Paurnamaasaas. 9

Both Dhevaas and Pithroos enjoy the sacrificial offerings in me. I represent the face of both Dhevaas and Pithroos. 10

The Havis offered within me during Amaavaasi or Dherasa (new-moon) is for Pithroos and during Paurnamaasi or Full-moon is for Dhevaas. Thus, they enjoy or eat the Havis with these classifications. 11

Being the face of both Dhevaas and Pithroos, how can I eat everything or all - both clean and unclean - offered to me? With that thought or thinking like that I - fire - withdrew from all places or put out altogether. 12

Thus, the Agni withdrew from all places like the places of daily Homaas - sacrificial offerings in fire - of Braahmanaas, Yejnjaas or long-extending sacrifices, from places of holy rites, and from other ritual ceremonies. Without having their 'Om' and 'Vashat' and deprived of their 'Swaddhaas' and 'Swaahaas' - 13

All creatures of the universe got so distressed at the loss of sacrificial fire. All the Munees and Rishies went and pleaded with the Dhevaas and notified them: 14

As all the three worlds were under total peril and distress, the Rishies addressed Dhevaas and revealed to them: "Oh, Dhevaas! Please do the

needful immediately. Please do not have any delay in this matter as it is of extreme urgency." 15

Thereafter, all the Dhevarshees and Dhevaas went and pleaded with Brahmadheva that they are unable to perform or take part in any Yaagaas, Yejnjaas, Rituals in the absence of Agnidheva. All Kriyaas are on standstill.

17

Dhevarshees or Dhevarshikal Said:

For some reason Bhrigu has cursed Agni, the face of Dhevaas who the enjoyers of all Yaagaas and rituals are, and consequently all ritual ceremonies are interrupted. 17

Due to the curse of Bhrigu, Agni became the unscrupulous eater or destroyer of anything and everything without any discretion.

Soothan Said:

Having heard the representation, Brahmadheva called Agni and addressed him: 18

And the Brahmadheva, the creator of the universe and all its entities and elements, spoke to Agni, in a very gentle and humble manner:

Brahmadheva Said:

You are the creator and destroyer of the whole world. 19

You are the ruler and controller of the world. You are the prompter of all activities of the sacrifices and ceremonies. You, the God of all three worlds, are the One who ensures that all sacrifices and ritual ceremonies are completed without any interruptions and stoppages. 20

Alas! Oh, Agni! Why are you, the Lord and Preserver of all three worlds, in such a stage of Maudyam or inactive state? You are the purifier and refiner of everything. You are within all the entities and elements of the universe.

21

You are the pure representation and embodied form of all Dhevaas. Therefore, you would never become the eater and destroyer of everything and all. Whereas your flames are and continue to be so as the eater of everything. [You are the eater of pure ghee offered to you for sacrifices and ritual ceremonies.]. 22

The flame which is the viler part alone will eat all and everything. And the body of you will eat the flesh, being in the stomach of all carnivorous animals, eating all things carelessly. Other than these, you are not, and you shall not become the eater and at the same time purifier (The Yaagaagni purifies everything) of everything just like how everything will be purified by the divine rays of Sun-god. 23

All those substances, those which are offered into Yaagaagni, will be divinely purified. Oh, Agne! It is so well-known that you are the ultimate effulgence and glow as well as the supreme energy born of your own power and self-established so by you. 24

You have the power, energy, and might for all these. Therefore, Oh Lord Agne! Please make the curse of Bhrigu Muni also true by your own power as you are capable of it. Thus, please accept all offerings into fire during the Yaagaas without any hesitation. 25

Soothan Said:

Paavakan or Agnidhevan positively responded to Brahmadheva 'so be it' that he will obey Brahmadhevan's demand and decided to do whatever Brahmadhevan or Viddhi or Destiny has destined for him. (Paavakan has no option to deviate from destiny.). 26

Thereafter, all Dhevarshees or godly saints returned happily as they had fulfilled their wishes and could perform Yaagams and Yejnjams without any interruptions and continued to perform all rituals as in the past. 27

Dhevaas or gods also became very happy in heaven as they would now be getting their due shares of Yaagams and Yejnjams. And the creatures of earth or the material beings of this material world also were fully delighted. Agnidhevan also was delighted and happy as he was released of all sins.

Thus, Paavakan or Fire-god accepted the curse from Bhrigu and got released of all his sins. This is the story of how Agnidhevan got cursed by Bhrigu; the destruction of Puloman, the demon; and the birth of Chyavana Maharshi. 29

So ends this section.