

Chapter 33 (sabhā parva, pages 52 - 53, kumbhakoṇam edition)

त्रयस्त्रिंशोऽध्यायः

जनमेजयप्रश्नानुरोधेन सहदेवस्य द्राविडपाण्ड्यदेशगमनकथनम्

vaiśampāyana describes sahadēva's journey to drāviḍa and pāṇḍya kingdoms as answer to janamaejaya's question

जनमेजय उवाच

इच्छाम्यागमनं श्रोतुं हैडिम्बस्य द्विजोत्तम ।
लङ्कायां च गतिं ब्रह्मन् पौलस्तस्य च दर्शनम् ॥ १ ॥
कावेरिदर्शनं चैव आनुपूर्व्या वदस्व मे ।

janamejaya said:

O the best among the twice-borns! (O vaiśampāyana!) I wish to hear about the coming of the son of hiḍimbā (ghaṭotkaca) and his journey to laṅkā. O Brahman! Please tell me about his meeting with the son of pulastya (king of laṅkā, vibhīṣaṇa). Also about the sighting of the river kāveri (by sahadēva).

वैशंपायन उवाच

शृणु राजन् यथावृत्तं सहदेवस्य साहसम् ॥ २ ॥
काननद्वीपगांश्चैव तरसाऽऽजित्य चाहवे ।

vaiśampāyana said:

O king! Please hear about the difficult work done by sahadēva in detail, about his victories in the battles in forests, islands as well as villages.

दक्षिणां च दिशां जित्वा चोलस्य विषयं ययौ ॥ ३ ॥

After conquering the (kingdoms in the) southern direction, sahaddeva proceeded towards the cola kingdom.

ददर्श पुण्यतोयां वै कावेरीं सरितां वराम् ।
नानापक्षिगणैर्जुष्टां तापसैरुपशोभिताम् ॥ ४ ॥

There sahaddeva saw the sacred waters of kāveri, the best among rivers. The river was with many varieties of birds. The river was shining with the sages living along its banks.

साललोध्रार्जुनैर्बिल्वैर्जम्बूशाल्मलकिंशुकैः ।
कदम्बैः सप्तपर्णैश्च कश्मर्यामलकैर्वृताम् ॥ ५ ॥

The banks of the river was full of sal, lodhra (*symplocos racemosa*), arjuna (*terminalia arjuna*), bilva (*aegle marmelos*), jambhū, śāla (*vatica robusta*), kimśuka (*butea frondosa*), kadamba (*nauclea cadamba*), saptaparṇa (*alstonia scholaris*), kaśmarya and āmalaka (*emblic myrobalan*) trees.

न्यग्रोधैश्च महशाखैः प्लक्षैरौदुम्बरैरपि ।
शमीपलाशवृक्षैश्च अश्वत्थैः खदिरैर्वृताम् ॥ ६ ॥

He also saw nygradha trees with huge branches and also plakṣa (fig tree, *ficus infectoria*) and audumbara (*ficus religiosa*) trees. The land was covered by śamī (*prosopis spicigera* or *mimosa suma*), palāśa (*butea frondosa*) as well as aśvattha (*ficus religiosa*) and khadira (*acacia catechu*) trees.

बदरीभिश्च संछन्नामश्वकर्णेश्च शोमिताम् ।
चूतैः पुण्ड्रकपत्रैश्च कदलीवनसंवृताम् ॥ ७ ॥

The land, covered by badari (jajube, zizyphus jujuba) trees, was beautified by aśvakarṇa (vatica robusta) trees. The land with mango (cūta) trees and puṇḍrakapatra trees was covered by forests of kadālī (banana) plants.

चक्रवाकगणैः कीर्णा प्लवैश्च जलवायसैः ।
समुद्रकाकैः क्रौञ्चैश्च नादितां जलकुक्कुटैः ॥ ८ ॥

There were groups of cakravāka birds, plava (gātra samplava, kāraṇḍava, jalavāyasa, jalakāka or jalakukkuṭa) birds, aquatic birds, sea fowls and krauñca birds. The land was full of the sounds of water cocks.

एवं खगैश्च बहुभिः संघुष्टां जलवासिभिः ।
आश्रमैर्बहुभिः सक्तां चैत्यवृक्षैश्च शोमिताम् ॥ ९ ॥

There were many kinds of birds and other aquatic animals. There were many hermitages decorated by caitya trees.

शोमितां ब्राह्मणैः शुभ्रैर्वेदवेदाङ्गपारगैः ।

Some places on the banks were adorned with brāhmins, dressed in white who were experts in vedas.

क्वचित्तीररुहैर्वृक्षैर्मालामिरिव शोमिताम् ॥ १० ॥

क्वचित्सुपुष्पितैर्वृक्षैः क्वचित्सौगन्धिकोत्पलैः ।
कल्हारकुमुदोत्फुल्लैः कमलैरुपशोभिताम् ॥ ११ ॥

In some places, trees ascending on the banks of the river embellished like garlands. There were trees with flowers at some places. There were fragrant blue lotus (*nymphaea caerulea*) flowers at some places. Some places were beautiful with white water lily (*nymphaea lotus*) and lotus flowers in blossom.

कावेरीं तादृशीं दृष्ट्वा प्रीतिमान्पाण्डवस्तदा ॥
अस्मद्राष्ट्रे यथा गङ्गा कावेरी च तथा शुभा ॥ १२ ॥

Seeing the (beautiful) river *kāverī* in this manner, the son of *pāṇḍu* (*sahadeva*) thought: The river *kāverī* is auspicious like the auspicious river *gaṅgā* in our country.

सहदेवस्तु तां तीर्त्वा नदीमनुचरैः सह ।
दक्षिणं तीरमसाद्य गमनायोपचक्रमे ॥ १३ ॥

sahadeva, along with his followers, took bath in the holy place of pilgrimage in the river (*kāverī*) and reached the southern bank of the river to proceed further.

आगतं पाण्डवं तत्र श्रुत्वा विषयवासिनः ।
दर्शनार्थं ययुस्तेतु कौतूहलसमन्विताः ॥ १४ ॥

Hearing that the son of *pāṇḍu* (*sahadeva*) has arrived there, the people of the land went there to see him due to curiosity.

द्रमिडाः पुरुषा राजन्स्त्रियश्च प्रियदर्शनाः ।
गत्वा पाण्डुसुतं तत्र ददृशुस्ते मुदाऽन्विताः ॥ १५ ॥

O king! (janamejaya! vaiśampāyana continued): The men as well as the women, beautiful in appearance, went there, to see the son of pāṇḍu (sahadeva), happily.

सुकुमारं विशालाक्षं ब्रजन्तं त्रिदशोपमम् ।
दर्शनीयतमं लोके नेत्रैरनिमिषैरिव ॥ १६ ॥

sahadeva was tender, delicate, beautiful having wide eyes, comparable in beauty to devas, the best to see among people as though not closing one's eyelids.

आश्चर्यभूतं ददृशुर्द्रमिडास्ते समागताः ।
महासेनोपमं दृष्ट्वा पूजां चक्रुश्च तस्य वै ॥ १७ ॥

All the people of dramiḍā came to see the wonderful sahadeva. Seeing sahadeva, comparable subrahmaṇya (mahāsenā), they honoured him.

रत्नैश्च विविधैरिष्टैर्भोगैरन्यैश्च संमतैः ।
गतिमङ्गलयुक्ताभिः स्तुवन्तो नकुलानुजम् ॥ १८ ॥

They presented many varieties of jewels and other eatables liked by him. They praised the younger brother of nakula with hymns, suitable for the success of his journey.

सहदेवस्तु तान्दृष्ट्वा द्रमिलानागतान्मुदा ।
विसृज्य तान्महबाहुः प्रस्थितो दक्षिणां दिशम् ॥ १९ ॥

Seeing the men of dramiḍā land who arrived, sahadēva met them happily. Leaving them, the one with powerful arms (sahadēva) proceeded towards the southern direction.

दूतेन तरसा चोलं विजित्य द्रमिडेश्वरम् ।
ततो रत्नान्युपादाय पाण्ड्यस्य विष्ययं ययौ ॥ २० ॥

After winning over the king of dramiḍā, sahadēva sent a messenger to cola kingdom. After acquiring the jewels, sahadēva proceeded towards the pāṇḍya kingdom.

दर्शने सहदेवस्य न च तृप्ता नराः परे ।
गच्छन्तमनुगच्छन्तः प्राप्ताः कौतूहलान्विताः ॥ २१ ॥

The men were not at all satisfied by seeing sahadēva. With curiosity, they followed sahadēva who was leaving.

ततो माद्रीसुतो राजन्मृगसङ्घान्विलोकयन् ।
गजान्वनचरानन्यान्व्याघ्रान्कृष्णमृगान्बहून् ॥ २२ ॥

Then O king! (janamejaya! vaiśampāyana continued) the son of mādri (sahadēva) saw a group of deers, elephants, other wild animals, tigers and many black antelopes.

शुकान्मयुरान्दृष्ट्वा तु गृध्रानारण्यकुक्कुटान् ।
ततो देशं समासाद्य श्वशुरस्य महीपतेः ॥ २३ ॥

sahadeva saw parrots, peacocks, vultures and also forest fowls. O the ruler of earth! (janamejaya! vaiśampāyana continued), then sahadeva reached the (pāṇḍya) kingdom of the father of the wife (of arjuna).

प्रेषयामास माद्रेयो दूतान्पाण्ड्याय वै तदा ।
प्रतिजग्राह तस्याज्ञां संप्रीत्या मलयध्वजः ॥ २४ ॥

Then the son of mādri (sahadeva) sent messengers to the pāṇḍya king. The king, malayadhvaja accepted his (sahadeva's) orders.

भार्या रूपवती जिष्णोः पाण्ड्यस्य तनया शुभा ।
चित्राङ्गदेति विख्याता द्रमिडी योषितां वरा ॥ २५ ॥

The beautiful wife of jiṣṇu (arjuna), the auspicious daughter of the pāṇḍya king, the one who is famous as citrāṅgadā, the dramiḍā princess, the best among women,

आगतं सहदेवं तु सा श्रुत्वाऽन्तःपुरे पितुः ।
प्रेषयामास संप्रीत्या पूजारत्नं च वै बहु ॥ २६ ॥

pleased to hear the news from the women's quarters of her father that sahadeva has arrived, dispatched many items and jewels for honouring him.

पाण्ड्योऽपि बहुरत्नानि दूतैः सह मुमोच ह ।

मणिमुक्ताप्रवालानि सहदेवाय कीर्तिमान् ॥ २७ ॥

The pāṇḍya king also gave many jewels and pearls, to the messenger, for sahadēva, having great fame.

तां दृष्ट्वाऽप्रतिमां पूजां पाण्डवोऽपि मुदा नृप ।
भ्रातुः पुत्रे बहुन्नत्नान्दत्त्वा वै बभ्रुवाहने ॥ २८ ॥

O king ! (janamejaya! vaiśampāyana continued) Seeing his unparalleled reception, the son of pāṇḍu became happy. He gave many jewels to the son of his brother, babhruvAhana.

पाण्ड्यं द्रमिडराजानां श्वशुरं मलयध्वजम् ।
स दूतैस्तं वशे कृत्वा मणलूरेश्वरं तदा ॥ २९ ॥

The dramiḍa king, the pāṇḍya king malayadhvaja, the lord of maṇalūra, the father of the wife (of arjuna), presented many jewels to sahadēva through the messenger.

ततो रत्नान्युपादाय द्रमिडैरावृतो ययौ ।
अगस्त्यस्यालयं दिव्यं देवलोकसमं गिरिम् ॥ ३० ॥

After getting the jewels sahadēva proceeded further, accompanied by the people of dramiḍa, to the residence of agastya, divine, equal to the world of devas on the mountain (agastya).

स तं प्रदक्षीणं कृत्वा मलयं भरतर्षभ ।

लङ्घयित्वा तु माद्रेयस्ताम्रपर्णीं नदीं शुभाम् ॥ ३१ ॥

O the bull of the bharata race! (O janamejaya! vaiśampāyana continued)
Circumambulating the malaya mountain, the son of mādri crossed over the
auspicious river tāmraparṇī.

प्रसन्नसलिलां दिव्यां सुशीतां च मनोहराम् ।
समुद्रतीरमासाद्य न्यविशत्पाण्डुनन्दनः ॥ ३२ ॥

The river (tāmraparṇī) had pleasing water, which was divine, cool and
beautiful. The son of pāṇḍu (sahadeva) then arrived at the sea shore and
camped there.

इति श्रीमन्महाभारते सभापर्वणि दिग्विजयपर्वणि त्रयस्त्रिंशोऽध्यायः

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