

## CHAPTER XXXIX.

ON MEASURES OF TIME WHICH ARE LARGER THAN  
THE LIFE OF BRAHMAN.

ALL that is devoid of order or contradicts the rules laid down in the preceding parts of this book is repulsive to our nature and disagreeable to our ear. But the Hindus are people who mention a number of names, all—as they maintain—referring to the One, the First, or to some one behind him who is only hinted at. When they come to a chapter like this, they repeat the same names as denoting a multitude of beings, measuring out lives for them and inventing huge numbers. The latter is all they want; they indulge in it most freely, and numbers are patient, standing as you place them. Besides, there is not a single subject on which the Hindus themselves agree among each other, and this prevents us on our part adopting the use of it. On the contrary, they disagree on these imaginary measures of time to the same extent as on the divisions of the day which are less than a *prāna* (v. chap. xxxiv.).

The book *Srúdhava* by Utpala says that “a *manvantara* is the life of Indra the ruler, and 28 *manvantaras* are one day of Pitāmaha, *i.e.* Brahman. His life is 100 years, or one day of Keśava. The life of the latter is 100 years, or one day of Mahādeva. The life of the latter is 100 years, or one day of Ívara, who is near to the Supreme Being. His life is 100 years, or one day of Sadāsiva. The life of the latter is 100 years, or one day of Virācana, the Eternal, who will

Want of system regarding the greatest measures of time.

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The greatest measures of time determined by *kalpas*.