

Yudhishtira to permit Dhṛtarāshṭra to follow the path of all the ancient R.-ṛ.; "Gāndhārī bears her grief with fortitude." Yudhishtira yielded to Vyāsa's intercession; Vyāsa summed up the reasons for Dhṛtarāshṭra's retirement (ζ), and then proceeded to the woods. Yudhishtira then said that he would conform to the advice of Vyāsa, etc. (η) (XV, 4); Dhṛtarāshṭra, Gāndhārī, etc. (η), entering the palace of Dhṛtarāshṭra, ate a little. Then Dhṛtarāshṭra gave Yudhishtira advice about how the latter should rule his kingdom (θ) (XV, 5). Continuation (XV, 6). Continuation; agreeably to the science known to Uçanas, [arrays called] Çakaṭa, Padma, and Vajra should be formed; "thou hast been instructed in all duties by Bhīshma, Kṛshṇa, and Vidura"; 100 horse-sacrifices and righteous rule are productive of equal merit (XV, 7). Yudhishtira gratefully accepted his instructions, as Bhīshma, etc. (ι), no longer were there to instruct him. Dhṛtarāshṭra wishes to depart soon, and Gāndhārī reminded him that he has got the permission of Vyāsa, and asks him when he would go to the forest with the permission of Yudhishtira; he wished first to make gifts for the advancement in the other world of his dead sons and other kinsmen (who were now *pretas*), and assembled all the subjects, while Yudhishtira brought all the articles necessary; Dhṛtarāshṭra, in a touching address, took leave of that large concourse of men of all the four castes (κ) (XV, 8), recapitulating the history of the realm from Çāntanu downwards (λ) (XV, 9). The citizens were exceedingly agitated upon hearing Dhṛtarāshṭra's address; they charged the learned brahman Çāmba (B. Sāmba) with answering him (μ): "King Duryodhana never did us any wrong; we were well protected and ruled by him; we have also enjoyed great happiness for thousands of years under Yudhishtira, who follows the conduct of the R.-ṛ. of old (Kuru, Saṃvarāṇa, Bharata, etc.); the carnage on the field of Kurukshetra was not brought about by Duryodhana, Karṇa, and Çakuni, nor by Dhṛtarāshṭra, but by Destiny, which in 18 days caused 18 *akshauhīnis* to be destroyed by Bhīshma, etc. (ν); the Pāṇḍavas are capable of ruling without either thee or ourselves to look after them; Kuntī, etc. (ξ), will not do the least wrong to the people." Then Dhṛtarāshṭra slowly dismissed the assembly, and entered his house with Gāndhārī (XV, 10). After that night had passed away, Dhṛtarāshṭra sent Vidura to Yudhishtira in order to announce that he would set out for the woods on the coming day of the full moon in the month of Kārttika, and to solicit some wealth for performing the *çrāddha* of Bhīshma, etc. (ο). Yudhishtira and Arjuna applauded his words; Bhīma was unwilling, recollecting Duryodhana; Arjuna sought to pacify him, applauded by Yudhishtira; Bhīmasena maintained that gifts for Bhīshma, etc. (π), should be given by them, and by Kuntī for Karṇa; "Let Duryodhana, etc., sink from a miserable to a more miserable position," reminding his brothers of the woes and disgrace inflicted upon them by those for whose benefit Dhṛtarāshṭra asked for wealth (ρ). Yudhishtira rebuked him (XV, 11). Arjuna urged Bhīma to forget the injuries. Yudhishtira said to Vidura that he would give Dhṛtarāshṭra so much wealth as he wished for the obsequies of his sons and Bhīshma, etc., and asked him to tell Dhṛtarāshṭra not to be angry with Bhīmasena (XV, 12). Vidura reported the speeches of Yudhishtira, Arjuna, and Bhīma to Dhṛtarāshṭra. Dhṛtarāshṭra expressed his satisfaction, and set his heart on making large presents on the day of full moon in the month of Kārttika (XV, 13). Dhṛtarāshṭra invited thousands of deserving brahmins [and] superior R.

for Bhīshma, etc.; and made large gifts to them, naming Droṇa, etc. (σ); tellers and scribes appointed by Yudhishtira ceaselessly ask the old king as to what should be given to each recipient that presented himself; unto him that was to receive 100 a 1000 were given, and he who was to receive 1000 was presented with 10,000 at the command of Yudhishtira; this was given by Dhṛtarāshṭra for the benefit in the other world of his sons and grandsons, as also of himself and Gāndhārī; the donation lasted for 10 days (XV, 14). On the day of full moon in the month of Kārttika Dhṛtarāshṭra (and Gāndhārī) summoned the Pāṇḍavas, caused the rites to be performed, and his sacred fire to be taken up, put on deerskins and bark, and set out with his daughters-in-law. The ladies uttered loud wails; Yudhishtira and Arjuna were pierced with grief; Bhīmasena, etc. (τ), all followed Dhṛtarāshṭra; Kuntī held on her shoulders the hand of Gāndhārī, who walked with her bandaged eyes; Dhṛtarāshṭra walked behind Gāndhārī, placing his hand on her shoulder; Kṛshṇa, etc. (υ), all proceeded with Dhṛtarāshṭra; the citizens of all orders were as distressed as they had been at the departure of the Pāṇḍavas after the match of dice († 431-440) (XV, 15); Dhṛtarāshṭra left the city through the principal gate, and then asked those who followed him to desist. Vidura and Sañjaya retired with him into the woods; Kṛpa and Yuyutsu he caused to remain, and made them over to Yudhishtira. Kuntī retired with Dhṛtarāshṭra, though Yudhishtira sought to dissuade her; she said: "Never show any disregard for Sahadeva: he is very much attached to me, and to thee also"; then she reminded him of Karṇa, etc. (φ); Yudhishtira reminded her that she had herself formerly recited to them the story of Vidulā, when they were about to set out from the town, and that they had won sovereignty guided by her words communicated through Kṛshṇa. Also Bhīma dissuaded her, pointing out the grief of the sons of Mādri; but in vain. Draupadī and Subhadrā followed her, and so did the Pāṇḍavas with all their wives and attendants; Kuntī addressed them (XV, 16), assigning her reasons for her conduct (χ) (XV, 17). The Pāṇḍavas and Draupadī then desisted from following her. The Pāṇḍavas circumambulated Dhṛtarāshṭra, etc., for taking their leave to return. Dhṛtarāshṭra (with Gāndhārī and Vidura) made a final effort of dissuading Kuntī from retiring into the forest with him, but in vain. The ladies set up a loud wail of grief. Hāstinapura became plunged into sorrow: no festivals were observed. The Pāṇḍavas were without any energy. Dhṛtarāshṭra arrived on the banks of the Bhāgrathī and took rest there for the night among the brahmins, who there, like himself, ignited their sacred fires; arrangement of the beds of Vidura, etc. (ψ); the Yājaka brahmins, etc., of the king laid themselves down on their respective beds; that night seemed as delightful to them as a Brāhmī night. When the night had passed away Dhṛtarāshṭra, etc., going through their morning acts and rites, continue their journey (XV, 18). Following the advice of Vidura, Dhṛtarāshṭra took up his abode on the banks of the Bhāgrathī; many of the four orders came to see him; he gladdened them all by his words. At evening Dhṛtarāshṭra, etc. (ω), bathed in the stream, etc.; Kuntī led him and Gāndhārī. Then he proceeded to Kurukshetra to the retreat of R.-ṛ. Çatayūpa (δ), who received him with due rites; accompanied by him he proceeded to the retreat of Vyāsa, where he received the initiation [into the forest life]; after having returned he took up his abode in