

Born in the *kula* of Dhṛtarāṣṭra, listed by Sūta among those offered in the snake sacrifice of Janamejaya; described as 'fast as wind' (*vātavega*), and 'having excess of poison' (*viṣolbaṇa*) 1. 52. 14, 13, 1.

Prahāda m. : A mythical serpent.

One of the serpents who, without feeling fatigue (*vigataklama*), wait upon Varuṇa in his *subhā*; described as marked with banner (*patākin*), round spots (*maṇḍalin*), and hooded (*phaṇavant*) 2. 9. 10. 11.

Prākārakarṇa m. : An owl, living on the mountain Himavanta 3. 191. 4.

Sage Mārkaṇḍeya and king (*rājarṣi*) Indradyumna approached the owl Prākārakarṇa since he was guessed by Mārkaṇḍeya to be older than both of them; king Indradyumna asked Prākārakarṇa if he recognized the king; Prākārakarṇa thought for a while and said he did not; when asked by Indradyumna if Prākārakarṇa knew any one older than he, the owl directed the king to the crane Nāḍījaṅgha living in the lake Indradyumna; then the king Indradyumna took both Mārkaṇḍeya and Prākārakarṇa to Nāḍījaṅgha 3. 191. 5-10.

Badhira m. : A mythical serpent, living in Bhogavatī Purī 5. 101. 16, 1.

Son of Surasā and Kaśyapa 5. 101. 4, 17; description 5. 101. 5-7.

Balaheda m. : A mythical serpent.

Born in the *kula* of Takṣaka, listed by Sūta among those who were offered in the snake sacrifice of Janamejaya 1. 52. 8, 7, 9.

Balāha m. : Name of Kṛṣṇa's horse.

[See Balāhaka²]

Balāhaka¹ m. : A mythical serpent.

One of the serpents who, without feeling fatigue (*vigataklama*), wait upon Varuṇa in

his *sabhā*; described as marked with banner (*patākin*), round spots (*maṇḍalin*), and hooded (*phaṇavant*) 2. 9. 9, 10, 11.

Balāhaka², Balāha m. : Name of one of the four horses yoked to Kṛṣṇa's chariot.

They all were of excellent Kamboja-breed (*paramakāmbuja*) 10. 13. 1; decorated with gold strings (*hemamālin* 10. 13. 1) and gold-harness (*hemabhāṇḍavibhūṣita* 7. 122. 45); endowed with all excellences (*sarvasampad-*) 5. 81. 19; very swift (*mahāvega*) and could go where they desired (*kāmaga*) 7. 122. 45; 10. 13. 9; when they sped along they appeared to swallow the sky (*te grasanta ivākāśaṁ vegavanto mahābalāh*) 12. 53. 22-23; all the four horses specially marked for their speed, hence Uttara compared his right side-horse with Balāhaka and thought him to be speedier than Balāhaka 4. 40. 21; Balāhaka was one of the two side-horses (*pārṣṇivāha*), he being on the right side 4. 40. 21; 10. 13. 2; Balāhaka mentioned among the four horses yoked to Kṛṣṇa's chariot when it was got ready for various occasions — for Kṛṣṇa when he proceeded to Hāstīnapura on his peace mission 5. 81. 19; for Kṛṣṇa's likely intervention in war to kill Karṇa, Droṇa and the rest and to enable Arjuna kill Jayadratha within the stipulated time 7. 56. 35, 25-37; for the use by Sātyaki when he lost his chariot while fighting with Karṇa 7. 122. 45; for Kṛṣṇa when he followed Bhīma who had left in pursuit of Aśvatthāman 10. 13. 1-2; for Kṛṣṇa when he started to visit Bhīṣma lying on his bed of arrows at Kurukṣetra 12. 53. 21 (here short form Balāha).

Bāhuka m. : A mythical serpent.

Born in the *kula* of Kauravya, listed by Sūta among those offered in the snake sacrifice of Janamejaya 1. 52. 12, 1, 3.