

- BRAHMATUṄGA.** A mountain. Arjuna dreamt that Śrī Kṛṣṇa and himself went to the presence of Śiva. Brahmātuṅga was a mountain that Arjuna saw on the way in his dream-travel. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 80, Stanza 31).
- BRAHMAVAIVARTAPURĀṆA.** One of the eighteen Purāṇas. Sāvarni Manu taught this Purāṇa to Nārada. The theme of the Purāṇa is the story of Rathandhara. This Purāṇa contains eighteen thousand verses. It is stated in Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 272, that this Purāṇa is good to be given as a gift on the full moonday of the month of Māgha.
- BRAHMĀVARTTA.** A holy place situated in Kurukṣetra. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 83, Stanza 53, that he who takes a bath in this holy place will go to the world of Brahmā. Manusmṛti, Chapter 2, Stanza 17, refers to this Brahmāvartta. Manu says as follows :
- “Sarasvatīdṛṣadvatyor-
devanadyoryadantaram /
Taddevanirmitam deśam
Brahmāvarttam pracakṣate. //
- “The place between the two rivers Sarasvatī and Dṛṣadvatī is called Brahmāvartta, which was made by the devas.”
- BRAHMAVEDHYĀ.** A river, famous in the Purāṇas. Mention is made about this river in Mahābhārata, Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 9, Stanza 30.
- BRAHMAYAJŪ.** A special sacrifice to be performed by a Brāhmin only. The rules and rituals of the sacrifice are given below :—
- The Brāhmaṇa should rinse his mouth three times. Then he should wipe his mouth twice and face once. Then he should take water in his hand and sprinkle it on his hands and legs, and then sprinkle it on his head, eyes, nose, ears, chest and forehead. After that uttering the name of the place, date, time, star etc. he should say to himself, “I am beginning to perform Brahmayajū.” For this he should have to place two darbhas (grass—*Poa cynosuroides*) in his right hand, three in his left hand, one on the seat, one each on his Brahma-string (sacred string worn by brahmins), hair and legs, and then think of the time, place, etc. and say to himself, “I am about to perform Brahmayajū to please the gods known in the Sūktas (hymns in the Vedas) for the absolution of all my sins.” Then recite Gāyatrī (spell) thrice. Then recite the following Vedic mantras or spells, in the order given: Mantras beginning with; “Agnimīle”; “Yadaṅga”; “Agnirvai”; “Mahāvratām”; “Panthā etacca”; “Sāṃhitavidāmaghavat”; “Mahāvratasya”; “Iṣe tvorije”; “Agnā āyāhi” and śanno-deviḥ.” Then in conformity with the number of letters used, he should recite the grammatic Śūtra known as Vṛddhirādaic. (Devī Bhāgavata, Skandha 11).
- BRAHMAYONI.** A holy place in Kurukṣetra. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 83, Stanza 143 that one who bathes in this holy Bath will attain the world of Brahmā.
- BRAHMAHUTAM.** A sacrifice. There are five kinds of sacrifice, known as Āhuta, Huta, Prahuta, Brahma-huta and Prāśita. Āhuta is sacrifice to Brahmā, Huta is sacrifice to devas or Gods, Prahuta is sacrifice to Ghosts, Brahma-huta is sacrifice to man and Prāśita is the sacrifice to the manes. (Manusmṛti, Chapter 3).
- BRBU TAKṢA.** A king of the period of the Vedas. He was liberal and interested in architecture and all kinds of construction work. In the Rg Veda and Sāṃkhyāyana Śrauta Sūtra mention is made that this king offered plenty of presents to the hermit Bharadvāja.
- BRDHNĀŚVA.** A king. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 98, that Agastya once went to this king and begged him for wealth.
- BRHADANTA I.** A king of the country known as Ulūka. Once in a battle, Arjuna defeated this King. Thenceforward he was friendly with the Pāṇḍavas. Bṛhadanta offered Arjuna a good deal of costly presents. In the battle of Bhārata, this king fought on the side of the Pāṇḍavas and was killed in the battle. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 27, Ādi Parva, Chapter 185, Udyoga Parva, Chapter 4; Droṇa Parva, Chapter 23 and Karṇa Parva, Chapter 9).
- BRHADANTA II.** Brother of the king Kṣemadhūrti. He fought against the Kauravas and was killed in the battle. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 25; Karṇa Parva Chapter 5).
- BRHADAŚVA I.** An ancient hermit. He had much respect for Dharmaputra. It is stated in the Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 52, that Bṛhadaśva went to the forest Kāmyaka with Dharmaputra. Bṛhadaśva narrated the story ‘Nalopākhyāna’ to Dharmaputra in order to divert his mind from the thought of the loss of his kingdom. When he had finished the story he taught Dharmaputra, the two important spells, Akṣa-hṛdaya and Aśvaśiras.
- BRHADAŚVA II.** A king of the Ikṣvāku dynasty. His father was Śrāvasta. The King Kuvalayāśva was the son of Bṛhadava. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 122, Stanza 7).
- BRHADĀTMĀ.** A king of the Aṅga dynasty. (Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 278).
- BRHADBALA I.** A king in ancient India. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 1, Stanza 237).
- BRHADBALA II.** Son of Suba, a King of Gāndhāra. He was present at the Pāñcālī Svayamvara (marriage of Pāñcālī) with his brothers Śakuni and Vṛṣaka. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 185, Stanza 5).
- BRHADBALA III.** A king of the country known as Kosala. During his conquest of the East, Bhīmasena defeated this King. This powerful King of Kosala had given fourteen thousand horses for the Rājasūya (imperial inauguration) of Yudhiṣṭhira. He fought with Abhimanyu and Ghaṭotkaca in the battle of Bhārata. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Droṇa Parva, Chapter 40, Stanza 20, that Abhimanyu killed this Bṛhadbala in the battle.
- BRHADBĀLIKĀ.** An attendant of Subrahmaṇya. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 46, Stanza 4).
- BRHADBHĀNU.** A fire. A hermit who had acquired great knowledge in Vedas and Vedāṅgas (scriptures) also has this name. (M. B. Vana Parva, Chapter 231, Stanza 8).
- BRHADBHĀSA.** See Bṛhadkīrti.
- BRHADBHĀSĀ.** A daughter of the Sun. It is mentioned in the Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 221, Stanza 9, that Bṛhadbhāsā was the wife of the Agni (fire) called Bhānu.
- BRHADBRAHMĀ.** See Bṛhadkīrti.