

GULMA. See under Akṣauhiṇī.

GULMAKA. The uncle of Guṇādhya. Guṇādhya is the author of the famous book 'Bṛhatkathā'. In the city of Supraṭiṣṭhita there was a brahmin named Somaśarmā who had three children, namely, Vatsa, Gulmaka and Śrutārtha. Guṇādhya was the son of Śrutārtha (Taraṅga 6, Kathāpīṭhalambaka, Kathāsaritsāgara).

## H

H (ः). This letter has two meanings : (1) Understanding (2) Rudra. (Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 348).

HĀHĀ. A Gandharva, the son of Kaśyapaprajāpati by his wife Pradhā. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 122, Verse 59).

*Other Information.* (1) Hāhā was present at the birthday celebrations of Arjuna. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 122, Verse 59).

(2) He lives in Kubera's assembly. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 10, Verse 25).

(3) Hāhā welcomed Arjuna in the Devaloka when once he visited the place. (Vana Parva, Chapter 43, Verse 14).

HAIHAYA. A King, the son of Vatsa, born in the dynasty of Śaryāti. He was the founder of the Haihaya dynasty. He became a brahmin by choosing Sage Bhṛgu as his Preceptor. He was also known as Vītahavya. (Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 30, Verses 54-57).

HAIMAVATA. A region north of the Himālayas made famous in the Purāṇas. Śukabrahmarṣi on his way from Mahāmeru to Mithilāpurī crossed this region. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 325, Verse 14).

HAIMAVATĪ I. A synonym of river Śatadru, (See under Śatadru).

HAIMAVATĪ II. A wife of Viśvāmītra. (Udyoga Parva, Chapter 117, Verse 13).

HAIMAVATĪ III. A wife of Śrī Kṛṣṇa. When Kṛṣṇa was cremated Haimavatī also ended her life in the funeral pyre. (Mausala Parva, Chapter 7, Verse 73).

HAIRAṆYAVATĪ. A river which flowed along Hiraṇmaya, a Purāṇic region. (Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 8, Verse 5).

HALADHARA. A synonym of Balarāma. (See under Balabhadrarāma).

HĀLĀHALA(S). A sect of asuras, who were the first creation of the Trimūrtis, when they also possessed the power of creation. The Hālāhalas, who became very powerful within a short period of time earned from Brahmā all the boons they wanted, and they then conquered the three worlds. At last they barricaded Kailāsa and Vaikuṅṭha also, and Hariharas (Viṣṇu and Śiva) defeated them after a fierce fight lasting for a thousand years. The Hariharas returned to their abodes and spoke about their achievements. Their wives laughed at the bravado of their husbands. At this Mahāviṣṇu got angry with Lakṣmī and Śiva with Pārvatī, and in protest the Devis left their husbands. From that day onwards Viṣṇu and Śiva began losing their power. Brahmā, who divined the reason for the growing weakness of Viṣṇu and Śiva persuaded Lakṣmī and Pārvatī to return to their husbands so that they might regain their former power. Yet, Brahmā told them that in future he alone would handle the work of creation. Thus was Viṣṇu and Śiva divested of their right to creation. (Devī Bhāgavata, 7th Skandha).

HALĀYUDHA. A Sanskrit poet who lived in the 10th century A.D. A mahākāvya called Kavirahasya is his most important work. The hero in the great poem is Kṛṣṇa III. A King of the Rāṣṭrakūṭa dynasty, and poet Halāyudha was a courtier of his.

HALIKA. A prominent nāga born in the Kaśyapa dynasty. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 15).

HALIMĀ. One of the Saptamātṛs (seven mothers). (Vana Parva, Chapter 22, Verse 10).

HALIMAKA. A nāga born in the family of Vāsuki. He was burnt to death in the serpent yajña of Janamejaya. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 57, Verse 5).

HAMSA I. An incarnation of Mahā Viṣṇu in Kṛtayuga. He instructed great sages like Sanaka on yoga in the presence of Brahmā. He is also called yajña. (Bhāgavata 11th Skandha). Hamśa, who was a prajāpati as well advised the Sādhyadevas about the means to attain salvation and the advice is known as Hamśagītā. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 288).

HAMSA II. A son born to Kaśyapa of his wife, Ariṣṭā. He was a Gandharva and it is believed that Dhṛtarāṣṭra was an amśavatāra of this Gandharva. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 6, See also under Amśavatāra).

HAMSA III.

1) *General.* A minister of Jarāsandha. Hamśa and Dibbhaka were the sons of Brahmādatta, the chief of Sālva, and they were adepts in archery. Paraśurāma was their preceptor. (Harivaṁśa 3, 103). The Mahābhārata calls Hamśa's brother Dibbhaka.

2) *Education.* Vicakra and Janārdana were intimate friends of Hamśa from their very infancy, of whom Janārdana was the son of Mītrasaha, a friend of Brahmādatta. Hamśa, Dibbhaka and Janārdana had their education together and their marriages also were conducted at the same time. After some time Śiva presented them many weapons like Rudrāstra, Maheśvarāstra and Brahmaśirāstra, and also two attendants for self-protection. (Harivaṁśa 3, 105).

3) *Curse of Durvāsas.* Swollen-headed and haughty on account of Śiva's boon, Hamśa and Dibbhaka turned out to be a nightmare to the world, and they once tried to give trouble to Durvāsas, who cursed them to be killed by Mahāviṣṇu. Sometime later the sage himself informed Śrī Kṛṣṇa about this curse of his.

4) *Death.* The Hamśa brothers began an aśvamedha (Horse Sacrifice) and deputed Janārdana to collect the tax thereof. Śrī Kṛṣṇa alone refused to pay the tax with the result that Hamśa clashed with Kṛṣṇa who killed Dibbhaka and kicked Hamśa down to Pātāla. He died there, in Pātāla of snake-bite. (Harivaṁśa 3, 128).

5) *Grief of Jarāsandha.* Hamśa's death caused much grief to Jarāsandha, and for many years after it, he shed tears over the death of his friend. Even at the time when Bhīmasena, during his triumphal tour of the east, attacked Jarāsandha he remembered the dead Hamśa and Dibbhaka. (Sabhā Parva, 13, 37).

HAMSA (M). Swan. For story about the origin of hamśa on earth see under Sṛṣṭi, Para 12.

HAMSACŪDA. A Yakṣa, who worships Kubera in his assembly. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 10, Verse 17).

HAMSADHVAJA. A King of Campānagarī, who was a great devotee of Viṣṇu. During his reign