

- MAHĀDYUTI I. A King in ancient India. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 1, Verse 232).
- MAHĀDYUTI II. One of the sons of the Yakṣa Maṇibhadra by Puṇyajani.
- MAHĀGAṄGĀ. A holy place. Mahābhārata, Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 25, Verse 22 says that abstaining from food for a fortnight after a bath in this place will secure admission to Svargaloka.
- MAHĀGAURĪ. A prominent river in India. (Mahābhārata, Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 9, Verse 33).
- MAHĀGOYA. A river (Nada) celebrated in the Purāṇas. It is also known as "Soṇabhadra" and Mahāsoṇa. It is after crossing this river that Kṛṣṇa, Bhīma and Arjuna entered Magadha, the capital of Jarāsandha. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 20, Verse 27).
- MAHĀHANU. A nāga born in the family of Takṣaka. In Mahābhārata, Ādi Parva, Chapter 57, Verse 10, we read that this nāga was burnt to death in Janamejaya's 'Sarpasatra'.
- MAHĀHANUS. One of the sons of Vasudeva by Rohiṇī. (Matsya Purāṇa).
- MAHĀHĀYA. A King of the Yayāti dynasty. (Bhāgavata, 9th Skandha).
- MAHĀHRADA. A holy place. One who takes a bath here will never be in misfortune. M.B. Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 25, Verse 48 says that one who takes bath here and spends a month fasting with a pure heart will attain salvation.
- MAHĀJĀNU. A Brāhmaṇa. When Pramadvarā lay bitten by a serpent, this Brāhmaṇa came near her with tearful eyes. (See under Pramadvarā).
- MAHĀJAVĀ. A woman follower of Subrahmaṇya. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 46, Verse 22).
- MAHĀJĀYA. One of the two Pārśadas presented to Subrahmaṇya by Vāsuki, the King of serpents. The other one was Jaya. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 45, Verse 52).
- MAHĀJVĀLA. A hell. (See under Kāla I).
- MAHĀKADAMBA. A tree standing on the tall peak of Supārśva mountain. The Purāṇas declare that five big rivers take their sources from the hollow trunk of this big tree. These rivers fall on the top of Supārśva mountain and flow through the western side of Ilāvṛta. The region around this place to a distance of a hundred yojanas is filled with the fragrant air breathed out by the gods who feed upon the essence of the waters in these rivers. The Devī who lives in this sacred place is called "Dhāreśvari". (Devī Bhāgavata, 8th Skandha).
- MAHĀKĀLA I. A Śiva pārśada. Mahābhārata, Sabhā Parva, Chapter 10, Verse 34 mentions that Śiva Pārśadas known as Mahākālas flourished in the assembly of Kubera.
- MAHĀKĀLA II. A sacred place situated in the Śiprā river valley in Ujjain. The Śivaliṅga installed in this place is called "Mahākāla." Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 82, Verse 49 says that those who take a bath in the Koṭīrtha at this place, get the same effect as that of an Avamedha yāga.
- MAHĀKAPĀLA I. A minister of the Rākṣasa Dūṣaṇa. (Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Araṇya Kāṇḍa, 23rd Sarga).
- MAHĀKAPĀLA II. A Rākṣasa who attacked Rāma and Lakṣmaṇa at Pañcavaṭī. In Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Araṇya Kāṇḍa, 26th Sarga we read that when Rāma and Lakṣmaṇa fought with Khara, Dūṣaṇa and Triśiras there were three terrible Rākṣasas named Mahākapāla, Sthūlākṣa and Pramāthin.
- MAHĀKARṆĪ I. A wicked minister of Ambubīca, King of Magadha. There is a reference to him in Mahābhārata, Ādi Parva, Chapter 203, Verse 19.
- MAHĀKARṆĪ II. A woman follower of Lord Subrahmaṇya. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 263 Verse, 26).
- MAHĀKĀṢĀ. A particular subcontinent in the Śaka island. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 11, Verse 25).
- MAHĀKĀYĀ. A woman follower of Lord Subrahmaṇya. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 46, Verse, 24).
- MAHĀKRAUṄCA. A mountain in the Krauṅca island. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 12, Verse 7).
- MAHĀLAYA. A holy place. Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 84, Verse 54 mentions that one who observes a fast at this holy place for one month, will be absolved of all sins.
- MAHĀMĀLĪ. A Rākṣasa hero of Rāvaṇa's army. He was killed in the battle at Pañcavaṭī between Rāma and Lakṣmaṇa on one side and Khara, Dūṣaṇa and Triśiras on the other, over the affair of Śūrpaṇakhā. Mahāmālī appeared on the scene as a commander of Khara's army. (Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Araṇya Kāṇḍa, 26th Sarga).
- MAHĀMANAS. Grandson of Janamejaya, a King of the Aṅga dynasty. Mahāśāla was the son of Janamejaya and Mahāmanas was the son of Mahāśāla. Uśīnara was the son of Mahāmanas. (Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 277).
- MAHĀMATI. The seventh son of the sage Aṅgiras. There is a reference to him in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 218, Verse 7.
- MAHĀMERU. The golden coloured peak of Himavān. The seat of Lord Śiva, according to the Purāṇas.
- 1) *General features.* Mahāmeru surpasses even the sun in its dazzling golden brilliance. Devas and Gandharvas attend on it on all sides. It is inaccessible to sinners. There are celestial herbs and serpents at its base. It is Mahāmeru that keeps Heaven in its place by supporting it. The atmosphere there, is always alive with the sweet songs of various kinds of birds. Precious stones are scattered all over its surface. All the 33 crores of gods dwell on the sides of this Mountain. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 17).
- Saptarṣis like Vasiṣṭha rise and fall on Mahāmeru. Mahā Viṣṇu and Brahmā have their places in Mahāmeru. Viṣṇu's place is in the east. There is a special place there for the residence of Maharṣis. Those who go to Mahāmeru never return. The Sun and Moon go round Mahāmeru everyday. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 163).
- There are twenty mountains surrounding Mahāmeru. On the eastern side there are two mountains, Jāra and Devakūta. On the western side there are two mountains, Pavamāna and Pāriyātra. On the southern side are the two mountains, Kailāsa and Karavīra and on the northern side, the two mountains, Triśṛṅga and Makaragiri. Thus Mahāmeru shines like the sun in the midst of eight mountains. In the middle of Mahāmeru is situated Brahmāloka, the abode of Brahmā in a square extending over 10,000 yojanas. This region is of inexpressible splendour. At eight places around this Brahmāpurī, are situated the eight posts or abodes of the Aṣṭadikpālas, each of the abodes being 25000 yojanas in extent. Thus there are nine Purīs or Cities