

the goddess of wealth'.

7. *Vargga, Vargga-grāmika* (No. 46, L. 12, L. 15) :

He was the middle son of Hari-śreṣṭhin. In L. 12 he is mentioned only as Vargga and in L. 15 as Vargga-grāmika. While his father is called a *śreṣṭhin* he was not *śreṣṭhin* or banker by profession. The word *grāmika* affixed to Vargga's name suggests that he was the headman of a village which seems to be no other than Avaḍāra. Vargga literally means 'one who excludes or removes or averts'.<sup>7</sup>

#### NAMES OF PRATHAMA KULIKAS (Chief Artisans)

1. *Dhṛtimitra* (No. 34, L. 5; No. 35, L. 5) :

It is a name based on virtue, the first part being Dhṛti 'perseverance' and the second part 'mitra' friend, the whole meaning 'one who is friendly to perseverance', i.e., a man full of perseverance. Names ending in *mitra*<sup>8</sup> are very few in the Vedic literature but seem to have been very popular in the post-Pāṇinian period. Coins<sup>9</sup> as well as the epigraphic records show an abundant use of *mitra*-ending names.<sup>10</sup>

2. *Matidatta* (No. 37, L. 5) :

It is also a name based on virtue, the first part being 'mati' intellect and the second 'datta', the whole meaning, 'begotton by virtue of intellect'.

3. *Varadatta* (No. 36, L. 4) :

The first part is Vara meaning boon and the second is *datta*, the whole meaning 'begotton by a boon'. Names ending in *datta* were very popular in the time of Patañjali and figure much in ancient Pali works.<sup>11</sup> It is a vaiśya name-ending.

#### NAMES OF KULIKAS (Artisans)

We get only one name of a *kulika* which occurs four times in an inscription.

*Bhīma* (No. 43, LL. 3; 17, 19, 25) :

It is a name based on the Epic tradition. Bhīma was the name of one of the five Pāṇḍavas in the Mahābhārata and literally means 'dreadful'.

#### NAMES OF PRATHAMA KĀYASTHAS (Chief Scribes)

1. *Śāmbapāla* (No. 34, LL. 5-6; No. 35, L. 5) :