

name of an ancient sage, an authority on Jyotiṣa, Kṛṣi, Vṛkṣāyurveda and Dharmasāstra.

14. *Pārśva* (No. 22, L. 3) :
The name has its origins in *Pārśva* or *Pārśvanātha*; the best of the Jinas. It is the name of the 23rd Arhat of the present cycle and his servant.⁴⁴

15. *Rudrasoma* (No. 15, L. 7) :
He is the son of Bhaṭṭisoma who has been mentioned as a *mahātmā*. He is described as having another appellation of *Vyāghra*.⁴⁵ It may be a name formed by the combination of the names of two deities Rudra and Soma.

16. *Śaṅkara* (No. 22, L. 6) :
It is the name of a Jaina monk⁴⁶, who installed an image of *Pārśvanātha*. Literally meaning 'causing prosperity', it is one of the common names of Lord Śiva.⁴⁷ The present case goes against the traditions of the Smṛtis which forbid the giving of the names of deities directly to human beings.

17. *Sanasiddha* (No. 23, L. 1; L. 9) :
It was the name of an *upāsaka*. It seems to be a Prakritised form of Sanskrit '*svayam siddha*'⁴⁸, meaning 'existing on one's own strength'. Another possibility is that as '*sana*' means 'old, ancient',⁴⁹ the whole may mean '*Siddha* of old'. It may be noted that in the Aitareya Brāhmaṇa *sanaśruta* (meaning famous of old) appears as the name of a man.

18. *Śāntideva* (No. 52, L. 4) :
He was a Buddhist monk of the Mahāyāna school and has been mentioned as Ācāryya Śāntideva.⁵⁰ The name Śāntideva was quite popular among the Buddhists. Literally the name means 'the god of tranquillity or prosperity'.

19. *Somila* (No. 15, L. 6) :
It is the name of a follower of Jainism whose great grandson Madra is mentioned as having established the five excellent images referring to the five named Jaina Tirthaṅkaras sculptured on the column (viz., Ādinātha, Śāntinātha, Neminātha, Pārśvanātha and Mahāvīra).⁵¹ Somila can be an abbreviated form of the name 'Somadatta'.⁵² In Punjabi usage a person named 'Somadatta' may be addressed as '*Somī*'; Somila may be a similar form convenient to utter. Somila can also be formed by adding '*ilac*' suffix to the word 'Soma' and hence meaning 'full of