

remarks that about the sixth century A.D., the Hūṇas almost lost their original name of *Hiong-nou* or *Huns*. Later the powerful Turks give its name to the entire Hūṇa nation by which they were further known in the neighbouring nations. Afterwards they were submerged in the Mongols under the influence of the powerful Mongol Chief Chengiz Khan. Thus, the *Hiong-nou* or *Huns* received different names in different periods beginning with their origin to their advancement in other countries. In spite of the copious references to the Ephthalites in the accounts of the different countries, it is very difficult to determine their exact origin and ethnic affinities.

We can partly agree with Dr. Thakur as regards their merger in the area later dominated by the Turks and Mongols but the Hūṇas find their mention in the *Harṣa-Carita* of Bāṇa (a seventh century work) and they remained a potent force in the social and political life of the Punjab-Rajasthan-Malwa-Gujarat region during the early medieval period as evidenced by a large number of epigraphical and literary records, and also proved themselves as a source of danger to the Pāla kings of Bengal¹⁴⁸

6. *Kākas* (No. 1, L. 22):

One of the tribes who paid homage to Samudragupta. The *Kākas* are mentioned in the *Mahābhārata*¹⁴⁹ and are associated with the *Vidarbhas*, a well-known people occupying tracts of territory in modern Madhya Pradesh.¹⁵⁰ V.A. Smith connects them with *Kākanāda* near *Sāñcī*,¹⁵¹ while the *Bombay Gazetteer* identifies them with *Kākupur* near *Bithur*.¹⁵² They may have been neighbours of the *Sanakānikas*.¹⁵³

7. *Kharaparikas* (No. 1, L. 22):

One of the tribes who were subjugated by Samudragupta.

D. R. Bhandarkar¹⁵⁴ takes them to be the *Kharparas* mentioned in the *Batihagadh* Inscription¹⁵⁵ of the *Damoh* district of M.P. *Kharpara*¹⁵⁶ means a thief, a rogue or a cheat. The name *Kharaparika* does not occur elsewhere in inscriptions or literature. The *Mārkaṇḍeya Purāṇa*¹⁵⁷ mentions a tribe called *Khara-sāgara-rāśis*,¹⁵⁸ along with the *Gandharas* and the *Yaudheyas*; and the *Matsya Purāṇa*¹⁵⁹ refers to a country named *Kharapatha*, watered by the river *Nalinī*. It is difficult to say whether *Khara-sāgara-rāśī* and *Kharapatha*