

Kulakālaka, Iṣika, Śabara, Āraṭṭa and other countries.²⁰⁷ Rājaśekhara places it ahead of Māhiṣmatī. Countries situated in it are : Mahārāṣṭra, Māhiṣaka, Aśmaka, Vidarbha, Kuntala, Krathakaiśika, Sūrpāraka, Kāñcī, Kerala, Kaverā, Murala, Vanāvāsaka, Śimhala, Coḍa, Daṇḍaka, Pāṇḍya, Pallava, Gāṅga, Nāśikya, Koṅkaṇa Kollāgiri, Vallara, etc.²⁰⁸

Thus we see that Dakṣiṇāpatha in later times came to represent more or less the whole of the south.

Place-names with the suffix Pura

Pur or Pura

Pur is a word of frequent occurrence in the Ṛgveda.²⁰⁹ The early Vedic Āryans were not city builders. Puras²¹⁰ which are mentioned from the context seem to have been always associated with the dasyus and the enemies of the Āryans.²¹¹ Pura, the oldest Sanskrit word denoting city, is usually derived from the Dravidian *ur*. From what we read in the Ṛgveda about Purāṁdara's exploits in connection with the destruction of the ninety-nine puras of the Asuras who had been causing havoc to the gods, these puras seem to refer to the cities of the Indus Valley pre-Āryans.²¹² But the word *ur* is not available in Dravidian lexicons : on the contrary it is *pura* which is mentioned by them.²¹³ The word *ur* is not to be traced in the I.E. languages.²¹⁴ We find *Ur* only as the name of a town in Babylonia.²¹⁵ In Tamil country, in the inscriptions of the Chola dynasty (A.D. 900-1300) the word '*ur*' is used to refer to 'The Primary Assembly of the villagers' in the case of ordinary villages while in the same context the word *Sabhā* is used in case of Agrahāra villages, mostly tenanted by learned brāhmaṇas.²¹⁶

In the later Vedic literature²¹⁷ the word Pur meant 'rampart', 'fort', or 'stronghold'. The meaning of Pura as 'city' developed later and was not at all in vogue in the Vedic literature.

Lexicons define it as a place containing large buildings surrounded by a ditch and extending not less than one Kośa in length, if it extends for half that distance it is called a *kheṭa*; if less than that, a *karvaṭa* or small market town, any smaller cluster of houses is called a *grāma* or village.²¹⁸ The Sama-