

Purāṇas.³⁰ The Viṣṇupurāṇa says that by chanting a mantra addressed to the Narmadā, one does not have any fear from serpents.³¹ The river rises in the Amarakāṇṭaka mountain and falls into the Gulf of Cambay. The junction of the Narmadā with the sea is a sacred place of pilgrimage.³² According to the Purāṇas it flows from a Ṛkṣvat (a part of the Vindhyan range) though some of them refer to it arising directly from the Vindhya itself.³³

It is stated in the Kūrma and Matsya Purāṇas that a man who commits suicide at any tīrtha on the Narmadā or on the Amarakāṇṭaka does not return to this world.³⁴ Several rivers such as Kapilā, Viśalyā, Eraṇḍī, Ikṣunadī and Kāveri³⁵ are mentioned as falling into the Narmadā.

6. *Padmā* (No. 16, L. 5) :

The inscription No. 16 refers to a brāhmaṇa named Devaviṣṇu, who belonged to the community of Caturvedins of Padmā of the town of Indrapura.³⁶ The Gaṅgā is also known as Padmā or Paddā.³⁷ The community of the brāhmaṇas mentioned in the inscription might have lived by the side of the river. D. C. Sircar takes Padmā to be the name of a locality in the town of Indrapura.³⁸ The inscription (No. 16) also tells us that Skandagupta's feudatory viṣayapati Śarvanāga was governing Antarvedi or the country lying between the Gaṅgā and the Yamunā.³⁹

7. *Palāśinī*⁴⁰ (No. 14, L. 16) :

This river Palāśinī issues from the mountain Raivataka. On account of the flood it had swollen. The poet, in describing the scene says that the river had gone to join the sea. Palāśinī is described as emanating from the mountain Ūrjayat (i. e. the same as Raivataka).⁴¹ We find another Palāśinī, (mod. Parās), a tributary of the Koel in Choṭānagpur.⁴² It seems that the river was decorated with numerous Palāśā (flower) trees that grew on its banks. The flowers falling in the river must have given it the name of Palāśinī.⁴³

8. *Sikatā*⁴⁴ (No. 14, L. 16) :

The river Sikatā takes its source from the mountain Raivataka. It is the same as Suvarṇa-sikatā mentioned in the Junāgaṛh Rock Inscription of Rudradāman.⁴⁵ This Sikatā or Suvarṇasi-katā is to be identified with modern Soṇarekhā.⁴⁶ The name