

Ya

Yakṣa (I)—a Rākṣasa and a son of Khaśā. As he wanted to eat his own mother, he got the name of Yakṣa; of four hands and four feet, a fearful figure wandering in the night in search of prey; took the form of Vasuruci and lived with the apsaras Krathusthalā in Nandana; she bore him a son Rajatanābha; went home in the Himālayas with the son, when Krathusthalā came to know of his birth as a Rākṣasa.

Br. III. 7. 60, 100-17; 22. 14; 41. 30; 71. 111; Vā. 69. 160, 167.

Yakṣa (II)—a son of Gāndinī.

Vā. 96. 110.

Yakṣas—a semi-celestial group, usually of the class of demons; born of Viśvā and Kaśyapa;¹ followers of Rudra (Śiva), their overlord; their lord, Kubera;² milked the cow-earth, with Vaiśravaṇa as the calf and āma as the vessel;³ worship the Barhiṣad manes;⁴ helped Vṛtra against Indra and went with Satī to Dakṣa's sacrifice;⁵ sport of;⁶ got *mokṣa* meditating on Hari;⁷ usurped the Ānarta kingdom of Kakudmi when he was absent at Brahmā's court;⁸ came with the gods to see Kṛṣṇa and saw Kṛṣṇa retiring to his own region;⁹ (see Puṇyajanana); vanquished by Rāvaṇa;¹⁰ worship the Pitṛs and ruin the śrāddha;¹¹ their kingdom;¹² their loka;¹³ the nails of Vāmana when he grew.¹⁴

¹ Bhā. II. 6. 13; VI. 8. 24; X. 6. 27; 62. 19; 85. 41; Br. II. 32. 1-2; 35. 191; 36. 118; M. 6. 46. ² Bhā. IV. 10. 5; XI. 16. 16; 23. 24; M. 8. 5. ³ Ib. 10. 22. ⁴ Ib. 15. 4. ⁵ Bhā. VI. 10. 20; IV. 4. 34. ⁶ Ib. X. 90. 9. ⁷ Ib. VII. 7. 50. ⁸ Ib. IX. 3. 36. ⁹ Ib. VII. 8. 38; XI. 31. 2. ¹⁰ Br. III. 7. 255. ¹¹ Ib. III. 10. 38, 111; 11. 81; IV. 2. 26; 14. 4; 20. 50; 30. 9; 33. 75. ¹² M. 23. 39; 121. 48. ¹³ Br. IV. 39. 56. ¹⁴ M. 246. 54.