

Āpta m. : A mythical serpent, living in Bhogavatī Purī 5. 101. 12, 1.

Son of Surasā and Kaśyapa 5. 101. 4, 17; description 5. 101. 5-7.

Āmāhaṭha m. : A mythical serpent.

Born in the *kula* of Dhṛtarāṣṭra, one of those offered in the *sarpasatra*; description : 'fast as wind' (*vātavega*), 'having excess of poison' (*viṣolbaṇa*) 1. 52. 15, 1, 13.

Āyu m. : King of the frogs (*maṇḍūkārāja*).

His daughter Suśobhanā 3. 190. 37; he requested king Parikṣit of the Ikṣvāku family not to kill innocent frogs 3. 190 33; gave his daughter in marriage to Parikṣit, but also cursed her for having cheated before many kings 3. 190. 39-40.

Āruṇi¹ m. : A mythical serpent.

Born in the *kula* of Dhṛtarāṣṭra, one of those offered in the *sarpasatra*; description : 'fast as wind' (*vātavega*), 'having excess of poison' (*viṣolbaṇa*) 1. 52. 17, 1, 13.

Āruṇi² m. : A mythical bird.

Son of Vinatā (*vainateya*) 1. 59. 39; present among those who greeted the birth of Arjuna 1. 114. 62.

Āryaka m. : A mythical serpent, living in Bhogavatī Purī 5. 101. 11, 1.

A. Son of Surasā and Kaśyapa 5. 101. 4, 17; description 5. 101. 5-7. B. Also listed by Sūta among the sons of Kadrū. C. His grand-son Sumukha 5. 101. 19, 23; Nārada requested Āryaka to accept Mātali's daughter Guṇakeśī for his grand-son Sumukha 5. 102. 6-11; Āryaka distressed because his son Cikura was eaten by Vainateya (*Garuda*), and similar fate awaited Sumukha 5. 102. 14-16; his purpose achieved, he was happy

to return home when Indra granted long life to Sumukha 5. 102. 27, 29.

Uccaiḥśravas m. : A mythical horse.

A. Origin : Narrated in the *Asṭīkaparvan* 1. 2. 73; arose from the ocean when it was churned for nectar (*amṛta*) 1. 15. 2; 1. 16. 34; 5. 100. 12; 6. 32. 27. B. Description and Status : White and lustrous (*pāṇḍura, mahādyuti*), king of horses (*aśvarāja*), jewel among horses (*aśvaratna, aśvānām vara*); heavenly, unaging, having the strength of a torrent (*mahaughabala*), very speedy (*manojava, atuluvikrama*), marked by all good signs, honoured by hosts of gods 1. 15. 2-4; 1. 16. 34, 36; 1. 18. 1; 8. 5. 21. C. Myth : Seen by sisters Kadrū and Vinatā from near 1. 15. 1; Kadrū challenged Vinatā to tell quickly the colour of Uccaiḥśravas; Vinatā described it to be white and asked Kadrū what she thought about it; Kadrū said Uccaiḥśravas had a black tail; both agree to a wager on it — one who loses shall be the *dāsī* of the winner (*atra vipṛṇāvahe; dīvyā dāsībhāvāya*) 1. 18. 1-5; next morning when they went to see the horse from near they found many dark hair sticking to its tail 1. 19. 1-2; 1. 20. 2; 1. 49. 6. D. Greatness : considered as one of the *vibhūtis* of Bhagavān 6 32. 27; even Uccaiḥśravas to be given as gift to a deserving person 12. 226. 15. E. Standard of comparison : Aśvatthāman, as soon as born, neighed loudly like Uccaiḥśravas 1. 121. 13; 7. 167. 29; Kṛṣṇa, as a child killed a horse as strong as Uccaiḥśravas 7. 10. 3; dust raised by the Aśvamedha horse was like the one raised by Uccaiḥśravas 14. 89. 16

Ucchikha m. : A mythical serpent, born in the *kula* of Takṣaka, one of those offered in the *sarpasatra* 1. 52. 8, 7, 9.