

Born in the *kula* of Dhṛtarāṣṭra, listed by Śūta among those offered in the snake sacrifice of Janamejaya; described as 'fast as wind' (*vātavega*), 'having excess of poison' (*viṣolbhaṇa*) 1. 52. 17, 13.

Sumukha<sup>1</sup> m. : A mythical serpent, living in Bhogavatī Purī 5. 101. 23, 1.

A. Birth : Born in the *kula* of Airāvata, grandson of Āryaka, son of Cikura; his mother was the daughter of Vāmana 5. 101. 23, 24; his father was killed by Vainateya (Garuḍa) 5. 101. 24. B. Eminence : A big snake (*mahānāga* 5. 103. 5); excellent snake, king or chief of snakes (*bhujagottama* 5. 101. 25; *nāgarāj* 5. 101. 23; *nāgapati* 5. 101. 26). C. Description : Lustrous, pleasing to look at 5. 101. 19; high banner of his race (*vaṁśaraya mahān ketubhūtaḥ*) 5. 101. 20; he impressed Mātali with such qualities as attentiveness, fortitude, handsomeness and young age (*prañidhānena dhairyena rūpeṇa vayasā ca me / manaḥ praviṣṭaḥ*) 5. 101. 21; also marked with such qualities as good character, purity and self-control (*sumukhasya guṇaiś caiva śiḥṣaucadamā-dibhiḥ*) 5. 102. 10. D. Marriage with Guṇakesī : Mātali while searching in the Nāgaloka a bride-groom for his daughter Guṇakesī happened to notice the serpent Sumukha in Bhogavatī Purī; he was happy to see him 5. 101. 22; when told by Nārada who Sumukha was, Mātali chose him as his son-in-law; he told Nārada accordingly and requested Nārada to make effort to obtain Sumukha 5. 101. 21, 25, 26; Nārada approached Āryaka, Sumukha's grand-father, and told him what Mātali had in mind; Āryaka was told that although Sumukha had no father he was chosen by Mātali on account of his good qualities 5. 101. 6, 10; Āryaka was happy to hear

the proposal but he was distressed because Garuḍa had announced his intention to eat up Sumukha after a month 5. 102. 15; 5. 103. 5; the threat was bound to come true as Garuḍa wanted to feed his large progeny by killing Sumukha 5. 102. 16; 5. 103. 5; Mātali then proposed to take Sumukha with him to meet Indra and make effort to prolong the remaining life-span of Sumukha and thwart Garuḍa in carrying out his threat 5. 102. 17-21; Viṣṇu, who happened to be present when all met Indra, asked Indra to give *amṛta* to Sumukha and make him (immortal) like other gods; Viṣṇu desired Sumukha and the rest to get what they wanted; Indra, however, asked Viṣṇu himself to give *amṛta* to Sumukha; when asked by Viṣṇu again, Indra gave only long life (*āyur uttamam* 5. 102. 27) to Sumukha but not *amṛta*; on obtaining the boon Sumukha's face shone with brilliance (*labdhvā varam tu sumukhaḥ sumukhaḥ sambabhūva ha* 5. 102. 28); having obtained wife as desired Sumukha went home 5. 102. 23-28; Garuḍa was extremely angry to know that he was deprived of Sumukha; he blamed Indra for acting as he willed and announced that since Sumukha was no longer available to him he would not kill any other serpent 5. 103. 1, 2, 6, 15.

Sumukha<sup>2</sup> m. : A mythical bird.

One of the six sons of Vainateya (Garuḍa), who extended the *kula* of Suparṇas 5. 99. 2; 6. 7. 12; Sumukha saw that all birds on mount Meru were of gold (*sauvarṇān prekṣya vāyasān*); he therefore felt that mount Meru made no distinction between good, middling, and low birds and hence left it 6. 7. 12-13.

Sumukha<sup>3</sup> m. : A mythical bird living in the world of Suparṇas 5. 99. 12, 1.