

sub-caste of Kṣatriyas born of intermixture of Kṣatriyas with the other three Varṇas (*kṣatrajātir athāmbaṣṭhā ... ete caturbhyo varṇebhyo jāyante vai parasparam* ||) 12. 285. 8-9. C. Qualities : Brave and willing to die in war (*śūrās tanutyajāḥ*) 6. 18. 14; strong (*balavantāḥ*) 6. 112. 107; very difficult to be defeated in war (*samkhye sudurjayāḥ*) 8. 57. 31; according to Yudhiṣṭhira they were not wicked and were of good character and good conduct (*anrśamsāḥ śilavṛttopapannāḥ*) 5. 30. 24; they were ranked as *mahārathas* 6. 112. 107, 111; D. Epic Events : (1) Mentioned among the peoples conquered by Nakula in his expedition to the west before the Rājasūya (*ambaṣṭhān ... vyajayat puruṣarṣabhāḥ*) 2. 29. 6, 8; (2) Ambaṣṭhas are mentioned among those Kṣatriyas who brought wealth in hundreds for the Rājasūya of Yudhiṣṭhira (*ambaṣṭhāḥ kaukurās ... āhārṣuḥ kṣatriyā...vittam*) 2. 48. 14, 16; (3) Mentioned by Yudhiṣṭhira among those warriors whom Duryodhana was able to collect to fight against the Pāṇḍavas; he asked Samjaya to wish them well on his behalf (*ye rājānaḥ pāṇḍavāyodhanāya samānitā dhārtarāṣṭreṇa kecit |... tathāmbaṣṭhā ...|| teṣāṃ sarveṣāṃ kuśalam tāta pṛccheḥ*) 5. 30. 23-24; (4) Mentioned among the twenty thousand charioteers of the twelve Janapadas who followed Duḥśāsana and other sons of Dhṛtarāṣṭra when they acted as rear-guards of Bhīṣma (*rathā viśśatisāhasrās tathaiṣāṃ anuyāyinaḥ |... tathāmbaṣṭhās ... dvādaśaite janapadāḥ*) 6. 18. 12-14; mentioned among the Kṣatriyas who were near Bhīṣma when he stood in front of the army (*bhīṣmo 'grataḥ sarvasainyasya ... tasya sainyam ... ye cāmbaṣṭhāḥ kṣatriyāḥ*) 6. 20.

9-10; (5) Mentioned among those who, when instigated by Duryodhana, attacked Arjuna as do moths the fire (*ambaṣṭhāḥ kekayaiḥ saha | abhipetū rane pārtham pataṅgā iva pāvakam* ||) 6. 112. 110; (6) Mentioned among the twelve Janapadas who did not forsake Bhīṣma, just before his fall, on the tenth day of the war although they were wounded by arrows (*ambaṣṭhāḥ ... dvādaśaite janapadāḥ ... saṅgrāme na jahur bhīṣmam yudhyamānam kirīṭinā*) 6. 114. 77; (7) Mentioned by Bhīṣma among those people who were once defeated by Karṇa (*ambaṣṭhāś ca ... jitās tvayā*) 7. 4. 5; (8) Mentioned among the warriors who, on the eleventh day of the war, formed the extremity of the left wing of Droṇa's *vyūha* which was guarded by Kṛpa and others (*kṛpaś ca kṛtavarmā ca ... savyam pārśvam apālayan || teṣāṃ prapakṣāḥ ... madrās trigartāḥ sāmbaṣṭhāḥ*) 7. 6. 4-6; (9) Mentioned among the warriors who formed the rear of the *Suparṇavyūha* (7. 19. 4) arranged by Droṇa on the eleventh day of the war (*prāṇhe kaltṅgāḥ sāmbaṣṭhāḥ*) 7. 19. 11; (10) Mentioned among the three thousand horse-riders who, led by Duryodhana on the fourteenth day of the war, attacked Sātyaki as moths do the fire (*trīṇi sādisahasrāṇi duryodhanapurogamāḥ ... kuṇindās taṅganāmbaṣṭhāḥ ... abhyadravanta śaineyam śalabhāḥ pāvakam yathā* ||) 7. 97. 13-14; every rock that was thrown by the Ambaṣṭhas and others was pierced and broken by Sātyaki with his *nārāca* arrows (*aśmavṛṣṭim ... ambaṣṭhaiś ca kuṇindaiś ca kṣiptām kṣiptām sa sātyakiḥ | nārācaiḥ prativivyādha*) 7. 97. 39-40; (11) Mentioned among those who were killed by Yudhiṣṭhira during the night