

war (*ambaṣṭhān...prāhīnot mṛtyulokāya ga-
nān yuddhe yudhiṣṭhiraḥ*) 7. 132. 23; 7. 136.
3; (12) Arjuna reported to Yudhiṣṭhira
that when his way to the Samśaptakas
was suddenly blocked by Aśvatthāman, the
army of the Ambaṣṭhas, resolved to fight
unto death, faced him; Arjuna killed five
hundred of them before proceeding towards
Aśvatthāman (*ambaṣṭhasenā maraṇe vyati-
ṣṭhat | teṣām ahaṃ pañcaśatāni hatvā tato
drauṇim agomam*) 8. 47. 3; (13) Śalya
encouraged Karṇa to fight with the same
courage with Arjuna which he showed in
defeating Ambaṣṭhas and others (*vaidehā-
mbaṣṭhakāmbojās ... yayā dhṛtyā jitāḥ
samkhye sudurjayāḥ || tāṃ dhṛtīm kuru
rādheya tataḥ pratyehi pāṇḍavam*) 8. 57.
31-32.

Avanti, Āvantya m. (pl.) : Name of
a country; the people called **Āvantya**;
warriors from Avanti (Āvantyas) often
mentioned with Dākṣiṇātyas.

A. Location : Listed by Samjaya among
the Janapadas of the Bhāratavarṣa (*ata
ūrdhvam janapadān nibodha gadato mama*)
6. 10. 37, 5; (*kuntayo 'vantayaś caiva*)
6. 10. 41; in the west (*avantiṣu pratiçyām
vai ... diśi*) 3. 87. 1. **B. Description** :
Warriors of the Avanti country were said
to possess great lustre (*etad ālokyate sai-
nyam āvantyanām mahāprabham*) 7. 88. 30.
C. Epic events : (1) Dhaumya informed
Yudhiṣṭhira about the sanctifying and holy
places in the Avanti country in the west
(*yāni tatra pavitrāṇi puṇyāny āyatanāni ca*)
3. 87. 1; (2) On the eighth day of the war
Bhīṣma, accompanied by the warriors from
Mālava, Avanti, and from the south, led
the Kaurava army (*mālavair dākṣiṇātyaiś
ca āvantyaiś ca samanvitaḥ | agrataḥ sārva-*

sainyānām bhīṣmaḥ...yayau //) 6. 83. 6; (3)
On the fourteenth day of the war the army
of the Āvantyas, followed immediately by
the one from the south, stood close to Droṇa
(*sainyam āvantyanām ...| asyānantaratas tv
etad dākṣiṇātyam*) 7. 88. 30; (4) Āvantyas
mentioned by Arjuna among those at whose
fall Duryodhana did not stop fighting (*āva-
ntyēṣu ca vareṣu (hateṣu) naivāsāmyata
vaiśasam*) 9. 23. 26; (5) While recounting
Kṛṣṇa's exploits to Samjaya, Dhṛtarāṣṭra
mentioned the defeat of the Āvantyas and
southerners at Kṛṣṇa's hands (*āvantyan
dākṣiṇātyāimś ca ... jitavān puṇḍarīkākṣaḥ*)
7. 10. 16, 18.

Aśmaka m. (pl.) : Name of a Jana-
pada and its people.

A. Location : Listed by Samjaya among
the (southern) Janapadas of Bhāratavarṣa
(*ata ūrdhvam janapadān nibodha gadato
mama*) 6. 10. 37, 5; (*aśmakāḥ pāṇisu-
rāṣṭrāś ca*) 6. 10. 42. **B. Epic events** :
(1) Listed by Dhṛtarāṣṭra among those
who were defeated by Karṇa before the
Vaiṣṇava sacrifice of Duryodhana and were
made to pay tribute (*aśmakān ṛṣikāms
tathā | yo jtvā samare viraś cakre bali-
bhṛtaḥ purā* //) 8. 5. 20 (a reference to
what is hinted in 3. 241. 16, but Aśmakas
are not specifically mentioned in the report
of Karṇa's conquest as detailed in Vol. IV,
App. I. 24. 28-72, pp. 1078-1079); (2)
Listed by Dhṛtarāṣṭra among those who
fought on the side of the Pāṇḍavas (*aśma-
kāḥ kekayās caiva*) 7. 61. 39; (the king of
the Aśmakas referred to as *aśmakeśvara*
7. 36. 23 and as *aśmakadāyāda* 7. 36. 21).

Aśvaśaka m. (pl.) : Name of a parti-
cular horde (Śakas who fought riding