

horses ?)

Mentioned by Dhṛtarāṣṭra among those who were defeated by Kṛṣṇa; their groups came from different directions (*nānādigbhyas ca samprāptān vrātān aśvaśakān prati | jitavān puṇḍarikākṣaḥ*) 7. 10. 18.

Aśvātaka m. (pl.) : Name of warriors.

On the second day of the war Duryodhana with his brothers and Aśvātakas protected the army of Śakuni (*tato duryodhano rājā sahitaḥ sarvasodaraiḥ | aśvātakair vikarṇaiś ca ... abhyarakṣata ... saubaleyasya vāhiniṃ*) 6. 47. 15-16.

Aṣṭādaśāvāra m. (pl.) : Designation of some unspecified eighteen junior families of warriors (?)

A. Description : Described as Kṣatriyas arrogant while fighting (*kṣatriyair yuddhadurmadaiḥ*) 2. 13. 54. **B. Epic events :** (1) When the danger of Kamśa was over, but when Jarāsandha was making preparations, Kṛṣṇa and Rāma held a council with the eighteen junior families of warriors (*bhaye tu samupakrānte jarāsandhe samudyate | mantrō 'yam mantrito rājan kulair aṣṭādaśāvaraiḥ* ||) 2. 13. 34; (2) The seat of the Yādavas at Kuśasthali (2. 13. 49) was garrisoned by the eighteen junior Kṣatriya families of warriors (*sadma ... aṣṭādaśāvarair naddham kṣatriyair yuddhadurmadaiḥ*) 2. 13. 54; (3) The group of eighteen juniors were engaged in a battle with a certain king named Hamśa, helped by some others; apparently Hamśa was killed in this battle (*atha hamśa iti khyātaḥ kaścid āsīn mahān nṛpaḥ | sa cānyaiḥ sahito rājan samgrāme 'ṣṭādaśāvaraiḥ* ||) 2. 13. 39; (4) Probably these junior families are meant when it is said that

eighteen families, along with the northern Bhojas fled to the west due to fear of Jarāsandha (*udīcyabhojās ca tathā kulāny aṣṭādaśābhibho | jarāsandhabhayād eva pratīcīm diśam āsritāḥ* ||) 2. 13. 24.

Ahicchatra m. : Name of a country.

A. Location : In the northern Pāñcāla, to the north of Bhāgirathī (*bhāgirathyāham uttare (rājā)*) 1. 128. 12; the town Ahicchatrā was in this country (*evam rājannahicchatrā purī*) 1. 128. 18. **B. Epic events :** Droṇa, after dividing the Pāñcāla country into southern and northern Pāñcālas and after handing over the former to Dru-pada and retaining the latter for himself, repaired to the territory Ahicchatra (*ahicchatram ca viśayam droṇaḥ samabhipadyata* 1. 128. 17, 10-12, 15; (2) The army of the Kauravas gathered for the war spread far and wide beyond Hāstinapura to far off lands which included Ahicchatra (*na hāstinapure rājann avakāśo 'bhavat tadā | ... ahicchatram kālakūṣam .../... eṣa deśaḥ suvistīrṇaḥ ... babhūva kauraveyāṇām balena susamākulāḥ*) 5. 19. 28, 30-31.

Āgastya m. (pl.) : Name of a family of ṛṣis.

Described as illustrious (*mahābhāga*) 3. 27. 8; Baka Dālbhya showed to Yudhiṣṭhira that in the Dvaitavana many Brāhmaṇas, among whom he named Āgastyas, had associated themselves with him and, protected by him, were practising *dharma* (*paśya dvaitavane pārtha ... caranti dharmam puṇye 'smiṃs tvayā guptā dhṛta-vratāḥ |... āgastyāś ca mahābhāgāḥ*) 3. 27. 6-8; (for other details about the sages, Brāhmaṇas gathered in the Dvaitavana, see **Atreya** (2) below).