

Kāśyapas among the ascetics who were present on Mahendra mountain; Yudhiṣṭhira with his brothers honoured all of them (*tāpasānām param cakre satkāram bhrātṛbhiḥ saha || lomaśas cāsya tān sarvān ācakhyau tatra tāpasān | ... vāsiṣṭhān atha kāśyapān ||*) 3. 15. 1-2.

Kitava m. (pl.) : Name of a Janapada and its people; often mentioned along with Sauvīras.

A. Location and their way of life : They are characterized as a Janapada (*kitavāḥ ... dvādaśaite janapadāḥ*) 6. 18. 13-14; 6. 114. 76-77; they lived near the ocean and along the rivers and lived on wild grain that grew of its own accord due to rain water, or along the river side (*indrakṛṣṭair vartayanti dhānyair nadīmukhaiś ca ye | samudraniṣkuṭe jātāḥ parisindhu ca mānavāḥ || ... vaṅgāś ca kitavaiḥ saha*) 2. 47. 9-10 (Nī. on Bom. Ed. 2. 51. 11 : *samudrasamī pashthaniṣkuṭe ḡhodyāne samudraniṣkuṭe | indrakṛṣṭaiḥ indrenaivākṛṣṭaiḥ na tu karṣaṇādikṣettriyakayatnāpekṣaiḥ vanadhānyaiḥ vṛṣṭyabhāve tu nadīmukhaiḥ nadīprabhavaiḥ*). **B. Characteristics :** Brave and ready to give life in war (*sarve śūrās tanutyajaḥ*) 6. 18. 14. **C. Epic events :** (1) As tribute for Yudhiṣṭhira's Rājasūya, Kitavas brought various kinds of jewels, goats and sheep, cows and gold, donkeys and camels, wines made from fruits, and different varieties of blankets; they were not allowed to enter through the gate (*vaṅgāś ca kitavaiḥ saha | vividham balim ādāya ratnāni vividhāni ca || ajāvikaṃ gohiranyaṃ kharoṣṭraṃ phalajaṃ madhu | kambalān vividhāṃś caiva dvāri tiṣṭhanti vāritāḥ ||*) 2. 47. 10-11 (Nī. on Bom. Ed. 2. 51. 12 : *phalajaṃ madhūkādijātīyam*);

(2) Kitavas are mentioned among those who accompanied Duḥśāsana and his brothers who acted as rearguards of Bhīṣma on the first day of the war (*prṣṭhagopās tu bhīṣmasya putrās tava narādhipa |... duḥśāsano ... tathaiṣām anuyāyinaḥ |... sauvīrāḥ kitavāḥ*) 6. 18. 10-13; (3) Kitavas were among those who, although they were being killed by sharp arrows, did not abandon Bhīṣma on the ninth day of the war (*sauvīrāḥ kitavāḥ ... saṃgrāme nājahur bhīṣmān vadhyamānāḥ śitaiḥ śaraiḥ ||*) 6. 102. 7; (4) Kitavas were among the twelve Janapadas who, on the tenth day of the war, did not abandon Bhīṣma fighting with Arjuna although they were injured by arrows and were distressed by wounds (*sauvīrāḥ kitavāḥ ... dvādaśaite janapadāḥ śarāntā vṛṇapīḍitāḥ | saṃgrāme na jahur bhīṣmān yudhyamānaṃ kirīṭinā*) 6. 114. 76; (5) On the eleventh day of the war, when the Kaurava army was arranged in a Śakaṭavyūha (7. 6. 15), the Kitavas stood at the extreme end of the left side which was led by Duryodhana; they stood immediately behind Karṇa (*savyaṃ pārśvam apālayan || teṣāṃ prapakṣāḥ ... sauvīrāḥ kitavāḥ ... tavātmajaṃ puraskṛtya sūtaputrasya prṣṭhatāḥ ||*) 7. 6. 4-5, 7.

Kirāta m. (pl.) : Name of a mountain tribe of hunters.

A. Location : (1) Listed by Samjaya among the various northern tribes of the Bhāratavarṣa; they probably occupied different regions since Samjaya has listed them thrice (*puṇḍrā bhārgāḥ kirātās ca*) 6. 10. 49; (*kirātā barbarāḥ*) 6. 10. 55; (*uttarāś cāpare ... kirātānām ca jātayaḥ*) 6. 10. 63, 67; listed also by Bhīṣma as northernes (*uttarāpathajanmānaḥ kīrtayi-*