

first seed of life (aṇḍa) appeared. (M.B., Ādi Parva, Chapter 1, Verse 28).

ANĀKATĀHA. The entire universe consisting of the fourteen worlds, which are : Bhūloka, Bhuvraloka, Svarloka, Maharloka, Janarloka, Tapoloka, Satyaloka, Pātāla, Rasātala, Mahātala, Talātala, Sutala, Vitala, Atala.

ANDHA I. An offspring of Kaśyapa by his wife Kadrū. (M.B., Udyoga Parva, Chapter 103, Verse 16).

ANDHA II. There is a story in M.B., about a huntsman, Vaṭaka killing one Andha, an evil being. Andha whose form and shape were that of an animal, by doing tapas, became recipient of a boon for destroying everything. Brahmā rendered him blind lest the world perish, and that animal began to be known as Andha. When Andha began his programme of complete destruction many people rushed up to Viśvāmitra in his abode in the forest. Andha followed them. But, Viśvāmitra, in the interests of self-protection pointed out the refugees to Andha. As punishment for this sin Viśvāmitra had once to go to hell. This story was related by Kṛṣṇa to Arjuna during the great war at Kurukṣetra, and the reason for telling the story was this: During the fight Arjuna hesitated to aim arrows against Karṇa. Enraged by this attitude of Arjuna Dharmaputra asked him to hand over his famous bow, Gāṇḍīva to Śrī Kṛṣṇa. Feeling insulted at this demand Arjuna, all on a sudden, drew his sword to do away with Dharmaputra. Śrī Kṛṣṇa, prevented Arjuna from attacking his noble brother, and in this context related the above story to prove the truth that sins committed even unwittingly will lead one, as in the case of Viśvāmitra to hell. (M.B., Karṇa Parva, Chapter 69).

ANDHA III. Upamanyu, the excellent disciple of Dhaumya, consumed the leaves of a tree which made him blind. (See Ayodhadhaumya) (M.B., Ādi Parva, Chapter 3).

ANDHAKA I. There was a very renowned king called Andhaka in the Yadu dynasty. All kings belonging to this dynasty used to be called Andhakas.

ANDHAKA II. Verse 12, Chapter 4 of M.B., Udyoga Parva refers to another King called Andhaka. The Pāṇḍavas had sent to him a messenger soliciting military help.

ANDHAKA III. An Asura.

1) *Birth*. This Asura was the foster son of Hiranyākṣa. Śiva was really his father. While once Śiva was immersed in yoga his daughter closed his eyes playfully with her hands, and lo ! a darkness rose and enveloped the whole place. From that darkness, with a sound as that of thunderbolt, appeared a Rākṣasa. He got the name Andhaka as he was born from darkness. At that time Hiranyākṣa was doing tapas for a son. Śiva appeared before him and bestowing on him Andhaka as a foster son said as follows: "If he (Andhaka) earns the hatred of the world or desires even the mother of the three worlds or kills brahmins I will myself burn him to ashes". After saying this Śiva disappeared. (Vāmana Purāṇa, Chapter 63).

2) *Andhaka desires Pārvatī with lust*. One day overcome by erotic passion Andhaka said to his henchmen as follows : "He is my true friend who brings Śiva's consort, Pārvatī to me. Yes, he is my brother, nay, father even." Hearing these ravings of Andhaka, Prahlāda went to him and convinced him that Pārvatī,

in fact was his mother. But Andhaka was not quietened. Then Prahlāda explained to him the gravity of the sin of desiring other people's wives. Even this had no effect on Andhaka. He sent Śambarāsura to Śiva to ask for and bring Pārvatī to him. Śiva sent word to Andhaka that if the latter would defeat him in the game of dice Pārvatī would be sent to him. Andhaka got enraged and rushed to mount Mandara and began a fight with Śiva.

3) *Death*. Defeated in the encounter, Andhaka craved for Śiva's pardon. He admitted that Pārvatī was his mother. He also prayed for Śiva's blessings for removal of his Asurahood. Śiva granted him the prayers. The sins and Asurahood of Andhaka were thus ended. Śiva made him the head of the Asuras, named Bhṛṅgi. (Vāmana Purāṇa, Chapter 63 etc.).

ANDHAKA (M). A sacred pool. A dip in this pool will bring all the benefits of a Puruṣamedha yajña. (M.B., Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 25, Verses 32, 33).

ANDHAKĀRAKA (M). A place in the island of Krauñca. (M.B., Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 12, Verse 18).

ANDHAKARAM. A mountain in the island of Krauñca. (M.B., Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 12, Verse 22).

ANDHAKŪPA (M). In the Devī Bhāgavata Mahāviṣṇu describes 28 hells to Nārada, and Andhakūpam is one of them. (see Naraka). Andhakūpa is reserved for those who kill either Brahmins or devotees of God or Sannyāsins (holy people). This hell abounds in cruel beasts like the bear and leopard, evil birds like the eagle, reptiles like the snake and scorpion and dirty insects like bugs and mosquitos. The sinner will have to put up with all these sufferings in hell till the period of his punishment expires. (Devī Bhāgavata, Aṣṭama Skandha).

ANDHATĀMISRA. One of the 28 hells. (See Naraka). This hell is destined for wives who cheat their husbands and consume food and for husbands who cheat their wives and eat food. Agents of Yama get hold of such sinners and push them into the Andhatāmīra. As the cords of the agents with which they bind the sinners get tighter around their bodies they faint and fall down owing to unbearable pain. When they regain consciousness and try to run away and escape, the Agents of Yama again bind them with the cord. (Devī Bhāgavata, Aṣṭama Skandha).

ANDHRA (ĀNDHRA). This is the Andhra Pradesh in modern India. It has to be surmised that this place was very famous during the period of the composition of the Mahābhārata. (M.B., Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 9, Verse 49).

ANDHRA. Warriors from Andhra were called Andhras. (M.B., Droṇa Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 8).

ANDHRAKA I. Verse 24, Chapter 4 of Sabhā Parva, describes this king of Andhra Deśa as having sat in the assembly hall of the palace constructed by Maya at Indraprastha for the Pāṇḍavas. He was also present at the Rājasūya Yajña performed by Yudhiṣṭhira. (M.B., Sabhā Parva, Chapter 34, Verse 11).

ANDHRAKA II. The warriors of Andhra Deśa were called Andhrakas also. (M.B., Karṇa Parva, Chapter 20, Verses 10 and 11). In the Bhārata war the King of Pāṇḍya defeated those warriors. Kṛṣṇa incited Arjuna to kill the Andhras and the Pulindas. (M.B., Karṇa Parva, Chapter 73, Verses 19 to 21).

ANDHRAKA III. Andhrakas are classed with Mlec-