

of the cat did stir out only during night time and the cat moved about day and night afraid of none wishing to catch hold of the rat and eat it. Their common place of activity was a rice-field nearby.

Once a forester laid a net to catch the cat and the cat fell into the trap and lay there hanging inside the net. The rat coming that way saw the plight of the cat and jumped with joy. But soon the owl and the mongoose came to the spot and seeing their enemy, the cat, imprisoned rushed to catch hold of the rat. The rat then did a very clever thing. It went and tore open the net imprisoning the cat and when the cat jumped out of the net the owl and the mongoose ran away and disappeared. The rat went to its hole. This is a story to demonstrate the fact that with a change in the situation an enemy may turn out to be a friend. (Taraṅga 7, Madanamañcukālambaka, Kathāsaritsāgara).

ELLU. An oil seed. (Sesame). Ellu originated from the body of Kaśyapa. Because Ellu is born of the body of Kaśyapa, King of Rsis, it is considered as divine to offer Ellu to anybody. (Śloka 10, Chapter 66, Anuśā-sana Parva).

ELU. This word in Malayālam means 'Seven'.

(1) The seven qualities which would enhance prosperity are the following: Dhairya (courage), Śama (forbearance), Dama (control of the sense), Śucitva (cleanliness), Dayā (compassion), Mṛdubāk (geniality of speech) and Ahimsā (not giving injury to your friends).

(2) The seven divisions of Kerala are Venāṭ, Pūlināṭ, Karkanāṭ, Cītanāṭ, Kuṭṭanāṭ, Kuṭanāṭ and Malayamanāṭ.

(3) The seven Cittaśalyas are Daylight Candra, Woman past the prime of life, a pond without lotuses, a lovely person without learning, a lord greedy of wealth, a virtuous but poor man and a cruel royal attendant.

(4) Seven Karmas : Bravery, skill, courage, resourcefulness, non-withdrawal from war, magnanimity and commanding power.

(5) Seven solemnities : Māmodisa, Mūron, Kurbāna, Kumbasāra, Vivāha, Paṭṭatva and Tailābhiṣeka of the sick.

(6) Seven Cirañjivis (People who never die) : Aśvatthāmā, Bali, Vyāsa, Hanūmān, Vibhiṣaṇa, Kṛpa and Paraśurāma.

(7) Jivāvasthās : Ajñāna, Āvaraṇa, Vikṣepa, Parokṣajñāna, Aparokṣajñāna, Anarthanivṛtti and Ānanda-prāpti.

(8) Seven islands : Jambudvīpa, Plakṣadvīpa, Puṣkardvīpa, Krauñcadvīpa, Śākadvīpa, Śālmaladvīpa, and Kuśadvīpa.

(9) Seven Dhātus : Rasa, Rakta, Māmsa, Medas, Asthi, Majjā and Śukla.

(10) Seven rivers : Gaṅgā, Yamunā, Godāvarī, Sarasvatī, Narmadā, Sindhu and Kāverī.

(11) Seven Nādis : Iḍā, Piṅgalā, Suṣumnā, Muṣā; Alambuṣā, Asthijihvā, Gāndhārī.

(12) Seven wives of Vasudeva: Devakī, Śrutadevā, Yaśodā, Śrutiśravā, Śrīdevā, Upadevā and Surūpā.

(13) Seven mountains : Himavān, Niṣadha, Vindhya, Mālyavān, Pāriyātra, Gandhamādāna and Hemakūṭa.

(14) Seven Pātālas : Atala, Vitala, Sutala, Nitala, Talātala, Rasātala, and Mahātala.

(15) Seven holy places : Ayodhyā, Mathurā, Māyā, Kāśī, Kāñcī, Avantī and Dvāravatī.

(16) Seven Maruts : Āvala, Sainvaha, Pravaha, Udavaha, Vivaha, Parivala and Parāvaha.

(17) Seven Vargas : King, Minister, Country, fort, treasury, army and strength of friends and relatives.

(18) Seven colours : White, black, red, green, yellow, blue and violet.

(19) Seven forests : Kāmyaka, Aditi, Vyāsa, Phalkī, Sūrya, Madhu and Śītā.

(20) Seven doṣas (defects) : Laziness, arrogance, ignorance, profligacy, Hauteur, pride and selfishness.

(21) Seven vices : Hunting, dice, womanising, drinking squandering, harshness of speech and cruelty.

(22) Seven seas : Lavaṇa, Ikṣu, Surā, Sarpiṣ, Dadhi, Kṣīra and Śuddhodaka.

(23) Seven notes : Śadja, Rṣabha, Gāndhāra, Madhyama, Pañcama, Dhaivata and Niṣāda.

ERAKA. A serpent born in the family of the Kauravas. This serpent was burnt to death at the Sarpasatra of Janamejaya. (Śloka 16, Chapter 57, Ādi Parva).

ETAŚA. A sage who is greatly extolled in the Ṛgveda. The son of King Svaśa fought with this sage and it was Indra who saved Etaśa then. (Sūkta 62, Anuvāka 11, Maṇḍala 1, Ṛgveda.).

ETAŚA. One of the horses of the Sun. (Sūkta 122, Anuvāka 18, Maṇḍala 1, Ṛgveda).

F

There are no words beginning with F. The letter corresponding to F in Indian languages is- Ph (फ). So all words beginning with this sound come under the letter P.

G

G (ग) The letter G means both Gandharva and Vināyaka (Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 348).

GABHASTIMĀN. An island. Once the valiant Sahasrabāhu conquered and subjugated it. (M. B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 38).

GADĀ. A weapon. An asura called Gada was born to Kaśyapaprajāpati by his wife Diti. Viṣṇu killed Gada, and Viśvakarma made a weapon with his bone. Since the weapon was made from Gada's bone it came to be known as Gadā. (Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 114).

GADA I. A brother (Yādava) of Balabhadrarāma.

1) *General.* Vasudeva had, besides Devakī, seven wives called Rohiṇī, Bhadrā, Mālinī, Madirā, Ilā, Rocanā and Pauravī, and out of the seven Rohiṇī had six sons called Balabhadrarāma, Gada, Sāraṇa, Durdama, Vikala and Kṛta. (Bhāgavata, Navama Skandha).

2) *Other details.*

(1) Gada was present at the svayamvara of Draupadī. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 185, Verse 32).

(2) On the marriage of Arjuna with Subhadrā, it was Gada who brought the dowry of Subhadrā from Dvārakā to Indraprastha. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 220, Verse 32).

(3) When Śrī Kṛṣṇa came to Dvārakā Gada received him with embraces. (M. B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 2, Verse 35).

(4) Gada also was present on the occasion when the Pāṇḍavas first stepped into the beautiful palace built for them by Maya at Indraprastha. (M. B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 39).

(5) Along with the other Yādavas Gada too was present at the rājasūya yajña of Yudhiṣṭhira. (M. B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 34, Verse 16).