

(6) Gada held a prominent position among the Yādavas deputed to guard Dvārakā against the onslaught of King Śālva. (M. B. Vana Parva, Chapter 15, Verse 9).

(7) Gada also accompanied Śrī Kṛṣṇa to the Aśvamedha yajña performed by Yudhiṣṭhira. (Aśvamedha Parva, Chapter 86, Verse 9).

(8) Śrī Kṛṣṇa felt uncontrollably angry when Gada was attacked during the mutual fighting with iron rods by the Yādavas which climaxed in their total annihilation. (Mausala Parva, Chapter 3, Verse 45).

GADA II. See Gada.

GADĀDHARA. A synonym of Mahāviṣṇu.

There is a place called Gayā to the north of Mount Kālānjara, to the south of Himālayas, to the east of Kuśasthalī and to the west of Vasupura. Once a king called Gaya conducted at Gayā an Aśvamedha, a Naramedha (yajña at which man is offered as sacrifice) and a Mahāmedha and Mahāviṣṇu acted as gate-keeper of Gaya. As Viṣṇu stood guard there holding the gadā (club) in his hands he came to be known as Gadādhara also thenceforth. (Vāmana Purāṇa, Chapter 76).

GADĀPARVA. A sub-parva of Śalya Parva in Mahābhārata. (See Mahābhārata).

GADĀVASĀNA. A particular centre in Madhurāpurī. The name owes its origin to the following reason. When Kṛṣṇa killed Kamsa, his father-in-law Jarāsandha got so angry that he hurled his gadā (club) ninety-nine times at Madhurāpurī from his capital, Gīrivraja. The spot where the gadā finally fell came to be called Gadāvasāna in course of time. (M. B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 18, Verses 22-25).

GĀDHI I. Father of Viśvāmitra.

1) *Genealogy*. Descended from Viṣṇu thus : Brahmā - Atri - Candra - Budha - Purūravas - Āyus - Nahuṣa - Yayāti - Pūru - Janamejaya - Prācinvān - Pravira - Namasyu - Vitabhaya - Suṇḍu - Bahuvīdha - Saṃyāti - Rahovādi - Raudrāśva - Matināra - Santurodha - Duṣyanta - Bharata (Vitatha) - Suhotra - Brhatputra - Ajamiḍha - Jahnu - Balākāśva - Kuśika (Kuśa) - Gādhi.

2) *Birth*. Kuśa had by his wife Vaidarbhī four sons called Kuśāmba, Kuśānābha, Asūrtarajas and Vasu. Of the four sons Kuśāmba built a city called Kauśāmbī, Kuśānābha built the city of Mahodayapura, Asūrtarajas the city of Dharmāraṇya and Vasu the city of Gīrivraja, and they administered their respective cities. Kuśānābha had hundred daughters by his wife Ghṛtācī, an Apsarā woman. He felt very sad that he had no sons. At last he performed the Putrakāmeṣṭi yajña, and Gādhi was born to him.

3) *Gādhi's children*. A son named Viśvāmitra and a daughter called Satyavatī were born to Gādhi. Satyavatī was married to sage Ṛcika. After the wedding of his daughter Gādhi crowned Viśvāmitra as the king and left for the forest for tapas. During his stay in the forest Gādhi was put up in the āśrama of Ṛcika for a long time and he also went on many pilgrimages. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 49). (See also Satyavatī and Viśvāmitra).

4) *Death*. Gādhi entered mahāsamādhi and went to heaven. (Śalya Parva, Chapter 16).

GĀDHI II. A brahmin who showed Viṣṇu's power of māyā. (See under Māyā).

GAGANAMŪRDHĀ. A reputed asura, son of Kaśyapa-

prajāpati by Danu. Later on, he was born as one of the five Kckeya kings. Ayaśśiras, Aśvaśiras, Ayaśaṅka, Gaganamūrdhā and Vegavān were the five kings. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 67, Verse 11).

GAJA I. A powerful monkey King who fought on the side of Śrī Rāma against Rāvaṇa. (Vana Parva, Chapter 283, Verse 3).

GAJA II. Younger brother of Śakuni, the son of Subala. He, along with his brother fought in the great war against the Pāṇḍavas and got killed by Irāvān. (Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 90).

GAJAKARṆA. A yakṣa in Kubera's assembly. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 10, Verse 16).

GAJAŚIRAS. A warrior of Skanda. (Śalya Parva, Chapter 45, Verse 60).

GAJENDRAMOKṢAM. The story about Indradyumna, the Pāṇḍyan King being transformed into an elephant due to the curse of Agastya and his attaining heaven. (See under Indradyumna).

GĀLAVA. A celebrated sage.

1) *Birth*. He was a son of Viśvāmitra. He was a brahmavādī. (Śloka 52, Chapter 4, Anuśāsana Parva).

2) *How he got his name*. There is no record of his original name in any of the Purāṇas. He got his name Gālava later. There is a story about this both in Devībhāgavata and Harivamśa. It is as follows :

There was once a King called Aruṇa in the family of Māndhātā. Aruṇa got a son and he was named Satyavrata. (It was this Satyavrata who later became the well famed Triśaṅku). When Satyavrata was a youngster he once went inside the marriage hall of a brahmin and kidnapped the bride. Furious at this evil deed of his son the king sent him out from his palace and Satyavrata roamed about aimlessly.

Nature protested against this deed of the King abandoning his heir and there was no rain in the country for twelve years. The people were all put to great trouble. Among those who suffered were the wife and children of Viśvāmitra. Viśvāmitra had at that time gone to the shores of the river Kauśikī, for doing penance. The family of Viśvāmitra was in great distress living without any means for food. The sight of the children crying for food to appease their hunger pained their mother much. So she decided to sell one child and feed the others by what she got from the sale. It was better to be without one child than all the children dying out of hunger.

She made a rope out of darbha leaves and tying it round the neck of one child took it to the market for sale. Both the mother and child were weeping profusely on their way. Satyavrata saw them and took pity on them. When Satyavrata heard their sad story and knew that the woman was the wife of Viśvāmitra he told her thus: "Oh, Venerable Lady, you need not sell this boy. Untie the rope round his neck and throw it away. I will look after your family till the return of your husband. I will daily bring food for you all and hang it on a tree near your āśrama."

The mother was extremely happy to hear this and she at once untied the rope round the neck of the boy and the boy from thence became known as Gālava. (For details see under Triśaṅku).

3) *Gurudakṣiṇā of Gālava*. Gālava continued his education under his father. At that time Dharmadeva to