

- GOPĀLAKA.** A son born to Caṇḍamahāseṇa of his wife Aṅgāravatī. Besides Gopālaka he had another son named Pālaka. (Kathāsarisāgara, Kathāmukhalaṃbaka, Taraṅga 3).
- GOPĀLĪ. I.** A nymph. Once when Arjuna went to devaloka this celestial maiden gave a performance in dancing in his honour. (Chapter 43, Vana Parva).
- GOPĀLĪ II.** A follower of Skandadeva. (Śloka 4, Chapter 46, Śalya Parva).
- GOPARĀṢṬRA.** A place of habitation in the north-east part of ancient India. (Śloka 44, Chapter 9, Bhīṣma Parva).
- GOPATI I.** A demon. He was a co-worker of another demon named Kālaketu. Śrī Kṛṣṇa killed Gopati on the banks of the river Irāvati on the mountain Mahendra. (Chapter 38, Sabhā Parva).
- GOPATI II.** A deva gandharva. He was born to Kaśyapa of his wife Muni. (Śloka 42, Chapter 65, Vana Parva). This gandharva participated in the birthday celebrations of Arjuna. (Śloka 55, Chapter 122, Ādi Parva).
- GOPATI III.** A son of the celebrated emperor, Śibi. When Paraśurāma killed and made extinct all Kṣatriya kings it was a herd of cows that brought up this child. (Śloka 78, Chapter 49, Śānti Parva).
- GOPATI IV.** A synonym of Śiva used in Śloka 151, Chapter 17 of Anuśāsana Parva.
- GOPATI V.** A synonym of Viṣṇu used in Śloka 66, Chapter 149, of Anuśāsana Parva.
- GOPĀYANA.** The army of Gopas. (Śloka 13, Chapter 71, Bhīṣma Parva).
- GOPIKKURI.** See under Ūrddhvapundra.
- GOPTATĀRA.** A place on the northern bank of the river, Sarayū. Śrī Rāma with his two armies and vehicles ascended to heaven from this place. (Śloka 10, Chapter 83 Mahābhārata).
- GORATHA.** The palace of Magadha. This palace was situated on a mountain near Girivraja. (Śloka 30, Chapter 20, Sabhā Parva).
- GOSAVA.** A mahāyajña. (Śloka 17, Chapter 30, Vana Parva).
- GOŚRṅGA.** An important mountain of South India. Sahadeva captured this mountain. (Śloka 5, Chapter 31, Sabhā Parva).
- GOSTANĪ.** A follower of Skandadeva. (Śloka 3, Chapter 46, Śalya Parva).
- GOTAMA.** A sage named Gotama, son of Rahūgaṇa, is found everywhere in Ṛgveda. The seventyfourth sūkta in the thirteenth anuvāka of the first maṇḍala of Ṛgveda is composed by this sage. There are many other sūktas also in his name. This sage is not the Gautama, husband of Ahalyā, who made Sūkta 58, Anuvaka 11, Maṇḍala 1 of Ṛgveda. Once this Gotama tired of thirst asked the Maruts for some water. The Maruts took a huge well to his side and poured water into a big pot. (Sūktas 86, 87, Anuvāka 14, Maṇḍala 1, Ṛgveda). It was Aśvinidevas who took the well to Gotama. (Sūkta 116, Anuvaka 17, Maṇḍala 1, Ṛgveda).
- GOTĪRTHA.** A holy place. The Pāṇḍavas visited this place during their pilgrimage. (Śloka 3, Chapter 95, Vana Parva).
- GOTRA.** A son of Vasīṣṭha. Vasīṣṭha had of his wife Ūrjijā seven sons named Rajas, Gotra, Ūrddhvabāhu, Savana, Anagha, Sutapas and Śukra. These holy men were saptarṣis in the third Manvantara. (Chapter 1, Viṣṇu Purāna).
- GOVĀRDHANA.** A mountain of Ambāḍi (Gokula). This is believed to be a form of Kṛṣṇa. This is called Girirāja also. The residents of Ambāḍi from time immemorial used to worship Indra for getting rains. But after the advent of Kṛṣṇa there came a change in that belief. Kṛṣṇa told them that rains depended on Govardhana and it was enough if they worshipped that mountain and so the residents of Ambāḍi started worshipping the mountain. Indra got enraged at this and sent heavy rains to Ambāḍi intending to submerge it in water. But Śrī Kṛṣṇa lifted the mountain over Ambāḍi like an umbrella and saved the city from the wrath of Indra. See under 'Kṛṣṇa' for more details. (Daśama Skandha, Bhāgavata)
- GOVĀSANA.** A King of the country called Śivi. The daughter of this King, Devikā, married Yudhiṣṭhira in a svayaṃvara. Once Govāsana met in a duel the son of Abhibhū, King of Kāśī. (Śloka 38, Chapter 95, Droṇa Parva).
- GOVĀSANA (M).** A country of ancient India. The people of this place presented Yudhiṣṭhira with much wealth. (Śloka 5, Chapter 51, Sabhā Parva).
- GOVIKARTĀ.** The man who puts nose-bands on bullocks. (Śloka 9, Chapter 2, Virāṭa Parva).
- GOVINDA.** A synonym of Śrī Kṛṣṇa (Mahāviṣṇu). He got this name because he saved the people and cows of Ambāḍi by lifting the Govardhana mountain and using it as an umbrella. (Dākṣiṇātya pāṭha Chapter 38, Sabhā Parva).
- GOVINDADATTA.** A brahmin of great fame who resided in Bahusuvārnaka, a city on the banks of the river Gaṅgā. His wife was a very pious woman. They had five children. Once when both the parents were away from the house a sage called Vaiśvānara came there but the children did not receive him and treat him properly. Knowing this Govindadatta abandoned all his children. (Kathāsarisāgara, Kathāpīṭhalāmbaka).
- GOVINDAGIRI.** A mountain of Krauñcadvīpa. (Śloka 19, Chapter 12, Bhīṣma Parva).
- GOVINDAŚARMAN.** A brahmin who lived in olden times in the city of Kāśī. (See under Simhadhvaja).
- GOVITATA.** A peculiar kind of horse sacrifice. Sage Kaṇva once made his grandson, Bharata, conduct a sacrifice of this kind. (Śloka 130, Chapter 74, Ādi Parva).
- GOVRAJA.** A soldier of Skandadeva. (Śloka 66, Chapter 45, Śalya Parva).
- GRAHAS (PLANETS).** Indians from very ancient days have maintained certain definite ideas and inferences about the planets. Though those ideas differ somewhat from the results of modern researches, the influence of the ancient ideas is discernible in all the Purāṇic texts in India. The main ideas are summarised below. Sūrya (Sun), Candra (Moon), Śukra (Venus), Budha (Mercury), Kuja (Mars), Bṛhaspati (Jupiter), Śani (Saturn), Rāhu and Ketu are the navagrahas (the nine planets).
Sūryaścandro maṅgalaśca
Budhaścāpi bṛhaspatiḥ /
Śukraḥ śanaiścaro rāhuḥ
Ketuśceti navagrahāḥ /