

purchased the flowers for a yajña she was performing. When you saw Viṣṇu installed along with Ādityabhāgavān (Sun-God) and worshipped with flowers, feelings of devotion swept your mind and you too worshipped the idols with lotus flowers. You enjoy today the fruits of that action in the past life.

(It is not quite definite whether Hariscandra I and II are one and the same person).

**HARIŚCANDRA III.** A Sanskrit poet who lived in the 9th century A. D. The mahākāvya called "Dharmaśarmābhilyudaya" is his main work. This mahākāvya comprises of 21 cantos. He has composed another work called "Jivandharacampū".

**HARITA I.** A King who was the grandson of Hariścandra and son of Rohita. (Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

**HARITA II.** A King, who was the son of Vapuṣmān and grandson of Svāyambhuvamanu. He was King of Haritavarṣa in the island of Śālmali. (Mārkaṇḍeya Purāṇa 50, 28; Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa, 2, 3).

**HARITA III.** A son born to Yadu of the nāga woman called Dhūmravarṇā. He founded an independent kingdom in the Nāga island and became a prominent leader of the Madgura tribe. (Hari Varṣa, 2, 38; 29, 34).

**HĀRĪTA I.** A great sage who visited Bhīṣma in his bed of arrows (Śaraśayā). (Śānti Parva, Chapter 47, Verse 7). Once he attended Yudhiṣṭhira's assembly and spoke on eternal truths conducive to mental peace. That talk of his became famous as Hārītāgītā. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 278).

**HĀRĪTA II.** An author on Smṛtis (codes of conduct). He has written two texts on the subject called Laghuhārīta smṛti and Vṛddhahārītasṁṛti.

**HARITĀLA (M)** A mineral (yellow orpiment) got from mountains, which is red like the clouds at dusk. (Vana Parva, Chapter 158, 94).

**HARITĀŚVA.**

1) *General.* A King born in the solar dynasty. In the art of music he defeated Nārada and shamed Sarasvatī (Goddess of language), pleased Brahmā and by the melody of his music sent Viṣṇu to sleep. The mounting achievements of the King in the art of music evoked jealousy in Śivaśaṅkara, the lord of music. When Śaṅkaramūrti in a competitive spirit played the rāga Śaṅkarābharāṇa (a particular tune) Haritāśva pointed out that Śāntarasa (the calmness and poise) which was suited to that rāga had given place to raudra rasa which was a serious mistake. Enraged at this Śiva opened his eye of fire at the King who retorted boldly thus, 'even if the eye of fire was opened a mistake was a mistake'. This stand of the King pleased Śiva so much that he bestowed on the King boons and good wishes as presents for his (king's) victory over all.

2) *Killed Andhaka.* Andhakāsura conquered Svarga and took Indra prisoner during the period when Haritāśva was King. The combined efforts of Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Śiva could not kill Andhaka. At last at the instance of Br̥haspati a representative of the Devas visited Haritāśva at Ayodhyā and sought his help to kill Andhaka and accordingly the King set out for war against the demon. Agastya told the King in secret that Andhaka treasured an image of Śiva and Pārvatī in his stomach, and after removing, with his arrows the idol from his stomach, Haritāśva killed him and restored

the Deva-loka to Indra. (Kamba Rāmāyaṇa, Yuddha Kāṇḍa).

**HARIVAMŚA (M).** An appendix to the Mahābhārata in 10,000 verses. The main object of it is to sing the praises of Mahāviṣṇu. It contains three parts called respectively Harivamśa Parva, Viṣṇu Parva, and Bhaviṣya Parva. Creation of the world, kings of the solar dynasty and of the lunar dynasty, Yadu dynasty and the birth of Śrī Kṛṣṇa form the theme of Harivamśa Parva. Viṣṇu Parva deals mainly with the pranks and games of Śrī Kṛṣṇa in his childhood. Though there occur certain hints about the future at the beginning of the Bhaviṣya Parva, the creation of the world, the incarnation of Viṣṇu as Vāmana (Dwarf) and as Narasiṁha (half man and half lion), Śiva and Viṣṇu constitute its main theme.

The following verses prove that the Harivamśa also was composed by Vyāsa.

Harivamśastataḥ parva-  
purāṇam khilasamjñitam /  
Viṣṇuparvaśi śoścaryā  
Viṣṇoḥkaṁsavadhastathā //  
Bhaviṣyam parvacāpyuktam  
Khileṣvevādbhutam mahat /  
Etat parvaśatam pūrṇam  
Vyāsenoktam mahātmanā //

(Ādi Parva, Chapter 2, Verses 83-84).

**HARIVARṢA (M)** The northern part of Mount Hemaparvata. Arjuna, during his triumphal tour of the northern regions conquered this region and took away a lot of costly gems. (Bhārata, southern text, sabhā Parva, Chapter 28).

**HARIVĪRA.** See Dhanaśarman.

**HARṢA I.** One of the three sons of Dharmadeva, the other two being Śama and Kāma. Harṣa married Nandā. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 66, Verse 32).

**HARṢA II.** A great poet in Sanskrit, who flourished in the 12th century A.D., his most reputed work being the Mahākāvya called Naiṣadha, one of the five Mahākāvya (Epic Poems) in Sanskrit language. Another well-known work of his is Khaṇḍanakhāṇḍakhādyā. He was a member of the literary assembly of King Jayacanda of Kanauj. Hira was his father and Māmalladevī, his mother.

**HARṢA III.** King Harṣavardhana who ruled over North India between A.D. 660 and 668. He is remembered and respected more as a poet in Sanskrit than anything else. Nāgānanda, Ratnāvalī and Priyadarśikā are his more important works. The poet Bāṇa has written the biography of Harṣa.

**HARYAŅKA.** A King born in the royal dynasty of Aṅga. He was the son of King Caṁpa and father of King Br̥hadraṭha. (Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 277).

**HARYAŚVA I.** The five thousand sons born to Dakṣa by his wife Asiknī are known as Haryaśvas. (See Asiknī II).

**HARYAŚVA II.** A King of the solar dynasty. The following information about him is culled from the Mahābhārata.

(1) He was king of Ayodhyā. A Powerful ruler, he had a fully equipped army. (Udyoga Parva, Chapter 115, Verse 18).

(2) He took Mādhavī, daughter of Yayāti as his wife and thus solved the problem of gurudakṣiṇā for Gālava. (See under Gālava).