

the King was transferred to them they could be set free. One early morning Janaka had, with a pure heart, chanted "Rāma, Rāma" and that good act was exchanged for the freedom of the sinners.

After their release had been effected, Janaka asked Kāla : "You say that only sinners come here. What sin have I committed that I should come here ?" Kāla's reply to the question was as follows :—"Oh ! King, no one else in the whole world has so much puṇya as you have got. But, a small sin you have committed. Once you prevented a cow from eating grass, and, therefore, you had to come up to the gates of hell. Now, that sin has been atoned for. So you may go to svarga." Janaka saluted Kāla and in the divine vimāna went to Heaven. (Padma Purāṇa, Chapters 30 and 31).

9) *Artificial Janaka.* While Sītā was a captive in Laṅkā Rāvaṇa, to bring her round, deputed a very clever magician called Marutta to her, disguised as Janaka, her father. And Marutta, in the capacity of her father consoled her and advised her to yield to the wishes of Rāvaṇa. But Sītā did not yield, and the artificial Janaka assumed his original form of Marutta and went away. (Kāmba Rāmāyaṇa, Sundara Kāṇḍa).

10) *Other information about Janaka.* (1) Bhīmasena defeated one Janaka, who was King of Mithilā during the time of the Pāṇḍavas. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 30, Verse 13).

(2) King Janaka was a personification or incarnation of all good qualities. (Vana Parva, Chapter 207, Verse 37).

(3) Janaka, the father of Sītā, in his old age renounced his kingdom and became a recluse. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 18, Verse 4).

(4) Once the sage called Aśmaka imparted some pieces of advice to Janaka. (See under Aśmakopākhyāna).

(5) Once in a war between Janaka and a king called Pratardana, the army of Janaka, in the presence of the army of Pratardana stood aghast, and Janaka incited them to fight by showing heaven and hell to them. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 99, Verse 4).

(6) Once in a war with a King called Kṣemadarśi when victory for Janaka was found to be an impossibility he, as advised by Sage Kālakavṛkṣaka gave his daughter to Kṣemadarśi in marriage. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 106, Verse 2).

(7) Once Māṇḍavya a great sage put many questions about Trṣṇā (desire) to Janaka and he, the great philosopher answered the questions quite satisfactorily (Śānti Parva, Chapter 276).

(8) On another occasion Janaka had a talk with Sage Parāśara about the attainment of prosperity and welfare. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 296).

(9) There was a King called Karāla Janaka among the Janaka Kings. Once Vasiṣṭha gave some good advice to Karāla Janaka. (Śānti Parva, Chapters 302-308).

(10) Once a Sage advised a Janaka King called Vasu-mān on subjects relating to Dharma. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 309).

(11) Vasu-mān Janaka, son of Devarāta put many questions to Yājñavalkya and they were answered to the full satisfaction of the King. (Śānti Parva, Chapters 310-318).

(12) The Janaka King called Janadeva had once a

discussion with Sage Pañcaśikha about the means to avoid death. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 319).

(13) There was once a Janaka King called Dharmadhvaja, and Sulabhā, an erudite woman in Mithilā wanted to test the King. By her yogic powers she assumed the form of a very beautiful woman and visited Janaka's palace. She was offered a seat by the King, and seated on the stool she took her soul into the body of Janaka, and the soul entered into a discussion on philosophic subjects with Janaka. Sulabhā was thus convinced about the unique scholarship of the King and left the palace ashamed about her attempt to test the King. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 320).

(14) Śuka, the son of Vyāsa not being fully satisfied by the study of Bhāgavata once visited Janaka at the instance of his (Śuka's) father, and Janaka did so easily clear the doubts of Śuka, which even Vyāsa had not been able to successfully tackle. (Devī Bhāgavata, 1st Skandha).

(15) King Janaka did not eat flesh. (Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 115, Verse 65).

(16) Dharma, once in the guise of a brahmin imparted many pieces of advice to Janaka. (Aśvamedha Parva, Chapter 32).

The above facts prove that the Janaka kings, as a rule, were great scholars and philosophers.

11) *Synonyms of Janaka.* Aindradyumni, Daivarāti, Dharmadhvaja, Karāla, Karālanjaka; Maithila, Mithilādhipa, Mithileśvara, Vaideha etc.

JĀNAKI I. A Kṣatriya king who was the rebirth of an asura named Candravināśana. It is stated in Mahābhārata, Udyoga Parva, Chapter 4, Stanza 20, that the Pāṇḍavas had sent to him a letter of invitation to take part in the battle of Bhārata.

JĀNAKI II. See under Sītā.

JĀNALOKA. One of the fourteen worlds. This world is situated three crores of yojanas (leagues) away from Dhruvapada (the region of Dhruva—Pole star) according to Viṣṇu Purāṇa, Amśa II, Chapter 7).

JANAMEJAYA I. A famous King of the Solar dynasty 1) *Genealogy.* Descended from Viṣṇu thus:—Brahmā-Atri - Candra - Budha - Purūravas-Āyus-Nahuṣa-Yayāti-Pūru - Janamejaya - Prācinvān - Pravira-Namasyu-Vitabhaya-Śuṇḍu-Bahuvīdha-Saṃyāti-Rahovādi-Raudrāśva-Matināra - Santurodha - Duṣyanta - Bharata-Suhotra-Suhotā - Gala - Garda - Suketu - Brhatkṣetra-Hasti-Ājamīdha-Rṣa-Saṃvaraṇa-Kuru-Jahnu-Suratha-Vidūratha-Sārvabhauma-Jayatsena - Ravyaya - Bhāvuka - Cakrodhata - Devātithi - Rkṣa-Bhīma-Pratīca-Śantanu-Vyāsa-Pāṇḍu-Arjuna-Abhimanyu-Parīkṣit-Janamejaya.

2) *Birth, marriage and accession to throne.* Janamejaya was the son of Parīkṣit by his wife Madravatī. Vapuṣṭamā, daughter of Suvarṇavarman, King of Kāśi was Janamejaya's wife. Two sons, Śatānika and Śaṅkukarna were born to them. Janamejaya had three brothers called Śrutasena, Ugrasena and Bhīmasena. (Devī Bhāgavata, 2nd Skandha ; Ādi Parva, Chapters 3 and 95).

3) *Death of his father.* Janamejaya's father, Parīkṣit ruled the country in a very distinguished manner for sixty years. While once hunting in the forest Parīkṣit became very tired and thirsty. While searching for water he came across a Sage named Śamīka and asked him for some water. Śamīka being engaged in meditation did not hear the King's request. But, the