

sixty years. From the above facts it becomes evident that Janamejaya became king in 3042 B.C.

11) *Synonyms of Janamejaya*. Bhārata, Bharataśārdūla, Bharataśreṣṭha, Bharatādhyā, Bharatarṣabha, Bharatasatama, Kaurava, Kauravaśārdūla, Kauravanandana, Kauravendra, Kauravya, Kuruśārdūla, Kuruśreṣṭha, Kurūdvaḥa, Kurukulaśreṣṭha, Kurukulodvaḥa, Kurunandana, Kurupravīra, Kurupuṅgavāgraja, Kurusatama, Pāṇḍava, Pāṇḍavanandana, Pāṇḍaveya, Pārikṣita, Pauravya etc.

JANAMEJAYA II. One Janamejaya, a prominent member of Yamarāja's assembly is referred to in the Ādi and Sabhā Parvans of the Mahābhārata. This Janamejaya had once been defeated by Māndhātā. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 62, Verse 10). He conquered the world within three days. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 234).

JANAMEJAYA III. A Kṣatriya King who was Krodhavaśa, the Asura, reborn. He was killed by Durmukha, the son of Dhṛtarāṣṭra. (Karna Parva, Chapter 6, Verse 19).

JANAMEJAYA IV. A prince born to King Kuru by his wife called Vāhinī. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 94, Verse 51).

JANAMEJAYA V. Another King born in the dynasty of Parikṣit. He had a son called Dhṛtarāṣṭra. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 150, Verse 3). He once committed brahmahatyā (sin of killing a brahmin) and so had been forsaken by his subjects. So he had to take to the forest. His search for means to get rid of the sin took him at last to sage Indrota, who made him perform Aśvamedha yajña. Thus, he got redemption from the sin and he became Indrota's disciple also. (Śānti Parva, Chapters 150-153).

JANAMEJAYA VI. A son of King Kuru by his wife, Kausalyā. He is also known as Pravīra. The King had a son called Prācinvaṅ by a noble lady called Anantā of the Madhu Dynasty. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 95).

JANAMEJAYA VII. A serpent who attends the council of Varuṇa. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 9, Stanza 10).

JANAMEJAYA VIII. A King born in the family of Nīpa. (M.B. Udyoga Parva, Chapter 174, Stanza 13).

JANAMEJAYA IX. A King who had been of help to Yudhiṣṭhira. He fought with Karna. This Janamejaya was the son of King Durmukha. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 23; Karna Parva Chapter 49).

JĀNAPADĪ A celestial maid. This celestial maid was sent by Indra to hinder the penance of the hermit Śaradvān and the moment the hermit saw this celestial beauty seminal discharge occurred to him. Kṛpa and Kṛpī were born from that semen. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 129).

JANĀRDANA I. A synonym of Mahāvīṣṇu (Śrī Kṛṣṇa). Because he made the Dasyus (Asuras—demons) tremble, Śrī Kṛṣṇa was called Janārdana.

"He, who has lotus as his seat, who is eternal, imperishable and unchangeable, he who has all these attributes is Puṇḍarikākṣa (lotus-eyed) and he who makes the Asuras tremble is Janārdana." (M.B. Udyoga Parva, Chapter 70, Stanza 6).

JANĀRDANA II. See under Dībaka.

JANASTHĀNA. This is a part of the forest Daṇḍaka, which lies in the basin of the Godāvarī. Śrī Rāma had lived in this forest with Sītā and Lakṣmaṇa for a long time during the period of his forest-life. It was at this place that Śrī Rāma killed fourteen thousand Rākṣasas

(giants) such as Khara, Dūṣaṇa, Triśiras and others. (M.B. Dākṣiṇātya Pāṭha, Sabhā Parva, Chapter 38). Mārica allured Sītā and Rāvaṇa kidnapped her in this place. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 147). Śūrpaṅkhā tried to attract Śrī Rāma and Lakṣmaṇa, and her nose etc. were cut off, in this forest. It was in this place that Śrī Rāma cut off the head of a Rākṣasa (demon) and threw it away. That head fell in the lap of a hermit called Mahodara. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 39). Janasthāna is regarded as a holy place. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 25, Stanza 29, that those who stay in this place and take bath in the Godāvarī will acquire imperial prosperity.

JĀNDAKĀRA. One of the eighteen Vināyakas, who stay near the Sun. In chapter 16 of the Sāmbhava Purāṇa it is mentioned that this Jāndakāra is engaged in carrying out the orders of Yama (the god of death).

JĀṄGALA. A country in ancient India. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 9, Stanza 56).

JĀṄGĀRI. A brahmavādī son (interested in theories about Brahman) of Viśvāmitra. (Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 57).

JĀṄGHĀBANDHU. A sage who was a member of Yudhiṣṭhira's assembly. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 16).

JANTU.

1) *General information.* A King of the Pūru dynasty. It is mentioned in Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 278, that he was the son of the King Somaka and father of the King Vṛṣatanu.

2) *Jantu born again.* Somaka had hundred wives. But only one of them gave birth to a child. That child was Jantu. He was a pet of all the hundred wives. Once Jantu was bitten by an ant. All the hundred queens began crying and shouting and all ran to him. Hearing the tumult in the women's apartment of the palace, the King and the minister ran to that place. When the tumult was over the King began to think. "It is better to have no sons at all, than to have only one son. There are hundred queens. But none of them bears a child. Is there a solution for this?"

At last the King summoned his family-priests and consulted them. The decision of the priests was that if the King should sacrifice his only son, then all his wives would become pregnant and all would give birth to children, and that among the sons thus born, Jantu also would be reborn. The mother of Jantu did not look at this project with favour. "How can we be sure that Jantu also will be there among the sons to be born, after his death?" She was worried by this thought. The priests consoled her and said that there will be a golden mole on the left flank of Jantu. Finally the mother agreed to their plan. Sacrificial dais was arranged. Sacrificial fire for holy offerings was prepared. The priests tore the child into pieces and offered them as oblation in the fire. When the sacrifice was finished, all the hundred queens became pregnant. Each of them gave birth to a child. As the priests had predicted, there was a golden mole on the left flank of the child delivered by the mother of Jantu. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapters 127 and 128).

JĀNUJAṄGHA. A King who is fit to be remembered every morning and evening. Mention is made about this King in Mahābhārata, Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 165, Stanza 69.