

1) *General information.* To Kekaya, king of the Sūtas was born of queen Mālavi, Kīcaka and other 105 sons younger to him called Upa-Kīcakas. Their only sister was called Sudeṣṇā. (Bhārata, Southern text, Page 1898). Kīcaka and Upa-Kīcakas took their birth from an aspect of Bāṇa, the eldest of the Asuras known as the Kālakeyas. (See Bhārata, Page 1893). Mātsya, the Virāṭa king wedded Sudeṣṇā; and from that day onwards, the brothers too lived in the Virāṭa palace. Kīcaka was the chieftain of Virāṭa's army, and he had, many a time, defeated in war King Suśarman of Trigarta. (Virāṭa Parva, Chapter 25, Verse 30).

2) *Kīcaka and Pāñcālī.* During their life incognito, the Pāñḍavas lived in the Virāṭa palace after taking up various jobs. Pāñcālī, under the assumed name Mālīnī, served Sudeṣṇā and her daughter Uttarā as their chaperon. Kīcaka fell in love with Pāñcālī at first sight. But, Pāñcālī resisted all his advances. Then, he sought the help of his sister Sudeṣṇā to bring round Pāñcālī to him somehow. Sudeṣṇā asked Kīcaka to be ready on the New Moon day with liquor and rice and promised to send Mālīnī (Pāñcālī) to him. Ordered by Sudeṣṇā, she went to Kīcaka with his plate of food much against her will. Kīcaka caught hold of her, but she ran when the former caught her by the hair, felled her on the floor and kicked her. A Rākṣasa, who was deputed for Pāñcālī's security appeared on the scene in a trice and felled Kīcaka.

3). *Kīcaka's Death.* The very same night with tears in her eyes, Pāñcālī told Bhīma all about the indecent behaviour. He asked Pāñcālī to invite Kīcaka to a secret meeting at a specified place the next night, and promised her that he would remain concealed there and kill Kīcaka. Accordingly Bhīma concealed himself the next night in the dancing hall and, as requested by Pāñcālī, Kīcaka came to the hall at midnight to spend a few hours with Pāñcālī. Bhīma was lying there on a cot, and Kīcaka, mistaking him for Pāñcālī kissed him. Bhīma caught him in his iron grips and crushed him to death. The next morning, it was the fate of Kīcaka's brothers to lament over his death. The story also was spread that Kīcaka was killed by some Gandharva, the husband of Pāñcālī.

The Upa-Kīcakas removed the dead body of their brother to the burning ghat. Proclaiming that Pāñcālī, who was responsible for the death of their brother would also be burnt to death on the same pyre, the Upa-Kīcakas forcibly took her with them. Hearing the heart-rending cries of Pāñcālī Bhīma rushed to the spot and killed all the Upa-Kīcakas and saved Pāñcālī from death. In the presence of the Virāṭa king the cremation of Kīcaka and the Upa-Kīcakas took place. (Virāṭa Parva, Chapter 13 et seq).

**KĪKATA.** A King born in the dynasty of Priyavrata, son of Manu. He was one of the nineteen sons of King Bharata, the other eighteen being Kuśavarman, Ilāvarta, Brahmāvarta, Āryāvarta, Malaya, Bhadraketu, Sena, Indrasprk, Vidarbha, Kapi, Hari, Antarikṣa, Prabuddha, Pippalāyana, Āvirhotra, Dramaḍa, Camasa and Karabhājana. (Bhāgavata, 5th Skandha).

**KĪKATA (M).** The country ruled by King Kīkata. The following story is told in Devī Bhāgavata as to how an ass in this kingdom attained heaven.

There was once in Kīkata a merchant who had an ass to carry his merchandise. Once the merchant was

returning home from Bhadrācala with his ass loaded with bundles of costly Rudrākṣas. The old ass fell down dead on the way, the weight of the Rudrākṣa bundles having been too much for it, and immediately it assumed the form of Śiva and went to Kailāsa. Even if a man does not know what he is carrying, if he carries sacred things he will certainly attain salvation, like the ass that attained salvation in this case. (Devī Bhāgavata, 11th Skandha).

**KILI (PARROT).**

1) *Origin.* About the origin of Kilis (parrots) the following is stated in Canto 14, Araṇya Kāṇḍa of the Rāmāyaṇa.

Kaśyapa, the grandson of Brahmā and son of Marīci married the eight daughters of Dakṣaprajāpati, one of them being called Tāmra. Tāmra had five daughters called Krauñci, Bhāsī, Syenī, Dhṛtarāṣṭri and Śukī. Śukas or Kilis (parrots) are the offsprings of Śukī.

2) *Parrots acquire talking faculty.* Lord Śiva agreed to beget a son to kill Tārakāsura, at the request of the Devas. The coitus between Śiva and Pārvatī for the purpose did not end even after a hundred years. Due to the pressure of the process the whole world shook, and when the world appeared to get destroyed the Devas asked Agnideva to persuade Śiva to stop. But, afraid of approaching Śiva Agni ran off and hid himself in the ocean. The Devas followed him, and animals in the water which were burning with the heat of Agni, told the Devas that Agni was hiding in the sea. But, Agni cursed them all to dumbness, and leaving the ocean hid himself on mount Mandara. The parrots revealed this secret, when Agni cursed them also and made their tongues fold inwards. The Devas and the parrots requested for redemption from the curse. Redemption was granted thus: "Though the tongue be turned inwards your sound will be melodious. Just like the voice of a child your (parrots') sound also will be sweet and wonderful."

From that day onwards parrots began talking and singing. (Kathāsaritsāgara, Lāvāṇakalambaka, Taraṅga 6 and Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 85).

**KIMPUNĀ.** A river in Devaloka. It worships Varuṇa in his assembly. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 9, Verse 20).

**KIMPURUṢA.**

1) *General.* A King called Agnīdhra was born in the dynasty of Priyavrata, son of Manu. He became lord of the Jambū island, and married an apsara woman named Pūrvacitti. To them were born nine sons called Nābhi, Kimpuruṣa, Hari, Ilāvṛta, Ramyaka, Hiraṇmaya, Kalva, Bhadrāśva and Ketumālā. Agnīdhra partitioned the kingdom among the nine sons. The land Kimpuruṣa ruled over was known as Kimpuruṣa or Kimpuruṣavarṣa. It lay to the south of Hemakūṭa mountain. It was here that Hanūmān spent his last days worshipping Śrī Rāma.

"The son of the wind God (Hanūmān) lives in the country called Kimpuruṣavarṣa in the worship of Śrī Rāma." (Bhāgavata, 5th Skandha).

According to the Sabhā Parva (Chapter 23, Verses 1,2) Kimpuruṣavarṣa guarded by the sons of Druma is situated to the north of the Himālayas facing the Dhavala mountain, and this country was once conquered by Arjuna.