

- (vi) Śukra once carried off all the wealth of Kubera, who complained to Śiva about it. Śiva, in anger, raised his śūla, when Śukra stood on its top and pressed it down. Śiva threw Śukra off, but he fell into the palms of Śiva who threw him again. Śukra then entered the stomach of Śiva and roamed about there finding no path to get out. Śiva waited with the śūla to kill Śukra the moment he came out of his (Śiva's) stomach. Śukra came out as Śiva's son, and Pārvatī prevented Śiva from killing Śukra on the plea that it was not proper to kill one's own son. Śukra thus escaped and Kubera lost some of his wealth. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 289).
- (vii) On another occasion Kubera entertained sage Aṣṭāvakra. (Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 19, Verse 37).
- (viii) Kubera should be installed in temples as seated on a goat with club in his hand. (Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 51).
- (ix) The name of Kubera's wife was Bhadrā. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 198, Verse 6).
- (x) Kubera is called Naravāhana also as he rides in a vehicle drawn by men. He is also called Rājarāja, as he is King of Kings. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 275, Verses 1-3).
- (xi) Viśravas got angry with Kubera, and from that day he deputed three Rākṣasa girls to serve his father. (Vana Parva, Chapter 275, Verses 1-3).
- xii) *Synonyms for Kubera used in Mahābhārata.* Alakādhīpa, Dhanada, Dhanadeśvara, Dhanagoptā, Dhanādhipa, Dhanādhipati, Dhanādhyakṣa, Dhanēśvara, Dhanapati, Dhanēśa, Draviṇapati, Gadādhara, Guhyakādhipa, Guhyakādhipati, Kailāsanilaya, Naravāhana, Nidhipa, Paulastya, Rājarāja, Rājarāt, Rākṣasādhipati, Rākṣasēśvara, Vaiśravaṇa, Vittagoptā, Vittapati, Vitteśa, Yakṣādhipa, Yakṣādhipati, Yakṣapati, Yakṣapavara, Yakṣarāt, Yakṣarāja, Yakṣarākṣasabharta, Yakṣarakṣodhipa.
- xiii) Kubera's garden is called Caitraratha, his son Nalakūbara, his capital Alakā and his mountain-seat Kailāsa.
- xiv) Kubera once did tapas for hundred years when Śiva appeared and granted him the boon that he would become King of the Yakṣas. (Padma Purāṇa, Ādikhaṇḍa Chapter 16).
- KUBERATĪRTHA.** A holy place on the banks of the river Sarasvatī. Once the Devas appeared to Kubera at this tīrtha and granted him overlordship of wealth, friendship of Śiva, Deva-hood and rulership of the world. The Marudgaṇas crowned him King. He got the son Nalakūbara also there. The place, thus important in many ways came to be reputed as Kubera-tīrtha in later years. (Śalya Parva, Chapter 97).
- KUBHĀ.** A river mentioned in the Ṛgveda. Kubhā, Sindhu, Suvāstu, Vitastā, Asiknī, Paruṣṇī, Vipāśā, Śatadrū, Sarasvatī and Yamunā are the important rivers referred to in the Ṛgveda.
- KUBJĀ.** An ugly woman about whom the following story is told in Chapter 126, of Uttarakhaṇḍa in Padma Purāṇa.
- Kubjā became a widow in her very childhood, and she spent eight years in observing auspicious ceremonies. As she took the 'Māgha bath' every year she attained salvation. This was the period when Sunda and Upasunda were harassing the world, and to destroy them Kubjā incarnated as Tilottamā and hooked them by her excellent beauty. They fought each other for her

hand and got killed. Brahmā was pleased at this and granted Kubjā a place in Sūryaloka.

KUBJĀMRĀKA. A holy place. A visit to this place is as good as offering a gift of a thousand cows. The visitor will also attain heaven. (Vana Parva, Chapter 84, Verse 40).

KUCELA. Sudāman, better known as Kucela was a brahmin class-mate of Śrī Kṛṣṇa at the Āśrama of sage Sāndīpani. One day Sāndīpani's wife deputed Kucela and Kṛṣṇa to collect fire-wood from the forest, and they had to stay the whole night there as they could not find out the way back to the āśrama due to heavy rain, thunder etc. After their education was over these two thick friends left the āśrama and went their different ways in life.

Śrī Kṛṣṇa became the lord of Dvārakā, and Kucela a house-holder with many children, and starvation gripped the family. One day, at the instance of his wife, Kucela started for Dvārakā to visit Kṛṣṇa with a packet of rice flakes as a present to him. Kṛṣṇa received his old classmate most cordially, and ate one handful of rice flakes from the packet brought by Kucela. Rukmiṇī prevented him from a second helping of the flakes. After spending some time most happily with his old friend, Kucela started homewards. Only on his way back did he think that Kṛṣṇa had not given him any monetary help. But, by the time he reached home his old dilapidated house had converted itself into a beautiful mansion, and his wife and children were in great happiness. Śrī Kṛṣṇa's blessings thus converted poor Kucela into a very rich person. (Bhāgavata, 10th Skandha).

KUHA. A prince of the Sauvīra kingdom. He was a follower of Jayadratha. (Vana Parva, Chapter 265, Verse 11).

KUHARA. A King of Kaliṅga. He was born from an aspect of the Asura called Krodhavaśa. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 67, Verse 65).

KUHŪ. Daughter of Aṅgiras, one of the Prajāpatis. To Aṅgiras, by his wife Smṛti were born four daughters called Sinivālī, Kuhū, Rākā and Anumati. (Viṣṇu Purāṇa, Part 1, Chapter 10).

KUJA. Kuja is an individual belonging to the Devagaṇa. His weapon is called Śakti. He wears the akṣamālā. (Rudrākṣa garland).

KUJRMBHA. A very powerful and valiant Rākṣasa who possessed an iron rod named Sunanda. He had earned the boon that the rod would lose its power only on contact with women. He lived underground in a thick forest on the banks of the river Nirvindhya. Once he abducted Mudāvati, the beautiful daughter of Viḍūratha, King of Vaiśālī. At last Vatsapri, the son of Bhalandana made Mudāvati touch the iron rod of the Asura, which became powerless because of the touch of a woman, and then he (Vatsapri) killed the Asura. Vatsapri then married Mudāvati. (Mārkaṇḍeya Purāṇa, Chapter 116).

KUKARDAMA. A wicked monarch of Piṇḍarakadeśa. He had to be born in Pretayoni (womb of a ghostess) due to his many sins, and once he came to the āśrama of Kahoḍa, and the sage recognised him as his former disciple and absolved him from his ghosthood. (Padma Purāṇa, Uttara Khaṇḍa, Chapter 139).

KUKKURA I. A King of the Lunar dynasty, the founder of the Kukkura dynasty.