

KUNTI III. An urban area in ancient India. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 14, Verse 27).

KUNTI IV. A King born in the Yayāti dynasty.

KUNTIBHOJA.

1) *General.* A King of the Yadu dynasty; son of the sister of Śūrasena, who was the father of Vasudeva and grandfather of Śrī Kṛṣṇa. (For genealogy see under Śrī Kṛṣṇa). Kuntibhoja was also the foster-father of Kuntī, the daughter of Śūrasena. (See Para 1, under Kuntī 1).

2) *Other information.* (i) Sahadeva, during his triumphal march over the southern kingdoms subjugated Kuntibhoja. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 31, Verse 16).

(ii) He participated in the Rājasūya Yajña of Yudhiṣṭhira. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 34, Verse 12).

(iii) The son of Kuntibhoja also became famous under the same name, and Purujit was the son of this Kuntibhoja. Both of them were uncles of the Pāṇḍavas. (Karna Parva, Chapter 6, Verse 22).

(iv) On the first day of the Kurukṣetra war Kuntibhoja and his sons fought with Vinda and Anuvinda. (Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 45, Verse 72).

(v) It was Kuntibhoja who occupied the netrasthāna (eye-position) of the Krauñcavyūha set up by Dhṛṣṭadyumna. (Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 50, Verse 47).

(vi) Kuntibhoja and Śātānika occupied the Pādasthāna (foot position) of the Makaravyūha on the Pāṇḍava side. (Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 75, Verse 11).

(vii) He possessed a noble and high-bred horse. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 23, Verse 46).

(viii) In the great war he fought with Alambuṣa. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 16, Verse 183).

(ix) Ten of his children were killed by Aśvatthāmā. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 96, Verse 18).

KUPAṬA. An Asura son of Kaśyapa by Danu. (Adi Parva, Chapter 65, Verse 26).

KURAṄGA. One of the mountains which encircle Mahāmeru. (Devī Bhāgavata, 8th Skandha).

KURAṄGAKṢETRA. A holy place. He who bathes here and observes fast for three nights will attain salvation. (Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 25).

KURAṆŪ. (The Malayālam word for monkey).

Kaśyapa, the grandson of Brahmā and son of Marīci married eight daughters of Dakṣaprajāpati and one of them Krodhavaśā delivered ten daughters. Monkeys and lions were born from Hari, one of those ten daughters. Thus they are brothers, and both are called 'hari'. (Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Araṇya Kāṇḍa, Canto 14, Verse 24).

KURAPARVATA. One of the mountains which encircle Mahāmeru. (Devī Bhāgavata, 8th Skandha).

KŪRCĀMUKHA. One of the sons of Viśvāmitra. They were Brahmavādins, (expounders of Brahman) (Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 53).

KŪRMA I. A prominent serpent, son of Kadrū. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 65, Verse 41).

KŪRMA II. (Turtle). The second incarnation of Mahāviṣṇu. (See under Avatāras).

KŪRMAPURĀṆA. One of the eighteen Purāṇas. (See under Purāṇas).

KURU I. A King called Kuru was born in Dhruva's dynasty.

Genealogy. Descended from Viṣṇu thus : Brahmā —

Svāyambhuva Manu—Uttānapāda—Dhruva— Śiṣṭi — Ripu—Cākṣuṣa (Cākṣuṣa Manu)—Kuru.

King Kuru was the grandfather of the reputed Vena and the great grandfather of emperor Pṛthu. Aṅga was the father of Vena. Not much is said about this Kuru in the Purāṇas. Kuru had ten brothers called Puru, Ūru, Satadyumna, Tapasvī, Satyavāk, Śuci, Agniṣṭhu, Adhiratha, Sudyumna and Abhimanyu. Kuru had by his wife Ātreya seven sons called Aṅga, Sumanas Svāti, Kratu, Aṅgiras, Gaya and Śibi, and to Aṅga was born by his wife Sunithā the son, who became reputed as Vena. Pṛthu was Vena's son. Pṛthu had five sons called Antardhāna, Vādī, Sūta, Māgadha, Pālita. To Antardhāna was born of his wife Śikhaṇḍini a son called Havirdhāna, to whom were born by his wife Dhiṣaṇā six sons called Prācinabarhis, Śukra, Gaya, Kṛṣṇa, Vṛaja and Ajina. The above is the only information available about this Kuru dynasty in the Purāṇas. (Viṣṇu Purāṇa, Part 1, Chapter 13).

KURU II. Two sons, i.e. Uttānapāda and Priyavrata were born to Svāyambhuva Manu of his wife Śatarūpā. One King Kuru born in the dynasty of Uttānapāda has been referred to above, i.e. Kuru I. Another King Kuru is noticed in Priyavrata's dynasty. To Priyavrata were born of his wife Barhiṣmatī fourteen sons called Agnidhra, Idhmajihva, Yajñabāhu, Mahāvira, Ghṛta-prṣṭha, Sava, Hiraṇyaretā, Medhātithi, Vītihotra, Kavi, Ūrjaspati, Uttama, Tāmasa and Raivata. To Agnidhra by his wife Pūrvacitti were born nine sons called Nābhi, Kimpuruṣa, Hari, Ilāvṛta, Ramyaka, Hiraṇmaya, Kuru, Bhadrāśva and Ketumāla. One King Kuru appears among them; but nothing more than the fact that he married a woman called Nārī is known about him. (Viṣṇu Purāṇa).

KURU III. A King, the brother of Rantideva. (See under Rantideva).

KURU IV.

1) *Genealogy and birth.* The very famous King Kuru was born in the Puru dynasty. His genealogy is given hereunder. Descended from Viṣṇu thus : Brahmā - Atri - Candra - Budha - Purūravas - Āyus - Nahuṣa - Yayāti - Puru - Janamejaya - Prācinvan - Pravira - Namasyu - Vitabhaya - Śuṇḍu - Bahuvridha - Saṃyāti-Rahovādī - Raudrāśva - Matināra - Santurodha - Duṣyanta - Bharata - Suhotra - Suhotā - Gala - Garda - Suketu - Bṛhatkṣatra - Hasti - Ajamiḍha - Rkṣa - Saṃvarāṇa - Kuru.

To Kuru were born four sons called Parikṣit, Sudhanus, Jahnu and Niṣadhāśva. The genealogy of the Kuru Kings is as follows : Sudhanus-Cyavana - Kṛti - Uparicarvasu - Bṛhadratha - Kuśāgraja - Rṣabha - Puṣpavān - Juhu.

Jarāsandha was another son of Bṛhadratha. Jarāsandha had four sons called Soma, Sahadeva, Turya and Śrutaśru. From Jahnu, the following sons were born :—Suratha - Viḍūratha - Sārvabhauma - Jayat-sena, - Raviya - Bhāvuka - Cakroddhata - Devātithi - Rkṣa - Bhīma and Pratica. Pratica had three sons called Devāpi, Śantanu and Bālhika. Śantanu is known as Mahābhiṣak also. Dhṛtarāṣṭra and Pāṇḍu were the successors of Śantanu, and they came to be known as Kauravas also as they belonged to the dynasty of Kuru. But, since the sons of Pāṇḍu were born of Devas they may not be called Kauravas.

2) *Other Information.* (1) Kurukṣetra became holy