

MADIRĀ. Wife of Vasudeva, father of Śrī Kṛṣṇa. Vasudeva had seven wives named Rohiṇī, Bhādrāmanī, Madirā, Ilā, Rocanā, Pauravī and Devakī (9th Skandha, Bhāgavata). Of these Devakī, Rohiṇī, and Bhādrā abandoned their lives by jumping into the funeral pyre of Vasudeva. (Śloka 18, Chapter 7, Mausala Parva).

MADIRĀKṢA (MADIRĀŚVA) I. A brother of Virāṭa, King of Matsya. When the Kauravas made Trigarta carry away the cattle of Virāṭa it was Madirākṣa who faced Trigarta in a fight. A great fight ensued between Trigarta and Madirākṣa. He had shone as one of the chieftains of the army of King Virāṭa. He was a very charitable man well-versed in Dhanurveda (archery). He was killed in the big battle by Droṇācārya. Chapters 31, 33, 82 Virāṭa Parva; 171, Udyoga Parva and 9, Karṇa Parva).

MADIRĀKṢA II (MADIRĀŚVA). A king of the dynasty of Ikṣvāku. He was the son of King Daśāśva. Madirāśva was a saintly king well-versed in archery. He was a very righteous person also. (27-8, Anuśāsana Parva). Madirāśva had a son named Dyutimān and a daughter named Sumadhya. (2, 8, Anuśāsana Parva.) After giving Sumadhya in marriage to a sage named Hiraṇyahasta Madirāśva attained Svarga. (226: 34 Śānti Parva, and 137 : 24 Anuśāsana Parva).

MADOTKĀṬA A ferocious lion mentioned in Pañcatantra (See under Pañcatantra).

MADRĀ. One of the ten wives of Atrimaharṣi. Atri got of Madrā a son named Soma. (Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa).

MADRA (M). An ancient place of habitation in Bhārata. This is situated near the river Jhelum. Mādri, the wife of Pāṇḍu was a princess of this place. Bhīṣma went to Madra and brought Mādri for Pāṇḍu. (Chapter 112, Ādi Parva). At the time of Arjuna's birth there was a voice from heaven which said, "This child will grow up and capture many countries like Madra". Aśvapati, father of Sāvitrī, was a king of Madra. Karṇa condemned Madra and Vāhika as countries which had fallen low in virtue. (Chapter 44, Karṇa Parva).

MADRAKA I. A Kṣatriya king of ancient Bhārata. He was born of the partial spirit of the demon Krodhavaśa. Śloka 59, Chapter 67, Ādi Parva).

MADRAKA II. Soldiers of the country of Madra were called Madrakas. Madrakas were included in the Kaurava army. (Śloka 7, Chapter 51, Bhīṣma Parva).

MADRAKALAṄGA. A place of habitation of ancient India. (Śloka 42, Chapter 9, Bhīṣma Parva).

MĀDRAVATĪ I. Wife of Parikṣit, son of Abhimanyu. She was the mother of Janamejaya. (Śloka 85, Chapter 95, Ādi Parva).

MĀDRAVATĪ II. Another name for Mādri, wife of Pāṇḍu. (Śloka 56, Chapter 52, Sabhā Parva).

MĀDREYAJĀṄGALA. A place of habitation of ancient India. (Śloka 39, Chapter 9, Bhīṣma Parva).

MĀDRĪ. Mādri who was the second wife of Pāṇḍu was a daughter of the King of Madra. She was the sister of Śalya. Nakula and Sahadeva took birth from Mādri. Pāṇḍu expired when he embraced his wife Mādri. It was because of a curse of the hermit Kindama. Mādri ended her life in the pyre with her husband. (For further details see under the word PĀṆḌU).

MADYA. Wine. There is a story in the seventh Skandha of Devī Bhāgavata showing how Madya happened to be an intoxicant. Once Indra sent out the Aśvinīdevas from Devaloka and banned wine to them. They took

refuge in Cyavana a great sage. Cyavana conducted a special Yāga and invited the Aśvinīdevas to partake of the Yajñāṁśa. Indra objected to this and Cyavana had to face Indra in a fight. Then Cyavana produced from the sacrificial fire a demon named Mada and he rushed at Indra to kill him. Indra then bowed down before Cyavana and craved for pardon. Cyavana withdrew the demon and tearing him into four pieces put one each in dice, hunting, wine and women. That was how all the four became intoxicating.

In ancient India there were certain social conventions regarding drinking of alcoholic preparations. All those drinks which were intoxicants were not listed as 'Alcohol'. Wine, honey, toddy, juice of sugarcane, juice of Iruppa and Kuṭampuli, and sweet toddy of palm tree were not considered alcohol. Surā (liquor) chiefly meant Paiṣṭī (liquor made out of rice paste). Drinking of Surā was banned to the three castes, Brāhmaṇa, Kṣatriya and Vaiśya. If they drank Surā they had to perform a penance for a year drinking only water or eat long pepper for a year. To be free from the sin of drinking Surā one should wear dress made of animal hair. Even if one drinks water in a pot in which Surā was taken, one should observe Vrata for seven days. (Chapter 173, Agni Purāṇa).

MAGA (S). The brahmins residing in the island of Śāka are generally called Magas. The Brahmaparva of Bhaviṣya Purāṇa and the Sāmba Purāṇa speak about the Magas thus :

Sāmba, son of Kṛṣṇa, did severe penance to please Sūryadeva and pleased with the unwavering devotion of Sāmba, Sūrya gave him a luminous replica of himself for worship. Sāmba constructed a beautiful temple by the side of the Candrabhāgā river and installed the idol there. He then brought from Śākadvīpa the brahmins called Magas for conducting the ceremonies of the temple. All the eighteen families of Maga brahmins came and stayed near the temple at the request of Sāmba.

MAGADHA. A famous city of ancient India. Its present name is Rājagṛha. The Purāṇas mention many great Kings who had ruled Magadha. Bhādratha was once King of Magadha. (Śloka 30, Chapter 63, Ādi Parva). Jayatsena one of the Kālākeyas was once the King of Magadha. (Śloka 48, Chapter 67, Ādi Parva). Pāṇḍu father of the Pāṇḍavas once attacked Magadha and Dīrgha the then King of Magadha was killed by Pāṇḍu. (Chapter 112, Ādi Parva). While Bhādratha was ruling Magadha he passed an order that each and every house should worship the demoness Jarā as a house-goddess. (Śloka 10, Chapter 13, Sabhā Parva). During the time of the Mahābhārata Jarāsandha was the King of Magadha. Śrī Kṛṣṇa made Bhīmasena kill Jarāsandha. After his death Śrī Kṛṣṇa made Sahadeva brother of Jarāsandha the King of Magadha. (Śloka 43, Chapter 24, Sabhā Parva). Bhīmasena conquered this country during his victory march. The people of Magadha offered gifts to Yudhiṣṭhira at his Rājāsūya. (Śloka 18, Chapter 52, Sabhā Parva). The King of Magadha and the people there fought on the side of the Pāṇḍavas in the great battle. (Śloka 2, Chapter 53, Udyoga Parva).

MĀGADHAS. A particular tribe of people. If the work of Sūtas was to drive chariots and the work of Pulkasas to hunt, the work of the Māgadhās was that of an adulterator. (Chapter 151, Agni Purāṇa). This work of a flatterer was given to them by Brāhmā. When the