

MAÑIVĀHANA. Another name for King Kuśāmba. (Chapter 63, Ādi Parva).

MAÑIVAKRA. One of the sons of the Vasu, Āpa.

MAÑIVARA. One of the sons born to Rajatanātha of his wife Mañivarā. This Yakṣa married Kratusthalā's daughter Devajānī. The sons born to them are called 'Guhyakas'. (Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa, 3.7.127-131).

MĀÑIVARA. A Yakṣa. He lives on the mountain of Mandara. (Śloka 5, Chapter 139, Vana Parva).

MAÑIVATṬAPPĀRA. A rock of Purāṇic fame. Rāvaṇa spent one night on this rock with Rambhā. Rambhā was going to her lover Nalakūbara one night alone and Rāvaṇa seeing her on the way carried her away to this place. (Uttara Rāmāyaṇa).

MAÑJULĀ. A river of Purāṇic fame. (Śloka 34, Chapter 9, Bhīṣma Parva).

MAÑJUGHOSĀ. A nymph. The sage Medhāvī cursed this nymph and made her into a devil. (See under Medhāvī).

MAṆKA. A place of habitation in the island of Śāka. This place is inhabited mostly by dutiful brahmins. (Chapter 11, Bhīṣma Parva).

MAṆKAṆA (MAṆKANA). A barber of Vārāṇasī who was a great devotee of Gaṇeśa. During the time of King Divodāsa II Śiva wanted to destroy the city of Kāśī and deputed his son Gaṇeśa (Nikumbha) for the same.

Gaṇeśa came to Kāśī and appearing in person before his devotee Maṅkaṇa, asked him to build a temple on the outskirts of Kāśī. Maṅkaṇa completed the temple and Gaṇeśa (Nikumbha) installed himself in that temple getting for it the name Nikumbhamandira. Devotees began to flow into the temple and Nikumbha sitting there answered the prayers of all. But he never fulfilled the prayer of the King to have a son. This annoyed Divodāsa and he destroyed the temple and then Nikumbha cursed that the city of Kāśī would become desolate. Śiva's desire thus became fulfilled. (92, 33, Vāyu Purāṇa and 3; 67, 43, Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa).

MAṆKAṆAKA (MAṆKANA). A sage

1) *General information.* He was born to Vāyubhagavān of his wife Sukanyakā. (Śloka. 58, Chapter 38, Śalya Parva).

Vāmana Purāṇa, 38th Chapter states that Maṅkaṇa was one of the spiritual sons of Kaśyapaprajāpati.

2) *Juice of potherb flows from finger.* The sage was living in Saptasārasvatatīrtha and one day by accident his thumb was cut off from his hand by the sharp edge of Kuśa grass. But instead of blood, the juice of potherb began to flow from the thumb and the sage, overjoyed at this strange phenomenon, started dancing. Along with Maṅkaṇa the earth and the sky also started dancing and the dancing showed no signs of stopping. Śiva then appeared before Maṅkaṇa and asked him the cause of his non-stop dancing. Śiva was in disguise and Maṅkaṇa did not recognise the new-comer and the sage told him about the strange phenomenon. As they were talking Śiva touched the thumb of the sage with his little finger and lo! the flow from the finger changed from pot-herb juice to sugar-candy juice. Vāmana Purāṇa states that it was ashes which flowed from the finger. The hermit was ashamed. He understood that the guest was Śiva and he fell at his feet. Śiva blessed the hermit and granted him boons.

3) *Maṅkaṇa falls in love with Sarasvatī Devī.* One day Sarasvatīdevī came to the place of his residence in the guise of a very attractive woman. Maṅkaṇa had seminal emission on seeing her and the semen fell on the surface of the water. The sage stored the water with semen in a pot and soon seven sons were born from it. They all became sages named Vāyuvega, Vāyubala, Vāyuhā, Vāyumaṇḍala, Vāyujvāla, Vāyuretas and Vāyucakra. (Chapter 83, Vana Parva and Chapter 38, Śalya Parva).

4) *Birth of Kadalīgarbhā.* Besides the seven sons Maṅkaṇa got a daughter named Kadalīgarbhā. Menakā was her mother. (See under Kadalīgarbhā).

5) *Maṅkaṇa diverts the river Sarasvatī.* It was sage Maṅkaṇa who invoked the river Sarasvatī and made it flow through Kurukṣetra. Chapter 38, Vāmana Purāṇa).

MAṆKI I. A great sage. It was Bhīṣma, while he was lying on his bed of arrows who narrated the story of this sage. Maṅki was an aspirant of worldly things and once he got two bullocks. He was ploughing with them one day when a camel came and carried them away. Disappointed he came to the ārama and lamented deeply over it. This lamentation became known later as the famous Maṅkigītā. By the time the gītā reached its end the mind of the sage was changed and he became one bereft of all worldly desires and he acquired mokṣa. (Chapter 177, Śānti Parva).

MAṆKI II. A sage who lived in Tretāyuga. He was the son of Kauṣītakibrāhmaṇa and was a Vaiṣṇavite of great virtue. This sage had two wives named Surūpā and Virūpā. Both had no sons and as per the advice of his guru he went to Sabarmatītaṭa and did penance there. After several years of rigorous austerities he got very many children. The place where Maṅkimaharṣi sat and did penance was known later as Maṅki(tīrtha). It is also called Saptasārasvata. In Dvāparayuga the Pāṇḍavas visited the place and gave it the name Saptadhāra also. (Uttara Khaṇḍa, Padma Purāṇa).

MANMATHAKARA. A warrior of Subrahmaṇya. There is a reference to this warrior in Mahābhārata, Śalya Parva, Chapter 45, Verse 72.

MANODARĪ. Wife of Dārūkāsura. (See under Ghaṇṭākarna).

MANOGUṆA. Man may do many things, right or wrong, good or bad, but it is the purity of your mind that matters. The following story is to illustrate how much your life depends on the quality of your thoughts (Manoguṇa).

Once on the shores of Gaṅgā a Brāhmaṇa and a Caṇḍāla sat side by side and performed penance. After some days of foodless penance the Brāhmaṇa felt hungry and his thoughts went to the fishermen he had seen earlier. He thought thus, "Oh how happy are these fishermen. They catch good fishes and eat to their heart's content and are happy. They are the luckiest people of this world". The thoughts of the Caṇḍāla also went to the fishermen. But he thought thus: "Oh how cruel are these fishermen! How many innocent lives do they destroy to fill their belly. They must be demons to do so." Both of them died after some days and the Brāhmaṇa was born as a fisherman and the Caṇḍāla a prince. Both of them were re-born near their abodes in their previous birth and both remembered their previous lives. The Caṇḍāla was happy but