

- (3) Bhīmasena during his victory march to the east conquered this country. (Śloka 8, Chapter 30, Sabhā Parva).
- (4) Sahadeva during his victory march to the south conquered the people of Matsyadeśa. (Śloka 4, Chapter 31, Sabhā Parva).
- (5) Matsyadeśa was one of the countries suggested by Arjuna to spend their life incognito. (Śloka 12, Chapter 1, Virāṭa Parva).
- (6) Virāṭa was the chief of Matsyadeśa during the time of Mahābhārata. (Śloka 17, Chapter 1, Virāṭa Parva).
- (7) In the Kurukṣetra battle Virāṭa, King of Matsyadeśa, came to the help of Yudhiṣṭhira with an Akṣauhīnī (army). (Śloka 12, Chapter 18, Udyoga Parva).
- (8) The Pāṇḍavas spent a year of their life incognito at the palace of Virāṭa king of Matsyadeśa. (Chapter 7, Virāṭa Parva).
- (9) Matsyarājya was one of the prominent kingdoms of ancient Bhārata. (Śloka 40, Chapter 9, Bhīṣma Parva).
- (10) Bhīṣma slaughtered many soldiers from Matsyadeśa.
- (11) Droṇācārya killed at a stretch five hundred Matsyas in the great battle. (Śloka 31 Chapter 190, Droṇa Parva).
- (12) Karṇa once conquered Matsyadeśa. (Śloka 18, Chapter 8, Karṇa Parva).
- (13) The people of Matsyadeśa were honest and charitable. (Chapter 45, Śloka 28, Karṇa Parva).
- (14) Those who were left out among the Matsyas in the great battle were killed by Aśvatthānā. (Śloka 158, Chapter 8, Sautika Parva).
- MATSYA III.** A King. He was the brother of Satyavatī, mother of Vyāsa. Satyavatī and Matsya were both found in a fish by the same fisherman. (See under Adri.)
- MATSYAGANDHĪ (MATSYAGANDHĀ).** Another name for Satyavatī, mother of Vyāsa. (See under Satyavatī).
- MATSYAKĀLA.** A King of Pūruvaṁśa. He was one of the seven celebrated Kings known as Girikāputras. The others were : Brhadratha, Kuśa, Yadu, Pratyagra, Bala and Vira. The seven sons were born to Girikā of her attendants. (Chapter 278, Agni Purāṇa).
- MATSYAPURĀṆA.** One of the eighteen Purāṇas. This Purāṇa was told to Manu Satyavrata by Mahāviṣṇu during his incarnation as Matsyu. There are thirteen thousand ślokas in it. For prosperity this Purāṇa should be given as gift on the Viṣuvat day along with a golden image of Matsya. (Chapters 2 and 272, Agni Purāṇa).
- MATSYODARĪ.** Another name for Satyavatī, mother of Vyāsa. (See under Satyavatī).
- MATTA.** A demon. He was born to the demon Mālyavān of his wife Sundarī. Matta had six brothers named Vajramuṣṭi, Virūpākṣa, Durmukha, Suptaghna, Yajñakośa and Unmatta. This Matta was killed in the Rāma-Rāvaṇa battle. (Chapter 10, Agni Purāṇa).
- MATTAMAYŪRA(S).** A special tribe of Kṣatriyas. Nakula, one of the Pāṇḍavas, defeated these people during his victory march to the west. (Śloka 5, Chapter 32, Sabhā Parva).
- MAUDGALYA (MAUDGALA).** A maharṣi. This maharṣi once cursed Rāvaṇa. Once Maudgalya was sitting in Svastikāsana resting his shoulders on his yogic staff in the forest of Kadamba. Rāvaṇa returning after his victory march came that way. Seeing the sage sitting in a wonderfully queer posture

Rāvaṇa was amused and playfully tapped the staff with his Candrahāsa. The staff broke into two and Maudgalya fell flat on the ground breaking his spine. The sage was furious and he cursed Rāvaṇa saying that his Candrahāsa would thenceforth have no effect at all. (Yuddha Kāṇḍa, Kamba Rāmāyaṇa).

MAUHŪRTTIKĀGĀTI. When the Sun passes through the centre of Puṣkaradvīpa it covers a path equivalent to a thirtieth part of the earth and this journey of the Sun is called Mauhūrttikāgati. (See under Sūrya).

MAUÑJĀYANA. A maharṣi. This sage shone in the court of Yudhiṣṭhira. (Śloka 13, Chapter 4, Sabhā Parva).

MAURAVAPĀŚA. See under Mura.

MAURVĪ. A kind of grass. It is with this grass that ascetics make mekhalā (waistlet). (Śloka 33, Chapter 17, Droṇa Parva).

MAUSALAPARVA. A Parva of Mahābhārata. This Parva contains the story of the end of the Yādavas by killing each other.

MĀVELLA. The fourth son of Uparicaravasu. Māvella attended the Rājasūya of Yudhiṣṭhira. (Chapter 63, Ādi Parva and Chapter 34, Sabhā Parva).

MĀVELLAKA. An ancient place of habitation in India. Suśarmā, King of Trigarta, fought against Arjuna taking along with him the warriors of Māvellaka. Arjuna killed them all. (Śloka 20, Chapter 17, Droṇa Parva).

MAYA. A Dānava king who served Devas and Asuras as their architect and builder.

1) *General.* Kaśyapa Prajāpati, son of Marīci and grandson of Brahmā married the thirteen daughters of Dakṣa. Among them, the first was Aditi, the second was Diti and the third was Danu. Āditeyas were born to Aditi, Daityas were born to Diti and Dānavas were born to Danu. The chief among the sons of Danu was Maya.

Maya was found to be very proficient in the art of architecture even from his boyhood. He worshipped Brahmā in the Himālayas to gain unrivalled skill in architecture. Brahmā was pleased and appeared before him. He blessed Maya to become the unequalled architect of the Devas, Asuras and Dānavas. After that Maya was engaged in building magnificent mansions for Devas and Asuras. He was also anointed King of the Dānavas.

It was a period of friendly co-operation and brotherly relations between Devas and Asuras. Once there was a dancing show in Devaloka. Maya was also invited to see the performance of the women of Devaloka. All the dancers acquitted themselves creditably. But what attracted Maya most, was the dance of Hemā, the Apsarā woman. Maya and Hemā were mutually attracted and fell in love with each other. The Devas who came to know of this, gave Hemā in marriage to Maya. (Uttara Rāmāyaṇa).

2) *Domestic life.* Maya and Hemā went to the valley south of Himavān and built there a city named "Hemapura". While leading a happy life there, two sons, Māyāvī and Dundubhī were born to them. But they had no daughter. So they worshipped Śiva, praying for a daughter.

At about that time, one day, an Apsarā woman, Madhurā, after observing Somavāra Vrata, came to Śiva and did obeisance to him. Pārvatī was not at home at the moment. Fascinated by Madhurā's charm, Śiva embraced her. Pārvatī who came to know of it, cursed