

- Pleased at the slaughter of Mura, Viṣṇu blessed her and said "From today onwards you will be known as 'Ekādaśī'. You will be capable of wiping off all sins on earth." (Padmapurāṇa, Uttarakhaṇḍa 36. 50-80).
- MURA III. (MURU).** A Yādava King. He was one of the neighbours of Jarāsandha. The daughter of this Yādava king called Kāmakaṭaṅkaṭā was married to Ghaṭotkaca. (13. 13. Sabhā Parva and Skanda Purāṇa).
- MURA IV (MURU).** A country of ancient Bhārata. A King called Bhagadatta was the King of this country. (Śloka 14, Chapter 14, Sabhā Parva).
- MURĀRI.** A Sanskrit dramatist who lived in the 8th century A.D. in India. His father was Bhaṭṭasrīvarddhamaṇa. Murāri is the author of the drama 'Anargharāghava'. This drama has eight acts. Murāri has mentioned in his works about Anaṅgahaṛṣa who lived in 700 A.D. and Ratnākara who lived in 750 A.D. It is therefore, surmised that Murāri must have lived during the latter part of the 8th century. In the writing of dramas Murāri has excelled the Mahāvīracarita of Bhavabhūti and his verses indicate he had the style of Māgha.
- MURMURĀ.** A river. Agni originated from this river. (Śloka 25, Chapter 222, Vana Parva).
- MŪRTI.** One of the thirteen daughters of Dakṣaprajāpati. This girl was married to Dharmā. Nara and Nārāyaṇa are the sons born to Mūrti of Dharmā. (4th Skandha, Bhāgavata).
- MŪŚAKA.** An ancient place of habitation in Bhārata. (Śloka 56, Chapter 9, Bhīṣma Parva).
- MŪŚAKĀDA (MŪŚIKĀDA).** A serpent born to Kāśyapaprajāpati of his wife Kadrū. This serpent sits in the court of Varuṇa and worships him. Once Nārada introduced this nāga to Mātali. (Śloka 10, Chapter 9, Sabhā Parva and Śloka 14, Chapter 103, Udyoga Parva).
- MUSALA.** A Brahmvādī son of Viśvāmītra. (Śloka 53, Chapter 4, Anuśāsana Parva).
- MŪŚIKA.** An ancient merchant. In the Kathāpīṭhalambaka of Kathāsaritsāgara a story is told to demonstrate that even without any capital an ingenious and industrious man can earn money. A merchant got this name by means of his industry. Once a poor man of no resources went to the house of a great merchant named Viśākhila. He was then admonishing a young man of his own caste. The merchant was saying, "See, here is a dead rat on the ground. A clever man would earn money by using this as a capital. To you I have given money for business on several occasions. Not only that you have not increased it but also you have lost it." The poor man who went to him requested the merchant to give him the dead rat. Viśākhila greatly amused at the request gave him the rat. A rich man bought it for his cat to eat and gave him instead two measures of Bengal gram. He roasted it and made it palatable and then with a pot of water went outside the city gates and sat under a tree on the road-side. Wood-cutters were passing that way carrying loads and he sold the roasted gram and water to them who purchased it with eagerness to ease their weariness. They gave him in exchange firewood and in the evening he took it to the market and sold it. With the money he purchased more Bengal gram and continued the trade as before and after a few days he purchased from them a great stock of firewood. Suddenly there were heavy rains and there was a scarcity of firewood in the market and he sold his stock for good price. With the money thus received he purchased some goods and started a grocery shop. Gradually his business increased and he became a big merchant. Because he started the business from a Mūśika (rat) he got the nick-name Mūśika.
- MŪŚIKASTRĪ.** See under Pañcatantra.
- MUṢṬIKA.** An asura who was a servant of Kaṁsa. This asura was killed by Balabhadra. (See under Kṛṣṇa).
- N**
- NA.** In Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 348, the meaning of this syllable is given as 'vṛnda' (collection) and 'Buddha'
- NABHAGA.** A brother of Ikṣvāku, who had ten brothers named Nabhaga, Śaryāti, Diṣṭa, Dhṛṣṭa, Nariṣyanta, Nābhāga, Pṛṣadhra, Kavi, Karūṣa and Vasumān. (Bhāgavata, Skandha 8).
- NĀBHĀGA.** A brother of Ikṣvāku. The famous Ambarīṣa was Nābhāga's son. After conquering all the worlds he ruled the kingdom strictly along the path of truth and righteousness. (Vana Parva, Chapter 25, Verse 12). In the evening of his life Nābhāga gifted away the whole land to Brahmins. Since she could not leave Nābhāga, Bhūmidevī herself assumed physical form and went to him on the occasion. This emperor never consumed meat. He lives in Brahmāloka according to Chapter 115, Anuśāsana Parva. (Śānti Parva, Chapter 96, Verse 124).
- NĀBHĀGĀRIṢṬA.** A son of Vaivasvata Manu. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 75, Verse 17).
- NABHAKĀNANA.** An ancient country in South India. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 9, Stanza 59).
- NABHASVĀN.** A son of Narakāsura. Tāmra, Antarīkṣa, Śravaṇa, Vasu, Vibhāvasu, Nabhasvān and Aruṇa were the seven prominent sons of Narakāsura. (Bhāgavata, Skandha 10).
- NABHODA.** An eternal Viśvadeva. (A class of gods concerned in the Śrāddha offerings to the Manes). (M.B. Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 91, Stanza 34).
- NĀCIKA.** One of the Brahmvādīn sons of Viśvāmītra (Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 58).
- NĀCIKETA (NACIKETA).** A sage of olden days. Son of Uddālaki, he lived for a long time in the āśrama serving his father, who devoted his time to performing yajñas. Naciketa, who was once sent into the forest for flowers etc. did not find them anywhere there, and he returned to the āśrama without them. Angry at this his father cursed him to be taken to Yamaloka. Accordingly he went to Yamaloka. He waited at the gates for a long time to see Yama, who appeared at last when he sang the praises of Yama. The advice then given by Yama to Naciketa forms the Kathopaniṣad. After studying the advice he returned to his father, who was pleased to find him a great scholar. (Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 71).
- NACIKETAS.** A famous hermit. Kathopaniṣad is the exhortation given by Yamadeva (God of death) to this hermit. There is a story to substantiate this statement. The father of Naciketas was the hermit Vājaśravas. This hermit gave as alms, cows which had grown lean by old age and lack of food, at the time of sacrifices. Naciketas felt grieved at this action of his father. He went to his father and sadly asked him "Father, to whom are you going to give me?" The father got angry at the