

- is also known by the name Mātṛkāgraha or Puruṣa-graha.
- SKANDĀPASMĀRA.** A demon derived from the body of Subrahmaṇya. This would enter the womb of pregnant women and afflict the child in the womb. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 230, Verse 26).
- SKANDHA.** A nāga (serpent) born in the family of Dhṛtarāṣṭra. This serpent was burnt to death in the sacrificial fire of the serpent sacrifice of Janamejaya. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 57, Verse 18).
- SKANDHĀKṢA.** A warrior of Subrahmaṇya. (Mahābhārata, Śalya Parva, Chapter 45, Verse 60).
- ŚLEṢMAKA (M).** (ŚLEṢMĀTAKAM). A forest. It was when Viśravas, the grandson of Brahmā and Kaikasi, the daughter of Sumālī were living in this forest, that Rāvaṇa, Kumbhakarna, Vibhiṣaṇa and Śūrpaṇakhā were born to them. (Kamba Rāmāyaṇa, Pūrva Kāṇḍa).
- ŚLIṢṬI.** Son of Dhruva. Dhruva had two children Śliṣṭi and Succhāyā by his wife Śambhu. Śliṣṭi married Succhāyā. Five sons, Ripu, Ripuñjaya, Puṇya, Vṛkala and Vṛkatejas, were born to them. Ripu, the eldest of them, was the father of Cākṣuṣa Manu, according to Harivaṃśa, Chapter 2.
- SMARADŪTĪ.** A maid of Vṛndā, the wife of Jalandhara. (Padma Purāṇa 3 : 9).
- SMṚTI.** The sovereign deity of remembrance. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Śalya Parva, Chapter 46, Verse 64, that this goddess Smṛti had walked in front of the army of Subrahmaṇya. Smṛti was the wife of Aṅgiras. Four daughters, named Sinīvālī, Kulū, Rākā and Anumatī, were born to Aṅgiras by his wife Smṛtīdevī. (Viṣṇu Purāṇa, Aṃśa 1, Chapter 10).
- SNĀNA.** Bathing. The Purāṇas have ordered six kinds of bathing. They are Nitya snāna (daily bath), Naimittika snāna (incidental bath), Kāmya snāna (Desirable), Kriyā snāna (ceremonial), Kriyāṅga snāna (bathing only the limbs used for rites) and Malakarṣaṇa snāna (Bathing to drag out excrements). (Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 155).
- SOBHANA.** Son-in-law of Mucukunda. (See Para 3 under Mucukunda).
- SODARYAVĀN.** A chariot of Indra. The peculiarity of this chariot was that two chariot-fighters could sit and fight at the same time in this. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Sabhā Parva, Chapter 24, Verse 12, that Indra had, sitting in this chariot, killed ninety-nine asuras (demons). This chariot passed hands from Indra to Uparicaravasu; from him to Bṛhadratha, and from this King to Jarāsandha, on whose death, Indra took possession of it again. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 24, Verse 48).
- ṢODĀŚARĀJAKA.** The story of sixteen famous Kings related by Vyāsa to Yudhiṣṭhira who, after the death of Abhimanyu in the war became averse to fighting. The Kings were (1) Marutta (2) Suhotra (3) Paurava (4) Śibi (5) Śrī Rāma (6) Bhagīratha (7) Dilīpa (8) Māndhātā (9) Yayāti (10) Ambarīṣa (11) Śaśabindu (12) Gaya (13) Rantideva (14) Bharata (15) Pṛthu (16) Paraśurāma. (Droṇa Parva, 16 Chapters from 165).
- SOMA I.** A son born to fire Bhānu by his third wife Niśā, who had given birth to two sons Soma and Agni and a daughter named Rohiṇī. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 221, Verse 15).
- SOMA II.** One of the eight Vasus. The eight Vasus are Āpa, Dhruva, Soma, Dharma, Anila, Agni, Pratyūṣa and Prabhāsa. (Viṣṇu Purāṇa, Aṃśa 1.15).
- SOMA III.** A son of Jarāsandha. It is stated in Bhāgavata, Skandha 9, that Jarāsandha had four sons named Soma, Sahadeva, Turya and Śrutāru.
- SOMĀ.** A celestial maid. This celestial beauty performed a dance at the birth festival of Arjuna. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 122, Verse 61).
- SOMA.** Juice extracted from Soma creeper. It is believed that the devas accept Soma in sacrifices.
- SOMADĀ.** A Gandharva damsel. (For further details see under Cūlī).
- SOMADATTA I.** A King of the Ikṣvāku dynasty. *Genealogy.* Descended from Viṣṇu in the following order :—Brahmā-Marīci-Kaśyapa-Vivasvān-Vaivasvata Manu-Ikṣvāku-Diṣṭa-Nābhāga - Phalantana-Vatsapṛiti-Prāmsu - Pramati - Khanitra- Cākṣuṣa-Rambha- Kanietra - Karandhama-Avikṣit-Marutta-Dama - Rājyavardhana - Sudhṛti- Nara- Kevala - Bandhumān-Vegavān - Tṛṇabindu-Alambuṣa-Viśāla-Hemacandra- Dhūmrākṣa Śrñjaya-Sahadeva-Kṛśāśva-Somadatta.
- SOMADATTA II.** A King of Pañcāla. He was the great grandson of Śrñjaya and the grandson of Sahadeva. The father of Somadatta was Kṛśāśva. (Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Sarga 47).
- SOMADATTA III.** A King of the Kuru dynasty.
- 1) *General information.* This King was the son of Bāhlika and the grandson of King Pradīpa. Three sons named Bhūri, Bhūriśravas and Śala were born to Somadatta.
- 2) *Other details.*
- (i) Somadatta and his sons were present at the Svayanvara marriage of Draupadī. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 185, Verse 14).
- (ii) Somadatta had participated in the royal consecration sacrifice of Yudhiṣṭhira. (M.B. Chapter 34, Verse 8).
- (iii) This Somadatta was present at the Svayanvara of Devakī. At that time there occurred a hand to hand fight between Śini and Somadatta. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 114, Verse 14).
- (iv) The defeat from Śini being unbearable, Somadatta did penance to get power to vanquish him and Śiva appeared before him. Somadatta made the following request :- "God! May I be granted a son who would be powerful enough to kick down the son of Śini in his palace." Śiva granted his wish. Bhūriśravas was the son born in conformity with this boon. He grew up and defeated the son of Śini and kicked him in the palace of the King. This story occurs in Mahābhārata, Droṇa Parva, Chapter 144.
- (v) Somadatta fought against Sātyaki and Bhīmasena in the battle of Bhārata and fell down unconscious. (Droṇa Parva, Chapter 157, Verse 10).
- (vi) In the battle which followed this, Sātyaki killed Somadatta. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 162, Verse 33).
- (vii) It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Āśramavāsika Parva, Chapter 11, Verse 17, that Dhṛtarāṣṭra performed the sacrifice of giving offerings to the spirit of Somadatta.
- (viii) Somadatta was one of the spirits which appeared