

(vii) Another battle was fought between Śrutāyus and Arjuna. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 92, Verse 36).

(viii) Śrutāyus was killed by his own cudgel. (Mahābhārata, Droṇa Parva, Chapter 92, Verse 54). (See also under Śrutāyudha).

ŚRUTĀYUS III. A Kṣatriya king. He was born from a portion of the Daitya, Krodhavaśa. We get the following details about him from Mahābhārata:

(i) Śrutāyus was the re-birth of Krodhavaśa, the Daitya. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 67, Verse 64).

(ii) Śrutāyus, who was a Mahāratha (a great warrior) was present at the Svayamvara of Draupadī. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 185, Verse 21).

(iii) This Śrutāyus was a member of Yudhiṣṭhira's assembly. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 28).

(iv) On the first day of Bhārata battle, there was a clash between Śrutāyus and Irāvān. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 45, Verse 69).

(v) He was the King of Ambaṣṭha country. In the Bhārata battle he encountered Arjuna. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 59, Verse 75).

(vi) It was this Śrutāyus who stood in the middle portion of the Krauñca Vyūha formed by Bhīṣma in the above battle. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 75, Verse 22).

(vii) Yudhiṣṭhira defeated Śrutāyus. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 84, Verse 1).

(viii) At Kurukṣetra, Arjuna killed Śrutāyus in the battle. Arjuna had to fight a fierce battle in order to kill Śrutāyus. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 98).

ŚRUTĀYUS IV. A warrior who fought on the Kaurava side. He was the brother of the hero Ayutāyus. In Bhārata battle, both these brothers joined the Kauravas. Both were assigned the task of defending the southern wing of the Kaurava army. After a life-and-death struggle, Arjuna killed both of them. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 95, Verse 7).

ŚRUTI. An ancient King in India. (Mahābhārata, Ādi Parva, Chapter 1, Verse 238).

STAMBAMITRA. A bird. This bird was born to the hermit Mandapāla by his bird-wife Jaritā. (For further details see under Mandapāla).

STAMBHA. One of the Saptarṣis (seven hermits) of the Manu-age (Manvantara) of Svārociṣa. The seven ṛṣis of Svārociṣa Manvantara are Ūrja, Stambha, Prāna, Vāta, Vṛṣabha, Niraya and Parivān. (For further details see under Manvantara).

STANAKUṆḌA. A holy place. Those who bathe in this tīrtha, which is one of the holy places of ancient Bhārata, would obtain the fruits of performing the sacrifice Vājapeya. (Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 34, Verse 152).

STANAPOSIKA. An ancient country of South India. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 9, Verse 68).

STANAVĀLA. An ancient place in South India. (Mahābhārata, Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 9, Verse 63).

STEYA. Theft. In the law of chastisement of ancient Bhārata, appropriation of the property of others unjustly, was counted as theft (steya). The punishment awarded for theft in ancient Bhārata, is mentioned in Agni Purāna, Chapter 173, as follows. "All thefts are violation of justice. The thief of gold, will have to be beaten to death with a pestle. Then only his sin will be remitted. Or, he must live for twelve years, lying on the earth, wearing matted hair and eating only

leaves, roots and fruits, once a day. The thief of pearl, coral, copper, silver, iron, bronze and stone, will have to eat millet rice (Kaṇanna) for twelve days. Those who steal food products, vehicle, bed, chair, flowers, fruits, roots etc. will be made to eat Paicagavya (Milk, curd, butter, urine and dung of cow). He who steals grass, firewood, tree, dried rice, saccharum, cloth, hide, meat etc. will have to be made to fast for three days.

STHANDILEYU. A son born to Raudrāśva, the third son of King Puru. The celestial maid Miśrakaśī was the mother of Sthandileyu. This Sthandileyu was a great archer. (Mahābhārata, Ādi Parva, Chapter 94, Verse 8).

STHĀṆU I. Śiva, the son of Brahmā. The eleven Rudras were born from Sthāṇu. (Mahābhārata, Ādi Parva, Chapter 66).

STHĀṆU II. One of the eleven Rudras. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 66, Verse 6).

STHĀṆU III. A hermit. This hermit shines in the palace of Indra. (Mahābhārata, Sabhā Parva, Chapter 7, Verse 17).

STHĀNUSTHĀNA. A holy place. This place is situated on the eastern bank of the river Sarasvatī. Vasiṣṭha had once built his hermitage here. This place became a holy tīrtha since god Sthāṇu had performed penance here. It is said that the devas anointed Subrahmaṇya as the commander of the army, at this place. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 45, Verse 48).

STHĀNUTĪRTHA (STHĀNUVĀṬA). An ancient holy place, situated in Kurukṣetra. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 83, Verse 178, that those who bathe in this holy tīrtha and remain there for a night will attain the world of Rudras.

STHIRA. One of the two followers given to Subrahmaṇya by Meru. The followers given to Subrahmaṇya were Sthira and Atisthira. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 45, Verse 48).

STHŪLAKĒṢA. An ancient hermit. He was the foster-father of Pramadvārā the wife of Ruru. (See under Pramadvārā).

STHŪLĀKṢA I. A giant. He was one of those giants who fought with Śrī Rāma while Rāma and Lakṣmaṇa were living in the forest in Pañcavātī. It is mentioned in Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Araṇya Kāṇḍa, Sarga 26, that when Khara, Dūṣaṇa and Triśiras were killed, Mahākapāla, Sthūlākṣa and Pramāthī confronted Śrī Rāma and were killed.

STHŪLĀKṢA II. A Saintly hermit. He was one of those hermits who had visited Bhīṣma in his bed of arrows. (M.B. Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 26, Verse 7).

STHŪLAŚIRAS I.

1) *General information.* A hermit. It is observed that he was alive in the ages of both Rāmāyaṇa and Mahābhārata.

2) *Other details.*

(i) He shone in the court of Yudhiṣṭhira. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 11).

(ii) It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 135, Verse 8, that Yudhiṣṭhira once visited his beautiful hermitage.

(iii) In olden days this hermit had performed penance on the North East side of Meru. (M.B. Śānti Parva, Chapter 243, Verse 59).