

SUPUÑJKA. Son of Vipracitti by Simhikā. He was killed by Paraśurāma. (Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa, 3.6. 13-12).

SUPUÑYĀ. A river in India famous in the Purāṇas. (Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 221, Verse 9).

ŚŪRA I. A King of the Lunar dynasty. He was the son of Viḍūrata and father of Śini. (Bhāgavata, 9th Skandha).

ŚŪRA II. A son of Kārttavīrya. Of the hundred sons of Kārttavīrya, the most important were, Śūra, Śūrasena, Dhīṣaṇa, Madhu and Jayadhvaaja. (Brahmāṇḍa, Purāṇa, Chapter 46).

ŚŪRA III. A King in ancient India. (Mahābhārata, Ādi Parva, Chapter 1, Verse 232).

ŚŪRA IV. A son of the King named Iliṇa by his wife Rathantari. This Śūra had four brothers named Duṣanta, Bhīma, Pravasū and Vasu. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 94, Verse 17).

ŚŪRA V. A prince of Sauvīra land. (Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 265, Verse 10). This Śūra was slain by Arjuna at the time of Draupadī's marriage. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 291, Verse 27).

ŚŪRA VI. A Yādava King. He was the father of Vasudeva and grandfather of Śrī Kṛṣṇa. By his first wife, Mārīṣā, he had ten sons and four daughters. The sons were, Vasudeva, Devabhāga, Devaśravas, Ānaka, Śrñjaya, Śyāmaka, Kaṅka, Śamika, Vatsaka and Vṛka. The names of the daughters were, Pṛthā, Śrutadevā (Śrutavedā), Śrutaśravā and Rājādhivevī. The eldest of these, Pṛthā was given as an adopted daughter to Kuntibhoja. (Harivamśa, 2-34; 17-28; M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 43; Verse 3. Chapter 104. Verse 1; Bhāgavata, 9th Skandha). In Vāyu Purāṇa it is stated that he had three more wives besides Mārīṣā, and from them Devas and mortals were born. (See under Śūrasena 1).

ŚŪRA VII. Father of Daśaratha's wife, Sumitrā. He was invited to the Putrakāmeṣṭi Yāga performed by Daśaratha. (Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Bāla Kāṇḍa, Sarga 13, Verse 26).

SURABHI. The cow of the Devas. (For details see under Kāmadhenu and Saurabhī).

SURABHI II. A cow born from the 'Humkāra' (the sound 'hum') of Brahmā. As the cow grew up, milk began dripping down on earth from its udder and gradually it formed into the Kṣīrasāgara (ocean of milk). Four daughters, Surūpā, Harṁsikā, Subhadrā and Sarvakāmadhuk were born to Surabhī and they are considered to be protectors of the four regions. Surabhī lives in the seventh world beneath the earth i.e. Rasātala. (Udyoga Parva, Chapter 100).

SURABHIMĀN. An Agni (fire). (Vana Parva, Chapter 221, Verse 18).

SURABHIPAṬṬAṆA. An urban area of olden days in South India. During the Mahābhārata days Sahadeva deputed an envoy to this place and brought it under his control. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 31, Verse 68).

SURABHŪ. A sister of Kamsa. Ugrasena, the Yādava King had 80 sons including Kamsa and five daughters Kamsā, Mārīṣā, Kākā, Surabhū and Rāṣṭrapālikā. (Bhāgavata, Skandha 9).

SURĀDEVĪ (VĀRUNĪ). A daughter of Varuṇa born of Devī, his brother's wife. She was the apple of the eye to the Devas. She is the presiding Devatā over liquor. She lives in the court of Brahmā worshipping him. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 11, Verse 42; Ādi Parva, Chapter 18, Verse 35 and Chapter 66, Verse 52).

SURAHANTĀ. A son of Tapa, the Pāñcājanyāgni who is one of the Agnis who cause hindrances to Yajñas. (Vana Parva, Chapter 220, Verse 13).

SURAJĀ. An apsarā woman, daughter of Kaśyapa prajāpati by his wife Pradhā. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 65, Verse 50). Surajā gave a dance performance at the birthday celebrations of Arjuna. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 122, Verse 63).

SURAKṚT. A Brahmavādī son of Viśvāmitra. (M.B. Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 57).

SURAKṢAKA. A Gandharva King. He was the grandfather of Tātakā (See under Tātakā).

ŚŪRAPADMA. An asura hero. This asura invaded Devaloka with a huge army. Skanda Purāṇa mentions that in the battle that followed, Indra, who was defeated, fled to the place called Śīyāli in Tanjore District in South India and did tapas to Śiva.

SURAPRAVĪRA. Son of Tapa, the Pāñcājanyāgni, one of the Agnis which cause hindrances to yajñas. (Vana Parva, Chapter 220, Verse 13).

SURĀRI. A King in ancient India. He was invited by the Pāṇḍavas to participate in the great war. (Udyoga Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 15).

SURASĀ I. Mother of nāgas (serpents).

1) *Birth.* Ten daughters were born to Kaśyapaprajāpati by his wife Krodhavaśā, daughter of Dakṣa including Surasā. From Surasā were born all the nāgas. (Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Araṇyakāṇḍa, Canto 14).

Nāgas and Uragas are two sects of serpents. From Surasā were born Nāgas and from Kadrū, Uragas. (Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Araṇya Kāṇḍa, Canto 14, Verse 28).

Surasā was born from the wrath of Krodhavaśā and the former had three daughters called Analā, Ruhā and Virudhā. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 66, Verse 61).

2) *Obstructed the passage of Hanūmān.* To test whether Hanūmān, who jumped into Laṅkā to seek out Sītā, possessed power enough for the purpose, Devagandharvas backed Surasā to them and told her as follows: "You mother of nāgas, do please assume a terrible form like a big mountain and appear before Hanūmān and obstruct his passage. As soon as she heard the injunction, she jumped before Hanūmān and attempted to devour him. In spite of Hanūmān's earnest pleadings she stood before him with her mouth opened wide. Hanūmān then, by his power of illusion, grew ten yojanas in size. Then Surasā opened her mouth twenty yojanas wide. Hanūmān then grew thirty yojanas in size and Surasā opened her mouth forty yojanas wide. In this competition ultimately when Surasā opened her mouth hundred yojanas wide, Hanūmān reduced his size to that of a finger, entered Surasā's mouth and came out through her ear. Surasā was pleased and blessed Hanūmān. (Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Sundara Kāṇḍa, Canto 1).

3) *Other information.*

(i) Surasā lives in the court of Brahmā worshipping him. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 11, Verse 39).

(ii) Rohiṇī, mother of Balabhadrarāma, was an incarnation of Surasā. (Devī Bhāgavata, Skandha 4).

SURASĀ II. A deva woman who danced at the birthday celebration of Arjuna. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 222, Verse 63).

ŚŪRASENA I. A King of Yaduvarṁśa.

1) *General.* Śūrasena's kingdom was Mathurāpurī. This country was originally ruled by Kings of the Solar