(xxiii) Vasistha was one of the twentyone Prajapatis. (M.B. Śānti Parva, Chapter 334, Stanza 36).

(xxiv) Vasistha is considered to be one of the Citrasikhandis (Saptarsis—seven hermits) (See under Citraśikhandis).

(xxv) Once Vasistha talked about Purusarthas (the objects of life) to Brahmā. (M.B. Anuśāsana Parva,

Chapter 6).

(xxvi) Vasistha talked to Saudāsa about giving cows as alms. (M.B. Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 78, Stanza 5). (xxvii) On another occasion Vasistha gave advice to Parasurama and talked about the origin of Gold. (M.B.

Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 84, Stanza 44).

(xxviii) Vasistha once told Arundhatī liow weakness was caused. (M.B. Anuśasana Parva, Chapter 93, Stanza 31).

(xxix) Vasistha avowed that he was not one of them who had stolen the lotus flowers of Agastya. (Anuśāsana

Parva, Chapter 23, Stanza 114).

(xxx) Āpava, Arundhatīpati, Brahmarsi, Devarsi, Hairaņyagarbha, Maitrāvaruņi, Vāruņi, and such other words are used as synonyms of Vasistha, in the Mahābhārata.

VĀSIṢṬHA. An Agni (fire). (Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 220, Stanza 1).

VĀSIŅTHA (M). Vasiṣṭha tīrtha. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 84, that he who bathes in this tirtha would become a Brahmin.

VĀSISTHA PARVATA. A mountain famous in the Purānas. It is mentioned in Ādi Parva, Chapter 214, Stanza 2, that Arjuna came and sat on this mountain during his pilgrimage.

VASISTHĀPAVĀHA. An ancient holy bath on the banks of the river Sarasvati. (See under Vasistha, fifth

confrontation).

VASISTHĀŚRAMA. A holy place near Niścirāsangama. This holy bath is famous throughout the three worlds. Those who bathe in this place will enjoy the fruits of performing Vajapeya yajña. (Drinking sacrifice). (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 87, Stanza 140).

VASORDHĀRĀ. Wife of the Vasu named Agni. (Bhāga-

vata, Skandha 6).

VASTRAPA. A group of Kşatriyas. The princes belonging to this group brought presents to Yudhisthira. (M.B.

Sabhā Parva, Chapter 52, Stanza 15).

- VASTUPURUSA. In days of yore a ghost of immense size, who was feared by all other ghosts came into existence. This ghost was buried inside the earth by the Devas. This ghost is called Vastupurusa. He is the deity of whatever we build on the earth. The offering made to this Vastupurusa on completion of a house is called "Puravāstubali". (Agni Purāņa, Chapter 40).
- VASU I. A King named Uparicaravasu. For further details see under Uparicaravasu).

VASU II. Astavasus. (The eight Vasus). (For further

details see under Astavasus).

VASU III. A son born to Kuśa, King of Kanyākubja by his wife Vaidarbhī. Kuśa had four sons, Kuśāmba, Kuśanābha, Asūrtarajas and Vasu. Of them Kuśāmba built the city of Kausambi, Kusanabha the city of Mahodayapura, Asūrtarajas the city of Dharmāraņya and Vasu the city of Girivraja which is erected in the middle

of five hills. The river Magadhi flows around this city.

(Vālmīki Rāmāyaņa, Bālakāņda Sarga 32).

VÀSU IV. A Vasu is mentioned in Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa Chapter 58, as the brother of Parasurāma. Vasu, Rumaņvān, Suṣeṇa, Viśvāvasu and Paraśurāma were the five sons born to Jamadagni by his wife Renukā.

VASU V. A son of Murāsura. The sons of Murāsura were, Tāmra, Antarīkṣa, Śravaṇa, Vasu, Vibhāvasu, Nabhasvān and Aruna. (Bhāgavata, Skandha 10).

VASU VI. A mighty King of the Krmi dynasty. (Mahābhārata, Udyoga Parva, Chapter 74, Stanza 13)

VASU VII. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Ādi Parva, Chapter 94, Stanza 17, that the King Ilina had five sons, Duşyanta, Śūra, Bhīma, Pravasu and Vasu by his wife Rathantari.

VASU VIII. A scholarly Brahmin-hermit. The hermit Paila was the son of this Vasu. (M.B. Sabhā Parva

Chapter 33, Stanza 35).

VASUIX. Vasu is usedas a synonym of Šiva in Maliābhārata, Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 17, Stanza 140.

VASU X. A name of Mahāviṣṇu. (M.B. Anuśāsana

Parva, Chapter 149, Stanza 25).

VASU XI. A King. He was born to Uttanapada by Sūnṛtā. A controversy arose among hermits once, about cow-sacrifice and for a solution of the problem the hermits approached this king Vasu, who told them his perception that the sacrifice of cow was, strictly speaking, a matter of slaughter and as such it was to be forbidden. As the hermits could not agree with the King, they cursed him "Let the King go to Pātāla (underworld). Vasu then did very severe penance and attained heaven. (Matsya Purāna, 143, 18-25).

VASUCANDRA. A King who was the supporter and helper of Yudhişthira. He was as mighty as the powerful Indra. (M.B. Drona Parva, Chapter 158, Stanza

40).

VASUDĀMĀ. An attendant of Subrahmanya. (M.B.

Śalya Parva, Chapter 46, Stanza 5).

VASUDĀNA I. A Kṣatriya King. This King who was a member of the council of Yudhisthira, was the ruler of Pamsu. It is stated in Mahabharata that this King presented Yudhisthira with twentysix elephants and two thousand horses. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 52, Stanza 27). In the Bhārata battle this King was the support of Yudhisthira and Dhrstadyumna. But he was killed by the arrow of Drona. (M.B. Udyoga Parva, Chapters 151 and 171; Drona Parva, Chapters 23 and 190; Karna Parva, Chapter 6).

VASUDĀNA II. A prince of Pāñcāla, who fought on the side of the Pandavas. He was killed by Drona-(M.B. Drona Parva, Chapter 21, Stanza 55).

- VASÚDĀNAPUTRA. A King who had taken the side of the Kauravas and fought against the Pāṇḍavas. He killed Abhibhū, the son of King of Kāśī. (M.B. Karna Parva, Chapter 4, Stanza 74).
- VASUDATTĀ I. Mother of Vararuci. (See under Vararuci).
- VASUDATTA II. (VĀSUDEVA). Father of Sudevā, a woman who had taken rebirth as a hog. (See under Sudevā III).

VASUDEVA I. Being the son of Vasudeva, Śrī Krsna was called Vāsudeva.

VASUDEVA II. See under Pauņģrakavāsudeva

VASUDEVA. Father of Śrī Krsna.