

- anointed him the King of the earth. He ruled righteously and brought the goddess earth (Pṛthvī) who had estranged herself from his father Vena close to him. Because he had conciliated Pṛthvī he became famous as a King. (Vāmana Purāṇa, Chapter 47).
- VENA II.** One of the ten sons of Vaivasvata Manu. (Mahābhārata, Ādi Parva, Chapter 75, Stanza 15).
- VENĀ.** A river famous in the Purāṇas. Information about this river, taken from Mahābhārata, is given below :
- (i) Venā-river stays in the palace of Varuṇa serving him. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 9, Stanza 18).
- (ii) Sahadeva defeated the ruler of the country at the basin of river Venā, during his conquest of the regions of the south. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 31, Stanza 12).
- (iii) Those who fast on the basin of this river for three days will go to heaven in an aerial chariot yoked with pea-cocks and swans. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 85, Stanza 32).
- (iv) Among the rivers which originate fire, this river also is included. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 224, Stanza 24).
- (v) It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 165, Stanza 20, that this is a river worthy to be remembered every morning and evening.
- VENĀSĀṆGAMA.** A holy place in India. It is mentioned in Mahā Bhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 85, Stanza 34, that those who bathe in this place shall obtain the fruits of performing a horse sacrifice.
- VENĀṬU.**
A small country situated on the southernmost point of India. This country grew in size gradually and became Travancore which forms a part of Kerala State now.
- VENĪ.** A nāga (serpent) born in the family of Kaurava. This serpent fell in the sacrificial fire of the serpent sacrifice of Janamejaya, and was burnt to death. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 57, Stanza 12).
- VENĪKĀ.** A holy river in Śāka Island famous in the Purāṇas. (Mahābhārata, Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 11, Stanza 32).
- VENĪSKANDA.** A nāga (serpent) born in the Kaurava family. This serpent also fell in the sacrificial fire of the serpent sacrifice of Janamejaya and was burnt to death. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 57, Stanza 12).
- VENĪKĀTĀDHVARI.** A Sanskrit poet who lived in the 17th century A.D. Most important of his works, is 'Yādavarāghaviya.' This poem is a description of the greatness of Rāma and Kṛṣṇa.
- VENĪKĀṬANĀTHA.** A Sanskrit poet who lived in the 14th century A.D. He completed nearly hundred and twenty-five poetic works. These are written in Sanskrit and Prakṛta. The major poetic work "Rāghavābhayudaya" of Venkaṭanātha consists of twentyfour kāṇḍas. This is a beautiful poetic work. Appayyadīkṣitar has written a commentary on this work. This poet Venkaṭanātha, who was also known by the name "Vedāntadeśika", was a great philosopher too. It is said that his native place was Tuppil, near Khānsi. Most of his works are based on theosophy and on the philosophy of oneness of man with God.
- Venkaṭanātha was born in 1268 and died in November 1369, as critics say. Even today he is esteemed and venerated as a divine person.
- VENKĀṬUKU.** A measure of weight in ancient India. (See under Trasareṇu)
- VENUDĀRI.** A Yādava. This Yādava once carried away the wife of Akrūra. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 38).
- VENUDĀRISUTA.** A Yādava. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 254, Stanza 15, that this Yādava was defeated by Karṇa during his regional conquest.
- VENUHAYA.** A king of the Lunar dynasty (Candravamśa). He was the son of Satajit and the brother of Mahāhaya and Hehaya. (Bhāgavata, Skandha 9).
- VENUJĀNGHA.** An ancient hermit. This hermit shone in the assembly of Yudhiṣṭhira. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 4, Stanza 18).
- VENUMANḌALA.** One of the seven divisions of Kuśadvīpa. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 12, Stanza 12, that, in all these seven divisions, Devas, Gandharvas and men live like friends and that death has no admission to this island.
- VENUMANTA.** A mountain very famous in the Purāṇas. This mountain is white in colour. It is said that this mountain is on a par with the mountain Mandara in the Northern region. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Dākṣiṇātyapāṭha, Chapter 33).
- VENUPA.** A country in ancient India. (Mahābhārata, Udyoga Parva, Chapter 140, Stanza 26).
- VENUVĪNĀDHARĀ.** An attendant of Subrahmaṇya. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 46, Stanza 26).
- VETĀLA.** An evil spirit. In the branch of fiction Fairy stories have a prominent place. Fairy stories had a good place in India from very early times. In several stories Vetālas (ghosts) have been introduced as characters. Though Vetālas have got a place in most of the stories, the Vetāla, who had turned to the path of salvation in 'Jñānavāsīṣṭha' and the narrator of twentyfive (Pañcaviṃśati) Vetāla stories of Kathāsaritsāgara are the most prominent among them.
- VETĀLAJANANĪ.** An attendant of Subrahmaṇya. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 46, Stanza 13).
- VETĀLAPAÑCAVĪMŚATĪ.** The twentyfive stories told by Vetāla. (See under Vetāla).
- VETASAVANA.** An ancient holy place. The goddess Mṛtyu once did penance in this place. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 54, Stanza 23).
- VETASĪKĀ.** A holy place glorified by Brahmā. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 84, Stanza 56, that those who visit this place will obtain the fruits of Horse sacrifice and will attain the world of Śukrācārya.
- VETRAKĪYAGRHA.** A place near the city of Ekacakrā. (Mahābhārata, Ādi Parva, Chapter 159, Stanza 9).
- VETRAKĪYAVANA.** A forest. It was in this forest that Bhīmasena killed Bakāsura. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 11, Stanza 30).
- VETRAVATĪ.** A river very famous in the Purāṇas. (Mahābhārata Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 9, Stanza 16).
- VETRIKA.** A country in India. Duryodhana had sent the army of the kingdom of Vetrica for the protection of Bhīṣma. (Mahābhārata, Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 51, Stanza 7).
- VIBHĀṆḌAKA (VIBHĀṆḌAKA).**
1) *General information.* A hermit, born in the family of Ka.yapa. Once he happened to see Urvaśī. When he pondered over her, seminal flow occurred to him. An