

Hṛṣikeśa (Śrī Kṛṣṇa), blew his conch named Pāñcajanya, Dhanañjaya (Arjuna), his conch called Devadatta; while Vṛkodara (Bhīma), of terrific deeds, blew his mighty conch the Pauṇdra. 15

Comment:—

'Pāñcajanyaṁ hṛṣikeśaḥ'—'Hṛṣikeśa', means the master of mind and senses, Lord Kṛṣṇa who pervades the mind and intellect of all viz., who is acquainted with the hearts of all the people, arranged on the side of the Pāṇḍavas, blew his conch named Pāñcajanya. Lord Kṛṣṇa having killed demon named Pañcajana who appeared in the form of a conch, used him as a conch. So His conch was named as 'Pāñcajanya.'

'Devadattaṁ dhanañjayaḥ'—The word 'Dhanañjaya' means conqueror of wealth. At the time of the holy sacrifice named Rājasūya, Arjuna took over wealth of many rulers on gaining victory, over them. So Arjuna was called 'Dhanañjaya.*' Indra, the king of gods, gave Arjuna the conch named Devadatta, while he was fighting with demons named Nivātakavaca etc. It produced such a loud and horrifying sound that the army of the enemies became terror-struck. This conch was blown by Arjuna.

'Pauṇdraṁ dadhmau mahāśaṅkhaṁ bhīmakarmā vṛkodaraḥ'—Bhīma, was named 'Bhīmakarmā' (doer of tremendous deeds) because he killed demons, such as Hiḍimba, Baka and Jaṭa etc., and valiant warriors, such as Kīcaka and Jarāsandha etc. In his belly, besides the heat which helps to digest food, there was a special fire, named 'Vṛka' which digested a lot of food, very easily. It was because of his great digestive power, that he was named 'Vṛkodara.' Thus, Bhīma who was the doer of terrific deeds and possessed strong digestive power, blew his mighty conch, Pauṇdra.



अनन्तविजयं राजा कुन्तीपुत्रो युधिष्ठिरः ।

नकुलः सहदेवश्च सुघोषमणिपुष्पकौ ॥ १६ ॥

* Mahābhārata, Virāṭa. 44/13

anantavijayaṁ rājā kuntīputro yudhiṣṭhiraḥ
nakulaḥ sahadewaśca sughoṣamaṇipuṣpakau

King Yudhiṣṭhira, son of Kuntī, blew his conch Anantavijaya; while Nakula and Sahadeva, blew their conchs, the Sughoṣa and Maṇipuṣpaka, respectively. 16

Comment:—

'Anantavijayaṁ rājā kuntīputro yudhiṣṭhiraḥ nakulaḥ sahadewaśca sughoṣamaṇipuṣpakau'—Arjuna, Bhīma and Yudhiṣṭhira—the three were Kuntī's sons while Nakula and Sahadeva were Mādrī's sons. So the adjective 'Kuntīputra' (Kuntī's sons) has been used for Yudhiṣṭhira.

Yudhiṣṭhira has been called a king because he was the ruler of half of the Indraprastha kingdom before exile and according to the promise and the law, he should have been a king after living in exile for twelve years and one year's incognito residence. Moreover, by calling him a king, Sañjaya wanted to hint that he would be the king of the entire territory afterwards.



काश्यश्च परमेष्वासः शिखण्डी च महारथः ।
धृष्टद्युम्नो विराटश्च सात्यकिश्चापराजितः ॥ १७ ॥
द्रुपदो द्रौपदेयाश्च सर्वशः पृथिवीपते ।
सौभद्रश्च महाबाहुः शङ्खान्दध्मुः पृथक् पृथक् ॥ १८ ॥

kāśyaśca parameśvāsaḥ śikhāṇḍī ca mahārathaḥ
dhr̥ṣṭadyumno virāṭaśca sātyakiścāparājitaḥ
drupado draupadeyāśca sarvaśaḥ pṛthivīpate
saubhadraśca mahābāhuḥ śaṅkhāṇdadhmūḥ pṛthak pṛthak

The king of Kāśī, the excellent archer and Śikhāṇḍī, the great chariot-warrior, Dhr̥ṣṭadyumna and Virāṭa, and the invincible Sātyaki, king Drupada, as well as, the five sons of Draupadī, and the mighty-armed Abhimanyu, son of Subhadra, all of them blew their respective conchs. 17-18