

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 śaṅkhāṇdadhmuḥ 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

*Comment:—*

'Kāśyaśca parameṣvāsaḥ śikhāṇḍī ca mahārathaḥ dhr̥ṣṭadyumno virāṭaśca sāt看yakiścāparājitaḥ drupado draupadeyāśca sarvaśaḥ pṛthivīpate saubhadraśca mahābāhuḥ śaṅkhāṇḍadhmuḥ pṛthak pṛthak'—The great chariot-warrior Śikhāṇḍī, was very brave. He in his previous birth was a woman, (the daughter named Ambā of the king of Kāśī), and in this birth also, was born as a daughter to king Drupada. Afterwards, she became a man by getting manhood from a genie, named Sthūṇākarna. Bhīṣma knew all this and therefore, he regarded him as a woman, and did not shoot arrows at him. Arjuna while fighting kept Śikhāṇḍī ahead, shot arrows at Bhīṣma and overthrew him from the chariot.

Arjuna's son Abhimanyu, was very brave. In warfare, he killed many warriors, by entering the array of soldiers stationed, in the form of a circle formed by Droṇa. At last, six great chariot-warriors of the army of Kauravas, surrounding him by foul means, attacked him with weapons and missiles. He was killed, when Duḥśāsana's son, hit him on the head, with a mace.

Saṅjaya, mentioned only one warrior named Bhīṣma, who blew his conch from the Kaurava-army, while he mentioned eighteen warriors, such as Lord Kṛṣṇa, Arjuna, Bhīma etc., from the Pāṇḍava-army. It seems that Saṅjaya, did not want to describe the unrighteous side of the Kaurava-army, in detail. But, he had great regard for Lord Kṛṣṇa, the Pāṇḍavas and the Pāṇḍava-army, because of their righteousness. So he thought it proper, to describe the warriors of Pāṇḍava-army, in more detail and he took delight in describing them.



*Link:—In the next verse is described the effect of the sound of the conchs on the Kaurava-army.*