

world of the cows (? *modanti gavāṃ vimāne*) 13. 105. 44, 48 (for citation see Karatoyinī); (10) Aṅgiras told Gautama that by bathing (*vigāhya*) in the Puṣkara one rides in the Vimāna (*vimānasthaḥ*) and is awakened by the praises of the Apsarases 13. 26. 9; (11) Śaunaka advised Janamejaya to visit the Puṣkara; such visit gave the person longevity again in this life (*labdhāyur jivite punaḥ*) 12. 148. 11; (12) Parāśara told Janaka that more than bathing in the water of Puṣkara one should practise (lit. bathe in) austerities at the Puṣkaras (*puṣkareṣu*) and other holy places (*adbhyo bhūyah plāvyaṃ tapasā vai śarīram*) 12. 286. 37; (13) Puṣkara considered as the holy place of the mid-region (*prthivyāṃ naiṃiṣaṃ puṇyam antarikṣe ca puṣkaram*) 3. 81. 173; (however, Nī. on Bom. Ed. 3. 83. 202 : *antarikṣe sūrya-candrādimārga nakṣatrādicakre puṣkaram prāpayatīty arihaḥ*); (also see the section G. Importance and H. Simile below and section C. Epic events (2) and (3) above); F. Limitations : (i) Giving gifts of horses in very large numbers and of thousands of cows to the Brāhmaṇas at the Puṣkara (*puṣkareṣu*) was highly meritorious no doubt; (*daśāyutāni cāśvānāṃ ayutāni ca viṃśatim / puṣkareṣu dvijātibhyaḥ prādām gāt ca sahasraśaḥ*); but that was not enough to enable one to reach the Brahma-loka — this is what Bhagīratha told Brahman 13. 106. 11; (ii) Sprinkling one's body with the water of the Puṣkara is not necessary for one who listens to the Bhārata (*yo bhārataṃ samadhigacchati vācyaṃānāṃ kim tasya puṣkarajalair abhiṣecanena*) 1. 2. 242 (Nī. on Bom. Ed. 1. 2. 392 : *puṣakaram ādi-tīrtham suṇḍāgraṃ vā tadupāhṛtajalaiḥ*);

G. Importance : (1) Puṣkara is the first among the tīrthas as Madhusūdana is among all gods (*yathā surāṇāṃ sarveṣāṃ ādis tu mādhūsūdanaḥ / tathāiva puṣkaram rājāṃs tīrthānāṃ ādir ucyate*) 3. 80. 55; (2) It is not easy to go to the Puṣkara, not easy to perform austerities there or to give gifts there; to be able to live there is extremely difficult (*duṣkaram puṣkaram gantum duṣkaram puṣkare tapaḥ / duṣkaram puṣkare dānaṃ vastum caiva suduṣkaram* ||) 3. 80. 58; (3) Finds mention in the Dālvata-Ṛṣi-Vaṃśa 13. 151. 14, 2. H. Simile : The entrance of the Kurukṣetra is as holy as the Puṣkaras (*kurukṣetrasya tad dvāram ... saṃmite puṣkarāṇāṃ ca*) 3. 81. 20-21. [See Pitāmahasaras]

Puṣkara² m. : Name of a mountain in the Puṣkaradvīpa.

In the Puṣkaradvīpa 6. 13. 24; described as full of precious stones and jewels (*maṇiratnamant*) 6. 13. 24; god Prajāpati himself always lives there; all gods, along with the great sages, always wait on him worshipping it with agreeable words (*taṃ paryupāsate nityaṃ ... vāgbhir manonukūlābhiḥ pūjayaṃtaḥ*) 6. 13. 24-25.

Puṣkarāraṇya nt. : Name of a forest where there is the tīrtha Puṣkara.

A. Location : In the west (2. 29. 2).

B. Epic events : (1) Nakula, in his expedition to the west before the Rājasūya, conquered the Gaṇas called the Utsavasamketas who lived in the Puṣkarāraṇya 2. 29. 7-8; (2) Takṣaka, when he came to know the curse of Kadrū, started practising severe austerities at various sacred places one of them being the Puṣkarāraṇya 1. 32. 3. C. Holy : If one resorts to the Puṣkarāraṇya and feeds