

By visiting (?) Krauñcapādī one is freed of the sin of killing a Brāhmaṇa (*muñ-japṛsthāṁ gayāṁ caiva nirṛtiṁ devaparvatam / tṛtīyāṁ krauñcapādīm ca brahmahatyā viśudhyati*) 13. 26. 40.

Khāṇḍava m., nt. : Name of a forest.

A. Location : Situated in the Kurukṣetra (*yasya* (i. e. *takṣakasya*) *vāsah kurukṣetre khāṇḍave cābhavat sadā*) 1. 3. 144; near the river Yamunā 1. 214. 14; 1. 215. 1. B. Description : Called *dāva* 1. 215. 6-7, 9-10, 12; 1. 216. 31, 34; 1. 218. 19 (?); 1. 219. 3 (?), 10, 22; 1. 220. 31; 1. 223. 22; 1. 225. 15; 4. 2. 9; 4. 34. 14; *vana* 1. 216. 33; 1. 217. 22; 1. 218. 2, 4; 1. 220. 1, 17, 20; 1. 224. 7; 1. 225. 5; *mahāvana* 1. 215. 18; *prastha* 8. 29. 18; it had sanctuaries (?) for manes and gods (which could not offer shelter to animals when the forest was on fire) (*na cālabhanta te śarma ... pītṛdevanivāseṣu*) 1. 219. 27. C. Inhabitants : Demons (*dānavāḥ*), Rākṣasas, Nāgas, and animals like hyenas (*tarakṣu*), bears, elephants, tigers, lions, deer, buffalos and birds — all lived in the Khāṇḍava (*khāṇḍavāloyāḥ*) 1. 219. 1, 2; Takṣaka, friend of Indra, together with his followers (*sagaṇaḥ*) and his son Aśvasena lived there 1. 3. 144, 145; 1. 215. 7. D. Agni's desire to burn the forest : Agni approached Kṛṣṇa and Arjuna to seek their help in fulfilling his desire to burn the Khāṇḍava; since Indra's friend Takṣaka lived in the forest, he foiled all Agni's earlier attempts to burn it 1. 215. 1-12; 1. 223. 25; 3. 46. 40; 4. 34. 14; E. Arjuna's request for weapons : Hearing Agni's request Arjuna asked for suitable weapons for himself and Kṛṣṇa so that both of them could foil Indra's attempt to pour water on the great forest 1. 215. 13-18; this was arranged

by Agni 1. 216. 1-27. F. Burning of the forest : The burning described 1. 216. 33-34; 1. 217-219; 1. 220. 32; the burning was so frightful that it appeared as if the end of Aeon had set in (*dadāha khāṇḍavam kruddho yugāntam iva darśayan*) 1. 216. 32. G. Duration : The forest was burning for six days (*pāvakaś cāpi tam dāvam dagdhvā samṛgapakṣiṇam / ahāni pañca caikam ca virarāma sutarpitaḥ*) 1. 225. 15. H. Who were saved from the fire : (i) The Pannaga Takṣaka, since he was not present at the Khāṇḍava at the time of the burning 1. 218. 4; 1. 219. 13; (ii) His son Aśvasena was present in the Khāṇḍava but was saved by his mother, who swallowed him, and by Indra who released gusts of wind 1. 218. 4-9; (iii) Asura Maya who sought shelter with Arjuna when Kṛṣṇa wanted to kill him 1. 219. 35-39; (iv) Four young sons (Śārṅga birds) of Mandapāla were saved by Agni at their father's request (*pradahan khāṇḍavam dāvam mama putrān visarjaya*) 1. 220. 31-32; 20-21; 1. 223. 22; they were left behind in the Khāṇḍava by their mother as they did not listen to her advice to enter a mouse hole to save themselves 1. 222. 16; actually, at the time of the conflagration, only six were not burnt by Agni, viz. Aśvasena, Maya, and four Śārṅgaka birds 1. 219. 40; 1. 220. 2, 4. I. Why was the forest burnt : Destruction of the Khāṇḍava was ordained — this was told to Indra by an invisible voice (*vāg uvācā-śarīriṇī ... diṣṭam cānupaśyati khāṇḍava-sya vināśanam*) 1. 219. 12, 18; when Arjuna was born an invisible voice had foretold that Agni would burn the forest with the help of Arjuna 1. 114. 28, 32; 8. 48. 7; but Agni is said to have burnt the forest to make the world free from fear (*bhagavān api tigṃāṁśuḥ*