

**A. Origin :** The family was named Bhārata after Bharata; his descendants as well as those who preceded him (?) were known as Bhāratas; the fame of Bhāratas was due to Bharata (*bharatād bhārātī kīrtir yenedaṁ bhārataṁ kulam | apare ye ca pūrve ca bhārata itī viśrutāḥ*) 1. 69. 49; 1. 89. 16; 13. 75. 26; (1. 1. 44). **B. Lineage (vaṁśa or kula),** its importance : Since the lineage was established by Bharatas it was known as Bhārata (*yenedaṁ (i. e. bharatena) bhārataṁ kulam*) 1. 69. 49; *bhārataṁ vaṁśam* 1, 59. 47; Arjuna born in the lineage of Bharata (*jātasya bhārata vaṁśe*) 2. 16. 1; Duryodhana born in the lineage of Bharata (*jāto 'si bhārata vaṁśe*) 5. 7. 27; (*bhārataṁ kulam*) 1. 69. 49; 1. 92. 12; it was respected by all kings (*bhārata vaṁśe sarvapārthivapūjite*) 5. 7. 27. **C. The narrative of Bhāratas,** its importance : Vaiśampāyana having received it from his teacher Vyāsa was eager to narrate the narrative of Bhāratas to Janamejaya, who was a worthy person to listen to it (*śrotuṁ pātraṁ ca rājāṁs tvam prāpyemāṁ bhārataṁ kathāṁ | guror vaktuṁ parispando mudā protsāhatīva mām ||*) 1. 55. 3; it was told in the *sarpasatra* of king Janamejaya (*katheyam ... bhāratanām*) 1. 2. 74; one who listened to the narration of the birth of Bhāratas has no fear from diseases, least of all of the next world; it was holy, brought wealth, fame, long life and heaven; it is also large and leads to bliss (*bhāratanāni mahaj janma śṛṇvatām ... | nāsti vyādhibhayaṁ teṣāṁ paraloka-bhayaṁ kutaḥ || dhanyam yaśasyam āyuṣyam svargyam punyam tathaivaca*) 1. 56. 24-25; (*vaṁśam ... | tathaiva bhāratanām*

*ca punyam svastyayanam mahat | dhanyam yaśasyam āyuṣyam kīrtayīṣyāmi te 'nagha ||*) 1. 70. 2; Mahābhārata so called because it describes the life of the Bhāratas; that is the etymology of the word (*bhāratanām mahaj janma mahābhārataṁ ucyate | niruktam asya yo veda*) 1. 56. 31. **D. Description of Bhāratas :** Magnanimous (*mahātman*) 1. 2. 74; 7. 61. 34; famous (*bhārata itī viśrutāḥ*) 1. 69. 49; (*prakhyaṭa*) 1. 92. 12; (*bharatavaṁśasya vipratasṭhe mahad yaśaḥ*) 1. 89. 16; best men (*uttamapuruṣa*) 2. 64. 8. **E. Epic events :** (1) Bhīṣma after defeating the kings who came for the *svayamvara* of the Kāśī princesses left for Bhāratas (i. e. to the place where Bhāratas lived) (*prāyād bhārato bhāratan prati*) 1. 96. 24; (2) Satyawatī asked Ambikā to bear a son (from Vyāsa) and rescue the Bhārata dynasty 1. 99. 47-48; (3) Satyawatī asked Bhīṣma to get consecrated as a king and rule the Bhāratas 1. 97. 11; (4) Satyawatī told Ambikā that due to the wrong policy of her son, Bhāratas and their relatives would perish 1. 119. 9 (that is what she had heard from Vyāsa 1. 119. 5); (5) Kauravas and Pāṇḍavas born in the lineage of Bharata (*bharatasyānvaye jātā..*) 1. 122. 15; (6) Bhīṣma told Duryodhana that if Pāṇḍavas did not get a share in the kingdom, neither could he nor any other Bhārata have one (*kuta eva tavāpīdaṁ bhāratasya ca kasyacit*) 1. 195. 6; (7) When Kṛṣṇa arrived, the town of Bharatas (i. e. Indraprastha *bhārataṁ puram*) was delighted 2. 30. 15; (8) When Draupadī was dragged to the Sabhā, she felt that the law of Bhāratas had perished (*naṣṭaḥ khalu bhāratanām dharmaḥ ...*) 2. 60. 33;