

of serpents (*viṣame tasmin sasarpe gri-gahvare*) 5. 62. 26; there are on this mountain serpents of various forms and having hundred heads (*vyālaiś ca vividhākārāiḥ śataśīrṣaiḥ samantataḥ / upetam*) 3. 155. 87; (9) The region beyond the peak of the Gandhamādana is accessible to the gods, divine sages and the great Siddhas, but not to ordinary mortals (*amānuṣagatiḥ*) 3. 156. 20-23; Lomaśa told the Pāṇḍavas that the mountain could be reached by practising austerities (*tapasā śakyate gantum*) 3. 141. 22; 3. 142. 24-25; it cannot be reached by those who are wicked, greedy and whose mind is restless (*na nṛśaṁsena lubdhena nāpraśāntena*) 3. 142. 25; (10) On the slopes of the mountain there are other small hills and the duration of life there is eleven thousand years (*gandhamādanapādeṣu pareṣv aparagaṇḍikāḥ / ekādaśasahasrāṇi varṣāṇāṁ paramāyusaḥ* // 6. 7. 33; Nī. on Bom. Ed. 6. 6. 35 : *aparagaṇḍikāḥ anye gandhamādanasyaivāvayavabhūtā budbudopamāḥ kṣudraśulāḥ*). D. Importance : Finds mention in the Daivata-Rṣi-Vamśa 13. 151. 27, 2. E. Events related to the Gandhamādana : (1) Epic : (i) Pāṇḍu, with his wives, reached there after crossing the Himavanta; he lived there protected by the Mahābhūtas, the Siddhas and the great sages 1. 110. 43-44; (ii) Arjuna crossed the Himavanta and the Gandhamādana before reaching the Indrakīla 3. 38. 29-30; (iii) Yudhiṣṭhira and others, with controlled minds (*niyatātmānaḥ*), started taking limited food (*mitāhārāḥ*) to prepare themselves to reach the Gandhamādana mountain to meet Arjuna there 3. 142. 22, 28; the Pāṇḍavas proceed towards the mountain aided by Ghaṭotkaca 3. 145. 2 (this event is alluded to by Yudhiṣṭhira in 7. 158. 29);

the Pāṇḍavas and Pāñcālī reached the mountain where they experienced strong wind and heavy rain 3. 143. 2, 6, 16-17, 21; (iv) Bhīma, in his search for the *saugandhika* lotus flowers roamed on the peaks of the Gandhamādana; he went up and up the mountain to its top (*upary upari śailāgram*) 3. 146. 33, 40; then, on the slopes of the mountain, he saw a beautiful grove of *kadalī* extending over several *yojanas* 3. 146. 42; on his way he met Hanūmant and then he roamed again on the mountain in search of the *saugandhika* flowers which he finally found 3. 150. 16, 18, 27 (the event on the Gandhamādana is referred to in the Parvasaṁgraha where the name of the flower is *mandāra* 1. 2. 112; the killing of the Krodhavaśa demons on the Gandhamādana by Bhīma in his effort to get the flowers is referred to by Arjuna in 4. 66. 4, and by Saṁjaya in 5. 49. 21); (v) On their way further north to the Śveta mountain Yudhiṣṭhira saw the slopes of the Gandhamādana (*gandhamādanapādāṁś ca*) and the forest on it 3. 155. 14, 34, 36; (vi) Arjuna met his brothers on the Gandhamādana 3. 171. 10 (the meeting of Arjuna and the Pāṇḍavas on the Gandhamādana referred to in the Parvasaṁgraha 1. 2. 122); (vii) Janamejaya asked Vaiśampāyana how many years did the Pāṇḍavas live on the Gandhamādana mountain 3. 157. 1; Vaiśampāyana told him that they were there for four years and some more months; at the end of the fourth year they arrived at the *āśrama* of Ārṣiṣeṇa where they passed several months 3. 157. 9, 11; during the fifth year wind brought to them from the top of the (Gandhamādana) mountain divine, fragrant flowers of five colours (*puṣpāṇi ... pañcavarṇāni*) 3. 157. 16-17; (2) Past and mytho-