

ṣāḍhau taylor āgame grīsmartau); (3) Arjuna, tormenting his enemies with his Gāṇḍīva bow drawn full circle and his arrows issuing from it like hot rays, shone like the haloed sun in the middle of the months Jyaiṣṭha and Āṣāḍha (*tapan ripūn arjunabhāskaro babhau / śarograraśmīḥ śucisukramadhyago yathaiiva sūryaḥ pariveśagas tathā* //) 8. 57. 57. [See Jyesthāmūla]

Śuci m. : Name of the month Āṣāḍha, mentioned mostly with Śukra².

Simile : Droṇa, showering (arrows) like hail stones frightened his enemies as does the roaring and windy Parjanya at the end of the month Śuci (i. e. at the end of Āṣāḍha, or at the end of the hot season?) (*nānadyamānaḥ parjanyaḥ sānilaḥ śucisamkṣaye / aśmavarṣam ivāvarṣat pareṣām āvahad bhayam* //) 7. 13. 5 (Nī. on Bom. Ed. 7. 14. 5 : śucisamkṣaye grīsmānte); for other similes, see Śukra². [See Āṣāḍha]

Śyāma adj. : Designation of the planet Rāhu. [See Rāhu]

Śrāvaṇa m. : Name of a constellation.

A. Importance : Menakā, while describing to Indra the exploits of Viśvāmitra, said that he, enraged by the abundance of constellations, started to create, in addition to the existing galaxies of constellations, counter-constellations starting with Śrāvaṇa (*ati nakṣatravamsāmś ca kruddho nakṣatrasaṃpadā / prati śrāvaṇapūrvāṇi nakṣatrāṇi sasarja yaḥ* //) 1. 65. 34. B. Auspicious : Balarāma left for his tīrthayātrā under the constellation Puṣya and returned, after forty days, under the constellation Śrāvaṇa (*catvāriṃśad ahāny adya dve ca me niḥśṛṅgasya vai / puṣyeṇa saṃprayāto*

'smi śrāvaṇe punar āgataḥ //) 9. 33. 5 (see the Editor's note on the stanza Cr. Ed. Vol. 11, p. 489). C. Religious rites : (1) *dāna* : Nārada told Devakī (13. 63. 2-4) that if one gave under the constellation Śrāvaṇa a gift of a woolen blanket with a piece of a cloth attached from inside, he could reach to all the worlds which remained unconcealed from him (?) in a bright conveyance (*śrāvaṇe kambalaṃ dattvā vastrāntaritam eva ca / śvetena yāti yānena sarvān lokān asaṃvṛtān*) 13. 63. 28; (2) *śrāddha* : Yama told Śaśabindu (13. 89. 1) that by performing a *kāmya śrāddha* under Śrāvaṇa one obtained excellent condition after death (*pretya gacchet parām gatim*) 13. 89. 11. D. Omens : (1) According to one of the bad omens for the armies noticed by Vyāsa before the war, the planet Brhaspati was taking retrograde step under Śrāvaṇa (*maghāsv aṅgārako vakraḥ śrāvaṇe ca brhaspatiḥ*) 6. 3. 13; (2) According to another omen noticed by Vyāsa the planet Mars, after taking repeated retrograde steps (under Maghā?), had returned to Brahmarāśi and remained steady in Śrāvaṇa 6. 3. 17 (for the citation and Nī.'s comm. see Brahmarāśi p. 260 above). [See Brahmarāśi, Vaiṣṇava and Śraviṣṭhā]

Śraviṣṭhā f. : Name of a constellation.

According to Brahmadeva the constellations began with Śraviṣṭhā (*śraviṣṭhādīni ṛkṣāṇi*) 14. 44. 2 (v. l. *śrāvaṇādīni*, see Śrāvaṇa above, section A).

Śrāvaṇa m. : Name of a month.

Āṅgiras had told Bhīṣma that if one remained controlled and spent the month of Śrāvaṇa taking food only once a day he was given the honour of *abhiṣeka* (ceremonial