

(6. 52. 4); a warrior once referred to as *kekāyaja* (8. 4. 69); a Kekaya princess (*Sukumārī*) referred to as Kaikeyī (1. 90. 45). B. Location : Listed by Saṁjaya among the northern Janapadas (also called Deśas 6. 10. 68) of Bhāratavarṣa (*ata ūrdhvaṁ janapadān nibodha gadato mama*) 6. 10. 37, 5; (*surāṣṭrāḥ kekayās tathā*) 6. 10. 47. C. Relationship with Pāṇḍavas : The five brothers were the sons of the sister of Pāṇḍavas' mother (*bhrātaraḥ pañca kaikeyā ... mātṛṣvasuḥ suā vīrāḥ*) 7. 9. 53 (however, see below Nl.'s remark under F. Epic events No. 4). D. Description (often only of the five brothers, occasionally of all warriors) : High-souled (*mahātman*) 1. 61. 11; having the colour of a fire-fly (*indragopakavarṇa*) 5. 139. 26; 7. 9. 52 (Nl. on Bom. Ed. 5. 141. 26 : *indragopakāḥ varṣāsu pracalan raktajantus tadvarṇās tāmra ity arthaḥ*); religious (*dhārmika*) 7. 9. 52; heroic (*vīra*) 7. 9. 52-53; brave (*śūra*) 5. 47. 23; 5. 49. 35; 6. 18. 14; 8. 8. 19; 11. 25. 13; of great prowess (*mahāvīrya*) 3. 13. 2; 7. 34. 5; 8. 31. 21; strong (*balin*) 5. 22. 19; (*balavant*) 6. 112. 107; always on their guard (*saṁyatta*) 6. 112. 107; of true valour (*satyavikrama*) 7. 9. 52; eminent Kṣatriyas (*kṣatriyaśabha*) 3. 13. 4; tigers among men (*naravyāghra*) 5. 19. 25; best and prominent among the kings (*pārthivarṣabhasattama*) 1. 61. 11; famous among the world (*lokaviśruta*) 3. 13. 2; great chariot-fighters (*mahāratha*) 6. 112. 107; 7. 135. 16; bowmen (*dhanvin*) 6. 112. 7; having large bows (*maheśvāsa*) 2. 4. 27; 3. 252. 16; 5. 22. 19; 5. 49. 35; 6. 45. 29; 6. 73. 56, 58, 59; 11. 26. 36; versed in the science of archery (*dhanurvedaviśārada*) 6. 70. 33; (*dhanurvedavid*) 6. 57. 13; who

had learnt the use of missiles (*kṛtāstra*) 7. 34. 6; wearing shining bracelets (*ruciraṅgada*) 11. 25. 13; having gold banners (*suvarṇavikṛtadhvaḥ*) 6. 73. 58; having copper-coloured standards, and chariot-garlands (*tāmradhvajarathasrajaḥ*) 11. 25. 14; having red banners (*lohitakadhvaḥ*) 7. 22. 11; 7. 24. 40; wearing well-polished armours (*sumṛṣṭakavaca*) 5. 49. 35; wearing armours shining like heated gold (*tapta-kāñcanavarmāṇaḥ*) 11. 25. 14; having red armours, weapons and banners (*raktavar-māyudhadhvaḥ*) 7. 9. 52; in war, invincible by enemies (*ajeyāḥ śatrubhir yudht*) 6. 57. 13; arrogant in war (*yuddhadurmada*) 7. 34. 6; ready to die (in war) (*tanutyaḥ*) 6. 18. 14. E. History : The five great and strong Asuras Ayaḥśīras, Aśvśīras, Ayaḥśāṅku, Gaganamūrdhan, and Vegavant were born as the five great, prominent kings among the Kekayas (*pañcaite jajñire ... keka-yeṣu ... pārthivarṣabhasattamāḥ*) 1. 61. 10-11. F. Epic events : (1) At the birth of Arjuna a non-corporal voice prophesied that he would defeat Kekayas and other peoples 1. 114. 31; 8. 48. 7 (here the prophecy is said to have been heard a week after Arjuna's birth (*saptāhajāte tvayi*) 8. 48. 6; (2) Kekayas mentioned among those who waited on Yudhiṣṭhira in his Sabhā 2. 4. 27; (3) The Kekaya Kṣatriyas (*kṣatriyāḥ* 2. 48. 16; *rājanyāḥ* 2. 48. 13) brought tribute in hundreds for Yudhiṣṭhira's Rājasūya 2. 48. 13, 16; (4) The five Kekaya brothers, along with others, came to meet the Pāṇḍavas during their *vanavāsa* (*kekayās ca ... bhrātaro loka-viśrutāḥ*) 3. 13. 2; they took leave of Pāṇḍavas and left the forest 3. 23. 48 (Nl. on Bom. Ed. 3. 22. 51; *kekayāḥ*