

1.3 Names of Literary Works, Parts of Works etc.

Amśāvatarāṇa nt. : Name of a section of the Ādiparvan describing the incarnations of portions of gods (*tvayaivāmśāvatarāṇe devabhāgāḥ prakīrtitāḥ*) 1. 109. 3.

A part of the Sambhavadparvan where partial descent of gods is described (*saṁbhavadparvaṇi ... amśāvatarāṇaṁ cātra devānāṁ parikīrtitam*) 1. 2. 75-76; Brahman asked the gods, the Gandharvas, and the Apsarases to be partially born separately among men in order to lessen the burden of the earth (*asyā bhūmer nirasitum bhāraṁ bhāgaḥ pṛthak pṛthak / asyāṁ eva prasūyadhvam ... svair amśaiḥ saṁprasūyadhvam yatheṣṭaṁ mānuṣeṣu iti*) 1. 58. 46-47; Indra then requested Nārāyaṇa (Hari) to be partially born, to which request he agreed (*amśenāvatarasveti tathetyāha ca taṁ hariḥ*) 1. 58. 51; Nārada, seeing the kings who had assembled for the Rājasūya of Yudhiṣṭhira, remembered the conversation which in the bygone days took place (*purāvṛtāṁ kṛtāṁ*) in the residence of Brahman in regard to the partial incarnations on the earth and recognized that what he saw before him was in fact the assembly of the gods (*devānāṁ saṁgamam*) 2. 33. 11-13; at the request of Janamejaya, Vaiśampāyana narrated to him the incarnations of the Dānavas and the gods 1. 61. 1-2; this is the narration of Amśāvatarāṇa 1. 61. 99; one is advised to listen to the recitation of the Amśāvatarāṇa since it brought to the listener wealth, fame, sons, long life and victory; one who listened to the recitation did not perish in adverse circumstances 1. 61. 101-102.

Aghamarṣaṇa nt. : Name of a sacred text (Rgveda 10. 190. 1-3) composed by the sage Aghamarṣaṇa, son of Madhucchandasa.

According to Manu, one who takes a dip into water and recites the Aghamarṣaṇa *mantras* thrice (a day) acquires the fruit of an Aśvamedha sacrifice; such a person drives away quickly his sin, is honoured, and all beings try to please him (*api cainam prasīdanti bhūtāni*) 12. 148. 26-27; one who bathes in the water of the KulyāṭIrtha and repeats the Aghamarṣaṇa *mantras* and, remaining undefiled, fasts for three nights gets the fruit of an Aśvamedha sacrifice 13. 26. 53; while observing the *brahmacharya* vow, if one slips (makes a fault) in sleep he should recite mentally the Aghamarṣaṇa *mantras* thrice; this way he burns the sin within himself which was the result of the quality of passion (*magnaḥ svapne ca manasā trir japed aghamarṣaṇam // pāpmānaṁ nirdahed evam antarbhūtaṁ rajomayam*) 12. 207. 13-14.

Atharvan (sg., pl.), Atharvaṇa, Atharvaveda, Atharvāṇa m. : Name of one of the four vedas; *mantras* of this Veda.

A. Origin : The god of gods (Nārāyaṇa) told Mārkaṇḍeya that the three Vedas and the Atharvaṇa arise out of him and enter into him again (*yajurvedo 'pyatharvaṇaḥ / mattaḥ prādurbhavanty ete mām eva praviṣanti ca*) 3. 187. 14. **B. What it does and does not contain :** Vyāsa told his son Śuka that one should study the *trayī vidyā* contained in the Rk, the Yajus, and the Sāman, as also in the Atharvan (*trayīvidyāṁ avekṣeta vedeṣūktāṁ athāṅga-*