

## 1.5 Names of Tīrthas, Rivers, Mountains, Forests etc.

**Akṣayavata m. :** Name of a tree, also referred to as *akṣayyakaraṇo vataḥ* (3. 85. 8; 13. 88. 14).

**A. Location :** Near Gayā (3. 82. 71-72; 13. 88. 14; 3. 85. 8); near the river Mahānadī and the lake Gayaśiras 3. 85. 8; 3. 93. 10 (where the lake Brahmasaras is also mentioned). **B. Description :** great (*mahant*) 3. 93. 13; famous in the three worlds (*triṣu lokeṣu viśrutaḥ*) 3. 82. 72; famous in the worlds (*prathito lokeṣu*) 13. 88. 14; praised by the Vipras (*kīrtiyate vipraiḥ*) 3. 85. 8. **C. Explanation of the name :** Since food offered to manes near this tree becomes inexhaustible (*akṣaya*), the tree is so called 13. 85. 8 (for citation see below section D). **D. Importance :** Food offered to manes near this tree becomes inexhaustible (*pitṛnām tatra vai duttam akṣayaṁ bhavati prabho*) 3. 82. 72; (*yatrā-sau kīrtiyate vipraiḥ akṣayyakaraṇo vataḥ / yatra dattam pitṛbhyo 'nnam akṣayyaṁ bhavati prabho* //) 3. 85. 8; the Brāhmaṇas who came there in hundreds offered the Cāturmāsya sacrifices according to the ancient prescription (*ārṣeṇa vidhinā*) and told pious tales of the high-souled in the *sadas* (*kathāḥ pracakrire punyāḥ sadasisthā mahātmanām*) 3. 93. 14-15. **E. Epic event :** The Pāṇḍavas offered there the Cāturmāsya sacrifices and the great sacrifice to the *ṛṣis* (*tatra te pāṇḍavā vīrā cāturmāsyaḥ tadejire / ṛṣiyajñena mahatā yatrākṣayavato mahān*) 3. 93. 13.

**Agastyatīrtha nt. :** Name of a *tīrtha* (different from Agastyasaras).

**A. Location :** One of the *tīrthas* on the southern ocean (*samudre tīrthāni dakṣiṇe*) 1. 208. 3; on the ocean in the Draviḍa country (*draviḍeṣu rājan samudram āsādya ... agastyatīrtham ... dadarśa*) 3. 118. 4; in the country of the Pāṇḍyas (*agastyatīrtham pāṇḍyeṣu*) 3. 86. 10. **B. Description :** sanctifying and holy (*pavitrapunya*) 3. 118. 4; holy for the worlds (*lokapunya*) 3. 118. 4; very holy (*supunya*) 1. 208. 1; worshipped by the ascetics (*supūjitāni tapasvibhiḥ*) 1. 208. 1. **C. History :** It was once thronged by ascetics, but later avoided by them as the five crocodiles in the *tīrtha* dragged some of them away; it then became isolated (*viviktāni*) 1. 208. 2, 4-6. **D. Epic event :** (1) Arjuna visited the five *tīrthas* and freed them of the crocodiles 1. 208. 7-21; 1. 209. 1-23; (2) Yudhiṣṭhira, with his brothers and wife, reached the *tīrtha* and heard there the exploits of Arjuna and was highly gratified; he bathed there with his wife and brothers and extolled the heroism of Arjuna; he gave as gift a thousand cows and praised the gift of cows given by Arjuna (this gift of Arjuna is not reported earlier in the Adhyāyas 1. 208 and 209) (*arjunasya saṁkīrtayām āsa gavām pradānam*) 3. 118. 4-7.

**Agastyavata m. :** Name of a tree.

**A. Location :** On the slope of the mountain Himavant (*himavatpārśvam*) and near the Vasiṣṭhaparvata and the Bhṛgutuṅga 1. 207. 1-2. **B. Epic event :** Arjuna, during his exile, reached there from the Gāṅgādvāra 1. 206. 6; 1. 207. 1-2.