

In this Itihāsa, the Brāhmaṇa Aśman, when questioned by king Janaka of Videha who was overcome by grief how one should face the acquisition and loss of relatives and wealth, instructed him 12. 28. 2-57.

Aśvamedhika nt. : (1) Name of the 91st *parvan* in the list of a hundred sub-*parvans* of the Bhārata supposed to have been made by Vyāsa in the Parvasaṁgraha 1. 2. 66, 33, 70; described as 'the one that destroys all sins' (*sarvāpāpapaṇāśanam*) 1. 2. 66; (2) Aśvamedhika (Aśvamedhika 1. 2. 210) nt. : Name of the fourteenth *parvan* among the eighteen major *parvans* of the Bhārata 1. 2. 206; 1. 2. 71; according to the Parvasaṁgrahaparvan it has 133 chapters (*adhyāyas*) and 3320 stanzas (*ślokas*) as counted by (Vyāsa) who sees the truth (*saṁkhyāṭīśa tattvadarśinā*) 1. 2. 210-211; described as highly wonderful (*mahāadbhuta*) 1. 2. 210; this *parvan* contains the following topics : the excellent narrative of Saṁvarta and Marutta; the acquisition of gold treasures (by the Pāṇdavas); the birth of Parikṣit; Parikṣit, who was burnt by the fire of the missile, brought back to life by Kṛṣṇa; the horse (of the Aśvamedha sacrifice) set free for wanderings; Arjuna who followed the horse fought various battles with enraged princes; Arjuna's life in danger in his battle with Babhruvāhana, son of Citrāṅgadā; the story narrated by the mongoose at the Aśvamedha sacrifice 1. 2. 206-209.

Aṣṭāvakriya nt. : Name of an *ākhyāna* listed in the contents of the Āraṇyakaparvan 1. 2. 120.

Here is told how the sage Aṣṭāvakra in a contest (*vivāda*) defeated Bandin and brought back his father who was plunged into

the ocean water 1. 2. 120; comprises Adhyāyas 3. 132-134.

Asita m. : Name of a *mantra* (?) (of a sage ?)

One who remembers the Asita *mantra* along with the Ārtimant and the Sunītha has no fear from serpents by day or at night 1. 53. 23 (*asitaṁ cārtimantaṁ ca sunīthaṁ cāpi yaḥ smaret / divā vā yadi vā rātrau nāsyā sarpabhayaṁ bhavet* // Nī. on Bom. Ed. 1. 58. 23 says : *prasaṅgāt sarpabhayanivartakān mantrān paṭhati / asitaṁ ityādīn*). [See Ārtimant and Sunītha].

Āgastya nt. : Name of an *ākhyāna*.

Listed among the contents of the Āraṇyakaparvan; the *ākhyāna* narrates incidents in Agastya's life which include devouring of the demon Vātāpi and the sage's approaching his wife Lopāmudrā for a child 1. 2. 114; 3. 108. 19; related to the incidents narrated in the Adhyāyas 3. 94-103.

Ājagara nt. : Name of the 36th *parvan* in the list of a hundred sub-*parvans* of the Bhārata supposed to have been made by Vyāsa in the Parvasaṁgraha 1. 2. 44, 33, 70. Related to Adhyāyas 3. 173-178.

Ātharvaṇa¹ adj. : related to Atharvan, i. e. the Atharvaveda.

When all the sages took the oath to prove that they had not stolen Agastya's lotus stalks, Śakra, when his turn came, uttered a benediction (instead of a curse) and said, among other things, "Let him who has stolen your stalks be like a Brāhmaṇa (*vipra*) who takes bath after completing the study of the Ātharvaṇa Veda" (*ātharvaṇaṁ vedam adhitya vipraḥ snāyeta yaḥ puṣkaram ādadāti*) 13. 96. 44.