

mitage of Rṣyaśrīṅga adorned the Mahāhrada (*tasuśrāmaḥ puṇya eṣo vibhāli mahāhṛadaṁ śobhayan*) 3. 113. 25.

**Mahitā f.** : Name of a river.

Listed by Saṁjaya among the rivers of the Bhāratavarṣa; its water used by people for drinking 6. 10. 20, 13; all the rivers listed by Saṁjaya are described as mothers of the universe and very strong 6. 10. 35 (for citation see *Atikṛṣṇā*).

**Mahirohī f.** : Name of a river.

Listed by Saṁjaya among the rivers of the Bhāratavarṣa 6. 10. 29, 13; (for other details see *Mahitā*).

**Mahī f.** : Name of a river.

One of the rivers listed by Mārkaṇḍeya; all these rivers are famous as mothers of fire-hearths i. e. on the banks of which sacrifices were performed 3. 212. 22 (for citation and Nī. see *Kapilā*).

**Mahādhara m.** : Name of a sacred mountain.

Situated near Gayaśiras and the holy river Mahanadī 3. 93. 10; it was honoured by the virtuous royal sage Gaya who knew the *dharma* (*dharmajñenābhisatkr̥tam / rājarṣiṇā puṇyakṛtā gayena*) 3. 93. 9; the Pāṇḍavas visited it 3. 93. 9.

**Mahendra m.** : Name of a mountain.

**A. Location** : In the east, beyond the Kāliṅgas, near the sea coast 1. 207. 5, 12-13 (*samudratīreṇa*); 3. 85. 3; 12. 2. 17, (*samudrānte*) 19. **B. Description** : Holy (*puṇya*) and auspicious (*śiva*) 3. 85. 16; excellent mountain, surpassing other mountains (*girivara, aty anyān parvatānī*) 3. 85. 16, (*parvatottama*) 1. 58. 4; 12. 2. 17;

(*giritreṣṭha*) 5. 175. 2; (*śailendra*) 3. 117. 14; one of the mountains called 'king of mountains' (*parvatarājānaḥ*) 14. 43. 5; adorned by ascetics (*tāpasair upasobhitam*) 1. 207. 13; having shining Karpikāra trees on it (*śubhakarnikāravant*) 8. 66. 39. **C. Characteristics** : (1) Bhārgava Rāma Jāmadagnya lived on the Mahendra (*girivaraḥ.../ mahendro nāma ... bhārgavasya mahātmanah*) 3. 85. 16; (*jāmadagnyanīṣevitam*) 3. 83. 14; he was there waited upon by seers who knew the Vedas, the Gandharvas and the Apsarases (*mahendre ... rāmaṁ nityam upāsate / ṛṣayo vedaviduṣo gandharvāpsarasas tathā*) 5. 175. 2; 5. 187. 11; (*asmin mahendre śailendre vasaty amitavikramaḥ jāmadagnyaḥ*) 3. 117. 14, 11; he made it a rule to show himself to the Brāhmanas on this mountain on every fourteenth day of the month 3. 117. 16; (2) Mahendra listed by Brahman among mountains which are also to be looked upon as possessing the *madhyama guṇa*, i. e. they were characterised by the quality of *rajas*? 14. 43. 5, 1 (Nī. on Bom. Ed. 14. 43. 1 : *madhyamo guṇaḥ rajoguṇa-pradhānaḥ*); (3) Holy Rāmatīrtha and the Maṭaṅgakedāra located on it 3. 83. 14; so also the holy Brahmaśālā river flows on it 3. 85. 18. **D. Epic events** : (1) Arjuna, during his exile, saw it when he went beyond the Kāliṅgas and while going further along the seashore 1. 207. 13; (2) The Brāhmanas expressed their wish to visit Mahendra and other mountains in the company of the Pāṇḍavas 3. 91. 10; (3) After visiting the river Vaitaraṇī, Yudhiṣṭhira went to Mahendra and lived there for a night; he honoured there the ascetics, Bhṛgu, Angirases and others, and expressed his wish to see Rāma Jāmadagnya 3. 114. 26; 3. 115. 1-4; he also honoured the