

explanation of the name : A famous big tree named Śāka stood in its middle (that was why probably the Dvīpa was so called) (... *vikhyātas tasya madhye mahā-drumaḥ || śāko nāma mahārāja tasya dvīpasya madhyagaḥ*) 6. 12. 25-26. D. Description of the countries and the peoples of Śākadvīpa : Highly lustrous (*mahaujas*) 6. 12. 37; the Janapadas on this Dvīpa were holy; famine was not known; the people were endowed with forbearance and lustre; they did not die (*tatra punyā janapadā* (also 6. 12. 33) *na tatra mriyate janaḥ | kuta eva hi durbhikṣam kṣamātejoyutā hi te* ||) 6. 12. 10; God Śānkara was worshipped there (*pūjyate tatra śamkaraḥ*); Siddhas, Cāraṇas and various deities visited it (*tatra gacchanti siddhāś ca cāraṇa daivatāni ca*) 6. 12. 26-27; all the four kinds of subjects were highly religious (*dhārmikāś ca prajā ... catvāro 'tīva ...*) 6. 12. 27; the Varṇas followed their respective duties; they were long-lived, free from oldage and death; they multiplied like the rivers in the rainy season (*prajāś tatra vivardhante varṣāśv iva samudragāḥ*) 6. 12. 28-29; no thief was ever met with there (*na ca steno 'tra dṛśyate*) 6. 12. 28; there was no king, no punishment, nor the officers to inflict punishment (*na tatra rājā rājendra na daṇḍo na ca daṇḍikāḥ*); by following their respective *dharma*s the people protected it and also protected one another (*svadharmenaiva dharmam ca te rakṣanti parasparam*) 6. 12. 36; the four holy Janapadas on the Dvīpa, honoured in the worlds (*lokasammatāḥ*), are known as Maga, Maśaka, Mānasa and Mandaga; they are described 6. 12. 33-36; the holy rivers

on the Śākadvīpa are Gaṅgā, flowing in various streams (*bahudhāgatiḥ*), Sukumārī, Kumārī, Sītā, Kāverakā, Mahānadi, Mañjalā, and Ikṣuvardhanikā; several hundreds and thousands of holy rivers arose from them, from the waters of which Indra gave rain (*yato varṣati vāsavaḥ*); it is not possible to name them all nor to describe their extent; all these excellent rivers are holy (*na tāsām nāmadheyāni parimāṇam tathaiva ca | śakyate parisamkhyātum punyās tā hi saridvarāḥ*) 6. 12. 29-32. E. Epic events : (1) Dhṛtarāṣṭra asked Saṁjaya to describe to him the Śākadvīpa; Saṁjaya agreed and described it in brief (*śākadvīpasya saṁkṣepo ...*) 6. 12. 2, 11; on Dhṛtarāṣṭra's further request to describe the Dvīpa in details (*vistaram*) Saṁjaya described it in some detail which was worth hearing (*etāvad eva śrotavyam*); that was about all that Saṁjaya could tell about the Dvīpa 6. 12. 12, 37; (2) In order to revive the spirits of Yudhiṣṭhira after the war, Draupadī reminded him that formerly he had passed through the ocean and brought under control various large Dvīpas including the Śākadvīpa and the islands in-between and the Janapadas situated on them (*śākadvīpo .../... daṇḍena mṛditas tvayā; dvīpāś ca sāntaradvīpā nānājanapadālayāḥ | vigāhya sāgaram vira daṇḍena mṛditās tvayā*) 12. 14. 23, 25 (a reference to Arjuna's expedition before the Rājasūya 2. 23. 15-16; Nīlakaṇṭha on Bom. Ed. 12. 14. 23 : *krauñcadvīpādīvaśīkaraṇam siddhadvārā (?) rājasūye*).

Śākalāvat m. (pl.) : People living in the town Śākala.

Karṇa while deriding Śālya told him what a certain Brāhmaṇa had once told