

off the missiles with arrows and killed many elephants, horses and chariot-fighters by using *aindrāstra*; the troops of Samsaptakas and Nārāyaṇas were then very much afraid; no one was able to fight back Arjuna (*na hi kaścit pumāns tatra yo 'rjunam pratyavldhyata*); Arjuna then killed an *ayuta* of the opposing warriors; fourteen thousand (foot) warriors, an *ayuta* of chariot-fighters, and three thousand elephant-riders of Samsaptakas who survived (*yāni śiṣṭāni*) once again surrounded Arjuna determined either to return with victory or die (*martavayam itī niscitya jayam vāpi nivartanam*); a fierce fighting then was fought between them and Arjuna (8. 37. 1-38); Arjuna destroyed many Samsaptakas; their Kṣatriyas, tormented by him, were killed (*te kṣatriyā dahyamānās ... jagmur vlnāsam*) 8. 40. 5-6; after killing many Samsaptaka troops (*nihatya ... samsaptakagaṇān bahūn*), Arjuna pointed out to Kṛṣṇa the great Samsaptaka chariot-fighters who along with their troops ran away as they were unable to resist his arrows (*dhāvanti saganāḥ samsaptakamaharathāḥ | apārayanto madbāṇān*) 8. 40. 78-80; Duryodhana again incited Samsaptakas to face Arjuna; then a thousand chariot-fighters, three hundred elephant-riders, fourteen thousand horse-riders and two hundred thousand archers turned towards Kṛṣṇa and Arjuna covering them with arrows; but Arjuna killed ten thousand Samsaptakas 8. 40. 92-99; thus Arjuna completely destroyed (*kṛtsnena vyadhamat*) the Samsaptakas 8. 40. 130; when the armies of Kurus and Śrījayas met again only a few Samsaptakas had survived (*samsaptakeṣu ... kṛmclechhṣeṣu*);

Arjuna, after defeating Aśvatthāman (8. 42. 51), asked Kṛṣṇa to take him to Samsaptakas since fighting with them was his main task (*kāryam etat param mama*) 8. 42. 3, 56; Arjuna killed the remaining Samsaptaka troops with sharp arrows with the result that they became the guests of Indra and became free from grief as they were happy (*śakrasyātīthitām gatvā vlsokā hy abhavan mudā*) 8. 43. 76-77; when Arjuna told Bhīma that he could not leave the battlefield (to go to enquire about Yudhiṣṭhira) without killing Samsaptakas who faced him, Bhīma assured him that he himself would fight with the Samsaptakas 8. 45. 63-64; Arjuna while explaining to Yudhiṣṭhira why he had not yet killed Karṇa told him that during his fight with Samsaptakas, Aśvatthāman had unexpectedly intervened (to distract him) 8. 47. 2; later, while boasting about his heroic deeds Arjuna mentioned that he had killed almost all Samsaptakas and only a few of them had survived (*samsaptakānām kṛmclid evāvaśiṣṭam*) 8. 49. 96; at one stage, Duṣṣāsana along with the fully equipped army of Samsaptakas (*pṛtanā samṛddhā*) attacked Bhīma 8. 53. 9; when Arjuna was proceeding towards Karṇa, Samsaptaka chariot-fighters attacked him showering arrows; Arjuna killed many of them along with their charioteers, and cut off their bows and banners with sharp arrows; they all fell down from their chariots 8. 59. 3-5; (11) On the seventeenth day, at night, when Samjaya reported to Dhṛtarāṣṭra the death of Karṇa (8. 1. 25), he (Dhṛtarāṣṭra), while recalling some of the major events of war, mentioned the killing of the Samsaptaka army by Arjuna 8. 1. 41; in reply to Dhṛtarāṣṭra's