

in the river Aśvanadī 3. 292. 7, 9, 22, 25 (from where it went to the river Carmanvatī, Yamunā and finally to Gaṅgā).

Aśvarathā f. : Name of a river.

Draupadī pointed out to Bhīma on the mountain Gandhamādana (Himavant) that flowers of five colours which were blown there by wind, produced by speed of Suparṇa, were dropped in the river Aśvarathā – a sight watched by all creatures (*pratyakṣam sarva-bhūtānām*) 3. 157. 19.

Aśvaśiras nt. : Name of a tirtha.

A. Description : Holy (*puṇya*) 7. 57. 28. B. Epic events connected with this tirtha : (1) The sage Bṛhadaśva taught *akṣahṛdaya* (the secret science of the game of dice), which he knew thoroughly well (3. 78. 15), to Yudhiṣṭhira (to dispel the latter's fear of losing everything once again in the game of dice), and then went to Aśvaśiras to bathe (*dattvā cāśvaśiro 'gacchad upaspraṣṭum mahātopāḥ*) 3. 78. 17 (Nī., however, on Bom. Ed. 3. 79. 21 : *aśvaśiro 'savidyām yayā bṛhadaśva itī muner nāma / upaspraṣṭum snānādikam kartum*) (this Aśvaśiras apparently was in the vicinity of the Kāmyaka forest where Bṛhadaśva met the Pāṇḍavas 3. 49. 2, 29); (2) Arjuna, on his way to the mountain Himavant to receive the Pāśupata *aśra* from Śiva crossed many places near the Himavant, one of them being Aśvaśiras 7. 57. 28 (this Aśvaśiras seems to be different from the one referred to in the above event).

Aśvinos tīrtham nt. : Name of a tirtha sacred to the Aśvins.

By visiting this tirtha of the Aśvins one becomes handsome (*aśvinos tīrtham āsādyā rūpavān abhijāyate*) 3. 81. 14.

Aṣṭāvakra nt. : Name of a tirtha.

One who offers libation of water to manes at Aṣṭāvakra and fasts for twelve days obtains the fruit of performing a human sacrifice (*naramedhaphalam labhet*) 13. 26. 39 (situated near Haridwar, see Editor's note on the stanza, Cr. Ed. Vol. 17, part II, p. 1067).

Asiknī f. : Name of a river.

Listed by Saṁjaya among the rivers of the Bhāratavarṣa 6. 10. 22, 5; its water is used by people for drinking 6. 10. 13.

Asita m. : Name of a mountain.

Situated in the west (3. 87. 1); described as having many roots and fruit (*bahumūlaphala*) 3. 87. 9.

Asipatravana nt. : Name of a forest (?)

Yudhiṣṭhira while going in the company of the Devadūta to see his brothers after their death passed through Asipatravana (lit. 'a forest having leaves as sharp as the blade of a sword') which was covered with sharp razors (*niṣitakṣurasamvṛta*) 18. 2. 23; a wicked king, after death, before going to hell is merged in the hot Vaitaraṇī river and then gets his body pricked in the Asipatravana (*asipatravanabhinnagātraḥ*) 12. 309. 31.

Asta m. : Name of a mountain, also called once Astaṁgiri (7. 31. 77).

A. Description : Holy (*puṇya*) 15. 39. 24; the best among the mountains (*giri-śreṣṭha*) 6. 51. 40; (*parvataśreṣṭha*) 10. 1. 24; (*girivara*) 15. 39. 24; sages call it the king of the mountains (*astam parvatarājānam etam āhur maṇiṣiṇaḥ*) 3. 160. 10, 11. B. Relationship (1) with sun : The sun approaches it at sunset 1. 43. 23; 1. 143. 17; 3. 280. 17; 5. 108. 6; 5. 180. 39;