

śaptaka troops (*saṁsaptakagaṇān bahūn*) 8. 19. 34-35; (10) On the seventeenth day, thirtyfour thousand chariot-fighters of Saṁsaptakas determined to fight to the end stood on the left side of the Bārhaspatya-vyūha of Kauravas (*catuśtriṁśatsahasrāṇi rathānām anivartinām | saṁsaptakā ... vāmam pāśvam apālayan ... bārhaspatyaḥ ... mahāvvyūhaḥ*) 8. 31. 14, 26; Śalya drew attention of Karṇa to Saṁsaptakas who had challenged Arjuna; in response, they were being attacked and killed by Arjuna; angered Saṁsaptakas covered him on all sides making Arjuna invisible (*saṁsaptakaiḥ kruddhaiḥ ... channaḥ pāritho na dṛśyate*) 8. 31. 56-57; Dhṛtarāṣṭra asked Saṁjaya to describe to him the battle between Arjuna and Saṁsaptakas; Saṁjaya told him that when the armies were arrayed (*atha vyūḍheṣv anīkeṣu*), Arjuna attacked Saṁsaptakas; wishing to kill Arjuna and determined to win victory not minding death (*vijaye kṛta-saṁkalpā mṛtyum kṛtvā nivartanam*) they rushed towards Arjuna; their army consisted of many horses, elephants, chariot-fighters and foot-soldiers; a fierce battle then took place; Arjuna cut off their hands, holding different weapons, as well as their heads; thinking Arjuna's chariot was drowned in the large army, Saṁsaptakas delightfully raised a roar (*tasmin sainye mahāvarte ... | nimagnaṁ taṁ ratham matvā neduḥ saṁsaptakā mudā |*) 8. 32. 1-13; at the site where Arjuna was killing Saṁsaptakas a loud sound of Gaṇḍīva was heard; very much angered Saṁsaptakas, coveting victory (*jayagrddhāḥ pramanyavaḥ*) showered arrows on Arjuna; Arjuna braved their attack and reached Suśarman; when

Arjuna started showering arrows on Suśarman, Saṁsaptakas responded the same way; hearing the roar of the monkey on Arjuna's chariot, the army of Saṁsaptakas was much terrified and became motionless; regaining consciousness, the warriors showered arrows on Arjuna and covered his chariot; they held firmly the horses, the wheels and the shaft of Arjuna's chariot and roared loudly (*te hayān rathacakre ca ratheṣāś cāpi bhārata | nigṛhya balavat*); some mounted on Arjuna's chariot and held him and Kṛṣṇa; shaking his hands Kṛṣṇa felled them down; Arjuna saw Saṁsaptaka great chariot-fighters encircling him and holding his chariot and Kṛṣṇa; he felled many of them down who had mounted the chariot and other foot-soldiers who were close to him by shooting arrows which went short distances (*apātayat | āsannāmś ca tato yodhān śarair āsannayodhibhiḥ*); he made the rest run away; Arjuna pointed out to Kṛṣṇa that he had killed thousands of Saṁsaptakas who had achieved the difficult task of checking his chariot (*kurvāṇān dāruṇam karma ... rathabandham imam | ghoram*); Arjuna and Kṛṣṇa blew Deva-datta and Pāñcajanya conches respy; hearing that sound, the Saṁsaptaka army shook and became very much afraid (*saṁ-cacāla ... vitrastā cābhavad bhṛṣam*); Arjuna then bound their feet by releasing *nāgāstra*; he killed them in that condition; when they were being killed, they gave up fighting with Arjuna and threw down their weapons; then Suśarman released them from their bonds by using *sauparnāstra*; once free, they showered arrows and weapons on Arjuna (*sasṛjur bāṇasaṁ-ghāmś ca śastrasaṁghāmś ca*); Arjuna cut