

Rudra (*sthūṇākarna iti śaṅkukarṇākhyo rudrāvatārabhedas taddaivatyaṃ astraṃ* on 3. 167. 33 Bom. Ed.); it seems to have been a very important missile since it is mentioned along with the Pāśupata and the Brahmāstra 5. 47. 100; 5. 139. 31 (also Aindra); Arjuna, in his message sent through Saṃjaya, threatened to use Sthūṇākarna against the Kaurava warriors in the war 5. 47. 100; Karṇa, too, was sure that Arjuna would use Sthūṇākarna in the war with the employment of proper *mantras* on his arrow (*mantrās tatra bhaviṣyanti prayuktāḥ savyasācinā*) 5. 139. 31; but its use by Arjuna in the war is not recorded; on the other hand Karṇa himself, while inciting the sons of Dhṛtarāṣṭra who were attacking Yudhiṣṭhira to kill him, released Sthūṇākarna, along with Indrajāla and Pāśupata, to overpower Yudhiṣṭhira 8. 43. 20–21; outside the epic war, Arjuna used it against the Kirāta (Śiva) who swallowed it up 3. 163. 32; Arjuna used it also against the Gandharvas who had captured the Kauravas; the Gandharvas were tormented by the heat (*dahyamānāḥ*) of the arrows released by the use of the missile 3. 234.

17–18; Balarāma had released Sthūṇākarna missile to repulse a very powerful *gadā* hurled against him and Kṛṣṇa by Jarāsandha; the *gadā*, when met with force by the missile, fell on the earth tearing it open and the impact produced by it shook the mountains; the Rākṣasī Jarā (who had joined the two parts of the body of Jarāsandha) lay concealed under the ground; she, together with her sons and relatives, was killed due to the impact of the *gadā* and the Sthūṇākarna missile on the earth 7. 156. 10–14.

Hala m nt. : A plough used as a weapon by Balarāma.

Hence Balarāma has epithets like *halāyudha* 1. 178. 8; 1. 180. 17, 22; 3. 180. 32; 4. 67. 20; 5. 7. 28; 5. 154. 15, 20, 22; 9. 33. 2, 6, 7; 9. 34. 79; 9. 35. 1, 52; 9. 36. 1, 26, 63; 9. 38. 1, 4, 30; 9. 51. 24; 9. 52. 17; 9. 53. 4, 12; 9. 59. 4; 16. 2. 10; *halin* 3. 119. 4; 5. 129. 7; 7. 10. 31; 9. 33. 12; *haladhara* 1. 211. 7; 1. 213. 49; 2. 20. 34; 9. 34. 12; 9. 36. 12; 9. 38. 23; *halabhṛt* 9. 34. 29; 9. 49. 65; *halāyudha* also appears as a name of Viṣṇu 13. 135. 73.

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA TO SECTION 1.2 (pp. 90–158)

p. 90. 1 after the entry Akṣisamtarjana add the following entry :

Agnivarṣa nt. : A missile (?) of the Nivātakavaca demons produced by their *māyā*.

The Nivātakavaca demons employed their various *māyās* simultaneously against Arjuna (*prākurvan vividhā māyā yuga-padyena*) which produced, besides other missiles, the Agnivarṣa; it afflicted Arjuna; as a result of the simultaneous use of these

missiles, there was darkness all around 3. 168. 11–13; Arjuna used his Astramāyā to defeat the *māyās* of the demons 3. 168. 25–26; earlier also the Nivātakavaca demons had produced fire apparently by using the same Agnivarṣa missile produced by the *māyā*; Arjuna blew away the fire (*tato 'ham agniṃ vyadhamam*) by the use of the Sahiāstra 3. 168. 9–10. [See Āgneyāstra¹; Jātavedasaḥ āstram (in the Addenda)]