

within him (*dhruvaṃ ca jyotiṣāṃ śreṣṭhaṃ paśya nārada khecarāṃ (matsam)* 12. 326. 53. D. Relation with the star Viśvāmitra : Viśvāmitra, stationed between Dhruva Auttānapāda and the Brahmarṣis (the seven stars forming the constellation Ursa Major), shines constantly in the north (*dhruvasyauttānapādasya brahmarṣiṇāṃ tathaiva ca / madhye jvalati yo nityam udicim āśrito diśam*) 13. 3. 15. E. Neglecting Dhruva harmful : Yājñavalkya told Janaka that those who fail to see Dhruva, having seen it once before, have only a year to live (*samvatsaraviyogasya sambhaveyuh śarīriṇaḥ // yo 'rundhatim na paśyeta dr̥ṣṭapūrvāṃ kadācana / tathaiva dhruvam ity āhuḥ*) 12. 305. 8-9. F. Simile : All ascetics of the Naranārāyaṇāśrama (12. 126. 2) sat round king Viradyumna as do the seven sages round Dhruva 12. 126. 25. [For Dhruva also see Section 1. 7]

**Dhruva<sup>2</sup> nt.** : Designation of the four *nakṣatras* (Rohiṇī, Pūrvā Phalgunī, Pūrvā Bhādrapadā and Pūrvāṣāḍhā).

When the Pāṇḍavas decided to get the wealth of king Marutta Āvikṣita, left on the mountain Himavant, they ordered their army to march out on the day (i.e. Sunday?, see the next) which was presided over by the Dhruva *nakṣatra* (*kṛtvā tu pāṇḍavāḥ sarve ratnā-haraṇaniścayam / senām ājñāpayām āsur nakṣatre 'hani ca dhruve*) 14. 62. 17 (NĪ. on Bom. Ed. 14. 63. 18; *dhruve nakṣatre rohiṇyām uttarātraye ca*). [See Dhruva<sup>3</sup>]

**Dhruva<sup>3</sup> nt.** : Designation of the day presided over by Dhruva (? i.e. Sunday?).

The Pāṇḍavas ordered their army to march out on the *dhruva* day (*senām ājñāpayām āsur nakṣatre 'hani ca dhruve*) 14. 62. 17 (NĪ. on Bom. Ed. 14. 63. 18; *ahani*

*vāre dhruve ravivāre*. But NĪ.'s explanation amounts to anachronism). [See Dhruva<sup>2</sup>]

**Punarvasu m. (sg., du.)** : Name of a *nakṣatra*.

**A. Religious rites** : (1) Gifts under this *nakṣatra* : Nārada told Devakī (13. 63. 2-4) that if one gave as gifts cakes (*apūpān*) and foods (*annāni*) under Punarvasu (*punarvasau*) one obtained fame and good look and was born in a family that had ample food (*bahvanne jāyate kule*) 13. 63. 9; (2) *śrāddha* : Yama told Śaśabindu (13. 89. 1) that if one offered a *kāmya śrāddha* under Punarvasu he reaped (ample) harvest (*kṛṣibhāgi bhaven martyaḥ kurvaṇ śrāddham punarvasau*) 13. 89. 4. **B. Simile** : The two Pāṇcāla warriors (Candradeva and Daṇḍadhara cf. the various readings under 8. 33. 15) guarding the wheels of Yudhiṣṭhira shone on his two sides as do the two Punarvasu stars seen on the two sides of the moon (*rathābhyāṣe cakāsete candrasyeva punarvasu*) 8. 33. 16.

**Puṣya<sup>1</sup> m.** : Name of a *nakṣatra*, and of the moon's conjunction with this *nakṣatra* (Puṣyayoga); also called Tīṣya (3. 188. 87).

**A. Description** : auspicious (*puṇya-yoga*) 3. 261. 15. **B. Considered favourable** for marching out of the army or for going out on a pilgrimage : (1) Duryodhana urged again and again the assembled kings to march towards Kurukṣetra on that very day since it was presided over by the Puṣya *nakṣatra* (*ājñāpayac ca rājñas tām pārthivān duṣṭacetasiḥ / prayādhuvaṃ vai kurukṣetraṃ puṣyo 'dyeti punaḥ punaḥ*) 5. 148. 3 (NĪ. on Bom. Ed. 3. 150. 3; *puṣyanakṣatram hi aśvinīyāḥ paurṇamāsyā upari aṣṭamīyām bhavati*; cf. 5. 140. 18; *saptamāc*