

moon day (*paurṇamāsyām* 12. 165. 16) of the month of Āṣāḍha (*tasya nityam tathā-ṣāḍhyām... bahavo dvijāḥ / īpsitam bhojanavaram labhante satkṛtam sadā*) 12. 165. 15.

**Uttara Proṣṭhapada m. :** Name of a *nakṣatra*. [See Uttarā Bhādrapadā]

**Uttarā Phalgunī f. (sg., du., pl.) :** Name of a *nakṣatra*.

**A. Epic event :** Arjuna was born on the mountain Himavant under the junction of the two constellations Pūrvā and Uttarā Phalgunī, hence called Phalguna (*uttarā-bhyām ca pūrvābhyām phalgunībhyām aham divā / jāto himavataḥ pṛsthe tena mām phalgunam viduḥ*) 4. 39. 14 (Nī. on Bom. Ed. 4. 44. 16 : *uttarābhyām ca pūrvābhyām iti pāṭhe nakṣatrasandhau ity arthaḥ*). **B. Religious rites :** Nārada told Devakī (13. 63. 2-4) that if, after observing fast (*upoṣitaḥ* 13. 63. 13), one gave, according to the rites (*vidhivat*), under this *nakṣatra* (*uttarāviṣaye*) gift of cooked rice made of grains that ripen in sixty days (*ṣaṣṭi-kaudana*) mixed with *ghṛta* and milk, he was honoured in heaven 13. 63. 14; whatever gift one gave under this *nakṣatra* it produced ample benefit that became everlasting (*yadyat pradīyate dānam uttarāviṣaye naraṣḥ / mahāphalam anantaṁ ca bhavātīti viniścayaḥ*) 13. 63. 15; Yama told Śaśabindu (13. 89. 1) that if one offered a *kāmya śrāddha* under this *nakṣatra* one got progeny (*apatya-bhāg uttarāsu*) 13. 89. 6.

**Uttarā Bhādrapadā f. (sg., pl.), Uttarā Proṣṭhapada m. (sg.) :** Name of a constellation.

**A. Religious rites :** Nārada told Devakī (13. 63. 2-4) that if one gave as a gift

meat of a ram or a sheep under the constellation Uttarā Bhādrapadā he gave delight to the manes and obtained infinite (happiness) after death (*aurabhram uttarāyoge yas tu māṇsam prayocchati / sa pitṛn prīṇayati vai pretya cānantyam aśnute*) 13. 63. 32; Yama told Śaśabindu (13. 89. 1) that by offering a *kāmya śrāddha* under this *nakṣatra* one got a thousand cows (*uttarāśv atha kurvānuḥ*) 13. 89. 13. **B. Bad omens :** Among the bad omens which occurred before the start of the war and which were reported by Vyāsa to Dhṛtarāṣṭra there was one according to which the planet Śukra after ascending Pūrvā Proṣṭhapada and then having gone to the Uttarā Proṣṭhapada was, together with it (?) looking back at (the Pūrvā Proṣṭhapada) (*śukraḥ proṣṭhapade pūrve samāruhya viśām pate / uttare tu parikramya sahitaḥ pratyudikṣate //*) 6. 3. 14 (Nī., however, on Bom. Ed. on 6. 3. 15; *pūrve proṣṭhapade pūrvābhādrapadā-nakṣatram samāruhya parikramya parighākhya upagrahas tena sahitaḥ uttare uttarābhādrapadānakṣatram udikṣate ākrān'tum icchoti*).

**Uttarāyana nt. :** Name of the period in which the sun moves to the north, the summer solstice; also called *Udagāyana* (-ā. m. c.) (6. 114. 98; 12. 224. 16).

**A. Sun's courses fixed by Brahman :** Śakra told Bali that the self-born god (Svayambhū) had fixed the movements of the sun following which the sun moved towards the north for six months and towards the south for six months 12. 218. 35-36. **B. Its duration :** The calculators of the divisions of time say that the year consists of two *ayanas* (sun's courses), viz. *dakṣiṇa* and *uttara* (*saṁvatsaram dve ayane vadanti*).