

bath?) wherever he went and became the prosperer of his kinsmen (*śrāvaṇam niyato māsam ekabhaktena yaḥ kṣapet / yatra tatrābhisekeṇa yujyate jñātivardhanaḥ //*) 13. 109. 26.

Śrīpañcamī f. : Name of the fifth day (of the bright fortnight of the month of Māgha).

When Devasenā received Skanda for her husband, Lakṣmī, in person, attended on him; since Skanda was chosen by Śrī (Lakṣmī) on the fifth day (of the month of Māgha), that day became known as Śrīpañcamī. (*yadā skandaḥ patir labdhaḥ śāśvato devasenayā / tadā tam āśrayat lakṣmīḥ svayam devī śarīriṇī //* *śrījuṣṭaḥ pañcamīm skandas tasmāc chrīpañcamī smṛtā*) 3. 218. 48-49.

Śveta, Śvetagraha m. : Designation of the planet Ketu. [See Ketu in the Addenda]

Ṣaṣṭhī f. : Name of the sixth day of the bright half of the month of Māgha (?).

A. Description : important (*mahātīthi*) 3. 218. 49. B. Mythological Event : Skanda married Devasenā on the fifth day of the month of Māgha, and on the sixth day he achieved his objective; hence Ṣaṣṭhī is an important day (*ṣaṣṭhyām kṛtārtho 'bhūd yasmāt tasmāt ṣaṣṭhī mahātīthiḥ*) 3. 218. 49.

Saptarṣi m. : (pl.) : The seven stars forming the constellation Ursa Major.

A. Description : lofty (*udāra*) 6. 3. 24. B. Placement in the sky : Suparna told Gālava that the place of the Seven Sages was in the north (*atra* (i. e. *uttarāyām diśi* 5. 109. 3) *te ṛṣayaḥ sapta*) 5. 109. 12; Mārkaṇḍeya, while instructing Yudhiṣṭhira, told him that to honour the old injunction

laid down by Brahman the Saptarṣis shine in the sky; hence no one should violate the injunction considering himself to be strong (*dhātṛā vidhir yo vihitāḥ purāṇas tam pūjayanto naravarya santaḥ / saptarṣayaḥ pārtha divi prabhānti neṣe balasyeti cared adharmam*) 3. 26. 13. C. Auspicious in wars : Bhīṣma told Yudhiṣṭhira that the soldiers in the army, while fighting, should keep the constellation Ursa Major at the back and remain steady like mountains; this way one could wish to win even the unconquerable opponents (*saptarṣiṇ prṣṭha-taḥ kṛtvā yudhyerann acalā iva / anena vidhinā rājañ jigīṣetāpi durjayān*) 12. 101. 16. D. Omens : Among the omens noticed by Vyāsa before the war one was related to the position of the two planets having copper-red and ruddy crests (Rāhu and Ketu?) who obscured the brilliance of the lofty stars of the Ursa Major (*grahau tāmṛāruṇaśikhau prajvalantāv iva sthitau / saptarṣiṇām udārāṇām samavacchādya vai prabhām*) 6. 3. 24. E. Similes : (1) The sages in the āśrama of Tanu sat around the king, father of Bhūridyumna, placing him in front as do the stars of the constellation Ursa Major the Polar star (*tatas te munayaḥ sarve parivārya narar-ṣabham / upāviśan puraskṛtya saptarṣaya iva dhruvam //*) 12. 126. 25; (2) The Brāhmaṇa instructed his wife that there was only one relative, no other; he dwelt in our heart; (in saying this) the Brāhmaṇa was only repeating what the relative within had said to him : instructed by the relative within people have relatives; they shine (like?) the stars of the Ursa Major (*eko bandhur nāsti tato dvitīyo yo hṛcchayas tam aham anu-bravīmi / tenānusiṣṭā bāndhavā bandhuman-*