

30; 15. 21. 12; 18. 5. 29, Vāraṇāhvaya 3. 238. 13; 15. 47. 21; when referred to as Nāgasāhvaya etc., generally accompanied by the word *nagara* or *pura*.

A. Founding and explanation of the name : The city was founded by king Hastin, the son of Suhotra and Suvarṇā; that is why the city is called Hāstinapura (*tasyām* (i. e. *suvarṇāyām*) *asya* (i. e. *suhotrasya*) *jajñe hasti* / *ya idam hāstinapuram māpayām āsa* / *etad asya hāstinapuratvam*) 1. 90. 36; **B.** Description : Delightful (*ramya*) 1. 94. 10; the best city (*nagarottama*) 13. 153. 5; praised as the best among towns (*tato nirvacanam loke sarvarāṣṭreṣv avartata* // ... *purāṇām gajasāhvayam* //) 1. 102. 21-22 (Nī. on Bom. Ed. 1. 109. 23 : *nirvacanam praśamsā*); comparable with the city of Indra (*purandarapuropama*) 1. 94. 38; the houses in Hāstinapura looked like white mountains (*śvetaparvatarūpebhyo grhebhyaḥ*) 11. 9. 9; the capital town of the Kurus (*kurūṇām puṭabhedane*) 1. 94. 10 (Nī. on Bom. Ed. 1. 100. 12 : *puṭabhedane pattane*). **C.** Description of the town on specific occasions : (1) On the arrival of Kṛṣṇa and Arjuna : full of delighted people (*samprahr̥ṣṭānarākula*) 14. 51. 24; (2) When the still-born child, Parikṣit, was brought back to life : people decorated the town with heaps of garlands; citizens beautified their houses with small and big flags; the highways were decorated with flowers; the city looked bright and produced sound similar to the tide of the ocean; owing to the sound of dancing and singing of dancers the town appeared like the residence of Vaiśravaṇa (Kubera); the city's empty places were filled with bards in thousands, accom-

panied by women; flags moving in the blowing wind as if pointed out to the Kurus the northern and the southern direction; the high-placed king's officer then announced to the people enjoyment, all through the night, in which ornaments of jewels were to be displayed (*alamcakruṣ ca mālyaughaiḥ puruṣā nāgasāhvayam* // *patākābhir vicitrābhir dhvajaiḥ ca vividhair api* / *veśmānt samalamcakruḥ paurāṣ cāpi janādhipa* // *rājamārgāḥ ca tatrāsan sumanobhir alamkṛtāḥ* / *śuśūbhe tat puram cāpi samudraughanibhasvanam* // *nartakaiḥ cāpi nṛtyadbhir gāyakānām ca nisvanaiḥ* / *āsīd vaiśravaṇasyeva nivāsaḥ tat puram tadā* // *bandibhiḥ ca narai rājan strī sahāyaiḥ sahasraśaḥ* / *tatra tatra vivikteṣu samantād upaśobhitam* // *patākā dhūyamānāḥ ca śvasatā mātariśvanā* / *adarṣayann iva tadā kurūn vai dakṣiṇottarān* // *aghoṣayat tadā cāpi puruṣo rājadhūrgataḥ* / *sarvarātrivihāro 'dya ratnābharaṇalakṣaṇaḥ* //) 14. 69. 13-20; (3) After the departure of Dhṛtarāṣṭra, Gāndhārī, Kuntī and Vidura, the whole town with its old men, women and children became cheerless, the town was as if without any sound as at the end of a festival (*tad ahr̥ṣṭam ivākūjam gatotsavam ivābhavat* / *nagaram hāstinapuram sastrīryddhakumārakam* //) 15. 24. 14. **D.** Epic events : The name of the city occurs in connection with many important events; on various occasions, however, Hāstinapura is referred to simply by words such as *nagara* or *pura* (in the following listing references of this type where the city is not directly named are likely to be incomplete) (1) Janamejaya, son of Parikṣit, after the completion of his *satra* at Kurukṣetra, returned to Hāstinapura and searched for a suita-