

was split into two 12. 320, 8, 10-11, 13; (22) In order to go to the Śvetadvīpa Nārada flew up in the sky and reached the top of Meru 12. 322. 6; after seeing Hari on the Śvetadvīpa, Nārada returned to Meru; from Meru Nārada proceeded to Gandhamādana and reached the Viśālā Badarī to see Nara and Nārāyaṇa 12. 331. 22; 12. 321. 13; (23) Mārkaṇḍeya saw, among other mountains, Meru in the belly of the Bāla (3. 186. 83 = Nārāyaṇa 3. 187. 3) 3. 186. 103; (24) When Gaṅgā fell down from heaven Śiva held the river on his head on Meru (or Himavant?) and from there the river reached the earth (*divas cyutā śirasāttā bhavena gaṅgāvanīdhraṭ*) 13. 27. 89 (Nī. on Bom. Ed. 13. 26. 89 : *avanīdhraśya meroḥ himavato vā parvatasya*; on 13. 26. 90 : *avanīdhraṭ prthivīm prāpnotīti śeṣaḥ*). H. Similes : (1) Various warriors taking part in the battle compared with Meru : (a) Epic war : (i) Aśvatthāman showered (*abhyavarṣat*) arrows on Śaṇeṣya (Sātyaki) as a cloud showers rain on Meru 7. 141. 13; (ii) Aśvatthāman, showered with arrows by Añjanaparvan, grandson of Bhīma, was afflicted as is Meru by the showers of rain sent by the cloud 7. 131. 45; (iii) Eight sons of Dhṛtarāṣṭra showered arrows on Abhimanyu as do clouds on Meru 6. 75. 25; (iv) Ghaṭotkaca showered arrows on Karṇa and others as a cloud showers rain on Meru 7. 149. 17; (v) Ghaṭotkaca covered (*prachchādayām āsa*) Bhagadatta with arrows as a cloud covers Meru 6. 79. 31; (vi) Aśvatthāman with Śikhaṇḍin's three arrows stuck on his forehead compared with Meru with its three high, golden summits 6. 78. 26; (vii) Arjuna with arrows, shot at him by Duṣhāsana, stuck on his forehead looked like Meru

with its very high peaks 6. 106. 33; (viii) Arjuna was equal to Meru in steadiness (*sthairyeṇa*) 8. 48. 9; (ix) Bhīma was unshakable (*acala*) like Meru 6. 59. 8; 8. 31. 62; (x) Abhimanyu did not shake and remained steady like Meru when struck by five arrows of Durjaya and Vikarṇa 6. 74. 24; (xi) Jayadratha stood steadfast at the entrance of the Cakravyūha like Meru (*śrīmān merur ivācalaḥ*) 7. 33. 18; (xii) Arjuna, covered with gold on his golden chariot, shone like the blazing sun on Meru (*sa rathe ... kāñcane kāñcanāvṛtaḥ*) 7. 60. 17; (xiii) Sātyaki with his golden bracelet (*aṅgada*), helmet (*śirastrāṇa*) and armour (*varman*) and golden shaft shone like the peak of Meru 7. 96. 4; (xiv) Bhīṣma with his raised silvery staff with five stars on it (*ketunā pañcatāreṇa ... rājatena*) looked like Meru with moon on it (*candramā iva meruṇā*) 6. 44. 48 (Nī. on Bom. Ed. 6. 46. 50 : *atra candraketvor merusarathabhiṣmayoś copamo (? upamāno) pameyabhāvaḥ / bhīṣmasya rukmarathatvāt*); (xv) Arjuna was best among warriors as Meru is among the mountains 5. 63. 5; (b) Outside the epic war : (i) Rāma (Jāmadagnya) with blood issuing from the wounds all over his body appeared like Meru throwing out the red minerals (*merur dhātūn ivotsrjan*) 5. 180. 30; (c) Other contexts : (i) Śiva's body, when he was dressed like a Kirāta which made him look like a golden tree, appeared like another Meru (*kairātaṁ veṣam āsthāya kāñcana-drumasannibham*) *vibhrājamāno vapuṣā girir merur ivāparaḥ* // 3. 40. 2; (ii) (Gāndhārī, Kuntī, and other) Kaurava women mounted the seats (in the arena) as the women of gods mount mountain Meru (*ārurukhur mañcān meruṁ devastriyo yathā*) 1. 124.