

Aruṇā f. : Name of a river; also called *tīrtha* (9. 42. 26, 27).

A. Description : An excellent *tīrtha* (*tīrthavara*) 9. 42. 26; the confluence of the river Sarasvatī and Aruṇā was world famous (*lokaviśruta*) 3. 81. 131. B. Relation with other *tīrthas* : (1) The Devītīrtha (*tīrtham devyāḥ*) was situated near it 3. 81. 131; (2) The confluence of the rivers Kauśikī and Aruṇā was known as the Kālikā-saṁgama 3. 82. 135. C. Importance : (1) A bath in the river Aruṇā frees one of the sin of killing a Brāhmaṇa (*brahma-hatyāpahā hi sā*) 9. 42. 25, 34; (2) If one fasts for three nights and bathes at the confluence of Aruṇā and Sarasvatī one is freed of the sin of killing a Brāhmaṇa and he obtains the fruit of performing an Agni-ṣṭoma and an Atirātra sacrifice; he also purifies his lineage for seven generations 3. 81. 131-32; he is also freed of all sins 3. 82. 135; (3) Aruṇā finds mention in the Dai-vata-Ṛṣi-Vamśa 13. 151. 16. D. Events : (1) Epic : (a) Before starting the war on the eighteenth day, the Kaurava warriors went to the rivers Aruṇā and Sarasvatī and bathed there and drank their water; the place was situated on the slope of Himavant a little less than two *yojanas* from the Kuru-kṣetra (*ūne dviyojane gatvā pratyatiṣṭhanta kauravāḥ /... prasṭhe himavataḥ śubhe*) 9. 4. 48-49; the warriors returned from there for war with their energies restored (*kṛtot-sāhāḥ*) 9. 4. 50; (b) Balarāma bathed in Aruṇā, gave varied gifts and acquired religious merit (*avāpya dharmam*) 9. 42. 38; (2) Mythological ; (a) When the ascetics requested Sarasvatī for the *mokṣa* of the Rākṣasas, it brought to its body the river Aruṇā (*aruṇām ānayām āsa svām tanuṁ*

*puruṣarṣabha*) 9. 42. 24; when the Rākṣasas bathed in Aruṇā they left their bodies and went to heaven (*tanūs tyaktvā divaṁ gatāḥ*) 9. 42. 25; (b) Indra was advised by Brahmadeva to perform a sacrifice on the river Sarasvatī and to bathe in Aruṇā according to the prescribed rites (*yathāvidhi*) 9. 42. 34; he was then freed of the sin arising out of killing a Brāhmaṇa (*aruṇā-yām upāsprṣat / sa muktaḥ pāpmanā tena brahmahatyākṛtena ha*) 9. 42. 35-36; 9. 42. 26; (c) Namuci's head too reached the eternal, wish-yielding worlds by plunging (*āplutya*) into Aruṇā (*śiraś tac cāpi namuceḥ lokān kāmādughān prāptam akṣayān*) 9. 42. 37.

Aruṇadhatīvaṭa m. : Name of a *tīrtha* (?)

One who is on a pilgrimage (*tīrtha-sevī*) is advised by Pulastya to visit Aruṇadhatīvaṭa 3. 82. 37 (Name of a banyan tree situated near the Sāmudraka *tīrtha*?).

Arbuda m. : Name of a mountain.

Described as the 'son of Himavant' (*himavatsutam arbudam*); the mountain stands now, where formerly there was a hole in the earth (*pṛthivyām yatra vai chidram pūrvam āsīd yudhiṣṭhira*) 3. 80. 74; on this mountain there is the world famous āśrama of Vasiṣṭha; by living there for a night one obtained the fruit of donating a thousand cows (*gosahasraphalam*) 3. 80. 75.

Alakanandā f. : Name of a river.

Arjuna told the Gandharva Aṅgaraparṇa that when the holy river Gaṅgā flows through the sky the river has only one bank; there, among the gods, it obtains the status of Alakanandā (*iyam bhūtvā caikavaprā śucir ākāśagā punaḥ / deveṣu gaṅgā gandharva*