

kingdom. In due course Rambhā delivered a beautiful female child and then she told the King that she was Rambhā and that she had continued as his wife till then as she felt love towards him. She further told him that now she had begot a daughter, she was leaving him and that she had a curse upon her which had been redeemed now. She also assured him that they would meet in Svarga in case the daughter was duly wedded. Rambhā departed to Svarga. Suṣeṇa named the child Sulocanā and when she came of age he married her to Vatsamaharṣi and then went to Devaloka where he lived happily with Rambhā for a long time. (Kathāsaritsāgara, Madanamañcukālambaka, Taraṅga 2).

6) Other information.

(i) The powerful asura called Caturāśya once felt a great yearning for Rambhā and her maid Svayamprabhā managed things for him. He built a garden-city and presented it to Svayamprabhā in return for her service stated above. (Kamba Rāmāyaṇa, Kiṣkindhā Kāṇḍa).

(ii) The Sage Gautama alias Śaradvān experienced seminal emission on seeing Rambhā and from the semen was born Kṛpī whom in due course of time Droṇācārya married. (Kathāsaritsāgara, Madanamañcukālambaka, Taraṅga 6).

(iii) Indra once deputed Rambhā to break the vigorous tapas Viśvāmitra was observing. She approached him in the guise of a nightingale and with her song disturbed his meditation. The muni cursed her as follows and turned her into a rock. "Oh! evil woman Rambhā, you have cheated me, who have mastered desire and anger and so you be turned into a rock for a thousand years. The great brahmin ascetic, Bhūritejas will absolve you from my curse and you will then resume your own form." (Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Bālakāṇḍa, Canto 64).

(iv) Rambhā gave a dance performance on the occasion of the birthday celebrations of Arjuna. (Ādi Parva, Chapter 122, Verse 62).

(v) She had lived for sometime in the court of Kubera serving him. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 10, Verse 10).

(vi) When Arjuna lived in Svarga as Indra's guest Rambhā danced in honour of the former. (Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 43, Verse 29).

(vii) On another occasion she danced in Kubera's court in honour of Aṣṭāvakra muni. (Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 19, Verse 44).

RAMBHĀ II. Wife of Mayāsura. The couple had the following seven children i.e. Māyāvī, Dundubhi, Mahiṣa Kālaka, Ajakarna, and Mandodarī. (Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa, 3.6. 28-29).

RĀMEŚVARA. There is in South India a very famous holy place called Rāmeśvara and a Śiva temple there. Rāma and others camped on the sea shore to cross over to Laṅkā to release Sītā from Rāvaṇa's custody. This temple, according to Kamba, was built by Rāma at that time. The following story is from the Yuddha Kāṇḍa of Kamba Rāmāyaṇa.

To make the passage over to Laṅkā easy, Rāma decided to build a great temple at Rāmeśvara and install a Śivaliṅga in the temple. Under the expert supervision of the great architects, Nala and Nila, all the monkeys cooperated to build the temple. As ordered by Rāma, Hanūmān went to Kailāsa to fetch Śivaliṅga. Hanūmān did not return with the liṅga though the auspicious time for the installation was very near. How could the installation be

made without the idol and the installation had to be made at the appointed time.

Śrī Rāma stood ready near the installation platform. It was the exact time for the installation of the idol. A divine effulgence was seen to emerge from Rāma and immediately a Śivaliṅga automatically appeared at the spot where rituals were conducted for installation. Everyone was wonder-struck by this mysterious happening.

Hanūmān by now, returned with the liṅga and he felt sorry that the installation of the idol had already been made. Śrī Rāma told him: "Please remove the idol already installed, we shall install a new one."

Happy at the words of Rāma, Hanūmān entwined the idol with his tail and jumped directly upwards. But, his tail was cut, head clashed against the roof which was broken and Hanūmān fell down unconscious. Śrī Rāma held him up and patted him on the head and Hanūmān was more pleased than ever. Afterwards, to fulfil Hanūmān's desire and for the prosperity of the temple Hanūmān was made to install the new Śivaliṅga in front of the eastern tower of the temple. Śrī Rāma laid down the following rule also. Only after worshipping the idol at the tower, should the God inside the temple be worshipped.

The rule was also recorded there.

RĀMOPĀKHYĀNAPARVA. A sub-parva of Mahābhārata comprising chapters 273 to 292 of Vana Parva.

RAMYAGRĀMA. Capital of a State. Sahadeva, during his triumphal tour, conquered Ramyagrāma. (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 31, Verse 14).

RAMYAKA I. A son of Agnidhra, who had nine sons by his wife Pūrvacittī. (Bhāgavata, 5th Skandha). Ramyaka ruled the Kingdom called Ramyaka Varṣa near Nilagiri. Arjuna, during his triumphal tour conquered Ramyaka and levied taxes from the people there (Sabhā Parva, Chapter 28).

RAMYAKA II. A particular region in Ilāvṛta, one of the seven Continents. On the eastern part of Ilāvṛta there exist three mountains called Nilagiri, Śvetagiri and Śṛṅgavān. These mountains jut into the sea, and are separated from one another by a distance of two thousand miles each and are the source of many rivers. In between the three mountains are three regions of land called Ramyaka, Hiraṇmaya and Kuru. (Devī Bhāgavata, 8th Skandha).

RAṆA. A Rākṣasa. He was killed by Vāyu deva in the war between Hiraṇyākṣa and the Devas. (Padma Purāṇa, Sṛṣṭi Kāṇḍa).

RĀṆĀYANĪ. A Preceptor in the line of the Sāma (Veda) disciples of Vyāsa. (Jaiminiya Gṛhyasūtra 1, 14).

RĀṆGADĀSA. A great Śūdra devotee of God. He built a number of temples on mount Veikaṭācala (Skanda Purāṇa).

RĀṆGAVIDYĀDHARA. A Gandharva. (See under Sudeva III).

RĀNOTKAṬA. A warrior of Subrahmaṇya. (Śalya Parva Chapter 45, verse 68).

RANTIDEVA. The Kindest and the most liberal of the Kings in ancient India.

1). *Genealogy.* Descended from Viṣṇu thus: Atri-Candra Budha - Purūravas - Āyus - Nahuṣa - Yayāti-Pūru-Janamejaya-Prācinvaṇ - Pravīra - Namasyu-Vitabhaya Suṇḍu - Bahuvidha - Saṇyāti - Rahovādī - Raudrāśva-Matināra - Santurodha - Duṣyanta - Bharata - Suhotra-