

Dīpālakas (guardians of the zones). In the east he posted Sudhanvā, son of Vairājaprajāpati, in the south he posted Śaṅkhapāda son of Kardamaprajāpati, in the west he put Ketumān, son of Rajas and in the north Hiraṇyāromā. Thus Brahmā organised a universe with suitable emperors to control and supervise. (Chapter 22, Am̐a 1, Viṣṇu Purāṇa).

8) *The end of Prthu.* After several years of benign rule Prthu became old. He then entrusted the affairs of the state to his son Vijitāśva and left for penance with his wife Arccis. After doing severe penance for a long time he merged with Parabrahman. Arccis who was all along serving her husband with devotion ended her life by jumping into the funeral pyre of her husband following her husband like Lakṣmī following Viṣṇu.

9) *Prthu's sons.* Prthu had five sons named Vijitāśva, Haryakṣa, Dhūmrakeśa, Vṛka and Draviṇa. The eldest of these Vijitāśva, with the help of his brothers ruled the country. Haryakṣa ruled over the east, Dhūmrakeśa over the south, Vṛka, west and Draviṇa, north. (Padma Purāṇa).

PRTHU II. A virtuous brahmin of good conduct. Once when Prthu was travelling he met five ugly devils. They became devils for their sins of not doing any charity and behaving rudely with beggars. Prthu gave them advice on āhāra (food), ācāra (conduct) and vrata (vow) so that they might get salvation from their devil-lives. (Chapter 27, Śṛṣṭi Khaṇḍa, Padma Purāṇa).

PRTHŪDAKA. A sacred pond on the borders of Kurukṣetra. This is one of the celebrated tīrthas of Bhārata. He who bathes in this pond would get the benefit of doing an aśvamedha. (Chapter 83, Vana Parva; Chapter 39, Śalya Parva).

PRTHŪDARA. A celebrated Yakṣa. This Yakṣa got a daughter named Saudāminī. Her father took her to different mountains to entertain her. One day while she was playing with her companion Kapiśabhrū she met a Yaksaputra named Aṭṭahāsa. They fell in love and Saudāminī's father agreed to their marriage and fixed it. After fixing the marriage Prthūdara took his daughter to his house. Next day her companion Kapiśabhrū came to Saudāminī in a sorrowful mood and when she asked her the reason she said "Friend, how am I to report to you this sad news. On my way to you I passed through a garden named Citrasthala in the valley of the Himālayas. To have some sport with the love-stricken Aṭṭahāsa his friends staged a drama in which Aṭṭahāsa was made Vaiśravaṇarāja and his brother Dīptaśikha, Nalakūbara, and the rest, his ministers. They were thus acting and enjoying when Nalakūbara himself came that way and seeing his servant Aṭṭahāsa in the robes and form of his father was angry and calling Aṭṭahāsa to his side said: "A servant like you is ambitious of becoming a king. Let this ambition be the cause of your downfall. You will be born as man." Aṭṭahāsa was shocked and he craved pardon "Oh Lord, I did this only for some entertainment. I did not do it with any desire for a big position. Pardon me for my mistake. Nalakūbara then by his divine power understood everything and taking pity on him consoled him and said "She with whom you are in love will be your wife in your life as man. Your brother

Dīptaśikha will then be born as your son. Both of you will then be released from the curse. Dīptaśikha after ruling the country for some time will also be free from this curse." Aṭṭahāsa and Dīptaśikha soon disappeared by the power of the curse.

Aṭṭahāsa was born as king of Trigartta in the name of Pavitrādhara and Saudāminī became his wife. A son was born to them named Dīptaśikha and as soon as he was born the parents were released from the curse and entered heaven. (Śaśāṅkavatīlambaka, Kathāsarit-sāgara, Taraṅga 6).

PRTHUDARBHA. A king of the race of Aṅga. (Chapter 277, Agni Purāṇa).

PRTHUGRĪVA. When Rāma and Lakṣmaṇa were staying in Pañcavaṭī a demoness named Śūrpaṇakhā made approaches to them and Lakṣmaṇa cut off her limbs and sent her away. Then a rākṣasa army came under the leadership of Khara, Dūṣaṇa and Triśiras and Prthugriva was one of the twelve prominent soldiers of that army.

(Sarga 26, Araṇya Kāṇḍa Vālmīki Rāmāyaṇa).

PRTHUKA. A devagaṇa of Raivata Manvantara.

PRTHULĀKṢA. A King born of the race of Aṅga. This king lived in the court of Yama and worshipped him. (Śloka 22, Chapter 8, Sabhā Parva).

PRTHULĀŚVA. A king of the race of Ikṣvāku. He was the son of Prthu and father of Adra. (Chapter 1, Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa).

PRTHURAŚMI. One of those who are named 'Yati'. The Yatis were a people of anti-yajña feelings and were all burnt to death in Indra's fire of wrath. But three yatis, Brhadgiri, Rayovāja and Prthuraśmi were taken care of by Indra and Indra taught them Brahmayā, Kṣatriyavidyā and Vaiśyavidyā.

Prthuraśmi compelled Indra to grant him Kṣātratejas also along with Kṣātravidyā. There is now a sāma even in the name of Prthuraśmi. (Pañca-vimśa-Brāhmaṇa).

PRTHUŚENĀ. A King of ancient Bhārata. (5th Skandha, Bhāgavata).

PRTHUŚRAVAS I. A King of Rgveda times. Indra killed the enemies of this King. (Sūkta 116, Anuvāka 17, Maṇḍala 1, Rgveda).

PRTHUŚRAVAS II. Father of Kāmā, wife of king Ayutanāyī. He lived in the court of Yama. (Śloka 12, Chapter 8, Sabhā Parva).

PRTHUŚRAVAS III. A sage of ancient Bhārata who was a friend of Yudhiṣṭhira. (Śloka 22, Chapter 26, Vana Parva).

PRTHUŚRAVAS IV. A soldier of Subrahmaṇya (Chapter 46, Śalya Parva).

PRTHUŚRAVAS V. A serpent. This serpent was present at Prabhāsatīrtha to carry the soul of Balabhadrarāma to Pātāla (Śloka 15, Chapter 4, Mausala Parva).

PRTHUVASTRĀ. A female attendant of Subrahmaṇya (Chapter 46, Śalya Parva).

PRTHUVEGA. A King of the court of Yama. (Śloka 12, Chapter 8, Sabhā Parva).

PRTHVĪRŪPA. A beautiful king of a country called Pratiṣṭhāna. Once three wise yogins came to him and said "Oh King, we have travelled round the world. There is a princess in Muktidvipa called Rūpalatā. In beauty she will be a good match for you." On hearing this Prthvīrūpa calling the court artist Kumāradatta to his side said "Paint a picture of mine and go along with