

VIRŪPĀKṢA IV. An asura who was the follower of Narakāsura. This Virūpākṣa was killed on the bank of the river Lohitagaṅgā. (Mahābhārata, Sabhā Parva, Dākṣiṇātyapāṭha, Chapter 38).

VIRŪPĀKṢA V. A Rākṣasa who was the friend of Ghaṭotkaca. (Mahābhārata, Droṇa Parva, Chapter 175, Stanza 15).

VIRŪPĀKṢA VI. This giant named Virūpākṣa was the friend of a stork called Rājadharmā. (Mahābhārata Śānti Parva, Chapter 170, Stanza 15). (See under Gautama V).

VIRŪPĀKṢA VII. One of the eleven Rudras.

VIRŪPĀŚVA. A King. This King had never eaten flesh in his life. (Mahābhārata, Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 156, Stanza 15).

VIRUT. See under Virudhā.

VĪRYAŚULKA. In ancient days the Kings wanted to give their daughters in marriage to the most valiant youths. The custom of showing their valour before the people, before getting the damsel became more prevalent, than giving money to get the girl. Thus marrying a girl by showing his valour is called Marriage by giving Vīryaśulka. (Śulka means Nuptial gift). (Agni Purāṇa, Chapter 4).

VĪRYAVĀN. An eternal Viśvadeva. (god concerned with offerings to the Manes. (M.B. Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 91, Stanza 31).

VIŚĀCIKITSĀ. (Treatment for poison). See under Sarpa.

VIŚADA. A King who was the son of Jayadratha and father of King Senajit. (Bhāgavata, Skandha 9).

VIŚĀKHA I. One of the three brothers of Skandadeva. The other two were Śākha and Naigameya. There is a story regarding them in Mahābhārata, Śānti Parva, as follows:—

Skandadeva approached his father Śiva. At that time Śiva, Pārvatī, Agni and Gaṅgā, all wished in their minds that Skanda should come to him or her. Understanding the desire of each, by Yogabala (the power obtained by union with the Universal Soul) Skanda divided himself into four persons, Skanda, Viśākha, Śākha and Naigameya and went to each of them respectively and fulfilled their desire. (For further details see under Subrahmaṇya).

VIŚĀKHA II. A hermit. Mention is made in M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 7, Stanza 19, that this hermit stays in the palace of Indra, glorifying him.

VIŚĀKHADATTA. A Sanskrit playwright. It is believed that his period was between the centuries five and nine A.D. His prominent play is "Mudrā Rākṣasa". He is known by the name Viśākhadeva also. He was the son of King Bhāskaradatta and the grandson of Vaṭeśvara-datta. Of his works, only Mudrārākṣasa has been found till now.

VIŚĀKHAYŪPA. A holy place of pilgrimage. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 90, Stanza 15, that this spot became a holy place because Indra, Varuṇa and other gods did penance here.

VIŚĀLA. A son of Ikṣvāku. Mention is made in Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa, Bālakāṇḍa, Sarga 47, that a son named Viśāla was born to Ikṣvāku, by the celestial maid Alambuṣā and that Viśāla built a city named Viśālā. This Viśāla had a son named Hemacandra. It was near the city Viśālā, that Ahalyā, the wife of Gautama,

stood as stone, because of a curse. (See under Viśālā-purī).

VIŚĀLĀ I. The queen of Ajamiḍha, a King of the Lunar dynasty. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 95, Stanza 37).

VIŚĀLĀ II. The King Gaya once performed a sacrifice in the country called Gaya. Mention is made in Mahābhārata, Śalya Parva, Chapter 38, Stanza 20, that Sarasvatī attended this sacrifice assuming the name Viśālā.

VIŚĀLĀ III. Wife of King Bhīma the son of Mahāvīrya. Three sons, Trayyāruṇi, Puṣkarī and Kapi were born to Bhīma by his wife Viśālā. (Vāyu: 37 : 158). In Matsya Purāṇa, Viśālā is mentioned as the wife of King Utakṣaya.

VIŚĀLĀKA I. A Yakṣa (semi-god). Mention is made in Mahābhārata, Sabhā Parva, Chapter 10, Stanza 10, that this Yakṣa stays in the palace of Kubera, glorifying him.

VIŚĀLĀKA II. A King. Vasudeva married this King's daughter Bhadrā. It is mentioned in Mahābhārata, Sabhā Parva, Chapter 42, that after the marriage Bhadrā was kidnapped by Śiśupāla.

VIŚĀLĀKṢA I. One of the hundred sons of Dhṛtarāṣṭra. Mention is made in Mahābhārata, Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 88, Stanza 15, that this Viśālākṣa was killed by Bhīmasena in the battle of Bhārata.

VIŚĀLĀKṢA II. Younger brother of King Virāṭa. He had another name Madirākṣa. (M.B. Virāṭa Parva, Chapter 32, Stanza 19).

VIŚĀLĀKṢA III. A son of Garuḍa, (Mahābhārata, Udyoga Parva, Chapter 101, Stanza 9).

VIŚĀLĀKṢA IV. A King of Mithilā. He was present at the sacrifice of Rājasūya (Imperial consecration) of Yudhiṣṭhira. (Bhāgavata, Skandha 10).

VIŚĀLĀKṢĪ. An attendant of Subrahmaṇya. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 46, Stanza 3).

VIŚĀLAPURĪ. A holy place on the basin of the Ganges. This place is in the forest Badarī. It is stated in Mahābhārata, Vana Parva, Chapter 90, that the hermitage of Naranārāyaṇas, stood in this place. This city was built by the King Viśālā. (See under Viśālā).

VIŚĀLYĀ I. A river famous in the Purāṇas. Mention is made in Mahābhārata, Sabhā Parva, Chapter 9, Stanza 20, that this river stays in the Palace of Varuṇa glorifying him. This is a holy river. One could obtain the fruits of Agniṣṭoma Yajña (a sacrifice) by taking a bath in this river.

VIŚĀLYA II. A medicine. This medicine is used to extricate the arrow-heads that might have stuck on the body. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 289, Stanza 6)

VIŚĀLYAKARAṆĪ. See under Mṛtasañjivani.

VIŚĀṬHA. A son born to Balarāma by Revatī. (Vāyu Purāṇa, 31:6).

VIŚĪKHA. A King of the birds. It is stated in Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa, that Viśīkha was one of the sons born to Garuḍa by Śukī.

VIŚĪRĀ. An attendant of Subrahmaṇya. (M.B. Śalya Parva, Chapter 46, Stanza 29).

VIṢKARA. An asura who ruled over the world in days of old. (M.B. Śānti Parva, Chapter 227, Stanza 53).

VIṢṆĀPŪ. A hermit who was the son of hermit Viśvaka. This Viṣṇāpū was once lost and was found again by the help of the Aśvins. This story is given in Ṛgveda, Maṇḍala 1, Anuvāka 17, Sūkta 116.