

year, the Kauravas had stolen the cows of Virāṭa. In the fight which ensued Arjuna entered the battlefield with Uttara, the son of King Virāṭa, and defeated the Kauravas and proclaimed that the life of pseudonymity was over. After that Abhimanyu married Uttarā the daughter of Virāṭa. (M.B. Virāṭa Parva).

2) *Other details.*

(i) This Virāṭa, the King of Matsya was born from a portion of the Marudgaṇas. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 67, Stanza 82).

(ii) King Virāṭa had two sons named Uttara and Śaṅkha. It was with these sons that he attended the Svayamvara marriage of Draupadī. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 185, Stanza 8).

(iii) In the regional conquest conducted by Sahadeva, before the Imperial consecration-sacrifice of the Pāṇḍavas, Virāṭa fought with him and was defeated. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 31, Stanza 2).

(iv) King Virāṭa attended the Rājasūya (sacrifice of imperial consecration) of Yudhiṣṭhira. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 44, Stanza 20).

(v) Virāṭa gave as a gift to Yudhiṣṭhira two thousand tuskers adorned with gold chains. (M.B. Sabhā Parva, Chapter 52, Stanza 26).

(vi) The name of the wife of King Virāṭa was Sudeṣṇā. (M.B. Virāṭa Parva, Chapter 9, Stanza 6).

(vii) During the incognito-life of the Pāṇḍavas, King Virāṭa sheltered them in his palace. He took Yudhiṣṭhira as a court-favourite, Bhīmasena as the over-seer of his dining hall, Arjuna as the dancing master, Nakula as the head of the stables, and Sahadeva as the head of the cow-herds. (M.B. Virāṭa Parva, Chapters 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12).

(viii) The first wife of King Virāṭa was Surathā, the princess of Kosala. A son named Śveta was born to Virāṭa by Surathā. After the death of Surathā, he married Sudeṣṇā the daughter of Sūta, King of Kekaya. To Sudeṣṇā two sons named Śaṅkha and Uttara and as the youngest, a daughter named Uttarā were born. (M.B. Virāṭa Parva, Dākṣiṇātya Pāṭha, Chapter 16).

(ix) It is stated in Mahābhārata, Virāṭa Parva, Dākṣiṇātyapāṭha, Chapter 26, that King Virāṭa had ten brothers.

(x) Virāṭa had two brothers named Śātānika and Madirākṣa. Sūryadatta is another name of Śātānika. He was the commander of the army of Virāṭa. Madirākṣa was also called Viśālākṣa. (M.B. Virāṭa Parva, Chapters 31 and 32).

(xi) At the time of the theft of the cows, King Virāṭa engaged in combat with Suśarmā. (M.B. Virāṭa Parva, Chapter 32, Stanza 28).

(xii) Suśarmā caught hold of Virāṭa alive. (M.B. Virāṭa Parva, Chapter 33, Stanza 7).

(xiii) Virāṭa was one of the seven prominent commanders of the army of Yudhiṣṭhira. (M.B. Udyoga Parva, Chapter 157, Stanza 11).

(xiv) On the first day of the battle of Bhārata there was a combat between Virāṭa and Bhagadatta. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 45, Stanza 49).

(xv) Virāṭa attacked Bhīṣma. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 73, Stanza 1).

(xvi) In the fight between Virāṭa and Droṇa, Śaṅkha was killed. With that Virāṭa ran away. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 82, Stanza 14).

(xvii) There was a combat between Virāṭa and Aśvat-

thāmā. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 110, Stanza 16). (xviii) Virāṭa combatted with Jayadratha. (M.B. Bhīṣma Parva, Chapter 116, Stanza 42).

(xix) Virāṭa fought with Vinda and Anuvinda. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 25, Stanza 20).

(xx) In the fight with Śalya, Virāṭa fell down unconscious. (M.B. Droṇa Parva, Chapter 167, Stanza 34).

(xxi) In the battle which followed, Droṇācārya killed Virāṭa. (M.B. Kārṇa Parva, Chapter 6, Stanza 6).

(xxii) Mention is made in Mahābhārata, Strī Parva, Chapter 26, Stanza 33, that the funeral ceremony of Virāṭa was conducted in a befitting manner and in Mahābhārata, Śānti Parva, Chapter 42, Stanza 4, that Yudhiṣṭhira performed offering to the Manes for him.

(xxiii) After death, Virāṭa entered heaven and joined the Marudgaṇas. (M.B. Svargārohaṇa Parva, Chapter 5, Stanza 15).

(xxiv) The synonyms used in Mahābhārata for Virāṭa are, Matsya, Matsyapati, Matsyarāt, Matsyarāja etc.

VIRĀṬA (M). The country called Matsya. King Virāṭa was the ruler of this country. (See under Virāṭa).

VIRĀṬANAGARA. The Capital of Matsya. Mention is made in Mahābhārata, Virāṭa Parva, Chapter 30, Stanza 28, that once the Kauravas and the Trigartas attacked this country.

VIRĀṬAPARVA. A prominent Parva (section) in Mahābhārata.

VIRĀVA. A horse. The two horses yoked to the chariot given to Agastya by the giant Ilvala, were called Virāva and Surāva. (M.B. Vana Parva, Chapter 99, Stanza 17).

VIRĀVARMĀ I. A child born to King Tāladhvaja by Nārada, when he assumed the form of an illusive woman of beauty. (For further details see under Tāladhvaja I).

VIRĀVARMĀ II. A King who ruled over the city of Sārasvata. His chief queen was Mālīnī, who was the daughter of a Yakṣa. Virāvarmā stopped the sacrificial horse of the Pāṇḍavas. When Kṛṣṇa and Arjuna got ready to fight with Virāvarmā to recover the horse, Virāvarmā, with the help of Yama fought with them. At last Kṛṣṇa entered into a treaty with Virāvarmā and got the horse back.

Virāvarmā had five sons named Subhāla, Sulabha, Lola, Kuvala and Sarasa. (Jaimini, Aśva : 47 : 49).

VIRĀVRATA. A King born in the family of Bharata. To Virāvrata who was the son of Madhu, two sons named Manthu and Amanthu were born. (Bhāgavata, Fifth Skandha).

VIRIṆĪ (VIRANĪ). See under Virāṇī.

VIROCANA I.

1) *General information.* An asura. He was the son of Prahlaḍa and the father of Mahābali. Three sons Virocana, Kumbha and Nikumbha were born to Prahlaḍa by his wife Dhṛti. Virocana, though an asura, performed rites and rituals carefully. He was kind towards Brahmīns. His son Bali became famous and got the name Mahābali. (M.B. Ādi Parva, Chapter 65, Stanza 19).

2) *Other details.*

(i) Once there was a controversy between Virocana and Sudhanvā. (See under Sudhanvā II).

(ii) During the time of emperor Pṛithu, when the