

Sthūlakeśa, a sage who was engaged in penance in that forest in a hermitage heard the cry of a child and came out of his āśrama. On seeing a new-born child lying unclaimed and uncared for, he took the child to his āśrama and named her Pramadvārā and brought her up. She grew into a charming maiden and one day Prince Ruru coming that way while hunting saw her and fell in love with her. The sage was pleased to give her in marriage to the King and so fixed the date of marriage.

The day previous to her marriage she trampled over a poisonous snake while walking in the forest with her companions and immediately she fell dead by the bite of the serpent. Ruru's grief was uncontrollable. He wept bitterly crying aloud "If I have from my very birth with great devotion taken vows, let Pramadvārā rise up alive." Then a devadūta (messenger from god) appeared before him and said that all his wails were of no avail since it was only in the order of things that one whose āyus (period of life on earth) was over should die. Ruru then enquired of him a way of escape from this inevitable calamity and then the devadūta said that if Ruru was prepared to surrender half of his āyus in favour of Pramadvārā she would come back to life. Ruru agreed and they went to Dharmarāja (god of Death) and told him of his wish. Dharmarāja brought back Pramadvārā to life and she stood before Ruru as if just woken up from sleep. Their marriage was duly conducted. (Chapters 8 and 9, Ādi Parva).

PRAMAGANDA. The King of Kīkaṭas mentioned in Rgveda. (Sūkta 14, Anuvāka 53, Maṇḍala 3, Rgveda).

PRAMĀNAKOTI. A sacred place on the banks of the river Gaṅgā. There is a great banyan tree named Pramānakoti at this place. It was at this spot of the river that Duryodhana poisoned Bhīmasena and threw him into the river, bound hand and foot. The Pāṇḍavas who went for their exile in the forests spent their first night at this spot. (Śloka 41, Chapter 1, Vana Parva).

PRAMANDHU. A Yakṣa who was the custodian of the wealth of Hariścandra. Viśvāmitra removed the bad smell of the body of this yakṣa by pouring holy water over his body. (Chapter 2, Skanda Purāṇa).

PRAMATAKA. A sage. He was one of the members of the Sarpasatra of Janamejaya. (Śloka 7, Chapter 53, Ādi Parva).

PRAMĀTHA I. A son of Dhṛtarāṣṭra. (Śloka 13, Chapter 116, Ādi Parva).

PRAMĀTHA II. One of the two pārśadas given to Subrahmaṇya by Yamarāja. The other one was named Unmātha. (Śloka 30, Chapter 45, Śalya Parva).

PRAMĀTHA III. A rākṣasa (demon). This rākṣasa was a minister of demons Khara and Dūṣaṇa. (Sarga 23, Araṇyakāṇḍa, Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa).

PRAMATHAGAṆA. Śiva's attendants. They were well-versed in Dharmādharmas (What is virtuous and what is not). (Chapter 131, Anuśāsana Parva).

PRAMĀTHI I. One of the hundred sons of Dhṛtarāṣṭra. He was killed by Bhīmasena in the great battle. (Chapter 157, Droṇa Parva).

PRAMĀTHI II. Brother of Dūṣaṇa who was an associate of Rāvaṇa. When Rāma and Lakṣmaṇa were in exile in the forests they had to fight Khara-dūṣaṇatṛiśirasas. Then the captains of their army, Mahākapaḷa, Sthūlākṣa and Pramāthī attacked Rāma-

Lakṣmaṇas. Pramāthī attacked Lakṣmaṇa and then Nīla an army-chief of the monkeys killed Pramāthī. (Sarga 26, Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa and Śloka 22, Chapter 287, Vana Parva).

PRAMĀTHI III. A rākṣasa who was a friend of Ghaṭotkaca. In the Kurukṣetra battle Duryodhana killed this Pramāthī. (Śloka 20, Chapter 91, Bhīṣma Parva).

PRAMĀTHINĪ. A celestial woman. This woman gave a dance performance during the Janmotsava of Arjuna. (Śloka 21, Chapter 122, Ādi Parva).

PRAMATI I. (PRAMITI).

1) *General information.* Great Sage Bhṛgu, got of his wife Pulomā Cyavana and Cyavana got of his wife Sukanyā, Pramati. This sage Pramati married the beautiful Pratāpī and their son was Ruru.

2) *Other details.*

(i) Pramiti visited Bhīṣma while he was lying on his bed of arrows. (Śloka 5, Chapter 26, Anuśāsana Parva).

(ii) Pramiti is described as the son of Vāgindra born in the family of Grtsamada son of Vītahavya. (Śloka 58, Chapter 30, Anuśāsana Parva). For details see under Ruru).

PRAMATI II. Son of a brahmin named Śūra of Prayāga. During the sag end of Kṛtayuga the brahmins made Pramati their army-chief and defeated the Kṣatriyas. (Viṣṇudharmottara Purāṇa).

PRAMATI III. One of the four ministers of Vibhīṣaṇa. (Yuddha Kāṇḍa, Chapter 7. Verse 7, Vālmiki Rāmāyaṇa).

PRAMILĀ. Chief of the Strīrājya (country of women) in the Himālayas. The Pāṇḍavas conducted an aśvamedhayāga after the great battle. It was Arjuna who followed the sacrificial horse. Roaming about without anybody daring to tie it the horse reached Strīrājya and Pramilā tied the horse. Arjuna challenged her and in the fight that ensued Pramilā defeated Arjuna. At that time there was a voice from heaven which said "Arjuna, you will never be able to take back the horse after defeating Pramilā. So if you want to save the sacrificial horse, enter into a truce with her and make her your wife." Arjuna took the advice and saved the horse after marrying Pramilā. (Jaiminiya, Aśvamedha Parva, 21—22).

PRAMLOCĀ. A nymph who enticed the sage Kaṇḍu. (See under Kaṇḍu).

PRAMODA I. A serpent born of the family of Airāvata. This serpent was burnt to death at the Sarpasatra of Janamejaya. (Śloka 11, Chapter 57, Ādi Parva).

PRAMODA II. A soldier of Subrahmaṇya. (Śloka 65, Chapter 45, Śalya Parva).

PRAMODA III. One of the Mānasaputras (Spiritual sons) of Brahmā. Pramoda was born from the neck of Brahmā. (Matsya Purāṇa).

PRAMOHINĪ. A Gandharva maiden. Pramohinī and four Gandharva maidens were absolved from their curses by a drop of water from the river Narmadā. The story recounted to Yudhiṣṭhira by Nārada is as follows : Five Gandharva maidens Pramohinī, Su'ilā, Susvarā, Candrikā and Sutārā were friends. Pramohinī was the daughter of Śukasāṅgīti, Su'ilā that of Suśila, Susvarā of Svaravedī, Candrikā that of Candraka and Sutārā of Suprabha. On a day in spring all the five went about collecting flowers in a forest. As they went on walking they reached the pond named Acchoda. They bathed in that pond and after that made an idol of Ambikā with