

At this stage, all the gods rushed to Manasādevī and fell at her feet and begged her to save the situation. The kindhearted Devī called her son Āstika and advised him to persuade Janamejaya to stop the sarpasatra. Āstika went to Janamejaya and requested him to give him the lives of Takṣaka and Indra as a gift. Janamejaya, after consulting the munis and priests and at their advice, agreed to do so. In this way, the Sarpasatra was stopped and the remaining serpents escaped with their lives. (Devī Bhāgavata, Navama Skandha, M.B., Ādi Parva).

**ĀSTĪKA PARVA.** One of the Parvas in the Mahābhārata. See Mahābhārata.

**ĀSURAM.** A form of marriage. (See VIVĀHA).

**ĀSURĀYANA.** A son of Viśvāmitra. (M.B., Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 56).

**ĀSURI.** An ancient Maharṣi. He was the ācārya of Kapila Sāṁkhyaśāna and the guru of the maharṣi Pāṇcaśikha. Once Āsuri had a full vision of God. He gave many precepts on spiritual matters to other Maharṣis. The Bhāgavata says that Āsuri received his spiritual enlightenment from his wife, Kapilā. (M.B., Śānti Parva, Chapter 218, Verses 10-14).

**ĀŚVALĀYANA I.** A son of Viśvāmitra. (M.B., Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 4, Verse 54).

**ĀŚVALĀYANA II.** An Ācārya. He was a disciple of Śaunaka. Āśvalāyana composed three famous works : Āśvalāyana Gṛhyasūtra, Āśvalāyana Śrautasūtra and Āśvalāyana Stuti.

**ĀṬAKA.** A serpent born of the Kaurava dynasty. This serpent was burnt at the Sarpasatra of Janamejaya. (Śloka 12, Chapter 57, Ādi Parva, M.B.)

**ĀṬAVĪPURI.** An ancient city in India, Sahadeva conquered this city. (M.B., Sabhā Parva, Chapter 31, Verse 72).

**ĀTHARVAṆA.** A sage. When Arjuna dreamed of going to Śiva accompanied by Kṛṣṇa they visited in the dream the āśrama of this sage also.

**ĀTMADĒVA.** See under Gokarna.

**ĀTREYA.** A sage. This sage had acquired the power to go from one planet to another. Once this ṛṣi went to devaloka as the guest of Indra and there he drank Amṛta (the celestial elixir) and enjoyed the dances of the celestial maidens. A desire to have a similar heaven of his own budded in his mind and he approached Viśvakarmā who gave him a new heaven of his own. But before long the demons took over this heaven from him. Though Viśvakarmā took back the same from the demons, Ātreya did not go back but returned to his old āśrama on the banks of Gomatī and doing penance there for a long time attained salvation (Brahma Purāṇa).

*More details.* Ātreya was also present among the ascetics who assembled at the sarpasatra of Janamejaya. (Śloka 8, Chapter 55, Ādi Parva, M.B.).

2) Ātreya was a disciple of Vāmadeva. (Śloka 6, Chapter 192, Vana Parva, M.B.).

3) This ṛṣi taught his disciples about Nirguṇabrahma. (Śloka 7, Chapter 137, Anuśāsana Parva, M.B.).

**ĀTREYA(M).** A place of ancient Bhārata. (Śloka 68, Chapter 9, Bhīṣma Parva, M.B.).

**ĀTREYĪ I.** Wife of King Ūru. Svāyambhuva Manu got of his wife Śatarūpā two sons, Priyavrata and Uttānapāda. Uttānapāda got a son named Utama of Suruci and one of name Dhruva of Sunīti. Dhruva got three

sons, Śiṣṭi, Bhava and Śambhu. Śiṣṭi got five sons, Ripu, Ripuṅjaya, Śipra, Vṛkala and Vṛkatejas. Cākṣuṣa was born to Ripu of his wife Brhatī. Manu was born to Cākṣuṣa of his wife Virāṇi. Ūru was the son of Manu. Ūru got of Ātreyī Aṅga, Sumanas, Svāti, Kratu, Aṅgiras and Gaya. (Chapter 18, Agni Purāṇa).

**ĀTREYĪ II.** A river. (Śloka 22, Chapter 9, Sabhā Parva, M.B.).

**ĀTREYĪ III.** Anasūyā, wife of Atri is also called Ātreyī.

**ĀTREYĪ IV.** Daughter of Maharṣi Atri. She was married to Aṅgiras, son of Agni. Aṅgiras always spoke rudely to her and pained at this she once approached her father and told him about this. Her father told her thus : "Your husband is the son of Agni. That is why he appears unbearable to you. Therefore give him a cold bath always and he would gradually become mild." Hearing this the devout Ātreyī transformed herself into a river and started to cool him down by constant showers. This river later on became the famous Paruṣṇī Nadi. (Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa).

**ĀVAHA.** A Vāyu. (M.B., Śānti Parva, Chapter 328, Verse 37).

**ĀVANTIKĀ.** Daughter of Yaugandharāyaṇa, a famous character in the story of Udayana. (See under Yaugandharāyaṇa).

**ĀVARAṆA.** A King of Viśvakarmā's dynasty.

*Genealogy.* From Viṣṇu were born in the following order : Brahmā - Dharma - Prabhāsa - Viśvakarmā - Priyavrata - Āgnīdhra - Nābhi - Rṣabha - Bharata - Āvaraṇa.

Bharata married the world-beauty, Pāñcajanī. Five children, Sumati, Rāṣṭrabhṛt, Sudarśana, Āvaraṇa, and Dhūmraketu were born to her. (Bhāgavata, Daśama Skandha).

**ĀVARTANANDĀ.** A sacred Tīrtha. One who bathes in this tīrtha will be able to enjoy life in Nandanavana. (M.B., Anuśāsana Parva, Chapter 25, Verse 45).

**ĀVAŚĪRA.** A place in ancient India. It is said that Karṇa conquered this place. (M.B., Vana Parva, Chapter 254, Verse 9).

**ĀVASTHYA.** An Agni. (M.B., Vana Parva, Chapter 221, Verse 5).

**ĀVIRHOTRA.** A king of Viśvakarmā's dynasty.

*Genealogy.* From Viṣṇu were descended in the following order : Brahmā - Dharma - Prabhāsa - Viśvakarmā - Barhiṣmatī - Priyavrata - Āgnīdhra - Nābhi - Rṣabha - Āvirhotra.

Jayantī, Rṣabha's wife bore to him twenty children who were : Bharata, Kuśivarta, Ilīvarta, Brahmāvarta, Āryāvarta, Malaya, Ketu, Bhadrāsena, Indrasprk, Vidarbha, Kikāṭa, Kavi, Hari, Antarikṣa, Prabuddha, Pippalāyana, Āvirhotra, Dramiḍa, Camasa and Karabhājana. The eldest of them, Bharata, became the ruler of India. From him this country came to be called "BHĀRATA". All the younger brothers ruled over the different parts of this country.

**ĀYATĪ.** A daughter of Mahāmeru. Two daughters were born to Mahāmeru, Āyati and Niyati. Āyati was married by Dhātī and Niyati by Vidhātā. Dhātī and Vidhātā are the two sons born to Bhṛgu Maharṣi of his wife Khyāti. Dhātī got a son, Prāṇa, of Āyati and Vidhātā, a son, Mṛkaṇḍu of Niyati. Prāṇa got a son Dyutimān and he got a son Rājavān. (Chapter 10, Anīśam I, Viṣṇu Purāṇa).

**ĀYAVASA.** A King. There is mention about this king in Śukta 128, Maṇḍala 1 of the Ṛgveda.