Place-names ending in Vāsaka

Vāsaka:

It means an abode or inhabitation.[353] An inhabitation can be big or small. In referring to a big inhabitation it denotes a city.

Following are the names with this suffix :

(1) *Ānandapuravāsaka*[354] (No. 40, L. 1) :
It has been mentioned as a camp of victory. Ānandapura lite-rally means 'a city of pleasure'. It has not been identified so far.

(2) *Ayodhyā* (No. 21, L. 1 ; No. 37, L. 6 ; No. 39, L. 10) :
In No. 21 the word 'Ayodhyā-Vāsaka' occurs[355] while in No. 37 and 39 the word 'Āyodhyaka' has been mentioned. In No, 21, Ayodhyā is described as a victorious camp, full of great ships, and elephants and horses. In No. 39 certain brāhmaṇas belong-ing to Ayodhyā, living in the vicinity of Mahādeva Śaileśvara are named and are mentioned as belonging to various gotras and caraṇas, and as proficient in observants, in sacred duty, in the mantras, the sūtras, bhāṣyas and pravacanas.[356]

It has been venerated as one of the most important and holy places of the Hindus.[357] Vinītā was another name for this city.[358] Its other names including Viṇīā (Vinītā) are men-tioned in the Vividhatīrthakalpa.[359] Fa-Hsien calls it Sha-che and Ptolemy knew it as Sogeda.[360] Ayodhyā and Sāketa have been treated by many writers as being identical. Csoma de körös[361] calls this place as "Sāketan or Ayodhyā" and H.H. Wilson in his dictionary, refers to Sāketa as 'the city of Ayodhyā'. Several passages in the Raghuvaṁśa[362] confirm it. The Vividhatīrthakalpa mentions Sākeyam (Sāketa) as a synonym for Ayodhyā,[363] but in the Buddhist literature we find separate references to Ayodhyā and Sāketa which creates doubt about their identity and suggests that the two existed separately.[364] V. Pathak quotes a well known verse occurring in the Yuga Purāṇa, a section of Gārgī Saṁhitā,[365] to show that Sāketa is the same as Ayodhyā. But there is nothing in the passage to support the view.

The ancient city of Ayodhyā or Sāketa is described in the Rāmāyaṇa as situated on the banks of the Sarayū or Sarjū river.[366] During the Buddhist period, Ayodhyā was divided into