

created by Brahmā; (2) might not meet with death inside or outside, by day or night, by any weapon not on earth or in sky, by men or beasts, gods or asuras; (3) he was to be without an equal; (4) he should possess undiminishing power (5) and be the one ruler of all creatures.⁶ These were granted and Hiranyakaśipu spread his sway on all the worlds and took up the seat of Indra. All gods except the Triad bowed to him;⁷ father of four sons, chief of whom was Prahlāda whom he hated as he was a devotee of Hari. Śukra's sons Śaṇḍa and Marka were appointed to be his tutors to get a knowledge of Trivarga. This only increased Prahlāda's devotion. Hiranyakaśipu put it to some inborn defect of the boy. Means to kill the child by wild beasts, poison, fire and water were of no avail. He was bound by noose and imprisoned;⁸ when he was absent in Mandara hill Indra harassed his followers and captured his queen with Prahlāda. Nārada asked him to release her, which he did. She was under the custody of the sage, praying to him for the birth of a good son;⁹ in the course of his father's (Kaśyapa's) aśvamedha sacrifice, the child Hiranyakaśipu sat on one of the golden seats reserved for Hotṛ, and hence the name. Ruled for nearly ¼ of the manvantara, got aurvimāyā from Aurva to dispel;¹⁰ Tāmaśimāyā,¹¹ rivers, mountains, worlds, etc. shaken by him;¹² first of Daityas, killed by Narasimha whom he never considered as Viṣṇu;¹³ taken out by action of Yoganidrā under orders from Viṣṇu.¹⁴

¹ Bhā. III. 17. 18-19; IV. 21. 47; VI. 18. 11-12; M. 6. 8, 9; Vi. I. 15. 140. ² Bhā. VIII. 19. 7-9. ³ Ib. X. 85. 46-49; Vi. V. 1. 70. ⁴ Bhā. XII. 3. 11. ⁵ Ib. VII. 1. 39-45; Ch. 2 (whole). ⁶ Ib. I. Ch. 3 (whole): M. Chh. 161-3. ⁷ Bhā. VII. 4. 2, 28; M. 47. 35-59. ⁸ Bhā. VII. 4. 29-43; Ch. 5. (whole); M. 146. 21; 153. 6; Vi. I. 15. 142; 17. 2-29. ⁹ Bhā. VII. 7. 2-16. ¹⁰ Br. III. 5. 4-29, 34. ¹¹ M. 175. 25, 64-71; 178. 10 and 19. ¹² Ib. 163. 56-92. ¹³ Vi. IV. 14. 46-7; 15. 1, 5. ¹⁴ Ib. V. 1. 72-3.

Hiranyakaśipu (II)—father of Divyā, wife of sage Bhṛgu.

Br. III. 1. 74.