

from Brahmā to Vyāsa and then to Sūta,⁸ Purāṇakathas, the first of all Śāstras remembered by Brahmā, and afterwards the Vedas issued from his faces⁹ originally one and 100 crore slokas; treatise on Trivarga, during the disaster of the world by fire God Hayagrīva saved the Purāṇas among other sciences; again as Matsyajanārdana; in every dvāpara Vyāsa gives 18 versions of 4 lacs in verses, a summary account of the original now preserved in heaven; the names of 18 as given by Brahmā to Marīci in olden days;¹⁰ five limbs: sarga, pratisarga, vamsā, manvantara and vamsyānucarita; description of deities and gods, of caturvarga; to be divided into *sātvika* where Viṣṇu is much extolled; *rājasa* where Brahmā is much extolled and *tāmasa* where Agni and Śiva are much extolled; in others Śarasvatī and Pitr̥s are given (saṅkirṇa);¹¹ hearing of;¹² Bhaviṣya the most ancient of the Purāṇas;¹³ the Purāṇa version of Varāha Avatāra attributed to Brahmā;¹⁴ the Purāṇa in general partakes the character of the epoch in which it is composed;¹⁵ recital of, during śrāddha.¹⁶

¹ Br. I. 1. 39-40, 173; II. 21. 9, 37; 28, 96; 35. 63, 88; III. 19. 23; 42. 31; M. 3. 3; 53. 3-4, 9; Vā. 1. 11, 60; 9. 69. ² M. 53. 64-72; Vā. 95. 22; 104. 2, 11, 85, 108; Vi. III. 6. 20-25. Bhā. XII. 7. 22-4; 13. 9. ³ Ib. I. 1. 6; III. 12. 39. ⁴ Ib. VII. 14. 29; X. 69. 28. ⁵ Ib. X. 87. 43. ⁶ Vi. V. 20. 49. ⁷ Vā. 10. 70; 21. 3; 31. 30; 32. 67, 103. 44-5. ⁸ Br. IV. 2. 19; 4. 43-4, 58-67. ⁹ M. 1. 5; 2. 13; 17. 37; Vā. 56. 7; 61. 55, 78; 83. 53; 100. 33 ff. ¹⁰ M. 53. 3-12 and 13. ¹¹ Ib. 53. 65-69. ¹² Ib. 75. 6; 93. 3 and 7; 274. 38; 280. 12. ¹³ Ib. 58. 4, 50; 69. 18. ¹⁴ Ib. 247. 1, 5. ¹⁵ Ib. 290. 15. ¹⁶ Ib. 17. 37.

Purāṇalakṣanam—the ten characteristics of a Purāṇa; some speak of five characteristics only; the ten characteristics described.

Bhā. XII. 7. 8-21; Br. I. 1. 38.

Purāṇavettā—eligible for Pārvaṇa śrāddha; also Purāṇajña, Purāṇavid.

M. 16. 9; 44. 22. 57. 2; 60. 1: 289. 9.