

thousand years passed in this way and still he could conceive no end to his desires. The more they were gratified the more ardent they became. Seeing this the king suddenly renounced all sensual enjoyment and fixed his mind upon spiritual truth. He restored his youth to Puru, resumed his own decrepitude and departed to the wood of penance.

बचोश The foster-mother of Krishna.

कुंभिरि The eldest Pándava prince begotten on Kuntí by Dharma (यम). He was more distinguished for piety and truthfulness than for military exploits. Dhritarashtra installed him king at Váránásvata to avoid the jealousy of his sons. At this place an attempt was made to burn him and his brothers alive; but they escaped and removed to Indraprastha. Here the Pándavas established their supremacy and performed the *Rájasu'ya* sacrifice. This excited the jealousy of Duryodhana who arranged for Dharma's visit to a gambling match at Hastinápura. Through the treacherous contrivances of Duryodhana and S'akuni, Dharma lost every thing and had to go into exile with his wife and brothers. After thirteen years of great trouble the Pándavas opened negotiations for the partition of the kingdom, and being unsuccessful undertook the great *Bha'rati'* war. After eighteen days of severe fighting in the course of which the Kauravas were all slain, Yudhishthira was crowned emperor of Hastinápura and reigned justly and wisely for many years. (Also called धर्म).

सुवनाश A king of the Solar race, father of Mándhatri.

सु A distinguished king of the Solar race,

son of Dilipa and father of Aja. He was celebrated for his learning, his bravery, his liberality and his uniform success. He performed the *Vis'vajit* sacrifice and made over his whole substance to priests in the shape of *Dakshind*.

रुतिदेव A pious king of the Lunar race, sixth in descent from Bharata. He offered so many sacrifices that a river of blood is said to have sprung from the hides (hence called *धर्मपवती*) of the beasts slaughtered in his sacrifices. (Megh. i. 45.).

राम Son of Das'aratha by Kausalyā, the hero of the great epic *Ra'ma'yana*. When it was proposed to install Rāma as *yuvara'ja*, Kaikeyi, at the instigation of Mantharā, insisted, by the two boons previously promised to her by the king, on the exile of Rāma and the installation of Bharata as *yuvara'ja*. The old king was shocked at this unexpected request and tried his best to dissuade his wife from her evil intentions, but she proved inexorable. At last Rāma, to fulfil the word of his father, willingly went into exile accompanied by his young and beautiful wife Sitā and his brother Lakshmana. While in forest Sitā was carried off by Rāvana, king of Lankā. Rāma, assisted by numerous monkeys, built a bridge across the ocean, conquered Lankā, slew Rāvana and recovered his wife. At the expiration of the stated period of exile he returned to Ayodhyā and reigned for a long time, justly, happily and peacefully. He is believed to be the seventh incarnation of Vishnu.

रावण A celebrated demon, king of Lanka who recovered that city from his half-brother Kuvera and peopled it with his own relations, the *Ra'kshasas*. (See विष्वक् and मात्स्यवृक्ष).