

thas of Bengal.<sup>25</sup> 'Kuṇḍa' though originally a brāhmaṇa surname is now a non-brāhmaṇa surname in Bengal. Some of the people possessing the *kuṇḍa* surname are found to be oil-men by profession. Its corrupt form *kuṇḍu* is also found.

2. *Piccakuṇḍa* (No. 43, L. 12) :

*Picca* means 'the heaven or next birth'.<sup>26</sup> It can also be the corrupt form of '*pitṛ*' which means the fathers, forefathers, ancestors, especially the Pitris or deceased ancestors.<sup>27</sup>

3. *Pravarakuṇḍa* (No. 43, L. 12) :

*Pravara* means most excellent, chief, eminent, distinguished. We find several instances of the names of kings and places with the first part '*Pravara*'.<sup>28</sup>

4. *Śivakuṇḍa* (No. 43, L. 6) :

The name is based on the deity Śiva.

#### *Names ending in Mitra*

1. *Kṛṣṇamitra* (No. 43, L. 6) :

Literally it may mean 'one who loves Kṛṣṇa or is a friend of Kṛṣṇa'. It may signify devotion of *Sakhyabhāva*. It was also the name of the son of Rāmasevaka (grandson of Devidatta, author of the *Mañjūṣa Kuñcikā*).<sup>29</sup>

2. *Prabhamitra*<sup>30</sup> (No. 43, L. 6) :

*Prabha* is a Prakritised form of *Prabhu* meaning God. So the whole will mean 'God's friend'. Such names show devotion to the respective deities.

#### *Names ending in Nāga*

1. *Rājyanāga* (No. 43, L. 10) :

*Rājya* means 'kingly, princely or royal'; it also means 'kingdom, country or realm'.<sup>31</sup> *Nāga* means serpent. So the whole literally means 'a royal nāga'. *Nāga* is prefixed as well as suffixed to names. It shows a trend towards serpent worship. The use of *Rājya* as the first part of the name is also not without parallels.<sup>32</sup>

2. *Vīranāga* (No. 43, L. 10) :

*Vīra* means brave, eminent or chief. We can find many names with the first word '*Vīra*'. The whole literally means 'a brave or eminent serpent'.