

THE SPIRITUAL BEINGS LIVING ON THE SEVEN EARTHS ACCORDING TO THE VĀYU-PURĀṆA. Page 114.

Of the Dānavas—Namuci, Śaṅkukarṇa, Kabandha (?), Nishkukāda (?), Śūladanta, Lohita, Kaliṅga, Śvāpada ; and the master of the serpents—Dhanañjaya, Kāliya.

Of the Daityas—Surakshas, Mahājambha, Hayagrīva, Kṛishṇa, Janarta (?), Śaṅkhāksha, Gomukha ; and of the Rākshasa—Nīla, Megha, Krathanaka, Mahoshṇīsha, Kambala, Aśvatara, Takshaka.

Of the Dānavas—Rada (?), Anuhlāda, Agnimukha, Tārakāksha, Trīsira, Śiśumāra ; and of the Rākshasa—Cyavana, Nanda, Viśāla. And there are many cities in this world.

Of the Daityas—Kālanemi, Gajakarṇa, Uñjara (?); and of the Rākshasa—Sumāli, Muñja, Vrikavakra, and the large birds called Garuḍa.

Of the Daityas—Virocana, Jayanta (?), Agnijihva, Hiranyāksha ; and of the Rākshasa—Vidyujjihva, Mahāmegha ; the serpent Karmāra, Svastikajaya.

Of the Daityas—Kēsari ; and of the Rākshasa—Ūrdhvakuja (?), Śataśrīsha, i.e. having a hundred heads, a friend of Indra ; Vāsuki, a serpent.

The king Bali ; and of the Daitya Mucukunda. In this world there are many houses for the Rākshasa, and Viṣṇu resides there, and Śesha, the master of the serpents.

After the earths follow the heavens, consisting of seven stories, one above the other. They are called *loka*, which means “*gathering-place*.” In a similar manner also the Greeks considered the heavens as gathering-places. So Johannes Grammaticus says in his refutation of Proclus : “Some philosophers thought that the sphere called *γαλαξίας*, i.e. *milk*, by which they mean the milky way, is a dwelling-place for rational souls.” The poet Homer says : “Thou hast made the pure heaven an eternal dwelling-place for the gods. The winds do not shake it, the rains do not wet it, and the snow does not destroy it. For in it there is resplendent clearness without any covering cloud.”

Plato says : “God spoke to the seven planets : You are the gods of the gods, and I am the father of the actions ; I am he who made you so that no dissolution

On the seven heavens. Quotations from Johannes Grammaticus, Plato, and Aristotle.