

בהימה

מהאלים באת ואליהם תשוב - חלק ב' - מגזין את

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לצד צלם החיה מניחים ציור של **בהימה** (Bhima), אחד מגיבורי המהאבהרטה, האפוס - Jul 18, 2007
ההינדואי הארוך ביותר, העוסק בין השאר בארעיות הקיום האנושי ובאחרית גאולתו.

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האחרונים (Bhishma, Harischandra, Bhima) – מגיבורי המהבהראטה ראה פרק 44).

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Title: 527 Bheem Aur Hanuman, Author: Anant Pai, Hindi Title: 527 भीम और हनुमान,
Hindi Author: अनन्त पै, Language: Hindi, Length: 32 Pages.

Information about bhima (महाबली भीम) in hindi - Spiritual ...

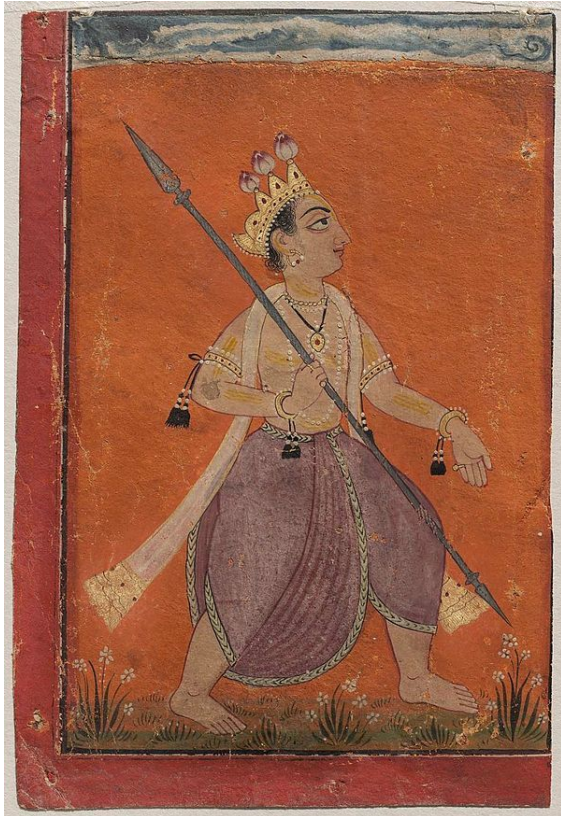
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Bhima

This article is about the character from the Mahabharata. For the river, see [Bhima River](#). For the moth, see [Bhima \(moth\)](#). For other uses, see [Bhima \(disambiguation\)](#).

In the Hindu epic Mahabharata, **Bhim** (Sanskrit: भीम,



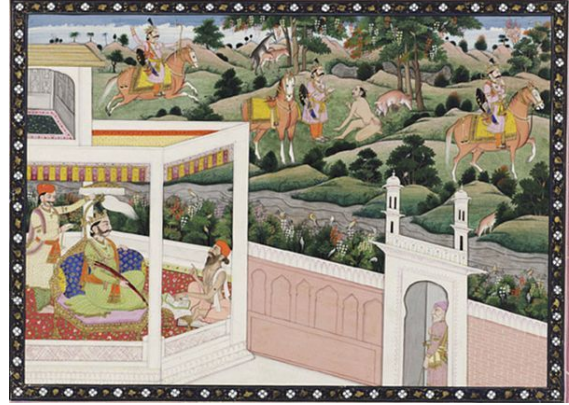
Bhimasena medieval depiction

IAST: *Bhīma*, Tibetan: མི་འཇིགས་སྡུག་, Wylie: *mi 'jigs stan*) (lit. 'terrible', 'awful'^[1]), also called **Vṛkōdara** (lit. 'one with a wolf's belly' also in [Javanese](#): Wrekudoro^[2]), is the second of the [Pandava](#) brothers.

The Mahabharata relates many events which portray the immense might of Bhima. One of the central reasons behind the envy of [Duryodhana](#) towards the Pandavas was the inability of the [Kauravas](#) to match Bhima's strength. Eventually Bhima is responsible for slaying all hundred [Kaurava](#) brothers in the [Kurukshetra War](#).

1 Birth and early years

Once a [Brahmin](#) [rishi](#), [Kindama](#) and his wife were making love in the forest when Bhima's father [Pandu](#) acciden-



Pandu Shoots the Ascetic Kindama



Child Bhima magic

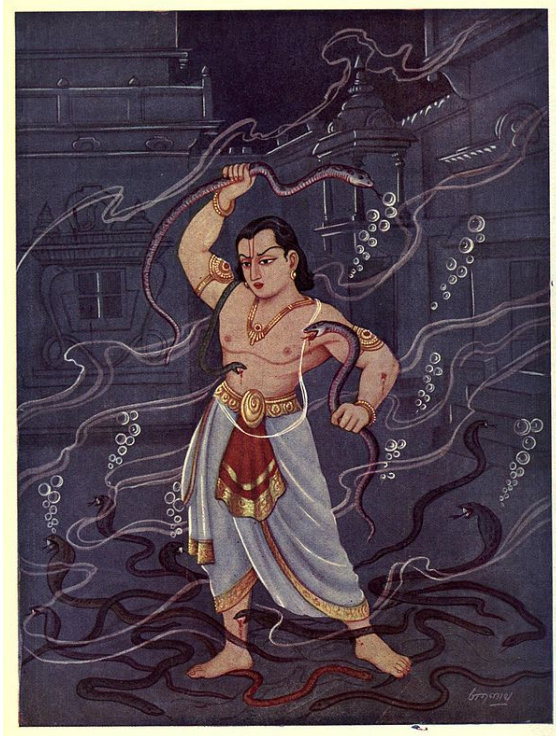
tally shot them, mistaking them for deer. Before dying, Kindama cursed the king to die when he engages in intercourse with any woman. Due to this curse, Pandu was unable to father children. As an additional penance for the murder, Pandu abdicated the throne of [Hastinapura](#) and his blind brother [Dhritarashtra](#) took over the reins of the kingdom.^[3]

After Pandu's disability, the Pandavas were conceived in an unusual way. His wife, Queen **Kunti**, had in her youth been granted the power to invoke the **Devas** by Rishi **Durvasa**. Each Deva, when invoked, would bless her with a child. Urged by Pandu to use her boons, Kunti gave birth to Bhima by invoking the God of wind, **Vayu**.

Along with other Pandava brothers, Bhima was trained in religion, science, administration and military arts by the Kuru preceptors, **Kripacharya** and **Dronacharya**. Specifically, he became a master in using the **mace**. Bhima's strong point throughout the epic remains his towering strength. He was so wrathful and strong that it was impossible even for **Indra** to subdue him in a battle.^[4]

Bhima was also renowned for his giant appetite – at times, half of the total food consumed by the Pandavas was eaten by him, which gave rise to his name of **Vrikodara**, (one with a wolf's belly).^[5]

2 Trouble with Kauravas



Bhima fighting with the Nagas

Bhima, being as powerful as his father, was a natural bully. He used to play practical jokes on the Kaurava brothers; he used to engage in wrestling bouts where he out-powered them with consummate ease.^{[6][7]}

His repeated failures and fecklessness against Bhima angered **Duryodana** so much that he wanted him dead. He hatched a cunning plot where he poisoned Bhima's food and drowned him in River **Ganga**. Thankfully, the Naga king **Vasuki** saved Bhima and also apprised him of Dury-

odana's hatred for him. It is also **Vasuki** who bestowed him the immense strength of a thousand elephants.^[8]

2.1 Escaping fire and killing Purochana



The Palace of the Pandava Brothers set ablaze

Duryodana with his counsellor **Purochana** hatched a plan to burn the Pandavas alive at a lac palace **lakshagraha** at Varnavrata that **Duryodana** had built there, (lacquer is highly inflammable). Thanks to **Vidura**, the Pandavas managed to escape out from the palace. **Bhima** played a major role in carrying all five of them (**Kunti** and brothers) and escaping to safety. **Bhima** also barricaded the palace of **Purochana** and set fire to it, thereby ensuring **Purochana** became a victim of his own evil plot.^[9]

2.2 Slaying Bakasura



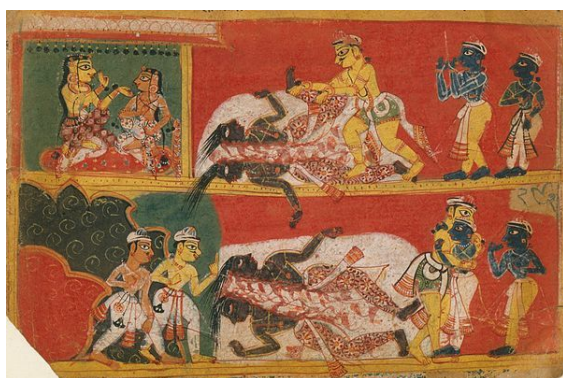
Bhima fighting with Bakasura

Kunti and the Pandavas were living in *agnyatavaasa* (living incognito) during their final year of 13 year exile. During their stay at **Ekachakra** or **kaiwara** (in Karnataka), they came to know of a demon, **Bakasura** who troubled people by eating out their provisions. The powerful **Bhima** brought his might to the fore and trumped **Bakasura**, much to the delight of the villagers.^[10]

3 Marriage and children

During this time, the Pandavas attended the Swayamvara of **Drupada** princess, **Draupadi**. The Pandavas, led by **Arjuna**, were successful at the Swayamvara. With his brothers, he was married to **Draupadi**, who gave birth to a son, **Sutasoma**. During this period, he also chanced upon the demoness **Hidimbi** whom he married. **Ghatotkacha** was the son born to the two of them. At a later stage, **Bhima** also married **Jalandhara**, the daughter of the king of **Kasi**, and had a son named **Sarvaga**.^[11] Among **Bhima**'s three sons, **Sarvaga** did not participate in the Kurukshetra war,^[12] while the two others were killed by **Karna** in the battle.

4 Conquest for Rajasuya



Bhima Slays Jarasandha



Bhima sena went on Rajasuyayaga

When **Yudhisthira** became emperor of **Indraprastha** he sent his four younger brothers out in different directions to subjugate kingdoms for the **rajasuya** sacrifice. **Bhima**

was sent out to the East, since **Bhishma** thought the easterners were skilled in fighting from the backs of elephants and in fighting with bare arms, he deemed **Bhima** to be the most ideal person to wage wars in that region.^[13] The **Mahabharata** mentions several kingdoms to the east of **Indraprastha** which were conquered by **Bhima**. Some of them are as listed:^[14]

- **Jarasandha** of the **Magadha** empire. This was the most important win, as **Jarasandha** had several allies in the region, including **Shishupala** and **Bhagadatta**. **Krishna** tricked **Jarasandha** into having a wrestling bout with **Bhima**. This was an agonizing battle that stretched for 13 long days. At the end, **Bhima** broke **Jarasandha**'s backbone with his knee and tore apart his body into two.^[15]
- **Panchalas**, **Gandakas**, **Videhas**
- **Dasarnas**, where the king called **Sudharman** with his bare arms fought a fierce battle with **Bhima**, who later appointed the mighty **Sudharman** as the first-in-command of his forces.
- **Rochamana**, the King of **Aswamedha**
- **Pulinda** in the south, Kings **Sukumara** and **Sumitra**
- **Sishupala** of **Chedi** Kingdom, (who welcomed **Bhima** and hosted and entertained him for thirty days)
- King **Srenimat** of the country of **Kumara**
- King **Vrihadvala** of **Kosala**
- King **Dirghayaghna** of **Ayodhya**
- King **Gopalakaksha** and the northern **Kosalas** and the king of **Mallas**
- Country of **Bhallata**, as also the mountain of **Sukti-manta**
- King **Suvahu** of **Kasi**
- King **Kratha** of **Suparsa**
- **Matsya**, **Maladas** and the country called **Madahara**, **Mahidara**, and the **Somadheyas**, **Vatsabhumi**, and the king of the **Bhargas**, as also the ruler of the **Nishadas** and **Manimat**
- Southern **Mallas** and the **Bhagauanta** mountain.
- **Sarmakas** and the **Varmakas**
- **Janaka**, the King of the **Videhas**
- **Sakas** and other barbarians
- Seven kings of the **Kiratas** living around the **Indra** mountain



King Yudhishthira Performs the Rajasuya Sacrifice

- Kings Danda, Dandadhara and Girivaraja
- King of Madagiri
- King of **Pundra** and King Mahaujah who reigned in Kausika-kachchha
- King of **Vanga**
- Samudrasena, Chandrasena and Tamralipta
- King of the Karvatas and of the **Suhmas** and the **Pra-suhmas**
- **Mlechchha** tribes along the coast

5 Exile



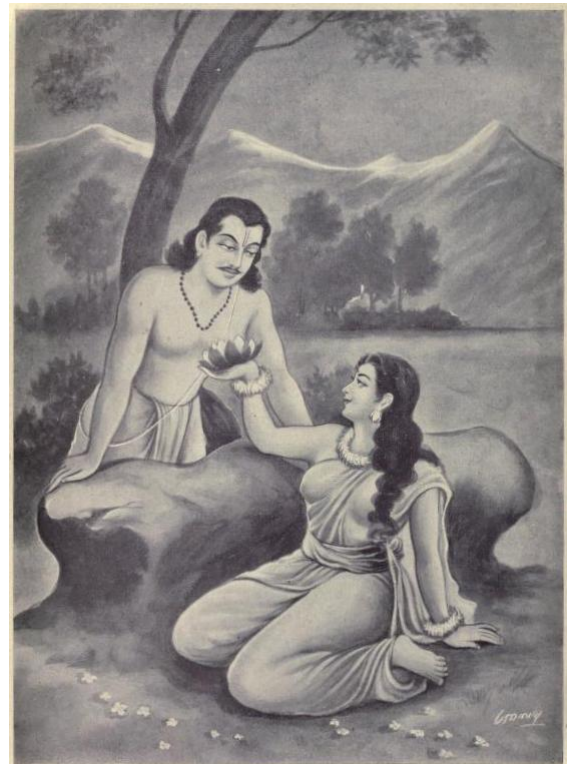
Pandavas in Exile

After Yudhishthira succumbed to Shakuni's challenge in the game of dice, the Pandavas were forced into exile for 13 years, one of which was in anonymity. The exile period in the forests, saw the Pandavas come face to face with many **rakshasas** and **asuras** and Bhima played a crucial role in the epic in rescuing his brothers every time.

5.1 Slaying Kirmira

Right at the start of the exile, in the woods of Kamyaka, the Pandavas encountered the demon **Kirmira**, the brother of **Bakasura** and a friend of **Hidimba**. A fierce battle ensued between Bhima and the demon, where the two equally matched fighters hurled rocks and trees at each other. Eventually Bhima emerged victorious.^[16]

5.2 Searching for Saugandhika flower



Draupadi showing the flowers to Bhima

Once in Badarikasrama forest, Draupadi scented the Saugandhika flower and was deeply attracted to it. The lotus species was not to be located easily. Bhima went in search of the flower and ended up at **Kubera's** palace. He was stopped in his tracks by the **rakshasas** called **Krodhavasas**, but he defeated them all and reached the lotus pond. He also slew the rakshasa **Maniman** a wicked demon, who had in the past, incurred a curse from Rishi **Agastya** by spitting on his head. Being unused to the water of the pond, Bhima fell asleep on its shore. Later the Pandavas arrived with Krishna and Draupadi in search of Bhima. They met Kubera who offered them baskets of Saugandhika lotuses and sent them on their way. Kubera was especially happy, as the slaughter of Maniman had relieved him of the curse too.^[17] It was also during this search that Bhima met **Hanuman** (his brother, as both were Vayu's children) in the forest and sought his blessings.

5.3 Killing Jatasura

In another minor incident in the epic, **Jatasura**, a **rakshasa** disguised as a Brahmin abducted Yudhishthira, Arjuna, Draupadi and the twin brothers, Nakula and Sahadeva during their stay at Badarikasrama. His objective was to seize the weapons of the Pandavas and to ravish Draupadi. Bhima, who was gone hunting during the abduction, was deeply upset when he came to know of Jatasura's evil act on his return. A fierce encounter followed between the two gigantic warriors, where Bhima emerged victorious by decapitating Jatasura and crushing his body.^{[18][19]}



Bhima slaughtering his enemies

5.4 Humiliation of Jayadratha

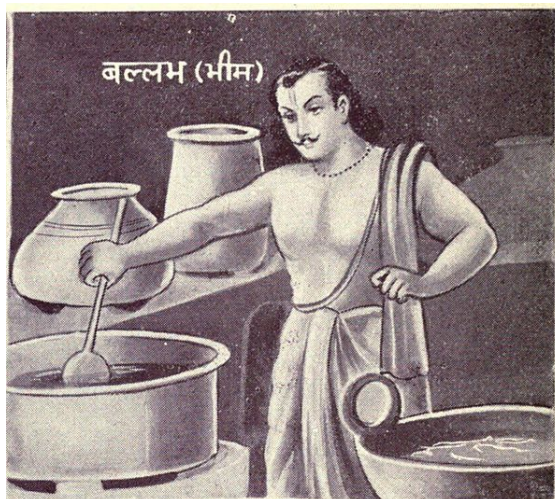
In another event in the Kamyaka forests, **Jayadratha**, a **Sindhu King**, abducted Draupadi when the Pandavas were away. On returning, the Pandavas learnt about this from Sage **Dhaumya**, followed and reached Jayadratha's army in the forest. They vanquished his army and he was nabbed by Bhima. Before Bhimasena was about to kill him, Yudhishthira told him not kill him, because he was their brother-in-law. Bhimasena humiliated him by shaving his head and leaving him with just five patches of hair. Jayadratha later plays a major role in the Kurukshetra War in slaying **Abhimanyu**, but is later trounced by Arjuna, the only Pandava he could not conquer.

5.6 Defeating Jimuta

Once during a great festival, people from neighbouring countries had come to the kingdom of Virata. There was a wrestling bout where a wrestler from a different state, Jimuta proved to be invincible. Much to the delight of King **Virata** and his subjects, Bhima challenged Jimuta and knocked him out in no time. This greatly enhanced the reputation of the Pandavas in an unfamiliar territory.^[21]

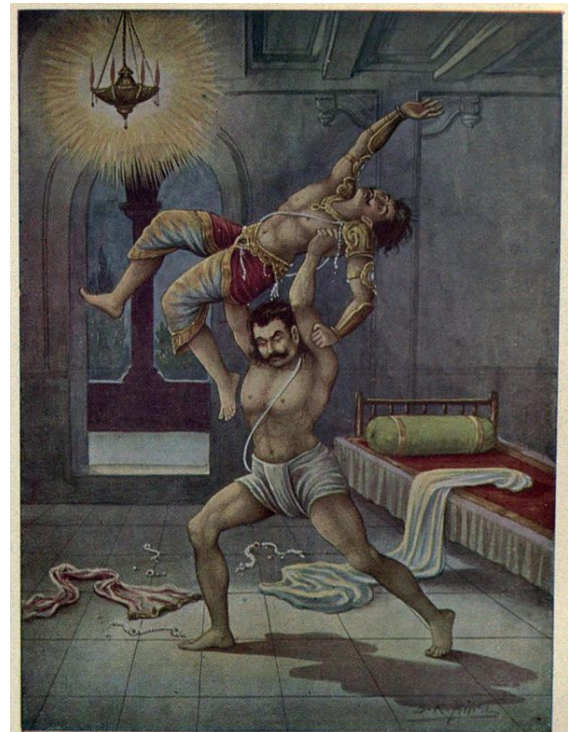
5.7 Kichaka Vadha

5.5 Cook at Virata's kingdom



Bhima as cook Vallabh

Along with his brothers, Bhima spent his last year of exile in the kingdom of Virata. He disguised himself as a cook named **Vallabh** (within themselves Pandavas called him **Jayanta**).^[20]



Death of Kichaka

Kichaka, the army commander of Virata, tried to sexually assault Draupadi, who was under the guise of a maid named **Sairindhri**. Draupadi reported this incident to

Bhima. Bhima covered himself with silk robes. He slew him the moment he tried to touch him. Kickaka was crushed and slaughtered in to a meat ball by Bhima. Later Kichaka's allies plotted to murder Sairindri, but Bhima vanquished all of them. ^[22]

5.8 Susarma's defeat



Bhima kicked Susharma

The archenemy of Virata was King **Susharma Chand** of the **Trigarta Kingdom**, under the aegis of Duryodana, waged a battle against Virata by stealing the cows in his kingdom. Bhima lead the other Pandavas and Virata, and helped to rout the army of Susarma easily. Before he was about to strangle Susarma to death, Yudhistira told him to spare him.

By this time, the 13-year exile period was completed and the rivalry between the siblings was renewed.

6 During the Kurukshetra War

The flag of Bhima's chariot bore the image of a gigantic lion in silver with its eyes made of lapis lazuli. ^{[23][24]} Some of Bhima's major onslaughts during the war are as under.

- Bhima defeated **Karna** five times in Kurukshetra.
- On the 15th day, he killed the elephant **Ashwathama**, an important but indirect cause for the death of **Drona**.
- Bhima was the only warrior who refused to submit to the 'invincible' narayanastra launched by **Ashwathama**.
- On the final day of the battle, Bhima fought Duryodana and he struck both his thighs with his mace. Thus, he fulfilled the vow he took during Draupadi's undressing.
- Bhima slew Bahlika, the king of Bahlika kingdom and paternal uncle of **Bhishma**.



Bhima Killing Duryodhana

- Bhima slew **Dushasana**, the Kaurava most responsible for undressing Draupadi.
- Bhima is credited with killing all 100 sons of **Dhritrashtra** and **Gandhari**.

7 Later years and death

After the war, **Dhritarashtra** was enraged by Bhima's slaying of all his sons. He tried to crush Bhima, but Krishna, sensing his anger, asked Bhima to show Dhritarashtra an iron statue of his. Dhritarashtra crushed the statue into pieces, but later realised his folly and apologised to Bhima.

Yudhisthira appointed Bhima as the Yuvaraj of Hastinapur after taking charge. ^[25] Upon the onset of the **Kali yuga** Bhima and other Pandavas retired, leaving the throne to their only descendant to survive the war of Kurukshetra, Arjuna's grandson **Parikshit**. Giving up all their belongings and ties, the Pandavas, accompanied by a dog, made their final journey of pilgrimage to the **Himalayas**.

Bhima is the fifth one to fall after **Draupadi**, **Nakula**, **Sahadeva** and **Arjuna**. When Bhima tires and falls down, he asks his elder brother why he, Bhima, is unable to complete the journey to heaven. Yudhisthira explains his



The blind Dhritarashtra attacks the statue of Bhima

brother's vice of gluttony, who used to eat too much without thinking about the hunger of others.

8 Citations

- [1] edited, translated by Winthrop Sargeant ;; Smith, with a preface by Christopher Key Chapple; foreword by Huston (2009). *The Bhagavad Gita* (25th anniversary ed. ed.). Albany: State University of New York Press. p. 24. ISBN 9781438428420.
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- [6] Rao., Shanta Rameshwar (1985). *The Mahabharata (Illustrated)*. Orient Blackswan. pp. 25–26. ISBN 9788125022800.
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- [8] Menon, [translated by] Ramesh (2006). *The Mahabharata : a modern rendering*. New York: iUniverse, Inc. p. 103. ISBN 9780595401871.
- [9] “Mahabharata Text”.
- [10] “Mahabharata Text”.
- [11] “Mahabharata Text”.
- [12] Mittal, J.P. (2006). *History of ancient India: a new version*. New Delhi: Atlantic. p. 546. ISBN 9788126906161.
- [13] “Mahabharata Text”.
- [14] “Mahabharata Text”.
- [15] “Mahabharata Text”.
- [16] “Mahabharata Text”.
- [17] “Mahabharata Text”.
- [18] “Mahabharata Text”.
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- [20] Kapoor, edited by Subodh (2002). *The Indian encyclopaedia : biographical, historical, religious, administrative, ethnological, commercial and scientific* (1st ed. ed.). New Delhi: Cosmo Publications. p. 4462. ISBN 9788177552577.
- [21] “Mahabharata Text”.
- [22] Menon, [translated by] Ramesh (2006). *The Mahabharata : a modern rendering*. New York: iUniverse, Inc. p. 645. ISBN 9780595401871.
- [23] “Mahabharata Text”.
- [24] Kapoor, edited by Subodh (2002). *The Indian encyclopaedia : biographical, historical, religious, administrative, ethnological, commercial and scientific* (1st ed. ed.). New Delhi: Cosmo Publications. p. 4462. ISBN 9788177552713.
- [25] “Mahabharata Text”.

[Somashekhar Kurtokotimath]

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