J

JABALA—A slave girl, mother of an illegitimate but otherwise well known son Satyakama. (Chhandogya)

JADAV RANI JASKUNWARI—One of the 13 queens of Raja Jaswant Singh; she with 10 other queens became Sati.

JAGADDHATRI—Protectress of the world. An epithet given to both Durga and Saraswati.

JAGMOHINI—Wife of Keshab Chander Sen, a great figure in Calcutta of 19th century.

JAGANNATHAN A. W.—The first Indian woman to cross the waters to study medicine in Scotland.

JAGANMATRI—Mother of the world; name of Parvati.

JAGAT GOSAIN—Rajput princess, daughter of Mota Raja Uday Singh and wife of Jehangir.

JAHANARA BEGUM—Favourite sister of Dara Sukoh. She was severely burnt but was cured by an ointment. She gave company to her father Shahjehan when he was confined by Aurangzeb.

JAHANARA JAIPAL SINGH—Member of Rajya Sabha from Bihar.

JAHATIPATI (OR CHHITAI)—Daughter of Ram Chandra, king of Devagiri.

JAI VAKEEL—She opened India’s first Home for Mentally Handicapped Children in Bombay. (20th C)

JAIJI-JEHANGIR—A social and political reformer.

JAHAN BANO BEGUM—Daughter of Prince Murad; wife of Prince Parwez and mother of Nadira Begum.

JAISHRI RAIJI—Social and political worker of Bombay, was actively interested in co-operative movement in forties.

JAISIA—Daughter of sister of Rai Dahir (king of Sind);
she was captured by Kasim’s army and sent to Hajjaj who sent her to the Khalifa. When the Khalifa saw her, he was struck by her beauty and charm, and in astonishment he began to bite his finger. But he gave her to his nephew Abdulla bin Abbas who expressed the desire of taking her.

JAKABBA—(i) Daughter of Ratta Bhammaha; wife of Taila II; mother of Satyasraya and Dasavarman (known as Yasovarman). (10th C)  
(ii) Queen of Chalukya Tailapa. (11th C)  
JALHANA—Wife of Chalukya Kumarapala. (12th C)  
JAMA (OR JAMI)—Daughter of Daksa; married to Dharma; her sons were Navavithis.

JAMALAJA—One of the ten daughters of Raudrasva.  
JAMBAVATI—Daughter of Jambavan given in marriage to Krishna. She claimed Syamantaka as her Sulka. Mother of Samba, Purajit and Dravida.

JAMIL (OR BADI-UL-JAMAL)—Beautiful hand maiden of Saif-ul-Mulk, a rich merchant. When he reached Thatta, Dula Rai, the local ruler, asked for Jamil’s surrender. The merchant asked for three days’ time. In the meantime he turned the course of his boats towards Bhakkar and fled.

JAMILA—A young Pathan woman from U.P. who took part in Great Revolt of 1857 against British Rule; was captured by the British and executed on the gallows.

JAMMI—Girl who instigated Kanru to meet Chanesar. (See Kanru).

JAMNABAI NAGINDAS SAKKI—She started the Gujarat Hindu Stri Maha Mandal at Bombay in 1904 and helped in setting up a Seva Sadan.

JANABAI—Saint of Pandharpur (Maharashtra). She was a disciple of Namadev. She was daughter of Damaji and Karund of Gangakheda, great devotees of Vitthal. When she was only 6, her father took her to the house of Namadev where she worked as a home maid all her life. She called herself ‘Dasi Jani’. Though illiterate, she composed many abhangas (verses) about God. However, she was not a blind devotee and understood the relation of the individual soul and the universal soul and the Maya of the universe.
JANAK KUMARI ZUTSHI—Daughter of the famous Lado Rani Zutshi of Lahore; professor in a college; she was sentenced for picketing educational institutions.

JANAKI—(i) Daughter of King Janaka of Mithila. Sita’s other name. (See Sita)

(ii) Sister of Darohar Rai, king of Kuraj in Sindh (8th C). When prince Jaisiya, son of Dahir of Sindh, came to take shelter in Kuraj, she fell in love with Jaisiya and in the night went to his place. He asked the princess “what had brought you here.” She replied that the purpose of a woman’s visit was obvious. Jaisiya said, “I cannot consort with any woman other than my own lawful and wedded wife.” She told him that in that case she would see that he was destroyed. She then feigned to her brother that she had been molested by Jaisiya. He thought over and planned to punish him. But Jaisiya escaped to Kassa. Later she was sent with Dahir’s wife and daughter by Kasim to the Khilifa at Baghdad. When Kasimi’s body was brought sewn in hide, Janaki put off her veil and explained to the Khalifa that she had not been even touched by them. Khalifa asked the daughter of Dahir to be converted to Islam. On her refusal the two women were murdered.


(iv) Freedom fighter (1942); shot dead by police in Balia distt.

JANAKI AMMAL—(i) Wife of Guruswamy Naidu. Joined the movement in 1937; took part in Civil Disobedience Movement 1939; was arrested and sentenced in 1940 and later in 1943. She joined Communist Party and was kept as detenu for 4 years.

(ii) Wife of R. Ramasamy. Took part in the Civil Disobedience Movement, 1932; was arrested and sentenced.

(iii) Wife of Ramamirtham. Joined the movement in 1930, took part in boycott of foreign cloth and courted imprisonment.

JANAKI AMMAL C.K., Dr.—Director, Central Botanical Laboratory, in the Botanical Survey of India.

JANAKI DEVI BAJAJ—Prominent social worker; wife
of Jamnalal Bajaj, an associate of Gandhi; on her husband’s
death she joined the Bhooman movement. She was decorated
with the Padma Vibhushana.

JANAPAD KALYANI—Wife of Nanda who remembered
her even after he had renounced the world.

JAHNAVI—Daughter of Jahnu, wife of Santanu, mother
of Devavrata (Bhishma). (Purana)

JALAVASINI—Devi, wife of Krishna. (Purana)

JANI BEGUM—Daughter of Abdur Rahim Khan Khana
wife of Prince Danial.

JANNAMMAL—Daughter of Justice Bashyam Iyergar;
took part in Civil Disobedience Movement, 1932; was arrested
and imprisioned.

JARA—Rakshasi who picked up the two parts of Braha-
dratha’s son and gave him life. He was the future king Jara-
sandha who fought in Mahabharata.

JARAMDHARA—Daughter of Satyabhama.

JARATAKARU—Sister of Basuki; husband’s name Jara-
takaru, son’s Astika.

JASMA ODE—A beautiful married woman of a sched-
duled caste whom king Siddharaja Solanki of Gujarat wanted
to marry. She cursed him for his evil designs.

JATILA—Daughter of Gotama; a virtuous wife of seven
husbands.

JATILAGAHYIYA—A nun, adherent of the sect of the
melted hair aetics. Ananda talked to her about Buddha’s
teaching.

JAWAHIR—An influential dancing girl of Daulatrao
Scindia and later of Surji Rao, a minister. (19th C)

JAYA—(i) Mind-born mother. (Purana)
(ii) Companion of Parvati. (Purana)
(iii) Mother goddess enshrined at Varahasaila. (Purana)
(iv) Mother of Vasupujya, 11th Arhat of the Jains.

JAYA SUBRAMANIAN—Wife of Dr. M. Subraman-
ian of Tamilnadu; joined the movement in 1940. Took part
in Individual Satyagraha, 1941; was arrested and sentenced.

JAYADEVI—Of Kashmir; she was daughter of Uppa.
Her beautiful form and figure charmed king Lalitaditya who
married her. She was mother of Chippata-Jayapida, king of Kashmir.

JAYALAKSHMI—Member of Lok Sabha, from Tamilnadu.

JAYALAKSHMI, A.C.—Wife of A. K. Chandrasekhara Mudaliar of Tamilnadu, Took part in Individual Satyagraha, 1941; was arrested and sentenced.


JAYANTI—(i) Daughter of Indra and wife of Sukra.
(ii) Wife of Risabha and mother of Malaya and Antariksha. (Purana)
(iii) Mother goddess enshrined at Hastinapura. (Purana)
(iv) Wife of Vrisabharaja and daughter of Kasi. (Purana)
(v) Sister of king Satani; she used to discuss with Mahavira the problems of life and death; she ultimately gave up her life in the palace with its royal comforts and joined the order of nuns. (6th C.B.C)

JAYANTI DEVI—Wrote devotional songs in Marathi.

JAYAPRADA DEVI—A minister in the Andhra Pradesh government.

JAYATALLDEVI—Queen of Tej Singh; mother of Rawal Samar Singh of Chittor. She constructed a Jain temple. (13-14th C)

JAYAVATI PRANLAL DEVAKARAN NANJI—Social worker of Bombay; also a writer.

JAYAWATI SANGHVI—Freedom fighter; while a student she took part in the Quit India Movement; died due to the effects of tear-gas used by the police on a procession against the British rule on 6 April, 1943.

JAHANARA BEGUM—Daughter of Shahjehan.

JEHANARA SHAH—Was invited to take part in the discussions of Round Table Conference convened in London to examine India's political needs and aspirations.

JENNY SANDISON (Mrs. Boland)—A well known tennis-player; she was champion for many years.
JENU VESUGAR—An educationist; was Director of the J. N. Tata Education Endowment Fund. (20th C)

JETHI LILAVATI—Member of the Gujarat Sevika Sangh, took part in the Nationalist activities. Participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930), seriously wounded in lathi charge by the police while she was attending a public meeting at Calcutta in 1932, and she succumbed to her injuries.

JIJABAI—(i) One of the two wives of saint Tukaram. Though she was haughty, she looked after him well. The other wife Rukmini died in the famine.

(ii) Daughter of Lakhhoji Jadavrao, a Maratha sardar of Ahmednagar. She was married to Shahaji and gave birth to Shivaji in 1627. She infused Shivaji with patriotic feelings.

JIJI ANAGA—The most important among Akbar's nurses. Her husband Shams-ud-din had saved Humayun from drowning after the battle of Kannauj in 1540; was subsequently given the title Atga Khan.

JINDAN RANI—Widow of Maharaja Ranjit Singh and mother of Maharaja Dulceep Singh. She was a daughter of the dog-keeper of Ranjit Singh. She was endowed with extraordinary beauty and great talent. While young, she captivated Ranjit Singh so much that she smote his other wives with jealousy. Ranjit Singh dispatched her to Amritsar on a monthly allowance of Rs. 8000 entrusting her to the care of Dhyan Singh. Ultimately they were married. On his death she became regent and took a lover Lal Singh and appointed him as her Chief Adviser. But he was a coward. When the English gained power in Punjab, she was imprisoned. She however, escaped and took asylum in Nepal. In 1857-58 she wrote letters in cypher to Maharaja of Kashmir exhorting him to attack the British territory. But she was kept under strict surveillance and was not allowed to come to India or to communicate with anybody in India nor with her son in England. The British feared that her return to Punjab would excite national feelings. Rani Jindan finally went to England and died in 1863. She was a capable and courageous woman but her amours and intrigues with unworthy people stood in the way of her playing an effective part in the administration of the country.
JINDATTA—She drew Isidasi to the Buddhist order.
JIVA—Wife of Kumaryana and mother of Kumrajiva; sister of king Kuch.
JIVAKALI—A Sakti.
JNANA SUNDARI—of Kumbhakonam; a writer.
(19-20th C)

JODHA BAI—Daughter of Raja Beharimal of Jaipur married to Akbar. Also known as Jagat Gosain. Akbar married two other Rajput princesses of Bikanar and Jaisalmer.

JOGINI—A sorceress in the fort of Alor in Sindh who replied to a query about Dahir’s whereabouts that he was dead. (8th C)

JOORAWUN MUSAMMAT—Malguzarin of Konderi; her daughter was carried off from Jaitpur and put to death by revolutionaries.

JOSHIBEN—She marched with other ladies and asked dealers in foreign cloth to abandon the trade as it was impoverishing the country.

JUHU—Famous for her version in the Rigveda.
JUTHIKA RAY—A musician.

JVALAMALINI—Yakshini of Chandraprabha, 8th Arhat of the Jains. (Dig).

JVALANA—Wife of Anayu and daughter of Takshaka; mother of Antinara. (Purana)

JVALAMUKHI—Mother-goddess. (Purana)

JVALAMALINIKHA—An Akshara Devi; Trikarnika; a commander of Bhanada. (Purana)

JYESTHAS—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

JYATPORE, RANI OF—She had lost her Raj. In 1857 uprise, she led an army and established herself at Jyatpore. Later she was expelled from there.

JYOTI VENKATACHALAM—Minister in Rajaji’s cabinet in 1951.

JYOTIKANTA DUTTA—A revolutionary from Bengal; suffered imprisonment in early forties.

JYOTIRMAYEE GANGULI (1889-1945)—Daughter of Shri Dwarkanath Ganguli of Calcutta; took prominent part in...
social and political activities. Resigned from Govt. service and participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930); led a procession of students on Nov. 21, 1945 at Calcutta demanding the release of soldiers of the Indian National Army held in prison by the British authorities. Knocked down and killed by a Military truck on Nov. 22, 1945, while leading a procession carrying the body of a student killed by the Police the previous day.

JYOTSNAMUKHI—Mind-born mother.

K

KADAMBARI—Daughter of Chitra-ratha and Madira; character in Bana’s work of the same title.

KADAMBINI GANGULY—The first woman doctor of India.


KADRU—Wife of Kasyapa (R. V.) and mother of Nagas. (Purana)

(ii) One of the daughters of Daksa; wife of Tarksya, mother of Nagas, birds, snakes etc. (Purana)

KAHLON RANI (also known as Shubh Devi)—Wife of Maharaja Ranbir Singh of Kashmir.

KAIKASI—Daughter of Malin; wife of Visravas; mother of Ravana, Kumbhkarna and Vibhishana (sons) and Surpanakha (daughter).

KAIKEYI—(i) One of the three wives of Dasaratha, king of Ayodhya; mother of Bharata and step-mother of Rama. She accompanied her husband in war and while one of the wheels of his chariot was stuck up, she supported it with her arms. Pleased with this, Dasaratha promised her to ask for three boons any time. When Dasaratha decided to coronate Rama, on the instigation of her maid servant Manthara, she asked for Rama’s exile and Bharata’s coronation. Later, she repented.
(ii) Surname of Bhadra, a wife of Krishna.

KAKUBHI—Daughter of Daksa and a wife of Dharma; mother of Samkata. (Purana)

KALA—Daughter of Kardama; married to Maricha, bore two sons, Kasyapa and Purniman. (Purana)

(ii) Mother of Kalakeyas. (Purana)

(iii) Daughter of Puru. (Parana)

KA (KA) LAJANGHIKA—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

KALAKA—Daughter of Vaisvanara; wife of Maricha who was the author of a Purana; mother of Kalkeyas. (Purana)

KALANTAKI—A Sakti.

KALAPARNI—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

KALASAMKARSANI—Goddess (Sakti) from the back part of Nrasimha; a follower of Vagisha. (Purana)

KALAVATI—Daughter of Chandraka Chahamana and wife of Pratihar Bhoja I of Kanauj.

KALI—(i) Mother goddess, a Varna Sakti; a goddess enshrined at Kalanjara; took part in Taraka Maya and enveloped the whole in darkness. (Purana)

(ii) Wife of Darukti and mother of Bhaya. (Purana)

(iii) One of the wives of Bhimasena and mother of Sarvagatha. (Purana)

(iv) Yakshini of Suparsvanatha, 8th Arhat of the Jains.

(v) Servant of Videhika whose patience was exhausted by her behaviour and she struck her. (Majjhima)

(vi) A well-known courtesan of Varanasi who tried to restrain her brother from bad path. (Jataka)

(vii) A Buddhist lay woman who received an inspiring exposition of verse from Maha-kachana.

KALIKA—(i) Deity; according to the Kalika Purana, Yoga-nidra and Maya of Vishnu; daughter of Himavant; according to Maha-Bhagvat. Kali is Parabrahman as well as the wife and Sakti of Siva; she appears as the tenth Mahavidyas. (See Uma)

(ii) Yakshini of Abhinandana, 4th Arhat of the Jains.

(iii) A daughter of Vaisvanara, after her came the Kalakeya Ausras. (Purana)
KALINDI—Daughter of the sun god wandering in the forest in quest of Krishna. She expressed her feelings to Arjuna who was there with Krishna; Krishna latter married her; welcomed by Draupadi to Hastinapura; mother of Purnamasa. *(Purana)*

KALPANA—Mind-born mother. *(Purana)*

KALPANA DUTTA—A famous revolutionary from Bengal. She was arrested in connection with the Chittagong armoury. While in school she wanted to change the pledge “to be loyal to God and King” to “to be loyal to God and country”. She joined Calcutta University and became a member of the Ladies’ Association and took training in lathi and sword-play. In 1929 she came in contact with revolutionaries but did not accept their card till 1931. She was afterwards often seen in male dress near Pahartali and was kept under police watch. She was sent up for trial and little later in connection with the Chittagong Armoury Supplementary trials and was sentenced to transportation for life. On release she worked for the Communist party. In 1942 she had to leave for Chittagong under Government Orders but even there she carried on her work secretly.

KALSI DEVI—Mother of saint Raidas.

KALYA—Wife of Parasara and mother of Krishnadvaipayana, a Risika. *(Purana)*

KALYAMMA—A Kannade writer. *(20th C)*

KALYANI—(i) Wife of Dhara. *(Purana)*

(ii) Goddess enshrined at Malaya Hill, a follower of Maya. *(Purana)*

KALYANI AMMA—A Malayalam-fiction writer, *(20th C)*

KALYANI DAS—A Bengali sentenced to transportation for life for her nationalist activities.

KALYANADEVI—Queen of Lakshman-sena of Bengal. *(12th C)*

KARNABAI LAKSHMAN RAO—A honorary magistrate which office she resigned when she saw women being badly treated in 1930.
KAMACHARINI—Goddess enshrined at Mandava Hill. *(Purana)*

KAMADHENU—Goddess following Revati. *(Purana)*

KAMADUGH—A daughter of Rohini. *(Purana)*

KAMADYU—Daughter of Purnamitra; much against her father's will, she was taken as bride by one Vimada. *(Rigveda)*

KAMAKSHI—Of Tamilnadu (Hayavaram), did glosses on Tarka and Advaita Vedanta.

KAMAKSHI JAYARAMAN—A social worker; Mayor of Madras.

KAMAL RANIVE Dr(Mrs)—Known for her researches in Cancer; Head of the Biology Division of the Cancer Research Institute, Bombay.

KAMALA—(i) Apsaras. *(Purana)*

(ii) Goddess enshrined at Kamalalaya. *(Purana)*

(iii) A well known Bharatanatyam dancer of Madras, Director of Bharatha Natyalaya, produced dance-dramas; awarded Padma Bhushan (1970).

KAMALA BENIWAL—A Minister of State of Rajasthan government.

KAMALA CHATTERJEE—Bengali revolutionary; she served imprisonment in early forties for her activities.

KAMALA DEVI—(i) Queen of Gujarat; wife of Karna and daughter of Ramachandra of Devagiri; later the favourite wife of Ala-ud-Din.

(ii) Took active part in the youth league movement in the forties of 20th century.

(iii) Wife of Maheshwar Arya; joined the Freedom Movement in 1930; took part in toddy shop picketing and foreign cloth boycotting; arrested and sentenced to jail, in 1932, and to 6 months in 1941 under Defence of India Rule; kept in Vellore Women’s Jail and Cuddalore Jail.

KAMALA DEVI CHATTOPADHAYAY—Participated in the freedom movement and was jailed many times; was president of All India Women’s Conference; she set up the National Theatre Centre; was awarded Padma Bhushan in
1955; received Watumull and Magasasay awards for community leadership.

KAMALA DEVI CHOUDHARANI—A Hindi writer.

KAMALA KUMARI—Member of Lok Sabha from Bihar.

KAMALA MARKANDEYA—A novelist; writer of English.

KAMALA NEHRU—Wife of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and mother of Indira Gandhi; organised women volunteers, peasants and students in no-tax campaign. Presided over U. P. Women’s Political Conference; was the dictator of the War Council; arrested in 1931. When a pressman asked her for message, she said, “I am happy beyond measure and proud to follow in the footsteps of my husband. I hope the people will keep the flag flying.” Served many jail terms.

KAMALA SETHANADHAN—Pioneer in women’s education in India. She was also the first woman editor of a journal.

KAMALA BAI—Wife of S. Lakshmana Rao of Tamilnadu; took part in Civil Disobedience Movement of 1931-1932.

KAMALABAI HospET—A prominent social worker of Madhya Pradesh.

KAMALABAI KIBE—A social worker.

KAMALABAI LAKSHMAN RAO—was Honorary Magistrate of Tinnevelly.

KAMALAKSHI AMMAL, S.M.K.—Wife of Kumara-swami; joined the freedom movement in 1930 and took part in foreign cloth boycott, 1930. Courted imprisonment and kept in Vellore jail.

KAMALAMALINI—Wife of Ghatotkacha-

KAMALAMMA SATYAVATI—A dictator of War Council. (20th C)

KAMALAMMAL, W.K. SUBRAMANIAM—Joined the movement in 1930; took part in Salt Satyagraha (1930) and toddy-shop picketing (1932); courted imprisonment twice.

KAMALENDUMATI SHAH—Rajmata of Tehri Garhwal; a prominent social worker among hill women; was M.P.
KAMALAI—Daughter of King Renuka of Ikhsvaku line; (hence Renuka), wife of Jamadagni and mother of Parasurama. (Purana)

KAMALJABAI—Shivaji's daughter from his fourth wife Sakwarbai: wife of Janoji Palkar.

KAMALJEET SANDHU—400-m. sprint gold medallist of the Asian Games at Bangkok (1970).

KAMALOLAPALHASTIKA—Goddess following Maya. (Purana)

KAMANDAKI—Love-torn woman adopted as a character in a Sanskrit drama of Bhavabhuti.

KAMARUPA—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

KAMATCHI AMMAL—Daughter of Venkatappaya of Tamilnadu; took part in Civil Disobedience Movement 1930 and 1932; was arrested and sentenced to jail.

KAMDAR (Mrs)—Director of the War Council. (20th C)

KAMINI ROY (1865-1933)—Bengali poetess.

KAMPINI—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

KAMSNAVATI—Daughter of Ugrasena; married Devasravas. (Purana)

KANA—Cited for piety; daughter of a layman. She was called thrice by her husband. But every time she wanted to go, her mother asked her to prepare a cake as it was customary to take something to the husband's house. But every time she prepared food, streams of men would come and she was withheld. She was discarded by her husband. Later she was adopted by the king and married to a great noble. (Vinaya)

KANAKALATA—Wife of Chaturbhuj Thakur, of Assam, who was grandson of Sankaradeva. On her husband's death, she assumed the charge of the satra and initiated disciples. She was respected for her proficiency in philosophical discourses. (16th C)

KANAKLATA BARUA—In 1942, in her teens she marched at the head of 500 people towards Gopapon Thana, with a view to occupy it. The Daroga threatened her that firing would be ordered if she did not move. She told him to do his duty. She was fired in the chest and was killed. The
flag was taken by her boy comrade Mukunda.

KANAKA RANI—Wife of Mahmud Khilji of Malwa. While fleeing he took Kanaka with him to Gujarat. (16th C)

KANAKBINDU—Wife of Agni. (Purana)

KANCHANA DEVI—Daughter of Chalukya Jayasinha; married to Arnoraja, the Chahaman Sakambhari. (12th C)

KANCHUKA—A Chahaman princess (perhaps ruling family of Malwa) married to Harsha Chandella. (9-10th C)

KANDARPA—Yakshini of Dharmanatha, 15th Arhat of the Jains.

KANDHARI BEGUM—The first wife of Shahjehan.

KANGA—Doctor; she laboured hard for Women’s education in Hyderabad State. (20th C)

KANHA—(i) A princess with five husbands. Her lust was so instable that she played the whore with a hump-backed dwarf. (Jataka)
(ii) Daughter of Ugrasen. (Purana)

KANHOPATRA—Daughter of a dancing girl but she herself was a saintly woman. She was extremely beautiful and the emperor of Delhi wanted her to be his mistress. Putting his messengers off, she went to the temple of Vithoba where she died. (15th C)

KANKA—Daughter of Ugrasena; wife of Anaka and mother of Satyajit and Purjit. (Purana)

KANKAI—Mother of saint Tukaram. (17th C)

KANLIT (Kunlit)—Daughter of Raja of Vijaigarh.

KANRU—Daughter of Rana Khangru of Sindh; she was enamoured of Chanesar of Deval who was in love with Laila. Instigated by a girl named Januri, Kanru went with her mother Marghin to Chanesar’s place and succeeded in meeting him. However, when Chanesar went with his Minister to a village he met Laila. Both died.

KANTHAMMA U.L.—A well known writer and social worker from Andhra. (20th C)

KANTI—A Jain nun; Kannada poetess contemporary of Nagachandra. (12-13th C)

KANTI MATI—Mother of Ramanujacharya.
KANRA—Daughter of Kardama and Sruti and wife of Priyavrata; mother of ten sons equal to Syambhuva. (Purana)
KAPALI—Mother goddess. (Purana)
KAPARDINI—Mind-born mother. (Purana)
KAPILA—(i) Daughter of Khasa and a Rakshasi, after her name came the Kapileya Gana. (Purana)
(ii) Goddess of Mahalinga. (Purana)
KAPILA VASTYAYAN—A versatile writer.
KAPINJALI (GHRITACHI)—Wife of Vasistha and mother of Indrapramati. (Purana)
KARAKKAL AMMAIYAR—A Tamil poetess and one of the greatest saints of South India. (5th C)
KARALINI—Mind-born mother. (Purana)
KARAMERATI—Daughter of Chedi King; married Nakula. (Purana)
KARAMETI (KARNAWATI)—Rani of Mewar; Rana Vikramaditya's mother; hard pressed she appealed to Humayun for assistance and sent him a Rakhi indicating that it was now his duty as a brother to save her (Rani) from the clutches of the enemy.
KARENUMATI—Wife of Nakuli and mother of Niramitra. (Purana)
KARMADHARMAVATI—Daughter of Ugrasena. (Purana)
KARMAVATI MULLICK—Created national consciousness among women of N. W. F. P.
KARMO—She instigated her husband Prithia against her brother-in-law guru Arjan Das.
KARNIKA—Queen of Kanka; mother of Ritadhaman and Jaya. (Purana)
KARPURA DEVI—Daughter of Achalaraja Haihaya of Tripuri; married Chahamana Someshvara; mother of Prithviraja. On her husband's death in 1177, she acted as regent to her minor son.
KARTAR KAUR—Active political worker, suffered imprisonment in early forties.
KARUVAKI (KALUVAKI)—Second queen of Ashoka.
KASIBAI GHANEKAR—Supported the revolt of the Ratings of the Indian Navy in 1946 and was killed in firing by police.

KASTHA—Mother goddess; one of Kasyapa's wives and mother of quadruplicate. (Purana)

KASTURBA GANDHI—Wife of Mahatma Gandhi; took active part in the social and political activities of Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa and later in India. She remained constant companion and follower of Mahatma Gandhi. Courted arrest several times in protest against repressive legislative measures; participated in the Quit India Movement (1942); arrested on Aug. 9, 1942 and detained along with Mahatma Gandhi in the Aga Khan Palace, Poona. While undergoing imprisonment, she breathed her last.

KASYA—Daughter of Suparasva; wife of Samba and mother of Panchaviras. (Purana)

KASYADUHITA—Daughter of Kasya, and wife of Ahuka; mother of Devaka and Ugrasena. (Purana)

KATHANAYAG AMMAL—A Tamil writer. (20th C)

KATUMUKHI—Mother goddess. (Purana)

KATYAYANI—One of the two wives of Yajnavalkya, the other was Maitreyi.

KAULINI—A Rahasya Yogini Devi. (Purana)

KAUMARI—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

KAUSALYA—(i) One of the three queens of King Dasa-ratha of Ayodhya and mother of Rama.

(ii) Queen of Satvata; mother of Bhajamana and others. (Purana)

(iii) Queen of Krishna. (Purana)

(iv) Mother of Divya. (Purana)

(v) Mother of Devavrdha. (Purana)

KAVERI—(i) Personified as one of the wives of Havya-vahana (Samsya) fire. (Purana)

(ii) Grand-daughter of Yuvanasva and wife of Janhu; mother of Suhotra. Made of one half of Ganga. (Purana)

KAVITA—Daughter of Ugrasena. (Purana)

KAYADHU—Daughter of Jambha; queen of Hiranyakasipu and mother of Prahlada. (Purana)
KAYAMAL—Took part in Civil Disobedience Movement, 1932, in Tamilnadu; was arrested and sentenced to jail.

KAYYA—Queen of king Kalasha of Kashmir. She had no compunction to become the concubine of a village official. (11th C)

KESARBAI KESKAR—Musician.

KESARA PRABANDHA—Vaitahavyas committed a crime against her by cooking her last she-goat. (Atharvaveda)

KESINI—(i) Mind-born mother. (Purana)
   (ii) One of the five queens of Ajamidha and mother of Medhatithi. (Purana)
   (iii) Queen of Sagara Asamanjas; daughter of a Vidarbha king. (Purana)
   (iv) Mother of Kanka. (Purana)
   (v) Raksasi; married Kapila. (Purana)
   (vi) Daughter of Khasa and Raksasi; vanquished by Krishna. (Purana)
   (vii) Wife of Suhotra and mother of Janhu. (Purana)

KETAKA(also called Mansa)—Spouse of Adi Natha, the primal god; she was born from his sweat. She gave birth to Brahma, Vishnu and Siva. Brahma was born from her mouth, Vishnu from her forehead and Siva in the usual way. Siva was chosen by Adi Natha to marry Ketaki after which she became known as Gauri (or Chandi).

KETAKI—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

KHADIJA TYABJI—First Commissioner, Municipal Girls Guide, Bombay; prominent social worker.

KAHIR-UN-NISSA—Sister of Shah Alam.

KHALA—(i) Daughter of Bhadrasva and Ghritachi. (Purana)
   (ii) One of the ten daughters of Raudrasva. (Purana)

KHANA—Wife of Mihir of Bengal; a well known mathematician and astronomer.

KHANAM—Wife of Mirza Haider of Kashmir.

KHANJI—Sister of Mirza Haider.

KHANZADA BEGUM—Sister of Babur and wife of Mahdi Khwaja.
KHASA—(i) Consort of Kasyapa; mother of two sons, Vikarana and Vilohita. (Purana)
(ii) Mother of Nīrata, a Raksasi. (Purana)

KHEMA—A beautiful queen consort of Bimbisar. She was infatuated with her own beauty. But her husband arranged for her visit to Buddha, on seeing whom she attained arhatship. She played a great role in the spread of Buddhism. Khema was treated like a teacher by Prasenajit. (Therigatha)

KHETA—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

KHRODA—Daughter of Daksa and mother of Raksasas. (Purana)

KHUBA NIGAR KHANAM—Mother of Mirza Haider of Kashmir, was daughter of Yunus Khan Moghul and a younger sister of Quitugh Nigar Khanam, mother of Babur.

KHUDAVAND-ZADA—Sister of Sultan Muhammad Tughluq.

KHUDSIA RASUL—Was the Dy. Speaker of the U. P. Legislative Assembly when the Congress Ministry was set up there in 1937.

KHUJJUTTARA—A slave woman of queen Saranvati; was well versed in Tripitakas and enjoyed a prominent position amongst Buddha’s lay disciples. She converted Saranvati to Buddha’s faith. (Dp. Comy)

KHURSHEDBEHN—Grand daughter of Dadabhoy Nauroji and prominent social worker of Bombay. Took active part in Gandhi’s Satyagraha in thirties.

KHURSHID—Queen of Ghiyas-ud-din, ruler of Malwa; espoused the cause of Āla-ud-din to the throne but when Nasir-ud-din became victorious, she was committed to prison. (1469-1500)

KHYATI—(i) Daughter of Kardama, married to Bhrigu, mother of sons, Dhatr and Vidhatri. (Purana)
(ii) Daughter of Bhrigu; same as Sri; wife of Narayana, mother of Bala and Utsaha. (Purana)

KIKASA—Mother of Balahaka and seven other sons, all commanders of Bhanda. (Purana)

KIRTI—(i) Devi attending on Soma; wife of Jayanta. (Purana)
(ii) Daughter of Daksa; one of the wives of Daksa, mother of Yasas.

(iii) Wife of Vamana Hari (Vishnu). \(\text{(Purana)}\)

(iv) Also known as Kirtimati; daughter of Suka; mother of Brahmadatta; wife of Anuha. \(\text{(Purana)}\)

KIRTIMATI—Goddess enshrined at Ekambheka. \(\text{(Purana)}\)

KISA GAUTAMI—One of the foremost disciples of Buddha. She came from a poor family and became known Kisha because of her being Krisha i.e. emaciated. The birth of a son brightened her up but one day while playing, the boy was bitten by a poisonous snake. She went about with the dead body in arms in search of a herb that would revive the boy. When she saw the compassionate face of Buddha, she beseeched him, “The world is dark to me without my son. Please give me light by bringing him back to life.” Buddha asked her to go and fetch some mustard seeds from one house which had never been visited by death. After going from one house to another, she came back. Buddha then said in gentle tones, “O Kalyani! Birth and death are the law that governs the world. As you have seen this sorrow has not fallen on you alone.” She was consoled. She performed the last rites of her son and became a nun. Wisdom illumined her heart and she attained the position of an arhat (liberated soul). She wrote many verses and became famous for her ascetic temperament. She was appointed as Superintendent of the Jetavana Vihar. \(\text{(Therigatha)}\)

KISAN DHUMATKAR—An active Youth League leader of Bombay in the forties of this century.

KISHAN DEVI—One of the wives of Raja Ranbir Singh of Kashmir and mother of Lachman Singh. \(\text{(19th C)}\)

KOKI JIHU of Bengal—Daughter of Jan Mohammed, a convert; she excelled in handwriting and composition.

KOKILADEVI GAWANDE—Wife of J. D. Patil of Sanglud, Daryapur in M. P., she was connected with All India Marathi Women’s Organisation, All India Women’s Conference and the social education drive; was M. L. A.

KOMMURI PADMAVATI DEVI—A Telugu writer. \(\text{(20th C)}\)
KONIA—Mother Goddess. (Purana)

KONADEVI—Queen of Aditya Sen, a Gupta king of Magadha.

KOSALA DEVA—Sister of Prasenajit of Kosala and Queen of Bimbisar.

KOTADEVI (Kota Rani)—(i) Daughter of Ramachandra of Kashmir; wife of Rinchana, son of a Western Tibetan who killed Ramachandra by treacherous means and married Kotadevi. Farishta describes Rinchana as an infidel and expressly states that his Queen Kotadevi embraced Islam by marrying Shah Mir after the death of Rinchana. She was queen regent and established herself on throne after 1338.

(ii) A princess of solar race; mother of Udoyotakesin Mahabhavagupta IV of the dynasty of eastern Deccan. She built the Brahmesvara temple at Bhuvanesvar.

KOTHAINAYAGIAMMAL V.M.—Wife of V. M. Parthasarathi Iyengar of Tamilnadu. She took part in Civil Disobedience Movement 1932 and was sentenced to jail; editor of Jaganmohini and writer of many novels in Tamil.

KOVIDARI—Mother Goddess. (Purana)

KOWLADEVI (Kamladevi)—Queen of Karna of Gujarat. Ulugh Khan and Nusrat Khan, two generals of Ala-ud-Din Khilji, attacked Gujarat and wrested the empire from Karna. The invaders captured Kamladevi who was later taken in the harem of Ala-ud-Din. She was considered the flower of India for beauty, wit and accomplishment.

KRATISTHALI—Apsaras designated Panchachuda, Yaksa lover her. (Purana)

KRATUSTHALA—Apsaras mentioned with Panjikasthala, another apsaras. (Yajur-Veda)

KRAUNCHA—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

KRAUNCHI—Daughter of Tamra, wife of Garutmat. (Purana)

KRIP—The twin sister of Kripa; wife of Drona and mother of Aswathama.

KRISHNA BAI—(i) Sistert of Pandita Ramabai.

(ii) A Gujarati poetess.

KRISHNA HUTHEESINGH—Sister of Jawaharlal
Nehru; participated in the freedom movement.

KRISHNA KUMARI—(i) Daughter of Swai Jai Singh; son of Sohan Singh (18th C).
(ii) M. P. (Lok Sabha) from Rajasthan.

KRISHNA RAO—Widow of Sheoram Bhao; she advocated the claim of her nephew.

KRISHNABAI NIMB Kar—A prominent social worker; daughter of T. Mahadev Rao. She took part in freedom movement; organised underground activities in 1942 August struggle and operated a wireless station for sometime.

KRISHNABAI PANSIKAR—A dictator of War Council. (20th C)

KRISHNAJI—A poetess of Tanjore; she wrote in Telugu.

KRIYA—(i) Daughter of Kardama; married to Kratu; mother of 6,000 Valakhilyas. (Purana)
(ii) Daughter of Daksa and a wife of Dharma; mother of Yoga and Manu. (Purana)
(iii) Wife of Samanantara and mother of Purisyas Angis. (Purana)

KRIMI—(i) One of the five queens of Usinara; mother of Krimi. (Purana)
(ii) Daughter of Satyadhriti and sister of Kripacharya. When the brother and sister were just children, they were rescued by Sanatana from forest; wife of Dronacharya, the great warrior. She was mother of Asawatthama.

KRISA—One of the five queens of Usinara; mother of Krisi. (Purana)

KRISANGI—A daughter of Suyasa. (Purana)

KRISNA—Daughter of Khasa.

KRISTI—Daughter of Marichi. (Purana)

KKITADYUTI—The senior queen of Chitraketu who got a son through the blessings of Angiras; when the child died of poison, she lamented deeply. (Purana)

KRITI—Wife of Visvakarma. Purana)

KRITVI—(i) Daughter of Suka and Pivari and mother of Brahmaditya; married Panchala King Anuha, known also as Gau. (Purana)
(ii) Wife of Nipa.
KRODHA—Wife of Deva-Gandharva and mother of Bhrahmachari Purnamsa. *(Purana)*

KRODHANI—Mother Goddess. *(Purana)*

KRODHAVASA—Daughter of Daksa; one of Kasyapa’s wives and mother of Dandasoka. *(Purana)*

KSAMA—Daughter of Daksa and Pivari, wife of Pulaha Prajapati; mother of Kardama, V(a)rvarivan, Sahisnu, and Kanakapitha. *(Purana)*

(ii) Wife of Kratu. *(Purana)*

KSEMA—Wife of Bimbisar, who became follower of Buddha.

KSVELA—Mind-born mother. *(Purana)*

KUBER NAGA—Vakataka princess, wife of Chandra-gupta Vikramaditya.

KUBJA—The hump-backed in the employ of Kansa for perfumes. *(Purana)*

KUBJIKA—One of the nine Kalikas worshipped by Saktas.

KUDSIA BEGUM—Daughter of Asaf Ali; married to Shahjehan.

KUDSIA ZAIDI—Connected with Hindustani Theatre.

KUHAMALU—Eminent worker for organising Women’s Section of the Congress Party.

KUHU—(i) Daughter of Angiras and Sraddha; wife of Dhatri and mother of Saya. *(Purana)*

(ii) Daughter of Maya; wife of Havismanta; left him for Soma. *(Purana)*

KUKKUTI—Mind-born mother. *(Purana)*

KUKSI—(i) Daughter of progenitor Kardama. *(Purana)*

(ii) Daughter of Priyavrata. *(Purana)*

KULSUM SAYANI—She did magnificent work to reduce illiteracy in Bombay.

KUMARADEVI—A Lichchhavi princess; married Chandragupta I, mother of Samudragupta. The names and figures of Chandragupta and Kumaradevi are depicted on one side of the coins. *(4th C)*

(ii) Daughter of Devarakshita, king of Pithi and
daughter's daughter of Mathanadeva. (12th C)

KUMBHAHKARNI—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

KUMBHINASI—(i) Daughter of Pusotkata and Visravas. (Purana)

(ii) Daughter of Bali; sister of Bana; she ill treated Bali's wife. (Purana)

KUMUDBEN MANISHANKAR JOSHI—M. P. (Rajya Sabha) from Gujarat.

KUMKUMA MAHADEVI—Younger sister of Vijayaditya. She built the famous Jain Temple called Anesejjeyo-basadi at Lakshmeswar. (7-8th C)

KUMODINI DAS—She was the first Indian woman principal of the Bethune College. (20th C)

KUMUDA—(i) Name of Yogamaya, the goddess enshrined in Manash. (Purana)

(ii) A wily sister of Mahadeva in the isle of Kumuda. (Purana)

KUMUDINI—One of the four queens of Bhand. (ii) Dancer; she staged ballets with Ram Gopal.

KUMUDINI DEV—Mother of Chandrakin wife of Gambhir Singh, ruler of Manipur.

KUMUDINI & BASANTI MITRA—Two sisters who started Suprabhat, a periodical. (20th C)

KUMUDINI MITTER—A nationalist; organised a group of educated Brahmin ladies to liaise with revolutionary leaders under watch by Police. She propagated revolution through writings.

KUNANIKI KAPADIA—A Gujarati writer. (20th C)

KUNDALA KUMARI SABET—A popular Oriya writer. One of her books was proscribed by the British.

KUNDAKADEVI—Daughter of Yuvaraja Kalchuri. She was given in marriage to Rastrakuta Amoghavarsha III Vedigga. (10th C)


KUNDAVVAI—Daughter of Prithipal Gang and wife of a Bana king.
KUNDAVVAIYAR—Daughter of Raj Raj I and wife of Chalukya Vimaladitya of Vengi. (11th C)

KUNDEVI—A Chola queen. She constructed Vishnu and Siva temples at Dadapura and a Jain temple at Tirumalai, all in Tamilnadu.

KUNDU BAI JAIBAI—Eldest daughter of Baji Rao Peshwa.

KUNTI alias Pritha—(i) Daughter of Sura, adopted by Kuntibhoja, sister of Vasudeva and Madri and wife of Pandu. She was mother of Yudhishtira, Bhima and Arjuna, the Pandavas. *(Purana)* (See Pritha also)
(ii) Mother of Dhrista. *(Purana)*

KURAVA—One of the fourteen ganas of Apsaras born of Soma’s rays. *(Purana)*

KURURAMMA—A simple devoted saint of Kurur Illam, near Trichur, in Kerala. Her love for the Lord was that of a mother for her beloved child. The prayer she repeated constantly is:

Komalam Kujiyam Venum, Shyamaloyam Kumarakah.
Vedavedyam Param Brahma, Bhashtam Purto Mam.

(16th C)

KUSHMANDINI—One of the Yakshinis of Neminatha of Arishtanemi, 22nd Arhat of the Jains.

KUSODAKA—A goddess enshrined at Kusadvipa. *(Purana)*

KUSUMA BAI—Second daughter of Baji Rao Peshwa.

KUSUM NAIR—She started the first newspaper syndicate in India.

KUSUMAVATI DESHPANDE—A distinguished Marathi writer; the first woman to become a professor of Marathi.

KUTABHI—Mind-born mother. *(Purana)*

KUT!—Wife of Vamana Vishnu and wife of Brahats-loka. *(Purana)*

KULTUG NIGAR—Mother of Babur.

KUTUMBIKA—Mother Goddess. *(Purana)*

KUVERA NAGA—Queen of Chandragupta II. She came from a Naga family.
LABHUBEN MEHTA—A distinguished fiction writer of Gujarat. (20th C)

LABANYA PRABHA DUTT—A prominent social worker. (20th C)

LACHHMA KHATUN—Daughter of Malik Saif-ud-Din Dar, a military commander, and married to Malik Jalal-ud-Din, a minister of Badshah; she was well known for her learning and piety and founded a Khangah (hospice) and a madrasa; the Khangah is still there and known as Masjid-i-Qazi. For her Khangah she brought a water way right from Lar. It is called Lachhma Kot. (Kot in Kashmiri means a waterway).

LACHMADEVI—She wrote 'Vivadachandra', a commentary on the Hindu law of succession as was followed by Mithila School. (15th C)

LAD KUNWARI CHAUHAN—With 10 other queens, she became sati on the death of her husband Raja Jaswant Singh of Jodhpur.

LAD MALIKA—Wife of Taj Khan who was in-charge of the fort of Chunar. Taj Khan was killed by one of his sons from another wife. Sher Shah married Lad Malika.

LADI—Wife of King Dahir of Sind. On her husband's death, when the Mohammedans attacked her fort of Brahmanabad, she exhorted her people by saying, "How can I leave this strong fort and my family" and also by distributing amongst them the riches. She decided that if the fort fell, she would burn herself alive. But the fort was suddenly taken and the nobles came to the gate of Dahir's palace and Ladi was taken prisoner with her two daughters. Kasim made Ladi his wife. (8th C)

LADLI BEGUM—Daughter of Nur Jahan by Sher Afghan; betrothed to Shahryar.
LADO RANI ZUTSHI—A prominent leader from Punjab; her interest in politics started with the Martial Law in 1919. She was the 8th dictator of the War Council and steered the movement successfully. She was sentenced for her speeches. She infused her daughters with patriotic feelings.

LADY ABDULLA SUHRAWARDY—Supported Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah when he opened the first English School for Muslim women in India in 1906 inspite of strong opposition from both Muslims and Hindus. (The Sheikh is different from the present Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir).

LADY TATA—A social worker; in 1927, she led a deputation to ask for the abolition of vice areas from Bombay.

LADY VIDWAN MUTHUKALAM—A well known Malayalam authoress and poetess. (20th C)

LAJJA—Daughter of Daksa and one of the wives of Dharma. (Purana)

LAKHAM (Lakshmi Bai)—Wife of Sultan Muzaffar of Gujarat. She was a Gohil Rajput. Bahadur Shah was her son. (16th C)

LAKHIMA—Wife of Sivasambhu of Mithila; she was conquered by the Musalmans and carried to Delhi. Lakhima took refuge in Banauli. When no news of Sivasambhu was received from Delhi for 12 years, she became Sati.

LAKINI—A yogini in the Brahanical Tantras.

LAKKALE—Wife of the famous Jain General Ganga-raja; she erected a magnificent Jain shrine at Sravana Belgola in Karnataka.

LAKSHMANA—(i) Daughter of Duryodhana and wife of Samba. (Purana)

(ii) Mother of Chandraprabha, 8th Arhat of the Jains by Mahasenaraja.

LAKSHMI—(i) One of the daughters of Daksa and one of the wives of Dharma; mother of Sunrata.

(ii) Goddess of fortune and wife of Vishnu, the god of creation. During Vishnu’s incarnation as Rama and Krishna, she became Sita and Rukmini, respectively.

(iii) Princess of Kadattanad; wrote the poem Santagopal.
(iv) Favourite queen of Shitab-ud-din of Kashmir. (14th C)

(v) First wife of Chaitanya.

(vi) Daughter of Sankaragana Kalchuri; she was married to Jagattunga, son of Rashtrakuta Krishna II; her son Indrakuta Krishna III succeeded the throne of his grand father.

(vii) Colonel, assisted Subhash Chandra Bose in his campaigns in South East Asia against the British rule.

(viii) Took part in Civil Disobedience Movement 1942, arrested and sentenced to jail in Tamilnadu.

(ix) Wife of K. Thiruvengadam; joined the movement in 1940; took part in Individual Satyagraha, 1941; arrested and sentenced.

LASKSHMIAMMAL—Wife of Srinivasa Iyengar; took part in Civil Disobedience Movement in 1933; was arrested and sentenced to jail.

LAKSHMIAMMAL THIRKUNDA—Took part in foreign cloth boycott in 1932; courted imprisonment and was sentenced to jail.

LAKSHMIL BAI—(i) Wife of Badoji Bhayekar; bangle-seller; took part in the popular movement demanding merger of Hyderabad State with the Indian Union (1947-48); was attacked and killed by the Razakars.

LAKSHMIBAI—(i) Rani of Jhansi. ‘Whatever her faults in British eyes may have been, her (Lakshmibai’s) countrymen will ever remember that she was driven by ill treatment into rebellion, she lived and died for her country.’ Her determined fight against the powerful enemy and her death in the battlefield has been and will be an inspiration for Indians for all times to come.

On the death of Raja Gangadhar Rao of Jhansi in 1854, Dalhousie annexed the state to the British rule, providing for his widow a pension of Rs. 5000 per month and giving her the Raja’s ornaments and the balance of the treasury. Rani Lakshmi Bai, the widow, of very high character protested against this and pleaded for her adopted son Damodar Gangadhar Rao. But Dalhousie paid no heed. The reaction of the Rani was ‘Meri Jhansi Nahin Dungi’ (I will not surrender my Jhansi). Her petition was of no avail. Nor did the
mission sent by her to England fetch any result. She looked forward for a chance to redress her grievances.

The revolt at Meerut, Delhi and Lucknow quickened the passage of the struggle and Jhansi witnessed an open rebellion on 5 June, 1857. The next day the British took shelter in the city and the day after the Rani’s adherents also joined the rebellion. They released the prisoners, set fire to the Kutchery and murdered all officers they could lay their hands on. The rebels also attacked the fort occupied by the English. Till the night of June 6, the troops retired and the Rani’s men kept guard on the fort. The rebels again attacked the fort on the morning of 8 June and the English could not hold any longer and surrendered on the promise that they would be allowed to leave Jhansi unmolested. But when they came out, they were seized and murdered. The rebels proclaimed, “The people our God’s, the country Padshah’s and the Raj is Rani Lakshmi Bai’s.” She was, however, to govern on behalf of her adopted son. Opinions differ about the complicity of the Rani in the rebellion, her share in actual occurrences and in the massacre of Europeans besieged in the fort.

On June 9, she issued orders to the Chief and Officers of the State that they were to carry on business as hitherto.

She combined in herself the quality of a warrior and a statesman and set about performing her duties with speed. She wrote letters to other Rajas and chiefs, including Nana Sahib, asking them to save their faith and sacrifice everything for its sake. Within a short time she gained a great influence over the hearts of the people. By March 1858 she had 15000 men in her service. She repaired guns and had new ones manufactured. The houses near the city wall were vacated. Two guns were set on city walls and ammunition was distributed. When she saw some English sowars surrounding the town, fire was ordered. Thus began the historic fight. The British forces were under the command of Sir Hugh Rose. The siege began on 22 March. Rani’s troops showed undaunted courage and returned shot for shot. She infused spirit and roused zeal of her soldiers by her presence and her fiery words. Women were noticed working in the batteries and carrying ammunition. But on 28 March shells fell into the Fort and blew up the gun powder. Realising her position, she escaped with her adopted
son under the cover of darkness and in the garb of a man. She was hotly pursued but she joined Tantia Tope at Kalpi. After a series of hard battles the rebels had to vacate Koonch and Kalpi on 23 May 1858. But Gwalior became the next rebel centre. Gwalior fell to the rebels without a blow on 4 June and troops joined the rebels.

But the English forces under general Rose and Napier defeated the rebels under Tope at Morar. Hearing of the British troops advancing in the town, the Rani mounted the horse to start but the European soldiers surrounded her ands he received a cut on the left eye brow, another on the left hand and a ball pierced her right side. She tried to return but fell from the horse as did her female attendant who too was badly injured. She died 'the bravest and the best military leader of the rebels.'

(ii) Maharani of Travancore, noted for her humane and efficient administration.

(iv) (surname Rajwade) a national worker. (20th C)

(v) Wife of Anant Shastri; mother of Pandita Ramabai.

(vi) (Ammanl Ammal); took part in Civil Disobedience Movement, 1942; arrested and sentenced to jail.

(vii) Tilak—A social worker.

(viii) Fifth wife of Shivaji. (17th C)

LAKSHMI BHARATHY—Wife of Krishnasamy Bharathy of Tamilnadu; joined the freedom movement in 1932; took part in Civil Disobedience Movement 1932 and 1940; courted imprisonment twice in 1933 and 1941. Was Member of Madras Legislative Assembly in 1937 along with her husband.

LAKSHMI DEVI—Took part in the Civil Disobedience and Quit India Movements. Her husband, son and daughter were also arrested and convicted at Delhi.

LAKSHMI KANTHAMMA T.—M. P. (Lok Sabha) from Andhra Pradesh.

LAKSHMIMIKUMARI—M. P. (Rajya Sabha) from Rajasthan.

(ii) Took leading part at Simla in the freedom movement. She condemned the death sentences passed on the participants in the conspiracy to shoot the Governor; was convicted.
LAKSHMI MAJUMDAR—A prominent worker of the Bharat Scouts and Guides; received Padma Shri (1965).

LAKSHMI N. MENON—One time a Minister of State for External Affairs of India; also the Chairman of the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust.

LAKSHMANI DEVI—A niece and disciple of Ramakrishna Paramahansa.

LAKSHMIMANNI—Queen of Mysore (18th C); on her husband Maharaja Krishnaraja Wodiyar II's death, she boldly tried to recover the power from the all powerful Hyder Ali by negotiating with the Marathas and the Englishman Piggott at Madras. Finally she succeeded in installing Krishnaraja Wodiyar III on the throne of Mysore on the death of Tipu Sultan. She acted as guardian and shifted capital to Mysore.

(iii) Wife of late Gopal Rao; joined the movement and took part in foreign cloth boycott, 1932; arrested and jailed.

LAKSHMIMATI—Wife of Gangaraja, one of the ministers of Vishnuvardhana (a Hoyasala king); she built several Jain temples; on her death by the Jain form of renunciation, her husband commemorated her by an epitaph at Sravana Belgola.

LAKSHMINKARA DEVI (8th C)—Sister of King Indrabhuti; she started Sahajayan; she declared that no suffering, fasting, rites, bathing, purification or obedience to the rules of society are essential for emancipation; it is not necessary to bow down before the images of gods; the worshipper should with concentration offer worship only to his own body where all gods reside. She preached that when truth is known, there is no restriction of any kind for the worshipper.

LAL, KAMLA—Chairman, Natya Ballet Centre.

LAL KUMARI—An ordinary dancing girl who was taken as queen by Jahandara Shah, the Moghul emperor of Delhi in 1712; a great drunkard; she was given an allowance of Rs. two crores a year, besides jewellery and clothes. Her relatives were given high positions in the imperial service.

LALITA—Goddess. (Purana)

LALITA DIXIT—A doll manufacturer of Delhi.

LALITA SHASTRI—Widow of Lal Bahadur Shastri, the second Prime Minister of India.
LALITHAMBIKA ANTHARJANAM—An outstanding writer of Malayalam. (20th C)

LALLA ARISHA—Originally a Hindu; she was greatly influenced by Islamic Sufistic thought. She influenced Kashmir to the extent that her sayings are on the lips of all Kashmiris. In truth she was above all formal religious conventionalities. Hindus claim her as theirs while Muslims claim her as theirs. She was also known as Lalleshwari (born in 1335).

LAMA—(also known as Rupika Chumbika Lama), a yogini in the Brahmanical Tantras. Her corresponding god is known as Lameshvara Lama (the Tibetan word ‘Lah-mo’) which means Devi, Shakti.

LASA—Daughter of Lakshmi’s sister whom Shitab-ud-din married later on.

LATA MANGESHKAR—The most popular play-back singer of India of today; she has to her credit the largest number of records; received Padma Bhushan.

LAVANYAVATI—Wife of Puspavahana, a king in Rathantara Kalpa. (Purana)

LAXMAN—Wife of Shri Bansi Laxman, took part in the popular demonstration in support of the revolt by the ratings of the Indian Navy. She received bullet wound in firing by the police at Bombay on Feb. 24, 1946 and died the same day.

LAXMI THERE—Wife of Shri Laxman There of Ashti; took part in the Quit India Movement (1942); was shot and killed by the police after attack on the Ashti police station in August, 1942.

LAZARUS Mrs—a member of the deputation that met under Mrs. Sarojini Naidu Mr. Montague in 1917 to ask for women’s rights.

LEELA DAMODARAN MENON—M. P. (Rajya Sabha) from Kerala.

LEELA SHIVESHWARKAR—A well known artist.

LEELAVATI MUNSHI—Wife of late Mr. K. M. Munshi, a Central Minister and later Governor of U.P.; was a prominent social worker; participated in the Gandhi Satyagraha of thirties; she organized the All-India Women’s Food Council which provided cheap non-cereal food during a period of
national scarcity; she was also an authoress of Gujarati. (20th C)

LEELA ROW DAYAL—A well known Tennis player; daughter of Pandita Kshama Rao and wife of the late Harishvar Dayal, a senior and civil servant.

LEENA MADANMOHAN MANGALDAS—Social worker; founder of Shreyas-Co-ed Day and Residential Schools, Mothers Training Centre, and Youth Hostels.

LEILA SOKHEY—Dancer of renown; revived Kathak and established a dance school at Khandala.

LELLA OMCHERI—Distinguished fiction writer of Malayalam. (20th C)

LILA (or Loli)—(i) A girl of Sind associated with a Genii who was sent by King Sulaiman to Rum.

(ii) Beloved of Chanesar, a famous loving pair; she is the heroine of Chanesar, a book written by Mir Abu-i-Kasim. (14th C)

LILADEVI—A Chap princess; daughter of Samantisimha, king of Anahilapataka.

LILA MAJUMDAR—A well known fiction writer of Bengal. (20th C)

LILAVATI—(i) Known for her knowledge of Mathematics. Her father Bhaskaracharya did a pioneering work for her guidance. The work was titled 'Lilavati' after her.

(ii) A Saivite courtesan; she performed the gift of Lavanachala after turning up the salt mountain into gold. (Purana)

LINGADHARINI—A goddess. (Purana)

LOHINI—Wife of Bana who was the eldest of the one hundred sons of Bali. (Purana)

LOI—Wife of Kabir, the famous saint-poet. (15th C)

LOKA-MAHADEVI—Queen of the Chalukya King Vikramaditya Badami; she built a temple of Lokeshwar at Bijapur.

LOKAPRAKASHA—A princess of Kaushala, married to King Bhartrihari.

LOPAMUDRA—A famous composer; she was daughter of king of Vidarbha and wife of the famous rishi Agastya;
author of the 179th hymn of the first book of Rigveda; she is also called Kausitaki and Varaprada.

LOTIKA GHOSE—She founded the Mahila Rashtriya Sangha with the help of mother of Subhash Chandra Bose. She supervised picketing of schools and colleges when Gandhiji gave call for breaking salt laws.

LOTUS—A Kashmiri dancing girl in the harem of Ranjit Singh. He thought she loved him with all her heart and on this he wedged with his Italian commander Ventura. But within 48 hours she was with Ventura. Later she came back to Ranjit Singh and was enrolled in the Amazonian Corps. (19th C)

LOURDAMMAL—One time a Minister of Local Administration and Fisheries in Madras.

LULLA—A courtesan married to King Yashashkar of Kashmir. She was raised to the status of Chief Queen. Yet she had secret meetings with a Chandala watchman. (10th C)

LUTF-UN-NISA—The consort of Nawab Siraj-ud-daula of Bengal; she redeemed her husband by her devotion and poet's genius; accompanied him to Murshidabad after the battle of Plassey and lived to mourn his murder. After her husband's death, she used to light a memorial lamp on his tomb every evening so long as she lived.

M

MADALSA—Consort of King Ritadhvaja; she was a great scholar, saint and a devoted wife and mother. (Mahabharata)

MADAME BHIKAIJI CAMA (1861-1936)—Bhikaiji Cama was the first Indian who unfurled abroad her country's flag (a tri-colour-green, yellow and red) inscribed with the words Vande Mataram. That was at the time of the International Socialist Congress at Stuttgart in Germany on 18 August 1907. In the Congress, she expressed that her
avowed object was to acquaint others with the miserable living conditions of the people of her country and also to expose the tyrannous rule of the British under which Indians suffered. But that was not to be a mere soap box oratory. She established contacts with other revolutionaries and sent revolvers concealed as toys as presents to her friends in India so that the firearms might come handy at a time of need.

Bhikaiji was born in a Parsi family of Bombay on 24 September 1861. Her father Framji Sorabji Patel was a business man. While young, she was married to Shri K. R. Cama, a leading solicitor. She could have led a life of comfort, but she had been interested in social and political work and not in a cosy living. And, when she went abroad in 1902 to recoup her health, this gave her an opportunity to present her country’s case before foreign audiences. She spoke on the subject in meetings. In England she also worked for Dadabhoy Naoroji’s election to the British Parliament and from him she imbibed the idea of Swadeshi which she preached through the Vande Mataram, a paper she started. She visited the USA and a few European countries to seek help for her country’s emancipation.

Cama wanted her countryman, especially the youth, to come forward and join the struggle for India’s freedom. Her message was, “March forward friends and lead the helpless, dying, down-trodden children of the motherland to the goal of swaraj.” She exhorted Indians to unite and to refuse offices in the British government. Her activities attracted the attention of the government authorities and they kept a watch over her. Finding that Paris would be a safer place for her activities, she moved there. During the First World War, she was interned. But even when the war was over, she was not allowed to return to India and had to remain in exile. Only when her health was shattered, in 1925 she was permitted to return to her country. On 30 August 1936, she breathed her last at Bombay.

MADANPRIYA—An apsaras.

MADANIKAA—A character in Mrichchhakatika; she was slave of a Brahmin Sarvilaka and married him.

MADAYANTI—Queen of Saudasa; gave birth to Asmaka
through Vasistha with the assent of the king; prevented her husband from returning the curse of Vasistha. (Purana)

MADHAVA—An apsaras sent by Indra to destroy Vishnu’s tapas. (Purana)

MADHAVASRI—Queen of Vasanta ritu.

MADHAVI—(i) Name of Yogamaya. (Purana)
(ii) Goddess enshrined at Srisaila. (Purana)
(iii) Vaira Sakti. (Purana)
(iv) Name of Subhadra. (Purana)
(v) A Bhakti poetess of Bengal. (16th C)

MADHAVI AMMAL—Perhaps the first woman to be nominated to Legislative Council in India. That was to Cochin Legislative Council in 1925.

MADHAVI DASI—An Oriya poetess.

MADHUDAMSTRI—Goddess following Maya. (Purana)

MADHURABANI—Court Pandit of Raja Raghunath of Tanjore; she composed the Chandravati version of Ramayana.

MADHURANTAKI—Daughter of Rajendra II, hero of Koppam; married the Eastern Chalukya prince Rajendra Kullottunga. (11th C)

MADIRA—One of Vasudev’s wives and mother of Chitra, Nanda, Pushti, Tushti and others. (Purana)

MADODDHATA—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

MADOTKATA—Goddess enshrined at Chaitraratha.

MADRA—(i) One of the ten wives of Atri, mother of Soma. (Purana)
(ii) Wife of Soma; mother of Prabhakara. (Purana)
(iii) One of the ten daughters of Raudrasva. (Purana)
(iv) Daughter of Ghritachi and Bhadrasva. (Purana)

MADRAVATI (MADRI)—One of the two wives of Pandu; Mother of Nakul and Sahadeva by grace of Asvins. (Purana)

MADRI—(i) One of the wives of Dristi; mother of Yudhajit, Midharams, Agnimitra and Sini. (Purana)
(ii) Second wife of Vrisni, a Rajarsi; mother of Devamidhusa. (Purana)
(iii) Wife of Pandu and mother of Nakula and Sahadeva through the favour of Asvins. (Mahabharata)
(iv) Queen of Krishna and mother of Bala, Prabala, Gatravat and Vraka. (*Purana*)
(v) Mother of Aparajita. (*Purana*)
(vi) Wife of Sahadeva and mother of Sudhra. (*Purana*)

MAGANDIYA—Daughter of a Brahmin of Kuru country. Her father rejected all suitors who came to ask for her hand; later Magandiya married King Prasenajit of Kosala. (Dph. Comy.)

MAH BEGUM—Wife of Mirza Shah Hussain, ruler of Sind; the Moghul of Thatta, feeling humiliated, revolted and took Mah Begum as prisoner when the Mirza was elsewhere.

MAHABHAGA—Goddess enshrined at Mahalaya. (*Purana*)

MAHACHITRA—Mind-born mother. (*Purana*)

MAHADAMBA—A great mystic and poetess of Maharashtra.

MAHADEVA—Daughter of Devaka and Vasudeva. (*Purana*)

MAHADEVI—(i) Mother goddess enshrined at Salagrama; a name of Lalita as originating from Agnikunda of Indra and gods who propitiated. Devi to get rid of Bhanda. (*Purana*)
(ii) Dattadevi—A queen of Kumargupta; mother of Skandgupta. (5th C)
(iii) Loka-Mahadevi of Haihaya (Kalchuri); she was the chief queen of Vikramaditya. She built the great temple of Siva under the name of Lokeshwara (now called Virupaksha) at Pattadakal. (8th C)
(iv) Queen; she flourished in Bhor, Maharashtra. (15th C)
(v) Queen of Mahendrapal Pratihar.

MAHADEVI CHETTRY—Was member of Rajya Sabha; daughter of Kulbahadur Chettry and wife of D. B. Chettry; a social worker interested especially in welfare of Gorkhas from her very young age.

MAHADEVI DATTADEVI—Wife of Samudragupta.

MAHADEVI VERMA—Renowned Hindi poetess and prose-writer from Allahabad.
MAHADEVIKA—A Kannada Bhakti poetess. (12th C)

MAHAGRIVA—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

MAHAKALI—(i) Mind-born mother. (Purana)
(ii) Yakshini of Sumatinath. 5th Arhat of the Jains.
(iii) Yakshini of Suvishninath, 9th Arhat of the Jains.

MAHAKHILADEVESI—One of the nine Kalikas.

MAHALAKHABAI CHANDA—The first poetess to have published her Dewan. She hailed from Golconda.

MAHALAKSHMI—Kamakshi; mother of Brahma, Vishnu and Isá; is Tripurambika, the goddess enshrined at Karavira. (Purana)

MAHALAKSHMI BHARATHI—Daughter of Krishnasami Bharathi; while in college she took part in Quit India Movement, 1942; was arrested and sentenced to jail.

MAHAM ANAGA—The head nurse of Akbar and mother of the notorious Adham Khan.

MAHAMAMANSI—Yakshini of Santinath, 15th Arhat of the Jains. (Dig.)

MAHAMAYA—Sister of Krishna.

MAHAMKUSI—A Devi. (Purana]

MAHAMUKHI—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

MAHANANDA—A mother goddess.

MAHANANDASRI MAHATTARA—Helped Maladhari Hemchandra in writing a commentary on a great work of Jina-bhadra in 1118.

MAHANANDI—A Sudra woman and mother of emperor Mahapadma Nanda.

MAHAPRAJAPATI GAUTAMI—Foster mother of Gotama, the Buddha. Later she became a follower of Buddha and joined the Sangha.

MAHAPRAKASA—Consort of Martanda Bhairava. (Purana)

MAHARAKTA—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

MAHARANI of Baroda—She presided over the All India Women's Educational conference in 1927.

MAHASASTRI—Mother goddess. (Purana)

MAHASENA GUPTA—Mother of King Prabhakar-
vardhan of Thaneswar; she was sister of king of the same name i.e., Mahasena Gupta. (6th C)

MAHASURI—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

MAHASVETA—She learnt dance, music and other accomplishments with Kadambari.

MAHATI—Same as Dhriti; left her consort Nandi for Soma. (Purana)

MAHAVAGVIDDINI—Devi; Lalita. (Purana)

MAHAVIDYA—Name of Lalita, symbolical of Devi. (Purana)

MAHESHI DEVI—Expert in embroidery. (20th C)

MAHESVARI—(i) A Sakti and mother goddess; her image is after the manner of Mahesvara. (Purana)
(ii) Goddess enshrined at Mahakala, a name of Lalita. (Purana)

MAHIM—Third wife of Babur and mother of Humayun.

MAHIMA—A Siddhi Devi. (Purana)

MAHODARI—A mother goddess. (Purana)

MAHOTPALA—Goddess enshrined at Kamlaksa. (Purana)

MAHRU—A sister of Malik Sanjar, also known as Apkhan, and one of the wives of Alauddin and mother of Khizr Khan.

MAHTRE SISTERS—They marched with other ladies to the shops of foreign cloth merchants and asked them to abandon the trade as it was impoverishing the country.

MAI MALWAIN—Mother of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

MAILADEVI—Daughter of Vikramaditya VI; queen of Jayakesin II Chalukya. (12th C)

MAIMOONA SULTAN—Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) from Madhya Pradesh.

MAINA BAI—Widow of Peshwa Baji Rao; she made representation to the Government against the restrictions.

MAINAVATI—A daughter of a court employee brought up by Nana Sahib Peshwa; she took part in the Great Revolt against British Rule in 1857 and was captured by the British and burnt alive.
MAITREYI—Wife of Yajnavalkya; he wanted to settle her share of property on her and take leave of her before renouncing the world and embracing the monastic ideal. But Maitreyi asked him whether with all the wealth she would become immortal through it. The sage replied that her life would become like that of other rich but that there was no hope of immortality through it. Maitreyi replied that what would she do with that by which she would not become immortal. She asked him to tell only means of immortality. Yajnavalkya appereciatively expressed his joy at her questions and said that ‘self is known by being heard of, reflected on, meditated upon, all this is that is other than the self is known, for there is nothing other than the self.’” (Brihadaranyaka)

MAITREYEE BOSE—Social worker in Orphanage, Rural Ambulance service and Hospitals for women and children; a trade union leader.

MAITRI—A daughter of Daksa and a wife of Dharma; mother of Prasada. (Purana)

MAKHDUMA JEHAN—Daughter-in-law of Alauddin Khilji.

MALDA—(i) One of the ten wives of Atri. (Purana) (ii) A daughter of Bhadrasva and Ghratchi. (Purana)

MALAMBA—Wife of Vijayaditya IV.

MALATI—(i) Also Malavi; queen of Asvapati; mother of Savitri (the pativrata); her sons are called the Malavas of pure Kshatriya stock. (Purana) (ii) Well versed in fine arts, beloved of Madhava, (depicted in the drama Malati Madhava).

MALATI CHANDUR—A Telugu fiction writer. (20th C)

MALATI CHAUDHURY—She helped in the framing of of the Constitution for Independent India.

MALAVIKA—She was an excellent musician married to Agnimitra. (Malavikagnimitra)

MALAVYADEVI—Chief Queen of Samalavarman Yadava, king of Vanga. (12th C)

MALIKA ZAMANA—Daughter of Emperor Farukhsiyyar.

MALIKA-I-JEHAN—Consort of Alauddin and mother-
in-law of Alauddin. Malik Kafur took possession of Siri from her son Khizr Khan and sent her into miserable retirement. (14th C)

MALIKA JEHAN—(i) Wife of emperor Jehangir and daughter of Rawal Bhim of Jaisalmer.

(ii) A princess of Delhi; married to Husain Shah Sharki, king of Jaunpur.

(iii) Daughter of King Nassir Khan of Khandesh and wife of Alauddin Shah Bahmani. (15th C)

MALINI—A Sakti; a mind-born mother. (Purana)

MALLAMMA, BALAVADI—A gallant woman of Bednur who fought against Shivaji. Shivaji admired her courage.

MALLIKA—(i) Queen of Prasenajit of Kosala. She believed in the Buddhist faith and decried animal-sacrifice. For this she was praised by people. When Ananda came to preach, she was with the king and her yellow covering dropped off. Later Ananda said she made an excellent pupil. (Dph. Cmy.)

(ii) Wife of Bandhula, the Commandar-in-Chief of the army at Kusinara. Since she did not bear him an issue, he tried to put her away and get another wife. Once she invited Sariputta to her house together with 500 alms women. (Dyh. Cmy.)

MALLINATHA—A princess of Mithila, daughter of Kumbha, became the nineteenth Tirthankara. She was very beautiful and many kings sought her in marriage. But her father refused them. Their anger was roused and they attacked Mithila. When her father was about to be defeated, at her request, he invited the kings to her apartment. They were charmed to see her statue there. But when she showed that inside the statue was full of the foul smell, they realised that the way to genuine happiness lay in meditation and the practice of austerities. She became an ascetic and the kings too left their kingdoms and became ascetics.

MAMALLADFYI—Mother of Harsha of Kanauj.

MAMATA—(i) Mother of Dirghatmas and wife of Utathi; she was a singer. (Rigveda)

(ii) Wife of Usija or Asija, sister-in-law of Brihaspati
who violated her while pregnant; this resulted into birth of Dirghatmas Bharadwaja. (Purana)

MAN KAUR—A shepherdess of U. P.; she took part in the Great Revolt of 1857; was captured by the British and executed on the gallows in 1857.

MANAKA—Of the royal house of Basohli State; patronised arts.

MANBHAOTI BEGUM—One of the concubines of Akbar.

MANANGINI HAZRA—During the Quit India movement while she (73 years old) was taking a procession to occupy a thana in Bengal, the police hit her on the head but she did not let the flag drop. Instead she exhorted the officials to give up jobs and join the freedom movement. In reply a bullet was fired and she died.

MANARASA—Daughter of Bhadrasva and Ghritachi. (Purana)

MANASA—The serpent goddess, sister of Sesanaga; wife of Jarat-Karu.

MANASI—Yakshini of Dharmanath, 9th Arhat of the Jains. (Dig.)

MANASVINI—(i) Daughter of Uttanapada and wife of Antinara. (Purana)
(ii) Wife of Mrakandu and mother of Marakandeya. (Purana)

MANAVI—(i) Wife of Manu. (Rigveda)
(ii) Yakshini of Sitalanatha, 10th Arhat of the Jains. (Dig.)

MANDAVI—(i) A female descendant of Manu. (Upanishada)
(ii) Wife of Bharata, cousin of Sita. (Ramanaya)

MANDHARA—Wife of Dhara. (Purana)

MANDODARI—Daughter of Maya and Rambha; wife of Ravana, the demon king of Lanka. She tried to persuade her husband to restore Sita to Rama but in vain. On hearing of Ravana’s death, she went to the battle field and bewailed the fate of the Rakshasas. She is a Panchakanya (one of the five virgins).
MANEKLAL PREMCHAND—A woman representative in the Round Table Conference.

MANGALA—(i) Maid servant of Parvati. *(Purana)*
(ii) Goddess enshrined at Ganga; a mother goddess. *(Purana)*
(iii) Mother of Sumatinath, 5th Arhat of the Jains by Megharaja.

MANGAMMAL RANI (1689-1701)—Wife of Nayaka of Madura; she acted as regent to her infant grandson Vijayaranga Chokkanatha. She retained the territories by submitting to the agents of Aurangzeb and is still remembered for her civil works of public utility—roads, temples, tanks, chaultries.

MANIBEN KARA—A well known labour leader; was member of the Central Legislative Assembly.

MANIBEN PATEL—Daughter of late Sardar Vallabhbai Patel, she participated in the Bardoli Satyagraha of 1926 and in the freedom movement; Member of Parliament.

MANJARI—Wife of Sultan Qutb-ud-din of Gujarat. She was sent to fetch the Sultan’s half-brother Fateh Khan who was with Muslim saint Shah Alam. The saint told her, “Today Bibi, you take Fateh Khan by the hand, one day he shall take you by the hand.” This turned out true. Fateh Khan married her. (16th C)

MANJUBASHINI—A prominent social worker of Madras. (20th C)

MANJUGHOSA—An apsaras. *(Purana)*

MANJUSRI—Deity mentioned in the Buddhist tantras.

MANMATHA—Goddess enshrined at Hemakunda. *(Purana)*

MANMOHINI SEHGAL—Daughter of the famous Lado Rani Zutshi. She was an active student leader in Lahore and for her political activities her degree was with-held by the University and she suffered imprisonment several times. After her marriage in 1935, she curtailed her political activities and interested herself in social welfare work. She was general secretary of the National Council of Women.

MANOGUPTA—Yakshini of Padmaprabha, 6th Arhat of the Jains.
MANOHARA—Wife of Dharma, a Vasu. *(Purana)*
MANORAMA—Daughter of Rambha, the nymph dancer.

MANORAMA THAMPURATHI—Named Manorama because of her proficiency in Prabodha Manorama, the classical work on Sanskrit grammar.

MANTANI—Mother of a Buddhist monk renowned after her as Mantaniputra.

MANTHARA—A hunch-backed maid of Kaikeyi, queen of Ayodhya; she provoked the queen to ask for the succession of her son Bharata from Dasaratha.

MANTRAMATA—A Sakti.

MANU—Wife of Parjanya and mother of Hiranyaroma. *(Purana)*

MARAGATHAM CHANDRASEKHARAN—Nominated Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha).

MARGADAYINI—Goddess enshrined at Kedara. *(Purana)*

MARGARET ALVA—Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) from Karnataka.

MARGARET COUSINS—An Irish lady who came to India in 1915. She joined Mrs. Besant in Home Rule. She ran ‘Stridharma’ for a long time; in 1924 she set up the All India Women’s Conference. In 1932 she was sentenced to one year’s imprisonment; she also did pioneer work for Harijans.

MARGHIN—Mother of Kanru. *(See Kanru)*

MARISHA—Daughter of Kandu and wife of Prachetasas.

MARICHI—(i) Wife of Parjanya. *(Purana)*
(ii) An apsaras.

MARISA—(i) Daughter of Kandu and wife of Prachetasas; mother of Daksa. *(Purana)*
(ii) Daughter of Drumakyasa;
(iii) Daughter of Trece given by Soma;
(iv) Daughter of Sakhins, mother of Daksa. *(Purana)*
(v) Wife of Sura and mother of Vasudeva. *(Purana)*
(vi) Wife of Devamidha; mother of Vasudeva, Devasura and five daughters; gave Pritha, one of the daughters, in adop-
tion to Kunti, her friend, who had no children. (Purana)

MARJORIE GODFREY—Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha).

MARUDEVI (Also Marudeva)—Mother of Risabh-nath, the first Tirthankar by Nabhiraja. When she heard that her son had attained Kevala-Jnana at Purimatala, she rode an elephant to see him. She was so much struck by the spiritual effulgence of the Tirthankara that she developed a high sense of concentration, entered into samadhi and passed away.

MARUI—A legendary figure of Sind of 14th century. She was a beautiful young woman married to a peasant of Umarkot. The ruler abducted and kept her for a year. But she remained a chaste woman. The ruler did not do her any harm and returned her to her husband. But he ill-treated her. Finally like Sita’s agnipariksha she came out unscathed from fire. The husband took the woman thereafter. Shah Latif wrote about her that she was associated with Prince Umar in terms of sufistic thought.

MARUTHAI AMMAL—Daughter of Ramasami Pillai of Tamilnadu. She took part in August 1942 Movement, was arrested and imprisoned.

MARUTVATI—Mind-born daughter of Brahma and one of the ten wives of Dharma; mother of the Marutis. (Purana)

MARY (CLUBWALLA) JADHAV—A social worker; she was the moving spirit behind the Model Sewa Samajam Boys and Girls Home in Madras; she was Juvenile Magistrate and Sheriff of Madras. She was decorated by the Government.

MARY D. SOUZA—A sprinter, she participated in the Olympics at Helsinki in 1952.

MARY JHIRAD, Dr.—Formerly superintendent of the Cama Hospital in Bombay.

MARY I EELA RAO—A well known athlete.

MASATA --Wife of Meghanada Dadhichi Chandra; she constructed temple of Bhavani in 1056.

MASI—Wife of Sura and mother of Devamidhusa. (Purana)
MASTANI—An extremely beautiful woman presented by Chhatrasal to Peshwa. The pundits of Poona did not accept her and consequently a door had to be opened in the palace for her residence at Poona.

MASUMA BEGUIM—Half sister of Humayun and wife of Muhammed Zaman Mirza, the most formidable rival of Humayun.

MATA—(i) Lalita, the goddess, enshrined at Siddhapura. *(Purana)*
(ii) Goddess enshrined at Paravaratala. *(Purana)*
(iii) Daughter of Risa; gave birth to Grahas Anujystakas, Niskas and Sisumaras as different fishes. *(Purana)*

MATANGI—Mind-born mother is Laghusyama. *(Purana)*

MATANGINI HAJRA (1870-1942)—Wife of Shri Triplochan Hajra; took part in nationalist activities during the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930) and in the agitation against the Chowkidari Tax in 1930; arrested in 1932 for shouting ‘go back’ at the Bengal Governor during Darbar at Tamluk; took part in the Quit India Movement (1942); led a procession to the Tamluk Civil Court for hoisting the tricolour in Sept. 1942; received bullet wound in firing by a Military unit and died on the spot with the tricolour in her hand.

MATARAS—Mother - goddesses present in Varuna sacrifice, nine in number. *(Purana)*

MATHULAKSHMI—Wife of S. A. Narayan Sastri of Tamilnadu. She joined the freedom movement in 1930 and took part in boycott of foreign cloth in 1932. She was arrested and sentenced to jail.

MATHURA BAI—Mother of Tatya Tope.

MATRAKA—Wife of Aryana and mother of Charsanis. *(Purana)*

MATRANANDA—Mind-born mother. *(Purana)*

MATSAYAGANDHA—one of the names of Satyavati. *(See Satyavati)*

MATSAYONIJA—Wife of Parasara and mother of Vyasa. *(Purana)*

MAYA—(i) Daughter of Abhramu; the elephant; the
vehicle of Agni; mother of 8 sons. \textit{(Purana)}

(ii) Daughter of Maya, wife of Bhayam and mother of Mrityu, helpmate of Varahavishnu. \textit{(Purana)}

(iii) Yogamaya, a mind-born mother from the heart of Narasimha; a Sakti. \textit{(Purana)}

(iv) Wife of Dambha and mother of Nikriti. \textit{(Purana)}

(v) Mother of Dundubhi. \textit{(Purana)}

(vi) Wife of demon Sambara.

(vii) Daughter of Mrisa and Adharma; sister of Dambha. \textit{(Purana)}

MAYA BANERJEE—One time Deputy Minister in Bengal Government.

MAYA DAS Dr.—Of Baroda; she worked hard for women’s education.

MAYA DEVI—Mother of Buddha; she died seven days after the birth of her son. \textit{(6th C. B.C.)}

MAYA JOSEPH—Daughter of George Joseph of Tamilnadu. She took part in Quit India Movement, 1942; was arrested and sentenced to jail.

MAYA RAO—A choreographer.

MAYA RAY—Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from West Bengal; wife of Siddhartha Shankar Ray, Chief Minister.

MAYAVATI—Was in-charge of the kitchen of Sambara who had stolen Krishna’s son Pradyumna, she was re-incarnation of Rati, she restored the child to Krishna. \textit{(Purana)}

MAYANALLADEVI—Daughter of Kadamba Jayakesin, king of Goa; wife of Karna Chalukya, king of Gujarat. She acted as a regent for her son Jayasimha for some time.

MAYNAMATI—A* Siddha Dakini; queen of Patika; Hadi-pa, the Siddha, served as a stable sweeper to her.

MEDHA—Daughter of Daksa and one of the wives of Dharma; mother of Smriti. \textit{(Purana)}

(ii) A Kala of Brahma. \textit{(Purana)}

(iii) A Sakti, the goddess enshrined at Kashmirmandala.

MEGHAYANTRIKA—Queen of Varsa ritu. \textit{(Purana)}

MEENAKSHI—Took part in Students, Organisation during 1942; was arrested and detained.

MEENAKSHI AMMAL—Wife of Chockalingam Pillai
of Tamilnadu. Took part in Civil Disobedience Movement, 1932; was arrested and sentenced to imprisonment.

MEENAMBAL—Daughter of Gopal Chettiar of Tamilnadu. She took part in Civil Disobedience Movement, 1932, was arrested and sentenced to jail.

MEHR-BANO—Younger sister of Babur.

MEHR-UN-NISA—Daughter of Nurjehan; married to Shahariar.

MEHRA MASANI—retired as a Deputy D.G.; All India Radio.

MEHTAB KAUR—Wife of Ranjit Singh.

MEMO BAI—Wife of Shri Shiv Dass of Delhi. She was commander of Lady Volunteer Corps; took part in Civil Disobedience Movement, Individual Satyagraha and Quit India movement. She was sent to jail many times.

MENA—(i) Daughter of Sraddha and Pitrs; a Brahma-vadini. (Purana)

(ii) Pitrakanya; mind-born daughter of Agnisvatta Pitrs; queen of Himavan, mother of two sons, Manaka and Krauncha, and three daughters Uma, Ekaparna and Aparna. (Purana)

MENA (MENAKA)—Daughter of Vrisanasva; wife of Himavata and mother of Sati. (Rigveda)

(i) Mother of Sakuntala; she abandoned the child in the forest and went away. (Purana)

(ii) Apsara presiding over the months of Sukra and Suchi. (Purana)

(iii) Apsara who was asked to dance with Urvasi and Rambha in the Sabha of Hiranyakasipu. (Purana)

(iv) Apsara, wife of Vindhyasva; gave birth to twins Divodas and Ahalya. (Purana)

(v) Sister of Divodasa and wife of Saradvat; mother of Sadananda. (Purana)

(vi) Apsara mentioned with another apsara Sahjanya in the Yajurveda; they belonged to Vishvakarma, the presiding deity of the southern quarter. (Purana)

MERA—Daughter of the Shahi Chief of Ohind; married to Sikandar, king of Kashmir, in 1399.

MERU—Mother of Niyati and Ayati. (Purana)
MERUDEVI—(i) Wife of Nabhi and mother of Risabha, the eighth avatar of Vishnu. \((\text{Purana})\)

(ii) Wife of Nabi of Himahva kingdom and daughter of Meru; took part in the Yajna conducted by her husband. She was desirous of a son and the Lord was pleased to be born to her. She followed her husband to Visala (Badari) and attained Mukti there with him. \((\text{Purana})\)

MÊTTIYA—An alms woman who was expelled from the Buddhist order. \((\text{Vinaya})\)

MHALSABAI—Mother of Jijabai and grand-mother of Shivaji.

MIGASALA—Ananda, a disciple of Buddha, visited her house to give her lessons. \((\text{Ang.})\)

MIHÎR-UN-NISSA—(i) Daughter of Nurjehan from Sher Afgan and wife of Shahriar.

(ii) or Ghasiti Begum; daughter of Alivardi Khan, Nawab of Bengal.

MINAKSHI (1732-36)—(i) Wife of Vijayaranga Chokkanath, Nayak of Madurai; she succeeded her husband when he died childless. She adopted a boy Vijayakumara but his father conspired against her and with the intervention of Nawab of Arcot (Chanda Sahib) she was imprisoned. She committed suicide by poison to save herself from dishonour.

(ii) The deity of Madurai.

MINAL DEVI—Mother of Siddharaj Solanki, king of Gujarat.

MIRA—Daughter of Chief of Ohind; was married to Sultan Sikandar of Kashmir.

MIRA BAI—Famous Hindi poetess (15th-16th Cen); from a royal family. On the death of her husband, father and father-in-law, her relations tortured her; consequently she left and lived at Mathura and Dwarka; she was perhaps a disciple of Raidas.

MIRA BEN (Miss Madeleine Slade)—Daughter of Sir Edmond Slade of England; came to India; she was rechristened by Gandhijji as Mira Ben. She supported the cause of India’s freedom.
MIRIAM—Wife of Muhammad Zaman of Makran (8th C)

MIRIAM BIBI—Daughter of King Adilshah of Bijapur and wife of Burhan Nizamshah of Ahmednagar.

MISRAKESI—Apsara and wife of Vatsaka in the Sabha of Hiranyakshipu. (Purana)

MITHAN LAM—A prominent social worker for child welfare. (20th C)

MITHAN TATA—The first woman barrister of India. (20th C)

MITHI BAI TATA—Daughter of Hirabai Tata. She was sent by Women’s Committee to U. S. A. to express Indian women’s views on women’s right of franchise.

MITHUBHEN PATIT—Of Bombay, she inspired women of Gujarat in the Bardoli Satyagraha of 1928 under the leadership of Sardar Patel.

MITRA—Mother of Maitreya; her son was seen by Vidura on the banks of Ganga. (Purana)

MITRAJYOTI—Daughter of Maruta. (Purana)

MITRAVARUNA—The Vedic deities in whose honour Prajapati made a sacrifice out of which came Ida. (Purana)

MITRVINDA—Daughter of Krishna’s aunt Avanti; wife of Krishna and mother of Gridha, Mitravan, Pavana; Krishna married her after discomfiting Vinda and Anuvida.

MITTIKA (Or Mettika)—She was ordained by Mahaprajapati to the Buddhist Order; she was an authoress of Theragatha.

MITTAKASI—Even after having been in the Buddhist order for seven years, she was fond of gifts and honours. Later she won arhanship.

MITTRAN TATA—One of the two women called first time to the Lincoln’s Inn; started practice in Bombay High Court in 1924.

MODINI—A devi. (Purana)

MOHAMMADI BEGUM—Wife of Shamsul Ulma Mauvli Mumtaz Ali; she edited weekly Tehsib Niswan started by her husband from Lahore in 1896.

MOHAN KUMARI—Widow of Maharaja Sai who was
appointed by the British as ruler of Sambhalpur in 1827. On his death in 1922 Maharani Mohan Kumari was permitted to succeed him but the Rani was removed to Cuttuck by the claimants to the throne.

MOHANA—Mind-born mother. (Purana)

MOHINI—Wife of the Wazir of Girnar. The state was ruled by Rao Mandlik who fell in love with her. The Wazir felt disgraced and took revenge by inviting Mohammad Bigarha to invade the state.

MOHINI DEVI—An important political worker of Calcutta; Vice President of Nari Satyagraha Committee.

MOHRUN-NISA BEGUM—Daughter of Alamgir by Aurangabadi Begum; married to Prince Ezid Bakhsha.

MOTI BEGUM—Wife of Shahjehan.

MOTIYA PHAGGUNA—A Buddhist alms woman; she was chided by Buddha for being too much with alms women. (Majjima)

MOLLATI—Author of the most popular Telugu Ramayana known after her as Molla Ramayana. (16th C)

MONEEKA MISRA—Director of the first professional theatre group called Hindustan Theatre.

MORAD BEGUM—Widow of Moin-ul-Mulk, regent of Punjab under Durrani of Afghanistan; she assumed the vice-royalty of the Punjab on her husband’s death. Later on she was taken as a State prisoner by Mirza Ali Gohar, son of Alamgir.

MOTHER OF PONDICHERRY—An associate of Aurobindo in his Ashram in Pondicherry. She was a French lady drawn to the ideas of Aurobindo and joined him in his spiritual work.

MOTIBAI—Close associate of Maharani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi; took active part in the struggle against British rule. Fought bravely against the British attack as a gunner in the fort of Jhansi, was killed during the fighting on June 4, 1858.

MRASA—Wife of Adharma, mother of Dambha and Maya who were adopted by Nirriti. (Purana)

MRIDULA SARABHAI—Known for social work connected with the rescue of abducted women and arranging their
rehabilitation. She began the work by setting up 'Jyoti Sangh' at Ahmedabad. (20th C)

MRIGANAYANA—Queen of Raja Man Singh of Gwalior; specialised in classical style of mixed ragas and her composition came to posterity in the form of Gujari. (15-16th C)

MRIGAVATI—Wife of King Nirajita Varman of Kashmir; she had relations with one Sugandhaditya. (10th C)

MRINALAVATI—Sister of Taila II, the Chalukya king who took Munja prisoner. Mrinalavati was detailled to attend to the captive and fell in love with him. But when she came to know that with his minister's schemeing, Munja was to escape, she reported the matter to her brother who treated Munja with indignity and executed him later.

MRINALINI CHATTOPADHYAYA—Editor of Shama, literary quarterly that appeared from Bombay. She organised a music group.

MRINALINI DEVI—Wife of Rabindra Nath Tagore.
(ii) Wife of Aurobindo.

MRINALINI SARABHAI—A well known dancer, director of Darpana; wife of late Dr. Vikram Sarabhai; awarded Padma Shri (1965).

MRITYU—(i) Mind-born mother. (Purana)
(ii) Daughter of Kali, Amsa of Dharma.

MUDDE BAI—Wife of Sookal Gond of Madhya Pradesh; labourer took part in the Forest Satyagraha during the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930-32) and was killed in firing by the police in the forest near Turia village on October 9,1930.

MUDDI—Wife of Mohammed, governor of Makran. (8th C)

MUDDU MALLAMMA—Wife of Krishnaraja Wodiayar II of Mysore. Hyderali appointed her as guardian to a boy who set on the throne.

MUDDUPALANI—A courtesan's daughter in the court of Tanjore; she was highly educated in Sanskrit and Telugu. She was expert in dance and music and was a poetess and Vina player par excellence. Her great musical talents are evident
in her *Ashtapada*, a Tulegu rendering of Jayadeva's lyrical work.

**MUDGALINI**—Wife of Mudgala; she assisted her husband in winning a chariot race. *(Rigveda)*

**MUGHLANI BEGUM**—Wife of Muin-ul-Mulk, Governor of Punjab who died in 1753. Ahmed Shah Abdali permitted her infant son to to take her place and the child’s mother Mughlani Begum to act as his regent. Soon after the boy died, Mughlani Begum was confirmed as Governor.

**MUDRINI**—A name of Lalita. *(Purana)*

**MUHURTA**—Daughter of Daksa, wife of Dharma and mother of Mauhurstikas. *(Purana)*

**MUKAND MALVIYA**—Daughter of Pt. Madan Mohan Malviya; she participated in the movement in 1932 and was sent to jail for one year R.I.

**MUKHAMANDIKA**—Mind-born mother. *(Purana)*

**MUKTABAI**—Sister of saint Jnaneswar and herself a great saint and a learned person. She wrote a large number of poems, many of which are full of philosophy (Vedanta) in content. She was daughter of Vitthalpant and Rukmini of Alindi near Poona. The family was subjected to a complete social boycott and the parents drowned themselves in river to expiate of sin Vitthalpant had committed by taking Sanyas and then returning to Grahashta life. She attained samadhi in 1297. She says, "He alone is a saint who is possessed of compassion and forgiveness and in whose heart neither greed nor egoism finds place. These are people who are truly renouncers. They alone can be happy in this and the next world." "To whose heart is pure, God is not far away. He is not to be found in the market and bought for money. It is a matter of right life. Who can teach one realize God? One must find God for himself." She is a Bhakti poetess of Marathi.

**MUKTI**—Wife of Shaban Qasid of Jammu and Kashmir. She took active part in the political movement for responsible government in Jammu and Kashmir State launched by National Conference in 1946. She participated in a procession demonstrating against autocratic rule and was killed in the firing by the police on the procession at Bazar Adda at Anantnag in 1946.
(ii) Mother goddess. (Purana)

MUKATESVARI—Goddess enshrined at Markota. (Purana)

MUKUL BANERJI—Member of Parliament(Lok Sabha) from Delhi.

MUMAL—A farmer woman of Sindh after whom there is a famous story namely Mumal and Mendra. Mumal ruled over the state and built a palace with imaginary stair case so that whosoever came to her was annihilated. But Mendra, companion of Rai Hamir, was wise in finding truth about the palace. The two were married.

MUMMADAMBA—Daughter of Rudradeva; wife of Mahadeva, a Kakatiya queen; succeeded to the throne.

MUMTAZ MAHAL—(i) Wife of Emperor Shahjahan. On her death the Emperor built the famous Taj Mahal; mother of Dara, Aurangzeb etc.

(ii) Step mother of Bahadur Shah Zafar, the Moghul emperor; she tried to have her husband Akbar Shah proclaim her son Jehangir Shah as waliat to the throne of Delhi.

MUNDHAR—Mother of the famous Sassi. (Sassi-punnu)

MUNI—Daughter of Daksa and one of the 13 wives of Kasyapa; a mother goddess. (Purana)

MUNNI BEGUM—(i) Malka-i-Zamani, queen mother of Ahmed Shah. (15th C)

(ii) Wife of Mir Zafar.

MURA—Maid-Servant of Nanda, king of Magadha, mother of Chandragupta Maurya.

MURDHANI—Wife of Markandeya. (Purana)

MURTI—Daughter of Daksa and wife of Dharma, mother of Nara and Narayana, an avatar of Vishnu. (Purana)

MURTIMAMBA—Sister-in-law of Achyutadeva, king of Vijayanagar; at the time of her marriage with Sveppa Nayaka, she received the Chola country as gift from him.

MUTHAMMA C. B.—India’s High commissioner in Ghana.

MUTHAMMAL—Wife of Narayana Pillai of Tamilnadu; took part in Civil Disobedience Movemnet, 1932. Was arrested and sentenced.
MUTHULAKSHMI—Wife of S.A. Narayana Sastri of Tamilnadu; joined the movement in 1930; took part in boycott of foreign cloth 1932, was arrested and sentenced to jail. She was the first woman in the Legislature, the first Deputy President of the Legislative Council, the first Elder woman in the City Corporation; Vice President of the Women’s Indian Association.

After a stint with politics, she concentrated on social reforms and founded several institutions e.g., the Avvai Home in Madras for destitutes and rescued women from brothels, immoral traffic etc. She presented bills for the abolition of the custom of Devadasis (dedicating girls to temples, which had degenerated into prostitution). She set up the Cancer Institute. She and her colleagues pleaded for woman’s rights before Montagu Chemsford Commission in 1917, and the right to vote was given to women. She resigned her seat as well as her office when the authorities treated women Satyagrahis with harshness in 1930. She was honoured by the Govt. As chairman of the State Social Welfare Advisory Board, she intensified work for the improvement of the handicapped and for the spread of voluntary social services in villages.

MUTTA—A disciple of Buddha. She is an authoress of Therigatha. She induced her hunch-backed Brahmin lord to give his consent to her joining the Order. (Therigatha)

N

NABHASRI—Queen of Varsaritu. (Purana)

NAD(a)VALA—Daughter of the progenitor Viraja and queen of Chaksusa Manu.

NADIRA BEGUM—Dara’s wife who faithfully shared her husband’s misfortune.